



Minutes

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, June 5, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

PEO Offices - Room 1A

Members:

Bob Dony, P. Eng. (Vice-Chair)

George Comrie, P. Eng. (President-Elect; Ex-Officio Member)

Bill Kossta

Ewald Kuczera, P. Eng.

Sharon Reid, C. Tech.

Regrets:

Roydon Fraser, P. Eng. (Chair)

Thomas Chong, P. Eng. (President; Ex-Officio Member)

Staff:

Josie D'Aluisio, Administrative Assistant

Jordan Max, Manager, Policy

Johnny Zuccon, P. Eng., Deputy Registrar, Tribunals and Regulatory Affairs

Gerard McDonald, P. Eng., Registrar (*from 1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.*)

1. PROCEDURAL

1.1 Opening Remarks

In the absence of Chair R. Fraser, Vice-Chair B. Dony chaired the meeting.

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m., and welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The members were asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. No additions or changes were provided.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as written.

Moved by: E. Kuczera Seconded by: S. Reid CARRIED

1.3 Review of Approved Minutes of May 8, 2015 Meeting

The members were asked if there were any additions or changes to the Minutes. G. Comrie requested a change in Item 3.1 in the first sentence of the third paragraph to delete the following “by abolishing the examination route to licensure”.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the May 8, 2015 meeting as amended.

Moved by: B. Kossta Seconded by: E. Kuczera CARRIED

1.4 Action Items Update from May 8, 2015 Meeting

The members were referred to the Actions Items Update document included in the agenda package, and were updated as follows:

Item 1: Completed.

Item 2: Completed.

Item 3: J. Max noted that the Committee had completed part of the Academic and Examination category motions chart, and staff were seeking clarification whether to refer that section to the Licensing Policy Committee or wait for the rest of the chart to be reviewed first. The Committee agreed that referral or further directions should await

the completion of all of the categories, which would hopefully be achieved later at this meeting.

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 Act Change Protocol

The members were referred to the document included in the agenda package.

J. Max introduced the item as an activity in the PEO 2015-17 Strategic Plan. It was intended that PEO employ a process to do the upfront policy analysis before Council approves Act changes as a “lesson learned” from the Bill 68 experience, where 66 changes were proposed and included without substantial analysis, leading to the need to further clarify or delay those changes and unforeseen consequences. J. Max presented a draft Protocol to be followed with a list of questions to initially be answered by the proposal’s proponent, after which the Legislation Committee would consider further questions and analysis before making a recommendation to Council regarding the Act change proposal. E. Kuczera suggested the addition of a question to 1(d), which was accepted and revised at the meeting.

The Committee generally agreed with the Protocol as drafted, but wanted to ensure that the proponent brought the proposal initially to Council (without Council making a decision, but referring it to the Legislation Committee). The Committee also selected questions 1 (a), (b), and (d) as essential for that first Council visit, and the remainder left for the post-Council Legislation Committee review. It was also suggested that a Briefing Note template be prepared for such purposes, noting that the PRIA requirements currently included in the Act/Regulation/By-Law Change Briefing Note template were not applicable.

It was also unclear who (the Legislation Committee or the Secretariat) should bring forward this Protocol and Briefing Note template, and staff was directed to clarify the matter with the Secretariat.

Action: Staff to revise the draft Act Change Protocol, as per the Committee’s comments, and bring it back to the Committee at the next meeting for signoff. Staff to prepare a Briefing Note template. Staff to follow up with the Secretariat to clarify how the Protocol and Briefing Note template should be brought to Council for approval.

The second part of the item concerned the real possibility of Act changes to give effect to the Elliot Lake Inquiry's Recommendations for legislative change, specifically the exclusive practice for structural engineering specialists, mandatory continuing professional development, mandatory disclosure by revoked or suspended licence holders to their clients, and mandatory publicly available information on the website regarding licence holders.

J. Zuccon explained that, in discussions with staff from the Attorney General's office, it was identified that there may be the possibility of introducing changes to the *Professional Engineers Act* to meet the Inquiry's recommendations, potentially within a government bill in late Fall.

The discussion continued with respect to the possible types of Act changes, the process and timing of those changes, and Council's and the Legislation Committee's respective roles in that process. It was suggested that PEO may wish to consider enhancing the *Professional Engineers Act* with additional regulation-making powers in the areas of exclusive scope of practice, professional development and disclosure obligations. The Committee members concluded that this is an important consideration for PEO Council, and suggested that a presentation on this be put to Council at its upcoming workshop in anticipation that Council would then direct the Legislation Committee to begin to consider the options.

3. WORK IN PROGRESS

3.1 Work Plan for Resolving Council Policy Motions - Academic/Examinations Category and Experience Category

The members were referred to the documents included in the agenda package.

After some discussion, it was concluded that both the Academic/Examinations and Experience category tables, in their entirety, should be referred to the Licensing Policy Committee for further explanation of the policy intent of those motions and recommendations on how to resolve them.

Action: Staff to draft a transmittal memo to the Chair of the Licensing Policy Committee to refer the Academic/Examinations and Experience category tables to request further explanation of the policy intent of those Council motions and for recommendations on how they should be resolved.

3. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 7, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.