



MINUTES OF THE

THIRD PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2019

DATE: October 1, 2019

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.

LOCATION: Safety Codes Council Office

PRESENT: Sub-Council Members
David Hughes, Chair
David Dallaire
Stephen Dussault
Paul Fullam
Mark Harrold, Vice Chair
Tim Kosolofski
Quenton Kusiek
Ken Morrison
Angus Potskin
Shawn Van Velzen

Safety Codes Council
Susan Rossmann, Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Sidney Manning, Dean Morin, Claude Valliere, Jon Elliott

GUESTS: Michael Lalonde (Council Staff), Kris Schmaltz (Council Staff)

RECORDER: Sandi Orr

2019 MEETINGS: December 3

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.1. Agenda Adoption

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 2.7 – Group B SCO Course Material Ratification
- 2.8 – Nomination of Al Steenbergen to represent Rural Municipalities
- 4.10 – Code Update Training Report

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved to adopt the agenda, as amended, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED

1.2. Adoption of April 30, 2019 Minutes

Tim Kosolofski / Mark Harrold moved to approve the April 30, 2019 meeting minutes, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Vice Chair Election - elect as vice chair for a two-year term, effective immediately

The floor was opened for nominations and Mark Harrold was nominated. After 3 calls and no further nominations, ***Mark Harrold was appointed as the Vice Chair of the Plumbing Sub-Council, by acclamation, for a two-year term.***

2.2. Nomination of Roger LeBeuf to represent the Mechanical Contractors industry segment

The discussion regarding this item was held in camera.

Paul Fullam / Angus Potskin moved to recommend to the Board the appointment of Roger LeBeuf to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent the Mechanical Contractors industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2023, effective February 1, 2020; CARRIED

2.3. Reappointment of Qenton Kusiek to represent the Professional Engineers industry segment

Qenton Kusiek removed himself from the meeting. The discussion regarding this item was held in camera.

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved to recommend to the Board the reappointment of Quenton Kusiek to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent the Professional Engineers industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2023, effective February 1, 2020

2.4. Matrix Review – review existing sub-council matrix to ensure it continues to appropriately represent the plumbing discipline

This discussion was held in camera.

Quenton Kusiek / Shawn Van Velzen moved that the Plumbing Sub-Council has reviewed their matrix and no changes are recommended at this time; CARRIED

The sub-council was reminded that subject-matter experts can be brought in at any time as needed.

2.4.1. Development of Skills Matrix

It was reported that skills matrices are being developed for each sub-council to assist nominating organizations to find nominees with the right skills and experience.

Each sub-council member was asked to define a few skills and/or qualifications for their own position that would be essential for their work on the sub-council and to forward this to the Council by November 12, 2019. [All]

2.5. Nomination of Brent Bowerman to the PSDS Working Group (Hydrogeology)

Angus Potskin / David Dallaire moved to appoint Brent Bowerman (Hydrogeology) to the PSDS Working Group, effective immediately; CARRIED

2.6. Nomination of Rick Tipple to the PSDS Working Group (Installers)

Angus Potskin / David Dallaire moved to appoint Rick Tipple (Installers) to the PSDS Working Group, effective immediately; CARRIED

2.7 Group B SCO Course Material Ratification

Michael Lalonde was welcomed to the meeting and provided an overview of the changes to the course material that have been made to improve the course. These changes provide SCOs with better information regarding the Standard of Practice and include case studies.

David Dallaire / Paul Fullam moved to ratify the Group B SCO Course Material; CARRIED

2.8 Nomination of Al Steenbergen to represent the Rural Municipalities industry segment

The discussion regarding this item was held in camera.

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved to recommend to the Board the appointment of Al Steenbergen to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent the Mechanical Contractors industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2023, effective February 1, 2020; CARRIED

