

ASTTBCONNECT

Registered. Accountable. Qualified.

ISSUE 166:
July–Sept 2024

*Installation of the bridge
on the royal Canadian navy's
future joint support ship.
Photo courtesy of Seaspan*



ASTTBC is in Victoria! Join us for a CPD & networking event

A graphic for Indigenous Awareness Training. It features a white feather in the center, set against a background of blue mountains and a clear sky. The text is white and positioned below the feather.

Indigenous Awareness Training

Each year registrants are required to complete a minimum of two hours of training or activity on the topic of Indigenous Awareness.

MORE INFO

Land Acknowledgement

Headquartered in Surrey, BC, ASTTBC acknowledges the traditional Lands of the Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt and Tsawwassen Peoples.

We thank our hosts for their graciousness in welcoming us to carry out our work on their Land.

In so doing, we recognize their inherent Indigenous rights and title, the implementation without qualification of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and our support for the 94 calls to action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



MISSION

We serve the public by contributing to a safe, sustainable society and environment by regulating technology professionals. We accomplish this through supporting the competent, safe, and ethical practice of applied science technology in British Columbia.

VISION

Regulation of technology professionals that safeguards the public through leadership and excellence.

Disclaimer. ASTTBC makes no endorsement or guarantee as to the quality or suitability of any activity, professional, product, or service advertised with ASTTBC.

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ASTTBC TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS

ISSUE 166

July–Sept 2024

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EDITOR:

Cara Christopherson
604-585-2788 ext. 501
cchristopherson@asttbc.org

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The Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) regulates approximately 7,000 applied science and engineering technology professionals in British Columbia under the *Professional Governance Act (PGA)*.

For more information, please visit asttbc.org

Chair & CEO Message



Ken Zeleschuk

ASTTBC Chair

We hope you are enjoying the last few weeks of summer and have had the opportunity to spend time with your loved ones.

Since the [May 8th announcement on reserved practice](#), ASTTBC has been steadfast in planning for the months and years ahead. This announcement, which we had eagerly anticipated, allowed us to kick off projects to assist us in the collection of information. This information will be shared with the government to help shape future regulations for reserved practice and will also support our ongoing discussions with Engineers and Geoscientists BC.



Theresa McCurry

ASTTBC Chief Executive Officer

Over the summer, ASTTBC and EGBC partnered on a research project exploring how engineering and applied science technology professionals work together in practice. Information was gathered through focus groups hosted by a third party, and we would like to thank everyone who participated. Your feedback is invaluable and will guide ASTTBC in our decision-making. This is just the beginning, and there will be more opportunities for you to provide input.

Next month, we are thrilled to host a continuing professional development (CPD) and networking event in the beautiful city of Victoria, our province's capital. If you haven't already registered, [we encourage you to join us](#). The CPD session will be hosted by ASTTBC registrar Michael Thain, and ASTTBC director of professional practice and development Jason Jung. The session titled: ***When practice goes wrong: learning from others' mistakes to improve your practice***, will examine practice pitfalls from existing case studies and complaints.

We are excited about our future and look forward to providing more project updates over the next few months.

As always, we appreciate your support as we do our best to adapt, innovate, and improve to meet future challenges, always prioritizing the community's safety.



ASTTBC Chair

Ken Zeleschuk, ASCT, PTech, RTMgr, MBA, Dipl.T



ASTTBC CEO

Theresa McCurry, BSc, PMP



ASTTBC is in *Victoria!*

*Join us for a CPD
& networking event*

September 25, 2024
4:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Grand Pacific Hotel

Register now by logging in to your **ASTTBC account** > click the 'Events' tab > click 'ASTTBC is in Victoria! Join us for a CPD & networking event' > click 'Register myself' > follow the prompts to complete registration.

ASTTBC TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSIONALS



Registration Builds Trust with Clients and the Public

Written by ASTTBC CEO Theresa McCurry

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, in collaboration with the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) and Engineers and Geoscientists BC (EGBC), issued an [update on reserved practice](#) on May 8, 2024. Establishing a reserved practice for ASTTBC would mean that technologists and technicians must register to engage in work outside the reserved practice of engineering where there is risk to public health or safety. Currently there is no mechanism to ensure that applied science technology work is conducted by qualified individuals who are accountable for adhering to the professional and ethical standards of the *Professional Governance Act (PGA)*.

You may wonder why someone should be registered with ASTTBC, or perhaps you are a member of the public and would like to know why you should hire a regulated professional?



