THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF ONTARIO

IN THE MATTER OF a Hearing of a panel of the Discipline Committee of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario held pursuant to the provisions of the Health Professions Procedural Code which is Schedule 2 to the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, Statutes of Ontario, 1991, Chapter 18 ("Code") respecting one DR. NICHOLAS BEKESCH of the City of Burlington, in the Province of Ontario;

AND IN THE MATTER OF the *Dentistry Act* and Ontario Regulation 853, Regulations of Ontario, 1993, as amended ("Dentistry Act Regulation").

Members in Attendance: Dr. Richard Hunter, Chair

Ms. Judy Welikovitch
Mr. Rod Stableforth
Dr. Amelia Chan
Dr. Victor Kutcher

BETWEEN:

ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTAL)	Appearances:
SURGEONS OF ONTARIO)	
)	Brian Gover
)	Independent Counsel for the
)	Discipline Committee of the Royal
)	College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario
- and -)	
)	Megan Shortreed
)	for the Royal College of Dental
)	Surgeons of Ontario
)	
DR. NICHOLAS BEKESCH)	Symon Zucker for
)	Dr. Nicholas Bekesch

Hearing held by way of videoconference

REASONS FOR DECISION

This matter came on for hearing before a panel of the Discipline Committee (the "Panel") of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario (the "College") in Toronto on August 5, 2021. This matter was heard electronically, that is, by videoconference.¹

Ms. Megan Shortreed appeared as College counsel and was assisted by Dr. Helene Goldberg. Dr. Nicholas Bekesch (the "Member" or "Dr. Bekesch") was present electronically² and was represented at the hearing by Mr. Symon Zucker.

THE ALLEGATIONS

In the Notice of Hearing dated October 23, 2020 (received as **Exhibit 1** at the hearing), the Member was alleged to have committed acts of professional misconduct as provided by Section 51(1)(b.0.1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, Statutes of Ontario, 1991, Chapter 18 (the "Code"). The allegations set out in the Notice of Hearing are as follows:

1. You committed an act or acts of professional misconduct as provided by Section 51(1)(b.0.1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, Statutes of Ontario, 1991, Chapter 18 in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, you failed to co-operate with the Quality Assurance Committee, contrary to Section 82(1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code.

¹ Dr. Bekesch had difficulty in joining the videoconference and as a result was directed to use the dial-in number provided by the videoconferencing platform (Zoom). With one exception, the Panel was satisfied that throughout the hearing, Dr. Bekesch was able to hear the proceeding and to instruct his counsel, Mr. Zucker. The exception occurred at point when it appeared that Dr. Bekesch had put the call on hold. The Chair instructed hearing participants to pause until Dr. Bekesch confirmed he was once again attending the hearing electronically and was able to hear other hearing participants.

² Please see note 1 above.

<u>Particulars</u>

- On or about December 10, 2018, you were selected to complete the College's Practice Enhancement Tool (PET), as is required by Section 82(1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code and paragraph 48 of Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 853/93, and you were given until January 15, 2019, to do so. You did not complete the PET by this date, as was required.
- In or about the years 2019 and 2020, the Quality Assurance Committee granted you several deferrals to complete the PET; yet, as of the date of this decision, you still have not completed the PET.
- Due to your lack of cooperation with the Quality Assurance Committee, on or about August 20, 2019, the Quality Assurance Committee disclosed your name and its concerns/allegations to the Inquiries, Reports and Complaints Committee.
- 2. You committed an act or acts of professional misconduct as provided by Section 51(1)(c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, Statutes of Ontario, 1991, Chapter 18 in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, you failed to complete the Practice Enhancement Tool, contrary to paragraph 48 of Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 853/93, Regulations of Ontario, 1993, as amended.

