

**SUMMARY of the Decision of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee  
(the Committee)**  
(Information is available about the complaints process [here](#) and about the Committee [here](#))

**Dr. Suzanne Beauchemin (CPSO #55439)  
(the Respondent)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In June 2022, the Respondent disclosed on her College Annual Renewal Questionnaire that she had been charged with or found guilty of an offence in Canada or elsewhere. In response to the College's request for further information, the Respondent advised that she had been charged in July 2016 with the operation of a motor vehicle with over 80 mg blood alcohol contrary to Section 253(1)(b) of the *Criminal Code* of Canada. She plead guilty to this charge in August 2016.

The 2022 College Annual Renewal Questionnaire was the first time the Respondent disclosed this information to the College.

The Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators under Section 75(1)(a) of the Code to obtain further information about these circumstances.

## **COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting of October 2, 2024. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before a Panel of the Committee to be cautioned with respect to her failure to provide complete and accurate information to the College at all times, including on annual renewal documentation, and her failure to follow the reporting requirements under the *Health Professions Procedural Code* (the Code) and the College's policy, *Mandatory and Permissive Reporting*.

## **COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS**

The Committee was concerned that the Respondent failed to provide true, complete, and accurate information to the College on multiple occasions despite direction in the Code and College policy.

At the time of the Respondent's guilty plea, she was required by the Code to file a report with the College's Registrar if she was found guilty of an offence. The College's policy, *Mandatory and Permissive Reporting*, as was in place in 2016, did not address physicians' obligation to report offences or charges. However, it did indicate that the College expects all physicians to be aware of and comply with their legal, professional, and ethical reporting obligations.

In addition, the Respondent did not report this charge and finding of guilty on her 2017 Annual Renewal Submission Report. She responded “No” to the question: “*Since April 1, 2016, have you been charged with, and/or found guilty of, any offence in Canada or elsewhere?*”. When completing this report, the Respondent acknowledged that the information contained within was true, complete, and accurate and that it may be found to be professional misconduct to provide false or misleading information to the College.

The Committee’s concerns were heightened by the Respondent’s significant history with the College, which included the Respondent failing to cooperate with a College investigation and failing to complete education specified by the Committee. This history raised further concerns about the Respondent’s ability to uphold her duties as a member of the College to behave in a professional manner, with honesty and integrity.

The Committee acknowledged the Respondent’s reflection, that she corrected the error when it came to her attention and that she has taken some steps to prevent such issues from occurring in the future. However, this did not outweigh the Committee’s concern about the Respondent’s failure to report the finding of guilt against her and failure to accurately complete her annual renewal documentation. As such, the Committee determined that it was appropriate to caution the Respondent, as set out above.