



Safety Codes Council

MINUTES OF THE FIRST PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2020

DATE: March 3, 2020

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

LOCATION: Safety Codes Council Office, Edmonton

PRESENT: *Sub-Council Members*

David Hughes, Chair
David Dallaire
Stephen Dussault
Mark Harrold, Vice Chair
Paul Fullam
Tim Kosolofski
Quenton Kusiek
Roger Lebeuf
Al Steenbergen
Shawn Van Velzen

Safety Codes Council

Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach, Jennifer Johnson
Erin Stroud (item 4.8)

Alberta Municipal Affairs

Sidney Manning, Dean Morin

REGRETS: Ken Morrison, Angus Potskin

RECORDER: Kathryn Derkach

2020 MEETINGS: May 5, October 6, December 1

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 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

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED

1.2 Adoption of the December 3 Minutes

Mark Harrold / Tim Kosolofski moved to adopt the minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Closed Session

Mark Harrold / Roger Lebeuf moved to enter closed session; CARRIED

Item 2.1.1 was discussed in closed session.

Al Steenbergen / Paul Fullam moved to come out of closed session; CARRIED

2.1.1 Nomination of Stephen Laurie to represent the Major Municipalities – South industry segment

Quenton Kusiek / Shawn van Velzen moved to recommend to the Board the appointment of Stephen Laurie to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent the Major Municipalities – South industry segment for a term ending January 31, 2023, effective immediately; CARRIED

2.2 Skills Matrix Review

The skills matrix document included in the portal was reviewed. Members who have not submitted their skills are asked to do so by April 14. [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	Ongoing. The Administrator is waiting for permission to share documents from Alberta Health Services and Alberta Environment. Once available, they'll be brought to the sub-council.
		Research water quality topics (Water Safety Plans, Log Reductions, DALY) and bring findings to next meeting.	May 22/18	All	Ongoing. Members were encouraged to do some basic research around this topic and bring questions or comments back to the sub-council.
2	Requirements for	Investigate a path forward for the expired STANDATA	May 2/17	Hughes / Manning	Ongoing, still waiting on the B214 outcome before moving

	Combination Heating Systems: Dual Purpose Water Heater STANDATA	once the revised B214 is issued. (Full discussion in Oct. 2019 minutes, item 4.9)			forward.
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, there is a meeting in April to discuss the NSF/ANSI 40.
4	Removing Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification	Assist the Administrators to determine jurisdictions that could be included in an Info Bulletin regarding jurisdictional challenges btwn plumbing systems and private sewage systems.	Dec 3/19	Fullam/ Harrold/ Kusiek	Item 4.1. on today's agenda
5	Temporary Work Camps	Provide final draft guidance document with content to address systems over 25 m ³ for comment from members.	Dec 3/19	Morin	The draft was reviewed by industry with few comments back. Work is being done to explore options for management of these systems.
6	Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code	Work with AMA on drafting a code change request for the NPC 2025.	Sep 18/18	Hughes/Dallaire/ Kosolofski/ Harrold	Ongoing. It was noted that Strathcona County and Leduc County have already done some work around this topic and would be good resources to reach out to.
		Provide CAN/CSA-B126 SERIES-13 (R2018) – Water cisterns to the group developing a code change request on cisterns.	Dec 3/19	Morin	
7	CSA Reference Standards	Provide information from presentation on protection of buildings from drain water infiltration to Perry Wager.	Dec 3/19	Harrold	Mark Harrold provided the presentation on the member portal. This item will be removed from the list.

It was requested that energy efficiency requirements for domestic water heaters be added to the next agenda, to be presented by Mark Harrold and Sidney Manning. [Council Administration]

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Jurisdictional Challenges between Plumbing Systems and Private Sewage Systems relative to Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification

There has been discussion at Municipal Affairs to remove the Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification program with support of industry. It is expected that this program will fall under

Red Tape Reduction. The Administrator noted that Municipal Affairs would help with the transition and assist municipalities that wish to continue with the program.

Further discussion around private sewage and plumbing jurisdictional challenges included:

- The demarcation line between plumbing and private sewage has not been consistent.
- There is a STANDATA that outlines when you need a plumbing permit and when you need a private sewage permit. However, further clarification is needed for RV parks and mobile home parks.
- Some of the issues are habits that will need to be corrected and comes down to education and communication with municipalities.
- Alberta Environment has been looking into summer villages and issues in those settings.
- The Permit Regulation needs to be reviewed for opportunities to clarify these issues.

This item will be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

[Council Administration]

4.2. Permit Regulation Review

The Permit Regulation will be sent to sub-council members for review and discussion at the next meeting. Sub-Council members were asked to make their changes within the word document and send back to Council staff for discussion at the next meeting. [All]

It was noted by the Administrator that the intent of the permit regulation is to keep requirements as simple as possible and major addition involving extensive language may have a smaller chance of being considered, so focus on small wording changes that can be backed up with documentation.

4.3. Reference Standards

4.3.1. NSF

The following was reported:

- Joint committee meetings will take place in the spring and fall with issue papers coming in.
- If sub-council members have any issues within the NSF suite of standards, let the Administrator of PSDS know.
- NSF 61 is the largest NSF standard in plumbing with the 2019 version released on February 27. Products utilizing NSF 61 will now certify to that standard.

4.3.2. ULC

The following was reported:

- The ULC Advisory Council meeting will be in Toronto at the end of May and the Administrator will have a report in the fall about this group.

4.3.3. CSA

The following was reported:

- The Canadian Advisory Council on plumbing and the Canadian Regulatory Committee on plumbing will meet on August 17/18. National regulators within the plumbing discipline will provide guidance to NRC and Health Canada to try to support consistency and timely code adoption across Canada.

