

Professionalism & Ethical Behaviour

3

Maintaining and enhancing the public's trust is a cornerstone for any professional. Forest technologists must protect and serve the the public interest by understanding their role, following a code of ethics, seeking out opportunities for continuous improvement, and adhering to regulatory requirements.

Demonstrable Competencies

Measures

A. Act in a manner that protects and serves the public interest

1. Apply a code of ethics to daily conduct
2. Practice within a professional scope of practice and individual areas of competence
3. Maintain competence within areas of practice
4. Differentiate between public interests and the demands of employment

B. Adhere to legislation and policies

1. Recognize the functions of professional regulatory organizations*
2. Apply relevant legislation and policies ¹
3. Adhere to applicable occupational health and safety regulations and training requirements²
4. Integrate constitutional rights, treaty rights, and international agreements pertaining to Indigenous peoples³

C. Demonstrate the duties and obligations of professionals

1. Report non-compliance to appropriate bodies
2. Document evidence gathered to make decisions
3. Differentiate between professional and unprofessional conduct
4. Exercise due diligence in completion of work

D. Make ethical decisions

1. Differentiate between personal values and professional ethics ⁴
2. Examine ethical issues ⁵
3. Identify conflicts of interest
4. Use evidence-based practices to make decisions ⁶

Notes:

1. Includes legislation and policies at the provincial and federal level that link to the practice of forestry in a specific jurisdiction.
2. All employers and workers must understand legislated occupational health and safety rights and requirements. Employees must understand and be able to follow organization specific safe work policy outlining how to perform a task with minimum risk to people, equipment, materials, environment, and processes.
3. Section 35 of the Constitution Act (1982) and UNDRIP.
4. Ethics serve as principles to guide professional behavior to protect the publics.
5. Includes an understanding of the underlying basis for ethical principles such as respect for autonomy and justice, situational analysis, and reflection on the influence that one's personal beliefs and values might exert in the decision-making process.
6. A nuanced approach to problem solving and decision-making that brings together the best empirical evidence, the complex decision making repertoires of a trained professional, and important social validity and contextual considerations to solve problems.