



**MINUTES OF THE  
SECOND GAS SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2022**

**DATE:** May 26, 2022

**TIME:** 9:01 a.m. to 3:16 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Safety Codes Council Office, Edmonton

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Jason Helfrich, Chair  
Ron Beaudette  
Cody Christman  
Kris Topp (via videoconference until 2:20 p.m.)  
Mark Guderjan, Vice Chair  
Roy Herrington  
Tran Mah-Paulson  
Curtis Bellows  
James Maddocks (via videoconference at 9:40am)  
Larry Miller  
Randy Saunders  
Aaron Blake  
Leigh Adams  
Dale Walls

**Safety Codes Council**  
Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach  
Kris Schmaltz, Catrin Berghoff, Jennifer Johnson (for item 4.1)

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Sidney Manning, Claude Valliere (virtual), Tom Knull (virtual), Perry Wager (virtual)

**REGRETS:** Darcy Toner, Tim Dykes

**GUESTS:** Justin Trupp (virtual), Corey Huppe (virtual)

**RECORDER:** Kathryn Derkach

**2022 MEETINGS:** September 29, December 1

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A round table introduction was held and the meeting opening was read.

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption

Ron Beaudette / Mark Guderjan moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED

### 1.2 Adoption of the February 3, 2022 Minutes

Ron Beaudette / Larry Miller moved to adopt the minutes of the February 3, 2022 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

## 2. Matters for Decision

### 2.1. Closed Session

Dale Walls / Cody Christman moved to go into closed session; CARRIED

Cody Christman / Dale Walls moved to come out of closed session; CARRIED

#### 2.1.1. Appointment of Cory Huppe to represent Sheet Metal Contractors

Mark Guderjan / Dale Walls moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Cory Huppe to the Gas Sub-Council to represent Sheet Metal Contractors for a term ending January 31, 2025, effective immediately; CARRIED

#### 2.1.2. Reappointment of Ron Beaudette to represent Labour

Cody Christman / Roy Herrington moved to recommend to the Board reappointment of Ron Beaudette to the Gas Sub-Council to represent Labour for a term ending January 31, 2025, effective immediately; CARRIED

#### 2.1.3. Chair Election

The Chair called for nominations. Mark Guderjan put his name forward. Two further calls were made with no further nominations being brought forward. **Mark Guderjan was appointed Chair of the GSC, effective May 27, 2022, by acclamation.**

#### 2.1.4. Vice Chair Election

The Chair called for nominations. Cody Christman put his name forward. Two further calls were made with no further nominations being brought forward. **Cody Christman was appointed Vice Chair of the GSC, effective May 27, 2022, by acclamation.**

#### 2.1.5. Discussion on proposal to add an Industrial Combustion seat

Further discussion will take place during the annual matrix review at the September meeting.

### 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Combination Heating STANDATA	Bring forward a final draft of the revised STANDATA	Sept 15/16	Manning	STANDATA has been reviewed by PSC and should be going onto the Municipal Affairs website shortly.  Complete; remove from action list.
2.	BNQ 1784.000 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code and CSA B149.6	BNQ 1784.000 CHIC recommended for adoption by GSC on Nov 15/18; AMA to provide updates on adoption as available.  GSC motion to support adoption of CSA B149.6 was made April 23, 2020.	Nov 15/18	AMA	BNQ has stated they will publish a new code by the end of May 2022. The GSC will then be able to develop a 3 column document to review the new code and then give a formal recommendation.
3.	Cylinders Below Grade at Construction Sites	Motion made Oct 7/21 to forward the code change request to CSA B149.2 Committee; seeking updates from Mark Guderjan, Administrator, or Jason Helfrich when available.	Feb 12/20	Guderjan / Manning / Helfrich	The code change proposal has been submitted and Mark has been invited to discuss at the beginning of June.
4.	20lb Cylinder Requalification Requirements	Jason Helfrich and Marcel Mandin volunteered to work on the white paper.	Oct 7/21	Helfrich	Marcel is no longer on the GSC but is available to help as needed.  It was reported that a lot has changed in industry since this item was brought forward with inventory being a challenge and this may be a temporary issue.  This topic is being discussed at IGAC and the Administrator will bring updates as they are available.

