



MINUTES OF THE

THIRD PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2017

DATE: September 15, 2017

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 1:32 p.m.

LOCATION: Radisson Edmonton South, Edmonton

PRESENT: Sub-Council Members
David Hughes, Chair
Charles Hallett
Ken Helmer
Lawrence Hess
Peter Koenig
Tim Kosolofski
Quenton Kusiek
Angus Potskin

Safety Codes Council
John Ziarko, Mike Roshuk, Jennifer Laing

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Sidney Manning, Dean Morin, Claude Valliere, Bohdan Yard

REGRETS: Mark Harrold, Vice Chair
Ken Morrison
Kenneth Wigmore
Garnet Young

RECORDER: Sandi Orr

2017 MEETINGS: Tuesday, December 5, Edmonton – 9:00 a.m.

2018 MEETINGS: January 30, May 22, September 18, December 4

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and a round table introduction

1.1. Agenda Adoption

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 4.13 – Tank Requirements – Variances

Charles Hallett / Ken Helmer moved to adopt the agenda, as amended; CARRIED

1.2. Previous Minutes

1.2.1. Adoption of May 2, 2017

The draft minutes were included in the portal and reviewed.

Lawrence Hess / Peter Koenig moved to approve the May 2, 2017 meeting minutes, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Training Course Validations

2.1.1. Plumbing, Group B, Private Sewage Treatment Systems, Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2015 (Course ID #100150)

Charles Hallett reported on his work reviewing the examination which brought forward issues with the course material and the need for both minor and major revisions. Any revisions will take time and it was suggested to move forward with this current material until these revisions can be completed.

When feedback was provided to the Council, quick fixes were incorporated but for major revisions, it was asked if they could be held off to the next code cycle. It is believed there is an opportunity to provide feedback to the Council on the gaps that exist. It is likely that the revisions would take up to a year to be completed.

With there being no course material available to SCOs based on the Private Sewage Standard of Practice 2015, it was suggested this was better than not having anything available. However, it was believed there is still an opportunity for further discussion with the Council regarding the processes for the sub-council providing feedback on course and exam materials, making changes to the materials, and validating courses.

After an in-depth discussion, the following decision was made.

Charles Hallett / Peter Koenig moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group B, Private Sewage Treatment Systems, Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2015 (Course ID #100150) for use until September 2018, based on the understanding

that a contractor will be hired to correct and enhance the course material and examination questions to better reflect the 2015 Standard of Practice; CARRIED

2.1.2. Plumbing, Group A, National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015 (Course ID #100160)

It was reported that the course material has been reviewed, feedback provided to the Council and the course is ready for validation.

David Hughes / Charles Hallett moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group A, National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015 (Course ID #100160); CARRIED

2.1.3. Plumbing, Group A, Evaluating Alternative Solutions, NPC 2015 (Course ID #100161)

It was reported that the course material has been reviewed, feedback provided to the Council and the course is ready for validation.

Tim Kosolofski / Peter Koenig moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group A, Evaluating Alternative Solutions, NPC 2015 (Course ID #100161); CARRIED

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

Date	Action	Responsible	Status/Update
Sep 13 2016	Update further info on PPE failures	Manning	Another significant failure reported in Alberta, National Committees for PPE believe there is an absence of reported incidents, questioned whether PPE should be permitted, still looking for more information on PPE failures, leave on action list
Sep 13 2016	Follow up on whether Acidic Waste from Condensing Appliances would affect private sewage disposal systems	Petryk	Examples provided where there have been issues with start up, expectation of neutralizing in some cases, as there is an understanding of the potential issues and there is no specific action needed by the sub-council, this item will be removed from action list [Council Administration]
Sep 13 2016	Council Policy 9.8 – sections 6 and 8 need to have private sewage disposal systems added	Ziarko	John Ziarko will follow up and bring update back to sub-council [Ziarko]
Sep 13 2016	Bring forward information regarding Plumbing Code Question about sizing for a potential Information Bulletin	Hughes	In progress, work also being done on national level
Jan 24 2017	Schedule a meeting between AMA and the Council regarding the Variance Policy	Hughes/Manning/ Morin/Karch/	John Ziarko will follow up and bring update back to sub-council

