



The College of Naturopaths of Ontario

Observer Guidelines for Discipline Hearings

The College of Naturopaths of Ontario regulates naturopathic doctors to ensure safe, ethical and competent naturopathic care for the people of Ontario. We believe patients have the right to safe, competent and ethical naturopathic care. The College holds Ontario's regulated naturopaths accountable for their conduct by investigating concerns about the practice of its members.

Discipline Hearings

A discipline hearing is a hearing before a panel of the Discipline Committee, made up of professional and publicly appointed members of College Council and non-council committee members.

Hearings are conducted in a same fashion as court trial. Upon finding a member guilty of professional misconduct or incompetence, the panel has the authority to revoke, suspend or limit a member's registration, impose a fine, or reprimand the member.

The College publishes the Discipline Committee's decisions or summaries of decisions on the website, in its annual report and may publish decisions in the College's Newsletter.

Hearings are open to the public (unless otherwise determined), and are held at:

College of Naturopaths of Ontario
150 John Street, 10th Floor
Toronto, ON

Observers must book their attendance at a disciplinary hearing by emailing the College at general@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca.



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Guidelines for Observers Attending a Discipline Hearing

To ensure that the hearing is conducted with decorum and with due regard to the rights and privacy of all participants, observers must read and agree to abide by the following guidelines:

1. Observers are reminded that they are not participants in the hearing and must remain quiet throughout the proceedings.
2. Orders may be made by the hearing panel protecting the confidentiality of the proceedings and prohibiting disclosure or publication of certain matters. Portions of a proceeding, or the entirety of a proceeding, may be closed at the discretion of the hearing panel, and observers will be required to leave.
3. Observers are required to remain seated in the designated area during the proceedings.
4. No one other than witnesses or hearing participants who may be assisting witnesses will be permitted to enter or leave the room once the hearing has commenced.
5. Audio or video recording devices and personal computers are not permitted, and all mobile devices must be turned off before entering the room.
6. Anyone not following these protocols may be removed by the Chair of the Discipline Panel.