

## STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

ANDREA SIGRIST

Registration Number 029581

### IT IS ALLEGED THAT:

1. At all material times, Andrea Sigrist (“**Ms. Sigrist**”) was duly registered with the College of Nursing of New Brunswick (which was at all material times called the Nurses Association of New Brunswick) as a Registered Nurse.
2. Ms. Sigrist committed acts of professional misconduct as defined in subsection 2(1) of the **Nurses Act**, in that, while employed as a Registered Nurse at [ ] (the “**Care Service**”), she digressed from established or recognized professional standards or rules of practice of the profession, including but not limited to the **Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses** and the **Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship**, and she engaged in conduct unbecoming a nurse, as provided by subparagraph 28(1)(a)(ii) of the **Nurses Act**, in one or more of the following ways:
  - a. In or about January 2023, while employed by the Care Service to provide at-home nursing care to a pediatric client (the “**Client**”), Ms. Sigrist engaged in an inappropriate personal or romantic relationship and/or inappropriate personal or romantic communications with the Client’s father, which violated the boundaries of the nurse-client relationship.
  - b. On or about January 16, 2023, Ms. Sigrist exchanged messages of a personal and/or romantic nature with the Client’s father via social media, which suggested that a personal and/or romantic relationship had developed. The messages were unrelated to the Client’s care.
  - c. Later that evening, Ms. Sigrist had a phone conversation with the Client’s father which was unrelated to the Client’s care.
  - d. On or about January 17, 2023, the Client’s mother informed the Care Service of the alleged inappropriate relationship, and the Care Service removed Ms. Sigrist from the Client’s care schedule.
  - e. Ms. Sigrist continued to engage on a personal basis with the Client and on a personal and/or romantic basis with the Client’s father after she was removed from the Client’s care schedule and when there was no clinical or therapeutic reason to engage with the Client or the Client’s father.
  - f. On or about April 9, 2023, Ms. Sigrist and the Client’s father publicized their romantic relationship on social media and have since welcomed one or more children together.

- g. Ms. Sigrist engaged in a personal, step-parent relationship with the Client and integrated the Client into her own family.
- h. By engaging in an inappropriate personal and/or romantic relationship with the Client's father, engaging in inappropriate personal and/or romantic communications with the Client's father, and engaging in an inappropriate, personal, step-parent relationship with the Client, Ms. Sigrist:
  - i. failed to establish and/or maintain boundaries in the nurse-client relationship, as required by standard 2 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;
  - ii. failed to recognize when the boundaries of the nurse-client relationship were at risk of being compromised, as required by standard 2.6 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***, or violated those boundaries despite recognizing the risk;
  - iii. failed to determine whether particular activities or behaviours were appropriate within the context of a nurse-client relationship, as required by standard 2.7 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***, or engaged in such activities or behaviours despite determining that they were inappropriate;
  - iv. communicated with a client outside the nurse-client relationship, contrary to standard 3.10 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;
  - v. engaged in behaviours with a client that may be perceived to be romantic, contrary to standard 4.3 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;
  - vi. engaged in a personal relationship with a client, contrary to standard 4.4 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;
  - vii. engaged in activities that could result in personal benefit or gain for herself, contrary to standard 4.6 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;
  - viii. failed to disclose a relationship or personal interests that may create a conflict of interest which could impact the nurse-client relationship, as required by standard 1.9 of the ***Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship***;

- ix. failed to assess the need to remove herself from care when a conflict of interest had been identified, as required by standard 1.10 of the **Standards for the Nurse-Client Relationship**, or failed to remove herself from care despite identifying a conflict of interest;
  - x. failed to exercise reasonable judgment, as required by standard 2.5 of the **Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses**; and/or
  - xi. failed to demonstrate a professional presence and model professional behaviour, as required by standard 3.1 of the **Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses**.
3. Ms. Sigrist violated the Canadian Nurses Association's **Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses** in one or both of the following ways:
- a. Ms. Sigrist failed to maintain appropriate professional boundaries, failed to recognize the potential vulnerability of the Client and the Client's father (or acted despite recognizing such vulnerability), entered into a personal relationship with the Client, and entered into a personal or romantic relationship with the Client's father, contrary to Part I, section D, item 7 of the **Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses**; and/or
  - b. Ms. Sigrist failed to identify and address a conflict of interest, failed to disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest that arose in her professional role and relationships, and failed to resolve such conflicts in the interest of the needs of the Client, contrary to Part I, section G, item 8 of the **Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses**.