5.	Single Family Dwelling Definition	Council staff will circulate the proposed definition to other sub-councils for a proposed agenda discussion item.	Feb 3/22	Council Admin/ Herrington	There was a lot of discussion at the BSC meeting and they would like to participate in the working group to review further. It was noted by the Director of Building/Fire Codes at Municipal Affairs at the BSC meeting that the group should focus on explaining the issues that are arising because of the current wording and how the issues could be solved rather than defining specific wording in the regulation.
6.	Draft Flow Chart for Fuel Gas Pressure Piping in Plants	Members were asked to review and provide feedback on how helpful this document is.	Feb 3/22	All	Jim, Randy and Sidney will work on a draft to bring back to the GSC.

#### 4. Matters for Discussion

##### 4.1. SCO Curriculum Modernization and Policy Review

The Senior Manager of Certification and members of his team presented on the Council’s curriculum modernization. The purpose of this presentation was to engage the sub-council and gather feedback on the project. Highlights included:

- A framework was developed after a competency profile was completed in 2019.
- Key priorities to modernize the SCO curriculum include training SCOs to be knowledgeable and capable with the ability to interpret codes and standards, have critical thinking skills, and the requirement to stay up to date on emerging technologies, codes and standards.
- Key SCO competencies have been identified:
  - Safety Codes – the interpretation and application, and the boundaries and interactions across codes and disciplines.
  - Safety Codes System – the Safety Codes Act, regulations, policies and QMP.
  - SCO Practice – roles and responsibilities, the permit lifecycle and investigations.
  - SCO Communication Skills – critical thinking and problem solving, ethics and professionalism, customer service, personal and site safety, relationship building, planning and organization, and continuous improvement.
- SCO Curriculum Recommendations include:
  - Expand the base competency content to address key SCO knowledge and skills
  - Shift the focus of education to code interpretation and application and away from memorization.
  - Align course with adult education best practices.
- The vision for the SCO curriculum is to evolve educational programming to meet the needs of the system.

- The Council hopes to achieve this by focusing on:
  - Aligning base competency training to be the competency profile.
  - Training SCOs to effectively interpret codes and standards to ensure code compliance while enabling innovation.
  - Ensure SCOs have access to training on changing codes and emerging technologies.
  - Shifting the focus from memorization of facts to critical thinking and application of knowledge to solve problems.
  - Practical and applied learning.

The following was discussed:

- There was general support for the new direction and modernization of the program.
- The Gas SCO mentorship program is very beneficial and could be expanded upon.
- It's important that new SCOs are able to be successful and if that entails more training prior to certification and designation of powers, that would be supported.
- Currently, training on CSA B149.3 is not being reviewed, but the industry feels there is a gap with that section, the Council will look into that section further.
- There may be a need for a different type of gas inspector and training because of the variety of gas installations. It's difficult for an SCO to maintain competency on all aspects of their scope when they don't deal with certain situations or types of equipment in their municipality.
- The Council is looking for partnerships as part of this initiative. If a course exists somewhere else, there may be value in partnering with that organization instead of creating a new course.

A second presentation was given on the proposed changes to the Gas Group A SCO Scope to address a gap and clarify the role of the Group A SCO. A section on compressed and liquefied natural gas refueling stations was added to the scope of practice. There was general agreement about this addition from the advisory group, which was made up of GSC members.

It was discussed that there currently isn't training for CSA B108 and with this addition into the scope, training should be considered. The Administrator reported that there are very few refueling stations in the province and that CSA has training available to SCOs in Alberta. If the number of these installations increases, the Council would explore options to provide Gas Group A SCOs with additional training on the application of CSA B108.1 and B108.2.

#### **4.2. 14-BCV-007 Interior Stairways for Roof Access**

The Interior Stairways for Roof Access is a Building STANDATA that the GSC has reviewed previously with the possibility of suggesting inclusion of gas code information. This STANDATA has been published, but because the new National Building Code Alberta Edition is being published shortly, all Building STANDATAs will go through another review, giving the GSC an opportunity for input. The Gas Administrator is looking to the sub-council for further direction on this STANDATA. There are options to suggest the inclusion of gas code information, to create a separate information bulletin in the gas discipline or to leave it the way it is.

