

## REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL

Meeting date: January 23, 2020

Prepared December 9, 2019

1. **SUBJECT: CEO Report for January 2020 Council Meeting**
2. **PURPOSE:** To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's activities for the period of November 1 – December 10, 2019.
3. **DISCUSSION:** This Report focuses on key strategic activities during the above-mentioned time 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 Implementation**

Staff have continued to meet with the office on and staff from the OSPG.

Current priority work for the OSPG has been:

- Submission of a GAP analysis for our new regulations
- Submission of a draft transition plan
- Drafted an updated Code of Ethics
- Have invited an OSPG staff person to attend the next Board of Examiners meeting and this could extend to other key committees such as the Practice Review Board.
- Framework for practice rights proposal was received and will be developed in December/January.

### **Goal 2: Right to Practice & Qualified Professionals**

#### **Practice and Regulatory Updates**

We have created a process for members to receive regular updates and that all staff members are working to announce practice updates in a targeted manner. This did require some additional work for our database and website so that only those members to which the updates apply will be alerted when they go onto their dashboard.

#### **Continuing Professional Development**

As we reviewed the results of our summer audit of members CPD compliance we will begin an awareness campaign in January 2020. Those members who may be very behind in submitting their CPD hours will be contacted directly.

#### **Right to Practice**

A proposal framework was received in late October from the OSPG and staff are working within that framework to draft a proposal in January.

### **Goal 3: Professional Recognition**

#### **Harmonization**

A great deal of work has taken place in the latter half of 2019 regarding harmonization among the provinces.

In November ASTTBC and Technology Accreditation Canada announced that the two accreditation bodies for technology programs in Canada have integrated and there is just one body now. Additionally, a great deal of work was performed on updating the national standards for accreditation. During the December meeting all 10 provinces provided final feedback to be incorporated during the public review process in 2020.

As part of the project titled “Enhancing Pre-Arrival Support of Internationally Trained Technologists, Technicians & Technical Specialists”, which focuses on international and military trained technology professionals a national meeting was held with all registrars. From this meeting we have gathered additional needs and refinement for the project which we shared with the federal government during their regularly scheduled audit in November. The information was well received and the audit was a smooth one with no surprises.

#### **Accreditation by BC Institutions**

Camosun College’s Electronics & Computer Engineering Technology - Renewable Energy program was accredited in early December. Thompson Rivers University received their accreditation in September for the Architectural and Engineering program.

We congratulate these organizations on their success with accreditation.

A nationally accredited program represents excellence in education, providing students, parents, faculty and industry confidence the program has met the standards of the profession and graduates have the requisite knowledge and skill set to competently to enter the workforce.

### **Goal 4: Member Services**

#### **ASTTBC Vision**

As part of our engagement with registrants and stakeholders ASTTBC has spent the past year in various consultations with people about updating the vision for ASTTBC. Discussions have been held at registrant meetings, on webinars and a survey that was completed by 17 per cent of the members in the summer. At the November meeting Council approved the following updated vision:

Technology professionals safeguarding the public through leadership and regulatory excellence.

In 2020 with our new communications manager we will be gathering information from registrants on how they are living the new values and this vision.

#### **Young Professionals**

During the December YPG meeting the committee members agreed upon a two-year plan for engaging the Young Professionals in ASTTBC based on feedback from the YPG survey from earlier in the year. Starting in January there will be a series of YPG meet and greets around the province with more planned throughout the year. The group is looking at what a mentor program could look like and topics for a series of webinars are also being reviewed.

## **Promoting Careers**

### *Advancing women as technology professionals*

The ASTTBC led project titled Advancing Women in Engineering and Technology (AWET) has hired a new project manager Erin Quinn. Erin's accomplishments include developing systems for cultural change from strategic planning through to implementation. She consults in designing bias out of systems, and building in mechanisms for inclusive, diverse and thriving communities. Erin has twenty years of experience as a leader in the engineering and manufacturing sectors.

