

2014 - 2017 Budget Guidelines and Process

Council is currently overseeing development of a budget to support the strategic plan for 2014 - 2017. At its January meeting, Council reviewed and approved the budget process and the principles that will guide budget preparation.

The budget for 2014 - 2017 will be structured according to the guidelines established by Council, and will be reviewed and further developed with input from the Executive Committee of Council. It will then be presented to Council for approval.

Key principles for budget development include the following:

- Sustainable Financial Management will be the foundation for guiding budget preparation.
- The overall budget increase should be less than 5% each year.
- Any annual professional member fee increase for 2015 - 2017 will be minimal.
- Review opportunities for a decrease in registration-related ancillary fees.
- Review potential changes for efficiencies by program & department; new program initiatives; non-discretionary budget changes.
- Review and assess the requirements and appropriate level of funding for the General Operating Fund, Property, Equipment and Systems Replacement Fund and the Legal and Insurance Fund.
- Staffing levels be generally determined by authorized program improvements, growth, and membership count.

More info>> Jen Cho, Director, Finance and Administration, at jcho@apeg.bc.ca.

Sustainable Financial Management Policy

The Sustainable Financial Management Policy (SFP) is a model for APEGBC's processes for planning and reporting and enables its stakeholders to hold the association accountable for its decision and actions.

Council approved a change to the SFP, recognizing that as some programs cannot be financially self-sustaining, the wording of the policy should reflect this.

This applies largely to programs that do not in themselves generate revenue. All other programs with direct revenues should strive to be financially self-sustaining on a direct-cost basis. Council approved the wording change.

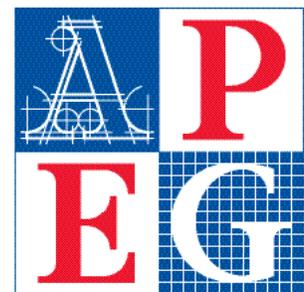
More info>> Jen Cho, Director, Finance and Administration at jcho@apeg.bc.ca.

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Professional Engineers
and Geoscientists of BC

Revisions to Election to Council Policy and Bylaw

APEGBC's Election Policy provides guidance beyond that provided in the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act* and bylaws to direct how the nominating process, election brochure, ballot, ballot count, and publication of results are managed. This policy is reviewed on a yearly basis so that learnings from previous years can be incorporated.

At its January meeting, Council approved changes to the Election Policy. Changes to this policy include the addition of a statement to ensure the independence of the nomination of Write-In Candidates, as well as wording to clarify that all nominees and Nominating Committee members are in good standing. Write-in Candidates are members whose names have been submitted with the support of 25 members in good standing directly to the registrar.

An amendment to APEGBC's Bylaw 3 – Election to Council was also approved in principle at the meeting. The changes to the bylaw wording are intended to modernize the bylaw to better reflect the current profile of APEGBC's membership, best practices for regulatory bodies and the needs of the association. These changes include the requirement that one member of the Nominating Committee be a P.Geo. and that one of the candidates nominated by the Standing Awards Committee also be a P.Geo.

The proposed bylaw amendment will undergo a consultation process with relevant stakeholders and will then be developed for review and approval by the Executive Committee. This process is expected to be completed in time for member ratification to be sought in the fall. More info>> Janet Sinclair, Chief Operating Officer, at jsinclair@apeg.bc.ca.

Communication of the 2014 - 2017 Strategic Plan

At its November 2013 meeting, Council passed a motion “that the components of the 2014 - 2017 Strategic Framework including the vision, mission, values, goals, outcomes, and objectives be approved.”

In preparation for its effective date of July 1, 2014, staff have created a communications plan to inform internal and external stakeholders of APEGBC's 2014 - 2017 strategic plan.

In mid-March, the strategic plan will be made publicly available and APEGBC staff will communicate information about the plan to members as well as to external stakeholder groups through a variety of means including e-mail, the APEGBC website, social media, a whiteboard video, and articles in *Innovation* and the APEGBC e-news.

APEGBC members will be fully engaged in delivering the strategic plan through the branches, committees, and divisions.

