

Interim Order

LISA JEWELL, RSW

Date of Action: April 24, 2026

Important note - Extra-ordinary action to protect the public:

Under section 29 (1) of the Social Workers Act, S.B.C. 2008, c. 31 (the “Act”), if the Inquiry Committee considers that action is necessary to protect the public during the investigation of a registrant or pending a hearing of the Discipline Committee, it may, without providing the registrant an opportunity to make submissions,

- (a) set limits or conditions on the practice of social work by the registrant, or*
- (b) suspend the registration of the registrant.*

*Limits, conditions and/or suspensions ordered by the Inquiry Committee under section 29 of the Act are made to protect the public pending completion of an investigation and/or pending a hearing of the Discipline Committee. Measures taken under section 29 of the Act pertain to allegations which **are and remain unproven** unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee. Actions under section 29(1) of the Act are subject to appeal by the registrant to the Supreme Court of British Columbia.*

By way of an Interim decision dated April 24, 2026, under section 29(1) of the *Act*, the Inquiry Committee of the College ordered as follows:

- (a) The Registrant must not practice social work or provide any form of services to minors (individuals under 19 years old) whether in a group setting or individually, including through Guidance N Growth Counselling and the Foundation.
- (b) The Registrant is prohibited from having any minors (other than her own children) living with her.
- (c) The Registrant’s practice of social work, as defined in section 1 of the *Act* with respect to adult clients (including through Guidance N Growth Counselling and the Foundation) is subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) The Registrant must meet with a supervising social worker twice a month to review the Registrant’s practice. The Registrant must also provide the supervising social worker with a copy of this Decision.
 - (ii) The supervising social worker must be registered with the College, have a Masters of Social Work and have at least 10 years of practice experience;

- (iii) The Registrant must provide the College with the name and contact information of her supervising social worker. The College is entitled to conduct spot audits to confirm the Registrant is meeting with the supervising social worker in accordance with this order;
 - (iv) If the supervising social worker is no longer able to act, the Registrant must immediately advise the College and cease her practice of social work with adult clients until she has engaged an alternate supervising social worker with the qualifications set out in (ii) above and has provided the College with their name and contact information.
- (d) Within 2 business days of receipt of this Decision, the Registrant must post notification of these orders in any physical space in which she provides counselling services or the practice of social work. The notice must be in a font-size no smaller than 20 and be placed in a location where it is clearly visible and set out the following:

By virtue of interim orders of the Inquiry Committee of the British Columbia College of Social Workers pursuant to s. 29 of the Social Workers Act, S.B.C. 2008, c. 31 and until an investigation or the resulting disciplinary proceeding is complete:

1. Lisa Jewell is not permitted to practice social work or provide any form of services to minors (individuals under 19 years old); and
2. Lisa Jewell is required to meet with a supervising social worker at least twice a month.

There should be no other wording included in this notice. A photograph providing evidence of every location in which the notice has been posted must be provided to the College within 4 business days of the Registrant's receipt of this Order.

- (e) The Panel directs the Registrar to notify the public of this order in accordance with s. 76(2)(e) of the Bylaws.

Rationale:

The College received four complaints (Complaints) that related to the Registrant's engagement with under-age high risk youth through a youth group run by the Registrant and the Registrant having some of these youth live in her home. The complainants include allegations the Registrant's home is not a safe environment due to violence and substance use, that she isolates these youth from their families, school and other external supports and that she has breached privacy by posing images on social media, resulting in harm to these youth and impacting a vulnerable section of the population.

On November 18, 2025, the College received a complaint alleging that while under the Registrant's care, a youth was encouraged to skip school, was supplied with drug and alcohol and overdosed and attempted suicide on multiple occasions. The complainants also allege that the

Registrant filed fraudulent CRA forms claiming guardianship of their child to obtain benefits from their disability income.

On November 25, 2025, the College received a second complaint alleging that the Registrant operates a group home for youth and that while living with the Registrant, these youth stop attending school regularly and are told not to talk to their parents or other social workers. The complainant also alleges that the Registrant represented herself as the guardian of one of these youths for school meetings and asked the school to make her the main contact for some students.

On January 22, 2026, the College received a third complaint made pursuant to s. 40 of the *Act* which sets out a registrant's duty to report. The Third Complaint is lengthy and includes the following allegations (among others): a youth living with the Registrant advised that he wanted to go home and felt unsafe due to fighting and yelling in the Registrant's home; the Registrant asked the complainant to write a letter to assist her in claiming Child Tax Benefits for one of the youth living with her; the Registrant shared photographs of youth clients on the Foundation's public Facebook page without consent from their legal guardians and posted text messages between her and a youth on social media without redacting the youth's personal information, despite concerns expressed by the youth; the Registrant taught these youth how to inject drugs safely; and the Registrant delegated her duties to unqualified individuals. The Complaint also states the reporter was contacted by a school administrator to support a high-risk youth living with the Registrant who stated that they had been kicked out of the Registrant's home for the night and assaulted while spending the night outdoors. The reporter further alleges being advised by RCMP following reporting of this incident, that when a wellness check was conducted, they found the youth left in the care of a Foundation board member who was not a social worker.

On March 2, 2026, the College received a fourth complaint alleging (among others): the Registrant provided youth with prescription medication that had not been prescribed to them; encouraged a youth to stay with her and not go home; permitted youth to smoke cannabis and nicotine; and some youths experienced physical and emotional abuse in the Registrant's home.

The Fourth Complaint also alleges that after the Hearing was adjourned, the Registrant (or persons acting on her behalf) contacted a 17-year old who had lived with the Registrant, accused the youth of lying about the Registrant and threatened to withhold the youth's belongings unless they wrote a letter in support of the Registrant for the Hearing.

The Inquiry Committee considered submissions from the College and the Registrant and found a prima facie case that the Complaints establish a real risk of imminent harm to vulnerable youth if the Registrant continues to provide services to them or have them live in her home. The youth in question are high-risk and their vulnerability is heightened due to their age, which makes them more susceptible to influence from an authority figure such as the Registrant. The allegations in the Complaints suggest that harm has already occurred to some of these youth. The allegations that the Registrant isolates youth from their families, school and other sources of external supports also creates a significant risk of harm, particularly in conjunction with the allegations that the Registrant's home is not a safe environment for these youth. The risk of similar harm occurring if the Registrant continues to practice social work with youth is real and serious.

The Inquiry Committee finds that imposing a requirement that the Registrant can only continue to provide services to adults and couples if she consults with a supervising social worker twice a month to ensure oversight over her practice will provide sufficient protection. The Inquiry Committee considered that some of the allegations in the complaints relate to the Registrant's

practice with adults and families and as a whole, the allegations raise broader practice issues that present an imminent risk of harm to all of the Registrant's clients regardless of age. The Inquiry Committee determined that no conditions short of maintaining the complete prohibition on the Registrant providing services to youth is sufficient to protect against the risk of harm and was satisfied that the risk to the public could be managed in a sufficient and appropriate manner through the imposition of the practice limits and conditions described above.