

Discipline Case: 2012-05A/B

Subject Members: Registered Professional Foresters

Referred to: Complaints Resolution Committee

Date of Decision: February 2013

Allegations

This case resulted from a complaint dated October 23, 2012 from an ABCFP member about the conduct of two other ABCFP members. The complainant alleges that the members subject to the complaint were in breach of bylaw 11.6.2 of the code of ethics which requires members to “Not to unfairly criticize the work of other members or attempt to injure the professional reputation or business of another member.”

Specifically the concerns were in relation to:

- Comments made in an e-mail by one of the subject members regarding the work of another member.
- Comments in the minutes of a meeting that were copied from the e-mail noted above.
- Distribution of the meeting minutes by one of the subject members to third parties.
- Allegations that the above actions of the subject members were unfairly critical of another member.

Subsequent to the lodging of the complaint the subject members have both stated that there was no intent on their part to be unfairly critical of the work of another member. Both subject members have apologized to the complainant for their actions and addressed the concerns raised by this complaint. They have also provided clarification that they did not intend to harm the professional reputation of another member by sending the e-mail and publishing the minutes. In addition, clarification has been provided by the subject members in subsequent meeting minutes that the member was acting appropriately in doing the work required by the employer, and any criticism in the previous minutes was not intended.

Decision

After reviewing the allegations and the actions of the subject members, and as a result of the subject member’s willingness to apologize and provide the clarification in subsequent meeting minutes, the registrar believes that there are no further actions required by the ABCFP in relation to this complaint.

This case is now closed.