

2013/2014 Budget Approved

The 2013/2014 APEGBC operating budget was developed according to Council-approved budget guidelines and following extensive review by the APEGBC Executive Committee. Approved by Council at their May meeting, the 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 2013/2014 budget reflects efficiencies across association programs, including building operations, government relations, publications, exams and operational costs. Through the budgetary review process, efficiencies and economies equal to \$458,000 were applied in 12 different areas of operation. These efficiencies enabled the inclusion of 35 program initiatives totaling \$513,000. New program initiatives include support to programs examining association relevance, women in engineering and geoscience and increased support for APEGBC Induction Ceremonies, outreach, and public relations. The approved budget will result in an operating deficit of \$114,000. Funds from the general operating fund will be used to mitigate the deficit.

Council also considered a report from CEO Ann English, P.Eng. to investigate a multi-year budgeting process. APEGBC currently follows a three-year strategic plan, however, the corresponding operational and capital budget is developed annually. As a result, progress on many initiatives halts part way through implementation until the corresponding budget has been approved. A multi-year budget process would eliminate this and facilitate the integration of financial and strategic planning. **More information >>** Jennifer Cho, CGA, Director Finance and Administration at jcho@apeg.bc.ca

2013 Member Satisfaction Survey

Earlier this year APEGBC launched a Member Satisfaction Survey. Over 3,000 members completed the survey which showed a significant increase in participation from 2010. The survey gauged satisfaction in four main areas;

- Association mandate and governance
- regulatory matters, such as registration, professional practice and investigation and discipline
- professional development
- communication and member services.

Overall, member satisfaction has shown an increase from 67 per cent to 76 per cent. The only area of decreased satisfaction was in regards to the APEGBC website, which is currently in the process of being updated. More information on the results of this survey will be available in the May/June edition of Innovation magazine. **More information >>** Megan Archibald, Director Communications & Stakeholder Engagement at marchibald@apeg.bc.ca

Council Issues

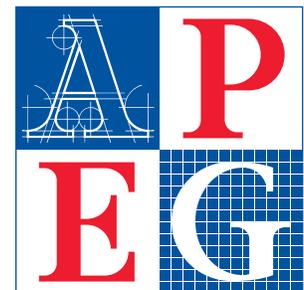
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Professional Engineers
and Geoscientists of BC

2013-2016 Enforcement Strategy

APEGBC's Enforcement strategy focuses on reducing the incidence of unregistered practice of engineering and geoscience in BC through three primary goals:

1. Improve capabilities to detect and identify unregistered practice.
2. Reduce the incidence of unregistered geoscience practice in three areas: public sector, academia, and senior industry employees.
3. Increase collaboration with other APEGBC departments, particularly with Registration, to facilitate and innovate, where appropriate, registration of persons identified in 1 and 2 above.

To work towards these goals APEGBC staff have strengthened relationships with other regulators, such as the British Columbia Securities Commission and the BC Oil and Gas Commission through Memoranda of Understanding. APEGBC staff are also currently working on similar agreements with WorkSafeBC, the BC Environmental Assessment Office and the BC Safety Authority.

In addition to these agreements, APEGBC is also using data based on Mineral Disclosure reports for BC properties, to identify and contact individuals regarding possible unregistered professional geoscience or engineering practice and invite them to apply for registration. Since the beginning of July 2012, 25 individuals have been admitted to APEGBC membership as a direct result of this strategy.

Another element of the Enforcement Strategy has been to reduce unregistered geoscience practice in the public sector, academia and by senior industry employees. Through discussions with geoscientists employed by the Geological Survey of Canada, APEGBC identified barriers to registration as well as incentives for professional registration.

APEGBC Council approved an updated 2013-2016 Enforcement Strategy at their May meeting. This strategy focuses on encouraging qualified individuals to pursue professional membership with APEGBC. The renewed strategy will continue to pursue the 2011-2013 goals with the addition of the following goals:

1. Examine the value of and disincentives to professional registration for individuals, employers and the public.
2. Explore opportunities to engage members, other stakeholders and the public to assist with enforcement activities, including identification or low-registration sectors.
3. Use the findings from items 1 and 2 above to inform continued outreach work with previously identified sectors and to engage newly identified sectors; and
4. Support negotiation of an Incidental Practice Agreement for P.Geos. and if the Agreement is approved by Council, its implementation.

More information >> Geoff Thiele, LLB, Director Legislation, Ethics & Compliance at gthiele@apeg.bc.ca

Annual Report of the Registration Fairness Panel

The Fairness Panel is an independent non-statutory body that examines the fairness of the process when an applicant's appeal of a registration decision is rejected by the Registration Committee. The Panel makes recommendations to the Registration Committee and Registration Task Force on process, policies and procedures as warranted, and reports to Council on an annual basis.