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Water Quality re. Water Reuse Alternative Solutions	Bring forward further policy documents from Alberta Health Services and Alberta Environment.	Jan 24/17	Manning	An advance draft for water reuse is almost ready for circulation; the Administrator will be looking for direction from the PSC on the use of these documents. Ongoing
		Research water quality topics (Water Safety Plans, Log Reductions, DALY)	May 22/18	Hughes, Harrold, All	Ongoing
2.	Requirements for Combination Heating Systems: Dual Purpose Water Heater STANDATA	Investigate a path forward for the expired STANDATA	May 2/17	Hughes / Manning	Full discussion 4.9 on agenda
3.	Low Temperature Testing	Report back from NSF relative to NSF/ANSI 40 and NSF/ANSI 350 – if there is no longer a Canadian standard, this should be addressed in NSF standards.	Dec 5/17	Morin	New Joint Committee Chair is looking for Issue Papers in order to determine action; Ongoing
4.	Removing Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification	Provide feedback from industry on whether removing this certification would create hardship for the industry.	Jan 30/18	All / Harrold/ AMOS	Ongoing
		Work on next steps & templates UPDATE: Larger discussion is being held at AMA regarding policy direction	May 22/18	Manning/ Morin	Ongoing
5.	Temporary Work Camps	Provide feedback on the guidance document for TWCs Document available in the Private Sewage Working Group Folder.	Jan 30/18	All	The second draft is being reviewed, some changes relative to QMPs are anticipated, hoped to publish by

					the end of 2019; In progress Draft will be added to this meeting folder [Council Administration]
6.	Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code	Work with AMA on how to address cisterns in the code. UPDATE: A Code Change Request is being drafted for the NPC 2025	Sep 18/18	Hughes/Dallaire/ Kosolofski/ Harrold	Ongoing
7.	PSDS SOP	An updated 5-column document on proposed changes needed to the SOP will be added to portal in the PSDS Working Group folder	Jan 29/19	Morin	The updated 5-column document, which incorporates the SOP and Handbook into one, is in the working group’s Shared Documents folder; Completed, remove from action list

It was reported that the Alberta Private Sewage Systems - Standard of Practice, Third Edition 2015 is now available as a [free download on the Council website](#).

4.1. SCO Competency Profile Project Update

Kris Schmaltz was welcomed to the meeting and reported on a project that is underway to create a Competency Profile for SCOs. These profiles will be used to determine educational requirements and potential continuing educational opportunities. The Council is engaging with SCOs across all four construction disciplines to determine common competencies. A group of volunteers has begun work and an initial report is being reviewed to determine a gap analysis. Discipline specific competencies will also be determined in the future.

Paul Fullam, Tim Kosolofski and Mark Harrold volunteered to assist on behalf of the Plumbing discipline.

It was questioned whether mentorship is being considered for all disciplines, similar to the Plumbing and Gas training. This is considered invaluable and the topic would be discussed further within each discipline.

4.2. 2020 Meeting Dates – provide input on proposed dates

The following dates were proposed and will be confirmed in October:

- Tuesday, January 28 – 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 5 – 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, October 6 – 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, December 1 – 9:00 a.m.

4.3. Reference Standards

4.3.1. NSF

An overview was provided of the meeting held on June 11, 2019:

- Treatment assessment and nutrient removal is being reviewed but more work will be needed
- The Joint Committee Annual Meeting was held and the new Chair is focused on revising standards to better suit regulatory authorities
- A separate standard exists for definitions that would apply to all standards and is being updated
- Field installation and how to validate new technologies are being reviewed

An overview was provided of each of the following standards that fall under the Joint Committee:

- NSF/ANSI 40: Residential Onsite Systems—major concerns by manufacturers of treatment plants regarding field validation and the current inconsistencies of the validation process
- NSF/ANSI 240: Drainfield Trench Product Sizing—looking at eliminating this standard
- NSF/ANSI 350 and 350-1: Onsite Water Reuse—putting a lot of pressure on in the US, in Canada not all jurisdictions use the standard; a guidance document for framework is being developed by the US EPA in the United States
- NSF/ANSI 41: Non-Liquid Systems
- NSF/ANSI 46: Wastewater Treatment System Components and Devices
- NSF/ANSI/CAN 61: Drinking Water System Components – Health Effects – will be referenced in the 2020 NPC

It was further reported that issue papers will need to be developed and submitted on concerns. The Administrator may be asking for support in building some of these papers.

An overview was provided of the NSF's protocol process. NSF will do an assessment and consider validating a technology if a certification standard does not exist. This will provide a bit more flexibility for unique systems.

4.3.2. ULC

Mark Harrold had nothing new to report.

The Plumbing Administrator reported on the new international direction that is being considered by UL—where UL documents already exist, a ULC document will not be developed. This may create a bit of a challenge relative to labeling and markings on products since no ULC document will exist. It was questioned how an SCO will determine which UL markings are okay for use in Canada and which aren't. It was clarified that SCOs need to continue to look for a Canadian identifier.

