

# CPABC Regulatory Report to the Public

CPABC's *Regulatory Report to the Public* outlines the initiatives and resources launched and implemented by the organization to ensure that BC CPAs adhere to professional and ethical standards. Here is a snapshot of this year's report.

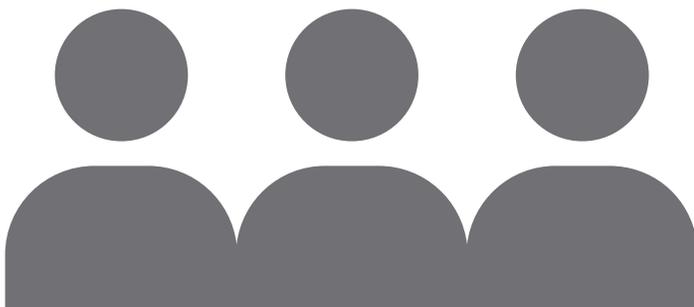
As at March 31

CPABC member numbers were...



→ As at March 31, 2018 **5,140** students were pursuing the CPA designation, including **4,851** students in the CPA Professional Education Program and **289** students in a predecessor program.

→ During the fiscal year, **1,579 new members** were admitted into the profession and **744 members left** the profession.



## Where Members Work

In BC, almost half of CPABC's members in industry work in small or medium-sized businesses where they are often the only designated accountant in the organization.

Over the past three years, an average of **1,125 BC students graduated** annually from the CPA or legacy programs.

## Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Active members are required to self-report compliance with CPD. Action is taken against members who do not comply with the requirements. This action can result in suspension or cancellation of membership.



CPABC audits a minimum of **1%** of CPD required reporters annually. Members who do not comply with the CPD audit process risk being referred to the CPABC investigation and discipline processes, where they could have their membership suspended or cancelled for non-compliance.

### During the year ended March 31, 2018

- **142** members had their memberships suspended for CPD non-compliance.
- **26** of the suspended members had their memberships cancelled.

# for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

## Regulation of Public Practice

THERE WERE...

**3,802**

practitioners and partners operating in 2,592 public practice offices in BC as at March 31, 2018. The majority of practitioners work in small businesses where 98.5% of the firms are owned by fewer than five professional accountants.



## Investigations Closed in 2017-2018

**11**  
No grounds

**7**  
Not pursued

**28**  
Resolutions

**8**  
Referred to Disciplinary Panel

## Practice Review

DID YOU KNOW ?

Sanctions may be imposed in cases where there are more serious issues. There were 995 practice reviews conducted this past year. This number includes 84 re-inspections that were undertaken where standards had not been met in previous reviews.

## Ethics & Discipline Process

**130 Total Complaints in 2017-2018**



Under review



Complaints dismissed/ Not accepted



Investigations authorized

If a complaint is within CPABC's jurisdiction, and there are grounds for the complaint, an investigation into the matter is undertaken.

If a matter moves forward and there is a breach, the CPA may agree to accept a reprimand, take courses, pay fines and/or expenses, agree to public disclosure of the breach, or any combination of the above.

## Disciplinary Hearing Activities in 2017-2018

**1** Resolution Agreement  
**9** Outcome pending

Generally the most serious matters are handled by the Disciplinary Committee. Findings can be enforced without a member's consent. A CPA could receive a reprimand, have their membership suspended or cancelled, be required to comply with conditions for continued membership, and pay fines.

All Disciplinary Panel findings are publicly disclosed. Decisions can be appealed to the Supreme Court of BC.

For the full report, go to [bccpa.ca/protectingthepublic](http://bccpa.ca/protectingthepublic).