

– February 2014 Board Meeting Summary –

Accreditation Board and Qualifications Board

Appointments

The Board approved the nominations of the following new Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board members: Luigi Benedicenti, P.Eng. (SK), J. Pemberton Cyrus, FEC, P.Eng. (NS), Robert Dony, FEC, P.Eng. (ON), and Jeff Pieper, P.Eng. (AB), and the following new Canadian Engineering Qualifications Board members: Frank Collins, P.Eng. (NB), Roydon Fraser, PhD, P.Eng., FEC (ON), Mahmoud Mahmoud, FEC, P.Eng., PhD (BC).

Alberta Human Rights Tribunal

The Board committed the Chief Executive Officer to determine the best manner to confirm Engineers Canada's support of APEGA's appeal of a decision made by the Alberta Human Rights Tribunal, dated February 6, 2014, regarding APEGA's confirmatory examination process.

Big Picture Thinking

Topic: Ends Policy E-1 – *Consistency among constituent association regulatory standards and practices to protect and serve the public interest*. Discussion concluded that regulatory consistency has value, but the main objective is the outcome. Consistency does not mean identical adoption by each constituent association, as adaptation is required so long as it does not affect outcome.

Governance

The Board approved 56 motions and 23 policy changes at the meeting. Of note:

1. The Board approved two new governance process policies that provide clarity to the role of directors of and advisors to the Board: GP-3.1 – *Engineers Canada Director Terms of Reference* and GP-3.1 – *Engineers Canada Advisor Terms of Reference*.
2. The Board approved modifying the definition of "committee" in the [Governance Manual](#) to *A group of people appointed to provide the Board with options and implications on a specific matter for Board decision*.
3. Ends Policy E – *Engineers Canada's Purpose* was modified to *Engineers Canada exists so that constituent associations have support for an advancing engineering profession and its self-regulation in the public interest at a cost that is justified by the results*.
4. Ends Policy E-1 – *Support to Constituent Associations* was renamed to *Consistency in Regulatory Standards and Practices* to better reflect the End's objectives.
 - a. E-1.1 was modified to *The constituent associations have a nationally consistent framework for regulation based upon best practices*.
 - b. E-1.2 was modified to *Accreditation of Canadian engineering programs is to a level that meets the requirements for licensure as a professional engineer in Canada and the standards of the Washington Accord*.

5. The Governance Coach™ previously recommended a task force be struck to consider changing the Accreditation Board and Qualifications Board into operational committees.

The motion was removed from the consent agenda and subsequently defeated. The issue will be tabled at a later date.

6. The Board struck a task force to develop a plan to strengthen Board linkage with ownership, in relation to Governance Process Policy GP-11 – *Board Linkage with Ownership*.

Microsites

A [Board meeting microsite](#) was launched in February that provides all meeting information and materials. It was requested that subpages be created for Board and operational committees, and new microsites for the Presidents Group and the Chief Executive Officers Group.

President and Chief Executive Officer Reports

President Jim Beckett, FEC, P.Eng., formally welcomed Kathy Sutherland, P.Eng, FEC, B.A.Sc., LL.B., and Guy Legault, MBA, FCPA, FCGA, CAE, as Engineers Canada's new Vice-Presidents; highlighted the official corporate name change to Engineers Canada; the November 2013 launch of the new Engineers Canada website; and thanked the associations for their invitations to attend and speak at their annual general meetings.

Chief Executive Officer Kim Allen, FEC, P.Eng., delivered an overview of the organizational realignment, including the new organizational structure; how staff accountabilities are being aligned to the Ends Policies; the use of contribution based budgeting; and the overall plan to achieve the Ends. The plan lists strategies and tactics to achieve each Ends Policy, and incorporates ideas from the Big Picture Thinking portion of the Board meetings.

Self-Evaluation of Governance Process

Meeting monitor Paul Amyotte, FEC, P.Eng., evaluated the Board meeting's governance process. The report was favourable overall. An area for possible improvement: increase ownership linkage during the Big Picture Thinking portion of the meeting. There was also some confusion regarding the display of the consent agenda. The agenda will be modified for future meetings so it is clear which items are for consent and which are for decision.

Upcoming 2014 Board Meetings

Confirm details with committee secretariats for meetings that take place in conjunction with the following:

Annual Board and Executive Committee Meetings

May 23-24, 2014
Saint John, NB

Board Workshop
June 16-19, 2014
Wallace, NS

Board Meeting
October 1, 2014
Ottawa, ON

[Complete Calendar of Events](#)