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Handy Links & Contacts

Provincial Insurance Regulators Other Consumer Protection & Assistance Legal Resources Licensee Resources

Insurance Regulators/Licensing for Other Provinces

Please contact the applicable provincial regulator for questions pertaining to licensing requirements and conduct in other jurisdictions <u>Complete list available as PDF - click here</u>.

Alberta Alberta Insurance Council

Telephone: 1-800-461-3367 www.abcouncil.ab.ca/

Manitoba Insurance Council of Manitoba Telephone: 204-988-6800 www.icm.mb.ca/

New Brunswick Superintendent of Insurance Telephone: 1-866-933-2222 http://fcnb.ca/industry-insurance.html

Newfoundland & Labrador Telephone: 709-729-2595 www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/insurance/

Northwest Territories Superintendent of Insurance Telephone: 867-767-9177 ext 15252 www.fin.gov.nt.ca/en/services/licences-taxes-et-droits-assurance/howapply-nwt-insurance-license

Nova Scotia Nova Scotia Business and Consumer Affairs Telephone: 902-424-6331 www.novascotia.ca/finance/en/home/insurance/default.aspx

Nunavut Telephone: 867-975-6852 www.gov.nu.ca/finance/information/insurance-regulation

Ontario **Registered Insurance Brokers of Ontario (RIBO)** Telephone: 416-365-1900 Toll-Free: 1-800-265-3097 www.ribo.com/

Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) Telephone: 416-250-7250 Toll-Free: 1-800-668-0128 www.fsrao.ca/

Prince Edward Island **Department of Provincial Affairs** Telephone: 902-368-4937 www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/justice-and-publicsafety/insurance-agent-licence

Quebec Chambre de l'assurance de dommages (P&C Insurance) Telephone: 514-842-2591 Toll-Free: 1-800-361-7288 www.chad.qc.ca/en

Chambre de la sécurité financière Telephone: 514-282-5777

Toll-Free: 1-800-361-9989 www.chambresf.com/

Autorité des marchés financiers

Quebec City: 418-525-0337 Montreal: 514-395-0337 Toll-Free: 1-877-525-0337 www.lautorite.qc.ca/

Saskatchewan Insurance Councils of Saskatchewan

Telephone: 306-347-0862 www.skcouncil.sk.ca/

Yukon Superintendent of Insurance

Telephone: 867-667-5111 www.community.gov.yk.ca/consumer/insuranceact.html

Other Info Canadian Insurance Services Regulatory Organizations (CISRO) CISRO www.cisro-ocra.com/

Canadian Insurance Regulators (CIRDA)

Publication of Discipline Decisions decisions.cisro-ocra.com/ins/en/nav.do

Other Regulatory Bodies

Complete list available as PDF - click here.

British Columbia Securities Commission (BCSC)

The British Columbia Securities Commission is the independent provincial government agency responsible for regulating capital markets in British Columbia through the administration of the Securities Act. Telephone: 604-899-6500 Toll-Free: 1-800-373-6393 www.bcsc.bc.ca/

Consumer Protection BC

- is the regulator of a variety of sectors and specific types of consumer transactions in British Columbia.
- license and inspect regulated businesses, respond to consumer inquiries, investigate alleged violations of consumer protection laws and educate consumers and businesses about their rights and responsibilities Toll Free: 1-888-564-9963
www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/

BC Financial Services Authority (BCFSA)

BC Financial Services Authority (BCFSA) is responsible for the day-to-

day regulation of private sector insurers operating in British Columbia.

They ensure that insurers are properly authorized; supervise insurers

and address solvency concerns with their operations; and address

statutory market conduct issues. They are also responsible for the

regulation of mortgage brokers and real estate professionals. BCFSA

sets and enforces standards of conduct under the Real Estate Services

Act and protects consumers from unlicensed real estate services activity.

Their work includes addressing:

• Complaints against insurance companies, but they do not resolve

individual claims disputes

- Tied Selling
- Unlicensed Activity

Telephone: 604-660-3555

Toll Free: 1-866-206-3030

www.bcfsa.ca

Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (formerly IIROC / MFDA)

Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO) is the national self-regulatory organization that oversees all investment dealers, mutual fund dealers and trading activity on Canada's debt and equity marketplaces. CIRO is carrying on the regulatory functions of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada and the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada, and is committed to the protection of investors, providing efficient and consistent regulation, and building Canadians' trust in financial regulation and the people managing their investments. For more information, visit <u>Canadian Investment</u> Regulatory Organization (ciro.ca).

