For the September 2017 ASTTBC Council Meeting

This Report focuses on the approved Strategic & Operations Plan, which includes both key strategic directions developed by Council and ‘operational’ outcomes set by the CEO. The CEO Report also highlights key developments linked to the Association’s 8 Goals. The outcomes (numbered) included in the Plan are in italics and those set by Council are showcased with an *

Greater detail of ASTTBC ongoing operations will be found by reviewing the monthly ASTT eNEWS: ‘What’s New’ on the ASTTBC website, the bi-annual ASTTBC CONNECT, following ASTTBC on Twitter, YouTube and other social media, and regularly browsing of the ASTTBC website.

Please send your feedback to ceo@asttbc.org.

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”
John Quincy Adams

GOAL #1 – PROFESSIONAL LEGISLATION & REGULATION

* PROFESSIONAL TECHNOLOGIST (PTech (1). See previous reports for background. The PTech certification process was re-launched following changes to policy to better align with the Alberta model and agreed strategy for implementation. Met with the staff at the BC Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and training, Ministry Responsible for the ASTT Act. Staff launched initial consultations with other interested stakeholders, with special note to several professional associations, notably Architectural Institute of BC, Association of Forest Professionals BC, BC Institute of Agrologists, College of Applied Biology and Engineers and Geoscientists BC. Staff completed preliminary work with legal counsel on proposed legislative changes.

*Engineers and Geoscientists BC (EGBC) ENGAGEMENT AT ALL LEVELS (2). Engage with APEGBC at all levels to better serve the public interest and generally enhance relations. Staff considered areas where the two associations collaborate and are confident that these collaborative or common initiatives are sustainable. Examples include generally promoting STEM in various ways, NEGM, Science World, labour market studies, people with diversabilities, popsicle bridge building, attendance at each others’ Councils, and yes, even golf. A meeting of the Presidents and CEOs of the two associations was convened in mid September for the purpose of enhancing the relationship. There was general agreement that the two associations should continue to work cooperatively in areas of common interest. Several outcomes included an understanding that the ASTTBC – EGBC Joint Board is the primary vehicle for addressing a number of areas between the two associations and an agreement to convene a joint meeting of the Executives in January 2018.
**PTech to EngL PATHWAY (3).** See previous reports for background. Engineers and Geoscientists BC Council approved a strategic pathway for implementing the APEGBC proposed PTech to EngL pathway. A copy of the Engineers and Geoscientists BC proposal was tabled with ASTTBC Council on May 25, 2017 and Council. ASTTBC will likely learn the status of this initiative when the ASTTBC – EGBBC Joint Board meet.

**PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE IN BC (4).** Work with other professional associations to develop a common approach with government on the role and contribution of professional associations. Engaged with ABCFP initially and now interested parties to the table include ABCFP, EGBC, ASTTBC, BCIA and CAB. The group has taken note of the BC Government’s interest in professional reliance, with a general understanding that the individual associations and the associations collectively be ‘at the table’ on professional reliance.

**TRAINING – ASTTBC’S ROLE TO BE ADDED TO ASTT REGULATION? (5).** Consider whether a statement on ASTTBC’s role in providing ‘training’ should be included in the ASTT Regulation. The IBEW vs ASTTBC Court case on appeal made it clear ASTTBC has the right to create, support and operate training programs. ASTTBC legal counsel is preparing changes to the ASTT regulations to clearly outline ASTTBC’s rights in this area. A proposal will be tabled with Council in September.

**AIBC RE PRACTICE FOR BUILDING DESIGNERS (6).** Engage AIBC on practice rights for ASTTBC members registered and offering services in building design. Follow up meeting with the AIBC CEO to consider current status. No intention on part of AIBC to seek changes to the Architects Act to address this issue.

**ASTT ACT.** Work has commenced on a proposal for changes to the ASTT Act, with a priority to addressing PTech implementation. Changes to the ASTT Act covering administrative matters will continue to be advanced to the BC Ministry of AEST. A draft from legal counsel will be available for Council September meeting.

