

**Alberta Dental Association and College  
Hearing Tribunal Decision**

April 12, 2021

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BYLAW 19(7) OF  
THE ALBERTA DENTAL ASSOCIATION AND COLLEGE

On April 12, 2021, a Hearing Tribunal of the Alberta Dental Association and College found Dr. Curtis Westersund guilty of unprofessional conduct and he was sanctioned. A Hearing Tribunal is an independent group of decision makers comprised of a member of the public appointed by the Government of Alberta and three dentists registered in Alberta.

Dr. Westersund admitted that he failed to create or maintain adequate patient records; failed to conduct an appropriate clinical examination; failed to arrive at a definitive diagnosis before proceeding with treatment; proceeded with the next stage of treatment involving permanent crowns when the patient was not asymptomatic for an appropriate period of time and/or failed to re-evaluate the treatment plan and/or perform further diagnostic tests and investigations or obtain consultation from a dental or medical specialist before proceeding with the next phase of treatment; and failed to obtain adequate informed consent from the patient. Dr. Westersund further admitted that such conduct constituted unprofessional conduct.

**ORDERS OF HEARING TRIBUNAL**

The Hearing Tribunal accepted Dr. Westersund's admissions and agreed the admissions were proven and constituted unprofessional conduct under the *Health Professions Act*. The Hearing Tribunal accepted the Joint Submission on Penalty and issued the following orders on sanction:

1. He will be suspended for six weeks;
2. He will complete a professional ethics course, at his own cost and which will not count towards his continuing education credits; and
3. He will pay 75% of the costs of the investigation and hearing.