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Chair and CEO Report

People.

People must come first in PEGNL's role as a regulator. Ensuring safe and sustainable engineering and geoscience practice means knowing and doing what's best for the public in the province.

As license holders, you share in this responsibility. By maintaining licensure and practising ethically and competently, you work to achieve this mandate every day.

PEGNL relies on groups of people, mostly made up of many license holders, to help in its public service role.

One such group is our Board of Directors, which is comprised of nine elected, three government-appointed and two non-voting ex-officio members, all of whom are volunteers.

You may remember in our last issue the announcement of board election results. August saw the first meeting of this new Board of Directors, and with it, a chance to discuss the mandate of the organization and the way forward.

As a policy board, the group establishes the ends to achieve, and the general framework to abide by, with interest of the public safety and benefit in mind.

In addition, board members take part in committees that improve the ability for the organization to meet its ends. Committees on linkages, nominations to the board and complaints are all administrated and populated by the board.

One of these committees is the Complaints Authorization Committee (CAC), which deals with allegations involving license and permit-to-practice holders. One of the decisions of the CAC is featured on page 2 of this issue.

The board appreciates the contribution of the over 200 other people that PEGNL is fortunate enough to call volunteers. Our volunteers, through committees and individual efforts, help perform some of the key functions of our organization.

Recently, you may have received a Volunteer Information Package which outlines many of the rewarding options to becoming a PEGNL volunteer. On page 4 we provide more information on some of these roles, as well as further outlining the new committees that we have developed.

Finally, PEGNL staff help to connect these groups and perform many other activities that are important to PEGNL serving the people of the province.

Darlene Spracklin-Reid, P.Eng.
Chair



Geoff Emberley
MBA, P.Eng., FEC
CEO & Registrar



Discipline Case Study

PEGNL is introducing our Discipline Case Studies, a series of regulatory summaries featured in *illuminate*. These studies will provide a window into the work of the Complaints Authorization Committee (CAC), and also inform you of some issues that can result in an allegation.

In April of 2018, the PEGNL CAC issued a decision regarding an allegation of conduct deserving of sanction in the form of professional misconduct against a PEGNL Permit holder (First Respondent) and PEGNL licensed engineer in the employ of said First Respondent (Second Respondent). The allegation arose in relation to services provided for a Contractor responsible for the design, supply and installation of a Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. Significant deficiencies were found in the newly installed HVAC system after installation. The Complaint was initiated by the owner of the building in which the HVAC system was installed.

The CAC determined:

That the original contractual arrangement for design, supply and installation of the system was between the Complainant and the Contractor and that, after contract award, the Contractor hired the Second Respondent to critique and document the design that had been pre-selected by the Contractor;

That the Second Respondent accepted this role, despite being unclear as to whether or not an engineer had actually designed the HVAC system;

That the Second Respondent failed to appropriately address this shortcoming with the Complainant;

That the drawings produced by the Second Respondent largely consisted of “as-built” drawings of a system that was being installed by the Contractor without any evidence of a design by an engineer and that their professional stamp was included on one version of these drawings for the purpose of obtaining a building permit.

The CAC decided:

That there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the First Respondent (the Permit holder) engaged in conduct deserving of sanction.

That there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Second Respondent (the engineer) engaged in conduct deserving of sanction by:

i) failing to inform either the Complainant, or the client, of a lack of engineering oversight with the HVAC design; and

ii) failing to inform either the Complainant or the Contractor that the HVAC system, as installed, would meet applicable standards.

The CAC did not view the conduct to be sufficiently serious to require referral to a disciplinary panel but that public interest and the interest of the profession would be served by the issuance of a caution and counsel to the Second Respondent. In reaching this determination, the CAC considered:

The relatively low risk to the public or any specific person;

The fact that this is the first and only allegation against the Second Respondent;

The fact that the Second Respondent has acknowledged the deficiency of their actions in the case, and has changed how they involves themselves in similar types of engagements;

That fact that the Second Respondent has, at the request of the CAC completed PEGNL training in Professionalism and Ethics.

The CAC issued the following caution and counsel to the Second Respondent:

The Second Respondent is to ensure that future engagements have a clear scope of work and delineation of roles, prior to accepting the engagement.

The Second Respondent is to ensure that issues surrounding design or engineering practice are clearly documented in writing with the relevant parties.

The Second Respondent is to refrain from placing a professional stamp on drawings unless the Second Respondent is the designer, or the design has been prepared under the Second Respondent’s supervision.



in the news

Our news section brings highlights of what is happening across the country and the globe in engineering and geoscience. As well, it provides an opportunity to recognize the contributions and achievements of our own license holders and the students of the province.

Local News

Memorial University was the only Canadian university to make the Shanghai Ranking List, which ranks post-secondary institutions on marine and science engineering

Read more [here](#).

A team of MUN students has won a national design competition for their work on improving a local 9-year-old's wheelchair.

Story can be found [here](#).

John Ennis and Mark Duffett both won PEGNL awards at The Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science Scholarships and Awards event.

John won the Cossitt Award, while Mark won the PEGNL Connections East Award.

James Doyle, P. Eng., led the development of technology at Ocean Choice International. OCI was recently in the news for hosting an Innovation Day, during which the engineering work at OCI was showcased.

Read more [here](#).

National & International News

The Morandi Bridge collapse in Genoa, Italy is under investigation. In a related story, the cause and factors for the failure are discussed.

