



ENGINEERS &  
GEOSCIENTISTS  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE ACT*  
S.B.C. 2018, CHAPTER 47**

**and**

**IN THE MATTER OF IAN COLQUHOUN**

**ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS BC FILE NO. T22-062**

**CONSENT ORDER**

**Background**

1. On May 19, 2023, pursuant to section 66(1) of the *Professional Governance Act*, S.B.C. 2018, c. 47 (the “PGA”), the appointed investigators of Engineers and Geoscientists BC issued an investigation report (the “Report”) regarding Ian Colquhoun. The Report was provided to the Investigation Committee pursuant to section 9.7.6(1) of the *Bylaws* of Engineers and Geoscientists BC.
2. The Report summarized the investigation into the conduct of Mr. Colquhoun while registered as an engineer-in-training (“EIT”) with Engineers and Geoscientists BC.
3. Mr. Colquhoun first registered as an EIT with Engineers and Geoscientists BC in April 2017. In 2018, his registration as an EIT lapsed. In 2020, he re-registered as an EIT. Mr. Colquhoun has not completed all of the requirements to become registered as a professional engineer (“P.Eng.”) with Engineers and Geoscientist BC.
4. In 2021, a mining consulting firm offered Mr. Colquhoun a short-term contract for the position of “electrical engineer” (the “Position”). Mr. Colquhoun previously worked with the same firm as an EIT in 2017. Mr. Colquhoun accepted the offer for the Position and did not inform the firm that he was still registered as an EIT.
5. While employed with the firm in 2021, Mr. Colquhoun was asked to sign and affix his seal to a portion of a report that the firm had prepared for one of its clients. As

Mr. Colquhoun was an EIT, he did not have a P.Eng. seal and was not authorized to authenticate documents. As a result, Mr. Colquhoun forged a P.Eng. seal and applied this unauthorized seal to the report. The document Mr. Colquhoun sealed did not contain any engineering work and did not require authentication.

6. Mr. Colquhoun resigned from the position shortly after authenticating the report.
7. Mr. Colquhoun was cooperative, acknowledged wrongdoing, and was forthcoming with admissions during the investigation.
8. On May 27, 2023, the Investigation Committee appointed a Resolution Subcommittee to attempt to resolve this matter by means of a Consent Order.
9. The Investigation Committee and Mr. Colquhoun wish to resolve this matter by consent pursuant to section 73(2) of the *PGA* to avoid the need for a disciplinary hearing.
10. Mr. Colquhoun consents to the disposition set out below.

### **Admissions**

11. Mr. Colquhoun admits that he engaged in conduct unbecoming a registrant, which is defined at section 1 of the *PGA* as conduct of a registrant that brings the regulatory body or its registrants into disrepute or undermines the standards, methods or principles that are the foundation of the profession, in that he:
  - a. misrepresented to his employer that he was registered as a P.Eng. when he was registered as an EIT; and
  - b. forged a P.Eng. seal and applied the forged seal to a document.
12. The conduct set out above at paragraph 11(a) is contrary to section 5.5.1(3) and (4) of the *Bylaws* of Engineers and Geoscientists BC which requires that an EIT:
  - (3) may only use a title containing the word “engineer” or any form or abbreviation of the word “engineer”, if the designation “engineer-in-training” or “EIT” is used in close proximity to the title and given the same or higher degree of prominence.
  - (4) an engineer-in-training must not represent themselves as a Professional Registrant.
13. The conduct set out above at paragraph 11(b) is contrary to section 7.3.7(4) of the *Bylaws* of Engineers and Geoscientists BC which requires that only a Professional Registrant may authenticate a document.
14. The conduct set out above at paragraph 11 is contrary to the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Code of Ethics (the “Code of Ethics”), which requires that

registrants must act at all times with fairness, courtesy and good faith toward all persons with whom the registrant has professional dealings, and in accordance with the public interest. In particular, Mr. Colquhoun breached Principles 6 and 13 of the Code of Ethics, which require that registrants:

- (6) provide accurate information in respect of qualifications and experience;  
and
- (13) conduct themselves with fairness, courtesy and good faith towards clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as give, honest and fair professional comment.

### **Disposition**

- 15. By consent, this Consent Order is made pursuant to section 73 of the *PGA*.
- 16. Mr. Colquhoun's registration as an EIT with Engineers and Geoscientists BC is cancelled.
- 17. Mr. Colquhoun will pay the maximum fine for a trainee under the *PGA* of \$2,000 to Engineers and Geoscientists BC contemporaneous with the execution of this Consent Order.
- 18. Mr. Colquhoun will pay \$1,200 to Engineers and Geoscientists BC contemporaneous with the execution of this Consent Order as a contribution towards the legal and investigative costs incurred in this matter.

### **Consequences of the Consent Order**

- 19. The full text of this Consent Order will be published on the website of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, and a summary will be published in print and electronic publications, including in public communications.
- 20. This Consent Order has the same force and effect as an Order made under section 75 of the *PGA*.
- 21. Mr. Colquhoun agrees that Engineers and Geoscientists BC has recommended that he receive independent legal advice regarding this Consent Order and that Engineers and Geoscientists BC has given him the opportunity to obtain independent legal advice.

*[this space is intentionally left blank]*

22. Mr. Colquhoun and Engineers and Geoscientists BC agree that this Consent Order may be executed in counterparts and delivered as an electronic document

This Consent Order is approved and accepted by Mr. Colquhoun and the Investigation Committee this 9 day of November, 2023

<original signed by>  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ian Colquhoun

Greg Timmermans  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Witness

<original signed by>  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

The Investigation Committee of the Association  
of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists  
of the Province of British Columbia

<original signed by>  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Per: Robert Allan Dakin, P.Eng.  
Vice-Chair, Investigation Committee