**ASTT REGULATION.** Changes to ASTT Regulations are being considered in a number of areas. It is anticipated that there will be formal proposals in 2018.

**HOUSE INSPECTION LICENSING – BC GOVERNMENT & CONSUMER PROTECTION BC (CPBC).** See previous reports for background. The Government working group continues to tackle issues such as the scope and standards of practice / inspection. ASTTBC continues to invest in this review.

**PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE (QP) – FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.** See previous reports for background. ASTTBC is seeking appropriate recognition for certified technologists and technicians with federal procurements, an objective that will take some time to realize results.

**GOAL #2 – RIGHTS TO PRACTICE**

*QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL (QP) (7).* See previous reports for background. ASTTBC is focusing staff and volunteer resources on securing added QP recognition for ASTTBC technologists, technicians and technical specialists. Various initiatives being considered for QP recognition. The recent Appeal Court decision regarding members’ qualifications to apply for a BCSA license is a significant QP achievement!

*PRACTICE GUIDES (8&9).* Review and approve all existing Guides. Develop 6 new Guides (8) in 2017 - 2018. Mechanical and Fire Guides approved by Council March 2017. Work on all existing Guides will be completed by year end. Work has commenced on 3 new Guides – Environment, Mining and Transportation.

**PRACTICE RIGHTS – A PAN-CANADIAN STATEMENT (10).** See previous reports for background. Drafted a practice statement for consideration by the TPC Leadership Council. Statement was first reviewed at the Spring 2017 meeting with expectation the statement will be approved at the Fall 2017 meeting.
ELECTRICAL WORK PRACTITIONER (EWP) (11). See previous reports for background. ASTTBC was successful on appeal of the BC Supreme Court decision to uphold the IBEW proposition that the ASTTBC – BCSA EWP Program should not have been established as the two organizations did not have the mandate approve the program. The Appeals Court agreed ASTTBC has the right to create, support and operate training programs. A significant ruling in support of ASTTBC’s mandate.

ABCLS – ASTTBC AGREEMENT ON RSIS PRACTICE (12). Enhance the joint agreement to improve joint understanding of practice scope and improve awareness. Met the ABCLS CEO with general understanding that the two associations should stay current on the agreement and introduce enhancements where warranted.

‘PROFESSIONAL’ STANDING WITHIN SEWERAGE SYSTEM REGULATION (13). Define ASTTBC members’ recognition as professionals within the SSR. Anticipate moving ahead with a proposal to specifically define ASTTBC as ‘professionals’ within the SSR. This moved to 2018 due to other pressures.

ASTTBC – EGBC JOINT BOARD – See previous reports for background. The full Joint Board not met since early 2016. The volunteer members of the Board met without staff in the Spring of 2017 and agreed there is an interest in re-engaging.

EngL to PEng. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC is tracking an EGBC pilot project.

FIRE PROTECTION. ASTTBC continues to encourage local governments to introduce a requirement in their Fire Bylaw for ASTTBC certification and registration. The City of Kelowna is moving toward a Bylaw in 2017 and Penticton recently indicated it will move forward with a Bylaw.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE WEBSITE. In collaboration with the insurance broker ASTTBC has introduced new risk management information for members and is hosting a webinar in the Fall of 2017. Also see ‘Insurance Matters’ http://insurancematters.asttbc.org

GOAL #3 – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & REGULATION

This Goal is covered by the Registrar’s Report to Council. The actions in the 2017 – 2018 Work plan are reported here so as to capture all within one document.

* PTECH PORTABILITY WITHIN CANADA (14). Secure agreement with other associations on use and application of PTech. This will be raised with TPC Leadership Council in Fall 2017.

* PROFESSIONAL TITLES HARMONIZATION (15). Proposal to renew harmonization agreements will be presented for Technology Professionals Canada consideration in Fall 2017.

* CPD REPORTING BY MEMBERS (16). Request for policy proposal is being sent to PRB.