4.3.3. CSA

Mark Harrold had nothing new to report.

An overview was provided on the business decision made by CSA to no longer identify definitions within the code and changes to the code will no longer be identified with a mark. This will make the 3-column documents even more critical.

An update was provided regarding monitoring at the national level relative to CSA B66 - Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks and Sewage Holding Tanks.

A project charter has been developed to review and revise CSA B184 Polymeric subsurface stormwater management structures. It is anticipated that the standard will be available for public consultation shortly.

4.3.4. ASSE

This item was removed from the standing agenda.

[Council Administration]

4.3.5. BNQ

It was reported that challenges exist regarding the BNQ standards. They have approached the Standards Council of Canada regarding a different funding model.

Consideration is being given to include water reuse into Standard CAN/BNQ 3680-600 – Onsite Residential Wastewater Treatment Technologies. Further discussion will be held when the new version is available.

4.4. Working Group Reports – see membership lists on page 6

4.4.1. NPC 2020

It is hoped that an updated 3-column document will be available in November/early December 2019.

Paul Fullam was added to the working group.

4.4.2. PSDS

The Working Group Chair reported that work continues on their matrix, the Standard of Practice and the work camp guidance document. Quorum could not be reached at yesterday's meeting. Two new members were recommended and a representative from Health Canada is also being looked into.

4.5. AMOS Report

The next meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2019 in Red Deer.

4.6. Administrator/AMA Report

The Private Sewage Administrator reported the following:

- A lot of work is happening with incorporating the handbook into the SOP
- A notice is being developed specifically for Private Sewage setback variances, which SCOs will be able to issue as of October 1, 2019 (previously these were issued only by an Administrator)
- An overview was provided on the work being done to manage new technologies and work being done with manufacturers to determine how their systems meet the intent of the SOP
- Work is being done with AOWMA regarding training

The Plumbing Administrator reported the following:

- NPC 2020 being developed by NRC's Plumbing and HVAC standing committee
 - Public consultation – last of 2020 code cycle fall 2019
 - Public review of NPC: October 22 – December 23 on NRC website; It was requested that an email reminder with the link to the public consultation be sent to all members when available and that the public review be added as a discussion item to the next agenda. [Council Administration]
 - Water reuse
 - Rainwater harvesting
 - Water reuse policy development for Alberta Health
 - An overview was provided of the Sampling Guide for Lead and Copper – Schools and Daycares created by Alberta Health with assistance from the Plumbing discipline
 - Potential Red Tape reduction - code/regulation separation of process water vs waste water
 - 2019 report from the Canadian Regulatory Committee on Plumbing and the Canadian Advisory Council on Plumbing was included in the portal and the following was highlighted:
 - Pipe sizing issues
 - Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) update provided, plumbing products have not yet been imported under this agreement, special inspections or field approvals are being done by Intertek
 - Canadian Registration Number (CRN) for pressure vessels and piping systems will be in effect on January 1, 2020
 - Proposed changes to incorporate rainwater systems and it is expected that B805, Rainwater Harvesting Standard will not be referenced until 2025
 - Automatic / timely code adoption supported across Canada

- Food Trucks and Tiny Homes (anything on wheels) being discussed in an attempt to gain consistency nationally
- Failure of flexible connectors represent 50% of water damage insurance claims, a task group is looking into this further
- A proposed code change has been put forward to better define 'public use'
- Processes are being revised to manage the challenges relating to balloting Other Recognized Documents
- Clean out access
- Outdated standards in the code
- Certified vs approved fire sprinkler piping
- Presentation on significant changes to the NPC
- An overview was provided of the guidelines issues by Health Canada

4.7. Council Updates

The Council written report was included in the portal:

- The PSDS Standard of Practice is available free on the Council website
- The Council is offering Member training:
 - Effective Meetings Workshop – November 12
 - Appeals Training – November 13
 - To sign up, please email Gerry.Letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca
- All Members are required to complete online FOIP training by December 31, 2019
- Work continues on the governance review, including proposed changes to streamline working group formation and processes
- The Board has approved the formation of a Private Sewage Sub-Council and revised bylaws to allow for this change will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting; the Board will be responsible for approving the matrix once the bylaws are revised
- Working group chairs will now be asked to provide a short written report in advance of each sub-council meeting and sample templates will be available
- The Council has created a 'subcouncils@safetycodes.ab.ca' email for all meeting invites; sub-council members were asked to continue to use direct emails for inquiries
- Minor layout updates have been made to the Member Portal and shown on screen
- A quarterly report of all sub-councils' key activities has been created and will be distributed to the Board and each sub-council at the end of each quarter; members are encouraged to provide these reports to their nominating organizations
- A member survey was sent to all sub-council members; this is still open and members were asked to fill out the survey and provide their honest feedback
- The Council is working on communications to help clarify the relationship between SCOs and registered professionals and feedback about common misconceptions is being requested
- Industry association meetings will be used to replace regional meetings for SCOs in construction disciplines
- New travel expense policy takes effect on October 2, 2019
- Social Media policy has also had some changes and will be available on the website

