



**MINUTES OF THE
FIRST PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2022**

DATE: March 1, 2022

TIME: 9:03 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

LOCATION: Videoconference

PRESENT: *Sub-Council Members*

Mark Harrold, Chair
Paul Fullam, Vice Chair
Mitch Colwell
Joe Howdle
Quenton Kusiek
Roger Lebeuf
Stephen Laurie
Angus Potskin
Al Steenbergen

Safety Codes Council

Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach

Alberta Municipal Affairs

Sidney Manning, Claude Valliere, Perry Wager, Joe Petryk, Stephen Hirose, David Dobson

REGRETS: Shawn Van Velzen

RECORDER: Kathryn Derkach

2022 MEETINGS: May 31, September 13, November 22

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A round table introduction was held and members were reminded about their primary duty as a sub-council.

1.1 Agenda Adoption

Stephen Laurie / Angus Potskin moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED

1.2 Adoption of the December 14, 2021 Minutes

Roger Lebeuf / Paul Fullam moved to adopt the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Close Session

Paul Fullam / Joe Howdle moved to go into closed session; CARRIED

Paul Fullam / Joe Howdle moved to come out of closed session; CARRIED

2.1.1. Appointment of Al Steenbergen to represent Urban Municipalities

Paul Fullam / Mitch Colwell moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Al Steenbergen to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent Urban Municipalities for a term ending January 31, 2025, effective immediately; CARRIED

It was noted that Al will remain the RMA representative until the Board considers this recommendation on April 8. If the Board confirms this appointment, the RMA seat will become vacant at that time until a new appointment is made.

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

| | Item | Action | Date Initiated | Responsible | Status/Update |
|----|---|--|----------------|---|---|
| 1. | 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 | This issue is ongoing with activity within Municipal Affairs. Having a sub-council decision around the Permit Regulation would further this discussion at Municipal Affairs. |
| 2. | Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code | Work with AMA on drafting a code change request for the NPC 2025. | Sep 18/18 | Dallaire/ Harrold / Potskin | This issue is ongoing. With David Dallaire moving to the PSSC, another PSC member will need to assist with this item. The Administrator noted that with NRC already working on |

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|----|---|--|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | <p>the development of the 2025 code, this issue is becoming more urgent. Within the next year, code changes requests may be deferred to the 2030 codes. Albert Health is also looking at putting a cistern requirement in their regulations. It was suggested that there may be value in sending a code change proposal to Alberta Health to ensure it aligns with their legislation before sending it to NRC.</p> <p>This item may benefit from being discussed at the PSSC as well.</p> <p>Angus Potskin will arrange a meeting on this. [Potskin]</p> |
| 3. | 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 | This item will be moved to the PSSC agenda. |
| 4. | 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 | <p>This is a living document and can be modified as needed. This item may be referred to the PSSC as well.</p> <p>Members were asked to be listening to industry for feedback on these guidelines including if the document is working and if the information is getting out to industry.</p> |
| 5. | 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. |

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 AMOS representative will continue to ask for feedback from his association.

- This issue relates more to private sewage with the water/sewer installation being the tie to the PSC.
- Regarding the submission from the County of Leduc that still requires a response, it will be discussed at the PSSC and then brought back to the PSC for review.

4.2. Combination Heating STANDATA

This STANDATA has already been reviewed by the PSC, however it is being brought back because of the new format/template. There have been a few editorial changes after the legal and communications review. The intent is to publish once the GSC has reviewed.

It was noted that this document can be shared now as long as the draft watermark is retained.

4.3. Reference Standards

4.3.1. NSF

No update.

4.3.2. ULC

ULC reporting will happen in early fall due to meetings in the third week of June.

4.3.3. CSA

CSA has announced they will continue with virtual meetings for the rest of 2022.

4.3.4. BNQ

The 3680-600 Onsite Residential Wasterwater Treatment Technologies standard is in the post public enquiry stage. There is no set date for completion.

