



Minutes

**The fourth meeting of the Repeal of the Industrial Exception Task Force
Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.
Room 810-A, PEO Offices, 40 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto**

Present: Mr. Duncan Blatchford, P.Eng.
Ms. Ranee Mahlingham, P.Eng.
Mr. James Lowe, P.Eng.
Mr. Clarence Klassen, P.Eng. (by teleconference)
Mr. Ken Warden, P.Eng. (by teleconference)
Mr. David Adams, P.Eng. (by teleconference) (From 5:36 p.m. to 7:09 p.m.)
Mr. Eduard Guerra, P.Eng. (by teleconference)
Mr. Wayne Kershaw, P.Eng. (by teleconference) (From 5:20 p.m.)

Absent: Mr. Chris Maltby, P.Eng. (Vice-Chair)
Mr. Peter Broad, P.Eng. (Chair)
Mr. Austin Walker, P.Eng.
Ms. Stela Stevandic, P.Eng.
Mr. Julien Samson, P.Eng.
Mr. Michael Wesa, P.Eng.
Mr. Edward Poon, P.Eng.

Staff: Ms. Marisa Sterling, P.Eng. (Staff advisor)
Mr. Steven Haddock (Staff advisor, Secretary)
Ms. Maria Ianonne (Staff support)

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

The Chair and the Vice Chair having expressed their regrets at being unable to attend:

It was moved by J. Lowe, P.Eng., seconded by R. Mahlingham, P.Eng.

That Duncan Blatchford, P.Eng., be appointed Chair pro tem.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by J. Lowe, P.Eng, seconded by R. Mahlingham, P.Eng.

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. Approval of minutes of February 16, 2011

There not being two persons present who were at this meeting present at this meeting, this matter was deferred to the next meeting.

4. Task Force Membership

a. New member applications and resignations

It was moved by R. Mahlingham, P.Eng., seconded by C. Classen, P.Eng.

That Tracy McColl, P.Eng., be approved for membership in the task force.

CARRIED

It was moved by C. Klassen, P.Eng., seconded by J. Lowe, P.Eng.

That the task force accept the resignation of Austin Walker from the task force.

CARRIED

5. Communication with targeted associations

a. Feedback received

Ms. Sterling reviewed the steps taken to date with respect to contacting associations, and ninety-nine have been contacted to date. We heard back from the Ontario Safety League, which was very positive, and construction associations, which advised that the change should have no impact on them. We have not received any negative feedback to date.

It was suggested that we contact companies that insure manufacturing premises to advise them of the change.

The task force members were asked to provide us with the name of any other associations we should target this time.

A follow-up message will be sent to a more narrow range of associations based on the feedback we receive.

6. Communication with PEO members

There was a discussion as to whether communications to the members should be targeted to members more likely to be involved in industry or to all members. It was determined that given the task of trying to separate such members out of our database would be difficult and time consuming, all members would be sent the same communication.

The key message to the members is to inform them of the changes and how to get in contact with PEO if they have questions.

The task force was advised that there was a limit as to how much information we can provide to employers. We cannot answer questions regarding their liability risks or their insurance requirements as these issues are outside of PEO's expertise. We can only answer questions regarding the enforcement provisions of the Act and the professional obligations of our members. However, in the industrial context, liability is largely an issue for the WSIB. For members, the issue is not liability but professional discipline.

The task force already has plans to contact Deans of Engineering to advise students that licensure will be required if they work in industrial settings in the future.

a. AGM presentations; chapter newsletters; FAQs

Staff has started to prepare a Frequently Asked Questions document. Insurance coverage for individual members will be part of this document.

We have already spoken to nineteen chapters. We have plans to speak to APGO. We also spread the word at the recent EIT seminars. One of the only issues is that we are often given limited time to speak although there are usually lots of questions and feedback.

There are also plans to include articles in chapter newsletters. Although our e-mail will reach all the members, it is our understanding that some members are more likely to read their chapter newsletter rather than e-mails from PEO.

7. Communications with employers

It was agreed that we advise employers of the alternative ways of coming into compliance with the Act, such as appropriate supervision, hiring consultants, the regular license and the limited license. It was noted that limited license holders are now allowed to supervise.

Staff has identified about 13,000 industrial employers in the province of Ontario. However, we still have to compile contact information and we will most likely require support services to do so. Going through our own database also proved to be problematic as it was difficult to sort out employers who were likely not going to be affected by the repeal. Our own database was also unlikely to allow us to reach companies that do not hire professional engineers.

At our next meeting, we will discuss the possibility of creating a special class of license to cover the scope of work that used to be covered by the industrial exception.

At our next meeting, we will discuss what hurdles might exist to the licensure of persons who are currently taking advantage of the exception.

Staff realizes that the corporations we contact may ignore our message. However, they feel that it is the role of the task force to get the information out, not to ensure that people read the message.

It was moved by C. Klassen, P.Eng., seconded by J. Lowe, P.Eng.

That the task force requisition funds to hire support services to compile a database of employers.

CARRIED

Mr. Klassen suggested we contact the trade magazines to either advertise or suggest an article on the repeal. Ms. Sterling suggested that at some point we are likely to produce a press release inviting the press to come to ask questions about the repeal, particularly after we know the proclamation date.

8. Timeline

Ms. Sterling advised that staff will be meeting with the Attorney-General's office on April 15 to advise on our progress.

9. Budget

It was moved by K. Warden, P.Eng, seconded by R. Mahlingham, P.Eng.

That the task force requisition funds to hire a website developer.

CARRIED

Task force members are asked to get back to staff within the week with ideas regarding content that should appear on our web site.

The enforcement plan and the admissions plan will be on the agenda for our next meeting.

It was moved by R. Mahlingham, P.Eng., seconded by K. Warden, P.Eng.

That the task force and PEO shall work to collaborate with employers and employees to place priority on the admission of industrial practitioners to licensure before considering enforcement action and shall provide sufficient resources to the admissions process to accomplish this goal.

CARRIED

10. Next Steps

Mr. Haddock reviewed the decisions and action items decided at the meeting.

- To advise if there are any other associations that should be contacted.

11. Next meeting

In order to prepare for the meeting with the Attorney-General on April 15, 2011, it was agreed the next meeting of the task force will take place on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

It was moved by J. Lowe, seconded by K. Warden

That the meeting be adjourned

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Peter Broad, P.Eng., Chair

Mr. Steven Haddock, Secretary