

Dr. B. Thomas - Unprofessional Conduct (Minutes 50-52, 107) (Confid. Infos.  
7/08, 17/08, 31/08)

298m Dr. Biju Thomas, accompanied by his legal counsel Mr. Collin Hirschfeld, was present at Council to speak to penalty following his entering a guilty plea to the charge of unprofessional conduct laid against him at the last meeting of Council following his being found guilty on a criminal charge of discharging a firearm in a public place. College legal counsel was also present at this time.

299m College legal counsel advised members of Council that he and counsel for Dr. Biju Thomas had reached agreement as to the penalty that would be recommended. The joint recommendation is that Dr. Thomas be assessed a fine of \$2,000.00 and be given a reprimand.

300m Council was advised the College had referred Dr. Thomas to the Physician Support Program of the Saskatchewan Medical Association on the basis that he had been under significant stress at the time of the relevant incident that may have been compromising his capacity to function safely as a physician. Dr. P. Butt from the PSP has expressed a belief that Dr. Thomas' actions and conduct did not speak to a mental health problem and the committee found no underlying concerns in Dr. Thomas' case.

301m Mr. Hirschfeld said that Dr. Thomas wanted to apologize to the College for his actions. He has already apologized to the community of Spiritwood and accepts responsibility for his mistake.

302m Dr. Thomas briefly spoke on his own behalf. He stated he has been in Canada for three years, coming from South Africa and going straight to Spiritwood. In answer to questions from Council, he said that he had had no trouble/problems during medical school in South Africa, that he enjoys living and working in Spiritwood and the community is supportive of him and his wife.

303m Moved by Ms. Righetti  
Seconded by Dr. Malhotra

THAT following his entering a guilty plea to a charge of unbecoming, improper, unprofessional or discreditable conduct with respect to having been found guilty of a criminal charge in the matter of

his discharging a firearm in a public place, the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons hereby assesses a fine of \$2,000.00 against Dr. Biju Thomas and orders that Dr. Thomas be issued a formal reprimand.