

## **REGISTRAR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**Prepared by Charles Joyner, AScT, Registrar**

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Presented to Council for information purposes, this report is a summary of registration, practice and compliance activities from January 1 to March 31, 2018.

### **Board of Examiners (BoE)**

The BoE and the many volunteer file reviewers continue to evaluate applications for technologist and technician certification and registration. As of January 1, 2018, Lloyd Van't Haaf, AScT is the BoE Chairperson taking over from Ken Lee, AScT. Ken served as Chairperson for over 11 years and continues to review files and serve on the BoE.

For more than a year the BoE policy has been under review and revision. The revised policy was approved by the BoE on March 26, 2018 and will be submitted to the Practice Review Board (PRB) for their endorsement on April 19, 2018. The revised policy will then be presented to Council in May 2018.

An opinion survey of 3,700 AScT members was conducted to address the recurring question of how much and what type of mathematics is essential for technologists active in their practice. The overall results from over 320 respondents indicate that almost 80% of respondents consider basic mathematics as somewhat or very essential. The result for advanced mathematics was 58% and for statistics 75% of respondents indicated somewhat or very essential. Further analysis of the survey data and discussion of the findings is needed to determine if any changes are warranted in the mathematics requirements for certification.

### **Practice Review Board (PRB)**

Several significant policy issues remain on the PRB agenda. Preparation of a policy on the rational and criteria for introducing new technical specialist designations is in the first draft and will be considered further at the April 19, 2018 PRB meeting. Another initiative mandated by Council is the development of a process framework to review the ASTT Act and revise the Regulations. The process framework will guide consultations and the work of a committee to complete a comprehensive revision of the Regulations. Work on various policies including the Practice Assessment Review (PAR) policy, the PRB policy and a revision to the CPD policy are also in progress.

### **Accreditation Board (AB)**

The Accreditation Board (AB) is in the process of concluding a program accreditation that has been ongoing for approximately 3 years. The delays are due in part to requirements requested by the AB to the training provider for modifications in the curriculum based on ASTTBC program accreditation standards. An application to accredit another program has been received and the process of recruiting subject matter expert's as auditors is underway.

### **Public Works Certification Board (PWCB)**

On March 15, 2018, Council approved the PWCB policy. The policy was a major revision and re-naming of the Public Works Inspection Certification Board (PWICB) policy. The substantial revision introduces the Registered Public Works Technicians (RPWT) designation to the existing three levels of Public Works Inspection certification. The composition of the Certification Board will be adjusted to reflect the new designation.

### **Property Inspection Certification Board (PICB)**

Following several years of the BC Government and Consumer protection BC (CPBC) striving to improve the licensing of house inspectors to little or no avail, the government has resumed active discussion with the home inspection industry, and notably with ASTTBC, to come up with an alternative to the current licensing regime. ASTTBC continues to be an active partner in this review and in concert with others has developed a proposal to present to the government to bring clarity to home inspection in BC and to the essential regulatory role ASTTBC has in this industry.

The ASTTBC Property Inspection Certification Board continues work on development of standards of training specific to electrical inspection relevant to both commercial and house inspections. It is hoped this training will be ready to be offered to members by June 2018.

Another event in the series of semi-annual full day Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions for Property Inspectors is being organized for May 24, 2018. The event is open to all ASTTBC members with an interest in the building-related topics being offered.

A new Property Inspection website has been developed and is now operational. The new site maintains the existing ASTTBC web theme, and allows staff to perform much-needed updates to the presentation of policies, procedures and general information for our members and the public.

### **Onsite Wastewater Certification Board (OWCB)**

ASTTBC has continues to support new applicants through the process of applying for Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) certification. Administering Practice Assessment Reviews (PARs) is ongoing with 18 PARs currently in progress. A network of ASTTBC approved Quality Assurance Specialists (QAS) serve as the subject matter experts actively conducting PARs in all regions of the Province.

ASTTBC regularly works with the Authorities Having Jurisdiction in Regional Districts, Municipalities and various government agencies by responding to technical questions and providing input on enhancements to various procedures. ASTTBC receives and responds to numerous enquiries from the public and from ROWPs regarding the professional reliance regulatory framework that applies to ROWPs.

Several initiatives are underway to support ROWP practice and to fulfill our mandate to protect the public interest. One such project is promoting awareness of the importance of regularly maintaining onsite wastewater systems. Another imitative is assisting regional districts that are developing local Sewerage Maintenance Bylaws and embarking on public education initiatives. Collaboration with industry groups such as the Western Canada Wastewater Management Association (WCOWMA) is another area of active involvement. In March 2018, ASTTBC staff participated in the annual WCOWMA conference in Kamloops.

### **Fire Protection Certification Board (FPCB)**

Employer demand for Registered Fire Protection Technicians (RFPT) continues to increase. Many existing RFPTs recognize the benefits of CPD and take training courses to increase the number of specialty endorsements for which they are certified. Many employers encourage and support their RFTPs through providing on-the-job opportunities to gain the experience required when adding a specialty endorsement.

The long awaited revision of the RFPT Practice Guidelines document is in the final approval stage at the Fire Protection Certification Board (FPCB) on April 4, 2018 then to the Practice Review Board (PRB) for April 19, 2018 and to Council on May 24, 2018. Extensive stakeholder consultations and multiple reviews by the FPCB and the PRB have led to the revised document titled *RFPT Standard of Practice*. Upon final approval by Council, ASTTBC will implement an information dissemination plan to inform

employers, RFPTs, Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of their respective roles and responsibilities in providing fire protection and life safety to the public.

The government funded fire protection technician-training program has received a third extension for an additional 15 trainees to prepare for careers as RFPTs. The 6-month training program includes job shadowing that provides opportunities for employers to identify potential new employees when they complete their program in September 31, 2018. First offered in 2016, this program has introduced over 30 new trainees into the fire protection technician industry.

#### **Construction Safety Certification Board (CSCB)**

The number of CSCB Registrants remains steady at 350 with new applications currently being processed. Review of the CSCB policy that was last revised in October 2013 is underway. Program Manager, Bruce Stevens, AScT will be attending the Western Conference on Safety in April. In cooperation with the Utility Locator Certification Board (ULCB) a series of 4 webinars on topics specific to construction safety and underground utility location will be presented throughout 2018.

#### **Utility Locator Certification Board (ULCB)**

Significant progress has been made in securing industry and municipal support and partnerships to increase the awareness and acceptance of Registered Utility Locator Technician (RULT) certification. Presentations were made to the BC Common Ground Alliance and the Public Works Association of BC Annual General Meetings, Fortis BC, Ledcor, Matcon Civil, and the cities of Surrey, Burnaby, Langley, Coquitlam and Kelowna, Metro Vancouver, Greater Vancouver Public Works Managers group and Public Works Association BC AGM. The RULT website has been developed and is now operational.