It was suggested that this is an important issue that falls under both disciplines so this should be a joint STANDATA, but including this information within the Building STANDATA would also be acceptable. It was noted that it may also be good to have the Electrical Sub-Council review as well.

It was noted that the STANDATA has been renamed to 19-BCV-019 Interior Stairways for Roof Access to HVAC Equipment.

**Roy Herrington / Cody Christman moved to recommend that the Building Administrator include information regarding access to appliances from CSA B149.1 in the 19-BCV-019 Interior Stairways for Roof Access to HVAC Equipment STANDATA; CARRIED**

This motion will be sent to the Building Administrator by Council staff. [Council Administration]

#### **4.3. Hydrogen Presentation**

This presentation was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **4.4. Alternate Path to Compliance with B149.3 to Reduce Mandatory Venting of Fuel Gases**

An industry member gave a presentation with a request for GSC to approve immediate implementation of a change that is anticipated in CSA B149.3-25. This code change has been approved at the CSA technical committee level and is expected to be included in the 2025 code.

The change aims to reduce or eliminate venting large amounts of gas to the atmosphere, which can be costly and environmentally damaging. An overview was given of the code change, which introduces a third path for compliance which entails following a specific procedure. Discussion was held about this procedural approach and it was reported by a member with experience in this area that, while the procedure is sound in theory, it can be very challenging to do properly in the field.

It was clarified that GSC is a recommending body and has no authority to implement any code changes. The sub-council could make a recommendation to the Gas Administrator for a province wide variance, but it's under the authority of the Administrator to implement such a STANDATA.

The Administrator explained that B149.3 can be very complex and applies to a number of complex systems. Under this code, the authority having jurisdiction is the inspection body rather than a safety codes officer employed by an accredited organization. In order for a province-wide variance to be created, a number of inspection bodies would need to state their support and show that they would accept the technical requirements of the variance. There is already the ability for owners to apply for site specific variances to use this approach.

The Administrator will correspond with the proponent about this topic. [Manning]

#### **4.5. Working Group Reports**

##### **4.5.1. CSA B149.1 / BNQ 1784 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code**

The 2022 edition of BNQ 1784 will be published shortly. The BNQ 1784-000 was confirmed as published and is available for free online. Council staff will investigate availability of the 2022 edition. [Council Administration]

Municipal Affairs is currently working on a 3-column document for the B149.1.

**Ron Beaudette / Leigh Adams moved to amend the CSA B149.1 / BNQ 1784 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code working group membership to be: Cody Christman (chair), Curtis Bellows, Tran Mah-Paulson, Ron Beaudette, Mark Guderjan, Larry Miller, and Dale Walls; CARRIED**

#### **4.5.2. CSA B149.2 / CSA B108.1 & CSA B108.2**

A meeting will be held in early June.

Municipal Affairs is currently working on the B149.2 and B108 3-column documents.

**Cody Christman / Roy Herrington moved to amend the CSA B149.2 / CSA B108.1 & CSA B108.2 working group membership to be: Jason Helfrich (chair), Ron Beaudette, Mike Turek, and Cody Christman; CARRIED**

#### **4.5.3. CSA B149.3 / CSA B149.6**

A set of national code meetings will be held in June.

Municipal Affairs is currently working on a 3-column document for the B149.3.

**Ron Beaudette / Roy Herrington moved to amend the CSA B149.3 / CSA B149.6 working group membership to be: Dale Walls (chair), Kris Topp, James Maddocks, Roy Herrington, Mark Guderjan, and Justin Trupp; CARRIED**

#### **4.5.4. CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2**

Municipal Affairs is currently working on the 3-column documents for the B109 and B149.5.

**Leigh Adams / Dale Walls moved to amend the CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2 working group membership to be: Jason Helfrich (chair), Chris Sherbanuk, Aaron Blake; CARRIED**

**Larry Miller / Roy Herrington moved to amended the CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2 working group membership to include Leigh Adams; CARRIED**

#### **4.6. AMOS Report**

AMOS held its first face to face meeting in over two years in April. Highlights included a presentation from Clean02 and discussion around hydrogen.

