

For Immediate Release



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Statement from Yellow Brick House on the Acquittal of Former Kitchener Neurologist Jeffrey Sloka accused of sexually assaulting over 48 patients

Yellow Brick House stands with survivors following the recent, deeply concerning acquittal of former Kitchener neurologist Jeffrey Sloka, who was charged with sexually assaulting more than 48 patients over several years while practicing primarily out of Grand River Hospital.

In this jury-free trial, the court found that the high threshold required for a criminal conviction was not met. The criminal justice system, with its primary focus on preventing wrongful convictions, offers limited space for survivors' voices and experiences. This outcome reflects a system that is not equipped to fully address survivors' needs or the impact of trauma.

It is important to understand that a lack of conviction does not erase or invalidate the experiences shared by survivors.

The verdict highlights how broken our justice system really is. In 2019, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario revoked Sloka's medical licence. In the days following the acquittal, a spokesperson for the College confirmed that its disciplinary decision remains unchanged, stating: "In this case, a court's verdict does not change Dr. Sloka's registration status with the College," and reaffirming that its tribunal found he "committed acts of professional misconduct."

Every survivor deserves to be believed, to be treated with dignity, and to be supported without judgment.

Yellow Brick House will continue to advocate for trauma-informed responses, systemic change, and survivor-centred approaches across both healthcare and justice systems. We call on institutions and decision-makers to confront these systemic failures and take meaningful action to ensure survivors are heard, protected, and supported.

We believe survivors.

About Yellow Brick House

Since 1978, Yellow Brick House has been providing life-saving services and prevention programs to meet the diverse needs of individuals, families and communities impacted by violence. Our Vision is Freedom from violence. Equality for all. The organization is committed to providing a wide range of free and confidential support services to women and children experiencing abuse and violence and empowering them to transition to a violence free lives.

For more information about Yellow Brick House, visit yellowbrickhouse.org

Crisis and Support line: 1-800-263-3247 (call or text)

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