ACCREDITATION BY BC INSTITUTIONS (17). Commitments received from two key institutions to seek accreditation through Technology Accreditation Canada (TAC) – Camosun College and Okanagan College. Pursuing discussions with BCIT which is ‘on hold’ with regard to accreditation.

COMPLAINTS – PUBLISHING MEMBER NAMES (18). A request for consideration has been sent to the Practice Review Board.

HONOURARY MEMBER POSTNOMINAL DESIGNATION (19). Survey of current Honourary Members being designed. PRB to be asked to consider future direction.
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION & ACCOUNTABILITY (20)

a) mandatory use of stamp – PRB is being requested to consider use of stamp

b) PARs – active use of PARs for House and Fire Protection;

c) Mandatory E&O; Secondary insurance – review and report. Much of the work deferred to 2018.

d) Digital Signature Stamp – Opened discussions with service provided for APEGBC and others.
   Anticipate a preliminary agreement by Dec 2017.

FIRE PROTECTION COMPANIES – QA PROGRAM (21). Research has commenced on a new voluntary program to assess fire companies. Steady progress as ASTTBC determines what is possible with companies.


PUBLIC WORKS TECHNICIAN PROGRAM (23). Policy drafted and to PRB early in 2017. Concerns raised and changes made by staff. Revised proposal to PRB in June 2017. Revisions meet all concerns identified by PRB and staff is ready for Council consideration.


GOAL #4 – PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Employer / Union Liaison

EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT (25). Engage employers to secure greater support for ASTTBC certification and registration. Staff is building a new Employer Liaison Program as a means to engage employers with a view to a new partnership in support of ASTTBC certification and ensuring a technology work force well into the future. Staff is nearing completion of TechEMPLOYER program as a means by which employers can profile their businesses.

BC AND YUKON TERRITORY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC seeks a closer connection with the group.

IBEW. ASTTBC seeks a solid working relationship with IBEW. Met with the Business Manager for IBEW 230 (Islands). Previous meeting with the Business manager for IBEW 213 (Metro).

Relations with other Associations / Organizations

ASSOCIATION OF BC FOREST PROFESSIONALS (ABCFP). See previous reports for background. Continue to work with the CEO of ABCFP on ways the professional regulating bodies connected to the land (ABCGP, ASTTBC, BCIA, CAB and EGBC) might work collaboratively to enhance their collective effort to serve the public as self-governing bodies. Focus is ‘professional reliance’.

ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERING COMPANIES-BC. ASTTBC continues to support ACEC-BC events and activities. Presently working toward a special approach to ACEC-BC companies as part of the new Employer Liaison Program. A video of industry leaders is currently in the works.

ENGINEERS and GEOSCIENTISTS BC (EGBC). President and CEO of EGBC and ASTTBC met to consider ways to enhance linkages and programming between the two associations. Council sends a representative (usually the ASTTBC President) to each meeting of APEGBC Council and APEGBC reciprocates by sending a representative to ASTTBC Council meetings.

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BC CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION. Met the new President & CEO and agreed we will continue to cooperate in areas of mutual interest.

BC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. Attended and spoke at the annual conference in June. Topic was ASTTBC’s work to engage women, First Nations, Internationally Trained and people with diversabilities. It came as quite a surprise to be awarded the 2017 Chairman’s Award by BCEDA at this conference awards banquet.

BC HOUSING. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC is working on a BC Housing funded project to develop a practice guide and offer training for Construction Fire Safety Planning. The project is progressing well and will be completed early 2018. ASTTBC joined with SaferHomes BC to secure partner arrangement with BC Housing for a project to inform and educate industry and practitioners on Safer Standards.

BUSINESS COUNCIL OF BC. See previous reports for background. We arranged for the BCBC CEO to be a keynote speaker at a special conference association leaders organized by the Portage Group in cooperation with the Canadian Society of Association Executives.