<u>Particulars</u>

- You did not complete the College's Practice Enhancement Tool (PET) as is required by Section 82(1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code and paragraph 48 of Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 853/93.
- On or about December 10, 2018, you were selected to complete the PET and you were given until January 15, 2019, to do so. You did not complete the PET by this date.
- You have not completed the PET since you were informed of your obligation to do so on or about December 10, 2018, and despite

- several deferrals that were granted to you by the Quality Assurance Committee in or about the years 2019 and 2020.
- As of the date of this decision, you have still not completed the PET as is required of you.
- 3. You committed an act or acts of professional misconduct as provided by Section 51(1)(c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, Statutes of Ontario, 1991, Chapter 18 in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, you engaged in conduct or performed an act or acts that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional or unethical, contrary to paragraph 59 of Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 853, Regulations of Ontario, 1993, as amended.

Particulars

- You did not cooperate with the Quality Assurance committee as is required by Section 82(1) of the Code.
- You did not complete the College's Practice Enhancement Tool (PET) as is required by Section 82(1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code and paragraph 48 of Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 853/93.

THE MEMBER'S PLEA

The Member admitted each of the three allegations of professional misconduct set out in the Notice of Hearing (Exhibit 1). The Panel's Chair conducted a plea inquiry to ensure that the Member's admissions of professional misconduct were voluntary, informed and unequivocal. While it was apparent that the Member was displeased to be participating in the process and was critical of the College, it was nonetheless clear that his admissions of professional misconduct (made with the assistance of his counsel, Mr. Zucker) were voluntary, informed and unequivocal. In addition, as will be discussed below, other exhibits filed during the hearing fortified our conclusion in this respect.

AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS

Exhibit 2 to the hearing and is attached as Appendix A. The salient portions of the Agreed Statement of Facts included references to the Member's failure to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee (paragraphs 18-19) and his failure to complete the Practice Enhancement Tool, which went on for a period of two years (paragraphs 8-17 and 20-30), as well as his express admissions in relation to the three allegations of professional misconduct set out in the Notice of Hearing (paragraphs 32-35) and his general admission of professional misconduct (the non-sequentially numbered paragraph 15 on page 6). Importantly (and this served to fortify the Panel's conclusion that the Member's admissions of professional misconduct were voluntary, informed and unequivocal), the Agreed Statement of Facts was signed by Dr. Bekesch, who acknowledged that he has had the opportunity to take independent legal advice with respect to his admissions (paragraph 16 on page 7).

DECISION - FINDINGS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

Having considered the Member's plea, the Agreed Statement of Facts (Exhibit 2), the submissions of the parties' counsel and the advice of our independent counsel, the Panel found that the Member committed professional misconduct as set out in the three allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing (Exhibit 1).

REASONS FOR DECISION – FINDINGS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

The Panel concluded that the Member's admissions on the record that he engaged in the forms of professional misconduct alleged in the Notice of Hearing (Exhibit 1), coupled with the express and general admissions contained in the Agreed Statement of Facts (Exhibit 2) provided a basis for finding that the Member engaged in those forms of professional misconduct.

JOINT SUBMISSION ON PENALTY AND COSTS

A Joint Submission on Penalty and Costs ("Joint Submission") was filed as **Exhibit 3**. This document was dated August 5, 2021. Like the Agreed Statement of Facts, the Joint Submission was signed by Dr. Bekesch. The relevant parts of it provided as follows:

WHEREAS this panel of the Discipline Committee has found that Dr. Nicholas Bekesch (the "Member") is guilty of professional misconduct:

AND WHEREAS the Member entered into a voluntary Acknowledgement and Undertaking dated August 4, 2021, as attached to this Joint Submission as Appendix A, in which he agreed to permanently resign his certificate of registration;

NOW THEREFORE Dr. Nicholas Bekesch ("the Member") and the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario (the "College") jointly submit that this panel of the Discipline Committee make the following order:

- 1. Requiring the Member to appear before the Panel of the Discipline Committee to be reprimanded, on the date of this Order becoming final; and
- 2. Requiring the Member to pay costs to the College in the amount of \$5,000 in respect of this discipline hearing, in five (5) monthly installments of \$1,000.00 each, commencing on September 1, 2021 and ending on January 1, 2022.

The College and the Member further submit that pursuant to the Code, as amended, the results of these proceedings must be recorded on the Register of the College and any publication of the Decision of the panel would therefore occur with the name and address of the Member included.