		Ziarko	[Ziarko]
Jan 24 2017	Bring forward further information regarding water quality requirements relative to Water Reuse Alternative Solutions	Manning	Alberta Environment and Health discussing jurisdiction regarding water quality, Alberta Health is taking the lead and developing policies
Jan 24 2017	New process documents regarding 3 or 4 column documents will be added to the portal as available.	Manning/Karch	Work is still in progress
Jan 24, 2017	Assist the CPSA and make recommendations for technical clarification regarding the PSDS SOP back to the sub-council for consideration.	Hallett/Wigmore/ Morin/Hughes/ Potskin	On today's agenda
May 2, 2017	Requirements for Combination Heating Systems: Dual Purpose Water Heater STANDATA	Manning	Update provided from National Working Group regarding issues relative to Legionella, awaiting feedback from another group in the US working on the same thing, existing STANDATA is expired but AMA has continued to have it accessible in hopes that changes to B214 will mirror that STANDATA Add B214 Update to next meeting agenda. [Council Administration]
May 2 2017	Gather further information on the Permit Regulation to bring forward to the TCC.	Hughes	Will put together feedback for next TCC meeting [Hughes / Manning]
May 2 2017	Forward to the Building Sub-Council concerns about the impact of energy efficiency building code requirements on hydronics installations.	Hughes	Presentation provided to the BSC, the hydronics industry is evaluating different models on several homes in different zones for both forced air and hydronics
May 2 2017	Feedback regarding STANDATA should be forwarded to the Chair and Administrator (Composting Toilets)	All	No further action, remove from action list [Council Administration]
May 2 2017	Any STANDATA feedback will be provided to the Building Sub-Council.	Manning/Hughes	No feedback provided, remove from action list [Council Administration]
May 2 2017	Review of the PSDS Handbook should be brought forward through the working group to the PSC for approval and could be addressed by letter ballot if needed.	Hallett/Wigmore/ Morin	On today's agenda
May 2 2017	Report back on questionnaire relative to climate change and its potential impact on ULC standard regarding backwater valves.	Harrold	Leave on action list until next meeting
May 2 2017	Check on Garnet Young's replacement (Mechanical Contractors industry segment)	Council Administration	In progress

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Plumbing Code Questions

There were no new questions to be brought forward from the educational institutes.

Quenton Kusiek reported that he has received questions from two architects regarding NPC 2.4.10.4. – Hydraulic Loads. It was clarified that the roof needs to be able to handle the load. It was suggested that a written request for interpretation be submitted to the Chief Plumbing Administrator so a formal clarification can be provided. [Kusiek]

A proposed code change has been forward to the National level to add a definition for **continuous vent**. This will be included in the portal as information. [Hughes]

The Chief Plumbing Administrator asked the technical institutes to provide direction regarding RV dumping stations. [Helmer]

4.2. NPC 2020

It was reported that a public consultation is expected between now and December 2017 on this current round of proposal code changes. One more round of consultation is anticipated before the final cut off for changes to the NPC 2020.

It was reported that the greatest changes are expected relative to water reuse, including rain water harvesting. However, it is likely that if the section on water reuse does not go to public consultation now, it will probably be delayed to the NPC 2025.

4.3. PSDS Administrator Report

4.3.1. Review of STANDATA Notice

The PSDS Administrator reported on a PSDS Notice published recently highlighting:

- Final Notice that August 1, 2017 is the Deadline to Obtain 2015 Standard of Practice (SOP) Update Training Required for Renewal of a Private Sewage Certificate of Competency
- New Initiative: Certification Review Committee
- New Initiative: Private Sewage Working Group

This Notice is available in Shared Documents in the Plumbing Sub-Council portal.

4.3.2. Certificate Review Committee

It was reported that the Certification Review Committee (CRC) has provided direction around training deadlines, additional training competency requirements for certification renewal and has reviewed a number of issue files to provide direction for action on certification. The CRC will also be assessing the needs for continuing education around certification competencies and the training requirements that assess competency prior to certification issuance.

