

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ACCREDITATION INC. CODE OF ETHICS

1.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Each member shall be guided by the highest standards of ethics, personal honour, engineering or scientific integrity and professional conduct. The word "member" as used throughout this Code shall include all classes of membership.

Honesty, integrity, loyalty, fairness, impartiality, candour, fidelity to trust, and inviolability of confidence, except when required by law, are incumbent upon the professional conduct of every member.

2.0 CONDUCT OF MEMBERS IN RELATION TO THE PUBLIC AND OTHER MEMBERS

A member shall avoid and discourage sensational, exaggerated and unwarranted statements with regard to professional matters and shall not participate in an unsound or illegitimate undertaking.

A member shall not knowingly permit the publication of his/her articles or reports for an unsound or illegitimate undertaking.

A member shall not give a professional opinion, make a report, or give legal testimony without being as thoroughly informed as might reasonably be expected considering the purpose for which the opinion, report or testimony is desired, and the degree of completeness of the information upon which it is based should be made clear.

A member may publish dignified business, professional or announcement cards but shall not advertise his/her work or accomplishments in a self-laudatory or unduly conspicuous manner.

A member shall not knowingly issue a false statement or false information even if directed to do so by employer or client.

A member shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation or business of another member.

A member shall freely give credit for work done by others to whom the credit is due and shall refrain from plagiarism in oral and written communications, and shall not knowingly accept credit rightfully due to another.

A member shall endeavour to co-operate with others and will encourage the ethical dissemination of useful knowledge.

A member shall endeavour to ensure that applicants for membership follow these standards and are otherwise qualified.

It shall be the duty and responsibility of every member not only to uphold these standards of ethics in precept and by example, but also, where necessary, to encourage by counsel and advice to other members their adherence to such standards.

A member shall not conduct themselves in any manner that would bring laboratory accreditation into disrepute.

3.0 CONDUCT OF MEMBERS IN RELATION TO EMPLOYER OR CLIENT

A member shall protect the interest of his/her employer or client so far as it is consistent with the public welfare and his/her professional obligations and ethics.

A member who finds that his/her obligations to his/her employer or client conflicts with his/her professional obligations or ethics should have such objectionable conditions corrected or resign.

A member shall disclose to his/her prospective employer or client the existence of any interest which he/she holds, either directly or indirectly, having pertinent bearing on such employment.

A member shall not use, directly or indirectly, any employer's or client's confidential information in any way which is competitive, adverse or detrimental to the interests of the employer or client.

A member retained by one client shall not accept, without the client's consent, an engagement by another where there is likely to be a conflict of interest.

A member who had made an investigation for any employer or client shall not seek to profit economically from the information gained, unless permission to do so is granted, or until it is clear that there can no longer be a conflict of interest with the original employer or client

A member shall not divulge information provided to him/her in confidence, except when required to do so by law. Members from regulatory agencies and “authorities having jurisdiction” within the public sector may be required by law to report any contravention of the laws they are duty-bound to enforce.

A member shall engage, or advise his/her employer or client to engage, and co-operate with, other experts and specialists whenever the employer’s or client’s interest would be best served by such service.

A member shall not accept a concealed fee for referring a client or employer to a specialist or for recommending professional services other than his/her own.

Elected members may not seek to profit through employment with the Association; however, fair and reasonable expenses shall be payable at the discretion of the Board.