There are many important reasons for this, which are the same as those for creating a reserved scope of practice for engineering technologists and technicians. These may include, but may not be limited to:

1. **Ensuring public safety.** Reserved practice in a regulation ensures that only qualified people are allowed to practice engineering technology which is crucial to public safety. Engineering projects often involve critical structures and systems where a failure can lead to catastrophic consequences. Regulations ensure that registrants have the necessary knowledge and skills to perform the work in these important projects.
2. **Protecting the public interest.** ASTTBC serves to protect the public interest by ensuring that technology professionals practice within their areas of expertise and adhere to a code of conduct. This oversight may reduce risk of unethical behaviour and substandard work which has the potential to harm the public and the environment.
3. **Maintaining professional standards.** ASTTBC sets ethical guidelines and technical standards that engineering technology professionals must adhere to which promotes integrity, competence and responsibility in the profession.
4. **Enhancing professional credibility.** Trust is essential for this profession. The credibility and reputation of engineering technology professionals is enhanced as a regulated profession. It assures employers, clients and the public that the individual has met rigorous education and experience requirements.
5. **Credibility and accountability.** Reserved practice would establish a scope of practice for technology professionals thus clarifying roles and responsibilities and providing enhanced credibility of work performed across different regions and countries. Regulated professionals can seek out professional practice guidance and can be held accountable by ASTTBC through disciplinary actions which maintains the integrity of the profession.
6. **Encouraging continuing professional development.** The PGA has requirements for continuing professional development (CPD). This encourages engineering technology professionals to keep their skills and knowledge current with the latest advancements and best practices in the sector, which ensures ongoing competency.
7. **Promoting ethical practices.** Being part of a regulated profession requires registrants to follow a code of conduct and helps prevent conflicts of interest, ensures transparency and promotes fair treatment of the public and clients.
8. **Building public trust.** Demonstrating a commitment to upholding high standards and protecting the public is a sure-fire way to gain support and confidence in the work of technology professionals.

Ultimately, the work of technology professionals is highly technical and can have high risk associated with it and should not be performed by the general public. This work should be performed by qualified and accountable professionals who are committed to being regulated and responsible for their work. ■

ASTTBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023/2024

Under the Professional Governance Act, 'council' is referred to as 'board of directors', 'president' is 'chair' and 'vice-president' is 'vice chair.'

Chair

Ken Zeleschuk, AScT, PTech, RTMgr, MBA, Dipl.T

Vice Chair

Brian F. Davies, CTech, RSIS, CGM

Past Chair

David Sparanese, AScT, PTech, CPWI 3

Registrant directors:

Dana Graves, AScT, CSO

Carlo Vijandre, AScT, PMP, FMP, SFP, CSSBB

Prakash Joshi, AScT, PTech, PLEng

Randy Meszaros, AScT, PMP, CET

Kerry Barth, AScT

Lay directors:

Mary O'Callaghan, MBA, FCMC

Oluwatobi (Tobi) Abisoye, LLB, LLM

Terry W. Hawes, LLM, MBA, CPA, CGA, CFE, C.Dir.

Natasha Dookie, BA, CPHR, JD

ASTTBC is proud to welcome **Terry W. Hawes** and **Natasha Dookie** as government-appointed lay directors. Their expertise and perspectives will bring valuable insights to our board and we look forward to their contributions.

*ASTTBC extends its heartfelt thanks to **James Coble** and **Roslyn Kunin** for their dedicated service as lay directors. Their experience, skills, and expertise have been pivotal in advancing our goals and ensuring our continued success.*



International Credentials Recognition Act Enacted

On July 1, 2024, British Columbia enacted the *International Credentials Recognition Act*, facilitating a smoother path forward for internationally trained professionals to work in their chosen fields.

The Act increases fairness, efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the credential recognition process. It mandates 18 regulatory bodies, including ASTTBC, to eliminate barriers in 29 professions, expediting and simplifying credential recognition for qualified professionals, regardless of where they were trained.

“ASTTBC welcomes applied science and engineering technology professionals educated or trained outside of Canada,”

says ASTTBC CEO, Theresa McCurry.

“In 2023 ASTTBC removed the requirement for Canadian experience as we recognized it was an unnecessary and unfair barrier to practice. We are committed to fairly and efficiently evaluating all applications to ensure they meet the new standards for entry to practice in BC.”

Regulatory bodies have an important role in ensuring qualified professionals, regardless of where they were trained, can work in their chosen fields. The Act eliminates the catch-22 of requiring Canadian work experience before accreditation, a standard already implemented by ASTTBC. The new Act also removes redundant language testing and grants the government authority to set caps on processing times.

