



Minutes

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK TASK FORCE MEETING

Tuesday, February 25, 2014 - 1:30 p.m.
Via Teleconference and Adobe Connect

Members:

Diane Freeman, P. Eng. (Chair)
Christian Bellini, P. Eng. (Vice-Chair)
Roydon Fraser, P. Eng.
Ross Judd, P. Eng.
Nicholas Pfeiffer, P. Eng.

Regrets:

Tony Cecutti, P. Eng.
Santosh Gupta, P. Eng.
Kathryn Sutherland, P. Eng.
Christina Comeau, Engineers Canada

Staff:

Josie D'Aluisio
Bernie Ennis, P. Eng.
Johnny Zuccon, P. Eng.

1. Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m., and welcomed new member, N. Pfeiffer.

The Chair stated that the primary goal of the meeting would be continuation of review and provision of comments on the CFL element, Standard of Professional Conduct (Agenda Item 5.1).

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

3. Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2014 Meeting

The Chair asked if there were any changes to the Minutes. No changes were provided.

Moved by: C. Bellini

Seconded by: R. Judd

CARRIED

4. Action Items Update from February 12, 2014 Meeting

The Chair referred to the Actions Items Update document included in the agenda package and advised that all action items had been carried out.

5. Review of New CFL Element and Consultation and Responses

5.1 Standard of Professional Conduct

The Task Force commenced review of this element at the February 12, 2014 meeting. Below is a recap of the commentary/proposed revisions to this element made at that meeting:

Key Considerations

Key Consideration 1: Proposed new wording: ***“It prescribes the minimum standard of ethical and professional practice conduct for licence, certificate and permit holders.”***

Key Consideration 2: Proposed new wording: ***“It is enforceable. Violations constitute professional misconduct and are subject to discipline.”***

Key Consideration 3: Proposed new wording: ***“It includes tenets that specify the ethical principles applicable to specific situations and any expected behavior in each situation, but is not limited to:”***

[Task Force Commentary: We agree with the concept of a list of examples, prioritized (see G. Andrews references on Page 6) and organized into broader

groups, e.g. Disclosure, Legal Responsibility, Conflict of Interest Promotion of the Profession, and Whistleblowing.]

The Task Force continued review of this element, and made the following additional comments/proposed revisions:

Key Consideration 3: The Task Force continued its review of this Key Consideration, and provided the following additional commentary/proposed revisions.

Proposed New Wording: ***“It includes tenets that specify the ethical principles applicable to specific situations and any expected behavior in each situation, but is not limited to:”***

[Task Force Commentary: We agree with the concept of a list of examples, prioritized (see G. Andrews references on Page 6) and organized into broader groups, e.g. Disclosure, Legal Responsibility, Conflict of Interest Promotion of the Profession, and Whistleblowing. Consideration should be given to prioritizing these examples and placing them in an Appendix.]

The Task Force provided the following commentary/proposed revisions to the list.

- a. Proposed New Item: ***“Responsibility to society.”***
- b. Proposed New Item: ***“Compliance with applicable standards and codes.”***
- c. Proposed New Item: ***“Responsibility for professional work.”***
- d. Proposed New Item: ***“Requirement for insurance.”***
- e. Proposed New Item/Task Force Commentary:
We note that Ontario’s professional misconduct code was not considered.

- f. (previous item a.) - Task Force Commentary: Not clear why this is on the list.
- g. (previous item b.) - Task Force Commentary: Not clear why this is on the list.
- h. (previous item c.) - No change.
- i. (previous item d.) - No change.
- j. (previous item e.) - No change.
- k. (previous item f.) - Task Force Commentary: Code of Ethics should be high-level goals and not enforceable through professional misconduct.
- l. (previous item g.) - No change.
- m. (previous item h.) - Proposed New Wording: ***“Responsibilities to the Profession including protecting the reputation of the Profession.”*** Task Force Commentary: Code of Ethics should be high-level goals and not enforceable through professional misconduct.
- n. (previous item i.) - Proposed New Wording: ***“Responsibilities regarding professional testimony or public comment.”*** Task Force Commentary: Needs clarification.
- o. (previous item j.) - No change.

Previous item k. removed.
- p. (previous item l.) - Task Force Commentary: Needs clarification and specificity.
- q. (previous item m.) - Task Force Commentary: Needs clarification and specificity.
- r. (previous item n.) - No change.

- s. (previous item o.) - Proposed New Wording: “Determination and payment of fees for service.” Task Force Commentary: Needs clarification and specificity.
- t. (previous item p.) - Removed.
- u. (previous item q.) - Task Force Commentary: Require rules.

Previous items r. and s. removed.

Action: Staff to draft a memo, on behalf of the Chair, to Engineers Canada to accompany the revised element, send to the Task Force members for review and, subsequently, send the feedback to Engineers Canada.

6. Other

[Editorial: The Chair asked that Item 6.2 be moved ahead of Item 6.1]

6.2 Proposal to Create Standing Committee on Licensing Policy

The Chair referred to the Council Briefing Note prepared by G. Comrie included in the agenda package. Discussion ensued. A response to Council would be drafted with the Task Force’s comments regarding the proposal contained in the Briefing Note and sent to the Task Force members for comment.

Action: Staff to work with the Chair in drafting a response to Council and subsequently send to the Task Force members for comment.

6.1 Experienced Practitioners Task Force Report - Peer Review

The Chair referred to the report included in the agenda package, which is to be peer reviewed by the National Framework Task Force. Due to time constraints, members were asked to review the report and a 30 minute teleconference meeting would be held during the week of March 24, 2014 to discuss and provide feedback.

7. Next Meeting

As proposed above, a 30 minute teleconference meeting would be held during the week of March 24, 2014.

Action: Staff send a Doodle poll to the Task Force members to canvass their availability during the week of March 24, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. by consensus.