

Qualifications Board 2016 and Beyond

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Outline of Presentation

- About QB
- Who we are
- What we do
- Committees
- What we heard
- Next steps



What is the Qualifications Board?

A standing committee of Engineers Canada created in 1986

- terms of reference are set by the EC Board (GP-9.6)
 - purpose of QB
 - what QB is tasked to do
 - composition
 - authority
- membership is approved by the EC Board
- workplan is approved by the EC Board

QB = Volunteers

- Chair
- Vice-chair
- Past chair
- 7 regional members
- 2 members-at-large
- 2 Board representatives



Our Members

- Frank Collins
- Roydon Fraser
- Gary Faulkner
- Jerry Helfrich
- William Jackson
- Ron LeBlanc
- Diane Riopel
- Usha Kuruganti
- Mahmoud Mahmoud



Board Representatives

Two members of the EC Board are appointed as non-voting Board representatives to QB

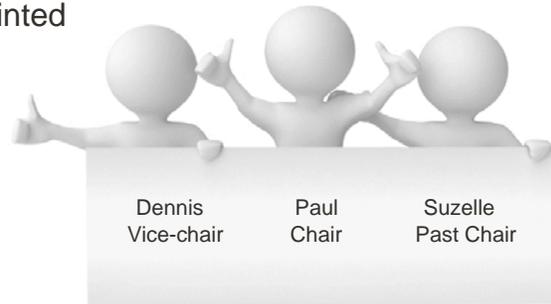
- two year terms
- no terms of reference

- Nazmi Lawen
- Richard Trimble



Executive Committee

- Comprised of a chair, vice-chair and past chair
- Chair and vice-chair are appointed by the EC Board
- Chair: Paul Blanchard
- Vice-chair: Dennis Peters
- Past chair: Suzelle Barrington



QB was created 30 years ago

Original Statement of intent (1986)

- prepare and update the uniform syllabus of examinations
- facilitate the preparation of examinations based on the syllabus
- monitor foreign engineering institutions
- monitor the immigrant assessment program
- provide other services related to engineering qualifications as directed by the Board
- also the intent that the examination service could provide a uniform minimum standard for the second entry route into the profession

QB in 2016

Purpose (Terms of Reference GP-9.6)

- to enhance the Board's effectiveness and efficiency on matters related to qualifications for and the practice of engineering
- to promote the establishment of consistent practices and shared programs for the regulation of the practice of engineering



What QB is tasked to produce

Research, national guidelines and other guidance related to

- admissions
- foreign credential recognition
- professional practice examination
- engineers-in-training
- continuing competence and professional development
- practice of engineering
- sustainability and the environment
- code of ethics
- other issues of national importance



What QB is tasked to produce (cont.)

- the uniform syllabus of examinations for candidates from other than Accreditation Board-accredited or -recognized programs
- information to the Board and committees, and constituent associations on matters pertaining to registration and the practice of engineering in Canada
- communication, mutual understanding and collaboration with targeted industry sectors and other employers of engineers on issues related to qualifications

What QB is tasked to produce (cont.)

- licensing requirements and continuing professional development of engineers
- information for the Board and committees, and constituent associations on emerging areas of engineering practice
- information to the Board and committees, and the Engineers Canada constituent associations on trends, emergent issues and future directions related to the practice of engineering

QB work is done by subcommittees

- Subcommittees are comprised of volunteers and regulators' staff
- All subcommittees have a terms of reference approved by QB
- All subcommittees have a workplan developed with input from the regulators
- All workplans are approved by the EC Board



QB Subcommittees

- Admissions Issues
- Continuing Competence
- Engineer-in-training
- Environment & Sustainability
- Good Character
- International Engineer Academic Qualifications
- Practice
- Syllabus
- Software Engineering

Admissions Issues Committee

Mandate

- To support the admissions activities of the constituent associations and to enhance the relationships between the associations, the admissions officials and the Qualifications Board.

Volunteers

- G. Faulkner (chair)
- P. Blanchard
- R. Fraser
- D. Riopel
- W. Jackson

Regulator staff

- M. Neth
- T. Maki
- B. Cyr

Continuing Competence Committee

Mandate

- To enhance the relationships among the constituent associations and the Qualifications Board in support of continuing professional development and continuing competence activities carried out across the country.