4.8. Variance Policy Update

Administrator-only Variances have typically been for equipment, materials and clearances. An overview was provided of clearance variances which were previously the responsibility of Alberta Municipal Affairs Administrators that now will be under the authority of the local SCO. Equipment and materials variances will follow. Further clarification will be provided regarding the difference between a variance and approving a piece of equipment. Feedback will be sought from the industry and stakeholders about this change. AMA resources are available for SCOs that may need guidance about accepting variances.

The following notice was included in the portal and has been published to clarify changes to variance policies:

- <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/notice-variances-under-the-safety-codes-act-2019>

Council policy 9.8 is being reviewed based on this documentation.

As of October 1, 2019, SCOs will be able to issue variances for certain things, such as distances (setbacks) in the private sewage discipline, which were previously only issued by Alberta Municipal Affairs Administrators. A notice is being developed specifically for private sewage setbacks. The draft Guidance Document for Municipalities Private Sewage System Variance Process was included in the portal in Shared Documents and shown on screen. The intent of this document is to provide municipality's and SCOs with clarity regarding their obligations for variances for private sewage systems which were previously the responsibility of Administrators.

4.9. Requirements for Combination Heating Systems – updates on B214 and STANDATA

A presentation was provided on screen and an overview was provided of the updates to CSA B214 - 2016. A great deal of information from the Alberta STANDATA was incorporated into the proposed changes to the Standard:

- 4.2.1.1. revised
- 4.2.2.2. Note b) deleted
- Substantive changes to 4.2.5. Potable water as a hydronic fluid
- 4.2.5.1. revised

Further information was provided on the research done relative to how flushing the system for a minimum of 5 minutes at 140°F will reduce the risk of Legionella.

The presentation will be forwarded to Mark Harrold to provide at the upcoming AMOS meeting.
[Hughes]

It is hoped that this will move forward through the CSA Steering Committee and be published in the Spring 2020.

The STANDATA has been expired for some time. Once the Standard is updated, discussion will be needed on whether the STANDATA needs to be reviewed, revised or determined unnecessary. It was suggested a potential Information STANDATA could be developed.

The Chair was thanked for all his hard work on the B214 committee to help move forward the proposed changes.

4.10. Code Update Training Report

An update was provided regarding the government's red tape and regulation reductions to create better efficiencies. With the new timely code adoption, the Council is considering changes to SCO code update training to optimize timeliness and provide better value.

The training would focus on the top substantive changes that impact SCOs and industry and three-column documents could be provided to SCOs ahead of time. Exams would no longer be required. Webinars would allow for group discussion, Q&A, etc.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

An update on the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council recommendation regarding refrigeration systems was requested. It was reported that work is being done by the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council relative to the pressure equipment components, and a multi-Ministry working group is also investigating the topic.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Council office.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Mark Harrold moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

2.4.1. Development of Skills Matrix

Each sub-council member was asked to define a few skills and/or qualifications for their own position that would be essential for their work on the sub-council and to forward this to the Council by November 12, 2019. [All]

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

The second draft of the Temporary Work Camp document will be added to the October 2019 PSC meeting folder. [Council Administration]

4.3.4. ASSE

This item was removed from the standing agenda. [Council Administration]

4.9. Requirements for Combination Heating Systems – updates on B214 and STANDATA

The presentation will be forwarded to Mark Harrold to provide at the upcoming AMOS meeting. [Hughes]

--- M O T I O N S ---

1.1. Agenda Adoption

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved to adopt the agenda, as amended, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED

1.2. Adoption of April 30, 2019 Minutes

Tim Kosolofski / Mark Harrold moved to approve the April 30, 2019 meeting minutes, as circulated; CARRIED

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David Dallaire / Paul Fullam moved to ratify the Group B SCO Course Material; CARRIED

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