

# Professional Accountability Committee Report

The goal of the Professional Accountability Committee is to ensure all applied biology practitioners in BC are registered professionals. Why? The College serves the public interest and we believe the public interest is best served by qualified and accountable registered professionals.

In 2016, we were committed to working towards our goal on 2 fronts: Decision-Making Authority and Marketing of College Members.

To ensure provincial decision makers are qualified, we now review all provincial job postings to ensure that they require the appropriate professional designation for the job responsibilities, including statutory decision-making. We are happy to report that most postings are requesting RPBio status or eligibility. The Committee encountered 4 postings that did not require membership with the College. In response, the College submitted their concerns in writing to the contact listed for each of the postings and met with Assistant Deputy Ministers (ADMs) twice regarding this issue. The College has been invited to provide information which could be used when government is screening applicants.

Our marketing drive targeted the **Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA)** review process. We submitted a **letter** stressing the importance of having accountable scientists in government, industry, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to ensure that CEAA decisions are informed by science and not interests - the letter has been **posted on the CEAA site**. We look forward to continuing this discussion.

In 2017, we will face new challenges including the northward drift of post-truth: where what one wants to believe trumps what science suggests. In particular, we will focus our attention on the hiring practices of the federal government, Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO), and other employers, to promote the work of College members. The Committee welcomes anyone interested in serving on the Committee or **sharing their ideas** to help further the progress of the Committee in support of the College's objectives. 

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Clark, RPBio, Executive Vice-President and Chair - Professional Accountability Committee

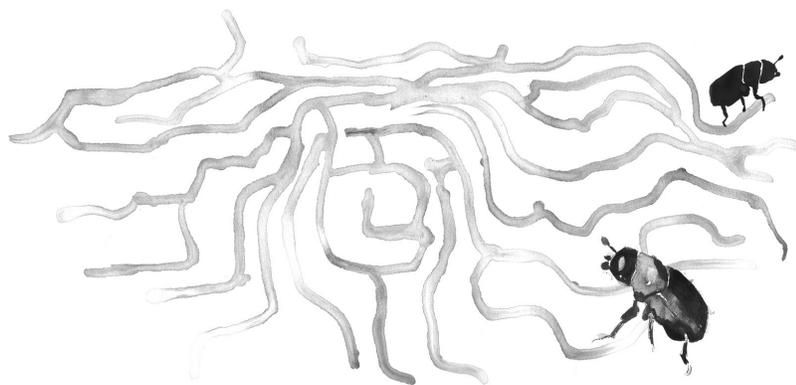


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