Volunteers

- P. Blanchard (chair)
- M. Mahmoud
- R. Leblanc

Regulator staff

- K. Sisk
- A. Peach

Engineer-in-training Committee

Mandate

- Helps with student and engineer-in-training-related activities and initiatives, by developing tools and documents to facilitate the licensure of engineers-in-training and to work towards more mobility for them.

Volunteers

- S. Barrington (chair)
- R. Leblanc
- W. Jackson

Regulator staff

- S. Beaulieu
- J. Chau
- L. Dupas
- J. Ong

CFES Representative

- J. Dalphy

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Mandate

- To monitor, report and develop responses to environment, sustainability and climate change issues at the national level on behalf of the Qualifications Board.

Volunteers

- S. Barrington (chair)
- J. Helfrich
- M. Mahmoud

Regulator staff

- A. Kosteltz
- J. Van Dusen
- C. Feetham
- P. Fesko
- R. Rettie
- D. Isabel

International Engineering Academic Qualifications Committee

Mandate

- To develop and recommend criteria to assist the constituent associations with consistent assessment of international engineering graduates.

Volunteers

- R. Fraser (chair)
- G. Faulkner

Regulator staff

- T. Maki
- M. Neth
- G. Pichler
- M. Fewer
- M. Price
- S. Beaulieu

Practice Committee

Mandate

- The Practice Committee exists to enhance the relationships among the constituent associations and the Qualifications Board in support of professional practice activities. This is accomplished through the dissemination of best practices, inter-association knowledge exchange and the development of national model guides. The Committee acts as a resource for the Qualifications Board to study, make recommendations, and provide advice on issues of professional practice.

Practice Committee

Volunteers

- J. Helfrich (chair)
- D. Peters
- F. Collins
- M. Mahmoud

Regulator staff

- J. Vandenberghe

Syllabus Committee

Mandate

- To develop and update the Technical Examination Syllabi and their related documents, and provide a mechanism to identify and create examination syllabi for emerging engineering disciplines.

Volunteers

- F. Collins (chair)
- D. Riopel
- U. Kuruganti

Regulator staff

- n/a

Software Engineering Committee

Mandate

- To consider the issue of software engineering, including both licensure and enforcement activities.

Volunteers

- D. Peters (chair)
- G. Comrie
- P. Botman
- N. Douville
- C. Zinck

Regulator staff

- n/a

Good Character Task Force

Mandate

- To develop a more robust definition of good character and to suggest methods, procedures or policies for assessing character during admissions and for holding registrants to the same standard.

Volunteers

- D. Peters (chair)
- M. Mahmoud

Regulator staff

- M. Gregoire
- G. Pichler

September 2015 Workshop

- Workshop objective was to improve communication between QB and the regulators
- Attended by
 - Regulator staff
 - QB members
 - Engineers Canada staff
 - Engineers Canada President and Past President

September 2015 Workshop

Three issues were identified relating to

- overlapping efforts of QB, the regulators and Engineers Canada
- communications
- Engineers Canada's governance structure

September 2015 Workshop

Participants identified the need for QB to

- establish clear priorities
- respond to regulators' priorities
- leverage the subject matter expertise of QB members
- be coordinated/supported by Engineers Canada staff

What else we heard

- The QB workplan is too ambitious
- QB products take too long to produce
- QB is not working on what it should be working on
- Need to coordinate work as QB, the regulators and Engineers Canada operational committees have overlapping work efforts
- The Engineers Canada CEO is best situated to coordinate work efforts



What else we heard

About the QB workplan

- Too ambitious!
- Consider a two or three year rolling workplan with milestones and reporting based on project management principles
- QB is not working on what it should be working on
 - Consultation with regulators on the development of the workplan needs to be improved
- Products should be developed taking into consideration existing regulators' guidelines, etc.

How we are addressing your concerns

1. A new operational policy designates a QB secretary to provide a vital communications link between QB, the regulators and Engineers Canada operational committees
2. An analysis of alignment between QB documents and the Framework has been completed
3. An analysis of all QB work v the Ends has been completed
4. An analysis of the status of all QB documents and identification of the steps required to finalize has been completed

We are here to help

- The QB is moving forward with a prioritized 2016 Work Plan which the Regulators have helped to create.
- Further improvements are being discussed and we are looking to the Regulators, the Engineers Canada Board and Engineers Canada operations to continue to identify priorities and to support the work QB does to assist the Regulators and the profession.



Questions and Comments



Follow-up comments welcome by e-mail or telephone

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