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Membership Services Report - AGM Nelson May 5th, 2009

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CPD Program

The CPD program is now in full swing and point accruals for the first calendar year will have shown up on the membership renewal forms after dues are paid. Dues invoices have been sent out in February and March. There have been a few changes to the program in the form of “minor tweaking” that have been identified as necessary for clarification of the program.

1. The question asked on many occasions is that “Do I get points for writing exams?” The answer is Yes, but only if you pass them. Under the Code A2 maintaining BOABC competencies does constitute five CPD points for passing the level one, level two or level three exams sets respectively. This means completing all the level three exams to earn the five points for the level three A2 category credits.

2. There is also a minor change effective January 2009, to delete all reference to a maximum number of points that can be accumulated in any given category.

See changes to the CPD document on our website under Member Services, CPD.

OBOA/BOABC

At the September Executive Committee meeting a committee was struck to confirm the validity of the transferability of certification of Building Officials between Ontario and British Columbia. It would appear that given the overwhelming evidence and written agreement in place, that this would be the case as long as the certified member was at the RBO or COBO level in good standing. There was some discussion with respect to those coming to BC from Ontario to also engage in a legal course as well as a “unique to BC” update exam, however in the absence of such courses being available, it would seem that we could not reasonably refuse the transferability should someone wish to relocate to BC holding a valid Ontario certification at this time.



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It is also important to note that interprovincial documented skill certification legislation will come into effect in April of this year, 2009. It will be a necessary requirement of our organization to acknowledge and accept like certifications from other Provinces as well to be compliant with the legislation. This legislation speaks to insuring a mobile workforce throughout Canada.

Voting by Mail Ballot

In accordance with our business plan goals for the five-year term ending in 2009-10, one remaining item regarding election of Executive members to the Board needs to be implemented:

“To review the voting procedures for the election of Executive members and propose amendments to bylaws to consider the use of mail-in ballots.”

This is part of the Corporate Strategy and Business Plan, Summary of Key Elements. A procedure for allowing casting of ballots from the membership who may not be present at the AGM is needed to properly elect members to the Executive Committee. This will mean that a motion will be needed and a framework established to amend our election process bylaw to not only elect members by those attending the AGM, but to allow votes for these individuals to be counted from those not in attendance, but who are members in good standing with the BOABC and eligible to vote in elections. The Ontario Building Officials' Association has a mail-in ballot system for elections at their AGM.

This proposed change in our voting process would establish new rules for nominating members to be a candidate for election [Nomination Procedure] and conducting elections, should they be required. Often, Executive members are elected to the board by acclamation, however where two or more members are wishing to run for a position on the Executive Committee, a slate of potential candidates would be drawn well in advance of the AGM, a ballot would be prepared and votes would be taken by those members not in attendance and tallied along with those members who are in attendance at the AGM to properly elect a member to the Board [Election Process].



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What needs to be derived is the direction of the Membership to go ahead with preparing a motion to amend the Bylaw under elections and to put the motion forward to the next AGM for approval. The new Nomination Procedure, Ballots and Election Process would be effective for the following AGM in 2011. Subsequently, if the Membership at the 2009 AGM votes to support the development of a Mail-In Ballot initiative we would have to draft a policy and procedures as to how to implement a mail-in ballot voting procedure in time for the 2010 AGM.

The reason for this change is to address the possibility of a motion from the floor at an AGM to nominate an individual who is unknown to those members who are not in attendance. Where important matters of fairly electing the right individual to the Executive where there is more than one member who stands for election, it is necessary that the person(s) be made known to the membership well in advance of the AGM so full knowledge and support of a particular candidate can be made by members in the form of a vote cast by all members of the Association.

HPO

The recent HPO paper on raising the bar for contractors Knowledge, Skills and Abilities as well as a proposed continuing professional development program has been finalized and comments are being sought from major industry participants, of which the BOABC is an active member. Comments and recommendations on the final report to the HPO Board are being developed by your Executive Members and directed through Member Services to the HPO PAC on which we have a seat. A copy of the final report is available on the HPO website under '*major initiatives*', '*raising the bar*', '*futures report*'.

Peter Longhi
Member Services VP