Matters relating to a firm or advisor formerly <u>regulated by IIROC</u> or trading on a Canadian marketplace, contact <u>IIROC division</u> at 1-877-442-4322 or <u>InvestorInquiries@IIROC.ca</u>

Matter relating to a firm or advisor formerly <u>regulated by the MFDA</u>, contact the <u>MFDA division</u> at 1-888-466-6332 or <u>complaints@mfda.ca</u>.

Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada (OSFI)

- Regulates and supervises more than 400 federally regulated financial institutions and 1,200 pension plans to determine whether they are in sound financial condition and meeting their requirements.

- Federally regulated financial institutions include all banks in Canada, and all federally incorporated or registered trust and loan companies, insurance companies, cooperative credit associations, fraternal benefit societies and private pension plans. OSFI's scope of regulation does not include consumer or consumer-related issues or the securities sector, which are the responsibility of other agencies, both federal and provincial.

Toll-Free: 1-800-385-8647 www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/

Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia (VSA)

Regulates motor vehicle dealerships, agents, and salespersons Telephone: 604-574-5050 Toll Free: 1-877-294-9889 www.mvsabc.com/

Other Info Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)

Federal government body re reporting suspicious financial transactions <u>www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca</u>

Consumer Protection & Assistance

Complete list available as PDF - click here.

Better Business Bureau (BBB)

- a non-profit that helps consumers find and recommend businesses they can trust.

- is a leader in consumer support services including complaints, customer reviews, advertising reviews and education.

BBB will only review complaints which are

- not in litigation when filed with BBB

 not resolved by a previous court action, arbitration, or settlement between the parties
 Telephone: 604-682-2711
 Toll Free: 1-888-803-1222
 www.bbb.org/en/ca/local-bbb/bbb-of-mainland-bc

BC Housing (formerly Homeowners Protection Office)

Telephone: 604-646-7050 Toll-Free: 1-800-407-7757 www.bchousing.org/licensing-consumer-services

BC Human Rights Tribunal (BCHRT)

Telephone: 604-775-2000

Toll-Free: 1-888-440-8844

The B.C. Human Rights Tribunal is an independent, quasi-judicial body created by the B.C. Human Rights Code. The Tribunal is responsible for accepting, screening, mediating, and adjudicating human rights complaints. The Tribunal offers the parties to a complaint the opportunity to try to resolve the complaint through mediation. Respondents have an opportunity to respond to a complaint and to apply to dismiss a complaint without a hearing. If the parties do not resolve a complaint and the complaint is not dismissed, the Tribunal holds a hearing. Www.bchrt.bc.ca/tribunal/index.htm

Consumer Protection BC

- is the regulator of a variety of sectors and specific types of consumer transactions in British Columbia.

- license and inspect regulated businesses, respond to consumer inquiries, investigate alleged violations of consumer protection laws and educate consumers and businesses about their rights and responsibilities Toll Free: 1-888-564-9963

www.consumerprotectionbc.ca/

Condominium Home Owners Association of BC (CHOA)

CHOA is a consumer based non-profit association that promotes the understanding of strata property living and the interests of strata property owners.

- provide professional advisory services based on individual strata needs.

offer <u>education</u>, <u>publications</u>, <u>resources</u> and support for our members.
actively assist members, and the strata industry, to help make strata living a positive experience.

CHOA members include strata corporations, individual owners, and businesses that serve the strata industry, strata related associations and governmental agencies from all across British Columbia. www.choa.bc.ca/

Financial Consumer Agency of Canada

- The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) ensures federally regulated financial entities comply with consumer protection measures, promotes financial education and raises consumers' awareness of their rights and responsibilities.

Toll Free (English): 1-866-461-3222

Toll Free (French): 1-866-461-2232

Telephone: 613-960-4666

www.canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency.html

General Insurance OmbudService (GIO)

The GIO is an independent organization that offers a free service to assist consumers with disputes they have with their insurance company on home or business insurance coverage. The GIO typically deals with complaints involving claims, interpretation of policy coverage, and policy handling.

Toll Free: 1-877-225-0446

www.giocanada.org/

*Please note: Most general insurance companies have their own Ombudsman, and we would recommend also exploring that information directly with the insurer(s).

Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)

- IBC consumer resources – brochures; information about dispute resolution and how insurers use credit information; and campaigns and studies conducted by IBC – are designed to help you understand your insurance options. IBC represents the companies that insure your home,

car and business. Telephone: 604-684-3635 Toll-Free: 1-844-227-5422 www.ibc.ca

ICBC - Insurance Corporation of British Columbia

- Autoplan & licensee inquiries or procedures

Telephone Numbers:

General Inquiries: 604-661-2800 / 1-800-663-3051 Complaints about ICBC, please call Customer Relations Department: Toll Free (BC): 1-888-378-3773. Fraud/Witness: 604-661-6844 / 1-800-661-6844 Report a Claim: 604-520-8222 / 1-800-910-4222 (can also be reported online)

www.icbc.com/

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC

(OIPC)

- is independent from government and monitors and enforces British Columbia's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA). FIPPA allows access to information held by public bodies (such as ministries, universities and hospitals) and determines how public bodies may collect, use and disclose personal information. PIPA sets out how private organizations (including businesses, charities, associations and labour organizations) may collect, use and disclose personal information. Telephone (Victoria area): 250-387-5629. Telephone (GVRD): 604-660-2421 .

Toll-Free: 1-800-663-7867 www.oipc.bc.ca/

Ombudsperson (in B.C.)

- Has jurisdiction over Crown corporations such as ICBC Telephone: 250-387-5855 Toll Free: 1-800-567-3247 www.bcombudsperson.ca/

Ombudservice for Life and Health Insurance (OLHI)

Canada's independent complaint resolution and information service for consumers of Canadian life and health insurance.

- resolve insurance complaints about life, disability, employee health benefits, travel, and investment products such as annuities and segregated funds.

- provide general information about life and health insurance.

- bilingual services are free and available to any consumer whose insurance company is an OLHI member. Canadian law requires most life and health insurance companies to be members of an independent dispute resolution service.

OLHI no longer accepts general information phone calls about insurance products or companies.

Instead, they offer all this information on www.olhi.ca/

Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association (VISOA)

The Vancouver Island Strata Owners Association (VISOA) provides services to all stratas (apartments, condominiums, townhomes, bare land stratas) owners and associate members in British Columbia. It is an independent, non-profit organization that was formed in 1973 and is supported solely by membership fees. <u>Membership</u> is open to all residential/business strata corporations that have registered with the B.C. Land Title Office as well as individual owners and non-owner associate members. Telephone: 250-920-0688 Toll Free: 1-855-388-4762

<u>www.visoa.bc.ca/</u>

Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia (VSA)

Regulates motor vehicle dealerships, agents, and salespersons Telephone: 604-574-5050 Toll Free: 1-877-294-9889 www.mvsabc.com/

Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia

The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) is a corporation sole established under the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* with a unique statutory role to protect the interests of British Columbians who lack legal capacity to protect their own interests. The mandate of the PGT is to:

- Protect the legal and financial interests of children under the age of 19 years;
- Protect the legal, financial, personal and health care interests of adults who require assistance in decision making; and
- Administer the estates of deceased and missing persons.

www.trustee.bc.ca

Legal Resources

Complete list available as PDF - click here.

Civil Resolution Tribunal

Dial-A-Law

Lawyer Referral Service

Provincial Court of British Columbia

Small Claims Court

Licensee Resources

Complete list available as PDF - click here.

Advocis

 Voluntary professional membership association of financial advisors and planners
 Ongoing continuing education programs
 Access to professional liability insurance
 www.advocis.ca/ www.advocis.ca

www.advocis.ca

BC Registry Services Telephone: 1-800-633-6102 www.corporateonline.gov.bc.ca/

Employment Standards Branch Inquiries

Salespersons are <u>INCLUDED</u> Adjusters and Agents are <u>EXCLUDED</u> -Questions on Holiday Pay, Severance Pay, etc.

- Employment disputes are a civil matter outside Council jurisdiction

Telephone (Vancouver): 604-660-2421 Telephone (Victoria): 250-387-6121 Toll Free (BC): 1-800-663-7867 www.labour.gov.bc.ca/

Financial Services Tribunal (FST)

-The FST hears appeals from individuals and institutions who want to contest enforcement decisions. Telephone: 250 387-3464 www.fst.gov.bc.ca/

ILS Corporation(Life/General/Adjusters)

 online insurance training and education including provincial insurance licensing courses and continuing education
 Telephone: 250-897-0046
 Toll Free: 1-800-404-2211
 www.ilscorp.com/

Insurance Brokers Association of BC (IBABC)

 The Insurance Brokers Association of B.C. is a trade association for property and casualty insurance brokerages in B.C. Membership is voluntary and about 90% of the insurance brokerages in B.C. are members. IBABC and its counterpart associations in every province are members of the Insurance Brokers Association of Canada. Many initiatives are shared across Canada by this association network.
 information on Careers and Education Telephone: 604-606-8000 www.ibabc.org/

Insurance Institute of BC

Telephone: 604-681-5491 Toll Free: 1-888-681-5491 www.insuranceinstitute.ca/en/institutes-and-chapters/british-columbia