More info>> Melinda Lau, Acting Director Communication and Stakeholder Engagement, at mlau@apeg.bc.ca.

Association Notes

The Return to Practice Policy has now been amended to allow the expedited return to practice for former members who have maintained practicing registration or licence with particular institutions outside of Canada.

These institutions include the US State Board of Licensure/Registration for Professional Engineers or Geoscientists, Engineers Australia, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, Engineers Ireland or Geologists of Ireland.

Governance Notes

APEGBC's Professional Practice Committee advises Council on quality management issues impacting the practice of professional engineering and professional geoscience.

It also oversees the organizational professional risk management and quality assurance programs.

Council has recently approved proposed changes to the terms of reference for the Professional Practice Committee.

Arising from the recommendations of the committee itself, the changes address appointment of the committee chair, as well as the reporting structure for all practice committees through the Professional Practice Committee.

Appointments

Internal

Building Codes Committee

John Buscemi, P.Eng.
Ian Graham, P.Eng.

Consulting Practice Committee

Sean Liaw, P.Eng.

Discipline Committee

Upul Atukorala, P.Eng.

Editorial Board

Cassandra Hall, P.Geo./P.Eng.
Ivo Kokan, P.Eng.
Bruce Thomson, P.Geo., FGC,
FEC (Hon.)

Mentoring Committee

Kathy Tarnai-Lokhorst, P.Eng.

Organizational Quality Management Committee

James Blake, P.Eng.
Greg Clarke, P.Eng., FEC
Frank Huber, P.Eng.

Shirley McLaren
Ferenc Pataki, P.Eng.
Jon Perry, P.Eng.
Jeff Pringle, P.Eng.
Don Shaw, P.Eng.
Pat Stephenson, P.Geo.
Ian Stewart, P.Eng.
Greg Thorne, P.Eng.
Mike Knapp, P.Eng.

Standing Awards Committee

Dr. Ash Parameswaran, P.Eng.

Sustainability Committee

Canisius Chan, P.Eng.
Chad Larson, P.Eng.
Terry Molstad, P.Eng.

Technical Review Board

Tim Spiegel, QS

Temporary Works Committee

Bill Chan, P.Eng.

External

APEGBC Director to the Vancouver Airport Authority

Ken Goosen, P.Eng.

Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board

Michael Isaacson, P.Eng. FEC,
FGC (Hon.)

Presentation by Dr. Nimal Rajapakse of SFU

Dr. Nimal Rajapakse, P.Eng., Dean of SFU's Faculty of Applied Science presented to Council on the number of applicants, students, and graduates of engineering programs at SFU. He also shared information about current research and education initiatives at the university, as well as proposed plans for the future, particularly the expansion in Surrey.

Building Codes Committee Update

The City of Vancouver has approved a new edition of its Vancouver Building By-law to become effective in 2014. As part of the update from the 2007 edition, the City also updated the Letters of Assurance found in Division C, Part 2 of the By-law. While they reflect the latest changes to the By-law, these Letters of Assurance are substantially similar to those that APEGBC had endorsed in the 2007 edition.

The City of Vancouver has requested APEGBC's endorsement of the Letters of Assurance, and to date, the Architectural Institute of British Columbia has also confirmed its endorsement of the Letters of Assurance. At its January meeting, Council endorsed the Letters of Assurance for the Vancouver Building By-law 2014 as recommended by the Building Codes Committee. This is in line with endorsements provided by other authorities having similar jurisdiction, such as the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas. More info>> Gilbert Larocque, P.Eng., LLB, Associate Director Professional Practice, at glarocque@apeg.bc.ca.

The Link

The Link is an internal newsletter that aims to increase communication between the association's key internal stakeholders. Our goal is to link groups working towards a common goal, to provide current information on Council and association initiatives, and to provide opportunities for input and collaboration.

The Link is published following each Council meeting and is circulated to chairs of branches, committees, divisions, boards, and task forces, as well as Council and staff. Feedback is welcome and can be directed to Chelsea Smith, Communications Coordinator at csmith@apeg.bc.ca.