

# SCHEDULE A

## CDBC Code of Ethics

### Principle 1

#### **A Registered Dietitian complies with law and policy at all times by:**

- acting in a fair, ethical and legal manner
- acting in full compliance with the letter and spirit of the *Health Professions Act*, Dietitians Regulation and CDBC bylaws, and all appropriate federal and municipal government regulations
- providing professional practice in compliance with professional standards, practice guidelines and codes, including but not limited to the CDBC:
  - Code of Ethics
  - Standards of Practice
  - Practice and Interpretive Guidelines
  - Continuing Competence Program
- adhering to all CDBC policies
- avoiding any situation which could be perceived as improper.

### Principle 2

#### **A Registered Dietitian assumes responsibility and holds her/himself personally accountable for all actions taken in the delivery of dietetic services by:**

- providing the best service that circumstances, resources, experience and education permit
- acting in a professional manner at all times
- refraining from professional misconduct
- refraining from acts which negatively affect the dignity of the profession
- assuming responsibility for services provided by those under their supervision
- recognizing the expertise of members of the client's inter-professional health care team
- avoiding the placement of blame on an organization or other people when personal activity or behaviour is in question
- avoiding any situation which could be perceived as irresponsible.

### Principle 3

#### **A Registered Dietitian demonstrates professional competence by:**

- accurately presenting professional qualifications and credentials
- delivering services based on scientific principles and current best-practice information
- acting as a credible and reliable source of current food and nutrition information
- managing change in professional practice in a cooperative manner
- encouraging innovation
- maintaining currency in all areas of practice by acquiring and applying new knowledge, skills and abilities.
- referring clients to another health care professional or service provider when required service is beyond the dietitian's skill or knowledge level.

## Principle 4

### **A Registered Dietitian demonstrates inclusion, honesty and integrity when interacting with clients at all times by:**

- exhibiting behaviours, that indicate genuine inclusion, including but not limited to:
  - including the client or substitute decision maker in discussions of service provision
  - providing information in an understandable and sensitive manner
  - bringing forward concerns about unsafe practice or unethical conduct to another health professional, the health professional's supervisor and/or the health professional's regulatory body
- exhibiting behaviours, that indicate integrity, including but not limited to:
  - applying critical thinking skills in problem solving and decision making
  - recognizing and resolving ethical situations
  - inviting the client to make choices
- avoiding any situation which could be perceived as non-inclusive or dishonest.

## Principle 5

### **A Registered Dietitian demonstrates respect, dignity and privacy when interacting with clients at all times by:**

- placing the client's best interests as the primary obligation
- exhibiting behaviours that indicate genuine respect, including but not limited to:
  - respecting confidentiality and privacy by:
    - keeping the content of client interactions confidential
    - collecting, releasing, storing and destroying client personal information in accordance with appropriate laws and regulations
    - enabling clients to access their records in accordance with appropriate laws and regulations
    - disclosing confidential client information when referring and consulting only as necessary, with consent or as legally required, or where the failure to disclose would cause significant harm to the client or others
  - treating everyone with respect, including but not limited to:
    - other health care professionals
    - the client's family members/significant others
  - respecting the client's:
    - right to make choices
    - right to a second opinion
    - ancestry/ethnicity/nationality
    - religion
    - age and gender
    - social and marital status
    - sexual orientation
    - political beliefs
    - literacy
    - physical, mental or emotional status
- obtaining verbal or alternative indication of informed consent for planned services, changes in services, refusal and/or withdrawal of services.