



**MINUTES OF THE
FIRST PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2023**

DATE: March 28, 2023

TIME: 9:02 a.m. to 11:48 a.m.

LOCATION: Videoconference

PRESENT: **Sub-Council Members**
Mark Harrold, Chair
Paul Fullam, Vice Chair
Jonathan (Mitch) Colwell
Joe Howdle
Quenton Kusiek
Al Steenbergen
Stephen Laurie
Roger Lebeuf
Angus Potskin
Shawn Van Velzen

Safety Codes Council
Allison Karch, Jennifer Johnson, Kris Schmaltz, Mychele Joyes

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Sidney Manning, Claude Valliere, Tom Knull, Stephen Hirose

REGRETS: n/a

RECORDER: Jennifer Johnson

2023 MEETINGS: June 6

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 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

Joe Howdle/ Paul Fullam moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED

1.2 Adoption of the November 22, 2022 Minutes

Stephen Laurie / Roger Lebeuf moved to adopt the minutes of the November 22 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Closed Session

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

Stephen Laurie / Shawn van Velzen moved to exit closed session; CARRIED

2.1.1. Nomination of Robert Nygaard to represent Rural Municipalities

Quenton Kusiek / Al Steenbergen moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Robert Nygaard to the Plumbing Sub-Council to represent Rural Municipalities for a term ending January 31, 2026, effective immediately; CARRIED

2.1.2. Chair Election

Paul Fullam nominated Angus Potskin for the position of Chair and Angus accepted the nomination. A second and third call for nominations was made. There were no further nominations. **Angus Potskin was elected Chair of the Plumbing Sub-Council by acclamation.**

2.2. Comment on NPC 2025 Public Review - 2.4.9.2. Size of Drainage Pipes Serving Water Closets

The NRC public review information was circulated in advance and the sub-council reviewed the proposed code change at the meeting. It was noted that the Building Sub-Council has been undertaking similar review for several years and the Council is working towards standardization of code review processes among sub-councils.

The PSC evaluated the change and developed comments with the following criteria in mind: relevance, effectiveness, coherence, efficiency, impact, and sustainability.

Shawn Van Velzen / Al Steenbergen moved to support the change as-is and submit this comment from the Plumbing Sub-Council to Municipal Affairs for consideration of submission to NRC; CARRIED.

2.3. Form Working Group to review NPC 2025 Drafts

Shawn Van Velzen / Paul Fullam moved to form a working group to review the NPC 2025 draft documents as they become available; CARRIED.

Al Steenbergen / Angus Potskin moved that the working group members include Stephen Laurie (as chair), Joe Howdle, Al Steenbergen, and Paul Fullam; CARRIED.

Stephen Laurie / Joe Howdle move that the working group provide a final report 3 months after publication of the NPC 2025; CARRIED.

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Cisterns – Scope of Plumbing Code	Work with AMA on drafting a code change request for the NPC 2025.	Sep 18/18	Dallaire/ Harrold / Potskin/ Manning	Angus will set up a working group meeting.
2.	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	Administrator requests this stay on the list because more information may come with implementation of the NPC 2020. Members are encouraged to bring any issues forward.
3.	Issues Arising from Plastic Shortages	Shortages are resulting in other materials being used; this situation will be monitored.	Oct 19/21	All	Closed; remove from action list.
4.	Response to Leduc County Submission regarding Permit Regulation	Send a response to Leduc County after PSSC input has been discussed by PSC.		All	Council staff will meet with Manager of Policy and the Administrator and draft a response to Leduc County.
5.	Whole House Air Admittance Valve	Bring this topic to the next AMOS meeting.	Sep 13/22	Harrold / Manning	Fall AMOS meeting was cancelled due to low attendance and there has not been another meeting since then. Discussions are happening at the national level. Keep on action list as ongoing item.

