

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Dr. Dryer, Donna Ann

November 3, 2023

Cortes Island, BC

1. **Nature of action:** The Inquiry Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (the College) has determined that Dr. Donna Ann Dryer committed unprofessional conduct, as outlined below.

The Inquiry Committee and Dr. Dryer have agreed to resolve all matters arising from the investigation by the College of complaints made by a former patient by way of an undertaking and consent to reprimand, as detailed below, pursuant to section 36 of the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c.183.

The section 36 disposition is published pursuant to section 39.3(1)(b) and direction of the Inquiry Committee.

2. **Effective date:** August 1, 2023
3. **Name of registrant:** Dr. Donna Ann Dryer
4. **Location of practice:** Cortes Island, BC
5. **Admission and acknowledgements:** Dr. Dryer has acknowledged and admitted the following conduct with respect to an investigation of complaints made by a former patient (the complainant):
 - a. Dr. Dryer committed unprofessional conduct by entering in and continuing a therapist-patient relationship with the complainant in circumstances that gave rise to a conflict of interest and boundary violations due to Dr. Dryer's personal and social interactions with the complainant outside of therapy sessions.
 - b. Dr. Dryer committed unprofessional conduct by continuing a therapist-patient relationship with the complainant when Dr. Dryer knew that her husband was engaged in sexual relations with the complainant.
6. **Disposition:** Pursuant to section 36 of the *Health Professions Act*, Dr. Dryer gave, and the Inquiry Committee accepted, undertakings including that:
 - a. Dr. Dryer will submit her irrevocable resignation as a registrant of the College effective August 1, 2023.
 - b. Dr. Dryer will not reapply for registration with the College.
 - c. Dr. Dryer acknowledges that her undertakings are given in response to the College's investigation of complaints made by a former patient and accepts a

reprimand pursuant to section 36(1)(c) of the *Health Professions Act*, for her admitted conduct described above.

- d. Dr. Dryer authorizes the College to notify any other person or body whom the College, in its sole discretion, considers appropriate to provide notice of her undertakings.
- e. Dr. Dryer agrees that, upon enquiry or request to the College, or at its discretion, the College may provide details of the requirements of her undertakings.

Pursuant to these undertakings, Dr. Dryer has resigned as a registrant of the College effective August 1, 2023 and the College issued a formal reprimand for her admitted conduct described above.

7. **Rationale:** The Inquiry Committee determined that Dr. Dryer's admitted conduct contravened professional and ethical obligations of a registrant and the public interest was satisfied by accepting Dr. Dryer's undertakings to resign and not reapply for registration based on admitted conduct rather than directing a citation on contested allegations.

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:

Communications and Public Affairs
communications@cpsbc.ca