

Member Forum Minutes

Meeting Date: May 12, 2018

Location: Fairmont Banff Springs – Van Horne A

Time: 9:18 – 9:30 am

CALL TO ORDER

President and Chair, Coben Christiansen, called the 2018 Member Forum to order at 9:18 am.

The annual Member Forum is an opportunity to discuss various issues that we are facing as a profession. There were no formal presentations or set topics this year. Members were invited to share comments or raise questions.

COMMENTS / QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Bill Kumlin

Bill Kumlin had two questions:

1. How should architects respond to copyright request from the Government of Alberta or other municipalities?
2. What is the status on having government remove this request from RFPs?

Barry Johns, Director of Practice, was asked to respond as he is most familiar with these issues. There are ongoing negotiations with Alberta Infrastructure and municipalities with partial success. Copyright is protected by federal statute and copyright material is owned by architects and LIDs. Although it is acceptable to give up their copyrights, our members are advised it is okay to say no.

Elizabeth added that it is recommended that members state their positions at the time of responding to the RFP.

Allan Partridge

Allan Partridge stated that the PAC team, Barry Johns, Randy Krebs, and Len Rodrigues are doing great work. He appreciates their work and efforts and indicated that the pendulum is moving in the right direction.

As well, he stated that it is good to see member growth and a positive financial position.

However, there has been a change in the architectural profession where we are now seeing firms downgrading their fees "in a race to the bottom" and offloading to junior interns and architects. Members have a duty and responsibility to report practice issues to the Complaints Review Committee and to not bid on RFPs when there are known concerns and issues.

Barry McCallum

Barry McCallum serves on the Alberta Safety Codes Council's Barrier-Free Sub-Council and stated that T.J. Harvey, an MP for the House of Commons, is sponsoring a petition (E-1604 Housing Policy) to increase the number of accessible housing units across Canada. Barry asked that members please sign the petition found at [e-1604 Housing Policy Petition](#).

Elizabeth Songer added that 500 signatures are required.

CLOSING REMARKS

With no other comments or questions from the members, Coben Christiansen ended the Member Forum and thanked everyone for their participation at this year's event.

The Member Forum adjourned at 9:30 am.