

## REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL

November 18, 2021

1. **SUBJECT: CEO Report for November 2021 Council Meeting**
2. **PURPOSE:** To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's activities for the period of September 21 – October 29, 2021.
3. **DISCUSSION:** This report will provide a summary of key activities that took place in the past month since the last report.

### Goal 1: Professional Legislation & Regulation

- Completed our second of four familiarization surveys with the OSPG and have started the third survey which is due on November 26, 2021.
- We have responded to the OSPG's request for summary of fines information for the past two year which was due in late October.
- Additionally, we have also responded to the OSPG's request for practice guide information not public – we don't not have any. All ASTTBC practice guidance is posted onto the website and not in a private area.
- As per our meeting in September with the BC Institute of Agrologists we are proceeding with next steps on how to manage overlap in our respective practices.
- We anticipate discussions with the other PGA regulatory bodies regarding practice overlap in 2022.

### Goal 2: Qualified Professionals

- Enhancing the safety and protection of British Columbians by utilizing and removing barriers for Qualified Professionals, ensuring inclusion and diversity. Final results of our AWET project including new research will be released in late November pending final approval of materials from government.
- ASTTBC is committed to supporting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, including supporting the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration). A lot of CPD information has been provided on this topic including during the October 20 webinar to registrants.
- Notification has gone out about CPD requirements to individuals, noting if they are potentially not meeting requirements. Some people are electing to leave which is better overall for those who continue to be registered as we need competent and committed professionals performing this work.

#### **Goal 4: Registrant Services**

##### Indigenous Reconciliation Continuing Professional Development

- To date more than 2000 people have registered for the courses that we are offering with our partner Indigenous Awareness Canada.

#### **Goal 5: Governance**

##### ASTTBC demonstrates sound financial management.

- ASTTBC continues to invest in employees in training and attracting staff with regulatory experience.
- Regular meetings to review the budget versus actuals takes place monthly with the CEO and Finance Manager as well as updates to the Vice President.

##### We are investing in staff to meet our regulatory obligations.

- Role clarity and a clearer division of labour has taken place. We have separated complaints and discipline from professional practice and/or registration to protect the integrity of the sensitive nature of the work performed.
- We have more staff engaged in our OSPG audit surveys.
- Lots of training has occurred across all departments.
- Ensuring we have the proper staffing compliment has put budget pressure on the organization.
- Legal counsel is actively engaged as a matter of practice for all departments. We are fortunate to have such competent partners who are also providing training.

##### IT Optimization

- As we continue to improve our remote work experience, we have upgraded the phone system to VoIP so that staff can have access to their business lines on their computers and their mobile phones.
- We have also upgraded the system in the office and wait to perform a full upgrade when we know when we will be fully utilizing the office.
- Our Technology Registrations Canada portal has been upgraded with enhance features which should assist new registration applicants in their experience as well as file assessors who are required to review documents.
- The digitization of the office has begun with the expectation that this will be a 6-month project.

##### Communicable Disease Safety

- ASTTBC will work in a hybrid model when it is safe to do so.
- Currently some staff come into the office, but it remains closed to visitors.

- When working in the office staff have temperature checks, wear masks in hallways and the Board room, and we still have a limit as to how many people can work in the office at a given time.

**4. RECOMMENDATION:**

That the final ASTTBC CEO report for 2021 be received by Council for information.

Prepared by: Theresa McCurry, Chief Executive Officer

Submitted: October 26, 2021