



Title – A Right and Privilege

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The *College of Applied Biology Act* (the *Act*) authorizes the College of Applied Biology (the College) to regulate the use of title awarded for the practice of applied biology. The Provincial Government has given this authority to the College to protect the public interest.

Only members of the College are entitled to use titles authorized in Section 11 of the *Act* or any other designations authorized in the Rules set by Council. This means that the terms “professional biologist”, “registered professional biologist”, “registered biology technologist”, “biologist in training” “registered biology technologist in training” and any abbreviation such as RPBio, RBTech, BIT or Trainee(RBTech) are restricted for use only by the members of the College.

Section 12 states:

(1) A person must not hold himself or herself out as a member of the college or use a name, title, abbreviation, designation or description in a manner that might reasonably lead to the conclusion that the person is a member of the college, unless the person is a member in good standing of the college.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), a person must not use a title or abbreviation referred to in section 11, either alone or in combination with any other name, title, abbreviation, designation or description, unless the person is a member in good standing of the college, exercising a right or privilege expressly conferred under this Act.

All members of the College have met stringent entrance requirements and therefore have earned the right of title awarded by the College. Over the last couple of years there have been an increasing number of instances where it has come to the attention of the College that individuals, who were not members in good standing, were using a title granted by the College. The College takes the privilege granted by legislation of awarding title very seriously and responds quickly when dealing with these serious infractions.



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Section 35 of the Act states that

(2) A person who contravenes section 12 commits an offence and on conviction may be sentenced to a fine of up to \$5 000.

(4) If a contravention of section 12 occurs on more than one occasion, the person is liable, without notice and without a separate charge being laid, to a separate fine of up to \$5 000 for each occasion on which the contravention occurs.

Members have a professional obligation to safe guard the reputation of the College and are thus encouraged to raise to the attention of the College any instances where use of the title is not authorized. Please contact the Registrar at registrar@cab-bc.org if you have an instance to report.