



4. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT EXPENSES

MEMBER'S QUESTIONS

1. There are some issues with the reporting of the CCC expenses 2018 – 49 122 2019 – 104 353 later corrected to 93 367 2020 – 44 610/
 - a) Why was there a correction of \$ 10 986? This number seems very similar the amount attributed to Investigation fees. What investigation(s) is/are these referring to?
2. What does this dramatic increase in 2019 reflect? More Complaints? More serious complaints? A concerning trend of conduct issues? This figure provided for Q1 of 2021 is \$22 697 which if that trend continues could end up near \$90 000.
 - a) Is the College confident that these accounting errors did not adversely impact any members facing conduct proceedings who were assigned costs as part of a finding?
3. Why did investigation fees triple in 2020 from \$10 986 to \$38 357?
4. Where these separate from investigation of complaints or is this indicative of rising cost related to complaints?
5. Why were these adjustments made in allocation of cost ex the investigator fees and changes in CCC expenses? In 2020 under administration expenses a new category was created -- Investigation fees – can you explain why this category was created?
6. If the College has issues with ensuring accuracy of the Conduct and Competency committee expenses, when those fees might be used in sanction negotiations, how can the public be confident that the College is following best practices.
7. Has the College looked at the accounting for the conduct and competency committee for the past 5 years and ensured that correct fees have been stated in any sanction negotiations?
8. In the 2019 financial fees that investigation fees were coded as expenses for the Conduct and Competency committee expense. Then this was changed in 2020. Why was this changed? Did you examine the 2018 Conduct and Competency Committee expenses to ensure expenses were properly accounted for?
9. Were any operations of the College -- affected by the change in accounting?

Investigations used to be completed primarily by the Registrar but there was a switch to hiring investigators on contract.

Investigation fees are incurred by the College while addressing complaints and administering the Disciplinary System. It was not a cost incurred by the CCC, who are decision makers and are not involved in the investigation of complaints. This was changed to properly reflect where/who incurred the expense.

This is not a new category. It was reallocated from CCC to Administration to properly reflect where the expense was incurred. No operations were affected by this change.

There has been no issue with the accuracy of the Conduct and Competency Committees expenses. Costs related to complaints are clear and defined. For accounting purposes and budgeting, not all costs relating to a complaint would be attributed to the CCC. Many legal fees would be attributed to the College as a part of their operations and obligation to maintain and operate a disciplinary system. The Council identified this and that is why the legal fees have changed in the Audited Financial Reports from previous years. Council is committed to determining the best accounting practices.

There would be no reason to believe that there is any inaccuracy in relation to disciplinary costs awarded. The issue was where the fees were attributed for accounting purposes. Most costs awarded in discipline matters are \$1000.00, which are significantly lower than the costs expended. Only in contested or lengthy matters are costs higher and those are usually negotiated with counsel.