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ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION

LAND SURVEYOR ETHICS

Main Category:	Ethics, Laws & Rules
Sub Category:	Ethics
Course #:	ETH-113
Course Content:	3 pgs
PDH/CE Hours:	1

OFFICIAL COURSE/EXAM (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE)

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ETH-113 EXAM PREVIEW

- TAKE EXAM! -

Instructions:

- At your convenience and own pace, review the course material below. When ready, click “Take Exam!” above to complete the live graded exam. (Note it may take a few seconds for the link to pull up the exam.) You will be able to re-take the exam as many times as needed to pass.
- Upon a satisfactory completion of the course exam, which is a score of 70% or better, you will be provided with your course completion certificate. Be sure to download and print your certificates to keep for your records.

Exam Preview:

1. The Surveyors must maintain their ____ and give their clients and employers unbiased advice, without prejudice or favor either towards or against other organizations or persons.
 - a. Integrity
 - b. Diligence
 - c. Faithfulness
 - d. Objectivity
2. Surveyors shall take environmental concerns into account in their operations and activities.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. The first duty of surveyors is normally to their clients or employers but as professionals they also have a duty to the public.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. All surveyors, whether they be private practitioners, employees in the private sector, public servants should discharge their professional duties and adhere to ethical principles in accordance with the following model code of professional conduct. This does not apply to educators.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. When providing professional services, surveyors shall seek remuneration commensurate with the technical complexity, level of responsibility and liability for the services rendered; and make no ____ charges for services rendered.
 - a. Extra
 - b. Fraudulent
 - c. Preliminary
 - d. Unauthorized
6. As members of a professional association, surveyors shall not enter into arrangements that would enable unqualified persons to practice as if they were professionally qualified.
 - a. True
 - b. False
7. Many of the functions of surveyors, even those performed for private clients, are by their nature functions that have a lasting impact on society. Most information becomes public information at some point in time and may be used for purposes other than those for which it was initially intended.
 - a. True
 - b. False
8. As resource managers, surveyors do not need to include the costs of environmental protection and remediation among the essential factors used for project evaluation.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. As resource managers, surveyors shall encourage additional environmental protection when the benefits to society justify the costs.
 - a. True
 - b. False
10. When dealing with clients, surveyors shall maintain confidentiality during service, but are not required to do so after 2 years after the completion of their service.
 - a. True
 - b. False

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL PRINCIPLES & CONDUCT

Integrity

Surveyors must:

- Maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity towards those with whom they come into contact, either directly or indirectly; and
- Accurately and conscientiously measure, record and interpret all data and offer impartial advice based thereon.

Independence

Surveyors must:

- Diligently and faithfully execute their role according to the law; and
- Maintain their objectivity and give their clients and employers unbiased advice, without prejudice or favour either towards or against other organizations or persons.

Care and competence

Surveyors must:

- Maintain their knowledge and skills, keep abreast of developments in their fields of practice and apply their expertise for the benefit of society;
- Only take on work that they reasonably believe they will be able to carry out in a professional manner; and
- Exercise care in the performance of their duties.

Duty

Surveyors must:

- Maintain confidentiality about the affairs of their current and former clients and employers unless required by law to make disclosures;
- Avoid conflicts of interest;
- Take environmental concerns into account in their operations and activities;
- Recognize the interests of the public when providing services to their clients or employers; and
- Conduct their work to the best of their ability, giving due consideration to the rights of all parties.

The Public Interest

1. The first duty of surveyors is normally to their clients or employers but as professionals they also have a duty to the public. Surveyors are fact finders and providers of opinions and advice. It is important that they are diligent, competent, impartial and of unquestionable integrity in ensuring that the information they provide is true and complete and that the opinions and advice that they give are of the highest quality.
2. The work of surveyors has cumulative and long term effects on future generations. Many of the functions of surveyors, even those performed for private clients, are by their nature functions that have a lasting impact on society. Most information becomes public information at some point in time and may be used for purposes other than those for which it was initially intended. The information recorded by early surveyors and explorers has, for example, subsequently been used for the expansion of geographical knowledge and for land development. Similarly, land management systems designed for today create an environment in which future generations will live, work and play. The principles of sustainable development require surveyors to work as much for the future as for the present.
3. Clients, employers and the public must be confident that surveyors have exercised objectivity in arriving at their professional opinions. These obligations may sometimes appear to be in conflict with the obligations that surveyors owe to their clients, their employers and their peers. Surveyors have a duty to the truth, even when it may not be in the best interest of their clients or employers.
4. All surveyors, whether they be private practitioners, employees in the private sector, public servants or educators, should discharge their professional duties and adhere to ethical principles in accordance with the following model code of professional conduct.

Model Code of Professional Conduct

FIG recommends the following code of conduct as the minimum to be expected of all professional surveyors.

1. In general, surveyors

- Exercise unbiased independent professional judgement;
- Act competently and do not accept assignments that are outside the scope of their professional competence;
- Advance their knowledge and skills by participating in relevant programs of continuing professional development;
- Ensure that they understand the fundamental principles involved when working in new areas of expertise, conducting thorough research and consulting with other experts as appropriate; and
- Do not accept assignments that are beyond their resources to complete in a reasonable time and in a professional manner.

2. As employers, surveyors:

- Assume responsibility for all work carried out by their professional and non-professional staff;
- Assist their employees to achieve their optimum levels of technical or professional advancement;
- Ensure that their employees have proper working conditions and equitable remuneration; and
- Cultivate in their employees integrity and an understanding of the professional obligations of surveyors to society.

3. When dealing with clients, surveyors:

- Avoid any appearance of professional impropriety;
- Disclose any potential conflicts of interest, affiliations or prior involvement that could affect the quality of service to be provided;
- Avoid associating with any persons or enterprises of doubtful character;
- Do not receive remuneration for one project from multiple sources without the knowledge of the parties involved;
- Preserve the confidences and regard as privileged all information about their clients' affairs; and
- Maintain confidentiality during as well as after the completion of their service.

4. When providing professional services, surveyors:

- Seek remuneration commensurate with the technical complexity, level of responsibility and liability for the services rendered;
- Make no fraudulent charges for services rendered;
- Provide details on the determination of remuneration at the request of their clients; and
- Do not sign certificates, reports or plans unless these were prepared and completed under their personal supervision.

5. As members of a professional association, surveyors:

- Do not enter into arrangements that would enable unqualified persons to practice as if they were professionally qualified;
- Report any unauthorized practice to the governing body of the profession;
- Refuse to advance the application for professional status of any person known to be unqualified by education, experience or character; and
- Promote the surveying profession to clients and the public.

6. As business practitioners, surveyors:

- Do not make false or misleading statements in advertising or other marketing media;
- Do not, either directly or indirectly, act to undermine the reputation or business prospects of other surveyors;
- Do not supplant other surveyors under agreement with their clients; and
- Do not establish branch offices that purport to be under the direction and management of a responsible professional surveyor unless this is actually the case.

7. As resource managers, surveyors:

- Approach environmental concerns with perception, diligence and integrity;
- Develop and maintain a reasonable level of understanding of environmental issues and the principles of sustainable development;
- Bring any matter of concern relating to the physical environment and sustainable development to the attention of their clients or employers;
- Employ the expertise of others when their knowledge and ability are inadequate for addressing specific environmental issues;
- Include the costs of environmental protection and remediation among the essential factors used for project evaluation;
- Ensure that environmental assessment, planning and management are integrated into projects that are likely to impact on the environment; and
- Encourage additional environmental protection when the benefits to society justify the costs.