

March 11, 2019

Honourable Christina Gray
Minister of Labour
Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal
Government of Alberta
107 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Gray:

RE: Amendments to the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act, General Regulation, ASET Regulation, Professional Technologist Regulation

We thank the Minister for recognizing that we needed assistance to bring forward a joint submission. On behalf of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) and the Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET), we are pleased to present the attached joint submission (Part A) on recommendations for changes to the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act, General Regulation, ASET Regulation and Professional Technologist Regulation*. The attached Part A supersedes all other submissions previously given to the government.

The recommendations were developed by our associations in consultation with our members, Alberta Labour department officials, and other regulated professions both inside and outside Alberta. This has led to the creation of the attached, joint submission policy development document (PDD), to guide the drafting of amendments to the legislation. The PDD identifies existing provisions in the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act and Regulations*, lists proposed changes, and describes the corresponding rationale for the changes.

Specifically, our development of the recommended changes involved the review of existing Alberta acts and regulations; the review of how engineering, geoscience, and other professions are regulated both inside and outside Alberta for self-regulation of the engineering and geoscience team in Alberta; the review of the structure, authorities, duties and responsibilities, and statutory processes of our associations' regulatory statutory boards and committees to identify areas that require revision; and an analysis of existing Alberta legislation to identify areas where the public interest may not be protected and to recommend changes that may fill those gaps.

Consultations with stakeholders were ongoing throughout the legislative review process. Stakeholders involved included Alberta Labour, constituent associations in other provinces, other provincial regulators, professional members, permit holders, regulated members, and other related stakeholders. Discussion papers on the proposed changes have been posted online for access by the public and other interested parties.

We wish to advise the government that a few items were brought to the table during the course of the mediation that remain outstanding and these items are captured in a Part B and that outlines items both parties do not agree to. The Part B document reflects discussion items from the mediation process but does not necessarily reflect the final position of APEGA or ASET on these items.

Engineers and technologists work together as part of the engineering team (and the same for geoscience) and we are pleased to submit this joint proposal to reflect that. APEGA and ASET also renew our commitment to meet regularly on an ongoing basis in the spirit of working together to foster a positive relationship and discuss matters of mutual interest in the best interests of Albertans.

We thank the government-appointed mediator, Mr. David Jones, Q.C., for his expert assistance in helping APEGA and ASET come to resolution on the jointly submitted recommendations (Part A and B).

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you and your staff to formally develop and pass needed amendments to the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*, *General Regulation*, *ASET Regulation*, and *Professional Technologist Regulation*. As this is such a substantive modernization of legislation, we would welcome the opportunity to participate and review the draft legislation to ensure the intent of the proposed changes are met. It is APEGA's 100-year anniversary in 2020, and it would be a great time to have modernized legislation proclaimed.

Sincerely,



Nima Dorjee, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon)
President, APEGA



Jay Nagendran, P.Eng., M.Sc., QEP, BCEE,
FEC, FGC (Hon.)
Registrar & CEO
APEGA



David Jones, Q.C.
Mediator
De Villars Jones



Adam Campbell, C.E.T.
President, ASET



Barry Cavanaugh, LL.B
CEO & General Counsel
ASET

/encl.

CC: Jeff Parr, Deputy Minister, Alberta Labour
Don Mitchell, Executive Director, Mediation Service, Alberta Labour
Adrian Pritchard, Director, Professional Governance, Alberta Labour