

Information

Agenda Item 4(a)(iii) January 17/23 EOC Meeting

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Sent: December-14-22 10:22 AM
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Subject: FCNB Publishes Notices To Industry Regarding Implementation of Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations and Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees; and Related Transition

CAFII Board Members, EOC Members, and Board Surrogates:

<u>For your information and early awareness</u>, the Financial Consumer and Services Commission of New Brunswick has just published on its website, on December 13/22 and December 14/22, two CAFII member-relevant *Notices to Industry* with respect to the coming into force of

Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations and *Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees* **on February 1, 2023**, which includes the launch of the province's <u>"new licensing framework for a restricted</u> <u>insurance representative for the incidental sale of insurance products."</u>

Links to those two Notices are provided below; and their content is also set out below in the body of this email message, beneath my signature block.

Of particular note,

- businesses that will be required to obtain a Restricted Insurance Representative licence, as defined in the Rule, will have up to 90 days to submit a completed application to obtain the licence. Applications may be submitted via the <u>FCNB licensing Portal</u> beginning 1 February 2023; and
- FCNB will provide additional information in future communications on the following topics:

-Transition provisions for existing intermediary licensees (addressed in December 14/22 Notice to Industry);

-Supervision expectations; and

-Responsibilities of the Designated Representative for agencies, managing general agents, adjusting firms and restricted insurance representatives.



Insurance Notice: Notice to Industry regarding implementation of Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations and Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees | New Brunswick Financial and Consumer Services Commission (FCNB)

Insurance Notice: Notice to Industry with Transition Information – Update Intermediary Licences based on requirements of Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations | New Brunswick Financial and Consumer Services Commission (FCNB)

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Insurance Notice: Notice to Industry regarding implementation of Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations and Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees

On 9 November 2022, the Financial and Consumer Services Commission (FCNB) received Ministerial Approval to adopt <u>*Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations*</u> and <u>*Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees*</u>.

The Rules are expected to come into force on 1 February 2023. Updates to the regulatory framework, resulting from changes to the Insurance Act, will result in the repeal of five existing regulations:

- Adjusters Regulation (Regulation 2009-52),
- Agents and Brokers Regulation (Regulation 95-5),
- Licence and Examination Fees for Agents and Brokers Regulation (Regulation 83-197),
- Licence Revival Fee Regulation (Regulation 84-73), and
- Life Insurance Agent Licensing Regulation (Regulation 2003-36).

Regulatory Requirements



The <u>*Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations*</u> provides full details of the updated licensing requirements for insurance intermediaries in New Brunswick. In summary, the Rule outlines the following:

- The licensing requirements for all insurance intermediaries, which include a simplified framework for adjusters and general insurance agents;
- The transitional provisions that provide detail for current licensees who will have their licence types updated under the new licensing framework;
- The new licensing framework for an agency, adjusting firm, and managing general agent licence type;
- The new licensing framework for a restricted insurance representative for the incidental sale of insurance products;
- The educational and experience requirements for intermediaries;
- The updated eligibility criteria for a two-year licence;
- The errors and omissions insurance requirements for intermediaries;
- The supervision requirements for intermediaries;
- The market conduct standards and prohibited activities for intermediaries; and
- The updated trust account requirements.

<u>*Rule INS-002 Insurance Fees*</u> outlines the non-refundable application fee information for all licence types.

Expectations

The Insurance Division of FCNB expects current insurance industry licensees (Insurers and Intermediaries) to familiarize themselves with the *<u>Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries</u> <u>Licensing and Obligations</u>*; allowing them to comply with the licensing and market conduct expectations when the Rule comes into force.

Insurers are also expected to communicate with all firms in their distribution networks to ensure the new licensing requirements for agencies, managing general agents, adjusting firms and restricted insurance representatives are understood.

Firms must be prepared to become licensed by submitting the appropriate application through the **FCNB licensing Portal**. Current and potential licensees should add **portal@fcnb.ca** to their safe-senders email list settings to ensure they receive communications from FCNB.

Once <u>Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations</u> comes into force on **1 February 2023**, agencies, adjusting firms and managing general agents conducting insurance business in New Brunswick will have up to 60 days to submit a completed application to obtain the licence. Businesses that will be required to obtain a Restricted Insurance Representative licence, as defined in the Rule, will have up to 90 days to submit a completed application to



obtain the licence. Applications may be submitted via the **FCNB licensing Portal** beginning 1 February 2023.