The Acknowledgement and Undertaking referred to in the second recital was filed as **Exhibit 4**. In it, the Member undertook and agreed as follows:

- 1. to resign [his] membership with the College, effective 60 days from today, thus relinquishing his certificate of registration;
- 2. never to practice dentistry again in the province of Ontario;
- 3. not to apply to the College at any time for reinstatement of [his] certificate of registration; and
- 4. not to apply to the College at any time for a new certificate of registration.

COUNSELS' SUBMISSIONS AND ADVICE OF INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

In her submissions in support of the Joint Submission, Ms. Shortreed pointed out that the sole penalty order being sought pursuant to s. 51(2) of the Code was an order for the Member to be reprimanded. It was her submission that no other penalty order was required in the circumstances of this case. The costs order called for in the Joint Submission is not part of the penalty but is intended to partially indemnify the College for costs incurred in investigating the Member's professional misconduct, preparing the College's case and conducting the hearing.

Ms. Shortreed invited the Panel to read the Joint Submission (Exhibit 3) and the Acknowledgement and Undertaking (Exhibit 4) together, so that the Panel could better understand her submission that the order that the Member be reprimanded is sufficient in the circumstances of this case. She submitted that the overriding concern was whether imposing the agreed-upon penalty was in the public interest and whether imposing it would assist in maintaining public confidence in the College's ability to regulate the dentistry profession in the public interest. It was her submission that on the facts of this case, a reprimand addressed the goals of general and specific deterrence and remediation, and that it took into account the aggravating and mitigating factors arising in this case.

Ms. Shortreed also reminded the Panel of the guidance provided by the Supreme Court of Canada in relation to how courts and tribunals should treat joint submissions, citing R. v. Anthony-Cook, 2016 SCC 43.

In his submissions, Mr. Zucker largely adopted those made by Ms. Shortreed.

The Panel sought advice from its independent counsel. Mr. Gover reminded the Panel that for almost all forms of professional misconduct, there is no single form of penalty order that will be appropriate, to the exclusion of all others. Instead, the Panel should think of the concept of a "range of appropriate penalty orders" and ask itself if in all the circumstances of the case, the agreed-upon penalty is so far outside the appropriate range that imposing it would bring the administration of justice into disrepute or otherwise be contrary to the public interest.

Mr. Gover pointed out that the Joint Submission was the product of a negotiation between two experienced counsel, and that this fact alone should assure the Panel that the public interest and the Member's interests were properly addressed in the Joint Submission's formulation. It was Mr. Gover's advice that the agreed-upon

penalty of the oral reprimand was reasonable and within the appropriate range of penalty, having regard to the Member's undertakings (1) to resign his membership in the College within 60 days, thus relinquishing his certificate of registration, (2) never to practise dentistry again in the Province of Ontario at the end of those 60 days, (3) not to apply for reinstatement of his certificate of registration, and (4) not to apply for a new certificate of registration.

PENALTY AND COSTS DECISION

Having considered the findings of professional misconduct, the relevant evidence and the submissions of the College, the Panel accepted the Joint Submission and ordered that its terms be implemented.

The Panel therefore ordered the Member to appear before the Panel of the Discipline Committee to be reprimanded, on the date when the order became final, and to pay costs to the College in the amount of \$5,000 in respect of this discipline hearing, in five (5) monthly installments of \$1,000.00 each, commencing on September 1, 2021 and ending on January 1, 2022.

REASONS FOR PENALTY AND COSTS DECISION

In all of the circumstances of this case, the Panel was satisfied that the agreedupon penalty was within the appropriate range of penalties that could be imposed and that there was no basis upon which the Panel could properly decline to impose it.

Specific and general deterrence was accomplished by the reprimand and the Member's voluntary withdrawal from practice. It satisfied the Panel's concern about protecting the public and restoring confidence in the profession. This penalty demonstrates to members of the profession that blatant disregard of the Quality Assurance Committee's requirements will not be tolerated.

