

REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL

June 12, 2019

(submitted May 24, 2019)

1. **SUBJECT: CEO Report for June 12, 2019 Council Meeting**
2. **PURPOSE:** To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's activities for the period of February 20-May 24, 2019
3. **DISCUSSION:** This Report focuses on key strategic activities during the above-mentioned period. Greater detail of ASTTBC ongoing operations will be found by: reviewing CONNECT, 'What's New' on the ASTTBC website and of course by following ASTTBC on Twitter, YouTube and other social media.

Goal 1: Professional Legislation & Regulation

Professional Governance Act

ASTTBC staff continue discussions with Ministry of Environment staff until they hand over our file to the Ministry of Attorney General staff. Activities include:

- Review of the ASTT Act and what changes are needed required as we move forward to become part of the Professional Governance Act and our Act becomes our regulations.
- Consultation on what will be the cross-cutting regulations will be for the five impacted regulatory bodies (associations).
- Consultation regarding upcoming changes to Council starting on June 1, 2019.

Goal 2: Right to Practice & Qualified Professionals

Practice and Regulatory Updates

Since our Council meeting in March we have alerted members to the following information:

- A newly created Practice Bulletins webpage has been created on ASTTBC.org
- We still have several hundred RFPT who must complete their Standard Operating Procedures quiz, or they risk not being eligible for work in their municipalities. These members have had roughly 8 months notice that they must complete this exam. We are currently emailing and mailing cancellation notices so that they come into compliance.
- BC Energy Step Code will be needing energy advisors. For more info <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/efficiency/homes/20566>
- WorkSafeBC revised OHS Regulations which go into effect on June 3, 2019
- Technical Safety BC – Field Safety Representative (FSR) Class A, B, C, IN renewal is due by July 31, 2019.
- Errors and omissions insurance has been reviewed to see if we could improve our current rates. It was determined no other group could and that our members are receiving the best rates.

Continuing Professional Development

Discussions are occurring with third parties to develop more options for ASTTBC registrants. I expect this summer we will announce a discount negotiation with a post-secondary institution.

Right to Practice

An exploratory meeting was held with EGBC in late March to discuss a process and next steps needed to explore practice rights of applied science & engineering technology professionals. The next meeting will be held in later June.

Goal 3: Professional Recognition

Evaluation harmonization of professional titles

In May a survey was sent to all registrants about rights to practice, ASTTBC future vision and about future designations that ASTTBC may grant, for example instead of an AScT we might align with other provinces for a CET.

Promote opportunities for women as technology professionals

On May 22, Minister Ralston announced funding for ASTTBC as the project owner for a two year approach to created materials, webinars and strategies to attract and retain women in the engineering and technology sectors. ASTTBC invited EGBC and ACEC-BC to come on board as partners in the project.

BC Women in Technology has had a series of very successful events in the past few months with momentum building for these events in our community.

Goal 4: Member Services

Young Professionals

This new Committee has held several meetings this year and has planned for a separate break-out session at the AGM for young professionals who are defined as 40 and under or those who have 10 years or less experience. A survey targeting those members has been launched to determine what the priorities of this group should be. The survey will shut down in late June.

Promoting Careers

A new national project with federal funding has been approved to address veterans and new immigrants prior to the arrival in Canada. We partnered with CCTT. This project is open to other provinces to joining aside from the current participants.

TechAbility/Disabilities in the Workforce - ASTTBC has hosted two cohorts of participants in this research study. We are in need of employers to provide job shadowing experiences.

Meetings with Educational Institutions

ASTTBC met with many students and faculty in January and February including:

- **Okanagan College**
 - Regional Dean's meeting – March
 - Civil PAC - May
 - Math Challenge – May – invited to speak
- **TRU**
 - Speak to 3rd year Graduating class ARET students re membership benefits, job search and last registrations – April
- **Selkirk College**
 - Speaking / attending SC Grad Student Research Project Presentations – April
 - Preparing awards for 4 best presentations – April
- **Regional**
 - Attended College of Biology member event re PGA

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Professional Recognition by Public & Employers

A number of public meetings were held across BC – see goal four promoting careers for further details.

In early April the BC Government proclaim April as Technology Skills Appreciation Month, with Vice-President Sarah Campden, Secretary Treasurer David Sparanese and CEO McCurry receiving the proclamation at the BC Legislature from Melanie Mark.

In late May an MLA breakfast was held to discuss recent projects and advances that technology professionals are achieving in BC as well as celebrate a successful Technology Skills Appreciation Month. Minister Mark provided key remarks and noted that while ASTTBC will move to the Attorney General's ministry that she will continue supporting the good work of ASTTBC and keep her eye on technology professionals. Ralph Sultan provided remarks for the Liberal Caucus told the crowd of the importance of the entire engineering team and that technologists are a key profession that need to be recognized for their skills.

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Community Workshops and Functions

- We held a member meeting in April in Kelowna with several local presenters, including an update meeting from CEO McCurry. The theme was what are our women doing in the profession. It was well received and the new format was enjoyed by many.
- May 28, we held a member meeting in Victoria to a well attended standing room only event with a wonderful presentation from a project manager for the McLoughlin Point Water Treatment project. The event was chaired by VP, Sarah Campden with Secretary-Treasurer, David Sparanese also in attendance representing Council. CEO McCurry provided an update on current major projects, Professional Governance Act and practice updates.

Goal 5: Governance

ASTTBC completed its annual financial audit and reviewed it with Secretary Treasurer, David Sparanese, who approved the financial statements. It was noted that the issues from audits in 2017 and 2018 audits, have been remedied by this audit.

IT Modernization

As discussed previously ASTTBC staff have a number of large projects in IT to improve user experience across a number of ASTTBC platforms, including our new database.

- **Egnyte**
 - Restructuring filing system; identified blurred areas on server that will be cleaning
 - Departmental folders... being cleaned and some docs to be shared on Intranet
 - Corporate folder (old intranet) will be cleaned
- **Member Portal**
 - Working on secured member area dashboard; self-reliant to pay dues, view volunteer opportunities; engage members to ASTTBC functions
 - Eliminate need to sign in in two areas and provide a dashboard of services and additional marketing opportunity for all registrants. Ready to go live in September 2019.
- **Member Directory**
 - New coding is required to create a registrant list.
- **Database**
 - New database is proceeding on time and budget
 - The current 25 year-old database needs some additional work to comply with requirements for the Professional Governance Act

4. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accept the March – May 2019 CEO Report to be received for information.

Prepared by: Theresa McCurry, Chief Executive Officer
Submitted: May 24, 2019