

Summary of Discipline Committee Hearing



DR. RICHARD GRYFF-CHAMSKI

Hearing Date: June 11, 2019

BRIEF SUMMARY

The Discipline Committee met to consider allegations of professional misconduct in the case presented. The member was charged with practising veterinary medicine without being associated with an accredited facility.

The panel received information describing a situation where the member seemingly had sustained a brain injury from a horse accident in 2003. The member experienced behavioural changes since the accident and has a sleep disorder and difficulty managing day-to-day life. This information raises the possibility that the member may be suffering from impairment.

As well, the panel received the "Acknowledgement and Undertaking" which was signed by the College and the member. It confirms the member will not hold himself out as a veterinarian and he will provide medical and medically-related information to the College through the Registrar.

The purpose of the motion was to request that the panel adjourn the matter "sine die", in light of the information provided by the member, and the Acknowledgment and Undertaking. After hearing the submissions and considering the information, the panel granted the adjournment.

ALLEGATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- operated an unaccredited veterinary facility in Ontario
- failed to maintain the standard of practice of the profession
- an act or omission relevant to the practice of veterinary medicine that, having regard to the circumstances, would be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional
- conduct unbecoming a veterinarian

DECISION

The panel made an order adjourning this matter "sine die".

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & UNDERTAKING

The member acknowledges and undertakes as follows:

- not to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine, hold myself out as engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine, or use the title veterinarian or veterinary surgeon in Ontario or elsewhere
- agree to respond to any questions from the Registrar and provide medical and medically-related information when requested
- agree that in the event that I disagree with any position taken by the Registrar or the College regarding this matter, I will bring a motion before the Discipline Committee for resolution

Non-Compliance

- agree that my failure to abide by any term of this Acknowledgment and Undertaking will constitute professional misconduct
- agree that the College has the right to seek to vacate the sine die adjournment and start the discipline hearing in respect of the Allegations instead of, or in addition to, proceedings in respect of any non-compliance with this Acknowledgment and Undertaking

Public Register

- consent to the terms of this Acknowledgment and Undertaking being entered on the register of the College
- agree that the Notice of Hearing dated June 13, 2018, will be entered on the register of the College along with a notation indicating that the College agreed not to proceed with the discipline hearing on the basis of this Acknowledgment and Undertaking

General Terms

- provide any and all information to the

College that it may require to ensure compliance with this Acknowledgment and Undertaking

- agree that any information obtained by the College as a result of this Acknowledgment and Undertaking may be used by the College or any committee of the College

PANEL'S REASONING

The evidence indicates the member has a medical condition, which includes a long-standing brain injury, incurred as the result of a horse accident and more recently, a sleep disorder, for which the member is receiving ongoing treatment.

It was noted that the member's medical condition has adversely affected his management of day-to-day living and this may have influenced the actions resulting in the allegations brought against him.

In view of the member's medical condition which suggests impairment rather than misconduct, this matter may be better dealt with through other means.

By signing the Acknowledgment and Undertaking, the member has undertaken not to practise veterinary medicine or to hold himself out as a veterinarian. In addition, the member has consented and agreed that information pertaining to the Acknowledgment and Undertaking and the Notice of Hearing in this matter will be entered on the Public Register. Through these measures, the protection of the public and their interest has been preserved.