

Code of ETHICS

1. All members, however and wherever they may practice, are bound by the Code of Ethics set out hereunder.

2. A member has responsibilities to:

- 2.1. The public;
- 2.2. The profession;
- 2.3. His/her client or the employer; and
- 2.4. Other members.

3. The responsibility of a member to the public is:

- 3.1. To advocate and practice good stewardship of forest land based on sound ecological principles to sustain its ability to provide those values that have been assigned by society.
- 3.2. To uphold professional principles above the demands of employment.
- 3.3. To have regard for existing legislation, regulation, policy and common law; and to seek to balance the health and sustainability of forests, forest lands, forest resources, and forest ecosystems with the needs of those who derive benefits from, rely on, have ownership of, have rights to, and interact with them.
- 3.4. Where a member believes a practice is detrimental to good stewardship of forest land:
 - 3.4.1. To advise the responsible person promptly and, if the matter is not resolved, to inform council immediately in writing of the particulars; or
 - 3.4.2. If it is not possible to raise the matter with the responsible person or if it is inappropriate in the circumstance to do so, to inform council immediately in writing of the particulars.
- 3.5. To work to improve practices and policies affecting the stewardship of forest land.
- 3.6. To work to extend public knowledge of forestry, and to promote truthful and accurate statements on forestry matters.
- 3.7. To practice only in those fields where training and ability make the member professionally competent.
- 3.8. Not to make misleading or exaggerated statements regarding the member's qualifications or experience.
- 3.9. To express a professional opinion only when it is founded on adequate knowledge and experience.
- 3.10. To have proper regard in all work for the safety of others.

4. The responsibility of a member to the profession is:

- 4.1. To inspire confidence in the profession by maintaining high standards in conduct and daily work.
- 4.2. To contribute to the work of forestry societies and educational institutions and to advance scientific and professional knowledge.
- 4.3. Where a member believes another member may be guilty of infamous or unprofessional conduct, conduct unbecoming a member, negligence, or a breach of the *Foresters Act* or these bylaws:
 - 4.3.1. To raise the matter with that other member and, if the matter is not resolved, to inform council immediately in writing of the particulars; or
 - 4.3.2. If it is not possible to raise the matter with that other member or it is inappropriate in the circumstances to do so, to advise council immediately in writing of the particulars.
- 4.4. Not to misrepresent facts.
- 4.5. To sign and seal professional documents only in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 10 and any other bylaws and resolutions pertaining to the signature and sealing of professional documents.
- 4.6. To keep informed in the member's field of practice and to be aware of current issues and developments in forestry.
- 4.7. To state clearly on whose behalf professional statements or opinions are made.

5. The responsibility of a member to the client or employer is:

- 5.1. To act conscientiously and diligently in providing professional services.
- 5.2. Not to disclose confidential information without the consent of the client or employer except as required by law.

5.3. To obtain a clear understanding of the client's or employer's objectives.

5.4. To accept only those assignments for which the member is qualified or seek assistance from knowledgeable peers or specialists whenever a field of practice is outside the member's competence.

5.5. To inform the client or employer of any action planned or undertaken by the client or employer that a member believes is detrimental to good stewardship of forest land.

5.6. To refuse any assignment that creates a conflict of interest.

5.7. To levy only those charges for services rendered that are fair and due.

5.8. Not to accept compensation from more than one (1) employer or client for the same work, without the consent of all.

6. The responsibility of a member to other members is:

- 6.1. To abstain from undignified public communication with another member.
- 6.2. Not to unfairly criticize the work of other members or attempt to injure the professional reputation or business of another member.
- 6.3. To provide opportunity for the professional development and advancement of other members in the member's employ or supervision.
- 6.4. To give credit for professional work to whom the credit is due.
- 6.5. To share knowledge and experience with other members.
7. A member who violates this Code may be subject to one or more of the remedial actions authorized under the *Foresters Act*.
8. This Code of Ethics does not deny the existence of other important duties which are not specifically included.
9. This Code of Ethics is to be broadly, rather than narrowly, interpreted, such that the responsibilities owed by a member to the categories of: the public; the profession; his/her client or employer; or other members, are not exclusive to that category. They apply to each of the other categories insofar as it is possible to do so.



Ensuring BC's Forests Are In Good Hands.

- ABCFP Bylaw 11 (September 17, 2003)