COLLEGE OF APPLIED BIOLOGY. Staying connection with the CAB Executive Director, largely on the topic of professional reliance.

COLLEGE OF REGISTERED NURSES OF BC (CRNBC). Continue to link with CRNBC Registrar to compare notes on professional regulation and rights to practice. It is interesting to compare notes on how these matters are addressed in the health care professions.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND BUSINESSES ASSOCIATION (ICBA). Met the new President and CEO, Chris Gardner, and agreed to continue to work together on matters of mutual interest.

LANDLORD BC. See previous reports for background. Connected on fire safety. More work needed to assist LandLord BC and their members.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LGMA). See previous reports for background. Connected regarding fire safety, suggesting that LGMA might get more directly involved when it comes to encouraging local government to put in place a Bylaw requiring professional certification to inspect and test fire safety equipment.

NOTARIES PUBLIC BC. See previous reports for background. A MoA has been drafted as a signal to work collaboratively on the connections between Notaries and ASTTBC’s members in fire protection, house inspection, onsite wastewater and site improvements surveying.

PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION OF BC. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC continues a close working relationship with PWABC. ASTTBC is presenting at their September conference on Underground Utility Locator certification.

ROAD BUILDERS ASSOCIATION of BC. See previous reports for background. Met the new President and CEO, Kelly Scott, and agreed to continue to work together in areas of mutual interest.

SPEATBC. ASTTBC continues to work collaboratively with SPEATBC.

SURREY BOARD OF TRADE. See previous reports for background. An update meeting with the CEO is planned.
WESTERN CANADA ONSITE WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (WCOWMA). ASTTBC continues working with WCOWMA in areas of common interest.

WEST BANK FIRST NATION (WFN). ASTTBC arranged funding in support of a pilot Indigenous Public Works Technician program with WFN. Project is proceeding with completion in Spring/early summer 2018. It is anticipated that the graduates will be positioned to move toward professional certification with ASTTBC.

GOAL #5 – MEMBER SERVICES

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT (26). Report on member engagement and consider outreach to members throughout BC. Report will be compiled in 2018.

CPD LISTINGS. See previous reports for background. Increase CPD listings on website by 5% a year. ASTTBC members are required to report CPD, using the ASTTBC reporting process available on our website. ASTTBC works with various organizations to provide quality continuing professional development (CPD) courses, workshops, and conferences to our membership at preferred rates. http://cpd.asttbc.org/

TechCLUB (28). Review member benefits and expand opportunities by 15% a year for two years. New programming being considered. In the works with progress expected as we enter 2018.

MEMBER SURVEYS (29). Review and confirm scheduling of member and other surveys. Scheduling of member and other surveys to be concluded by year end.

NEW SURVEYS (30). Introduce new surveys: (a) youth to learn of their interests and needs; (b) External stakeholders to gather their perspectives on ASTTBC; and (c) members on the impact of technological change. External stakeholder survey results are in and report will be published this Fall. Other surveys put over to 2018.

POLLING (31). Introduce polling to engage members and others. Started work on this. Long term approach to be determined.

RING (32). Report on the use of the ring and develop strategies that will improve member participation. Preliminary work gathering information from others, eg ABCFP where there is a separate ring for RPFs and RFTs. Further work put over to 2018.

Member Services - General

TechJOBS. See previous reports for background. Service continues to grow, with added non-dues revenue. https://asttbc.org/services/jobpostings/

Institutes - Special Certification Programs

BUILDING DESIGNERS – Renewal of this group continues including a new website. Education conference organized for Fall 2017. http://buildingdesign.asttbc.org

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY OFFICER. See previous reports for background. A new video was released summer 2017. Other promotion efforts continue.

ONSITE WASTEWATER. See previous reports for background. Meetings with the Health Authorities and Ministry of Health have led to agreements on a few key issues that will enhance public protection and ASTTBC’s professional regulatory functionality.

PUBLIC WORKS INSPECTION SOCIETY. See previous reports for background. Nothing new to report.
PUBLIC WORKS TECHNICIAN PROGRAM. Certification policies completed and ready for consideration by Council.

