

 The College of Naturopaths of Ontario	Policy Type	COUNCIL POLICIES
	GOVERNANCE PROCESS	
	Title	Policy No. GP11.03
	Avoiding Conflict of Interest	Page No. 1

All Council and Committee members have a duty to carry out their responsibilities in a manner that serves and protects the public interest. As such, they must not engage in any activities or in decision-making concerning any matters where they have a conflict of interest.

Definitions **Conflict of Interest** Means a situation where a reasonable person would conclude that a Council or Committee member's personal or financial interest may affect their judgment or the discharge of their duties to the College. A conflict of interest may be real or perceived, actual or potential, direct or indirect.

Accordingly, all Council and Committee members,

- 1 Have a duty to uphold and further the intent of the Act to regulate the practice and profession of naturopathy in Ontario, and not to represent the views of advocacy or special interest groups.
- 2 Must immediately declare any conflicts that arise from their involvement with external organizations and individual registrants of the College and take the appropriate action in accordance with section 16 of the by-laws.
- 3 Must annually complete the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire provided by the CEO in which they shall disclose any other organizations of which they are an owner, director, officer, member, or employee and return it to the CEO by the date required.
- 4 Who believe that a matter that has come before the Council or their Committee where there is a conflict of interest ensure that they have taken the necessary measures to consult with the Council Chair or Chair of the Committee, decline to take part in the discussion, recuse themselves from the discussion and make no attempts to influence the decision-making of the Council or Committee.
- 5 Will declare all conflict of interests, which will be recorded in the minutes of the Council or the Committee meeting where the declaration is made.
- 6 Must refrain from using College property or information of any kind to advance his or her own interests, direct or indirect.
- 7 Must, when participating in organizations other than the College, including but not necessarily limited to professional associations, carefully consider the appropriateness and impact of expressing opinions and when deciding to express their opinion, must state that the opinion is their own opinion and not that of the Council or the College.
- 8 Shall review and sign the "Acknowledgment and Undertaking regarding Fiduciary Duties" prior to assuming their responsibilities and duties on behalf of the College.

DATE APPROVED	DATE LAST REVISED
July 30, 2013	March 27, 2024