



**MINUTES OF THE  
SIXTH PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2021**

**DATE:** December 14, 2021

**TIME:** 9:02 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.

**LOCATION:** videoconference

**PRESENT:** *Sub-Council Members*

Mark Harrold, Chair  
Jonathan (Mitch) Colwell  
Paul Fullam  
Joe Howdle  
Quenton Kusiek  
Stephen Laurie  
Al Steenbergen  
Shawn Van Velzen

*Safety Codes Council*

Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach

*Alberta Municipal Affairs*

Sidney Manning, Joe Petryk, Claude Valliere, Tom Knull, Perry Wager, Stephen Hirose,  
David G. Dobson

**REGRETS:** Tim Kosolofski, Roger Lebeuf, Angus Potskin

**GUESTS:** David Dallaire

**RECORDER:** Kathryn Derkach

**2022 MEETINGS:** March 1, May 31, September 13, November 22

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A round table introduction was held and the meeting opening was read.

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

- Item 2.1 was moved to the Action Item list
- With the creation of the Private Sewage Sub-Council, David Dallaire is a guest at the Plumbing Sub-Council.

**Stephen Laurie/Paul Fullam moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED**

### 1.2 Adoption of the October 19, 2021 Minutes

**Paul Fullam/Stephen Laurie moved to adopt the minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

## 2. Matters for Decision

None Identified

## 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	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	Petryk	The Private Sewage Administrator will continue to look into this item and will refer to the Private Sewage Sub-Council.  Item can be removed from list.
2.	Removing Sewer and Water Service Restricted Certification	Assist the Administrators to determine jurisdictions that could be included in an Info Bulletin regarding jurisdictional challenges between plumbing systems and private sewage systems. Review further once the Permit Regulation review is complete.	Dec 3/19	Fullam/ Harrold/ Kusiek/ Manning	Ongoing
3.	Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code	Work with AMA on drafting a code change request for the NPC 2025.	Sep 18/18	Dallaire/ Harrold / Potskin	Ongoing. It was noted that with David Dallaire moving to the Private Sewage Sub-Council, another member is needed to replace him on this item.

4.	Permit Regulation Review	Private Sewage Administrator would like to revisit the use of the word equipment. He will draft a paper outlining the issue for the PSC's consideration.	May 5/20	Petryk/ Steenbergen / Dobson	Item was discussed under item 4.1
5.	Public Health Guidelines for Water Reuse and Stormwater Use	PSC members to provide advice to the Administrator on any next steps, such as any additional information or guidance needed by industry.	Jun 1/20	All	This is a living document and can be modified as needed. This item may be referred to the PSSC as well.  Members were asked to be listening to industry for feedback on these guidelines.
6.	Issues Arising from Plastic Shortages	Shortages are resulting in other materials being used; this situation will be monitored.	Oct 19/21	All	There is still a shortage of ABS pipe with PVC starting to have similar shortages. Some supply is being imported from the States.  The Administrator reported that there have been discussions around intermixing products and the challenges faced by the AHJs around that.
7.	Combination Heating STANDATA	Review the latest draft and provide feedback to the Administrator	Dec 19/21	All	

## 4. Matters for Discussion

### 4.1. Permit Regulation Review

#### 4.1.1. Section 14(2)(a) and (b) – permit exemption for water service and sewer installation

The following was discussed:

- The Labour representative provided a written response stating a lack of support for any changes to the Permit Regulation pertaining to water service and sewer installation and requested that this item be deferred to the Private Sewage Sub-Council.
- The Major Municipalities North representative noted that his industry segment does not support the change and would like to keep the exemption as it is.
- The Manufacturers and Suppliers representative provided written responses from industry members. They would like to see clause (a) and (b) removed with no exemptions for these two systems. General consensus in this industry segment was that this would not adversely affect the industry if the exemptions were removed and it would likely assist in providing better plumbing systems.
- Members were reminded of the previously-reviewed submission from Leduc County proposing removal of Section 14(2)(a) and (b) as well as a change regarding certificates of competency for those who can be granted permits.

