APPI
Alberta Professional Planners Institute

Bulletin

November 4, 2026

Updated National Model of Ethical Standards for the Planning Profession in Canada - What Members need to know

The Provincial and Territorial Institutes and Associations (PTIAs) and the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) are pleased to confirm the adoption of updated National Model of Ethical Standards, effective **January 1, 2027**. The new Ethical Standards include both a Code of Ethics and a Code of Professional Conduct for the planning profession.

The Professional Standards Board (PSB), established by the PTIAs and CIP to oversee the accreditation and certification process for the planning profession in Canada, developed recommendations to update the model standards. These new national standards modernize and clarify the principles and professional expectations that guide ethical planning practice in Canada.

Updates to the National Model of Ethical Standards and Code of Conduct include:

- A broader responsibility to the public
- Specific expectations around engaging with Indigenous communities
- Greater emphasis on professional judgment and independence
- Clearer expectations around conflicts of interest and improper influence
- Responsibility and transparency around technology like artificial intelligence

Please note that each PTIA may adopt minor variances to the national model to align with provincial legislation, and/or regulatory requirements.

How These Changes Impact APPI's Regulated Members

APPI Candidate Members: The PSB's coursework and professional exam will use the new national model ethical standards effective January 1, 2027. These updates will be reflected in the next Spring Examination, which is scheduled for March 15, 2027.

CIP and the PSB will host upcoming webinar to inform members about the changes to the new national model Ethical Standard, as they may affect your planning practice, and to better inform Candidate members and their mentors and sponsors on the new standards.

APPI Candidate & Registered Professional Planner (RPP) Members: In their professional

practice, Candidate and RPP members should continue to follow APPI's Professional Code of Practice which is a Schedule of the existing Professional Planner Regulation of the Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act (POARA) of Alberta. APPI will continue to evaluate complaints and disciplinary cases under the APPI's Professional Code of Practice.

As APPI continues through its transition under the Government of Alberta's Professional Governance Act (PGA), and pending Alberta legislation that pertains to the regulation of professional in the jurisdiction, the Institute will pursue opportunities to align the Institute's Ethical Standards, including the Professional Code of Practice, with the National Model of Ethical Standards for the planning profession in Canada.

APPI Professional Code of Practice
Professional Planner Regulation 2018
Standards - Professional Standards Board

APPI Mission Statement

We are the face of the planning profession within Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. We serve the public interest by providing regulation, advocacy, promotion and services for our members.

Alberta Professional Planners Institute
PO Box 3099
Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2T1
Canada

Phone: 780.435.8716
email: admin@albertaplanners.com

Manage Communication Preferences