4.3.3. PSDS Permanent Working Group

The Working Group Chair provided a brief overview of discussions from the Working Group's first meeting, including that the working group will be developing a recommended process on how proponents can apply for consideration of new technology that does not meet the existing Standard of Practice.

The recommended Terms of Reference will be sent to sub-council by Letter Ballot for validation.
[Hallett / Council Administration]

4.4. Reference Standards

Members were reminded that participation on national standards committees is highly encouraged. This item will be included on future agendas for any updates relative to reference standards in the NPC.
[Council Administration]

4.4.1. NSF Code Development

The Chief Private Sewage Administrator advised that a Code Development Committee meeting is scheduled for next week. The committee believes that it would be extremely valuable to have the Chief Administrator's participation.

4.4.2. CSA Committee on Basement Flood Remediation

The Chief Plumbing Administrator reported on work being done at the committee level regarding basement flood remediation.

4.5. AMOS Update

The Fall AMOS Meeting will be held October 20-21, 2017. It was reported that B149.3 training will be provided on Friday morning.

4.6. PSDS Handbook Update

It was reported the SOP Handbook has been sent back to the contractor to be cleaned up and a revision should be available this week. This item was removed from the action list and will be reported on by the Working Group.

4.7. Discussion on Air Admittance Valves

The first version of a potential STANDATA on Air Admittance Valves in New Construction relative to NPC 2.5.9.2.1.(d) was viewed on screen. There is a need to provide clarification as there are inconsistencies across jurisdictions and the term "practical" is very subjective. Although many do not want to allow the use of air admittance valves, they are permitted within the code and there is no evidence of failures to move forward with changes to the code.

It was explained that there are other venting systems that are not allowed to be used in Canada because there is evidence of failures and fatalities.

The draft STANDATA will be presented to AMOS at their fall meeting for feedback. [Harrold]

4.8. Potential STANDATA Development regarding Temporary Construction Heating

It was reported that, as of May 1, 2017, furnace manufacturers have stated that if their residential furnace is used for temporary heat during the construction of a single-family home, the furnace's warranty is void. This is because drywall dust seems to cause most of the warranty work.

The draft STANDATA was available for those interested from the gas discipline perspective. The STANDATA includes a template for industry to manage the process and activation of the furnace.

4.9. Other Equally Effective Means for Floor Drain Trap Seal Protection

It was reported that all current barrier type floor drain trap seal protection devices certified to ASSE 1072 would be considered as an appropriate alternate for the local authority to utilize when considering other equally effective means for protection of floor drains. A document was shown on screen that could be developed into a STANDATA. This document will be included in the portal for review. [Manning]

Concern was expressed regarding these devices being clogged up and it was clarified that there are manufacturer requirements for maintenance.

4.10. Status of Restricted Certification and Certification with AMA (Installers)

The draft notice was shown on screen regarding renewals. An overview was provided of the changes.

It was reported that restricted certification for Sewer and Water Service (R) is being audited for termination. AMA will be working with the Council as this would affect certification. It will affect industry because municipalities would no longer be able to require this restricted ticket.

This item was introduced at this meeting for further discussion. Status of Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification Update to be included on the next meeting agenda.

[Council Administration]

4.11. Council Updates

The Manager of Policy and Legislation reported the following:

- An additional person is now in the Sub-Council support role – Gerry Letendre
- The Council will be moving in April 2018, just a few blocks down the street from their current office
- New Member Orientation (November 28, 2017), mandatory for new members
- Effective Meetings Workshops (November 29, 2017)
- Both workshops will be held at the Radisson Edmonton South. Emails have been circulated to all sub-council members. Anyone interested in registering, contact Gerry Letendre (letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca).
- An Appeals Training Workshop is being planned and further details will be provided. This will be required for anyone that is adjudicating appeals.
- The Council is seeking new members for the appeal panel. If interested, please contact John Ziarko at john.ziarko@safetycodes.ab.ca.

4.12. 2018 Meeting Schedule

The following 2018 meeting schedule was determined:

- Tuesday, January 30 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton
- Tuesday, May 22 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton
- Tuesday, September 18 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton
- Tuesday, December 4 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton

4.13 Tank Requirements – Variances

The Chief Private Sewage Administrator reported on potentially phasing out the site-specific variance relative to tank requirements. This item will be brought to the Private Sewage Working Group for further discussion and to bring forward a recommendation to the Sub-Council.

