BC College of Teachers

Society: entrusts its interests to an elected government

Government: acts in, and is accountable to, the public interest. Government delegates limited powers to certain complex professions such as law, medicine, and nursing.

Self-Regulated Professions: created through legislation to regulate the work of a profession and professionals in the public interest. Because the professions are seen to be more complex than many other forms of work, requiring long periods of advanced education, governments believe that those who practice the profession, working with lay people who represent the public, are in the best position to determine what is needed to be a professional.
Public representation on professional boards is intended to balance the interests of the public and the profession.

Teaching Profession Act: created the College of Teachers for educators in BC. Teachers, principals and vice-principals, superintendents and directors in school district offices hold College certificates. Teachers and administrators in the public school system, as well as in First Nations schools, must be members of the College. Teachers in independent schools may hold BC College of Teachers certificates or Independent School Teaching Certificates.