



IN THE MATTER OF THE *TEACHERS ACT*, SBC 2011 c. 19

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

JENNIFER JO ROBINSON



CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN:

THE COMMISSIONER, APPOINTED UNDER THE *TEACHERS ACT*
(the “Commissioner”)

AND:

JENNIFER JO ROBINSON
(“Robinson”)

BACKGROUND and FACTS

1. Robinson holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. [REDACTED]. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on September 28, 2000, is valid from September 1, 2000 and continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, Robinson was employed as a high school teacher by School District No. 36 (Surrey) (the “District”) at a District school (the “School”).
3. On January 5, 2016, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Robinson, under section 16(3) of the *School Act*.
4. The following events occurred in September 2015:
 - a. Robinson is in charge of the PE Leadership Program at the School. In that capacity, she was in charge of organizing the School’s annual Leadership Camp (the “Camp”), held over three days at a camp facility (the “Facility”).

- b. The Camp involved students in Grades 9 through 12. The Grade 12 students who were “alumni” from previous years organized some of the activities.
- c. According to the Extended Field Study Application completed by Robinson on June 18, 2015, the purpose of the Camp was to engage in leadership activities, plan intramurals for the year and to train for sports. Robinson was the “Educator-in-Charge” of the Camp and also acted as a supervisor.
- d. On Thursday, September 24, 2015, the students arrived at the Facility. One of the activities that evening was a food challenge organized by two Grade 12 students. This challenge required students to eat food items drawn randomly from a jar. The food items chosen included:
 - ii. packaged, vacuum sealed corn on the cob from a dollar store;
 - iii. anchovies;
 - iv. baby food;
 - v. sour candies called War Heads;
 - vi. dried squid;
 - vii. spicy Thai tuna; and
 - viii. minced garlic.
- e. While some students protested during the challenge, they were pressured by older students to continue to participate.
- f. Robinson was aware that the Grade 12 students would be organizing the food challenge, and the instructions she provided were that the food had to be edible and could not include peanuts. Robinson instructed the students who had peanut allergies not to participate in the activity.
- g. Robinson was present during the food challenge, but took no steps to stop it.
- h. On the night of September 26, 2015, the students participated in another challenge which Grade 12 Camp alumni had created, called the Jar of Death. Robinson was told about it in advance by the students whose idea it was, but did not review it in any detail with them or take other steps to ensure that it was appropriate.
- i. With the Jar of Death, students nominated their peers who had done something at the Camp which they did not like. The nominees had to reach into a jar and pull out a piece of paper with a task written on it which they would then be expected to perform in front of the group. It was a form of punishment, and students felt pressured to participate. The tasks included:

- i. licking a teacher's bare foot;
 - ii. drinking a glass of water into which four people had spat; and
 - iii. chewing gum which someone else has chewed for 30 seconds.
 - j. Robinson was present throughout the Jar of Death but at no time did she attempt to put a stop to the activity.
5. On December 18, 2015, the District issued Robinson a letter of discipline.
 6. On February 9, 2016 the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Robinson, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

DISPOSITION

7. This Agreement is made under section 53 of the *Teachers Act*.
8. Robinson understands and acknowledges that this Agreement is not effective until executed by the Commissioner, and that the date of execution by the Commissioner will be the effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date").
9. Robinson admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 5 of this Agreement are true.
10. Robinson admits that the conduct described in paragraph 4 of this Agreement constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Conduct of Educators in British Columbia*, Fourth Edition, January 2012.
11. Robinson agrees to a two-day suspension of her certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*. The suspension will take effect on October 14 and October 17, 2016.
12. Robinson also agrees under section 64(f) of the *Teachers Act* that by **September 30, 2016** (the "Condition Date"):
 - a. She will, at her own expense, successfully complete the course "Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries" through the Justice Institute of B.C. and provide satisfactory proof of completion to the Commissioner by the Condition Date;
 - b. If Robinson does not successfully complete the Course by the Condition Date, she will immediately advise the Commissioner in writing of the reason(s) she has not done so, and set out the date by which she proposes to do so, at which time the Commissioner may extend the deadline (the "Extended Date"); and

- c. If Robinson fails to provide satisfactory proof of completion of the Course by the later of the Condition Date or the Extended Date, the Commissioner may require the Director of Certification (the "Director") to suspend Robinson's certificate of qualification under section 64(f) of the *Teachers Act* until such time as she successfully completes the Course.
13. Robinson agrees not to make any statement orally or in writing which contradicts, disputes or calls into question the terms of this Agreement or the admissions made in it.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE AGREEMENT

14. The Director will record the terms of this Agreement on the Teacher Regulation Branch's online registry under section 79(d) of the *Teachers Act*.
15. Robinson acknowledges that this Agreement will be published in accordance with section 54 of the *Teachers Act*, which includes posting the Agreement, in full, on the following website: www.bcteacherregulation.ca.
16. Notification of this Agreement will be made in accordance with section 55 of the *Teachers Act*.
17. A breach by Robinson of any term in this Agreement may constitute professional misconduct which may be the subject of separate discipline proceedings.
18. Robinson acknowledges and understands that if the Commissioner has reason to believe that she has breached any term of this Agreement:
- a. the Commissioner may initiate an investigation under section 47(1)(b) of the *Teachers Act* into her conduct; and
 - b. the conduct and matters described in the "Background and Facts" to this Agreement are admissible in that inquiry as proof that Robinson has admitted to the conduct and matters set out in this Agreement.
19. Robinson acknowledges that she has voluntarily entered into this Agreement with the benefit of independent legal advice, and that she fully understands the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.

Signed in Colista, B.C.
this 29 day of July, 2016.

[Redacted Signature]

Jennifer Jo Robinson

Signed in Vancouver, B.C.
this 23 day of August, 2016.

[Signature]

Hon. Bruce M. Preston, Commissioner