

# **Nova Scotia Regulator of Paramedicine**

Code of Ethics



**Property of:**

Nova Scotia Regulator of Paramedicine  
202-1597 Bedford Hwy  
Bedford, NS, B4A 1E7

Board Approved: 26 Apr 2024

Implemented: 04 Jun 2024

Revised: N/A

## **Acknowledgement**

The Nova Scotia Regulator of Paramedicine (NSRoP) acknowledges the Paramedic Association of Canada's Code of Ethics that promotes, guides, and directs professional paramedic / EMR practice.

NSRoP recognizes, and appreciates, the assistance of the Alberta College of Paramedics in providing our organization with permission to utilize their Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice in the development of the NSROP Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

NSRoP acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.

NSRoP also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.

## **Introduction**

The Code of Ethics are the foundation of the Nova Scotia Regulator of Paramedicine's self-regulation. Our Code of Ethics serves as a guiding compass, outlining the fundamental principles that govern paramedic's and EMR's conduct and practice. It reflects our dedication to excellence in patient care, ethical decision making, and the promotion of trust and confidence in our profession. Embedded within the Code of Ethics are the values of respect, integrity, fairness, accountability, and professionalism. These values underscore the commitment to prioritizing the well-being and dignity of every individual we encounter, regardless of their background, belief or circumstance. As health and public safety professionals, paramedics / EMRs are held to a higher standard when compared to other members of society, therefore, they are expected to apply these values not only in professional practice but also where these values have an impact in life and society broadly.

All paramedics and EMRs upon entering the profession are expected to follow the NSRoP Code of Ethics; therefore, it is essential that each individual practitioner has a command of and comprehends the significance of the information contained herein.

As with any regulatory body, our Code of Ethics will be utilized in any complaint resolution or disciplinary hearing and is enforceable under the *Regulated Health Professions Act*.

## **Responsibility to the Patient and Others**

### **Paramedics / EMRs demonstrate person-centered care by:**

1. Practicing patience, compassion, and courtesy.
2. Advocating in the best interest of the patient.
3. Acting in a manner that ensures the patient's dignity, safety, decision making.
4. Maintaining privacy and confidentiality.
5. Working collaboratively within a patient- and family-centered health care team.
6. Communicating respectfully with others.
7. Maintaining appropriate professional relationship boundaries.
8. Respecting the rights of the patient and others.

## **Responsibility to the Profession**

### **Paramedics / EMRs demonstrate professional conduct by:**

1. Practicing in accordance with the Standards of Practice.
2. Promoting and upholding the code of ethical standards of the profession.
3. Fostering professional working relationships.
4. Creating respectful and positive learning environments.
5. Providing leadership and mentorship to others.
6. Learning, sharing, and creating knowledge.
7. Recognizing professional limitations.
8. Consulting with others for the benefit of the patient.
9. Reporting and when necessary, stopping any unethical or incompetent conduct.
10. Refraining from impugning the reputation of peers and the profession.

## **Responsibility to Self**

### **Paramedics / EMRs maintain high standards of professional integrity by:**

1. Recognizing that self-regulation of the profession is a privilege.
2. Maintaining mental and physical fitness to practice.
3. Maintaining clinical proficiency to practice.
4. Maintaining good character and reputation.
5. Maintaining professional accountability for actions in practice.
6. Using peer review to evaluate, reflect upon, and guide ongoing education.
7. Crediting work done by others.
8. Fostering a professional identity at work.
9. Recognizing conflicts of interest and maintaining impartiality
10. Exhibiting conduct that always meets the requirements of the medical, legal, and professional boundaries of the profession.
11. Self-reporting any deviation from the Code of Ethics or Standards of Practice.

## **Responsibility to Society**

### **Paramedics / EMRs demonstrate service to society by:**

1. Committing to action that prioritizes the health and safety of the public.
2. Incorporating an understanding of the social determinants of health in the provision of care.
3. Serving society through the continued development of the paramedicine / EMR profession.
4. Fostering innovative provision of care for the direct benefit of society.
5. Ensuring professional development aligns with public interest.