

REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL
September 24, 2020
(submitted August 21, 2020)

1. **SUBJECT: CEO Report for September 2020 Council Meeting**
2. **PURPOSE:** To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's activities for the period of May 7 – August 21, 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 for the regular monthly meetings as well as additional meetings to meet the deadline of moving under the Professional Governance Act by mid-November 2020.

Current priority work for the OSPG has been:

- Finalizing ASTTBC for review by OSPG
- Multi-meetings as part of the official consultation with all PGA regulatory bodies to seek input into the definition of ASTTBC regulated practice throughout the month of July.
- Continued participation on the Working Group for Complaints and Discipline including review of OSPG policies.
- Participating on the Regulation of Firms Joint Advisory Group.
- Participation in the inaugural meeting of the Professional Governance Advisory Committee.
- Review of the ASTTBC online register, updates suggested by OSPG will also impact the database project.
- Updated materials were created regarding the general business use of current ASTTBC titles and why all should be ported into the Professional Governance Act in November 2020.
- Call for volunteers for the statutory committees.
- CABRO has posted the notice of position for lay committee members, which can be accessed here: <https://www.brainhunter.com/frontoffice/seekerViewJobDetailAction.do?sitecode=pl526&jobId=2343238&page=search&external=> . Applicants are instructed to apply directly with the reg body they want to serve – there is a link to the ASTTBC website home page.

Goal 2: Right to Practice & Qualified Professionals

Continuing Professional Development

As mandatory Indigenous training is required under the PGA, I have spoken to various organizations performing work in this area. I have progressed with one group that offers an extensive online training. Further work will be conducted in September with the hopes of finalizing an agreement in the fall or early winter as other regulatory bodies might be interested in this programming as well.

Goal 3: Professional Recognition

In early August the Office of the Superintendent advised ASTTBC that he have received a request from the Office of the Deputy Solicitor General to consider having home inspectors in British Columbia fully regulated under the *Professional Governance Act* (PGA). In his letter he outlined that an engagement project that the Ministry of the Solicitor General undertook resulted in significant industry support for a potential move to a professional governance model for home inspectors. The OSPG Superintendent indicated that his office will work with Consumer Protection BC, ASTTBC, and other stakeholders to determine the best path forward for regulating and strengthening standards and compliance within the industry. Thus, the ASTTBC recommendation for our proposed reserved title of 'certified house inspector' will not be approved until this work is complete. Following an investigation, the Superintendent will be able to determine whether to designate the home inspector profession under the PGA and if so, recommend a path of designation to the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

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), like many projects and programs had a reset with COVID-19. Much work was achieved during this time table including the establishment of a very successful webinar series, podcast and the creation of career profiles in partnership with Let's Talk Science. The next phase will focus on the sustainability of this project as well as key research on this sector.

Research program: Improving Access for Diverse Abilities

The TechAbility/Disabilities in the Workforce project was completed earlier this year with updates to the matrix worked on into the summer. The research conducted in this project led to the development of the Framework Matrix which aligns technical occupations with disability categories. The Matrix was specifically designed to help employers, persons with diverse abilities and career counsellors identify promising occupational pathways that have been tested through supported job shadowing. Besides identifying the technical occupations by the Canadian National Occupational Classification (NOC) system to classify jobs and NOC Unit Group, the Matrix recommends any necessary mitigation strategies, identifies skills and competencies requirements, as well as any accommodations and supports needed to support hiring.

The Framework Matrix was developed through the support of technical employers who provided job shadow placements, as well as survey questionnaires completed by research participants and employers. It identifies 21 tested technical occupations that align with the specific disabilities of persons with diverse abilities.

To view the matrix visit: <https://asttbc.org/techability/framework-matrix/>

Goal 5: Governance

Annual General Meeting & Conference

- In early March we announced that due to the COVID-19 pandemic we would switch to an online virtual event for our AGM and conference. Finding the right vendor that would offer the technology solutions we sought to assist in better presentations and networking was important work we performed in March and April. Great attendance occurred in both the live and on-demand sessions as well as with wonderful networking taking place in the virtual booths. The decision to post the conference for attendees to finish all CPD over a period of two months was received well by the attendees. Due to the long-term nature that health officials are suggesting with the COVID-19 pandemic we had to make the unfortunate decision not to host an in-person event in 2021. We will be looking to host an in-person event in 2022 if it is deemed safe to do so.

IT Modernization

- The database reached a milestone in July whereby the vendor spent one week working in ASTTBC offices to finalize the Discovery Phase. This week was filled with intensive meetings finalizing the business needs and expectations in our key areas of operations including finance, registrations, practice and complaints, human resources and governance.
- The Technology Registrations Canada portal is undergoing an update as we move to Drupal 8 which has significant updates to the framework. This work is being done alongside with the updates that will take place with the ETPLMI project which will be outlined in the Registrar's update.

ASTTBC Website

- Now that we have a fulltime Communications & Marketing manager the work started after the AGM. A site review has been completed along with recommended updates and a new site map will be finalized in September. Work will be conducted by staff along with our web consultant.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

That the May - August 2020 ASTTBC CEO report be received by Council for information.

Prepared by: Theresa McCurry, Chief Executive Officer
Submitted: August 21, 2020