



GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS IN FP CANADA STANDARDS COUNCIL™ ELECTRONIC AND WRITTEN PROCEEDINGS

Last Updated: March 24, 2022

This document serves as a complementary document to the [FP Canada Standards Council™ Disciplinary Rules of Procedures](#) (DRP).

Pursuant to Article 6.1 of the DRP, Discipline Hearings shall be held in-writing, unless the Hearing Panel directs otherwise.

Other hearing formats may include: in-person, teleconference, videoconference or a combination of those formats. Any request to vary the format of the hearing must be made by the deadline noted in the Notice of Hearing, in writing, to the Secretary to the Hearing Panel.

The following guidelines have been established to assist you in preparing for an upcoming hearing before the FP Canada Standards Council (the “Standards Council”) Hearing Panel:

Filing of Hearing Materials

- The parties shall deliver their submissions, and any material they intend to rely on during the hearing, to every other party and the Secretary to the Hearing Panel, at jignasa.patel@fpcanada.ca.
- When providing electronic materials, each document should include sequentially numbered pages.
- Documents should be provided in searchable PDF format and include “bookmarks” where possible.
- Where parties intend to rely on authorities, they should provide electronic copies of the authorities, preferably in the form of a brief. Parties are also encouraged to include hyperlinks in their written submissions for any authorities that are available on the internet.

Electronic Hearings

- Hearings by videoconference will be conducted using the Zoom platform.
- Hearings by teleconference may be conducted using Zoom (audio only) or by an alternate teleconference system.
- Before joining a Zoom hearing on a computer, hearing participants will be required to download and install the Zoom application.
- All hearing participants must have access to the following for hearings conducted via videoconference:
 - Computer
 - Web Camera
 - Internet connection
 - Microphone or Telephone (you have the option to dial into the electronic hearing via a telephone, or using the microphone built into the computer)
 - A quiet private location to conduct the videoconference

- Hearing participants are encouraged to test their technology with the Secretary to the Hearing Panel prior to the hearing to avoid any delay on the day of the hearing.
- Approximately one week before the start of the hearing, participants should provide their contact information (including contact information of their witnesses) to the Secretary to the Hearing Panel
- The Hearing Panel, the parties, and any witnesses will each be provided with a private break-out room within Zoom

Hearing Decorum

All individuals participating in electronic hearings are expected to:

- Mute computer microphones and telephone when not speaking.
 - If possible, use a headset with a built-in microphone to reduce background noise.
- Refrain from speaking unless there is an objection or if a technical issue arises that needs to be addressed.
- Ensure their video camera is engaged at all times and to not step away from the camera without the permission of the Panel Chair.
- Not eat during the proceeding; glass of water is permitted.
- Not take photographs, screen shots, video or audio recordings.
 - If a participant needs to record the proceeding, in lieu of note-taking or for another reason, the participant must make a request to the Panel Chair prior to the hearing.
- Log into the technology 15 minutes in advance of the hearing and return promptly from any scheduled break.
- Dress professionally for hearings conducted via videoconference.
- For hearing held by teleconference without accompanying video, identify yourselves prior to speaking.
- Contact the Secretary to the Hearing Panel at jignasa.patel@fpcanada.ca as soon as possible if you experience any technical issues or disruptions on the day of the hearing.

Accessibility and Accommodations

FP Canada is committed to meeting its obligations under the applicable accessibility and human rights legislation. Parties, representatives, witness and other tribunal participants are entitled to accommodation of Human Rights Code-related needs. Any person requiring an accommodation should contact the Secretary to the Hearing Panel




Please note, this guide is not intended to replace the DRP. Please refer to Article 6 for the policies and procedures that govern FP Canada Standards Council Hearings. In the event of a conflict between this document and the DRP, the DRP governs. Please review the DRP for further information.

Contact Details

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