

2012/2013 Operating Budget Approved

The 2012/2013 APEGBC operating budget was developed following the Council approved budget guidelines and extensive review by the APEGBC Executive Committee. Presented to Council at their May meeting, the approved budget adheres to the Association's Sustainable Financial Policy, aligns with APEGBC's Strategic Service Plan, departmental business plans, and the Council Work Plan.

The budget reflects efficiencies across association programs, including the Professional Renewal program, building operations, government relations, publications, exams, staffing, and operational costs. New program initiatives include support to investigations and the organizational quality management program, enhancement of registration activities, mentoring program, APEGBC's website, sustainability guidelines, branches, information technology, business continuity, bylaw development and consultation, stakeholder engagement, and volunteer recognition. It also provides for recruiting and transition costs for a new Chief Executive Officer and Registrar. The approved budget requires an increase of \$10 to the annual membership fee effective January 1, 2013 and will result in an operating deficit of \$136,000 which will be drawn from the general operating fund. These reserves as at June 30, 2011, stand at \$1,217,845.

APEGBC Member Petition Ballot - Reminder to Vote

In September 2011, APEGBC Council made a formal request to the provincial government for legislative amendments to modernize some aspects of the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. On January 3, 2012 APEGBC's President received a petition signed by 70 members of the Association calling for a ballot regarding this request to government to amend the *Act*.

Specifically the petition refers to the request for APEGBC Council to be given the ability to make bylaws in the public interest without the requirement for member ratification. On December 20, 2011, APEGBC's Executive Committee withdrew this amendment from the list of prioritized amendments to allow for further consultation.

In accordance with section 12(7) of the *Act*, the Association is required to take a vote of the members by ballot upon the written request of 25 or more members. Voting for the requested ballot is open now and will close noon PST, Thursday, May 17, 2012. To cast your ballot visit <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/about/council/MemberPetitionBallot2012.html>

Council Matters

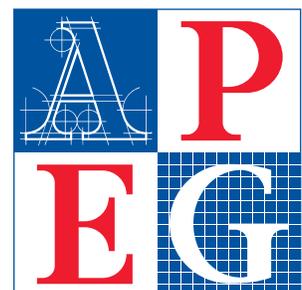
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Professional Engineers
and Geoscientists of BC

Alternative Complaint Resolution Bylaw - Consultation Update

To support stronger member participation and understanding of the regulatory process, Council approved a Bylaw Consultation Policy that establishes a consistent approach to gaining member feedback on proposed bylaws prior to a membership vote.

In accordance with this policy, APEGBC sought member input on the proposed Alternative Complaint Resolution (ACR) bylaw. In 2008, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act* was amended to permit Alternative Complaint Resolution of discipline cases. While the *Act* envisaged and authorized an ACR bylaw, as yet no bylaw exists. The bylaw will address common issues and considerations that are not covered by the *Act*.

The approved Consultation Plan identified two key stakeholder groups that should be consulted regarding the proposed bylaw – the APEGBC membership and members of the legal community who have participated in mediations of discipline cases.

An introduction to the bylaw and associated consultation was published in the February 2012 edition of *Connections* and the March/April edition of *Innovation*, and a membership survey opened on March 8.

Supporting background information was provided on APEGBC's website and further promoted through direct email and social media.

Based on initial feedback, answers to frequently asked questions were provided online to clarify some questions posed by early survey respondents.

In total, 155 members participated in the survey, of which 69.7% indicated they would support the bylaw, 7.6% opposed, and 22.7% were unsure.

The Discipline Committee is reviewing the survey feedback and will consider the input when providing suggestions to Council regarding the proposed bylaw wording, as well as the information

to be provided to the membership as part of the bylaw vote. Feedback and comments from the legal community regarding the proposed bylaw wording will also be considered.

Final wording for the bylaw will be presented at the June 2012 Council meeting for approval. If the bylaw is approved by Council, a member ratification vote will be conducted in September 2012.

The ACR bylaw consultation marked the first time that APEGBC has used the Bylaw Consultation Policy to gather member input on a proposed bylaw.

Modifications and refinements to increase member participation will be considered to improve and refine future consultation processes.

The draft bylaw in its entirety and additional background information on mediation and negotiation, and a FAQ document are available online at: www.apeg.bc.ca/about/acr_bylaw.html.

Governance Notes

The following recommendations of the Governance Committee were approved by Council at their May meeting:

- **[Geoscience Committee Terms of Reference Updated](#)**

Modernizing changes to the Geoscience Committee Terms of Reference were approved to reflect current practice. Changes will address the committee's role as an advisor to Council and the Geoscience community, as well as committee membership, quorum, and selection of officers.

- **[Balanced Scorecard Revisions](#)**

The Association's Balanced Scorecard target for voter participation was adjusted to 25% from 30% in recognition of generally declining voter participation and limited returns on increasing resource allocations.

- **[AGM Motions and Rules](#)**

In 2010, a new process was adopted to receive and publish motions in advance of the AGM. The advanced publication of motions is considered a positive tool for member engagement, and was approved for the 2012 AGM, along with the Meeting Rules used previously in 2010 and 2011, with no changes.

