

CAPIC-ACCPI COMMUNICATION

College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations

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Dear CAPIC Members,

CAPIC congratulates the Government of Canada on the registration of the *College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations*, SOR/2026-68 (Regulations). The Regulations represent a landmark step in the professionalization of immigration consulting in Canada, and a direct validation of the advocacy our profession has championed for years.

Every measure that strengthens the College's ability to protect the public is, at its core, a win for Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultants (RCICs). When the regulatory framework works, public trust grows, and that trust is the foundation on which every one of you builds your practice.

A Real Compensation Fund for Clients

Regulations ss. 2–7: Compensation Fund management, financing, eligibility, subrogation, insurance.

For the first time, clients who suffer financial loss due to a consultant's dishonest act will have a formal path to compensation. The fund is financed primarily through disciplinary penalties, meaning bad actors pay, not the profession at large. This is the kind of consumer protection that separates a regulated profession from an unregulated one.

Stronger Professional Governance

- **Capacity Evaluation Committee** (ss. 16–19): A new committee that assesses a licensee's capacity to practise before disciplinary action is taken – a more compassionate, professional approach that recognizes the realities of practice.
- **Graduated Enforcement** (ss. 27–29): The Registrar now has a proportionate toolkit ranging from cautions and mentorship requirements to monetary penalties (s. 29(1)(g)) and licence revocation. This replaces blunt outcomes with fair, proportionate responses.
- **Expanded Public Register** (ss. 22–23): Licensee information including business names, licence status, conditions, and disciplinary history will be publicly available – helping clients make informed choices and rewarding compliant practitioners.



- **Compliance Verification** (s. 25): Random and quality-assurance verifications ensure that standards are maintained consistently across the profession, levelling the playing field for ethical consultants.

Other Notable Provisions

The Regulations also establish clear rules for complaints and investigations (ss. 11, 26, 31–36), including how documents are handled during investigations and when complaints must be referred to the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee gains additional powers to order cost reimbursement and impose penalties (ss. 12, 37–39), while the Compensation Fund Committee (ss. 13–15) is established to administer fund operations and process claims.

The College gains the power to apply for court orders to protect client property when a licensee's licence is suspended, revoked, or the licensee is missing (s. 42), and is authorized to make by-laws on conflicts of interest, committee governance, and monetary penalty schedules (s. 43). The Minister retains oversight through annual reporting requirements (s. 8), Board eligibility and removal rules (ss. 9–10), and the authority to appoint temporary administration if the Board fails to carry out its mandate (ss. 44–45). Personal information disclosure is permitted only under strict safeguards, including protections against mistreatment when sharing with foreign entities (ss. 46–50). Privileged information handling (s. 40) and the Registrar's delegation of powers (s. 30) are also addressed. The Regulations, except s. 22, come into force on July 15, 2026 (s. 57). S. 22 comes into force in April 2027..

Why This Matters for RCICs

The Regulations bring immigration consultants closer to the professional standing of lawyers and other self-regulated professions. That is something CAPIC has advocated for tirelessly since its inception over 20 years ago. A clear regulatory framework does three things for our members:

- **Elevates your professional standing.** A robust governance regime signals to clients, government, and the legal community that RCICs are held to serious, enforceable standards.
- **Protects you from unfair competition.** Stronger enforcement against unauthorized practitioners and dishonest licensees means a cleaner marketplace for those who play by the rules.
- **Creates predictability.** The graduated penalty framework and clear compliance expectations mean you know exactly where the lines are drawn.



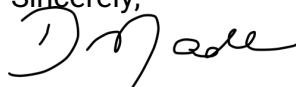
A Note on Costs

The College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants (College) is entirely self-funded through licensee fees. No government dollars are involved. The implementation cost is estimated at \$24.2 million over 10 years, borne by the College. The compensation fund is designed to be sustained primarily through penalties imposed on licensees found to have committed dishonest acts. In [CAPIC's Input for the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations](#), CAPIC suggested the removal of the emergency allocation in the proposed Regulations, which was fully accepted and thus removed from the Regulations. The IRCC response in the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS) tracks CAPIC's recoverability argument almost verbatim to CAPIC's analysis that an emergency disbursement made before a Discipline Committee determination of a dishonest act could create an unrecoverable charge against the fund. Furthermore, CAPIC advocated against adding burden to ethical and competent practice in our submission. Even though the annual fee remains a possible avenue for the compensation fund, the RIAS confirms that penalties under the College Act s. 69(7) are the primary funding source, and other prescribed sources, including annual fees, are neither primary nor required. CAPIC will monitor this closely and advocate for our members' interests in any such discussions.

Looking Ahead

CAPIC applauds the Government for delivering a regulatory framework that takes the protection of newcomers seriously while treating immigration and citizenship consultants as the professionals they are. We will continue to engage with IRCC and the College to ensure that these regulations are implemented fairly and that the voice of RCICs is heard at every stage.

A stronger College means a stronger profession. That is our shared success.

Sincerely,


Dory Jade, C. Dir.
Chief Executive Officer
CAPIC-ACCPI



Reference:

The proposed Regulations: [Canada Gazette, Part I, Vol. 158, No. 51 – College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations](#)

[CAPIC's Input for the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations](#)

The registered Regulations: [Canada Gazette, Part II, Volume 160, Number 9 – College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Regulations](#)