

Information Bulletin

In order to keep e-mail correspondence to a minimum, an information bulletin will be e-mailed to each member. If you do not wish to be included on this circular, please notify the ACPA office at acpaoffice@pchem.ca.

ACPA Office
P.O. Box 21017
Edmonton, AB T6R 2V4
Phone: 780-413-0004
Fax: 780-413-0076
acpaoffice@pchem.ca
www.pchem.ca

In this Bulletin:

Professional Regulation Summit
Canadian Society of Chemistry Update
ACPA Annual General Meeting
On-Line ACPA Membership Listing
Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions) Insurance
INNOVATION ALBERTA Website
Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada Website

All contributions are welcome from the members for consideration in the monthly bulletin. Please have submissions into the ACPA Office prior to the 15th of each month. {{DUE BEFORE: September 15, 2005}}

Professional Regulation Summit

Attached ([Professional Regulation Summit - Vancouver.pdf](#)) find the outline of the Professional Regulation Summit in Vancouver on October 4-6.

Canadian Society of Chemistry Update - *submitted by Dave Schwass*

At the recent (05.06.01) Board of Directors meeting in Saskatoon the CSC Board unanimously passed a motion that "The CSC will raise the status of the chemist as a professional in Canada." Along with myself as the CSC vice-president and executive lead on this file, we have two new Directors (Ray Clement and Yves Ducharme) with responsibilities to move this issue forward along with the CIC Ottawa staff. With the full backing of the CSC Board, support from the CIC

Board including the CSChE President, as well as the resources of the National Office means that the CSC and CIC representing almost 6000 members (of which 4000 are chemists) along with the ACPA, ACPO, OCQ and the fledgling groups in Nova Scotia and British Columbia we hope to have significant resources to bring to this initiative with benefits to all chemists in the Canada. We are all facing similar challenges to our profession both collectively and individually and believe that through a coordinated and leveraged approach we can increase awareness and credibility of the profession of chemistry with our communities, regulators and our other professional colleagues. We have developed a strategy that I believe will have a connection to all chemists regardless of their occupation, branch of chemistry practiced or level of education.

ACPA Annual General Meeting

The 2005 Annual General Meeting of the ACPA was held on June 25th in Airdrie, Alberta. The draft minutes of this meeting are available for viewing at <http://www.pchem.ca/Minutes/Minutes2005AGMdraft.pdf>.

The minutes summarize the President's Report (Bob Taylor), the Treasurer's Report (Roger Cowles), and the Registrar's Report (Trent Parks). These reports provide an overview of the current status and activities of the ACPA.

The Frank W. Bachelor Service to the Profession Award for 2005 was presented to Kevin Dunn. Kevin is a former Chair of the ACPA board and has freely provided the ACPA with his time and considerable talents for many years.

Pat Kalita and Chris Swyngedouw were acclaimed for three-year terms on the board of the ACPA. Two others (Elena Vaisman and John Banks) were declared as candidates for the two remaining open positions. A special general meeting to elect or acclaim these positions will be held in September.

A report on the ACPA Joint Professions Committee was presented by Roger Cowles. This committee has recommended to the Alberta Minister of the Environment on who should be allowed to sign off for reclamation and remediation work at upstream oil and gas sites in Alberta. Their recommendation was that only qualified members of regulated professional organizations (such as ACPA, APEGGA, and the Alberta Institute of Agrologists) be allowed to sign off for this kind of work. In addition, the new Agrology Profession Act will allow more technologists to become members and be qualified to sign off as well.

The first guest speaker was Adrian Pritchard (Manager, Professions and Occupations and Land Agents Licensing, Alberta Human Resources and Employment) who provided a long-term outlook for regulation of the non-health-related professions in Alberta. The new Agrology Profession Act now requires "mandatory registration" for professional agrologists in Alberta. This Act will be used as a template for all such professional organizations in Alberta, which means that the legislation governing the ACPA will eventually be changed to require mandatory registration for professional chemists as well. This legal template also includes the incorporation of technologists as a separate category of membership. If all goes as planned, the ACPA may even be awarded "exclusive scope of practice" within a decade or so, because the government wants to move towards symmetry in its regulation of these professions (including APEGGA).

The second guest speaker was Dave Schwass (Vice-President, Canadian Society for Chemistry, and ACPA member #001). He spoke on the CSC and the status of the chemist as a professional in Canada. The CSC board is now committed to raising this status across Canada. Except for Quebec, the progress in Alberta is far ahead of that in the other provinces, in this regard. It is in the interests of Alberta chemists to help their colleagues in other provinces in their battles to be recognized as professionals. The CSC and the CIC have money and resources available for this work, but would like to have the support of the ACPA as well.

The final item on the agenda was a proposal put forward by ACPA member Eugene Dakin on instituting a Chemist's Ring for ACPA members. After much discussion, a straw vote of those present showed a majority in favour of some sort of Chemist's Ring.

For more details regarding any of these reports or discussions, please see the draft minutes on the ACPA website at <http://www.pchem.ca/Minutes/Minutes2005AGMdraft.pdf>.

Photos of the AGM:

[AGM 1](#), [AGM 2](#), [AGM 3](#)

Frank W. Bachelor Award Recipient [Kevin Dunn](#)

On-line ACPA Membership Listing

ACPA is pleased to announce that our membership listing (without contact information) is now posted on our website at www.pchem.ca in the membership area. The listing is provided as a service to Association members and to the public. Now the membership and the public have a convenient way to check whether or not an individual is a member in good standing.

Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions) Insurance

ACPA is considering participation in a group plan offering professional liability insurance for members who require this type of cover. The proposal involves setting up a group plan together with four other regulated professional associations (Alberta Institute of Agrologists, Alberta Society of Professional Biologists, College of Alberta Professional Foresters and the College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists) through Morris and Mackenzie insurance brokers. Once the plan is in place, ACPA would inform members of the plan and refer them to Morris and Mackenzie who would handle all the administration. The main advantage of this approach is that the details of what chemists do and the insurance rates are evaluated once rather than for each individual application and hopefully, by working with the other associations there will be enough business to keep the policy in place at competitive rates. Also the broker and the insurance provider (Encon) are willing to provide seminars and advice relating to insurance and loss control.

The Professional Chemists Regulation defines the scope of practice for chemists in Alberta but we need help defining what consulting chemists do in order to ensure that the group plan covers those activities. So, if you work as a consultant it would be appreciated if could you send an outline of the types of service you provide and to whom to Roger Cowles (treasurer@pchem.ca). A brochure describing your business would also be helpful.

Link to the current INNOVATIONS ALBERTA Website

<http://www.innovationalberta.com/>

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Link to the Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada Website

<http://www.ptac.org/techenvf.html>

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