Canadian Framework for Licensure: Engineer in Training Element

The CEO/Executive Director Group of Engineers Canada's constituent members is leading the initiative to develop a Canadian Framework for Licensure (CFL) in order to create national consistency and enhance equity, consistency, fairness and timeliness of services.

The group has identified twelve essential elements of the regulated engineering profession in Canada, which will be developed collaboratively by engineering regulators with extensive consultation to identify best practices. APEGBC Council has directed that feedback on each element be sought from appropriate committees (i.e., CPD, Registration).

The elements proposed for the Engineer in Training element include:

1. The engineering regulatory bodies should be the only organizations granting licences to practise professional engineering.
2. The engineer-in-training period is a formative period, where registrants acquire the competencies required for licensure as a professional engineer.
3. The engineering regulatory bodies should require that all Engineer-in-Training applicants meet the academic requirements for licensure which ensure that applicants have the full breadth and depth of engineering concepts, theory and knowledge.
4. For applicants from non CEAB-accredited or recognized programs, the following tools and credentials should be

considered for the evaluation of academic knowledge:

- i. Technical confirmatory examination from the Engineers Canada's National Syllabus
- ii. The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying's Fundamentals of Engineering examination
- iii. Possession of a postgraduate degree, in the same discipline as the applicant's undergraduate degree, from an institution with an accredited undergraduate program.
- iv. Evaluation of acceptable engineering work experience.

Other areas of interest to the Canadian Framework for Licensure Group on this matter include whether EIT registration should be mandatory and what rights and privileges should be afforded to EITs.

Council provided feedback on this element of the Canadian Framework for Licensure and these comments will be incorporated into a presentation to the APEGBC Registration Committee on May 16.

All feedback will then be forwarded to Engineers Canada. Similar to other elements previously reviewed by Council, the EIT element will be further reviewed by Council before approval.

Association Notes:

New Council Member Appointed

APEGBC thanks Vic Baker, P.Eng., FEC for his almost two years of service on APEGBC's Council. Mr. Baker resigned from Council on March 19th. At their May meeting, Council appointed Ross Rettie, P.Eng., FEC to take his place as per Section 9.8(a) of the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. Mr. Rettie has 18 years of experience as a senior APEGBC staff director, plus 19 years of professional practice experience in a variety of roles. With this, Mr. Rettie brings a unique perspective on operations, background knowledge and team-building skills to Council. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.Sc. (Civil Engineering) and is currently a Consultant with Paragon Projects Ltd. and CO2OneWorld Inc. Mr. Rettie is a Fellow of Engineers Canada Recipient (2008) and has been the Chair of the Engineers Canada Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Tony Chong Joins APEGBC as Chief Regulatory Officer and Deputy Registrar

APEGBC welcomed Tony Chong, P.Eng. as the Association's Chief Regulatory Officer on May 1, 2012. In this position, Mr. Chong will integrate and strengthen APEGBC's regulatory duties, enhance and develop frameworks to evaluate internationally educated applicants, and understand the special needs of industry, construction, and natural resource development. Mr. Chong has a proven track record as an effective senior executive in the public sector with over 17 years of experience as the Chief Administrative Officer with the City of Port Coquitlam. Mr. Chong holds a Bachelor of Engineering from the Royal Military College of Canada and a Master of Applied Science in Environmental Studies from the University of Toronto.

Government Relations Strategy Updated

A revised Government Relations Strategy was approved by Council at their May meeting. APEGBC's Government Relations Strategy was originally created in June 2007 to develop the Association's relationship with government and raise awareness of the broad and significant contributions the Association makes.

Since 2007, APEGBC has made great strides in increasing awareness of the Association's contributions to government and the need for modernization of the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. The updated strategy will guide the way the Association interacts with government and sets out the organization's priorities for the next 24 months. In addition to continuing efforts to inform government about the work APEGBC and its members do, further activities will be undertaken to progress requested amendments to the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. There will also be a new focus on enhancing relationships at the municipal government level.

At the meeting, Council also received a report from Colin Smith, P.Eng., FEC, Past President and APEGBC representative to the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER). Founded in 1991, the PNWER is the only statutory, non-partisan, bi-national, public/private partnership in North America. PNWER is the forum for collaborative bi-national planning involving both the public and private sectors and offers leadership at the state/provincial level in Salem, Olympia, Boise, Helena, Juneau, Edmonton, Regina, Victoria, Yellowknife and Whitehorse, and at the national level in Washington, DC and Ottawa. PNWER facilitates working groups consisting of public and private leaders to address specific issues impacting our regional economy and each working group produces an action plan based on regional input.

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities at APEGBC's Annual Conference

APEGBC's Annual Conference and AGM takes place October 25-27, in Victoria, BC. Engineering and geoscience professionals will gather at the Victoria Conference Centre to attend two days of professional development sessions, a tradeshow, and the annual general meeting of the Association.

