

**DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS OF ONTARIO**

B E T W E E N:

ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS OF ONTARIO

- and -

FRANCINE LONG

**NOTICE OF HEARING
(re: C-140)**

The Complaints Committee of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (“PGO”) has referred allegations against Francine Long to the Discipline Committee of the PGO. The allegations were referred in accordance with section 21 of the *Professional Geoscientists Act*. The statement of allegations is attached to this notice of hearing. A discipline panel has the authority to hold a hearing under the authority of sections 24-26 of the *Professional Geoscientists Act* and sections 7-19 of Ontario Regulation 258/02, for the purposes of deciding whether the allegations are true and, if a finding is made, what order to make. A discipline panel will convene by videoconference on a date to be set by the Discipline Committee.

To participate in the hearing, you must log in into the videoconference using the login information that will be provided to you by PGO in advance. If you object to dealing with this matter on the merits by videoconference, you may request a hearing in person by delivering a request in writing within ten days to:

Eilidh Lewis, M.Sc., P.Geo.
Registrar
Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario

One Yonge Street, Suite 704
Toronto, ON M5E 1E5
Tel: (905) 244-3857
Fax: (416) 203-6181
E-mail: elewis@pgo.ca

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND AT THE HEARING, EITHER ELECTRONICALLY, PERSONALLY, BY AGENT, OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS, THE DISCIPLINE PANEL MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN THE PROCEEDINGS.

If the discipline panel makes a finding of professional misconduct, negligence or incompetence, it may make one or more of the following orders:

1. Revoke the member's registration or the certificate holder's certificate of authorization.
2. Suspend the member's registration or the certificate holder's certificate of authorization for a specified period or until he, she or it takes specified steps relating to the practice of professional geoscience.
3. Vary or impose terms, conditions or restrictions on the member's membership until the member has successfully completed specified studies or has obtained specified practical experience under the supervision of another member.
4. Vary or impose terms, conditions or restrictions on the certificate holder's certificate of authorization until the certificate holder takes specified steps relating to the practice of professional geoscience.
5. Direct the member or certificate holder to return all or part of the money paid by a person to the member or certificate holder for his or her services relating to the practice of professional geoscience.

6. Reprimand the member or certificate holder.
7. Publish the name of the member or certificate holder.

Parties are required to disclose to the other parties the evidence they intend to introduce at the hearing pursuant to s. 10 of Ontario Regulation 258/02. In addition, PGO discloses the relevant information in its files to permit you to make full answer and defence unless the information is privileged. You, or your representative, may contact the solicitor for the PGO in this matter for disclosure of PGO's information and evidence:

Erica Richler
Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc
401 Bay Street
Suite 2308, P.O. Box 23
Toronto, ON M5H 2Y4
Telephone: (416) 583-2549
Email: erichler@sml-law.com

Date: February 12, 2024



Eilidh Lewis
Registrar, PGO

TO: Francine Long

**STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS
FRANCINE LONG (C-140)**

1. At all material times, Francine Long (the “Registrant”) was a member of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario.
2. At all material times, CBLT Inc. (“CBLT”) was a public company whose shares traded on the TSX Venture Exchange.
3. In or around the summer of 2022, CBLT engaged the Registrant to provide geologic services, in particular, to conduct site visits to one of its properties known as Big Duck Lake in Hemlo West, Ontario.
4. In or around September 2022, the Registrant conducted the site visits. Following the site visits, CBLT requested a written report from the Registrant. The Registrant requested payment from CBLT for her services.
5. From in or around October 2022 to in or around December 2022, it is alleged that the Registrant engaged in unprofessional communications toward her client, CBLT, and/or toward CBLT’s CEO, including, among other things,
 - a. sending numerous email and text communications that contained profanities and other unprofessional language; and/or
 - b. sending email and text communications that contained personal or unprofessional comments about the Registrant’s associate.
6. It is further alleged that the Registrant made unprofessional comments about CBLT and/or about CBLT’s CEO on one or more online forums, including threatening to publicly post the report she had prepared for CBLT if CBLT did not pay her invoices; publicly posting excerpts of the draft report online; and/or suggesting that the CEO of CBLT was involved in another mining company that she alleged used the samples the Registrant had collected from Big Duck Lake in disclosure for another project.

Professional Misconduct Alleged

7. It is alleged that the conduct described above constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to subsection 24(2) of the *Professional Geoscientists Act* and as defined in subsection 12(2) of O Reg 60/01: Code of Ethics of Professional Geoscientists [has not engaged in the practice of professional geoscience in accordance with the law or honesty and integrity], more particularly, it is alleged that by engaging in the conduct described above, the Registrant breached one or more of the following sections of O Reg 60/01: Code of Ethics of Professional Geoscientists:
 - a. Section 5(1)(a) [act in good faith, fairness and loyalty to associates, employers, clients, subordinates, employees and other professionals];
 - b. Section 5(3)(a) [act towards other professionals with courtesy and good faith]; and/or
 - c. Section 5(3)(d) [not maliciously injure the reputation or business of another professional].

8. It is further alleged that the conduct described above constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to subsection 24(2) of the *Professional Geoscientists Act* and as defined in paragraph 9 of subsection 16(2) of O Reg 258/02 made under the Professional Geoscientists Act [engaging in conduct or an act relevant to the practice of professional geoscience that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by the profession as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional].

APPENDIX

1. The documents to be tendered in evidence at the hearing have been or will be disclosed to you.
2. Take notice that the documents that have been or will later be disclosed to you will be tendered as business documents pursuant to the *Evidence Act* of Ontario.
3. All documents that are disclosed to you in this matter are disclosed on the basis that they are to be used solely for the purpose of this proceeding and for no other purpose.

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- and -

FRANCINE LONG

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ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL
GEOSCIENTISTS OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF HEARING
(re: C-140)

STEINECKE MACIURA LEBLANC

Barristers & Solicitors

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Geoscientists of Ontario