

## **6.2.2 BOABC Executive Committee Nanaimo Conference Meeting, April 2010**

### **Education Co-ordinator Report**

From: Education Co-ordinator, Herman Koolman

#### **STUDY SESSIONS AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

Over the last several months, the association has seen a marked decrease in the demand for Study Sessions, with several being cancelled and many being held with far less than the required number of participants. For example, the Whitehorse Session was cancelled when it was determined that no space had been reserved by the local organizers for the session. Many sessions that were held, had less than 15 persons attending, the minimum required by policy. As a result, the revenue to the Association anticipated from study sessions has not materialized.

*I recommend that Study Sessions be offered and advertised, after the demand and participation numbers have been proven.*

The November Education Conference in Richmond continues to be well attended, favourably received and profitable to administer for the Association.

#### **Recommendations from the Membership Survey Questionnaire**

Members responded to the recent BOABC Education/Professional Development Survey questionnaire. My conclusions and suggestions are derived from the Summary of results which will be provided separately. 193 Members responded to the questionnaire.

The BOABC must continue to develop and expand courses it offers to Members. Survey results reveal that Building Officials are staying with the same employer for longer periods of time. Less than 50% of Officials receive job related training on the job, while 65% receive no training on basic legal and administrative issues and procedures effecting their jobs, for example. Consequently, I propose the following:

*1. A Legal course be developed with input from our Association's Solicitors and the MIA, as a risk management tool, and that these courses be developed for delivery starting in the fall and winter of 2010/ 2011. The first presentation would hopefully be at the BOABC November Education Conference.*

*2. An Administration course be developed dealing with the approval of Municipal Building Inspection Departments, with the input of the ICC and the MIA, as a risk management tool.*

Should the BOABC become more of a legislated regulatory authority, a greater proportion of Membership education will be provided by others, including colleges and universities.

*3. A BOABC policy should be established to provide direction and oversight for the control and the development of Code courses by Universities and colleges.*

The principle objective of BOABC education has been to educate members to obtain BOABC Certification levels. This has created a great difference in the knowledge level of Level Three Building Officials. Although all Level Three Officials have successfully completed the required exams, there is a significant difference in passing required exams by looking up the answers in a book, versus having the experience of applying the Code to complex buildings in the field.

*4. I recommend that the Association review how the RBO Title status is determined and acquired; and that the Association consider developing a second RBO Title status, that can only be obtained by completing a predetermined amount of time in dealing and working with complex buildings.*

This system would be similar to the requirements necessary to obtain the national CRBO Title status. This would mean that all current CRBO'S would already qualify, as those members have met the requirements of a minimum time requirement for in the field training with complex buildings.

There must be a shift from acquiring certification levels by passing examinations, as being the driving force for Education. We should educate for the sake of knowledge and for meeting Continuing Professional Development requirements to maintain certification.

## **Revenue**

The 2010- 2011 fiscal year should provide opportunities for education and provide additional revenue to the Association.

If the renewal of certification levels to the 2010 BC Code is based on attending a Code Update Session that deals with Code changes, as it did for the 2006 Code, these sessions will provide additional revenue for the Association, if we organize and deliver them.

It is my understanding that the Policy Branch will develop an illustrated guide detailing the Code changes, and that we can base our Code Update Sessions on this guide.

Respectfully submitted

Herman Koolman RBO CRBO