

FAST FACTS: Drinkwater

February 2024

RECA received two complaints about unpaid personal loans. Because RECA has no jurisdiction over personal lending, no investigation could proceed.

April & May 2024

Complaints alleging fraudulent activity were made. This fell within RECA's mandate and triggered a priority investigation. RECA's investigators spoke with victims, gathered documentation, and interviewed Drinkwater several times.

June 18, 2024

Based on the initial evidence, the Residential Real Estate Broker Industry Council Chair used its *Real Estate Act* s.53 emergency powers to suspend Drinkwater's ability to obtain a new license. He has not been able to trade in real estate in Alberta since.

September-December 2024

The Registrar's Conduct Counsel reviewed all the evidence collected and built the case calling for disciplinary proceedings.

January 22, 2025

A Notice of Hearing was issued to Drinkwater. The Hearing was set to take place in March 2025; Drinkwater requested an adjournment to consult legal counsel.

May 8, 2025

The Calgary Police Service issued a notice, [charging Drinkwater with one count of fraud over \\$5,000](#). This charge is the result of a separate police investigation that began after a victim filed a complaint with police in June 2024.

May 22, 2025

At the Conduct Hearing, a joint agreement on facts was received and accepted by the Panel. It found that Drinkwater committed conduct deserving of sanction and maintained his licence suspension until it could issue its final decision on sanctions.

June 2025

During the Drinkwater investigation, new information surfaced regarding two other individuals – David Lem and Pat Hare. In June 2025, RECA issued Notices of Hearings (NOH) to both individuals, alleging that between 2021 and 2024, they were both aware of Mr. Drinkwater's misconduct, failed to report it, and took steps to conceal the scheme (see [Lem](#) and [Hare](#) NOH).

September 22, 2025

The Panel issued a permanent ban against Drinkwater, preventing him from practicing in real estate in Alberta for the rest of his natural life.