

October, 2011

Onsite Wastewater Forum Brings Together Stakeholders



Onsite Wastewater stakeholders were invited by ASTTBC to a meeting in Victoria to talk about a new ROWP Training Standard. Pictures from left to right: (absent is ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, who took the photo) John Rowse, Executive Director of BCOSSA, Brent Schofield, ROWP, BC Representative for WCOWMA, Rupert Benzon, Ministry of Health Services, Keith Gylander, Executive Director of WCOWMA, Mike Seymour, AScT, Representative for BCWWA, Ron Hein, ROWP, Manager-Onsite Wastewater Registration Program for ASTTBC, Bill Hyslop, Executive Director for EOCP, Steve Warren, President of BCOSSA, Jim Anderson, ROWP, project consultant for ASTTBC

ASTTBC hosted a meeting of all stakeholders with an interest and role in Onsite Wastewater to talk about a new Training Standard developed for the Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) program. Other topics of interest were identified for future discussion. It was agreed ASTTBC would host another Forum this fall to discuss current issues and possible solutions. The Ministry of Health, as Ministry Responsible for the Sewerage System Regulation (SSR), was in attendance to monitor and offer their insights and perspectives.

“This was an excellent meeting with positive, constructive dialogue by all participants”, said ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, who chaired the meeting. “I was impressed with how all those in attendance engaged fully in the dialogue and came together to address the new training standard. ASTTBC’s goal, in addition to serving the public through the effective regulation of ROWPs, is to help build a ‘community of common interests’ in this field.”

Attending, in addition to ASTTBC, were the BC Onsite Sewage Association, BC Water and Waste Association, Environmental Operators Certification Program, Ministry of Health and Western Canada Onsite Wastewater Management Association. Not represented but invited was APEGBC.