



# Safety Codes Council

## MINUTES OF THE FIRST PRESSURE EQUIPMENT SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2024

**DATE:** January 11, 2024

**TIME:** 9:03 a.m. to 12:17 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Videoconference

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Henry Hau, Chair  
Nate Bartley  
Bert Boulet  
Greg Gaudet  
Diederick Godin  
Warren Kmicik  
Dean Kovacs  
Billy Lee, Vice Chair  
Justin Macneil  
Tony McWhannel  
Nyssa Moore, Vice Chair  
Elaine Wasylenchuk

**Safety Codes Council**  
Allison Karch, Jennifer Johnson

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Nick Monea

**ABSA**  
Robin Antoniuk, Mike Prefumo, Djordje Srnica

**REGRETS:** Jim Rice, Jacques St-Onge, Robert James

**GUESTS:** Denis Lepage

**RECORDER:** Jennifer Johnson

**2024 MEETINGS:** June 6, March 28

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A round table introduction was held and videoconference functionality was reviewed, and members were reminded that their primary duty is to act in the interest of safety in the built environment for the benefit of all Albertans.

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption

**Tony McWhannel/Warren Kmicik moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED**

### 1.2 Adoption of the November 23, 2023, Minutes

**Dean Kovacs/Greg Gaudet moved to adopt the minutes of the November 23, 2023, meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

## 2. Matters for Decision

None identified.

## 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

None identified.

## 4. Matters for Discussion

### 4.1. Review of AB-519 and AB-527

Members were to review the proposed input developed by the In-Service working group prior to the meeting and were asked in the meeting if there were any concerns or proposed changes. There was no additional feedback from members.

### 4.2. Welders, Welding Operators and Training/Qualification Requirements

Matt Yarmuch from Alberta Welding Optimization Committee (AWOC) gave a presentation of two proposals their group had previously identified as a potential red tape reduction initiative. The first proposal was to amend the pressure welder regulation to recognize the wire process operator journey person certification, and the second was to develop an AB-500 document to consolidate welding qualification requirements. Member discussed the following:

- Regarding wire process operators, members noted that technically they are allowed under the current regulation although it is restrictive.
- The Administrator also noted it is important to consider the time and effort that would be required to make a change and whether it would be a worthwhile investment.
- Regarding the proposed consolidation of AB documents, members noted that it could be a good solution and that the information provided by AWOC would be useful to assist with drafting the document. However, ABSA representatives noted it would be a large endeavour and they have not received any other negative feedback about the current state.
- The ABSA website could potentially be improved to be more user-friendly.

### **4.3. Working Group Reports**

#### **4.3.1. Pressure Welders**

The working group has not met since the last PESC meeting. They will meet again in April and plan to review the presentation from AWOC at that time and identify any next steps.

#### **4.3.2. Power Engineers**

No update as the group has not met since the last PESC meeting. They are looking for concerns/issues to be brought forward to be discussed.

#### **4.3.3. PESR Codes & Standards**

No update as the group has not met. They will arrange a meeting soon to look at what work is upcoming and develop a work plan to review the recent new editions of several adopted codes.

#### **4.3.4. PESR In-Service Equipment**

The working group met on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Discussions included used equipment peddlers, propane PRD servicing, and AB 513 concerns. Future topics include red tape reduction.

#### **4.3.5. Hydrogen**

The working group met on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and will meet again on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the current codes and standards that would apply to hydrogen service.

### **4.4. AMA Report**

The Technical Advisor reported:

- Pressure Welder Regulation amendments that were agreed upon by the PESC a while ago are scheduled for the spring sitting of the legislature. These include production welding exemption, continuous employment requirements, and the addition of apprentices to the tack welder certification.
- The technical advisor requested feedback on thermal liquid heating systems as they appear to be omitted within the Pressure Welder Regulation. The Administrator and Chair of the Pressure Welder Working Group both advised that it is not necessary to add them as it is very specific and already listed in Section 3 of the Power Engineer Regulation.
- The Unfired Boiler Exemption in the Power Engineers Regulation continues to move forward as the executive team considers policy implications and any other potential impacts.
- Municipal Affairs is drafting a procedure for code review and timely code adoption. Recognizing that the pressure equipment discipline is unique due to the high volume of applicable codes, members are invited to provide feedback on proposed appropriate timelines to complete the necessary code review.

### **4.5. ABSA/Administrator Report**

#### **Summary of unsafe condition, accident and fire reports**

One injury reported in the period Nov. 22, 2023 to 2024-01-11. A worker was injured during a pneumatic pressure test. A hose had a flow issue, and the nitrogen bottle was closed and hose

disconnected for inspection. When the hose was reconnected, the pressure dislodged ice hitting the worker in the face.

