

THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE
OF THE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF A CHARGE OF UNPROFESSIONAL
CONDUCT AGAINST JEAN-FRANÇOIS VERREAULT

The hearing committee of the Professional Conduct Committee of The Alberta Teachers' Association reports that a charge of unprofessional conduct laid against Jean-François Verreault of [REDACTED] was duly investigated in accordance with the *Teaching Profession Act*. The hearing was held in Barnett House, 11010 142 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on Monday, April 14, 2003.

Professional Conduct Committee members present as the hearing committee were

[REDACTED] presented the case against the investigated member. The investigated member was not present and was not represented by counsel.

CONSTITUTION/JURISDICTION

There was no objection to the constitution of the committee nor to its jurisdiction to hear the case.

PLEA

The following charge was read by the secretary to the hearing committee.

1. Jean-François Verreault is charged with unprofessional conduct pursuant to the *Teaching Profession Act* in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, did commence an inappropriate relationship with a student in a school in which he was teaching.

The investigated member entered a plea of guilty to the charge, through a written submission of plea. (Exhibit 2)

WITNESSES

No witnesses were called.

EVIDENCE ADDUCED AND EXHIBITS FILED INDICATED THAT:

1. J Verreault was a member of the Alberta Teachers' Association by virtue of his
(Exhibit 3) employment as a teacher with the [School Division Redacted] from February 2002 until
2. J Verreault began an inappropriate relationship of an amorous, but non sexual, nature early June 2002 with a former student in his care, a student at [School redacted] in in [Location Redacted]. (Exhibit 3)
3. The relationship continued into the summer of 2002. (Exhibit 3)
4. J Verreault met with the parents of the student and agreed to establish and maintain only a professional relationship; however, J Verreault continued the inappropriate relationship with communication that ended in August 2002. (Exhibit 3)

DECISION OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

The hearing committee of the Professional Conduct Committee accepted the guilty plea.

PENALTY

The hearing committee imposed as penalty on J Verreault a recommendation to the minister of learning that the defendant's teaching certificate be cancelled.

REASONS FOR PENALTY

1. J Verreault pled guilty to the charge of unprofessional conduct, pursuant to the *Teaching Profession Act*.
2. J Verreault, while a member of the Alberta Teachers' Association, did commence an inappropriate relationship with a student in a school in which he was teaching and thereby did not treat the student with dignity and respect.
3. J Verreault committed a breach of trust that compromised the teacher-student relationship.
4. J Verreault, through his actions, brought dishonour and disrepute to the profession.

5. J Verreault was at all times cooperative with the investigator, acknowledging inappropriate actions and the appropriate sanction by surrendering his teaching certificate in advance of the hearing by the hearing committee of the Professional Conduct Committee.

Dated at the City of Edmonton in the Province of Alberta, Monday, April 14, 2003.

HEARING COMMITTEE OF THE
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE
OF THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