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Safety Codes Council New Staff Introductions

The Acting Vice President; Regulatory Affairs, Governance, and Policy delivered a presentation to sub-council members on changes at the Council. She shared strategic pillars for the Council as well as upcoming business initiatives aligned with the pillars. Council staff is working to standardize procedures and processes across sub-councils. Upcoming events for sub-council members will include the AGM and Member Appreciation Event in May as well as an educational conference planned for fall, more information will follow.

4.2. Code Update Training Update

The Director of Certification, Education, and Training delivered a presentation to sub-council members on Code Update Training for the NPC 2020. The Council has sent communication directly to SCOs to notify them of requirements and resources available. A 3 column document highlighting the changes will be circulated and continuing education credits for self-study of this document will be available for SCOs.

4.3. STANDATA/Notice Update

The STANDATA that were supported by the sub-council at the last meeting have been slightly delayed but should be ready for publication by April 3rd.

4.4. Reference Standards

4.4.1. NSF

No update.

4.4.2. ULC

The Administrator is hoping to attend face to face meetings at the end of April.

4.4.3. CSA

The following was discussed:

- There is a lot of work happening on B128, balloting and public comments are underway. It is underused in Canada and they are working to align with BNQ and NSF.
- There is an opening on the B128.3 committee. If anyone is interested in participating, or knows someone who may be interested, please reach out to the Administrator.
- There may be opportunities for sub-council members to attend upcoming meetings for in Halifax virtually as a guest.

4.4.4. IAPMO

No update.

4.4.5. BNQ

No update.

4.5. AMOS Report

No report because the fall meeting was cancelled.

4.6. PSSC Liaison Report

The following was reported:

- Charles Hallett will be replacing Lesley Desjardins as Executive Director at AOWMA

4.7. Administrator/AMA Report

The Administrator reported:

- 2020 code adoption
 - Update standata
 - Review from existing documents/drafts
 - Save, retire and/or change.
 - [NRC Publications Archive - Canada.ca](#)
- Water reuse template development. Water smart
- Certified equipment consistency across jurisdictions
- Plumbing code training
- Potential code change proposal for back water valves and site variances regarding the number of dwelling units protected.
- 2025 public consultation -
 - Toilet sizing

4.8. Council Updates

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

- Member training (Effective Meetings Workshop and Appeals Training) will be offered in 2023—dates will be circulated by email once confirmed. This training is required for new members and open to any members who have not yet taken it or would like a refresher.
- The Council's AGM and Member Appreciation event is being held in person in Edmonton on May 26, 2023 at the Delta South Edmonton. All members are encouraged to attend as it's our way to say thank you for all the hard work you do as members throughout the year.
 - A calendar invite has been sent to all sub-council members.
 - Members are eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses in accordance with the Council Member Expense Procedure and Council's [Travel Expense Policy](#).
 - The AGM package will be distributed in May.
 - Award nominations are now open and members are encouraged to nominate fellow sub-council members [here](#).
 - Please register for the AGM/Member Appreciation by April 21 [with this link](#).
- Amina Deiab has moved on from the Council after being the President and CEO since August 2020.
 - Katie Rowe, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Policy and Governance, has been named Acting President and Chief Executive Officer until a new President and CEO is recruited, and Mychele Joyes is Acting Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Policy and Governance for that period.
 - Over the last two and a half years, Amina led the Council through COVID, ensuring staff safety while leading a significant transformation to become a purpose-driven, stakeholder-focused, and values-led regulatory organization, and the Council Board of Directors and staff wish her well in her next chapter.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

- There was discussion about jurisdiction over a cistern that is being filled by water trucks but not properly maintained (ex. water quality tests under AHS had failed). It was reported that this would fall under the health authority but it may be possible to reach out to the AHJ to notify them of a non-compliant system to spur action.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for October 3rd at 9:00 a.m.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

– MOTIONS –

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– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

WORKING GROUP	WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)
NPC 2025	<u>Stephen Laurie</u> Joe Howdle, Al Steenbergen, Paul Fullam