REPRIMAND

Mr. Zucker asked that the Panel depart from its usual practice of administering the reprimand orally and that instead a written reprimand be sent to Dr. Bekesch. Ms. Shortreed did not object to proceeding in this fashion.

Consequently, through its independent counsel, the Panel reprimanded Dr. Bekesch in writing, and in the following terms:

The Panel has found that you have engaged in multiple acts of professional misconduct. The misconduct related to (1) failing to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee, (2) failing to complete the Practice Enhancement Tool, and (3) engaging in conduct or an act that having regard to all of the circumstances would be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional and unethical. The cumulative effect of your conduct would certainly be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional and unethical. We stress that the Quality Assurance Committee and the Practice Enhancement Tool are vital to the College's ability to ensure that members of this profession provide competent care to patients.

Your professional misconduct is a matter of profound concern. It is completely unacceptable to your fellow dentists and to the public. You have brought discredit to the entire profession and to yourself. Public confidence in this profession has been put in jeopardy.

Of special concern to us is the fact that the professional misconduct in which you engaged has involved deliberate procrastination in completing the Practice Enhancement Tool for a two year period. Your repeated failure to respond to the Quality Assurance Committee calls into question your willingness to be governed by the College, which has a mandate to regulate the conduct of members of this profession in the public interest. Your behaviour is all of disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional and unethical.

As has been previously stated, we have ordered that you be reprimanded for your misconduct. This penalty is appropriate in light of other circumstances, including (1) your undertaking to resign your membership in the College within 60 days, thus relinquishing your certificate of registration, (2) your undertaking never to practise dentistry again in the Province of Ontario at the end of those 60 days, (3) your undertaking not to apply for reinstatement of your certificate of registration, (4) your undertaking not to apply for a new certificate of registration and (5) our order that you pay \$5,000 in costs in order to partially indemnify the College for the costs of the investigation and this hearing.

Were it not for your undertaking and acknowledgement (Exhibit #4), the terms of which have been summarized above, the Panel would have been inclined to impose a more significant penalty.

I, Dr. Richard Hunter, sign these Reasons for Decision as Chairperson of this Discipline Panel.

RIL	August 12, 2021	
Dr. Richard Hunter	Date	

Appendix "A"

H200013

IN THE MATTER OF a hearing of a panel of the Discipline Committee of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario held pursuant to the provisions of the Health Professions Procedural Code of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991,* S.O. 1991, c. 18 ("RHPA") respecting one **DR. NICHOLAS BEKESCH** of the City of Burlington, in the Province of Ontario;

AND IN THE MATTER of the *Dentistry Act* and Ontario Regulation 853, R.R.O. 1993, as amended ("Dentistry Act Regulation");

AND IN THE MATTER of the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.22, as amended.

AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS

Background

- 1. Dr. Nicholas Bekesch (the "Member") has been registered with the College as a general dentist since 1975.
- 2. At the material times, the Member was practicing at multiple locations owned by other dentists, throughout the GTA, Burlington and St. Catharines.
- 3. Dr. Bekesch has prior findings of professional misconduct and a history of a caution imposed by the ICRC, as outlined below.

The Notice of Hearing

- 4. The allegations of professional misconduct against the Member are set out in the Notice of Hearing dated October 23, 2020 (attached at **Tab A**).
- 5. The College and the Member have agreed to resolve the allegations on the basis of the facts and admissions set out below.

Facts and Admissions

i. The Practice Enhancement Tool

- 6. The College is required to make regulations regarding a Quality Assurance Program under s. 80 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*. The minimum standards, requirement of members to cooperate and other details regarding the Quality Assurance Program are provided in ss. 80-83.1 of the *Code*. The College's Quality Assurance Program is set out in O.Reg. 27/10 under the *Dentistry Act*, 1991.
- 7. One mandatory requirement of the Quality Assurance Program is that members must complete the Practice Enhancement Tool ("PET") every five years. The PET is required by O.Reg. 27/10, s. 4.