“To further support internationally trained applicants, ASTTBC created several resources including flowcharts, a handbook, and outlined a step-by-step process which can be found on our [website](#),” says McCurry.

The province anticipates approximately one million job openings within the next decade, many of which will need to be filled by internationally trained professionals. Professions impacted by this Act include technology professionals, engineers, social workers, veterinarians, paramedics, early childhood educators, teachers, biologists, land surveyors, architects, and more.

Next Steps:

Transition period

January 1, 2025:

Regulations defining prohibited Canadian work experience and outlining exemptions come into effect

July 1, 2025:

Prohibition on requiring Canadian work experience comes into effect

More information can be found on the [BC Government website](#). ■



Record your CPD!

Deadline is November 30th



The annual deadline for completing and logging your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is November 30, 2024. Registrants are required to complete 12 CPD hours annually, including two hours of training or activity focused on Indigenous awareness and reconciliation, and record them through your [ASTTBC account](#).

Why is Indigenous Awareness CPD important?

Indigenous Awareness CPD strengthens knowledge, awareness, and skills for working with and providing services to Indigenous Peoples and communities. Enhanced understanding supports ASTTBC registrants in working more safely and effectively with Indigenous Peoples and helps them consider their role in correcting, rebuilding, and transforming systems to eliminate Indigenous-specific racism.

To help you complete your 2024 CPD requirements, we have listed several resources on our website, including:

- tutorials, [frequently asked questions](#), [guidance material](#), and a [how-to video on recording your CPD](#)
- resources to help you complete your minimum two hours of [Indigenous Awareness training](#) or activity
- [CPD webinars](#) to answer questions you may have as well as help you navigate the CPD reporting system



ASTTBC's [guideline on Continuing Professional Development](#) provides a straightforward explanation of your CPD requirements and examples of what is considered an eligible versus an ineligible activity.

As a reminder, if a registrant does not complete their CPD requirements by the annual deadline, the registrar may impose a fine. In some cases, the Audit and Practice Review Committee may also request a practice review.

ASTTBC staff are available at any time to assist registrants facing difficulties in meeting their CPD requirements. In extenuating circumstances, the registrar can review a request for an extension to complete CPD requirements, or offer accommodations. Please review the [CPD Extension and Accommodation Policy](#) for further information.

If you have any questions or need support, please visit our [CPD resource page](#).

Renewals are also approaching, with a payment deadline of November 30, 2024. ■



Canada Energy Regulator Efficiency Project

The Canada Energy Regulator (CER) is considering replacing the Section 58 Streamlining Order and the Decommissioning Exemption Order with a simplified project review process for certain negligible-risk and low-risk activities. Project details and a Discussion Paper are posted on the [CER Dialogue Page](#).

The CER is now initiating engagement with Indigenous Peoples, CER-regulated companies, landowners and other interested persons on the intent and approach of the Efficiency Project.

Engagement will continue until **October 31, 2024**.

All feedback is welcome by email: Efficiency_Project@cer-rec.gc.ca. ■

Provisional, associate, graduate technologist and graduate technician registrations ending December 31, 2024

ASTTBC would like to remind individuals holding provisional, associate, graduate technologist, or graduate technician designations that these categories will be sunset as of **December 31, 2024**.

If you currently hold a designation in any of the above categories and wish to continue as an ASTTBC registrant, you must apply to reclassify. Your application must be approved before September 30, 2024. If you choose not to reclassify before September 30, 2024, or are ineligible for reclassification, you will not be invited to renew for 2025, and your registration will be cancelled January 1, 2025. Should you wish to pursue registration in the future, you would need to reapply. Individuals who hold dual registration with ASTTBC must continue to meet the requirements of their other designation(s) to maintain their registration.

Affected registrants were initially informed of these changes in March 2023, and ASTTBC has continued this outreach. Additional information can be found on the [ASTTBC website](#).

Registration with ASTTBC is becoming increasingly important, as discussions and initiatives are in progress to define a scope of practice exclusively for ASTTBC registrants. This means in the future, registration may be mandatory to perform certain types of

work. ASTTBC values your registration and encourages you to consider reclassification. Your years of on-the-job learning and work experience will be carefully considered during the competency-based online application process.

If you have any questions about the options available to you, reclassification requirements or how to complete your online application please contact us at registrations@asttbc.org ■





Canadian Electrical Code Changes

Effective March 4, 2025, Technical Safety BC will adopt the 26th Edition of the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I (Safety Standard for Electrical Installations, CSA Standard C22.1-24) as the new BC Electrical Code.

