



What We Heard Report

Reserved Practice Outreach 2022

Thank you to all who participated in the recent engagement sessions as part of the 2022 reserved practice outreach plan. It is clear that there is excitement throughout the profession on being the first in the world to achieve reserved practice (practice rights) for applied biologists.

Nevertheless, it is also evident that there is still work to be done to make sure that we achieve the clarity needed to be successful in the long term, not just for the College's registrants, but for our regulatory partners, employers and the public at large.

The main themes heard during our engagement sessions have been grouped into the following categories:

- What is reserved practice, how does it differ from regulated practice, and to whom does it apply?

The regulated and reserved practice definitions are in the [Applied Biologists Regulation](#). Regulated practice has been in effect since the *Professional Governance Act* was brought into force in February 2021, and reserved practice comes into force on September 1, 2022.

Regulated practice is broad in definition and can apply to other professions or practitioners working in the field. One does not need to be a registrant of the College to practice in these areas, but one cannot use the titles that are protected – Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) Registered Biology Technician (RBTech), Applied Biology Technician (ABT), and the new Applied Biology – Limited Licensee (AB-LL).

Reserved practice is a subset defined in regulation that means that the ability to practice applied biology in certain areas (for certain objectives?) is reserved for the registrants of the College of Applied Biologists. There are exceptions however for those who are authorized to practice through other legislation such as the Contaminated Sites Regulation or the Riparian Area Protection Regulation.

For more information please refer to the [College's Illustrative Document](#).

- How does the reserved practice of applied biology work/relate to other professions and practitioners?

Applied biologists work with a number of other professionals in resource management. As we heard throughout all our consultations over the past four (4) years, these interdisciplinary teams are working well. That absolutely needs to continue. What reserved practice does is clarify where the expertise of an applied biology professional, working within their scope of practice, should be engaged.

- How is the College communicating with employers, academia and other partners?

The College has been actively [engaging all our partners regarding](#) what to expect with bringing reserved practice into force. We will continue to engage as we implement reserved practice across all sectors in



COLLEGE OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

Professional Accountability

British Columbia. If you are interested or know of a partner that we should reach out to, please contact us at admin@cab-bc.org with contact details.

- How is compliance being addressed?

The College has produced a comprehensive [compliance plan that can be found here](#).

- How will the new Limited License work and general questions on registration?

Information on the College's [credentialing regime can be found here](#).

- What constitutes oversight/supervision?

As a registered professional you are responsible for the work being done by others. While “supervision” may not require you to be present at all times, it does require you to ensure that you have developed and/or approved the work plan, are able to certify the practitioners doing the work are competent, and using your professional judgment, be confident the work product is up to professional standards. For more information on your professional obligations please review the [Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct](#).

The College will continue to work with registrants and partners to bring greater clarity to this subject.

- How does professional applied biology work with Traditional Knowledge?

The College of Applied Biologists recognizes and respects that Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and professional applied biology are complementary practices in managing and protecting natural resources.

Again, thank you to registrants, other resource professionals, employers, regulatory partners, and the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance who have participated and contributed throughout this long process – we would not be in the good position that we are in without your help and insights.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the professionalism and dedication of the College's staff (both past and present), and to thank the College's governing Council(s) for their remarkable leadership and perseverance in pushing forward to accomplish what is truly an historic achievement.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Christine Houghton'.

C. Christine Houghton, CEO
College of Applied Biologists

Enclosures: 2022 Reserved practice FAQ