#### **4.7. Administrator/AMA Report**

The Administrator included a written report in the member portal and reported on the following:

- The gas code regulation will be amended in September with corrections for B149.3, B108.1 and B108.2 and adoption notices for B109.1 and B109.2. The next step is creating a proposal package to amend the gas code regulation for adoption of B149.6 and CHIC codes.
- There has been an increase in requests for restricted tickets for secondary services from members of the Federation of Gas Co-ops and remote municipalities. There's hesitation to create a process with fees and tickets but there is a need to recognize the qualifications for this. The Administrator will provide a letter for the Federation of Gas Co-Ops stating the requirements for an individual in order to meet the requirements and qualify for a permit.
- There is a misunderstanding within the agricultural industry that agricultural gas engines are exempt from the code. They are not exempt and need to meet requirements of the gas code regulations. Documents with the Utilities Branch have been updated to help clear up the misunderstanding.

- The Standards Council of Canada and CSA are moving into discussion around decarbonisation, the use of hydrogen, and climate change, along with the harmonization of codes across Canada. There is shift to talking about what's in the pipe, not just how big the pipe is.
- Alberta previously did not allow burial of a propane tank, and any mention of this in SCO training had been removed. The new code now states that you can bury a propane tank. The Administrator would like to know if members think that propane tank burial should be included in SCO training. Any members with comments are asked to reach out directly. [All]
- New labels for vehicle conversions that don't include requirements for requalifications are now being used.
- There are a number of joint STANDATA that are being updated to the new template.
- The gasfitter reconciliation working group has developed a good program and their work continues. This document still needs to be signed by provinces across the country.
- High level discussions continue around the hydrogen and natural gas blend definition. It's been discussed that most groups are okay with a 20% hydrogen blend, a mix of more than 20% hydrogen will be considered hydrogen and not a blend.
  - The Heating and Hot water Industry Council (HHIC) has creating a labelling system with three labels that will start showing up on appliances in Alberta as early as 2024.
    - Hydrogen Blend: capable of running on a blend of up to 20% hydrogen in the gas network.
    - 100% Hydrogen boiler: an appliances specifically built to run on hydrogen without the need for conversion.
    - Hydrogen Ready: appliances capable of running on a 20% blend but has the capability of being converted by a gas safe engineer to run on 100% hydrogen gas network.
- It has been announced that Alberta is creating a Clean Hydrogen Centre of Excellence to support energy solutions and grow the hydrogen sector in Alberta. There's still a lot of uncertainty in industry about which regulations hydrogen fueling stations will fall under.

#### 4.8. Council Updates

A written report was included in the portal and updates were provided on:

- The Council office has reopened.
  - Staff may continue to work from home on some days.
  - All meetings that have been identified as tentatively in-person remain so.
  - There is always the option for members to participate in in-person meetings virtually instead; however, we encourage all members to attend in person if possible. Please let Council staff know if you must attend an in-person meeting virtually.
- Council AGM and volunteer appreciation event is being planned for the fall.
  - There will not be a spring Council Conference in Banff.
  - The Dr. Sauer award will be presented at the volunteer appreciation event and nomination forms can be found on the member portal home page.
- Council Member Training
  - Save the date for courses offered in the fall:
    - Appeals Training: November 15 & 16, 2022.
    - Effective Meetings: October 31 & November 1, 2022.
  - Contact gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca to register.



## **5. Meeting Finalization**

### **5.1. Round Table**

None identified.

### **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for September 29, 2022 tentatively at the Council office at 9:00 a.m.

### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Ron Beaudette moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

**4.4. Alternate Path to Compliance with B149.3 to Reduce Mandatory Venting of Fuel Gases**

The Administrator will work with this industry member on finding a resolution to this request.

[Manning]

**4.2. 14-BCV-007 Interior Stairways for Roof Access**

This motion will be sent to the Building Administrator by Council staff.

[Council Administration]

**4.5.1. CSA B149.1 / BNQ 1784 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code**

Council staff will investigate availability of the 2022 edition.

[Council Administration]

**4.7. Administrator/AMA Report**

The Administrator would like to know if members think that propane tank burial should be included in SCO training. Any members with comments are asked to reach out directly.

