



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE: GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Investigation Committee (IC)ⁱ of the CVBC is tasked with the statutory mandate to assess complaints made about veterinarians. The IC is committed to the fair, objective and balanced assessment of all complaints made about veterinarians and abides by the following guiding principles:

- The protection of the public is paramount;
- Principles of due process, natural justice and procedural fairness, exercised both at the investigative stage which the IC oversees, and in its deliberations on the results of investigations;
- A commitment toward a measured response, initially soliciting from registrants their proposals for remedial measures in preference to disciplinary measures, in appropriate cases;
- Recommendations for discipline after efforts toward reaching agreement on remedial measures have either failed, are inappropriate due to the substance of the complaint or the veterinarian's response, or both;
- Progressive discipline;
- Balancing transparency, confidentiality and mandatory public notification;
- Timeliness;
- Professionalism in its communications;
- Adherence to the CVBC's Non-Discrimination Policy in its dealings with veterinarians, members of the public, staff and all other stakeholders.

ⁱ The Investigation Committee is comprised of between 7 and 9 experienced and knowledgeable veterinarians and at least one public (non-veterinarian) member.