MEDIA RELEASE

Friday March 4, 2011

Class action lawsuit launched against B.C. Medical Association on behalf of B.C. doctors

(VANCOUVER) – A Vancouver-based employment law firm has launched a class action suit on behalf of all B.C. doctors who have chosen not to be members of the B.C. Medical Association, but who must obtain their benefits from the organization.

The firm of TevlinGleadle has commenced the lawsuit on behalf of the estimated 1,000 doctors who fall into this situation.

“In the lawsuit, we claim the B.C.M.A. has for years charged unreasonable and excessive fees to non-members, often in excess of 50% of the value of the benefits,” says lead counsel Murray Tevlin.

“The benefits for all B.C. doctors are established in order to attract and retain excellent doctors for the greater good of British Columbians in need of health care. The benefits are intended to fund continuing education and family security for B.C. doctors, and not to enrich the B.C.M.A.,” he says.

The class action suit claims that the B.C.M.A. is in a position of trust in respect of the non-members, and taking excessive fees is an unjust enrichment for which they must account directly to the doctors.

“Because they are not delivering the value of the benefit promised, we argue that taking the money by the B.C.M.A. is punitive, against good public policy, and against the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms,” says Tevlin.

TevlinGleadle will apply to the Court to have the action certified as a class proceeding.

For more information please call Murray Tevlin at (604) 648-2901 or visit www.TevlinGleadle.com <http://www.TevlinGleadle.com> for ongoing updates.