

July 18, 2016

Kim Allen, CEO Engineers Canada
consultation@engineersCanada.ca

Dear Sir:

Re: Consultation on Proposed Accreditation Criteria 2016

Please find our comments on the proposed accreditation criteria 2016, specifically Part A – proposed change to criteria 3.4.6 minimum program content.

We support the importance of educational innovation while ensuring that the quality of engineering programs is maintained or improved. While we support the concept of a bank of AU's dedicated to "Additional Relevant Learning" we feel that a reduction of core AU's to 1545 may be too severe and could limit our ability to mount a high quality Engineering program that does not impact "the overall quality of an engineering degree". We would like to see a more moderate reduction in the AU's to accommodate the 405 AU's for Additional Relevant Learning.

In addition, we feel that significantly reducing the AU content while embarking and becoming comfortable with program assessment by outcomes may be premature and could dilute resources and add confusion by pursuing simultaneously two changes. We feel that it would be better to use time and resources for developing an efficient program assessment by outcomes. Once the program assessment process by outcomes is well developed then time and resources could be redirected to examine more substantive changes to the AU content.

We have no comments with regard to the "Housekeeping" changes in part B.

Sincerely,



J. Richard Culham
Acting Dean, faculty of Engineering
University of Waterloo