FCNB will provide additional information in future communications on the following topics:

- Transition provisions for existing intermediary licensees;
- Supervision expectations; and
- Responsibilities of the Designated Representative for agencies, managing general agents, adjusting firms and restricted insurance representatives.

For any questions on this notice or the implementation of the Rules, contact the Insurance Division of FCNB at 866-933-2222 or by email at **info@fcnb.ca**.

Insurance Notice: Notice to Industry with Transition Information – Update Intermediary Licences based on requirements of Rule INS-001 Insurance Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations

In preparation for the implementation of <u>*Rule INS-001 - Insurance Intermediaries Licensing</u></u> <u><i>and Obligations*</u> ("the Rule"), the Financial and Consumer Services Commission (FCNB) is providing further information regarding the transition of existing licensees under the Rule.</u>

Most licence types that exist under the current licensing regulations of the Insurance Act in New Brunswick will be automatically updated in the FCNB licensing system on 1 February 2023, the anticipated date on which the Rule comes into force. Existing licensees will need to download and print a copy of their new licence. Please review the tables below to see if any action is required based on your existing licence type.

Please note: all General Insurance licences are now "agent" licences. However, an insurance "agent" licensee may still hold themselves out as a "broker" if the "agent" is party to two or more subsisting agency contracts with different insurers.

Life insurance agent licences		Updated licence	type	Action required
Life agent licence		Life insurance agent licence		No action required by licensee
Life, accident and sickness agent licence		Life insurance agent licence		No action required by licensee
Accident and sickness agent licence		Accident and sickness insurance agent licence		No action required by licensee
Other than life insurance agent or broker licences	1 71		Action required	



Agent licence, class I	Level 1 general insura agent licence		ance	No action required by licensee			
Agent licence, class II	Level 1, 2 or 3 general insurance agent licence			Licensee to request a general insurance agent licence type upon renewal, if not contacted by FCNB prior to expiry date			
Broker licence, class I	Level 1 general insurance agent licence			No action required by licensee			
Broker licence, class II	Level 1 general insurance agent licence			No action required by licensee			
Broker licence, class III		Level 2 general insurance agent licence		No action required by licensee			
Broker licence, class IV	Level 3 general insurance agent licence		ance	No action required by licensee			
Non-resident agent or broker licence	Level 1, 2 insurance a	-		Licensee to request a general insurance agent licence type upon renewal, if not contacted by FCNB prior to expiry date			
Adjuster licences			Updated licence type			Action required	
Level 1 probationary adjuster licence			Level 1 assistant adjuster licence			No action required by licensee	
Level 2 assistant adjuster licence			Level 1 assistant adjuster licence			No action required by licensee	
Any specialization of Level 3 adjuster licence			Level 2 adjuster licence			No action required by licensee	
Level 4 adjuster licence			Level 3 adjuster licence			No action required by licensee	
Other licences Updated			licence type		Acti	Action required	
Travel insurance agent licence Travel ins		urance agent licence		No a	No action required by licensee		
Special insurance broker licence Special in			surance broker licence		No a	No action required by licensee	

As outlined above, the following licence types will not automatically update:

- Non-Resident Other than life insurance agent or broker licence
- Resident Agent Class II licence

These existing licences will remain valid if no action is taken before its current expiry date. Upon renewal, holders of these licences will be asked to review the details of the <u>licensing</u> <u>qualifications and educational requirements</u> and select the appropriate General Insurance Agent licence type (Level 1, 2, or 3). Licensees will be asked to submit details of any **educational courses and/or equivalent experience** they have completed. For the purposes of the transition, if a licensee does not have the required courses, FCNB will assess their experience to determine the appropriate licence level.

FCNB will attempt to proactively contact licensees who currently hold a Non-Resident - Other than life insurance agent or broker licence or a Resident Agent – Class II licence before their current licence expiry date to request this information. This will assist the licensing team in updating these licences in an efficient manner.

Licensees should **add <u>portal@fcnb.ca</u> to their safe-senders email list settings** to ensure they receive communications from FCNB.



For any questions on the transitional provisions (Part 16) of the <u>*Rule INS-001 - Insurance</u> <u><i>Intermediaries Licensing and Obligations*</u>, contact the Insurance Division of FCNB at 866-933-2222 or by email at <u>insurance.licensing@fcnb.ca</u>.</u>