The sub-council is taking a proactive approach to this review, and as such, there is still time for review and discussions.

#### **4.1.2. Other proposed changes**

The Plumbing Administrator noted that he would be recommending the removal of Section 14(2)(e).

The Private Sewage Administrator provided a written document outlining his suggestions for edits to Section 16 and 17.

### **4.2. Reference Standards**

#### **4.2.1. NSF**

Nothing to report.

#### **4.2.2. ULC**

The Plumbing Administrator reported that the Canadian Advisory Council is hoping to resume in person meetings in April.

#### **4.2.3. CSA**

The Plumbing Administrator reported that there has been a shift within CSA to try to manage work that's happening within codes and standards at the working group level.

#### **4.2.4. BNQ**

It was reported that BNQ is new within the plumbing industry and they have a different approach to codes and standards development. They are looking to develop a mature document quickly that is expected to apply to municipal infrastructure as a reference standard.

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

#### **4.3.1. NPC 2020**

The working group received the final 3 column document but have not met to review.

### **4.4. AMOS Report**

It was reported that AMOS has a meeting on December 17.

### **4.5. Administrator/AMA Report**

The Plumbing Administrator provided a written report and highlights included:

- 2020 National Plumbing Code anticipated for April 2022.
- Gripple hangers are an alternative solution that meets the prescriptive requirements.
  - <https://www.gripple.com/building-services/technical-services/technical-specification-best-practice-guides/>
- Working group updates with NRC including:
  - Condensate drains
  - Blackwater/greywater
  - Water use efficiency
  - Altering existing buildings
- Safety codes officers have the authority to require identification of qualifications.

- Not under regulations from apprenticeship and industry training.
- Enforcement relies upon the identification of a plumber/gasfitter/homeowner in order to be qualified to obtain a permit and appropriately identify adequate qualifications.
- Excerpts from the Safety Codes Act that applied to qualifications, competency and documentation for contractors were reviewed on screen.

The Private Sewage Administrator provided a written report and highlights included:

- The 2021 Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice (SOP) has been published by the Safety Codes Council and is available as a free download on the Council website. The Notice regarding the publication date and the impending in-force date has been issued and posted on Open Alberta. The Notice also speaks to the requirements for Code Update Training for the installer and safety codes officer communities.
- The Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association is developing a 2021 SOP Update Training curriculum. The curriculum is expected to be submitted for review by the end of December and training may start as early as January.
- The Municipal Affairs is preparing for the Private Sewage Sub-Council and compiling information on various issues that will need the sub-council's review and input through the development of working groups.
- The Plumbing Sub-Council was thanked for their work and support towards the private sewage discipline over the years.

#### 4.6. Council Updates

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

- Council office is anticipated to reopen in January with staff continuing to work from home; however, this is subject to change.
- The Council is looking for members' input on what safety system data would be beneficial to collect and analyze.
  - Please feel free to provide your thoughts by email to [allison.karch@safetycodes.ab.ca](mailto:allison.karch@safetycodes.ab.ca)

##### 4.6.1. Finalized 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule

- Finalized schedule document in portal.
- It is anticipated that May 31 and September 13 will be in-person meetings if possible, with the rest held virtually.
- For in-person meetings, there is always an option to join virtually.

## 5. Meeting Finalization

### 5.1. Round Table

None identified

### 5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for March 1, 2022 virtually at 9:00 a.m.

### 5.3. Meeting Adjournment

**Joe Howdle/Stephen Laurie moved to adjourn; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

**– MOTIONS –**

**1.1 Agenda Adoption**

**Stephen Laurie/Paul Fullam moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED**

**1.2 Adoption of the October 19, 2021 Minutes**

**Paul Fullam/Stephen Laurie moved to adopt the minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Joe Howdle/Stephen Laurie moved to adjourn; CARRIED**

**– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –**

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)</b>
NPC 2020	<u><b>Quenton Kusiek</b></u> Tim Kosolofski; Mark Harrold; Al Steenbergen, Shawn van Velzen, Paul Fullam