Geoscientists have been involved in recognizing and exposing unethical and illegal practices for the protection of the public since the science of geology began 200 years ago. Unfortunately, these recurring themes continue to appear even after 1990’s scandals triggered an even greater awareness in the legal duty for Canadian-based geologists to hold paramount “protection of the public” in their geoscience practice.

Included in this presentation will be several brief case histories illustrating major common themes, the early warning signals for front-line geologists to recognize and report, unintended ethical issues arising from legislated disclosure requirements and finally challenges /solutions for effective reporting of suspected unethical conduct.