ii. Failure to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Program

- 8. On or about December 10, 2018, Dr. Bekesch was selected to complete the PET. He was directed to commence the PET by January 15, 2019, and to complete it within 30 days of the start date.
- 9. Dr. Bekesch did not start the PET by January 15, 2019, nor did he complete it within 30 days from that date.
- 10. On February 1, 2019, College staff contacted Dr. Bekesch by phone because he had not yet accessed the PET. During this telephone conversation, Dr. Bekesch stated that he had not received the notification letter. College staff agreed to send it to him again by mail and email, and to extend the deadline by which he was to commence the PET. Dr. Bekesch also commented that the PET was a "waste of his time" and then abruptly ended the phone conversation.
- 11. On February 1, 2019, College staff sent Dr. Bekesch another notification letter, with a deferred PET start date of March 2, 2019. Dr. Bekesch was informed that he had 30 days from March 2, 2019 in which to complete the PET.
- 12. Dr. Bekesch did not start the PET by March 2, 2019, nor did he complete it within 30 days from that date.

- 13. On April 8, 2019, College staff sent Dr. Bekesch a letter by mail and email, notifying him that he had failed to complete the PET by the extended deadline. College staff requested that he contact the Quality Assurance ("QA") Department. Dr. Bekesch failed to do so.
- 14. On April 29, 2019, College staff again sent Dr. Bekesch a letter by mail and email, requesting that he contact the QA Department by May 13, 2019. Dr. Bekesch failed to do so.
- 15. On May 7, 2019, College staff left a voice mail for Dr. Bekesch. He did not return the call.
- 16. On May 14, 2019, College staff sent Dr. Bekesch a letter by mail and email informing him that if he did not contact the QA Department by May 31, 2019, his matter would be referred to the QA Committee for review and possible further action. Dr. Bekesch did not contact the QA Department by May 31, 2019, or at all. (The mailed copy of this letter was returned to the College on July 30, 2019.)
- 17. On June 3, 2019, College staff sent Dr. Bekesch a letter by mail and email informing him that his name would be disclosed to the QA Committee for having failed to complete the PET. Dr. Bekesch was informed that the QA Committee could take further action, including reporting his name to the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee ("ICRC"). The QA Committee requested that Dr. Bekesch provide written submissions by June 17, 2019. Dr. Bekesch did not provide written submissions.

iii. Failure to respond to the Quality Assurance Committee

- 18. On June 25, 2019, the QA Committee formed an intention to disclose Dr. Bekesch's name to the ICRC. On June 26, 2019, the QA Committee provided notice by courier to Dr. Bekesch of its intention, and requested that he provide written submissions by July 19, 2019. Dr. Bekesch did not provide written submissions.
- 19. On August 20, 2019, the QA Committee decided to disclose Dr. Bekesch's name to the ICRC, for failing to complete the PET.

iv. Investigation and continuing failure to complete PET

- 20. On September 23, 2019, the Registrar appointed an investigator to inquire into the conduct of Dr. Bekesch in relation to the PET.
- 21. On October 7, 2019, the College's investigator contacted Dr. Bekesch by phone. Dr. Bekesch gave three reasons for not having completed the PET:
 - a. he was unable to sign onto the website and didn't have a password;
 - b. he was moving from a house to an apartment at that time and was having issues with the downsizing; and
 - c. he sold his office at the same time.
- 22. The investigator told Dr. Bekesch during the call to contact the QA Department to assist him with completing the PET. By October 31, 2019, he had not done so.
- 23. The Report of Investigation ("ROI") regarding Dr. Bekesch was issued on November 6, 2019.
- 24. On November 11, 2019, the investigator sent a copy of the ROI and Dr. Bekesch's prior decisions to him by courier. The packages were returned as unclaimed, and were then sent again on December 10, 2019 by courier to the correct address. The College requested that Dr. Bekesch provide written submissions no later than January 14, 2020. Dr. Bekesch failed to provide written submissions by January 14, 2020.
- 25. On January 16, 2020, the College's investigator spoke with Dr. Bekesch by telephone, and requested that he provide any written submissions by the end of that day.
- 26. On January 16, 2020, Dr. Bekesch provided brief written submissions by email. Dr. Bekesch submitted that he did not complete the PET because he was in the process of moving, his computer was not functioning, and he could not access the encrypted emails sent to him as he was "not a cryptographer". Dr. Bekesch disputed that he had earlier commented to the College that the PET was a waste of time.