This led to a discussion regarding distribution and it was suggested that these be kept as separate issues.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Meeting and Agenda Feedback

Dealing with action items before new discussion was believed better and members were glad the agenda was reorganized.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton.

5.2.1. 2018 Conference & AGM

The 2018 AGM and Conference will be held from May 30 to June 2, 2018 at the Rimrock Hotel in Banff. Members were reminded that the Council always welcomes suggestions for speaker topics.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Charles Hallett / Quenton Kusiek moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED

The business meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

6. NPC 2020 Working Group

6.1. Review 3-Column Document Changes to NPC 2020

The Working Group met after the regular meeting to continue their review of the 3-column document.

It was asked that the Working Group Members List be maintained after the action items list on every agenda. [Council Administrator]

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

- Remove Acidic waste from condensing appliances from action list. [Council Administration]
- Follow up on Council Policy 9.8 – Sections 6 and 8. [Ziarko]
- Follow up on the need to review the Variance Policy. [Ziarko]
- Add B214 Update to next meeting agenda. [Council Administration]
- Compile feedback to provide to the TCC regarding the Permit Regulation. [Hughes/Manning]
- Remove Composting Toilets STANDATA from action list. [Council Administration]
- Removed STANDATA feedback to BSC from action list. [Council Administration]
- Requirements for Combination Heating Systems: [Hughes/Manning]
Dual Purpose Water Heater STANDATA

4.1. Plumbing Code Questions

2.4.10.4. Hydraulic Loads – it was suggested that a written request for interpretation be submitted to the Chief Plumbing Administrator so a formal clarification can be provided.

[Kusiek]

A proposed code change has been forward to the National level to add a definition for **continuous vent**. This will be included in the portal as information. [Hughes]

The Chief Plumbing Administrator asked the technical institutes to provide direction regarding RV dumping stations. [Helmer]

4.3.3. PSDS Permanent Working Group

The recommended Terms of Reference will be sent to sub-council by Letter Ballot for validation. [Hallett / Council Administration]

4.4. Reference Standards

This item will be included on future agendas for any updates relative to reference standards in the NPC. [Council Administration]

4.7. Discussion on Air Admittance Valves

The draft STANDATA will be presented to AMOS at their fall meeting for feedback. [Harrold]

4.9. Other Equally Effective Means for Floor Drain Trap Seal Protection

This document will be included in the portal for review. [Manning]

4.10. Status of Restricted Certification and Certification with AMA (Installers)

Status of Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification Update to be included on the next meeting agenda. [Council Administration]

6.1. Review 3-Column Document Changes to NPC 2020

It was asked that the Working Group Members List be maintained after the action items list on every agenda. [Council Administrator]

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

1.1. Agenda Adoption

Charles Hallett / Ken Helmer moved to adopt the agenda, as amended; CARRIED

1.2.1. Adoption of March 2, 2017

Lawrence Hess / Peter Koenig moved to approve the March 2, 2017 meeting minutes, as circulated; CARRIED

2.1.1. Plumbing, Group B, Private Sewage Treatment Systems, Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2015 (Course ID #100150)

Charles Hallett / Peter Koenig moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group B, Private Sewage Treatment Systems, Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2015 (Course ID #100150) for use until September 2018, based on the understanding that a contractor will be hired to correct and enhance the course material and examination questions to better reflect the 2015 Standard of Practice; CARRIED

2.1.2. Plumbing, Group A, National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015 (Course ID #100160)

David Hughes / Charles Hallett moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group A, National Plumbing Code of Canada 2015 (Course ID #100160); CARRIED

2.1.3. Plumbing, Group A, Evaluating Alternative Solutions, NPC 2015 (Course ID #100161)

Tim Kosolofski / Peter Koenig moved to approve the training course material for the Plumbing, Group A, Evaluating Alternative Solutions, NPC 2015 (Course ID #100161); CARRIED

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Charles Hallett / Quenton Kusiek moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED