

Minutes of the September 8, 2011 EDTF – NME Subgroup meeting

Room 210, 40 Sheppard Ave. West

Participating: Yuri Kuzyk, Peter DeVita, Gerry Margaritis, Jordan Max (staff advisor), Brian MacEwen (guest)

Regrets: Corneliu Chisu, Alana Lavoie, John Yeow, Dave Adams, Brian Haydon, Laura Deakin, Roger Jones, Marios Ioannidis

The meeting started at 4:30 p.m., however quorum was not achieved so formal business could not be conducted.

1. Discussion of NME Position Statement for Council meeting on September 23, 2011

Peter explained that PEO's President wanted to have Council go on official record as declaring NME and CIE as new engineering disciplines, which would be accomplished by the passing of motions supporting Position Statements on NME and CIE respectively, which had been drafted by the CEO/Registrar and shared with the chairs and Council Liaison for comment. Parallel to this, Jordan had undertaken to provide an information briefing note for Council consisting of a status update on the progress of the two subgroups. To support the decision briefing note on Position Statements, the NME group reviewed the draft NME Position Statement and made the following revisions;

- Replace the detailed Core Body of Knowledge by a reference to "as defined in the Phase 1 report";
- Add a section on Licensure;
- Add Experience Requirements extracted from the Phase 1 report;
- Add to the Rationale section by emphasizing the volume and value of NME products and their potential public safety risks, and move its position from the end to after "Licensure";
- Move the Areas of Practice to after "Rationale"; and
- Add a reference to the Overlapping Practices Committee process in the "Enforcement" section.

The NME group also reviewed and updated the status report briefing note by adding the following;

- CEAB does not provide "blanket" approvals as such but does support accrediting NME programs (see attached letter from CEAB).
- The NME task force has engaged the Canadian Standards Association (who are developing nanotechnology standards), and as a result, Brian Haydon, P.Eng. has joined the subgroup as an observer. A presentation on NME was made by Dr. John Yeow at an OCEPP Policy Engagement Series seminar on October 25, 2010. Health Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Labour have also been briefed on the work of the NME task force.

2. Phase 2 Report sections on Foreign-trained engineers and natural scientists

There was brief discussion about the Phase 2 report progress, specifically the sections on foreign-trained engineers and limited licences. Action: Jordan to gather existing PEO positions on these subjects to draft the section

3. Next meeting(s) date(s)

The next three meetings were tentatively set as Monday, October 3rd, Thursday, November 10 and Thursday, December 8, all from 4-6:30pm

4. Adjournment and dinner (with CIE subgroup) - Discussion of Limited Licence

Both subgroups met with our guest, Brian MacEwen, P.Eng. (PEO Manager, Registration) to better understand PEO's current Limited Licence instrument, including the forthcoming changes from the Licensing Process Task Force which will allow for diplomas in science programs for academic qualifications as opposed to the current honours degree in science (in a program and university approved by Council).

Brian went over the process for approving applications for Limited Licences. The applicant's proposed scope is reviewed against their academic and experience background, using appropriate sections of the relevant Syllabi. He also indicated that he thought the Academic Requirements Committee (ARC) was currently working on Syllabi for both NME and CIE. It was suggested by the group that the academic requirements for honours science graduates was not workable for those people who were not likely to be working in engineering school, and hence the Limited licence as it currently existed would not address the needs of licensing non-engineering scientists working in the NME field. Another area to investigate is whether PEO could use its powers to create classes of licence to create a class of limited licence that would have non-engineering experience requirements. Colin Cantlie (CIE subgroup) offered to draft the questions for this legal opinion request. It was recommended that staff look into what provisions are being considered to deal with natural scientist.

Action: Jordan to confirm whether the ARC is working on NME and CIE Syllabi.