

College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia Public
Notice under s. 39.3 of the *Health Professions Act*

John McCordic, Former RPT

Location: Metro Vancouver, BC

Date of Action: August 27, 2021

Nature of Action: Mr. McCordic entered into a consent agreement with the Inquiry Committee of the College agreeing to the following key terms (among others):

1. a public reprimand for engaging in conduct unbecoming by causing an animal to be in distress, which resulted in a criminal conviction;
2. a two-week suspension of his practice of physical therapy;
3. the requirement to provide 3rd party confirmation that he has acquired/developed satisfactory anger-management skills; and
4. the requirement to write a reflective paper that satisfactorily outlines:
 - a. how his conduct failed to meet Practice Standard 12;
 - b. how his conduct has diminished the integrity and reputation of the profession in the eyes of the public; and
 - c. how his conduct impacts the public's perception of their own personal safety when receiving treatment from a regulated health professional.

Reasons: In August 2020, Mr. McCordic plead guilty to and was convicted of violating sections [9.1\(2\)](#) of the *Prevention to Cruelty to Animals Act* concerning an incident that occurred in 2016. The conviction was reported by several media outlets garnering public attention. As a result, the College received emails from members of the public asking the College to take regulatory action. On August 25, 2020, the Inquiry Committee commenced an investigation into the matter on its own motion pursuant to section 33(4) of the *Health Professions Act* (the "Act").

During the investigation, Mr. McCordic admitted to the alleged conduct and provided information about his life circumstances at the time together with information about the steps he has since taken to address the underlying factors that led to the incident. Registrants' off-duty conduct can fall under the purview of the College when it raises a public safety concern and/or calls the integrity of the profession into disrepute.

The Inquiry Committee concluded that Mr. McCordic's conduct represented an unacceptable departure from the College's practice standards, which require registrants to adhere to legislation, conduct themselves with integrity and professionalism and maintain the reputation and standing of the physical therapy profession.

Given that Mr. McCordic accepted responsibility for his misconduct, which occurred several years ago, the Inquiry Committee determined that the terms of the consent agreement would be sufficient to protect the public.

Mr. McCordic has since allowed his registration with the College to lapse and he is therefore, no longer permitted to practice physical therapy in BC unless he applies for and is granted registration again in the future.