



## MINUTES OF THE

### FOURTH PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2019

**DATE:** December 3, 2019

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:22 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Safety Codes Council Office

**PRESENT:** Sub-Council Members  
Mark Harrold, Vice Chair  
Paul Fullam  
Tim Kosolofski  
Quenton Kusiek  
Ken Morrison  
Shawn Van Velzen

Safety Codes Council  
Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach, Sanah Sidhu

Alberta Municipal Affairs  
Sidney Manning, Dean Morin

**REGRETS:** David Hughes, Chair; David Dallaire; Stephen Dussault; Angus Potskin

**RECORDER:** Sandi Orr

**2020 MEETINGS:** January 28, May 5, October 6, December 1

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Members were reminded that the primary duty of all Council Members is to act in the interest of safety in the built environment for the benefit of all Albertans.

### 1.1. Agenda Adoption

The following item was added to the agenda:

- 4.3.4. BNQ

**Paul Fullam / Ken Morrison moved to adopt the agenda, as amended, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED**

### 1.2. Adoption of October 1, 2019 Minutes

**Tim Kosolofski / Paul Fullam moved to approve the October 1, 2019 meeting minutes, as circulated; CARRIED**

## 2. Matters for Decision

### 2.1. Skills Matrix

The updated skills matrix document was included in the portal and reviewed. It was clarified that this document can include essential and preferred qualifications. It was requested that anyone who hasn't completed the skills matrix points for their seat or wishes to amend anything already submitted, to submit this to the Council by January 7, 2020. [All]

## 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	Meetings planned, documents not yet available to share. Ongoing
		Research water quality topics (Water Safety Plans, Log Reductions, DALY)	May 22/18	Hughes, Harrold, All	Mark Harrold advised of his research on Log Reductions and DALY. It was emphasized that Log Reductions and Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALY) must be used hand-in-hand (see link below). Council members were asked to research

					further and bring findings back to next meeting. Ongoing
2.	Requirements for Combination Heating Systems: Dual Purpose Water Heater STANDATA	Investigate a path forward for the expired STANDATA once the revised B214 is issued. (Full discussion in Oct. 2019 minutes, item 4.9)	May 2/17	Hughes / Manning	No final draft available yet; not discussed at last AMOS meeting. Ongoing
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	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	Lethbridge will no longer be requesting contractors to have the certificate. Remove the action list.
		Work on next steps & templates	May 22/18	Manning/ Morin	Larger discussion is being held at AMA regarding policy direction (see further notes below). 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	It was reported that this document will be used by industry for 2020 systems; the final draft will be brought back relative to how to address systems over 25 m <sup>3</sup>
6.	Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code	Work with AMA on how to address cisterns in the code.	Sep 18/18	Hughes/Dallaire/ Kosolofski/ Harrold	A Code Change Request is being drafted for the NPC 2025 (see action below). Ongoing

Action Item 3.1.b: Log Reduction is a mathematical term and more information on Log Reductions can be found at: <https://www.endurocide.com/knowledge-base/blogs/log-reductions-a-beginners-guide-2/>

Action Item 3.4.b: It was reported that the Permit Regulation will be opened and feedback is being sought from the sub-councils on any changes they wish to propose. An overview was provided regarding the jurisdictional challenges between plumbing systems and private sewage systems, where in some cases plumbing permits are not being taken out when they should be.

The sub-council was asked to assist the Administrators to determine the different jurisdictions that could be included in an Information Bulletin. Paul Fullam, Mark Harrold and Quenton Kusiek volunteered. [Fullam/Harrold/Kusiek]

Jurisdictional challenges between plumbing systems and private sewage systems relative to Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification will be added under Matters for Discussion on the January 2020 agenda. [Council Administration]

Action Item 3.6—The sub-council members working on the code change request will be provided with the CAN/CSA-B126 SERIES-13 (R2018) – Water cisterns [Morin/Council]

Code Change Proposal Guidelines are available at:

<https://nrc.canada.ca/en/certifications-evaluations-standards/codes-canada/codes-development-process/request-code-change>

#### **4. Matters for Discussion**

##### **4.1. QMP Template Changes**

Peter Thomas, Administrator of Accreditation at the Council, was welcomed and provided a presentation on Quality Management Plan Revisions. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Background on the creation and revisions of QMP Templates – the current template was released in July/August 2016
- An overview of the reasons for the current review
- An overview of the ages of QMPs currently in place and progress made to transition QMPs to the current templates

Upcoming changes to the QMP Template include:

- The requirement for municipal councils to approve minor updates to the QMP was removed and in 2020 this will also include scope changes (i.e. adding or removing a discipline from the QMP), but municipal council approval is still required for new accreditation.
- A “Duly Authorized Individual” rather than a specific official may now sign off on updates and scope changes.
- Changes were made to Inspection Service Delivery Standards, including terminology, inspection timelines, and addition of project classification.
- In the Corporate QMP, changes were made to the process regarding disagreements on corrective action and non-compliance.
- The requirement that background documentation be submitted when registering variances with the Council was removed.
- Municipal and Corporate QMP templates were changed to allow jurisdiction-wide variances, in accordance with a recent notice on variances from Municipal Affairs
- Timelines regarding written notice for cancellation of accreditation, change in municipal status, or change in corporate ownership, structure or status have been removed.
- A Joint Municipal Accreditation QMP template was created.

