



Position Statement

Practicing without a License Licensed Practical Nurses in BC

To practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse (“LPN”) in British Columbia, an individual must be registered with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC (“CLPNBC”). Only current registrants with CLPNBC can use the title “nurse”, “LPN”, “Licensed Practical Nurse”, “PN”, or “Practical Nurse”.

Any former registrant of the CLPNBC, who fails to renew her/his registration with the CLPNBC and pay the registration fee, is not a registrant of the College. A former registrant cannot use the title “nurse” or “LPN”, “Licensed Practical Nurse”, “PN”, or “Practical Nurse”. A former registrant who continues to work without a current registration is practicing without a license and is committing an offence under the Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996, c. 183 (“HPA”).

The CLPNBC regulates LPN practice under the HPA. *The HPA* prohibits anyone from practicing without a license or using a protected title under the following sections:

Section 12.1(3) A person other than a registrant of a college must not use a name, title description, or abbreviation of a name or title, or an equivalent of a name or title in another language, in any manner that expresses or implies that he or she is a registrant or associated with the college.

Section 51(1) A person who contravenes section 12.1(3) commits an offence.

Section 51(4) In any prosecution under this Act, it is sufficient to prove that the accused has done or committed a single act of unauthorized practice or has committed on one occasion any of the act prohibited by this Act.

Section 52(1) Any person may apply to the Supreme Court for an interim or permanent injunction to restrain a person from contravening any provision of this Act, the regulations or the bylaws.