

## **DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY**

- 1. This policy governs complaints from students respecting Hanson College BC and any aspect of its operations. Student will not be subject to any form of retaliation as a result of filing a complaint.
- 2. All student complaints must be made in writing.
- **3.** The student must provide the written complaint to the Associate Director, Academics who is responsible for making determinations in respect of complaints. If the Director is absent or is named in a complaint, the student must provide the complaint to the Director, Student Services.
- 4. The process by which the student complaint will be handled is as follows:
  - **4.1.** On receiving a formal complaint, the Associate Director, Academics or Director, Student Services will determine if:
    - the allegations fall within this policy;
    - there are any safety risks and health concerns that require immediate attention.
  - **4.2.** The decision on whether or not to proceed with formal resolution shall be made by the Associate Director after consultation with the complainant
  - **4.3** If the decision is <u>not</u> to proceed, the complainant shall be notified in writing and provided with information on his/her rights to appeal this decision as outlined in this policy.
  - **4.4.** If the decision is to proceed, the respondent shall be notified within five (5) working days

of receipt of the formal complaint.

- **4.4.1.** The respondent shall be provided with details of the complaint and advised of the procedure to be followed in the resolution of the complaint.
- **4.4.2.** An Investigator will then be appointed by Hanson to investigate the complaint while respecting the principles of natural justice and the procedures of any Hanson policy.
- **4.4.3.** The Investigator shall respect the confidentiality of all parties and shall be impartial in the exercise of his/herfunctions.
- **4.5.** Within fifteen (15) working days of receiving the Investigator's report, Hanson College BC is to render a decision.
- **4.6.** This decision must be expressed in writing to both the complainant and respondent.



- **4.7.** If the decision or action taken by Hanson does not constitute a disciplinary action as defined by relevant Agreements or Hanson Policy, the appropriate supervisor shall monitor compliance by the respondent. Once satisfied that compliance has been effected, the supervisor shall inform the complainant.
- **4.8.** If disciplinary action is taken and subsequently overturned by a higher authority or by grievance and arbitration procedures, the complainant, and the HR Manager shall be notified.
- **4.9.** This code does not interfere with the rights of members to seek legal counsel.
- 5. The student making the complaint may be represented by an agent or a lawyer.
- **6.** If the student is or was enrolled in an approved program, is dissatisfied with the determination, and has been misled by the institution regarding any significant aspect of that program, he or she may file a complaint with the Private Training Institutions Branch (<u>www.privatetraininginstitutions.gov.bc.ca</u>).