



COLLEGE OF  
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES  
OF ALBERTA

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## HEARINGS

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### **What is a hearing tribunal?**

The Hearing Tribunal, consisting of two or three LPNs and one public member, considers evidence and determines whether or not the Investigated Member is guilty of unprofessional conduct.

The Hearing Tribunal functions in a quasi-judicial role, which is similar to the court system, whereby evidence is entered and witnesses are called and questioned regarding the allegations against the Investigated Member.

The Hearing Tribunal has no prior knowledge of the matter to be heard except for the Investigated Member's name and the facility where the complaint originated.

#### **Do I need a lawyer?**

The Investigated Member is entitled to be represented by legal counsel, a union representative, or an agent should they desire.

#### **If I am the investigated member, do I have to attend the Discipline Hearing?**

Yes. You are obligated to attend the Hearing. If you fail to attend the Hearing Tribunal may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings.

#### **Can I appeal the Hearing Tribunal Decision?**

The Investigated Member and the Complaints Director have 30 days to request an Appeal to Council. The Council Appeal Committee is a panel which includes two council members appointed by CLPNA's Council and one Public Member appointed by the Government of Alberta.

The Investigated Member can subsequently appeal to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

#### **I've been called as a witness? What do I do?**

If you have been served a Notice to Attend a hearing, it is believed you have information relevant to the alleged unprofessional conduct of the Investigated Member and you are obliged to attend. Please call the Hearings Director to confirm your attendance via email to [bmcewen@clpna.com](mailto:bmcewen@clpna.com) or call (780) 484-8886.

If you fail to appear at the Discipline Hearing, or fail to provide any requested material, proceedings for civil contempt of court may be brought against you. If you are an LPN, your failure or refusal to attend may be held by the Hearing Tribunal to be unprofessional conduct.

#### **Can anyone attend a hearing?**

As a general rule, hearings are open to the public, so anyone can come and watch. However, there are times a Hearing Tribunal may order that all or part of the hearing be held in private.

If you are interested in attending a hearing, you must pre-register by contacting Bonnie McEwen, Hearings Director at [bmcewen@clpna.com](mailto:bmcewen@clpna.com)