

Draft bylaws overview

Support Services

Support Programs are newly established under the *Health Professions and Occupations Act* (“HPOA”) (sections 276 - 306 HPOA). BCCNM must implement these programs for complainants making complaints related to:

- sexual misconduct;
- sexual abuse; and,
- discrimination.

The HPOA provides for three types of support programs:

- Information services – which are intended to provide information and guidance to help complainants understand the regulatory processes (complaints, investigations & discipline);
- Support services – which provides funding for various types of support (e.g. counselling, support from an Elder etc.); and,
- Support workers – which provides individual assistance during regulatory processes.

The HPOA and bylaws, provide for the parameters for support programs, as follows:

- To receive support services and the assistance of a support worker, complainants must complete an application. Eligibility decisions will be made by a college administrator or support officer and will be communicated to the applicant. If the applicant is not deemed eligible, they have the right to seek a reconsideration of the decision.
- The application deadline for applying for support services is 6 months from:
 - a disposition of the Registrar;
 - a disposition of the Investigation Committee;
 - the issuance of a Disciplinary Order where no Citation has been issued; or
 - the issuance of a Citation.

Services will be available for maximum 2 years from the grant date with the possibility of extension based on specific circumstances.

- For support worker services – the application must be completed before:
 - a disposition of the Registrar;
 - a disposition of the Investigation Committee;
 - the issuance of a Disciplinary Order where no Citation has been issued; or
 - the conclusion of a Discipline Hearing.

The assistance of a support worker is limited to when the regulatory processes are ongoing (including a “tapering” period of 3 months).

- For information services – we have made it as easy and barrier free as possible in the bylaws for individuals to obtain information services. Individuals must only contact the college and ask for information about the complaints process to be eligible.
- The maximum aggregate funding available for all support programs is \$10,000 in total, to be allocated in the manner requested by the complainant.