

# COLLEGE OF DIETITIANS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## Inquiry Case #18-20 - Complaint Outcome Report

On **January 29 and 31 and February 2, 2018**, the Registrar received correspondence from a member of the public expressing concerns about a registrant's TV interviews and online publications. The correspondence alleged that there was a lack of evidence in the interviews and publications to support the advice provided and that the registrant was promoting and trading products that the registrant was directly involved in developing and distributing.

The Registrar received direction to monitor and gather more information on these allegations. During the month of **March 2018**, further information was gathered to determine if the complaint had merit.

On **April 17, 2018**, the registrant was notified of the concerns raised to the College and was asked to respond to the allegations and provide information on their practice and compliance with the College's Standards of Practice.

On **April 25, 2018**, after reviewing the registrant's response and information gathered, the Inquiry Committee moved to inspect the allegations on its own motion. The member of the public was informed of this decision.

On **May 1, 2018**, the Inquiry Committee appointed an inspector and approved the inspection plan. On **May 28, 2018**, the registrant was notified of the inspection and was asked to respond to the allegations.

On **June 28, 2018**, the registrant discussed her response with the Registrar and requested an extension to submit her response. An extension was granted to **July 30, 2018**. A second extension was granted to **August 5, 2018**. The registrant's response was received on **August 7, 2018**.

On **August 28, 2018**, the Inquiry Committee met to review the inspection report and the registrant's response. The Committee approved the inspection report, as it was sufficient to inform the allegations.

After further discussion, the Inquiry Committee disposed of the case on **September 11, 2018**, and determined that the inspection identified the following concerns with the registrant's practice (CDBC Bylaws, s.74, Marketing, and Standards of Practice 2, 13 and 17):

- failing to disclose a potential conflict of interest when promoting products from their own company and products from companies with which the registrant had a business relationship
- making claims concerning the benefits of products or practices that were not supported by appropriate scientific evidence and,
- recommending products that were not related to dietetic scope of practice.

On **October 30, 2018**, the registrant agreed to cancel her registration with the CDBC and to cease using the title "Dietitian" and practising dietetics.

A copy of the signed undertaking is saved permanently in the former registrant's file, in accordance with section 69 of the CDBC bylaws.

**139 days** were required to resolve the case.