

REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL

June 3, 2020

(submitted May 7, 2020)

- 1. SUBJECT: CEO Report for June 2020 Council Meeting**
- 2. PURPOSE:** To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's activities for the period of December 11, 2019 – May 6, 2020.
- 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 continue to meet with the OSPG staff and other regulators on a monthly basis.

Current priority work for the OSPG has been:

- Finalizing the updated Code of Ethics
- Participating on the Working Group for Complaints and Discipline including review of OSPG policies.
- OSPG liaison for ASTTBC came to the office for a day and participated in transition planning, meeting with the Young Professionals Group and the Board of Examiners Committee meeting.
- Creation of bylaws in December – February for March review with Council and updates in April for review for the OSPG in early May before Council's final review and approval in June 2020.
- Feedback on what titles ASTTBC is seeking for the PGA and defining the regulated practice for ASTTBC registrants.
- Reviewing requirements for statutory committees and approach to convert current Boards to Panels.
- Duty to report and whistleblowers.
- Joined the EGBC led advisory committee regarding the regulation of firms.
- Finalized materials for CABRO to search for the opening for one Lay Person Representative to Council.

Goal 2: Right to Practice & Qualified Professionals

Practice and Regulatory Updates

Practice guidance was provided in March with the announcement of the COVID-19 pandemic for those specialities which are front line workers including fire technicians which were included as essential workers as reported out by ASTTBC on March 26, 2020.

Continuing Professional Development

Staff continue to seek opportunities, especially online, for registrants. The ASTTBC conference will offer many more CPD opportunities than in previous years. With the cancellation of other conferences and CPD opportunities ASTTBC is looking at other potential partnerships for CPD. CPD in 2021 will also include require Indigenous training.

Qualified Professionals Required for Fire Safety in Kelowna

Recently the Kelowna Municipal Council updated its Fire and Life Safety bylaw 10760. Over a period of time, Fire Protection Service Technicians will need to be certified by ASTTBC. A plan is in final development to look at the training, registration and certification needs of people who will be eligible to work in this region. At the time of writing this report an announcement is being planned.

Goal 3: Professional Recognition

Much of the work in this area has been with various ministries in the BC Government including the Attorney General, Public Safety & Solicitor General and Health. Much of the focus of this type of work has been in regard to the Professional Governance Act.

Goal 4: Member Services**Ensuring Access for All Registrants***Advancing women as technology professionals*

The ASTTBC project titled Advancing Women in Engineering and Technology (AWET) was paused slightly as there was a change in the team members and planning shifted from in-person meetings to online work. A summary of the survey with EGBC and ASTTBC members is available on the AWET website <https://womeninengtech.ca>. Career profiles meant to engage students will be posted soon and on May 19 we begin a webinar series looking at key topics that women and HR professionals have identified as important topics for the recruitment and retention of women in engineering and technology.

Research program: Improving Access for Diverse Abilities

The TechAbility/Disabilities in the Workforce project was completed in March with glowing feedback from Ministry. One of the final outcomes is a matrix which we will be sending to those companies who have expressed interest in the results of this research project. The matrix can be used by HR specialists who are looking to better understand the suitability of certain physical and intellectual disabilities and jobs best suited for those individuals.

Technology Professionals Labour Market Integration

This project which is led by Charles is coming together nicely. I sit on the weekly project team meetings and recently we held a series of national meetings by teleconference to replace the in-person meetings we were to have in Montreal. Much progress has been made on a number of the components of the project which runs until Autumn 2021.

Post Secondary Outreach

Outreach to the colleges continued in January until early March, due to COVID-19 and the shutting down of in-person classrooms our presentations and meetings have stopped. As we look to what the new normal will be for high school and post secondary students we will plan accordingly.

Goal 5: Governance**IT Modernization**

In 2018 and 2019 it was determined that a number of small, medium and large IT projects were needed.

Member Portal

- We continue to get feedback on the new registrant area. Comments include the appreciation that we have made it easier to log CPD activities and flag professional practice updates. We are also collecting feedback for updates on version 2.0 likely to take place in early 2021.

Online Registry

- Is working well and we are finalizing approval with the OSPG.

ASTTBC Website

- This has been delayed and will start up again in the summer now that we have a full-time communications manager.

Database

- Our move to create a new database continues to move ahead. The Discovery Phase is wrapping up and Phase 1 starts in May through to December. This continues to be on budget and for the most part on time.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

That the January – May 2020 ASTTBC CEO report be received by Council for information.

Prepared by: Theresa McCurry, Chief Executive Officer

Submitted: May 7, 2020