



Minutes

**The seventh meeting of the Repeal of the Industrial Exception Task Force
Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.
Room 507-A, PEO Offices, 40 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto**

Present: Mr. Peter Broad, P.Eng. (Chair)
Mr. Eduard Guerra, P.Eng.
Mr. Duncan Blachford, P.Eng.
Mr. Clarence Klassen, P.Eng.
Mr. James Lowe, P.Eng.
Mr. Thomas Chong, P.Eng.
Mr. Ken Warden, P.Eng. (by teleconference)
Ms. Ranee Mahalingam, P.Eng. (by teleconference)

Absent: Mr. Chris Maltby, P.Eng. (Vice-Chair)
Mr. David Adams, P.Eng.
Mr. Michael Wesa, P.Eng.
Ms. Tracy McColl-Galizia
Mr. Edward Poon, P.Eng.
Ms. Stela Stevandic, P.Eng.
Mr. Wayne Kershaw, P.Eng.
Mr. Ahmad Khadra, EIT
Mr. Julien Samson, 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 5:10 p.m. with Mr. Broad in the Chair.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by T. Chong, P.Eng, seconded by J. Lowe, P.Eng.

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. Approval of minutes of May 11, 2011

It was moved by J. Lowe, P.Eng., seconded by D. Blachford, P.Eng.

That the minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

It was moved by D. Blachford, P.Eng., seconded by T. Chong, P.Eng.

That due to applications that will be received because of the repeal, that the proposed by-law changes to cap the validity of CEAB degrees at 8 years after graduation be delayed for a period of at least twelve months after the exception is proclaimed if a person is applying from an industrial background.

CARRIED

4. Approval/introduction of new members

Thomas Chong, P.Eng., the recently appointed vice-president of PEO was welcomed to the task force.

The chair agreed to contact an applicant to the task force, Tilak Gunaratne, to determine his reasons for joining the task force before recommending to Council that he be added.

5. Input to the Terms of Reference

The task force reviewed and considered the suggestions of Mr. Wesa.

The task force was of the opinion that, at this point of its mandate, it's primary goal was to inform the affected industries and individuals of the repeal and to facilitate the applications of those who need to apply for membership as a result.

6. Communications with industry associations

Ms. Sterling reported on our meeting with the Canadian Tooling and Machinists Association executive on June 1 and her subsequent attendance at their chapter meeting in Guelph along with Mr. Haddock and Mr. Maltby on June 8. The audience was concerned about the effect of the repeal on their own operations. It also appeared they were not entirely clear on the current state of the law. Many came to the incorrect conclusion that the repeal was bringing changes that were, in fact, already required by law. However, we made several important connections, including one with an insurance broker, that will most likely help us reach out to other affected persons and employers.

The task force suggested that one association we might want to contact if we hadn't done so already is the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

7. Communications with PEO members

Our current plan is to send out an e-mail to all members once the web site is up and running. It appears sending out an informational e-mail prior to that would be counterproductive.

The task force reviewed the list of chapter meetings and regional congresses at which staff or task force members made presentations.

8. Communications with employers and employees

Ms. Sterling attended one of OPG's monthly meetings. They have determined that this will have a tremendous impact on their normal procedures. In addition, the nuclear division has expressed extreme resistance and they only feel they have to deal with federal nuclear standards.

Ms. Sterling and Mr. Haddock plan on meeting with professional engineers at Honda Canada on September 23.

We have been dealing with Vistaprint out in Windsor and they have already been reviewing their job titles to ensure they are compliant with the *Professional Engineers Act*.

9. Communication Materials

Ms. Sterling distributed the design plan for the new web site www.engineeringinontario.ca. We expect to have it online in July. It will be a portal for communicating the repeal of the industrial exception and identifying who might be doing professional engineering. It will provide links to PEO licensing and enforcement. The site is designed with a typical non-engineer or industrial company in mind.

We still require content for the site.

Mr. Haddock agreed to advise Mr. Chong which other changes to the Act have not yet been proclaimed.

The task force reviewed the FAQ and the feedback provided by Mr. Khadra. Ms. Sterling asked for additional feedback on the FAQ by the end of the week of June 20.

Ms. Mahalingam stressed the importance of preparing a document explaining to stakeholders how to get into compliance with the Act.

Ms. Mahalingam left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Mr. Klassen (?) suggested that we should target health and safety committee members and organizations. The IAPA and WSPS should also be approached.

10. Compliance with the repeal

We have not identified any additional issues that would impact licensure and enforcement at this time. Staff did discuss about how long it would take a person to be licensed from PEO from start to finish if you applied with all the necessary qualifications except the professional practice exam.

11. Timeline

There are no urgent matters to be completed. With no proclamation date having been announced or anticipated, we should be able to complete our communications plan prior to proclamation.

12. Budget

There was a discussion of whether the additional application fees, registration fees and annual fees from new applicants and licensees would provide some sort of “windfall” to PEO as this concern has been expressed by companies and individuals who might be affected by the change of the law. Mr. Haddock discussed our current process whereby all application fees set by government have to be justified by PEO through our Activities Based Costing (ABC) system whereby the cost of processing the average application is roughly equal to the application fee. In practice, only the Certificate of Authorization fee actually exceeds the cost of administering the program. However, annual fees and other excess revenues go largely to finance PEO’s overhead including the discipline process. The most likely member to have a complaint against them is one associated with a C of A. Ms. Sterling suggested providing breakdown on where PEO’s money goes. In practice, some applications cost more than others to process. For example, an application from a person licensed in another Canadian jurisdiction is inexpensive but all pay the same fee.

One chapter has asked the task force for reimbursement for expenses for a town hall meeting on the RIETF and another chapter has refused to hold an RIETF town hall because of the expense involved. Regional congresses have also refused to provide funding for such events. Staff would have preferred that the request for funding have come in advance rather than after the fact. Given the amount being requested, there was some thought that the expense could have had a greater impact. The task force obviously wants to support such activities, but it needs to make special requests for any funding that is necessary and would like to have some control over the presentation.

At present, routine costs for the task force come out of the Regulatory Compliance budget, although special approval can allow expenses to be taken out of PEO’s contingency funds. If the work of the task force’s work goes into 2012, we will have to make a budget request by mid-July. We will also have to have our mandate renewed in September, 2011 because it was only anticipated that our mandate would last six months. The task force agreed that chapters would be a good host for meetings or presentations to the general public, but all we can do is pass on requests for payment to Council.

Mr. Haddock agreed to provide Mr. Blachford with information regarding employer responsibility for hiring unlicensed persons to do professional engineering.

13. Next Steps

The task force reviewed the steps to be taken before the next meeting:

- The membership will be contacted as soon as the web site is up;
- We will start contacting large sized employers and tailor our message to medium sized employers once we start to get feedback;

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, July 20, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at the PEO offices.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Mr. Peter Broad, P.Eng., Chair

Mr. Steven Haddock, Secretary