

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

IN THE MATTER OF A CHARGE OF UNPROFESSIONAL
CONDUCT AGAINST RAYMOND JULES ROUTHIER

The hearing committee of the Professional Conduct Committee of The Alberta Teachers' Association reports that a charge of unprofessional conduct laid against Raymond Jules Routhier of [Location 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 Thursday, February 3, 2000 at 0900.

Professional Conduct Committee members present as the hearing committee were [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] presented the case against the investigated member. The investigated member was neither present nor represented by counsel.

A number of documents were entered as exhibits on R Routhier's behalf. The committee was apprised of a court publication ban concerning any information that might lead to identification of the victim.

CONSTITUTION/JURISDICTION

The prosecution did not object to either the constitution of the committee or its jurisdiction to hear the matter.

PLEA

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

Raymond Jules Routhier is charged with unprofessional conduct pursuant to the *Teaching Profession Act* in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, on or about 1999 03 29 plead guilty to and was convicted of an indictable offence under section 151 of the *Criminal Code* to wit: Between 1994 09 01 and 1998 06 26 at or near [Location Redacted], Alberta, being in a relationship of trust or authority towards or in a relationship of dependence with a [gender redacted] student under the [Age Redacted] years, who was a student in the same school during 1994 09 01 to 1998 06 26 and who was a student in his class during the 1994-95

school year, did, for a sexual purpose, touch directly or indirectly, with a part of his body or with an object, parts of [Gender Redacted] body, contrary to section 151 of the *Criminal Code*.

In the absence of the investigated member, a plea of "not guilty" to the charge was entered on his behalf.

WITNESSES

No witnesses were called.

EVIDENCE ADDUCED AND EXHIBITS FILED INDICATED THAT:

1. R Routhier was a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association and was employed as a teacher with [School Division Redacted] and then with [School Division Redacted] from the beginning of the 1977/78 school year to the end of the 1998/99 school year. (Exhibits 4 and 8)
2. Between 1994 09 01 and 1998 06 26, R Routhier developed an intimate relationship with a student while he was [gender redacted] teacher at [School Redacted]. The student was under the [Age Redacted]. (Exhibits 8, 9 and 21)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DECISION OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

Guilty.

REASONS FOR DECISION

1. R Routhier was convicted of an indictable offence under the *Criminal Code* and therefore, is guilty of unprofessional conduct under Section 22(2)(a) of the *Teaching Profession Act*.

PENALTY

The Professional Conduct Committee imposes the following penalty:

1. That R Routhier's membership in The Alberta Teachers' Association be canceled and that he be declared ineligible for future membership
2. That a recommendation be sent to the minister of learning requesting that R Routhier's teaching certificate be canceled

REASONS FOR PENALTY

1. A teacher convicted of an indictable offence brings dishonor and disrepute to the profession.
2. Society has a right to expect that teachers will act in a manner which establishes and maintains a trust relationship between teachers and students. R Routhier violated this trust relationship.
3. A teacher should not be engaged in inappropriate intimate relationships with students. Society views such actions as repugnant and reprehensible. R Routhier's actions showed disregard for societal expectations of teachers.
4. R Routhier plead guilty in court to the criminal charge. He took responsibility for his actions by taking the initiative to notify the Association of his conviction.

5. Extensive correspondence submitted on behalf of R Routhier demonstrated that R Routhier was respected as a teacher and a member of the community.

Dated at the City of Edmonton in the Province of Alberta, Thursday, February 3, 2000.

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