Erin presented at the Career Education Society meeting in late November about this project and how educators can be champions for this and how they can engage girls in STEM.

### *Research program: Improving Access for Diverse Abilities*

TechAbility/Disabilities in the Workforce - ASTTBC hosted its final cohort in November and now the research findings are being written up for Ministry as a final report is due at the end of January 2020. Late in 2019 ASTTBC and key stakeholders met with ministry officials that oversee this program to run through the program and to make suggestions for future projects that are similar in nature to TechAbility. It was an engaging few hours with many ideas shared for future projects.

### *Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society*

ASTTBC works alongside showcasing and providing career feedback for clients of PICS. We have performed this work under a number of their programs including those that target youth, internationally trained professionals for technologist, technicians, public works and fire protection opportunities.

## **Post Secondary Outreach**

- November 1 – OK College Regional Dean's Advisory Committee
- November 7 – Presentation to 1<sup>st</sup> Year ARET TRU students
- November 8 – CPD event with Star Lab & UBCO
- November 13 - BCIT - Fall Big Info night
- November 20 – OK College presentation to 1<sup>st</sup> year civil engineering student members
- November 21 – OK Bursary awards and donor appreciation
- November 25 – OK College presentation to 1<sup>st</sup> year water engineering students
- November 26 – OK College 1<sup>st</sup> year construction management presentation to students
- November 28 – TRU Faculty lunch meeting
- November 28 – TRU Bursary awards and donor appreciation event
- December 4 – Selkirk College presentation to 1<sup>st</sup> year School of Environment & GIS students
- December 4 – Selkirk College meeting head of School of Environment
- December 5 – OK College water engineering capstone project presentations

**Community Outreach:**

- November 2 - Girls in STEAM event at Science World
- November 2 - Quesnel Community Science Celebration hosted by Science World (ASTTBC organized a table at the event)
- November 14 - IEBCA (Iranian Engineers of BC Association) and ACCEPT (Association of Chinese Canadian Engineering and Technology Professionals) event
- Nov 20 - BCSOW - Kick off meeting for BC Science Outreach Workshop organizing committee, the 7th annual gathering of roughly 130 STEAM educators and outreach organizations
- November 24 - ASTTBC provided a career presentation to high functioning people with disabilities (20 students) - Surrey

**High School outreach**

- November 29 – ASTTBC spoke to 120 students at Sullivan Heights Secondary grades 10's, 11's and 12's about careers in Technology and Applied Science

**Employment Programs and outreach**

- November 1 - WorkBC event we spoke ~40 internationally trained engineers in Vancouver

**Goal 5: Governance****IT Modernization**

In 2019 it was determined that a number of small, medium and large IT projects were needed to meet the requirements of the Professional Governance Act and to improve user experience across a number of ASTTBC platforms, including the new member portal, TRC registration website and our new database.

**Member Portal**

- Launched in November after extensive upgrades were required both for the website and for the database. Members of various ASTTBC committees tested the new dashboard in September and October and we appreciate their feedback for this stage of development and the next phase as well.

**Online Registry**

- In order to meet the requirements of the Professional Governance Act we needed to add additional information to our existing online registry. Enhancements to the database were required as well as extensive new coding was required to create this. As this was not expected work for 2019 and it was prioritized this has had an impact on the database timeline

**ASTTBC Website**

- A new site map was drafted in early December. This work will be put on hold as we are recruiting for a new communications manager. Our current manager is going back to school to become a technician.

**Database**

- Our move to create a new database has been slightly delayed as per more pressing IT projects needed completing. We continue to be in the Discovery Phase which should wrap up late this winter and we move into Phase 1 in the spring of 2020.

**HR Management**

- Staff are finalizing workplans for 2020 and updating job descriptions which will be finalized in 2020 for those jobs which did not have a current job description.

**4. RECOMMENDATION:**

That the November – December 2019 ASTTBC CEO report be received by Council for information.

*Report Prepared By: Theresa McCurry*