

## REPORT TO ASTTBC COUNCIL

Meeting date: November 18, 2021

**1. SUBJECT: Registrar Report for November 2021 Council Meeting**

**2. PURPOSE:**

To provide Council with a summary of ASTTBC's regulatory activities for the period of September 15, 2021 to October 28, 2021.

**3. DISCUSSION:**

Change management remains an ongoing theme in ASTTBC's first year as a *PGA* regulator. ASTTBC staff continue to harmonize legacy processes and develop new policies and procedures to meet the new requirements of the *PGA* and bylaws. Revised registration and practice review procedures are underway, and we expect to have drafts prepared in time for the third phase of the OSPG's familiarization audit in late November. As part of that process, we are also beginning a review of examination content and delivery methods.

Now that contracts are concluded, work will soon begin on our new Regulatory Information System (RIS). We are hopeful that the minimum viable product, including a register dynamically linked to the back-end database, will be available as early as July 2022. Subsequent priorities will include high volume areas such as registration renewal and recording of continuing professional development credits.

ASTTBC's first *PGA* registration renewal is now underway. Now that ASTTBC is a *PGA* regulator, its renewal requirements and timeline are different from those of previous years. Registrants are required to make declarations about their practice and continuing professional development hours prior to payment of their renewal fees, and there is less flexibility as to fees and deadlines than in previous years. To ensure fair decision-making, ASTTBC has developed a policy regarding fee reductions and waivers, as well as extensions of time to complete continuing professional development hours.

As part of its commitment to supportive regulation, ASTTBC has recognized that many registrants require additional assistance in adjusting to these changes and responded to that need. In early October, for example, we provided a lunchtime webinar covering topics such as ASTTBC's role as a *PGA* regulator, the importance of self-regulation, and the registration renewal process.

The webinar also addressed the importance of continuing professional development. We emphasized technology professionals' pride in being open-minded, curious, life-long learners, the privilege of being part of a self-regulating profession, and the corresponding responsibility of all professionals to the society in which they live and work. In that context, we highlighted the importance of the continuing professional development requirement in respect of Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and ASTTBC's proactive decision to arrange free access to a suitable course for all registrants. The webinar was our best-attended yet, and well received.

We anticipate that the already unusually high call and email volume associated with our first year of renewal and continuing professional development under the *PGA* will

increase toward the end of November and into December. To ensure that staff and registrants alike are supported through this time, we have provided staff with special training in conflict management in a high-volume context and have contracted temporary additional reception staff to assist registrants in completing their renewals and recording their continuing professional development hours.

Committee work marches on; the fifth meeting of the Credentials Committee and third meeting of the Investigation Committee will be held before the end of the year. Online committee member training sessions are under production and will be delivered prior to the winter holidays; some staff and committee members have already attended courses on administrative justice and writing good reasons for decision this fall.

On behalf of regulatory staff, we thank Council for governing ASTTBC through this extraordinary year of change and wish all Council members a very happy, healthy holiday season.

**4. RECOMMENDATION:**

That the ASTTBC Registrar report be received by Council for information.

Report Prepared: Phillipa Stanaway, Registrar

Submitted: October 28, 2021