- Cancellation of Accreditation section was revised to include the organization's responsibility to close outstanding permits and orders.
- Annual Internal Reviews section was revised to include standardized submission dates and requirements.
- Wording was added to clarify that an SCO does not have to accept a Verification of Compliance.
- General reorganization, formatting, and updates to references.

The revised templates will be rolled out on the Council website in January 2020 and QMP Managers will be contacted directly. To ensure consistent rollout of the information, members were asked to refrain from reporting this information to any outside organizations until after the rollout.

## **4.2. NRC Public Review of the National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015**

A link was included in the portal to take members directly to the NRC Public Review of the National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015. The closing date for public consultation is December 23, 2019. The floor was opened for discussion regarding any challenges sub-council members have with the proposed changes.

Proposed Change 1391, relative to 2.4.9.3. was discussed. There was no opposition to the proposed changes but challenges were expressed regarding how to identify total volume of discharged from all shower heads and body sprays. It was recognized this could cause challenges for SCOs.

Highlights of the proposed changes were included in the Administrator's report. The greatest changes are relative to Proposed Change 945 regarding rainwater harvesting and water reuse. Concern has been expressed that there may be too much information in the code that should be included in CSA B805-18/ICC 805-2018 – Rainwater harvesting systems.

## **4.3. Reference Standards**

### **4.3.1. NSF**

The next meeting will be held in 2020. There was nothing new to report.

### **4.3.2. ULC**

There was nothing new to report.

### **4.3.3. CSA**

The following report was provided:

- B184 SERIES-17 – Polymeric subsurface storm water management structures are in the last bit of public consultation

- AMA has been asked to participate on standard development for infiltration into water drains

A brief update was provided on a presentation recently attended on the protection of buildings from drain water infiltration, and this information will be provided to Perry Wager. [Harrold]

#### **4.3.4. BNQ**

A meeting was held in November and there is a focus on water reuse, jurisdictional reviews and associated challenges. A change in focus will be to look at expanding the BNQ 3680-600 to be consistent with the 900 series to require field validation.

The next meeting is scheduled in March 2020. Public consultation is anticipated in mid-2020.

This led to discussion regarding differences in how other jurisdictions adopt the plumbing code and several water reuse items are exempt (e.g. car washes).

#### **4.4. Working Group Reports**

##### **4.4.1. NPC 2020**

A working group meeting will be held after today's meeting to review the proposed changes published for public review. Another public consultation is scheduled in February 2020 to address changes relative to Building, Fire and Energy but they are not anticipated to affect the plumbing discipline. The Administrator reported that he is hoping to obtain a redline draft code.

##### **4.4.2. PSDS**

The Working Group Chair's written report was included in the portal. Highlights were provided on the following work being done by the working group:

- Matrix
- New Technology Considerations
- Work Camp Guidance Document
- SOP Development

#### **4.5. AMOS Report**

It was reported that there was no quorum at the last AMOS meeting and bylaw changes were not able to be addressed. AMA was thanked for their participation. A proposed change was submitted from an AMOS member requesting consideration of excluding high level alarms for privies without an additional waste water source.

This led to a discussion on conversations being held between AMA and the Council regarding stakeholder organization engagement and support.

#### 4.6. Administrator/AMA Report

The Private Sewage Administrator reported on the following:

- The Working Group's focus will be the next SOP and the next meeting is Monday, December 9, 2019
- Members are asked to submit any proposed changes for the SOP as quickly as possible; there are about 40 different subjects to be looked into further
- Group B SCO training has been finalized, exam bank review is ongoing
- Finalizing training agreement with AOWMA and looking at framework relative to certification
- Regarding new technologies, many proposals are being received for review and more work is being done to better define the processes involved

On behalf of the Policy Department, the Plumbing Administrator reported that the Permit Regulation will be opened for amendments relatively soon. The sub-council was encouraged to submit any plumbing related proposed changes to Bohdan Yard as quickly as possible. Permit Regulation Review will be added to the next agenda. [Council Administration]

The Plumbing Administrator reported on the following:

- NPC 2020 –anticipated to be published in April 2021
  - Public review of NPC 2020 - October 22 – December 23, 2019
  - Water reuse and rainwater harvesting are the most predominant of changes and will require a review of STANDATAs
  - Lead level updates have been ongoing and very low in Alberta compared with other jurisdictions; waterline sizing has contributed to reduced levels; Health Canada reports regularly
- An overview was provided on water reuse policy development for Alberta Health (U of A Survey)
- An overview was provided of the new policies about site specific variances that were previously only able to be issued by an Administrator and can now be issued by an SCO; it was reported this seems to be going well. Variances for materials and equipment remain within in the role of the Administrator only.

