



Policy Number: ID1	
Applies to: All professions regulated by CCHPBC.	Date Effective: 2024-12-05
	Last Update: 2024-12-05
Title of Policy Owner: Chief Regulatory Officer	

## Policy Title: Public Notification

This policy describes the requirements of the College to provide clear and accessible notification to the public for matters determined by the Board, Inquiry Committee or Discipline Committee as per the Public Notification provisions in the *Health Professions Act*.

### Notification of inquiry and discipline results

1. The College will publish notification of actions for which public notification is required under section 39.3 of the *Health Professions Act* (the “Act”) by posting on the College website.
2. Notifications relating to registrants in the massage therapy, naturopathic medicine or traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture professions will remain on the College website generally for 10 years from the date of the action taken or 10 years after the termination of any limit, condition, or suspension. Notifications relating to registrants in the chiropractic profession dated prior to December 5, 2024 will remain on the College website generally for 1 year from the date of the action taken and then be moved to the License Verification profile. Notifications relating to registrants in the chiropractic profession dated on or after December 5, 2024 will remain on the College website generally for 10 years from the date of the action taken or 10 years after the termination of any limit, condition, or suspension.
3. Notifications that have been published in accordance with this policy but that are no longer maintained on the College website will be accessible indefinitely by the public upon request.
4. The College will publish a follow-up notification when there is a change to the status of a limit, condition, or suspension imposed under section 39.3 of the Act.
5. Notifications of inquiry outcomes posted on the College website will include the following information:



- a. the full name of the registrant or health profession corporation that is the subject of the action taken,
- b. a description of the action taken, and
- c. the reasons for the action taken.

## Notification of discipline hearings

6. The College will publish notification of Discipline Committee hearings by posting on the College website no less than 14 days prior to the date set for the hearing, in accordance with Bylaw 5.20.
7. For a citation that was issued and subsequently cancelled pursuant to section 37(4) of the Act, the College will publish notice of the cancellation on the College website if notice of the discipline hearing has already been published.
8. Discipline hearing notifications will not include any identifying information of third parties to protect confidentiality.

## Notification of discipline results where a citation was dismissed

9. If a citation is dismissed after a discipline hearing under section 39(1) of the Act, the College may anonymously publish the dismissal order on the College website for 10 years following the decision.
10. Notifications of dismissal orders will not include:
  - a. any identifying information of the registrant unless the registrant requests publication of their own name, or
  - b. any identifying information of third parties to protect confidentiality.

## How notifications will be posted

11. The College's website will include a web page titled "Public Notices" (or equivalent) and will include public notifications of inquiry and discipline results (or links to such notifications) in a form and with content complying with section 39.3 of the Act and with any directions made under that provision, concerning the following actions:

### Actions Pending Resolution

- a. Action by the Inquiry Committee under section 33(2) of the Act, accompanied by the following language or equivalent:

*The Inquiry Committee is empowered and required to investigate certain kinds of matters and, in appropriate circumstances, to impose immediate limits or conditions on, or to suspend or cancel, the registration of a*



*registrant under section 33(2) of the Act. Measures taken under section 33(2) of the Act pertain to matters which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee.*

- b. Action by the Inquiry Committee under section 35(1) of the Act, or by the Discipline Committee under section 38(8) of the Act, accompanied by the following language or equivalent:

*Limits, conditions and suspensions ordered by the Inquiry Committee under section 35(1) of the Act, or by the Discipline Committee under section 38(8), are made to protect the public during an investigation, pending a hearing, or during a hearing. Measures taken under sections 35(1) or 38(8) of the Act pertain to matters which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee.*

### Consent Resolutions

- c. Agreements, undertakings and/or consents made, given, or granted under:
  - i. section 32.2(4)(b) of the Act – Duty to report registrant;
  - ii. section 32.3(3)(b) of the Act – Duty to report respecting hospitalized registrant with consideration given to subsections 39.3(4) and (5); or
  - iii. section 36(1) of the Act – Reprimand or remedial action by consent (in relation to a serious matter).

### Discipline Orders

- d. Orders made under:
  - i. section 37.1 of the Act – Consent orders;
  - ii. sections 39(2), (5), (8) or (9) of the Act – Action by discipline committee;
  - iii. section 39.1 of the Act – Unprofessional conduct in another jurisdiction, etc.; and
  - iv. sections 44(1) or (2) of the Act – Revocation of corporation permits.

- 12. The “Public Notices” web page will include notifications of discipline hearings (or links to such notifications), which will be accompanied by the following language or equivalent:

*Citations issued by the Inquiry Committee under section 37(1) of the Act involve allegations which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee after conducting a discipline hearing.*

*The College endeavours to keep any hearing dates listed on its website up-to-date, but persons interested in attending any hearings should confirm*



*each hearing date, and that the hearing is open to the public, before attending. The Discipline Committee is empowered to hold all or any part of a hearing in private at the request of a complainant, or as may be appropriate in any given case.*

13. The “Public Notices” web page may include notifications of dismissal orders (or links to such notifications).

## 1. Policy Rationale and Purpose:

Under section 16(1) of the Act, the College has a duty to serve and protect the public and to exercise its powers and discharge its responsibilities under all enactments in the public interest.

Section 39.3 of the Act requires the College to notify the public of certain actions taken by the inquiry or discipline committee under Part 3 of the Act. Section 39.3(7) of the Act permits the College to satisfy this requirement by posting notices on its website.

Section 53(1)(b) of the Act permits the College to disclose confidential information to the public, if the Board authorizes the disclosure as being in the public interest.

The British Columbia Health Regulators created a Framework for Public Notification for Inquiry Results to “*build a common approach for public protection and promote consistent practices among colleges.*” The Framework incorporates the principles of “transparency and accountability”, “education and deterrence of registrants”, and “accessible jurisprudence”.<sup>1</sup> This policy is intended to comply with Framework.

The College can discharge its duties to serve and protect the public and to act in the public interest by ensuring that inquiry and discipline actions are transparent and that public notifications are consistently applied.

This policy sets out how the College will notify the public of the inquiry and discipline actions as required under section 39.3 and permitted by section 53(1)(b) of the Act. The publication requirements in this policy contribute to a balance between transparency and protection of individual privacy and confidentiality.

## 2. Policy Scope:

This policy outlines procedures related to public notification of actions taken by the inquiry and discipline committees and applies to the College and all professions regulated by the CCHPBC.

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<sup>1</sup> [British Columbia Health Regulators Framework for Public Notification for Inquiry Results](#)



### 3. Legal Authority:

- *Health Professions Act*, sections 39.3 and 53(1)(b)
- Bylaw 5.20

### 4. Key Partnerships:

*None identified at this time.*

### 5. Definitions:

“College” means the College of Complementary Health Professionals of British Columbia

“Conditions” (on a registrant’s practice of the designated health profession) means a requirement that needs to be in place or met before a registrant can practice.  
Examples: under supervision, not a sole practitioner

“Framework” means the British Columbia Health Regulators Framework for Public Notification for Inquiry Results

“Limits” (on a registrant’s practice of the designated health profession) means a reduction in the registrant’s ability to practice.  
Examples: cannot prescribe certain drugs; do certain procedures; treat children or women; can only practice during certain hours

### 6. Resources/References:

[British Columbia Health Regulators Framework for Public Notification for Inquiry Results](#)



Reviewed By: Chief Regulatory Officer	On: 2024-11-15	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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Approved By: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board <input type="checkbox"/> Committee ( <i>Committee Name</i> ) <i>OR</i> Name: <i>Full Name</i> Title: <i>Title</i>	Date Approved: 2024-12-05
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