

Next phase, same timeline: Insurance Council of British Columbia's consultation on Restricted Insurance Agent Regulation

February 11, 2026

In December 2025, the Government of British Columbia introduced the [Restricted Insurance Agent Licence Regulation](#) (Regulation), creating a new framework for businesses that sell insurance alongside their primary products.

Taking effect on January 1, 2027, the regulation requires certain non-insurance businesses to obtain a Restricted Insurance Agency Licence (RIA) to offer eligible insurance. For further details, see [BLG's insight](#) on the initial announcement.

The Insurance Council of British Columbia is responsible for overseeing the new RIA licence. As such, on February 10, 2026, it launched a [consultation regarding rule amendments for the RIA licence](#).

This insight outlines the consultation's main points.

Proposed amendments

The proposed amendments address five sections of the Regulation: (1) definitions, (2) licence and application requirements, (3) ongoing licensure and practice requirements, (4) RIA fees, and (5) transition rules.

The [consultation webpage](#) offers summaries of each proposed amendment. For example, the proposed definition section suggests:

- **Adding** the definitions of “designated representative”, “restricted insurance agency”, and “restricted insurance agency representative”.
- **Amending** the definition of “insurance agency” to include a restricted insurance agency.
- **Repealing** the definition of “restricted travel insurance licence”.

As well, the Council has published informational webpages on the [accreditation program for sales representatives](#) as well as [the RIA licence generally](#) to help licensees and stakeholders provide informed feedback.

Providing feedback

The consultation period runs from February 10, 2026, until April 27, 2026.

Interested parties can submit feedback by completing an [online form](#) or emailing rules.consult@insurancecouncilofbc.com. Additionally, a [webcast will be held](#) on March 11, 2026 at 10 a.m. PT to review the licensing program and proposed amendments.

Looking ahead

After the consultation period ends, the Insurance Council will review all feedback. The proposed changes will then be submitted to the Minister of Finance for consideration and approval.

Contact us

The Regulation will come into force on January 1, 2027, with a three-month transition period ending March 31, 2027. This allows businesses time to apply for a licence and adapt to the new requirements.

Stakeholders should monitor the Council's website and communication channels for updates.

For more information about the consultation or the RIA licence, please contact the authors or any team member listed below.

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