

## **Annual Renewals of Registration**

*Improved Public Interest*

To better protect the public APEGA must be able to require Members and Permit Holders to meet specified criteria in order to renew their registration. This could include requiring members to provide information regarding criminal convictions, discipline orders from other jurisdictions, or additional requirements as Council may prescribe in policy.

### Background

- Currently under the Act, the Registrar shall renew the registration of a professional member, licensee, permit holder or certificate holder whose registration is not under suspension and who has paid the annual fee.

### Why this is important

- To better protect the public there may be criteria in addition to paying required dues, not being suspended, and meeting mandatory continuing professional development program requirements that Members and Permit Holders should be required to meet in order to renew their annual registration.
- Examples could include requiring Members and Permit Holders to provide an annual declaration confirming that in the preceding year they have had no professional disciplinary decisions or findings against them in another jurisdiction, no criminal convictions, no findings of professional negligence or liability against them in a court proceeding, and no convictions for violations under other regulatory legislation related to occupational health and safety, the environment, or other areas affecting public safety.
- Another example could include requiring members to take a mandatory ethics refresher course every so many years.
- The legislation should be flexible enough to require Members and Permit Holders to meet other criteria in order to have their registration renewed if it is in the public interest to do so.
- The authority to renew registrations should continue to rest with the Registrar. Granting the Registrar the authority to renew registrations according to criteria established by Council in policy will put the authority to act at the most responsive and appropriate level of the organization and allow the Registrar to act quickly to

protect the public.

Proposed  
Legislative  
Change

- Amend Section 26 of the Act to give Council the ability to establish in policy any other additional criteria for renewing a registration.

Effect of the  
proposed  
change

- It will give APEGA Council the authority to prescribe in policy the requirements that Members and Permit Holders must meet in order to have their annual registration renewed.
- It will better protect the public by giving APEGA Council the flexibility to revise these requirements in the future to reflect the changing expectations of the public and the changing needs of the professions.
- The Registrar will continue to have the existing authority to renew registrations, but renewals will be based on criteria established by Council through policy.
- It will place the authority to act at the most responsive and appropriate level of the organization.
- It aligns the legislation with other self-regulatory associations in Alberta.