GOAL #6 – TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS

CANADA’s 150th ANNIVERSARY 2017 (33). Also see SCIENCE WORLD below. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC engaged with Canada’s 150 celebrations. The 150 logo has been included in various ASTTBC media and with ongoing programming such as Technology Appreciation Week and National Engineering and Geoscience Month. ASTTBC completed the joint project with Science World.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS PROMOTION – REVIEW ASTTBC PROGRAMMING (34). Review strategies and programming in promoting technology education and careers and adjust as needed. Work on this will now be put over to 2018.

NATIONAL ENGINEERING & GEOSCIENCE MONTH (March). Nothing new to report. ASTTBC stepped up in fine form and carried out many initiatives either alone or with other parties.

https://asttbc.org/careers/nat_eng/

SCIENCE WORLD - INNOVATION CANADA 150 PARTNERSHIP – The ASTTBC - SW Letter of Intent between ASTTBC and Science World led to innovative community outreach activities across the province to celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday. A success story for both SW and ASTTBC.

SKILLS CANADA BC. See previous reports for background. ASTTBC was a sponsor at and attended the 2017 Skills BC Competition. ASTTBC’s Jason Jung appointed to the Board. Met the new Executive Director and agreed to continue to support each others’ activities in support of STEM.

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS APPRECIATION WEEK (TSAW). See previous reports for background. The BC Government again approved a special Proclamation declaring TSAW in March 2017. ASTTBC carried out many activities during TSAW. ASTTBC will apply for a proclamation in 2018. https://asttbc.org/tsaw/

GOAL #7 – PUBLIC POLICY

DISABILITIES IN THE WORKFORCE (35). Extend ASTTBC’s role in support of people with ‘diversabilities’ as they pursue technology education and careers. Pursue partnerships with BC Government and other stakeholders. ASTTBC completed very successful project in partnership with the BC Government. Report posted on line. ASTTBC has applied for funding for the next phase of our work.


LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMMING (36). Grow role in LMP tied to BC Government’s work. See next item.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION PROJECT - EGTT. The second phase of the initiative between ASTTBC, EGBC, ACEC-BC and managed by the Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table now complete and report issued. Another great joint initiative!

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TECH SECTOR LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP - See previous reports for background. Project completed and initial report issued.

Special Interest Groups

DIVERSITY LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP (LMP). See previous reports for background and information above.

FIRST NATIONS CAREERS COUNCIL. The Council continues forward movement with a number of activities: career fairs; bursaries; and joint opportunities with other stakeholders. Visit the FNCC web site: http://fncc.asttbc.org

ITTP LEADERSHIP FORUM. The Leadership Forum met early 2017 to review progress on resources and offer ideas for future development. A meeting is planned for this Fall. This group is keen and very helpful. http://www.ittpbc.com


Government Liaison - BC

BC MLA LIAISON. Actively pursuing meetings with Cabinet Ministers who have responsibilities in areas in which ASTTBC regulates technology professionals and where there are matters of mutual interest, eg promoting STEM. Ongoing meetings with appropriate BC Government staff on a myriad of opportunities / issues.

Government Liaison – Federal and Local

BC MPs. Met MP for Thunder Bay-Superior North, The Hon Patricia Hejdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour. Spoke about ASTTBC’s role in promoting technology education and careers generally, ASTTBC’s Technology registrations Canada software and work in support of women and First Nations.

Sustainability Agenda


GOAL #8 – GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

DUES AND FEES (37). Establish policy re setting annual dues and renewal fees. Discussions with ASTTBC Executive and Council in September 2017 will help in formulating an approach re setting dues and fees.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY (38). Develop policy for sponsorship of events and complete program review. 2018 Budget to reflect the policy.

COUNCIL SELF-EVALUATION & ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY (39). Develop Council self-evaluation and further develop and enhance transparency in governance. Work on this late Fall 2017 and into 2018.