Read more [here](#).

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville has reported on a French study which might explain the key cause of the largest mass extinction in the globe's history.

Read more [here](#).

A report in The Lancet says that 58% of American female faculty and staff in the fields of science, engineering and medicine have experienced sexual harassment.

Click [here](#) to read more.

A University of Manitoba civil engineering professor is looking to prevent potholes while making road repairs more efficient.

Read more [here](#).

Volunteering at PEGNL

Recently you may have seen our new Volunteer Information Package sent to you via email. In it, we outline many of the important roles filled by our volunteers, along with the growing needs of the organization.

Below we provide more insight into six of our volunteer options.

The Guideline Committee

PEGNL releases official guidelines regarding professional development, environment, service-specific considerations, authentication, conduct and more. Many of these guidelines are set to be updated, and require monitoring and evaluation. Committee members are tasked with researching, creating and reviewing these guidelines.

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee

PEGNL has identified increasing diversity in the professions as a key organizational goal. In addition to working towards increased entry and retention of minority groups in the professions, this committee will look to educate stakeholders on the value of diversity while working towards eliminating barriers and discrimination.

The National Engineering and Geoscience Month (NEGM) Committee

NEGM, held every March, brings an opportunity to educate the public on the professions and PEGNL's mandate. Volunteers on this committee will look to develop programs and engagement activities for NEGM, as well as hosting special events and public information sessions, such as the long-standing bridge building competition.

The Professional Development (PD) Committee

Professional Development is a cornerstone in maintaining competence of our licensed professions, and as a result, the implementation and review of the PD program is of paramount importance. Committee members will review the structure and acceptable submissions for the PEGNL PD program, as well as auditing license holder submissions to ensure accuracy and validity.

Individual Options

PEGNL utilizes a mentorship program where license holders are paired with those applying for licensure in order to monitor and evaluate their work experience. We also conduct investigative work in advance of, and in relation to, our complaints and allegation process.

We also search for educational opportunities, run events and perform many other functions that require significant resources. Volunteers can take part in a varied and fulfilling experience.

Compliance Advisory Committee

Compliance to the Engineers and Geoscientists Act is an obvious necessity of working ethically in our professions. This committee requires individuals in specific fields of work and study to provide insight and education into instances of non-compliance. Members will review the work being completed in their fields and work with investigative volunteers to ensure that issues surrounding non-compliance are adequately and appropriately handled and subsequently prevented.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, or would like to learn a bit more about the other opportunities available, please take a look at our volunteer package [HERE](#).

Thank you to all of you who volunteer with us, and to all those who are considering joining our volunteer team. Your time, effort and dedication help make us successful.

Atlantic Salary Survey Results

The results of the Atlantic Canadian License Holder Salary Surveys are now available.

The surveys, as conducted by ClearPicture, provide in-depth analysis and comparisons of salary data. Education, field of study, region and gender are all reviewed in the information, which was collected from thousands of respondents in the region. Thank you to those who responded to the survey.

The surveys were commissioned by PEGNL, Engineers Nova Scotia, APEGNB, and Engineers PEI. They are typically performed every three years.

The engineering results are available [HERE](#), while the geoscience results are available [HERE](#).

New Professional License Holders

Since our last issue of *illuminate*, the people below have become professionally licensed with PEGNL.

Sean Adams, P. Eng.	Edwin Hernandez-Rodriguez, P. Eng.	Frederic Noel, P. Eng.
Okenna Afamefuna P. Eng.	Scott Isaacs, P. Eng.	Andrew O'Brien, P. Eng.
Dr. Stephen Amor, P. Geo.	Aco Jankuloski, P. Eng.	Patric Pelletier, P. Eng.
James Asquith, P. Eng.	Hamid Kazemzadeh Otoufi, P. Eng.	Douglas Prentice, P. Eng.
Selene Ben Slimane, P. Eng.	Matthew Keezer, P. Eng.	Jelbert Real, P. Eng.
Moortaza Ali Bhaiji, P. Eng.	Daniel Kell, P. Eng.	Scott Richmond, P. Eng.
Jonathan Boucher, P. Eng.	Karen Kelly, P. Eng.	Steve Roy, P. Eng.
Carlos Alberto Correa Maya, P. Eng.	William Kuffner, P. Eng.	Gillian Savage-Knight, P. Eng.
Douglas Dickieson, P. Eng.	Steven Lauzier, P. Geo.	Marc Schwerzmann, P. Geo.
Jean Doyon, P. Eng.	Daniel LeBeau, P. Eng.	Nicholas Sharkey, P. Eng.
Luc Duquette, P. Eng.	Alessandro Madonna, P. Eng.	Marvin Silva, P. Eng.
Matthew Fuller, P. Geo.	Benoit Marquis, P. Eng.	Gregory Spears, P. Eng.
Nick Gardner, P. Eng.	Sarah McAuley, P. Eng.	Serafino Valente, P. Eng.
Jean Gauthier, P. Eng.	Robert McCarthy, P. Eng.	Aaron Vanderhorst, P. Eng.
Robin Goodwin, P. Eng.	Yannick Methot, P. Eng.	Xiaoyou Yun, P. Eng.
Amanda Harris, P. Eng.	Simon Munneke, P. Eng.	Ai Hua Zhang, P. Eng.
Regan Harris, P. Eng.	Charles Nelson, P. Eng.	