[All]

**– MOTIONS –**

**1.1 Agenda Adoption**

Ron Beaudette / Mark Guderjan moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; **CARRIED**

**1.2 Adoption of the February 3, 2022 Minutes**

Ron Beaudette / Larry Miller moved to adopt the minutes of the February 3, 2022 meeting, as circulated; **CARRIED**

**2.1. Closed Session**

Dale Walls / Cody Christman moved to go into closed session; **CARRIED**

Cody Christman / Dale Walls moved to come out of closed session; **CARRIED**

**2.1.1. Appointment of Cory Huppe to represent Sheet Metal Contractors**

Mark Guderjan / Dale Walls moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Cory Huppe to the Gas Sub-Council to represent Sheet Metal Contractors for a term ending January 31, 2025, effective immediately; **CARRIED**

**2.1.2. Reappointment of Ron Beaudette to represent Labour**

Cody Christman / Roy Herrington moved to recommend to the Board reappointment of Ron Beaudette to the Gas Sub-Council to represent Labour for a term ending January 31, 2025, effective immediately; **CARRIED**

**2.1.3. Chair Election**

Mark Guderjan was appointed Chair of the GSC, effective May 27, 2022, by acclamation.

**2.1.4. Vice Chair Election**

Cody Christman was appointed Vice Chair of the GSC, effective May 27, 2022, by acclamation.

**4.2. 14-BCV-007 Interior Stairways for Roof Access**

Roy Herrington / Cody Christman moved to recommend that the Building Administrator include information regarding access to appliances from CSA B149.1 in the 19-BCV-019 Interior Stairways for Roof Access to HVAC Equipment STANDATA; **CARRIED**

**4.5.1. CSA B149.1 / BNQ 1784 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code**

Ron Beaudette / Leigh Adams moved to amend the CSA B149.1 / BNQ 1784 Canadian Hydrogen Installation Code working group membership to be: Cody Christman (chair), Curtis Bellows, Tran Mah-Paulson, Ron Beaudette, Mark Guderjan, Larry Miller, and Dale Walls; **CARRIED**

**4.5.2. CSA B149.2 / CSA B108.1 & CSA B108.2**

Cody Christman / Roy Herrington moved to amend the CSA B149.2 / CSA B108.1 & CSA B108.2 working group membership to be: Jason Helfrich (chair), Ron Beaudette, Mike Turek, and Cody Christman; **CARRIED**

**4.5.3. CSA B149.3 / CSA B149.6**

Ron Beaudette / Roy Herrington moved to amend the CSA B149.3 / CSA B149.6 working group membership to be: Dale Walls (chair), Kris Topp, James Maddocks, Roy Herrington, Mark Guderjan, and Justin Trupp; CARRIED

**4.5.4. CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2**

Leigh Adams / Dale Walls moved to amend the CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2 working group membership to be: Jason Helfrich (chair), Chris Sherbanuk, Aaron Blake; CARRIED

Larry Miller / Roy Herrington moved to amended the CSA B149.5 / CSA B109.1 & CSA B109.2 working group membership to include Leigh Adams; CARRIED

**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

Ron Beaudette moved to adjourn the meeting.

**– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –**

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)</b>
CSA-B149.1 – Natural gas and propane installation code  BNQ 1784.000 Hydrogen Installations	<b><u>Cody Christman</u></b> Ron Beaudette, Curtis Bellows, Mark Guderjan, Tran Mah-Paulson, Larry Miller, Dale Walls
CSA-B149.2 – Propane storage and handling code CSA-B108.1 - Compressed natural gas refuelling stations installation code CSA-B108.2 – Liquefied natural gas refuelling stations installation code	<b><u>Jason Helfrich</u></b> Ron Beaudette, Cody Christman, Mike Turek
CSA-B149.3 – Code for the field approval of fuel-related components on appliances and equipment CSA-B149.6 Biogas and Landfill Gas Code	<b><u>Dale Walls</u></b> Mark Guderjan, Roy Herrington, James Maddocks, Kris Topp, Justin Trupp
CSA-B149.5 – Installation code for propane fuel systems and tanks on highway vehicles CSA-B109.1 - Compressed natural gas vehicle installation code CSA-B109.2 – Liquefied natural gas vehicle installation code	<b><u>Jason Helfrich</u></b> Leigh Adams, Aaron Blake, Chris Sherbanuk
Single Family Dwelling <i>(Joint with ESC)</i>	GSC: <b><u>Roy Herrington</u></b> , Mark Guderjan, Larry Miller ESC: Bert DeBruin, Barry Voogd