

Policies and Procedures for EDA Code of Ethics Enforcement

The following Code of Ethics is proposed by professional economic developers in the Economic Developers Alberta (EDA) to ensure a high ethical standard for those involved in economic development. This Code of Ethics is an amendment from the current code of ethics adopted in 1995. It has been updated to reflect modernization and to combine some of the principles from EDAC and IEDC.

(Revised version-Approved at AGM April 5, 2019)

EDA Code of Ethics

- 1) Members shall carry out their responsibilities in a manner that brings respect to the profession, the economic developer and the economic developer's constituencies.
- 2) Members shall practice with integrity, honesty, and adherence to the trust placed in them both in fact, and in appearance.
- 3) Members shall conduct their activities on a high ethical plane, so others emulating by example will raise the standards of conduct in industrial, business, economic, and community development.
- 4) Members shall hold themselves free of any interest, influence, or relationship in respect to any professional activity when dealing with clients which could impair professional judgement, objectivity, or which in the reasonable view of the observer has that effect.
- 5) Members are mindful they are representatives of the community and shall represent the overall community interest.
- 6) Members shall keep the community, elected officials, boards and other stakeholders informed about progress and efforts of the area's economic development program.
- 7) Members shall maintain in confidence the affairs of any client, colleague or organization, and shall not disclose confidential information obtained in the course of professional activities.
- 8) Members shall openly share information with the governing body, according to protocols established by that body. Such protocols shall be disclosed to clients and the public.
- 9) Members shall cooperate with peers to the betterment of economic development techniques, abilities, and practice; and strive to perfect themselves in their professional abilities through training and educational opportunities.
- 10) Members shall treat one another with the respect and consideration due between professional colleagues.
- 11) Members shall assure all economic development activities are conducted with equality of opportunity for all segments of the community, without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, disability, age, marital status, or socioeconomic status.
- 12) Members shall refrain from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature.
- 13) Members shall exemplify good citizenship.

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- 14) Members shall not exploit the misfortune of local, provincial or national declared “state of emergency” impacted regions. This includes actively recruiting businesses from an affected community.
- 15) Members will abide by the principles laid out in the "Code of Ethics" for the association, and will comply with all by-laws, regulations, resolutions, and rules of professional conduct of the Association.