



Sept. 4, 2024

CPSA cancels practice permit of Dr. Albert de Villiers

Edmonton, AB – A CPSA Hearing Tribunal has ordered the cancellation of the practice permit and registration of Dr. Albert de Villiers.

In 2023, Dr. de Villiers was found guilty by Alberta's Court of King's Bench of sexual interference, of a person under the age of 16. Under the *Health Professions Act* (HPA), contravening another enactment applicable to the profession (in this case, the *Criminal Code of Canada*) constitutes unprofessional conduct. As such, under section 56 of the HPA, CPSA's Complaints Director initiated a complaint against Dr. de Villiers after his criminal conviction, and referred the matter for a hearing.

As Dr. de Villiers' victim was not a patient, mandatory sanctions for sexual abuse under *An Act to Protect Patients* do not apply in this case. After considering the evidence and arguments presented, the Hearing Tribunal cancelled Dr. de Villiers' practice permit and registration. He was also ordered to pay 100 per cent of the costs of the investigation and hearing.

Dr. de Villiers is currently incarcerated and his CPSA practice permit has been inactive since 2020.

Resources (trigger/content warning: sexual abuse, sexual language):

<u>CPSA Hearing Tribunal decision</u> <u>Province of Alberta's Health Professions Act</u>

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The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta is the regulator for all physicians, physician assistants and surgeons in the province and is governed by the Health Professions Act. Our role is to protect the public by issuing practice permits to those who meet educational and training criteria, hold Alberta physicians to ethical and medical practice standards, and investigate and resolve physician-related complaints. CPSA also ensures the safety and quality of medical and diagnostic testing services in Alberta through an independent accreditation program.

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