

August 14, 2019

Dr. Habeeb Tunde Ali's 2019 practice permit reissued after stay granted by Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

Edmonton, AB – Madame Justice M. E. Burns of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta ordered a stay of the cancellation of Cochrane family physician Dr. Habeeb Tunde Ali's 2019 practice permit. In May 2018, Dr. Ali's registration and practice permit had been cancelled by the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) under section 43 of the *Health Professions Act* due to his failure to pay outstanding discipline proceedings and Court costs related to his conviction for unprofessional conduct.

The cancellation decision was stayed by Order of the Alberta Court of Appeal pending Dr. Ali's application to seek leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. The Supreme Court of Canada dismissed the leave application on March 14, 2019, which meant that the previous cancellation decision took effect, resulting in the cancellation of Dr. Ali's 2019 practice permit. The Court's decision allows Dr. Ali to practise medicine until his judicial review application is heard on October 2, 2019.

Dr. Ali will be expected to continue to adhere to the same practice conditions that were on his practice permit prior to cancellation, which include a chaperone for all appointments with a female patient and a restriction from practicing psychotherapy or counselling.

Background Information:

Dr. Ali was found guilty of unprofessional conduct in 2014 after facing three charges, including failure to pay annual monitoring fees to the CPSA, failure to cooperate and meet with the Assistant Registrar as required under his Continuing Care Agreement with the CPSA and failure to comply with his obligations as a bankrupt person. Dr. Ali unsuccessfully appealed the hearing decision to the CPSA's Council in May 2016, then appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeal, which dismissed his appeal in December 2017. Leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada was denied on March 14, 2019.

Resources:

<u>CPSA Hearing Tribunal decision</u> <u>CPSA Council Review Panel</u> <u>Alberta Court of Appeal Decision</u>

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The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta is the regulator for all physicians 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. The CPSA also ensures the safety and quality of medical and diagnostic testing services in Alberta through an independent accreditation program.

For more information, contact:

Jessica McPhee, Director, Communications 780-401-0972 or <u>Jessica.McPhee@cpsa.ab.ca</u>