The new code includes changes to support electrical workers in the safe installation and maintenance of electrical systems and equipment and advances safety and innovation in several domains, including new electrical vehicle supply equipment and energy storage system requirements, alignment with other codes, and new requirements and clarifications.

There are also some critical changes related to the repeal of previously prohibited t-tap connectors.

For more information on the timelines for implementation and further details regarding the changes, please [click here](#).

With some exceptions, work performed under installation permits issued prior to March 4, 2025, must comply with the 2022 (25th) edition until the work under the permit is completed. All electrical work subject to the BC Electrical Code conducted from March 4, 2025, onward will require compliance with the Canadian Electrical Code, Part I, 26th Edition, Safety Standard for Electrical Installations, Canadian Standards Association Standard C22.1-24. ■



Information Bulletin:

Adoption of Boiler, Pressure Vessel, and Refrigeration Codes

The Province of British Columbia has published Ministerial Order [M225-2024](#) that provides amendments to the Power Engineers, Boiler, Pressure Vessel and Refrigeration Safety Regulation (PEBPVRSR). These amendments will update the Schedule to the PEBPVRSR by adopting the new editions of the codes. Other amendments will introduce necessary editorial changes to align with the adopted codes.

Please click this link to review the bulletin:

[Technical Safety BC: Boiler, Pressure Vessel, Refrigeration Code Adoption](#)





Join ASTTBC's Young Professionals Group (YPG) — *engage and make a difference!*

About YPG

ASTTBC's Young Professionals Group (YPG) is dedicated to fostering the growth and development of individuals who have worked in the applied science technology profession for less than 10 years or who are under the age of 40. The group is currently looking for members from all regions to join the YPG committee for a low-commitment, monthly, one-hour meeting. Being part of the committee is a great way to learn more about what ASTTBC does and how it can improve and shape the future of young ASTTBC registrants with the benefit of earning CPD hours. For more information, reach out to the committee at asttbcypg@gmail.com.

StrongerBC Future Skills Grant



StrongerBC

The StrongerBC Future Skills Grant is open to British Columbians aged 19 years or older — regardless of financial need — and covers up to \$3,500 per person for eligible short-term skills training at public post-secondary institutions.

LEARN MORE



REGISTRANT UPDATE

New AScT:

Cynthia Barros
Paolo Duarte
Justin Frehner
Alexander Fullerton
Christopher Jaeger Galicha
Brett Gibson
Jason Gill
Jason He
Kevin Hong
Corey Laing
Arcot Lee
Devin Magee
Riley Moore
Daniel Napper
Michael Parolin
Venkata Rama Satyanarayana Raju
Rudraraju
James Schafer
Sofia Senin
Dillon Spence
Brett Tataryn
Tharsigan Thiruselvam
Christopher Walker

New RTS:

Hassan Aoun
Antonio Briglio
Jennifer Lana Brown
Clay Brown
Steven Butler
Matthew Cheung
Nathan Dalton
Carson Garneau
Carson Henning
Liban Jama
Ryan Keely
Stephen Kelly
Gary Krilow
Jonathan Lu
Joshua Lynch
Dakota Merrill
Ross Parnell
Luke Pavlovic
Troy Richardson
David Roughsedge
Bradley Watson

New CTech:

Jomari Gaza
Cameron Harris
Vinesh Lal
Jason MacPherson
Adam Matheson
Anex Mathew
Jeffrey Morrison
Kane Oaten
Brandon Salter
Gopinath Sathya Narayanan
Gaurav Sharma
Hojae Shin
Nicholas Van Dalen
Scott Wilson

Retired:

Brian Taylor

In Memoriam:

Douglas Duncan



REGISTRANT SERVICES

Our partners offer exclusive rates on their products and services. Follow the links below to learn more:

- » [Willis Towers Watson](#)
- » [TD Insurance Meloche Monnex](#)
- » [Manulife](#)

To access insurance and other ASTTBC group benefits including discounts to the PNE/Playland, Mark's Work Warehouse and more, please log into your [ASTTBC account](#). Once logged on, click the '**Resources**' tab for more information.

JOB BOARD

[Engineering Technician IV](#)

District of Saanich

Saanich, BC

Closing date: 09-15-2024

[Planning & Design Technologist 2](#)

FortisBC

Trail, BC

Until filled

[Instrumentation and Control](#)

[System Technician](#)

Aquatera Utilities Inc.

Grande Prairie, AB

Until filled

[Planning Engineer, Utilities](#)

Municipality of North Cowichan

Duncan, BC

Closing date: 09-13-2024

[Project Coordinator, Terminal Construction](#)

BC Ferries

Victoria, BC

Closing Date 09-06-2024



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