
Maintenance of Discipline Cases on the ABC FP Website

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Policy

Background

The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) has a policy that unless the Discipline Committee determines otherwise, it will publish the names of members, who have:

- a) incompetently engaged in the practice of professional forestry;
- b) engaged in conduct unbecoming a member, or;
- c) contravened the *Foresters Act*, or the bylaws or the resolutions of the ABCFP

This policy deals with the decision to publish member's names in order to ensure that we are transparent regarding the outcomes of our discipline cases. We also publish case digests for all complaints that do not result in discipline.

Purpose

The purpose of the new policy (below) is to address the issue of how long the ABCFP will maintain a public record of discipline against its members on the ABCFP website. The policy on the publication of discipline decisions is important to ensure transparency and to protect the public interest. However, the policy should also be fair in terms of its impact on the member who has been found guilty of a contravention of the *Foresters Act* or the ABCFP Bylaws.

Policy

1. The ABCFP will maintain a record of discipline against a member on its website for the length of time that is required by any of the conditions specified in penalties applied by the decision of the discipline panel. For example, if the panel determines that a five (5) year suspension is to be imposed against a member, the ABCFP will maintain for at least five (5) years, a record of the complaint against the member on its website.
2. Where the penalties imposed by the discipline panel do not impose any timelines, the minimum length of time the ABCFP will maintain a record of the complaint on its website will be three (3) years.
3. The Complaints Resolution Committee (CRC) will review and approve the case records and digests that are published on the ABCFP website in order to ensure that the information presented provides an accurate reflection of the particulars of the complaint, and the penalties that have been applied.

4. Once the time period specified in points 1 and/or 2 above has elapsed, a member or their legal representative may apply to the ABCFP to have the record of the case removed from the ABCFP website. The application for removal of a case record must be sent to the registrar of the ABCFP and must outline the reasons why the case should be removed, including what measures the member has taken to address the reasons for discipline.
5. The CRC will review the applications for removal, and provide a recommendation to the registrar in regards to the removal of cases from the website. The registrar will determine when a case may be removed after considering the recommendation from the CRC.
6. Nothing in this policy prevents the ABCFP from maintaining a confidential record of the case or of the penalties applied.



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