GROW e-BUSINESS (40). Various initiatives: (a) member management software / database; (b) paperless meetings; (c) easier access to ‘Find a Member’; (d) easier access to ‘Filing a Complaint’; (e) Standardize web pages, notably Tech Specs. UPDATE: (a) new member database software project progresses. Working to complete in time to issue 2018 invoices using the new software; (b) all boards now operating generally without use of paper; (c) completed – now under ‘PUBLIC RESOURCES’ on ASTTBC home page; (d) completed –
now under ‘PUBLIC RESOURCES’ on ASTTBC home page [https://asttbc.org/]; (e) nearing completion; some final work when finalizing the member database project.

**CORPORATE RECORDS – DIGITIZE (41).** Investigate and develop strategy to move ahead with digitization of records. Work on this occurs in 2018.

**ASTTBC BUILDING – 25 YEARS (42).** Celebrate 25 years in September 2017. A modest form of ‘celebrating’ this milestone via social media and gifting numbered copies of a painting of the ASTTBC building.

**TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE RESOURCE CENTRE (43).** Investigate concept of a new centre from which ASTTBC can offer services for various groups and be future headquarters for ASTTBC. This concept is mentioned from time to time with a few people in BC who may be able to realize the proposed initiative.

*General*

**BUDGET 2017.** See previous reports for background. Budget approved by Council November 2017 and a Revised Budget will be presented to Council for approval in September 2017.

**COUNCIL GOVERNANCE POLICY / FRAMEWORK.** The Nominating Committee set up a working group to examine areas of the *ASTT Act and Regulations* warranting change to better serve the nomination and service of members on Council. An outline of the project was presented to Council in the Spring. Further work completed and to be reviewed with the Nominating Committee once appointed by Council, with report to Council anticipated before year end.

**FINANCIAL REPORT.** The Financial Report for August 2017 will be tabled at the September 2017 Council meeting. General alignment with the 2017 Budget (Revised). The 2017 Budget (Revised) will be presented to Council at the September meeting for consideration / approval.

**TECHNOLOGY AWARDS & RECOGNITION CELEBRATION (TARC) 2017.** Arrangements coming together for November 18, 2017. Pan Pacific Hotel booked and other major arrangements in place. Technology Professionals Canada will hold its Fall meeting in Vancouver and will join TARC.

**TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS CANADA.** TPC Leadership Council and Council of Chief Executive Officers met in Spring 2017 and another meeting is planned for Vancouver on November 17, 2017. ASTTBC President will report on TPC.

**WORK PLAN 2017 - 2018.** On track with most actions planned for 2017. Details will be provided to Council.

*e-Business - General*

**ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT SYSTM - DATABASE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.** See previous reports for background. Work is well under way; target is to complete work to use new software to issue 2018 dues invoices. Some delays / challenges as one might expect; nothing of major concern

*‘ASTTBC APPLY’.* The Technology Registrations Canada software has been adopted by the Manitoba association and New Brunswick is expected to come on board. We anticipate the Atlantic provinces will also agree to use the software. BC Ministry of Health interested in reviewing software.
SOCIAL MEDIA. ASTTBC continues to have an active presence on social media. ASTTBC channels:

www.linkedin.com/company/asttbc
www.twitter.com/ASTTBC
www.facebook.com/ASTTBC
www.instagram.com/ASTTBC
www.youtube.com/ASTTBC

WEBINARS. An ASTTBC UPDATE Webinar was hosted in June 2017. Very positive feedback. The next ASTTBC UPDATE webinar is scheduled for October.

Marketing, Media, PR and Foundation

MARKETING. See previous reports for background. A full report on marketing has been delayed to November 2017 and possible January 2018. due to other pressing demands.

ASTTBC FOUNDATION. See previous reports for background. The Board Chair reported at AGM 2017 and his presentation to ASTTBC Council has again been delayed… for possible consideration in November or January 2018. https://asttbc.org/about/foundation/about/