It was noted that at the last meeting that there was a passion for influx and infiltration with an industry standard that will be voluntary. This could be a potential item for the Permit Regulation discussion.

4.3.5. IAPMO

No update.

4.4. Working Group Reports

4.4.1. NPC 2020

The working group has not met since the 3 column document was posted by Municipal Affairs. The chair has reviewed the document and found no issues. It was reported by the Administrator that they are expecting publication of the NPC within the next month.

4.5. AMOS Report

The following was reported from the December 17th meeting:

- There were 25 participants.
- The Council has an introduction to variance course, details are on Council Connect.
- Municipal Affairs spoke about plastic shortage and issues in industry with mixing products.
- SCOs are encountering some product certification issues regarding European products with certification marks that will be accepted in Canada.
- Water reuse documentation was reviewed.

- RV dumping into residential sewers was discussed.
- The Administrator of Private Sewage gave an update on the new Private Sewage Standard of Practice. It becomes in force November 1, 2022, and code update training will be required for SCOs.
- It was reported that the PSSC new chair is Rick Baxter.

4.5. Administrator/AMA Report

The Plumbing Administrator provided a written report and updates were provided on:

- World Plumbing Day is March 11, promotional documents are included in the written report.
- A video of ABS Cell Core failure was shown. The report came from the City of Edmonton and it was reported that this failure was after a couple years of normal use but it is unknown what contributed to this failure. The Administrator will be taking this video to AMOS and other organizations for awareness and to get a sense whether this is a widespread or one-time issue.
- Passive House Alberta Foundation will explore whole house air admittance valve application. It was noted that members should take some time to review the report provided and be prepared for future discussions around this type of system.
- Province wide variance for PVC Cellular Core DWV applications is still in place. The Administrator noted he is always looking for feedback based on industry changes.

4.6. Council Updates

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

- The Private Sewage Sub-Council (PSSC) held its first meeting which was focused on orientation. Rick Baxter was appointed Chair. The next meeting is in June.
- A liaison is needed to sit on the PSSC and report back to the PSC. It was noted that this role is to provide a line of communication between sub-councils whose technical disciplines have a lot of connection points. This person would be considered a guest at the PSSC and would not be entitled to vote and would participate at the Chair's discretion. The liaison is present to observe, report back to the PSC, raise awareness among PSSC members if a topic is pertinent to the plumbing code, and bring forward any items that the PSC would like to propose to the PSSC.
 - Al Steenbergen volunteered to be the primary liaison with Stephen Laurie as the backup.
- The Council office is reopening March 14.
 - Staff may work from home on some days.
 - The May meeting is planned to be held in person and Council staff are working on defining what in-person meetings will look like. Staff will contact members as soon as possible to communicate information and assess comfort levels.
 - There will always be the option for members to participate in sub-council meetings virtually. If over half the members plan to participate virtually, the meeting would be adjusted to be entirely virtual to allow for easiest facilitation and participation by all. It is important that members indicate whether they're planning to participate virtually as it may impact the whole group.
- 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
- Council Member Training—spring 2022 dates
 - New Member Orientation: April 28, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
 - Appeals Training: March 8 and 9, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (must attend both days)
 - Contact gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca to register.
 - These will be offered in the fall as well.
- Watch past webinars, including one on variances, on the [Council website](#).
- The Safety Codes Council AGM will be held virtually in the spring. A volunteer appreciation event is being planned as an in person event for the fall.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

No new items were brought forward.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for May 31, 2022, tentatively in person at the Council office at 9:00 a.m.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Angus Potskin / Joe Howdle moved to adjourn the meeting; CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

3.2. Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code

Angus Potskin will arrange a meeting on this.

[Potskin]

– MOTIONS –

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– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

| WORKING GROUP | WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (Chair) |
|----------------------|--|
| NPC 2020 | Quenton Kusiek Mark Harrold, Al Steenbergen, Shawn van Velzen, Paul Fullam |