



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION – November 19, 2020

Dr. YONEDA, Bruce Taro

Victoria, BC

If reporting on this public notification, please provide the name and location of the registrant in full to avoid confusion with any other registrant who may have a similar name or initials.

1. **Nature of action:** The Inquiry Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (the College) conducted an investigation into the conduct of Dr. Bruce Taro Yoneda, pursuant to section 33(1) of the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c.183.

The Inquiry Committee and Dr. Yoneda have agreed to resolve all matters arising from this investigation by way of a Consent Agreement under section 37.1(3)(a) of the *Health Professions Act*.

2. **Effective date:** November 9, 2020
3. **Name of registrant:** Dr. Bruce Taro Yoneda
4. **Location of practice:** Victoria, BC
5. **Admission and acknowledgements:** Dr. Yoneda has admitted and/or acknowledged the following:
 - a. That he engaged in unprofessional conduct by using sexualized language during a surgical consult with a pre-teen patient, namely, referring to her as a “loose woman” and telling her he would give her a “lube job”;
 - b. That he did not offer clear explanation prior to questioning the patient about her menstrual cycle.
6. **Disposition:** Following the authorization of a disciplinary citation pursuant to section 37 of the *Health Professions Act*, Dr. Yoneda entered into a Consent Agreement with the Inquiry Committee of the College, wherein he has consented to the following terms, pursuant to section 39(2) of the *Health Professions Act*:
 - a. To be transferred to the Conditional – Disciplined class of registration, effective November 9, 2020;
 - b. A formal reprimand;
 - c. A fine in the amount of \$7,500;
 - d. Participation in a program regarding clinical communication approved by the College; and
 - e. Attendance at the College’s Professionalism in Medical Practice course.

Rationale: The Inquiry Committee was critical of the registrant's admitted conduct and concluded that his use of inappropriate language displayed a lack of insight. The committee noted the conduct was contrary to College standards and determined a disciplinary outcome was appropriate.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia is the licensing and regulatory body for all physicians and surgeons in the province. Governed by provincial legislation, the College's role is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing high standards of qualification and ethical practice.

Inquiries:

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