

Insurance update, July 2016

- 1. Estate Liability; its importance and a new, mandatory requirement in Ontario
- 2. Protect your clinic's equipment and mechanical systems through boiler and machinery equipment insurance

1. Estate Liability

Specific coverage through a Partners Indemnity "discovery policy" will protect your estate, should the unexpected happen.

What does "Estate Liability" mean?

It is not necessarily well known that <u>the estate of a deceased ND remains liable in the</u> <u>case of a malpractice claim made</u> as the result of patient treatment by the ND. This is particularly significant if a malpractice claim is reported or made after a naturopathic doctor's death has occurred. To protect the estate against the possibility of such a claim <u>it is important for the estate to maintain an extended malpractice discovery policy for a</u> <u>period of no less than five years</u> and even longer if the doctor treated children in their practice.

Note: NDs should ensure that they or their estate are and will remain in compliance with insurance requirements under their provincial regulations (where applicable). For example: in the province of Ontario, <u>the College of Naturopaths of Ontario (CONO) has</u> recently made it mandatory for a naturopathic doctor's estate to keep extended reporting coverage under the professional malpractice policy in force for a minimum period of five years.

For more information or if you have questions or would like to review your professional insurance coverage, please contact Partners Indemnity at 1.877.427.8683 or cand@partnersindemnity.com.

2. Boiler and machinery equipment insurance

What is "Boiler and Machinery Equipment insurance"?

This insurance covers Electrical Equipment, Air Conditioning, Mechanical/Electronic including Computers, Phone Systems, Photo Copiers or even Boilers if you happen to be a building owner. Not only does this cover you for direct physical loss or damage it will also compensate you for loss of business income.

What is the difference between "Property insurance" and "Machinery Protection insurance"?

Property insurance provides coverage for direct physical loss or damage due to external causes. Property policies cover external fire, theft, flood, windstorm all considered to be from an external cause. Machinery insurance protects you from direct physical loss or damage due to an internal cause. Machinery insurance covers physical damage due to accidental breakdown of the insured object resulting in repair or replacement of the equipment if required.

Extended cover includes loss of income and extra expense to continue to operate as a direct result of the physical damage caused due to breakdown of the insured equipment.

What is not covered under Machinery Insurance is loss or damage due to wear and tear damage, leakage of connections or seals for heating or air conditioning systems, vibration damage and functioning of safety services such as fire protection systems.

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We have you covered!

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Are there particular questions you have or topics you would like to see covered in our article series? If so please e-mail <u>insurance@cand.ca</u>.