Sponsorship opportunities are available at a variety of levels with benefits to meet the needs of businesses, including recognition on site, at events, on promotional materials or online. Exhibitors will also be widely profiled at the conference. The two-day tradeshow will host refreshment breaks and an exhibitor's reception featuring BC wine and beer tasting, providing exhibitors with an excellent opportunity to generate leads and meet existing clients. Exhibitor packages offer either a single or double tradeshow booth, which includes conference registration and recognition on signage and in the delegate conference booklet.

For more information, download the [Sponsor and Exhibitor brochure](#) or contact Jennifer Chan at (604) 412-4861 or jchan@apeg.bc.ca. For Tradeshow booth bookings, please contact Tim Verigin at (604) 412-4872 or tverigin@apeg.bc.ca.

Professional Technologist Framework Consultation Continues

In December 2011, the ASTTBC/APEGBC P.Tech Framework Development Group presented an interim report to the Councils of ASTTBC and APEGBC on their work to examine proposed implementation of the designation "P.Tech." in BC. Stakeholder consultation has proceeded with members of both organizations, the Ministry of Advanced Education, national technology and engineering regulators, and the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of BC (formerly CEBC). Feedback received to date has been mixed. The group reported to Council that it plans to assess comments received at its upcoming May meeting.

By the Numbers

Branch Engagement highlights from February - April 2012

Branches play a fundamental role in increasing member engagement, supporting and driving this initiative in many ways.

To illuminate the work of the branches a Branch Engagement Report is presented to Council for information at each meeting. Take a look at some of the highlights from the most recent report:

2375

People were reached through NEGM events put on by Branches

9 Branch events, including tours and breakfast and dinner meetings.

Certified Professional Program - Endorsement of Manual & Letters of Assurance

To facilitate the processing of building permit applications, the Permits and Licenses Department of the City of Vancouver conceived the Certified Professional (CP) Program in late 1978. This enhanced permitting process authorizes a design professional (member of APEGBC or AIBC) who has successfully demonstrated sound code knowledge, to carry out some of the code review services typically performed by the municipality having jurisdiction. To qualify as CPs, members must attend a recognized course and successfully pass a subsequent exam relating to the administrative and technical provisions of the Vancouver Building Bylaw and British Columbia Building Code.

In March 2008, the *Housing Statutes Amendment Act*, 2008 (Bill 10) was passed in the legislature. In addition to dealing with a host of other items, these amendments authorized AIBC and APEGBC to create specialist designations in answer to demand-side municipal and regional district bylaws. In response to this initiative, AIBC and APEGBC have jointly formed working groups to deal with specialist designations in various areas of practice overlap.

One of the working groups so-formed is the AIBC|APEGBC Certified Professional Program Specialist Designation Working Group (CP Working Group). The CP Working Group looks at:

- 1) how the CP Program can be best administered in the future given the enhanced authority granted to AIBC and APEGBC and municipalities regarding the use and requirement for specialist designation in engineering and architecture; and
- 2) developing tools to ensure the efficient and consistent application of the CP procedures.

As part of its mandate the Terms of Reference approved by this Council on 13 March 2009, the CP Working Group has developed a Certified Professional Program Practice and Procedure Manual. At the May 4 meeting, Council endorsed this manual.

CP Letters of Assurance

Similar to the Letters of Assurance developed for the British Columbia Building Code (BCBC) and also found in the Vancouver Building Bylaw (VBBL), the CP Letters confirm the commitment of the owner and the Certified Professional, and later the completion, on an approved CP project.

Building Officials from the City and practicing Certified Professionals have expressed their common view that the current CP Letters are in need of changes to more closely align them with the existing VBBL and the administrative procedures currently in practice. The current forms are out-of-date requiring CPs to cross-off items and insert new provisions. Based on this advice, Council endorsed the revised Certified Professional Letters of Assurance Schedules.

Appointments

Internal

Discipline Committee

Roy Wares, P.Eng., FEC - Chair

Standing Awards Committee

Nicole Kohnert, P.Eng., FEC

Continuing Professional Development Committee

Jerrick Danganan, P.Eng.

Mentoring Committee

Shiloh Carlson, P.Eng.

Building Enclosure Committee

Patrick Shek, P.Eng.
David Ricketts, P.Eng.

Building Codes Committee

Emilia Mazzonna, P.Eng.

External

APEGBC Representative to the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council

Ehren Lee, P.Eng. (Alternate)

Engineers Canada Update

Council thanked Margaret Li, P.Eng., FEC who is completing her term as one of APEGBC's directors to Engineers Canada. Dr. Li has served in this capacity since 2010. Emily Cheung, P.Eng., FEC was appointed for a two year term by Council to fill this position.

Geoscientists Canada Update

Oliver Bonham, P.Geo., CEO of Geoscientists Canada, presented an annual report of Geoscientists Canada initiatives and activities to Council at their May meeting. Topics of focus include favourable media coverage of APEGBC's regulatory efforts and the 4IPGC conference in Vancouver.