

Improving Access to Licensure by Internationally Trained Professionals

The AIBC has recently been involved in a project organized by MOSAIC and funded by the Law Foundation to examine the policies and practices of a sample of regulatory bodies in BC and explore how the various legislative *acts* governing the regulatory bodies influence these policies and practices. In addition to participating on the steering committee for this project, the AIBC volunteered to be one of the research subjects.

Further objectives of the project have been identified as follows:

- a** Determine the impact of the *acts*, policies and ultimately practices on access for internationally trained professionals to the regulated professions.
- b** Identify “promising policies and practices” on access for internationally trained professionals.

c Identify the capacity of the regulatory bodies to adopt some of these promising policies and practices.

d Analyze the work that has been done toward identifying and adopting promising policies and practices in other jurisdictions nationally, specifically Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, and internationally in Australia.

The final report is scheduled to be reviewed by the Steering Committee in April and will be released shortly thereafter. The AIBC Registration & Licensing Board looks forward to reviewing the findings of the report as part of the AIBC’s overall efforts to improve access to licensure by Internationally Trained Professionals.

New AIBC Bulletins

These bulletins are available in their entirety on the AIBC website www.aibc.ca under Member Resources/AIBC documents.

Bulletin 5: Information on “Resignation Options”
Members choose to resign for various reasons at different stages of their careers. This Bulletin provides information to assist with making that transition effectively and according to regulation. It also includes information about becoming an associate upon resignation or retirement, and a member’s rights and responsibilities upon resignation.

Bulletin 15: Rules for the Oral Review
In 2003-2004, the Registration & Licensing Board evaluated the Oral Review process, which included conducting surveys of oral reviewers and Intern Architects. On the whole, the Board found the new process (revised in 2001) to be very successful. The Oral Review process is

valuable for providing guidance for the professional development of Intern Architects and continues to be a valuable tool for the AIBC to assess an individual’s competence as an architect. As a result of the evaluation, the Board has made some minor adjustments to the process, and the previous document, *Candidate’s Guide to the Oral Review*, has been replaced with the new bulletin.

The most significant change to the oral review process itself is that, effective February 2005, Oral Review Panels will no longer be able to require an Intern Architect to complete a course of action (such as obtain more experience or take an AIBC course) as a result of an Oral Review. Oral Review Panels may, however, make recommendations to assist an Intern Architect be successful in a future review, and will continue to provide immediate verbal feedback to the candidate following the review.

CES Success: Track One January/February 2005

This is the introductory edition of what will be a series of news flashes, tips and information to assist members with keeping on top of important dates and information of the CES program. Questions, comments and suggestions are welcome. Please share this information with your colleagues and post in the common areas of your office.

Back-up Documentation: Self-reported Learning Units

Please, **DO NOT** send back up documentation to the AIBC. All that you need to submit are the standard online or hard-copy self-report forms, properly completed. One

of the fundamental premises of the CES program is reliance on our members as professionals. The AIBC does reserve the right to audit five percent of self-reported submissions, so you **DO** need to hang on to the supporting documentation until the earlier of six months after the reporting deadline or if you are audited.

Planned Educational Opportunities

Visit the AIBC website at www.aibc.ca for the current calendar of AIBC-delivered courses. Plan your reporting period; register in advance to guarantee a spot and to avoid last-minute anxiety.

Correction notice: the NCARB Rolling Clock will commence in January 2006, not 2005 as written in the Winter 2005 edition of *By the Book*.

Other news...

Oral Review Results
Eight individuals sat the Oral Review on February 15, 2005, including one reinstatement applicant and one candidate for registration through alternative qualifications. Seven candidates were successful. Thank you to our members who volunteer their time to this process as oral reviewers.

Credit for BCIT Building Code Course

The Registration & Licensing Board recently ruled that all intern architects who have taken and passed BCIT Building Code Courses 1820 or 4500 may apply for these courses to be accepted in lieu of AIBC seminars Building Code I and II. Official or unofficial transcripts from BCIT (not photocopies) will be accepted as evidence of successful completion. This policy applies retroactively.

Annual fees

As of February 1, 2005, 82 percent of registered architects, architectural firms and temporary licensees had paid their annual fees on time. By March 1, a further 15 percent had paid their fees with an accompanying late fee of \$50 and 3 percent were sent registered letters and an invoice for a further \$150 late fee.

So far in 2005, 12 members have been able to take advantage of the AIBC’s fee waiver/reduction policy for reasons of financial hardship (3), family leave (6), or medical disability (3).

CES REPORTING DEADLINE is JUNE 30, 2005

Come to the AIBC 2005 Annual Conference, April 28 - 30 and get **ALL 18 LUs** required for this year. Go to www.aibc.ca for the conference program and registration form.