- 27. In March 2020, Dr. Bekesch's counsel advised the College he has been retained with respect to this matter. On September 16, 2020, the College sent Dr. Bekesch's counsel a letter advising that the ICRC had formed an intention to refer the matter to discipline, and inviting a response. Dr. Bekesch did not submit a response.
- 28. At its meeting on October 15, 2020, the ICRC decided to refer allegations of professional misconduct against Dr. Bekesch to the Discipline Committee.
- 29. On March 1, 2021, the parties attended a Pre-Hearing Conference. Dr. Bekesch had still not completed the PET. No resolution was reached, and the College requested a date be fixed for a contested hearing.
- 30. On March 9, 2021, Dr. Bekesch reached out to the College for the first time in over two years to seek assistance in completing the PET. QA Department staff immediately contacted him and explained how to complete the PET on March 12, 2021. On March 31, 2021, Dr. Bekesch completed the PET.
- 31. On July 26, 2021, the parties reached an agreement that Dr. Bekesch would admit to all allegations in the Notice of Hearing and enter into an Agreed Statement of Facts.

v. Admissions of Professional Misconduct

- 32. Dr. Bekesch acknowledges that he did not complete the PET by the deadline required. He admits that during 2019 and 2020, the QA Department granted him several deferrals and opportunities to complete the PET, and he failed to do so. He admits that he failed to cooperate with the QA Committee.
- 33. Therefore, the Member admits that he engaged in professional misconduct under section 51(1)(b.0.1) of the *Code*, in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, he failed to cooperate with the QA Committee as required by s. 82(1) of the *Code*.
- 34. Further, the Member admits that he engaged in professional misconduct under s. 51(1)(c) of the *Code*, in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, he failed to compete the PET as required by the regulations and therefore contravened a

- provision of the regulations, contrary to paragraph 48 of Section 2 of the Dentistry Act Regulation.
- 35. Finally, the Member admits that he engaged in professional misconduct under s. 51(1)(c) of the *Code*, in that, during the years 2019 and 2020, he engaged in conduct or performed an act or acts that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional or unethical, contrary to paragraph 59 of Section 2 of the Dentistry Act Regulation.

Past History

- 36. In February 1994, Dr. Bekesch received a caution from the ICRC related to charting results of specific exams and patient consultations in greater detail (**Tab B**).
- 37. In August 2020, Dr. Bekesch admitted to, and was found guilty of, professional misconduct before the Discipline Committee (**Tab C**), in relation to a complaint received by the College in March 2019. Among other things, Dr. Bekesch admitted to prescribing opioids to patients without justification, in excess of the College's guidelines, and without properly documenting the prescriptions.
- 38. The Discipline Committee ordered Dr. Bekesch to be reprimanded, suspended his certificate of registration for four months, permanently restricted him from prescribing narcotics, directed him to complete a number of educational courses, and to undergo practice monitoring for 24 months following his return to practice. Dr. Bekesch was also ordered to pay \$10,000 in costs to the College.
- 39. There is an ongoing investigation before the ICRC respecting Dr. Bekesch's alleged breach of the Discipline Committee's order set out in paragraph 38.

<u>General</u>

15. Dr. Bekesch admits that the acts described above constitute professional misconduct and he now accepts responsibility for his actions and the resulting consequences.

16. Dr. Bekesch has had the opportunity to take independent legal advice with respect to his admissions.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 4th day of August, 2021.

Dr. Nicholas Bekesch	Witness

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15. Dr. Bekesch admits that the acts described above constitute professional misconduct and he now accepts responsibility for his actions and the resulting consequences.

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16. Dr. Bekesch has had the opportunity to take independent legal advice with respect to his admissions.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 4th day of August, 2021.

Dr. Nicholas Bekesch

Witness

Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario

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