Brief descriptions are available <https://www.absa.ca/unsafe-condition-accident-fire-reporting/summary-of-unsafe-condition-accident-fire-reports/>

### **Information Bulletins**

IB23-048	<a href="#">Pressure Equipment Repair and Alteration Requirements</a>
IB23-049	<a href="#">Overview of Amendments to Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation (AR 49/2006)</a>
IB23-050	<a href="#">Use of Finite Element Analysis (FEA) to Support a Pressure Equipment Design Submission</a>

### **New or Revised AB-500 Documents**

No new or revised AB-500 documents for period 2023-09-26 to 2023-11-23

		Edition	Revision	Published
AB-513	<i>Pressure Equipment Repair and Alteration Requirements</i>	4	1	2023-12-08

### **Codes and Standards**

#### **ASME**

- The next ASME BPV Code week will be held in Houston, TX from February 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **CSA B51**

- The final ballot is expected to be opened in January 2024.
- The next edition of CSA B51 is scheduled for the first quarter of 2024.

#### **CSA B52**

- The 2023 edition of CSA B52 has been issued on December 24, 2023.

#### **CSA B56**

- CSA Technical Committee was formed and they conducted the first meeting in December 2023.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 2024.

#### **CSA Z662**

- The CSA Z662 Technical Committee (TC) meeting was held in Victoria, BC on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- The committee started working on the code updates for the 2027 Edition.

#### **NFPA**

- The 2024 edition of NFPA 58 – *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code* has been published.
- The 2024 edition of NFPA 59 – *Utility LP-Gas Plant Code* has been published.

### **4.6. Council Updates**

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

- Submissions are open for the Dr. Sauer Award nominations, which recognizes the outstanding contributions of a Council member. Please consider who you would like to

nominate. The process will be similar to last year's, with submissions being collected through an online form. An email with a link to the online form was sent to members yesterday, and the nomination deadline is January 23.

- Changes have been made to a number of policies that affect members. All policies and procedures reference below are available in the "[Governance Documents](#)" folder in the Members Portal. Members are asked to review all the applicable policies.

## **5. Meeting Finalization**

### **5.1. Round Table**

- Greg Gaudet advised that during a discussion with inspectors, they noted a disconnect between AB-513 and AB-535 and requested clarification. The Administrator will reach out to discuss further.

### **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for March 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Dean Kovacs/Greg Gaudet moved to adjourn the meeting; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

**– MOTIONS –**

**1.1 Agenda Adoption**

**Tony McWhannel/Warren Kmicik moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED**

**1.2 Adoption of the November 23, 2023, minutes**

**Dean Kovacs/Greg Gaudet moved to adopt the minutes of the November 23, 2023, meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Dean Kovacs/Greg Gaudet moved to adjourn the meeting; CARRIED**

– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)</b>
Power Engineers	<b><u>Tony McWhannel</u></b> Bert Boulet, Henry Hau, Jim Rice, Mike Lyne, Todd Loran, John Wolff, David Miller, Warren Kmicik ABSA support: Mike Poehlmann AMA support: Nick Monea
Pressure Welders	<b><u>Billy Lee</u></b> Nyssa Moore, Jacques St-Onge, Robert James, Nate Bartley, Henry Hau, Justin MacNeil, Rick Walmsley, Matt Yarmuch ABSA support: Mike Prefumo, Jason Reinhart AMA support: Nick Monea
PESR Codes and Standards, Design Registration and Shop Inspections	<b><u>Greg Gaudet (Chair), Diederick Godin (Vice Chair)</u></b> Henry Hau, Billy Lee, Tony McWhannel, David Miller, Eric Madsen, Jim B. Seale, Neil McKay, Shawn Morrison, Trevor Seipp, Kelly Bell ABSA support: Djordje Sronic AMA support: Nick Monea
PESR In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations, and PEIM Program	<b><u>Nyssa Moore (Chair), Diederick Godin (Vice Chair)</u></b> Greg Gaudet, Henry Hau, Todd Loran, Jacques St-Onge, John Wolff, Nate Bartley, Jim Rice, Dean Kovacs AMA support: Nick Monea ABSA support: Mike Prefumo
Hydrogen in Pressure Equipment	<b><u>Nathan Bartley (Chair), Billy Lee (Vice Chair)</u></b> Warren Kmicik, Nyssa Moore, Elaine Wasylenchuk, Robert James, Henry Hau, Greg Gaudet, Tony McWhannel, Jarred Henkelman, Ryan Chaisson, Tony Pancerella, Jordan Kiesman, Iulian Radu, Tim Erickson, Eric Dowdle ABSA support: Lou Petrusevski, Mike Prefumo AMA support: Nick Monea