



College of  
Registered Nurses  
of Manitoba

# What is a censure?

A censure is an action that can be taken by the College's Complaints Investigation Committee when resolving complaints/reports about a registered nurse.

A censure is essentially a type of official reprimand. It is defined as a judgment involving blame. It is a formal written and verbal warning used for issues of misconduct. Misconduct involves some act or omission which falls short of what would be proper in the circumstances as opposed to a lack of knowledge, skill and judgment.

*The Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)* gives the Committee the authority to censure an RN.

## When is a censure appropriate?

A censure is appropriate if:

- The complaint is supported by reasonably convincing evidence.
- The evidence demonstrates a reasonable chance that the investigated RN has committed an offence which could result in professional discipline and the public will be adequately protected by a censure.

When assessing the issue of public protection, the Committee considers the following:

- whether the censure is likely to be effective in changing the RN's problematic conduct
- if the conduct was an isolated incident
- if the RN has demonstrated insight and has been accountable and responsible for the problematic conduct

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Our publications are available on our website at [www.crnmb.ca](http://www.crnmb.ca)

## What happens with a censure?

1. Following the review of an RN's conduct or a complaint, the Committee makes a decision to censure the RN.
2. The Committee informs the RN of the decision and provides reasons along with a copy of the censure.
3. The Committee may require an RN who is being censured to appear before the committee.
4. When the RN appears before the Committee, the Committee reads the censure to the RN.
5. The Committee may publish the censure which may include the RN's name and a description of the circumstances that led to the censure. This would appear on the College's website.
6. The Committee may order an RN who is censured to pay all or part of the costs of the investigation.
7. A record of a censure is kept as part of the RN's College discipline history. If subsequent complaints are lodged against the RN, the Committee or an Inquiry Panel may be advised of a previous censure.
8. A censure is considered a disciplinary finding, but requires the consent of the RN. Should the RN not consent to a censure, the Committee must consider the other actions it can take under the RHPA.