- The B214 Strategic Steering Committee is meeting this week and getting close to public review.

4.3.4. BNQ

The following was reported:

- The 3680-600 series is building a standard within a standard with public consultation expected in the fall.

4.4. Working Group Reports

4.4.1. NPC 2020

The following was reported:

- The Administrator has been asking for a redline draft from NRC to use to update the current 3 column document and is hoping to have this available at the end of April for the sub-council to review.

4.4.2. PSDS

A written report was included in the portal and reviewed. The plan moving forward with the working group is to continue review of the SOP with assignments made to each member of the group.

4.5. AMOS Report

The following was reported:

- Meetings will be held on April 17 and 18 in Red Deer. It was noted that Municipal Affairs finds these meetings extremely important and beneficial.
- Some updates have been made to the AMOS website.

4.6. Administrator/AMA Report

The Plumbing Administrator provided a written report on the member portal and highlights included:

- The Permit Regulation Guideline expired in 2008 but can still be found on the Open Alberta website and is a good resource.
- NPC 2020 continues development with a draft expect in April 2020.
- Public consultation is open until March 13 for the NPC with no substantive changes.
- Alterations of Existing Buildings (AEB) are being discussed at NRC.
- Water reuse policy development for Alberta Health, including a focus on education on the definitions of potable and non-potable.
- Alberta Health is dealing with inquires about lead in the water, creating new documents and reference information with new guidelines. It was noted that the number of lead services in Alberta is low.
- World Plumbing Day is March 11 and is an opportunity to recognize how the plumbing industry helps save lives.

The Private Sewage Administrator reported:

- Group B SCO course has been finalized with exam bank ratification still ongoing.
- Work continues to update the Alberta specific installations manual.
- There is a cross discipline issue with plumbing and PSDS for water treatment devices and how they are treated.

- The Permit Regulation gives an opportunity to remove the treatment system devices which would be the first step in providing clarity.

The Plumbing Administrator continued his presentation from the December 2019 meeting, Decoding Code Process 101. Highlights of the presentation included:

- The Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) was established in Canada to assist NRC with the development and maintenance of a national model Code published in Canada.
- CCBFC collaborates with provinces and territories for codes development.
- Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) came into force on July 1, 2017 and modernizes internal trade.
- The Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table (RCT) was established to oversee the regulatory reconciliation process and promote regulatory cooperation across Canada.
- NRC and CCBFC work with Province and Territorial Policy Advisory Committee on Codes (PTPACC) regarding issues of policy for codes and guide development.
- The codes development process is balanced by region and interest categories and has substantial public involvement.
- Proposed changes criteria includes:
 - Is it within the scope and objectives of the code?
 - Is there a need to be regulated?
 - What's the minimum level of performance?
 - How is it enforceable and measureable?
 - What is the cost-benefit analysis?
- There are a number of ways to be involved with the code development process:
 - Volunteer or observe a standing committee or task group
 - Submit a code change request
 - Submit public review comments
 - Participate in priorities discussions

4.7. Council Updates

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

- The process for 'closed sessions' (formerly 'in-camera sessions') and clarification that any motions made during those sessions must be made out of closed session and recorded in the minutes.
- Allison will be on maternity leave starting in March. Please remember to include Kathryn on all emails going forward.
- There are number of member training sessions coming up, please contact Gerry to register:
 - New Member Orientation – March 5
 - Effective Meetings Workshop – March 23
 - Appeals Training – March 24
- Registration for Conference 2020 is open for sub-council members and general public. Please be sure to register ASAP to guarantee a room at the Rimrock. Once the Rimrock is sold out, the Council will still provide you a hotel room at a different hotel.
- Dr. Sauer award nominations are due March 20, 2020. Forms can be found on the homepage of the member portal.

4.8 Governance Presentation

Erin Stroud, Director of Corporate Strategy and Communications, gave a presentation on the sub-council governance review findings. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Overall, the feedback was positive with some suggestions for improving processes, some of which have already been implemented.
- Two major issues were identified:
 - It was found that the TCC was meeting too infrequently and the technical expertise at the table wasn't always sufficient to effectively address issues.
 - There are two working groups that are functioning as sub-councils but don't have the governance structure or oversight that sub-councils do: the PSDS working group (Plumbing Sub-Council) and AEUC working group (Electrical Sub-Council).
- The Board has made the recommendation to dissolve the TCC and create two new sub-councils. These recommendations would be implemented through a bylaw change, which is being presented at the AGM in May. To ensure communication among sub-councils is maintained, the Council will continue work on improved reporting systems and processes between sub-councils:
 - Liaisons
 - Joint working groups
 - Working group report templates
 - Quarterly reports
 - Two-week agenda package posting

It was noted that the Council is always open to feedback on these proposals and sub-council members were encouraged to give feedback on the new reporting and communication processes as well.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

- There is concern over suds pressure zones in car washes not being able to meet the code requirements. It was noted that Appendix 2.4.2.1 #4 is a recommendation and an acceptable alternate solution should be worked out with the AHJ.
- Language in the NRC Codes note pages around non-potable water systems are meant to allow for alternate solutions.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for May 5, 2020 at the Council office at 9:00 a.m.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Stephan Dussault / David Dallaire moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

2.2 Skills Matrix Review

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5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Stephan Dussault / David Dallaire moved to adjourn.

– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

WORKING GROUP	WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)
PSDS	<u>Angus Potskin</u> Kenneth Wigmore, David Hughes, Adel Carew, Lesley Desjardins, Angus Chu, David Dallaire, Richard Stellmaker, Daniel Morris, Barry Bohn, Rick Tipple, Brent Bowerman
NPC 2020	<u>Quenton Kusiek</u> Tim Kosolofski; Mark Harrold; Ken Morrison