

Speech and Hearing BC Policy Statement & Procedures

I.23

AREA: Governance

SUBJECT: Representing Speech and Hearing BC

POLICY:

Speech and Hearing BC encourages members to take every opportunity to provide perspectives from our professions. However, members must clearly differentiate when they bring their own perspectives as a Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist, from when they provide perspectives that are representative of Speech and Hearing BC membership, or are official Speech and Hearing BC views. Members must not use their membership in Speech and Hearing BC or their involvement in Speech and Hearing BC groups to imply that they are representing the Association unless consistent with the following guidelines, which have been prepared to assist members.

PROCEDURE:

- **Provincial Council, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members:** Members of Provincial Council and Speech and Hearing BC Committees are considered to be representing Speech and Hearing BC when working on issues and mandates of their respective positions, unless they specify otherwise. They will ensure that their views are representative of the full Speech and Hearing BC committee/subcommittee and are consistent with current Speech and Hearing BC Mission, Bylaws, Code of Conduct and Policies. Official statements, positions or submissions to the public or government will follow the Policy on Correspondence Regarding Official Comment or Position.

Members will declare when they are expressing their own personal views, which may not be representative of PC as whole. They will only disclose PC decisions or positions that they have approval to disclose or that are part of the public record.

- **Professional Interest Groups:** Professional Interest Groups provide perspectives within the scope of their topic of interest. Professional Interest Groups will represent the view of members across the province. Working within this framework, Groups are considered to be representing Speech and Hearing BC, and thus they will ensure that perspectives presented are consistent with current Speech and Hearing BC Mission, Bylaws, Code of Conduct and Policies. Official statements, positions or submissions will follow the Policy on Correspondence Regarding Official Comment or Position.
- **Geographical Area Members:** Representatives of geographical areas are considered to represent Speech and Hearing BC with respect to local matters, providing their views are representative of the particular Area at large. Depending on the diversity of the area membership, Area Representatives will exercise judgement on the degree to which their

views represent the full spectrum of members within the various sectors of the region, and take appropriate steps to obtain other views or declare the limitations of their viewpoints. Official positions and submissions will follow the Policy on Correspondence Regarding Official Comment or Position.

- **Members at Large:** Speech and Hearing BC members in any other capacity cannot indicate they are representing Speech and Hearing BC unless they have obtained prior approval from the Provincial Council. If approval is verbal, it will be subsequently confirmed in writing.