



**ASSOCIATION OF
BC FOREST PROFESSIONALS**

Professional Reliance

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Ensuring BC's Forests Are In Good Hands.

Introduction



1. Professional Reliance

1. What is it?

2. History

3. Issues

What is Professional Reliance?



The practice of accepting and relying upon the decisions and advice of resource professionals who accept responsibility and can be held accountable for the decisions they make and the advice that they give

History: How did we get here?

Pre - 2004



Post - 2004



Legal Foundation and Elements of Professional Reliance



What piece of legislation tells the profession that we need to practice professional reliance?

Understanding Professional Reliance and Deference



Professional reliance is exhibited by relying on professional opinion based on an objective assessment of its reasonableness.

This distinguishes it from blind deference, which is inappropriate when it comes to accepting professional judgments or work products.

Understanding PR and reasonable assessments



- 1. Respectful regard**
- 2. Apply due diligence**
- 3. Risk assessment**
- 4. Do not force your opinion**
- 5. Free of errors; complete and correct**
- 6. Scientifically and technically sound**
- 7. Meet required tests and objectives**
- 8. Is it good stewardship?**
- 9. If innovative is there a rationale, a monitoring plan and a risk assessment?**

Understanding Professional Reliance and Accountability



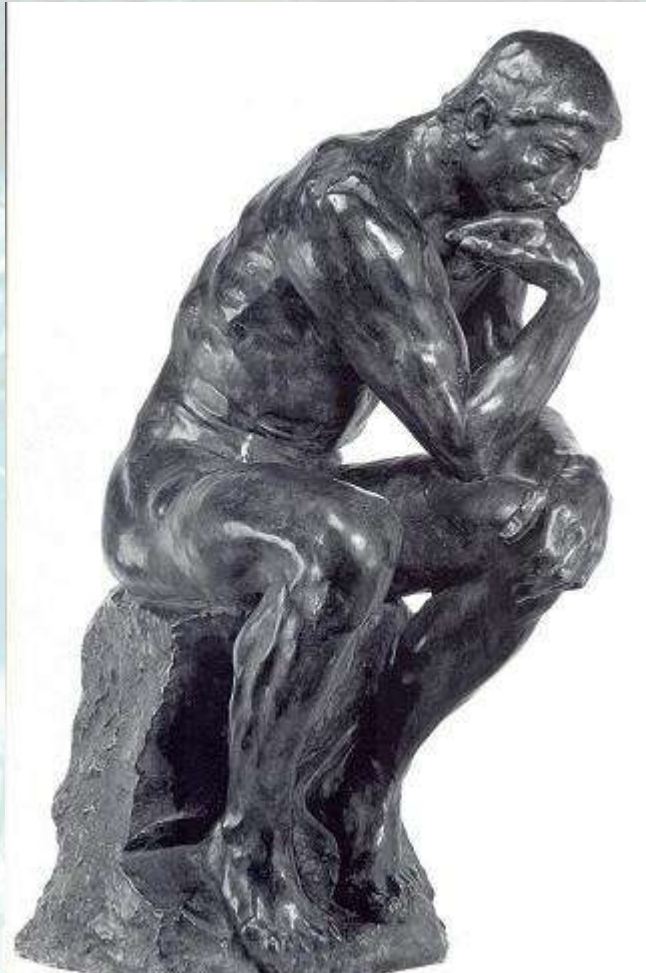
- 1. Accountability is acknowledgement and assumption of obligations under professional legislation and accompanying bylaws, including the potential for investigations and discipline to be imposed by the profession.**
- 2. Reliance and accountability are different but linked**

How Forest Professionals are held Accountable



- 1. General Enquiry**
- 2. Verbal Diligence Enquiry**
- 3. Written Diligence Enquiry**
- 4. Difference of Professional Opinion 3rd Party Advice**
- 5. Difference of Professional Opinion Leading to 3rd party resolution**
- 6. ABCFP Discipline Process or Court of Law**

So how is Professional Reliance Going?



The end is near.



OR





Balancing Accountability and Judgment

- 1. Professional reliance requires the efforts of both parties in discussion in order to be successful**
- 2. Professional reliance is neither relying on professionals nor relying on their accountability -- it is both**