

British Columbia Professional Engineers and Geoscientists Independent Advocacy Body

Inaugural board of directors expression of interest

The Steering Committee of the advocacy body seeks candidates interested in serving on the inaugural Board of Directors for a new independent advocacy body for professional engineers and geoscientists in British Columbia. The following describes the role and responsibilities of the inaugural board, desired experience and skills, and the application process for those candidates interested in serving on this board.

Background and overview

On June 27, 2023, Engineers and Geoscientists BC announced they will be initiating the creation of an independent advocacy body for professional engineers and geoscientists in British Columbia. This decision came following significant review and evaluation of EGBC's programs and activities as the regulatory body worked to integrate the requirements of the *Professional Governance Act* into its operations, including adopting a more focused regulatory mandate that significantly restricts advocacy activities. Learn more about this decision [here](#).

In July 2023, EGBC formed an independent Steering Committee, composed of industry subject matter experts, to support the work of selecting 9 - 13 inaugural board of directors and identifying a name for the new independent advocacy body. Learn more about those who were appointed [here](#).

The inaugural board of directors will be selected in October 2023, with the foundations of the independent advocacy body (responsibilities outlined below) to be in place by September 2024 and the advocacy body fully operational by July 2025.

Role and responsibilities of board of directors for advocacy body

Role

The role of the inaugural board of directors is to establish the strategic direction, mandate, and operations of a new independent advocacy body that will deliver advocacy activities that EGBC is divesting.

This is an opportunity to elevate the profile of professional engineers and geoscientists by advocating, offering valued members services, and building community. The role of the new Board for the advocacy body includes:

- Delivery – advancing the advocacy body through direct operational involvement and executing activities that drive the organization forward

- Collaborative decision making – engaging in decision making processes, providing input, sharing perspectives, and fostering a positive working board
- Advocacy and representation – serving as ambassadors for the organization, representing the diverse voices within the the community, building relationships with stakeholders and promoting the professions and the organization in the broader community
- Accountable – ensuring accountability and transparency of the advocacy body operations

Responsibilities

The inaugural Board will be a working board. With support of an independent consultant, from October 2023 to September 2024, the inaugural Board is responsible to deliver on the following activities:

- Oversee the legal incorporation process, with support of legal counsel
- Develop draft bylaws, with support of legal counsel
- Develop the governance structure for the Board and its directors
- Develop the draft governance policies to establish the initial operations of the Board, with support from legal counsel
- Make recommendations on consultants and/or volunteer groups that support the work of the inaugural board
- Develop the operational components and draft budget for the new advocacy body (financials, infrastructure, etc), with support from a consultant
- Develop the advocacy body's 3-year strategy (launch date, program, membership goals)
- Establish membership (membership criteria, application process, fee structure, etc.)
- Of the program/functions EGBC has confirmed it will be ending identify potential program/functions to transfer to the advocacy body
- Begin the development of a communication and marketing strategy, with support from a marketing consultant
- Develop position description, recruit and select a leader of the organization, with support from a recruitment consultant

Eligibility and process

As part of the selection process, the Steering Committee will select inaugural working board members based on merit, with consideration for skills and experience, as well as a diversity.

To ensure this process is impartial and free from influence, an independent consultant has been retained to facilitate.

Preference will be given to applicants registered with EGBC in good standing, such as professional engineers (P.Eng.), professional geoscientists (P.Geo.), professional licensees engineering (P.L.Eng.), professional licensees geoscience (P.L.Geo.), engineers-in-training (EIT), geoscientists-in-training (GIT), non-practicing or retired engineers or geoscientists, or an engineering or geoscientist registered student.

No person may serve on the inaugural board if there is a conflict of interest, which includes a current EGBC board member, EGBC statutory committee member, employee of EGBC, or member of the Steering Committee.

Note: the Steering Committee may conduct formal or informal reference checks and/or interviews of shortlisted applicants.

Commitment

Members of the inaugural working board commit to this *volunteer* position for a term of 2-3 years. Meetings will be held virtually for a minimum 2 hours each month and will necessitate review of materials prior to and following meetings.

As members of a working board, applicants should be prepared for the first 12 months to do the work and organize day-to-day activities within the conditions defined through governance. As such, board members will be participating in additional meetings, committees / working groups to complete responsibilities to set up the foundations of the advocacy body. This estimated commitment is between 6 – 12 hours per month. Only those applicants able to make this commitment should apply.

Once the advocacy body operations are established and the first employee is hired, the inaugural board will be able to transition to a governance board (setting objectives and making decisions that guide employees toward achieving the overall goals), and the board members' commitment should be reduced.

Experience and attributes

To build a diverse and complementary inaugural board the Steering Committee is seeking candidates with a broad range of experiences and attributes.

Experience and skills

Applicants should describe their experience in at least one or more of the following areas:

- business start-up (understanding of activities needed to set up board/committee/business)
- community engagement (building support of a common interest)
- financial management (ability to read and understand financial statements)
- governance or board experience (familiarity and understanding of governance roles and responsibilities, either gain through board experience or education)
- leadership experience (understanding of how to influence, negotiate, develop, delegate and manage others)
- legal knowledge (understanding of legal principles, interpreting and applying legislation or an understanding of legal dimensions of organizational issues)

- membership/service organization management (building strategies to attract and promote support)
- policy development and advocacy (understanding of provincial government and how to navigate it)
- project management/task focus (ability to manage tasks to a deadline and outcome)
- representation of diverse demographics (ability to think through diversity of the group they are serving)
- risk oversight (understanding of organizational risks)
- strategic planning (ability to think strategically and has experience participating in or leading organizational planning)
- recruitment, in particular executive recruitment

Attributes

Applicants will be asked to select and describe their strongest attributes as follows:

- Accountable and honest (acts with integrity and speaks the truth, takes responsibility for decisions and follows through on commitments)
- Adaptable (appreciates that plans will adjust to meet changing circumstances)
- Collaborative (understands the benefits and results of meaningful engagement)
- Diplomatic (ability to clearly articulate a perspective and engage in respectful, productive, and courageous discussions)
- Inclusive (ability to consider and represent diversity of membership)
- Objective (ability to make decisions based on evidence and good information)
- Results mindset (setting goals and tracking progress to achieve outcomes)

Expressing Interest

If you are interested, able to commit your time, and would like to be part of the inaugural board of directors, please fill out the [online form](#) by September 18, 2023; 4:00pm PST.

The Steering Committee will be selecting the inaugural board by October 9, 2023, in advance of the EGBC's Annual General Meeting (AGM) on October 28, 2023 in Whistler, to allow the inaugural board members to attend the AGM. All applicants will be notified by October 13, 2023.

NOTE: the inaugural board's first meeting is tentatively scheduled virtually on October 17, 2023 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm PST.

For assistance or questions please email EOlegsociety@gmail.com.