

Progress Report on Accreditation Matters
February 16, 2017

This progress report provides an update of actions resulting from the Engineers Canada Board decisions in September 2016 (see Appendix A) and recommendations from the Forum on Accreditation held in August 2016 (see Appendix B).

		Who	Status / Comments / Next Steps
Actions resulting from Board Decisions			
1	Amend the criteria to reflect the approved housekeeping changes	EC staff	Completed. Note clarifications required from Engineers Canada Board. New criteria report to be published on the Accreditation Resources page of the Engineers Canada website. Changes are highlighted in the document.
2	Amend the criteria to reflect Option 2 for the 2017-18 cycle	EC staff	Completed
3	Develop an interpretive statement for additional relevant learning to address concerns expressed by the regulators	AB	Completed
Recommendations from the Forum on Accreditation			
1	Establish an annual accreditation Forum.	EC staff	No annual forum deemed necessary – will be held if and when required.
2	Determine and formalize methods for ongoing engagement with regulators, industry, HEIs and engineering students.	AB & EC staff	<p>Draft communications & engagement strategy has been developed</p> <p>Some recent/ ongoing AB engagement examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with NAOG in June and September • Met with NCDEAS in November • Presented at 3rd annual GA/CI Summit in Toronto attended by Ontario HEIs re graduate attributes and continual improvement initiate feedback • Meeting with HEI program chairs re 2017/18 AB upcoming visits in February • CEO group meeting in July • AB members to be asked to annually report to regulators on AB activities and decisions. Presentation template to be created for use by AB volunteers. • February 12 workshops for programs receiving visits to meet with visiting team chairs. • March 7 Atlantic meeting on GA/CI in Moncton

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulators' staff and EC Board members to be reminded of standing invitation to observe visits
3	Clarify and communicate the purpose and objectives of accreditation.	AB & EC staff	<p>Purpose and objectives were confirmed at the September 2016 Board meeting.</p> <p>Ongoing communications required regarding purpose and objectives. Additional resources will focus on communications projects.</p>
4	Adopt a structured change management approach to guide next steps.	EC staff	No progress made. New change manager joining EC in January.
5	Follow-through on the priority recommendations (identified by the participants).		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify Required Curriculum Assessment Changes or Alternatives to the Current AB Criteria (alternatives to AU curriculum assessment process) to Assess Minimum Path Licensure Requirements 	AB & EC staff	<p>Determine current criteria problems, do a root cause analysis, propose solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task group established on February 11, 2017. One NCDEAS representative to be included Survey HEIs on current in-put assessment deficiencies and suggested criteria changes Develop a white paper considering; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> current outcomes assessment processes in other jurisdictions educational best practices in other jurisdictions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Approval (of significant changes) 	AB	Interpretive statement discussed at February 11 meeting, further development required
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamline the Process (risk based auditing to reduce redundancies and costs) 	P&P and DLC	This is an ongoing objective of the P&P/DLC but that additional information is required from stakeholders on what "risk-based auditing processes" are required. Additional information required
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular (annual) meeting (with stakeholders) 	AB	An annual meeting of stakeholders will be held if stakeholders feel that such a meeting is required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Process (digital-based information exchange) 	EC Staff	<p>Collaboration space initiated for document sharing</p> <p>Business case has been developed for online accreditation management system. Business analyst will be engaged in early 2017.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Communication (stakeholder engagement) 	AB & EC staff	Draft communications & engagement strategy has been developed. Consultation on the strategy started at AB meeting of February 11. Further information gathering

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see previous comments above. 		<p>planned for the February 27 Eng. Cda workshop</p> <p>Some recent/proposed engagement examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with NAOG in June and September • Met with NCDEAS in November • Presented at 3rd annual GA/CI Summit in Toronto attended by Ontario HEIs re graduate attributes and continual improvement • Meeting with HEI program chairs re upcoming visits in February • Planning to meet with CEO group in July • Discussions with CEQB on an acceptable assessment practices in line with CEAB process (The CEQB is looking at the feasibility of developing an assessment process that is harmonized with that of the CEAB).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student involvement in the Accreditation Process 	AB	Strategy with students to be further assessed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other gems (from Book of Proceedings) 	EC staff	Mine Book of Proceeding for gems
6	Develop a plan for the future of accreditation	Stakeholders	<p>Suggestions and comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the purpose of accreditation remains the same, there is a need to continue with an inputs/output assessment system. • Identify specific problems with current system. Appropriate criteria changes will be made in consultation with stakeholders"