The Panel is composed of three past councillors or senior past members of the Registration Committee, and is supported by a pool of expert reviewers who assist when the technical competence of the applicant is at issue, rather than the process followed or adherence to policy.

At the May Council meeting, Fairness Panel members Paul Blanchard, P.Eng., FEC, John Watson, P.Eng., FEC and Phil Sunderland, P.Eng., FEC provided a report to Council on activities over the last year.

The Fairness Panel reviewed 36 cases between March 2012 and February 2013. Of these cases, 20 were appeals referred to the Panel by the Committee. There were no special referrals this period.

More information >> Ray Filipiak, P.Eng., Associate Director, Admissions at rfilipiak@apeg.bc.ca

Bylaws for Fall 2013 Ratification Vote

Council approved proposed amendments to three Bylaws addressing governance and recognition processes. In particular, the amendments support the inclusion of Limited Licensees in these processes.

APEGBC's governing legislation, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, received 11 modernizing amendments in June 2012. These included changes that enable limited licensees to participate in APEGBC's key governance processes, including the ability to run for Council and vote in Council elections, petitions, and bylaws; and to call and vote at meetings of the association. Council identified three bylaws for potential amendment that, as currently

written, exclude limited licensees from related processes of governance and recognition.

Bylaw 3 (a.1) Nominating Committee - Amendments will allow limited licensees to participate on the Nominating Committee.

Bylaw 3 (j) Ballot - Amendments will allow limited licensees to participate as ballot counters.

Bylaw 10 (c.1 and c.2) Life Membership and Honorary Life Membership

Amendments will allow life or honorary life licensure to be bestowed on limited licensees.

The bylaws underwent a consultation period with members and feedback

received was supportive of the proposed amendments.

Together with two other bylaws previously approved by Council (Alternative Complaint Resolution and removing the 8-year time limit for EITs/GITs), these proposed amendments will be put before the membership for ratification this fall.

All five bylaws have gone through member consultation and any necessary modifications to the wording of the bylaws were made prior to Council approving the final wording.

More information >> Geoff Thiele, LLB, Director Legislation, Ethics & Compliance at gthiele@apeg.bc.ca

Government Assessment of Acceptable Landslide Risk

APEGBC will be moving forward with engaging the Provincial government on the creation of establishing a level of acceptable landslide risk.

Current provincial legislation does not present adequate information for practitioners to apply a consistent approach, leading to individual local governments independently developing natural hazard regulations that are inconsistent between various areas across the province. In response to a motion put forward on this issue at the 2012 APEGBC AGM, an advisory group of experts in the area was formed.

The advisory group included Mike Currie, P.Eng., Matthias Jakob, P.Geo., and Mike Church, P.Geo. Council approved the following three recommendations from the advisory group:

1. Establish a high level government advisory body on natural hazard issues with multi-ministry involvement and broad representation from industry and the professions. The mandate of this advisory board should include reviewing relevant government legislation, regulation and precedents, and advising government on development of natural hazard policy and regulations.
2. Develop a more robust inventory of land subject to natural hazards. This should extend to standardizing approaches
3. for natural hazard and risk mapping. Develop additional tools to assist in the implementation of a risk-based approach in dealing with natural hazards and establish thresholds for natural hazard risk tolerance and acceptability.

Work will begin shortly with government officials on improving the acceptable landslide risk regulations.

More information >> Peter Mitchell, P.Eng., Director Professional Practice, Standards and Development at pmitchell@apeg.bc.ca

Branch Presentation

Martin Fandrich, P.Eng., Branch Representatives Chair, provided Council with an update on current initiatives of APEGBC's 15 regional branches.

The primary roles of the Branches are to provide a communication link between Council and the membership, reflect the opinions of members to Council on matters relating to the association and organize events to raise the profile of the association amongst both members and the public. In addition, Branches play an important role providing representatives to the Nominating Committee.

At the 2013 Spring Branch Representatives meeting, the Branches reviewed their activities over the past year and set draft goals for 2013/2014 focusing on mentoring, member engagement and student outreach.