A copy of the 2019 CACP Update from the Canadian Advisory Council on Plumbing was included in the portal as information. Topics of discussion include:

- Code Adoption
- Other Recognized Document (ORD) process improvements
- Cannabis
- Food Trucks
- Tiny Homes
- Public vs Private Washrooms
- Access to Cleanouts
- Plumbing & Mechanical Advisory Council Report
- Backflow Testing
- Canadian European Trade Agreement (CETA)

- New Health Canada Guidelines
- National Plumbing Code Update
- Code Harmonization

Relative to cannabis, it was noted that process water will not be accepted under the PSDS SOP and feedback was sought from the sub-council on what they see in their communities on this topic. Some processing plants consider the end water to be hazardous waste and dispose of accordingly, but others do not.

A presentation was included in the portal, as information, from a webinar provided by NRC titled Decoding Code Process 101. The Plumbing Administrator provided the following highlights of the significant proposed changes to the NPC 2020:

- Seismic restraint and design to align with the NBC
- Piping and transfer systems
  - Nominal Pipe Size
  - PEX fittings and tubing
  - Use of copper tube urinals
  - Neutralization tanks
  - Protection from Backflows
- Potable and non-potable water systems
  - Protection of drinking water from chemical contamination and reference to NSF/ANSI/CAN 61, Drinking Water System components – Health effects
  - Non-potable water in health care facilities
  - Rainwater harvesting
- New materials and equipment
  - Reference to ASME A112.4.2/CSA B45.16-15, Personal Hygiene Devices for Water Closets
  - ASSE 1070/ASME A112.1070/CSA B125.70, Performance Requirements for Water Temperature Limiting Devices
  - ASME A112.4.14/CSA B125.14, Manually Operated Valves for Use in Plumbing Systems will include low lead requirements
  - ASME A112.18.6/CSA B125.6, Flexible Water Connectors will include low lead requirements
  - CSA B137.18, Polyethylene of Raised Temperature Tubing for Pressure Applications will include new acceptable material and greater design flexibility
  - CAN/CSA-B127.3-18, Fibrocement Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe and Pipe Fittings
  - ASTM F3128, Standard Specification for Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Schedule 40 Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe with a Cellular Core for residential installations only

#### **4.7. Council Updates**

The Council written report was included in the portal and the following highlights were provided:

- All members are required to complete online FOIP training by December 31, 2019
- An overview was provided of the changes to the Expenses Policy and new expense form



#### **4.7.1. Appeals consultation**

It was questioned whether the sub-council would like to see reports on appeals data and what type of information would be valuable to the sub-council. It was agreed that notification should be sent to sub-council members when a decision is posted.

### **5. Meeting Finalization**

#### **5.1. Round Table**

It was reported that as of January 1, 2020, the Council has made the business decision to do all sub-council administration in house. Sandi Orr was thanked for 19+ years of service as a contractor of the Council.

#### **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at the Council office.

#### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Tim Kosolofski / Quenton Kusiek moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

**2.1. Skills Matrix**

It was requested that anyone who hasn't completed the skills matrix points for their seat or wishes to amend anything already submitted, to submit this to the Council by January 7, 2020. [All]

**3. Review Matters Arising/Action List**

The sub-council was asked to assist the Administrators to determine the different jurisdictions that could be included in an Information Bulletin. Paul Fullam, Mark Harrold and Quenton Kusiek volunteered. [Fullam/Harrold/Kusiek]

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Action Item 3.6—The sub-council members working on the code change request will be provided with the CAN/CSA-B126 SERIES-13 (R2018) – Water cisterns [Morin/Council]

**4.3.3. CSA**

A brief update was provided on a presentation recently attended on the protection of buildings from drainwater infiltration, and this information will be provided to Perry Wager. [Harrold]

**4.6. Administrator/AMA Report**

Permit Regulation Review will be added to the next agenda. [Council Administration]

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

**1.1. Agenda Adoption**

**Paul Fullam / Ken Morrison moved to adopt the agenda, as amended, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED**

**1.2. Adoption of October 1, 2019 Minutes**

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**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Tim Kosolofski / Quenton Kusiek moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**