



APEGA RECOMMENDED ORDER TO THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *ENGINEERING,
AND GEOSCIENCE PROFESSIONS ACT***

AND

**IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDUCT OF
Nelson Lau, P.Eng.**

Registrant No. 33562

IC File: 25-01

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Professions Act***

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**In the matter of the conduct of
Nelson Lau, P.Eng.**

The Investigative Committee of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) has investigated the conduct of Nelson Lau, P.Eng. (the registrant) with respect to a complaint initiated by [REDACTED] (the complainant) dated January 17, 2025 (the complaint).

A. The Complaint

The complainant alleged that the registrant engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in section 44(1) of the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*, RSA 2000, c E-11 (*EGP Act*) when he continued to engage in advertising and marketing initiatives involving the usage of verbiage including 'affordable', 'price reasonable' and 'match lowest' even though he had been cautioned previously against doing so by APEGA.

The Investigative Committee focused on the following allegation:

Nelson Lau, P.Eng. demonstrated unprofessional conduct when he continued to use price-related terms like "affordable" in advertisements marketing his services on Kijiji.ca even though he was previously cautioned against doing so in correspondence from APEGA.

B. Agreed Statement of Facts

(i) Background:

1. At all relevant times the registrant was an APEGA Professional Member and was thus bound by the *EGP Act* and the APEGA Code of Ethics.
2. The registrant has been a member of APEGA since 1981.
3. The registrant holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Manitoba (1969) and a Master of Engineering from Concordia University (1985).
4. The registrant is a sole proprietor.
5. The registrant has cooperated with the investigation.

(ii) Facts Relating to the Allegation:

6. On October 1, 2024, the registrant was sent an investigation summary report subsequent to a terminated investigation as well as a letter of advice from APEGA cautioning him against using price-related terms in the advertising of his services.
7. Several instances of price-related terminology appeared in Kijiji.ca advertisements belonging to the registrant from November 19, 2024 to August 6, 2025, after having been formally cautioned against doing so by APEGA.
8. The registrant admits that the conduct described above constitutes unprofessional conduct.

C. Conduct by the registrant

9. The registrant freely and voluntarily admits that the conduct described above constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in section 44(1) of the *EGP Act*:

Section 44(1) *Any conduct of a professional member, licensee, permit holder, certificate holder or member-in-training that in the opinion of the Discipline Committee or the Appeal Board,*

(a) is detrimental to the best interests of the public;

(b) contravenes a code of ethics of the profession as established under the regulations;

(c) harms or tends to harm the standing of the profession generally;

(d) displays a lack of knowledge of or a lack of skill or judgment in the practice of the profession or;

(e) displays a lack of knowledge or lack of skill or judgment in the carrying out of any duty or obligation undertaken in the practice of the profession.

Whether or not that conduct is disgraceful or dishonorable, constitutes either unskilled practice of the profession or unprofessional conduct, whichever the Discipline Committee or the Appeal Board finds.

10. The registrant acknowledges that the conduct described above is conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public, contravenes a code of ethics of the profession as established under the regulations, and harms or tends to harm the standing of the profession generally.
11. The registrant admits that their conduct was also contrary to Rule of Conduct 4 of the APEGA Code of Ethics, which states:
 4. *Professional engineers and geoscientists shall comply with applicable statutes, regulations, and bylaws in their professional practices.*

12. The registrant acknowledges that the conduct described above is contrary to section 4.5.7 of the August 2022 edition of the APEGA Ethical Practice guideline, which states:

"It is recommended best practice that advertising and marketing material:

- is clear, factual, and without exaggeration
- does not diminish the dignity, professional image, or stature of the professions
- complies with applicable laws
- does not reference fees or charges for services"

D. Recommended Orders

13. On the recommendation of the Investigative Committee, and by agreement of the registrant with that recommendation, and following a discussion and review with the Discipline Committee Case Manager, the Discipline Committee hereby orders that:

- a. The registrant shall be reprimanded for their conduct and this order shall serve as the reprimand.
- b. The registrant shall pay a fine in the amount of \$1000.00. The fine is a debt owing to APEGA and shall be paid within six (6) months of being notified that the Recommended Order has been approved by the Discipline Committee Case Manager.
- c. The registrant shall provide the Discipline Manager, within six (6) months of the date this Order is approved by the Discipline Committee Case Manager, written confirmation that the registrant has reviewed the following APEGA publication and that the registrant will comply with requirements therein:
 - APEGA Guideline for Ethical Practice, August 2022
- d. If the registrant fails to provide the Discipline Manager with proof that they have completed the requirements noted above within the timelines specified, or any extended timeline granted, the registrant shall be suspended from the practice of engineering for a minimum of thirty (30) days. The registrant is required to meet their regulatory obligations during their suspension period with respect to payment of professional dues and / or levies, compliance with the mandatory CPD program, and completing the mandatory portion of the Annual Declaration. If the non-monetary requirements in this Order are not completed within six (6) months of the suspension date, the registrant shall be cancelled. In the event of cancellation, the registrant will be bound by APEGA's reinstatement policy.
- e. If there are extenuating circumstances, the registrant may apply in writing to the Discipline Manager for an extension prior to the deadlines noted above. The approval for extending a deadline is at the discretion of the Discipline Manager. If such an application is made, the registrant shall provide the Discipline Manager the reason for the request, a proposal to vary the deadline, and any other documentation requested by the Discipline Manager.
- f. This matter and its outcome will be published by APEGA as deemed appropriate and such publication will name the registrant.

I, Nelson Lau, P.Eng. acknowledge that before signing this Recommended Discipline Order, I consulted with legal counsel regarding my rights or that I am aware of my right to consult legal counsel and that I hereby expressly waive my right to do so. I confirm that I agree to the facts as set out above in the Recommended Order and the admissions set out in Sections B and C, and that I agree with Orders in Section D that are jointly proposed.

Further to the above, I acknowledge that I have reviewed APEGA's "Good Standing Policy." I understand that I will not be considered a member "in good standing" until I have fully complied with the Orders set out above and I understand that good standing status may affect my membership rights or benefits, including the ability to become a Responsible Member, or the ability to volunteer with APEGA in any capacity.

Further to the above, I acknowledge that a copy of this Order and my identity shall be provided to the APEGA Practice Review Board.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned agrees with the Agreed Statement of Facts and Acknowledgment of Unprofessional Conduct and the Orders jointly proposed.



Nelson Lau, P.Eng.

William Sattlegger, P.Geo.
Signed with ConsignO Cloud (2025/09/10)
Verify with verifio.com or Adobe Reader.



William Sattlegger, P.Geo. (Panel Chair)
APEGA Investigative Committee

APEGA Discipline Committee

John Van der Put
Signed with ConsignO Cloud (2025/10/27)
Verify with verifio.com or Adobe Reader.
By: _____
Case Manager



John Van der Put