More information >> Megan Archibald, Director Communications & Stakeholder Engagement at marchibald@apeg.bc.ca

Guidelines Update

- **Seismic Retrofit Guidelines and Seismic Performance Analyzer**
Council endorsed revisions to several sections of the Seismic Retrofit Guidelines and Seismic Performance analyzer which will allow them to be applied to BC's university buildings up to eight storeys high.
- **Legislated Dam Safety Guidelines Editorial and Legal Review**
Council approved the Professional Practice Guidelines – Legislated Dam Safety Reviews pending final editorial and legal review. These guidelines address concerns about standards of practice for professional engineers performing dam safety services in BC.
- **Designing Guards for Buildings Guidelines**
APEGBC Council approved the Guardrail Guidelines pending final legal and editorial review. The Building Codes Committee, Consulting Practice Committee and the Temporary Works Working Group all contributed to review of these guidelines.

By the Numbers

Branch Engagement highlights
from Feb 18 - April 14

Outreach Initiatives

1272

Competitors in NEGM activities across the province.

557

Elementary and high school students reached in BC.

13

Branches represented at the Spring Branch Representatives Meeting in April.

Governance Update

- A procedure to appoint and elect Councillors to Council committees, which includes the Executive, Governance and Audit Committees, was approved by Council. This process will create a more efficient transition between Council representatives on Committees by allowing appointments to be made immediately following the APEGBC AGM at the inaugural Council meeting in October.
- Council reviewed and approved the Annual General Meeting Rules for 2013 based on the rules used at the 2012 AGM.
- In the fall of 2012, the Governance Committee considered modifying the deadline for members to submit advanced motions for consideration at the AGM to allow members an opportunity to review the Annual Report prior to submitting an advanced motion. Council approved amending the deadline from 30 days to 10 days in advance of the AGM. Motions which are made in advance appear on the APEGBC website and, time permitting, in association communication.

ASTTBC/APEGBC Joint Board Update

Jeff Holm, P.Eng., FEC, outlined the work of the ASTTBC/APEGBC Joint Board from September 2012 through April 2013. One of the main initiatives of the Board is to establish a model development and consultation process for professional reliance opportunities for P.Eng.'s and ASCT's. To this end, it has created and will conduct stakeholder consultation on a model guideline defining Qualified Person (QP) opportunities for P.Eng.'s and ASCT's under the Municipal Wastewater Regulation. Once the model has been developed and additional professional reliance opportunities have been established, the Board intends to explore governance and legislative models for the members of its respective Associations. **More information** >> Gillian Pichler, P.Eng., Director Registration at gpichler@apeg.bc.ca

Engineers Canada Update

Engineers Canada is currently in the process of developing policy governance for its operations. Draft policies have been developed and discussed in the categories of Executive Limitations, Governance Process and Board-Management Delegation. The final category of policies to be developed is the Ends Policies which outline the reasons for the existence of Engineers Canada. Russ Kinghorn, P.Eng., FEC, APEGBC Director to Engineers Canada, reviewed these policies at the May 2013 Council meeting. APEGBC Council endorsed these policies with some amendments and will be providing additional feedback in the future.

Geoscientists Canada Update

Oliver Bonham, P.Geo., CEO of Geoscientists Canada presented to Council on current Geoscientists Canada activities and also gave an update on the profession in Canada and elsewhere. Licensure of geoscientists across Canada continues to rise. A Mutual Recognition Agreement has been signed between Canada and Ireland. This is the first international MRA for geoscience; it is modeled on existing MRA agreements for engineering between Canada and other countries. At the Geoscientists Canada AGM in Winnipeg, the first fellows will be inducted to the Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada. Following that other FGC's will be inducted across Canada. Geoscientists Canada is seeking input from its constituent associations concerning the possible creation of a Geoscientists Without Borders organization in Canada. The creation of a GWB Canada would enable Canadian geoscience students to contribute to humanitarian initiatives while gaining work experience abroad. The nature and scope of support for this possible initiative has not been specified at this time.

Appointments

Internal

Discipline Committee

Neil A. Cumming, P.Eng., FACI

Geoscience Committee

Jeff Wilson, P.Geo.

Investigation Committee

John Pao, P.Eng., Struct.Eng

Standing Awards Committee

Dr. Jim McEwen, P.Eng.

Value for Money Review

Steering Committee

Mike Bapty, P.Eng.

External

APEGBC Director to Engineers Canada

Russ Kinghorn, P.Eng., FEC

Climate Change and Adaptation Advisory Group Update

Tony Chong, P.Eng., Chief Regulatory Officer/Deputy Registrar, provided Council with an update on the Climate Change and Adaptation Advisory Group (CCAAG)'s activities over the past year. They have developed and circulated a draft position paper on climate change for internal consultation and will be considered by Council in the near future. CCAAG members have also been involved in the formation of a group of provincial regulators and other stakeholders to share ideas and information on climate change. **More information** >> Tony Chong, P.Eng., Chief Regulatory Officer/Deputy Registrar at tchong@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