



Minutes

Utility Arborist

Trade Board Meeting

September 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
Infrastructure Health & Safety Association (IHSA),
5110 Creekbank Road, Suite 400
Mississauga, ON, L4W 0A1

Trade Board Members in Attendance

Ian George, Chair
Blair Brassard, Vice-Chair
Mike Greer
Mike Raaymaker
Terry Tysick

Trade Board Members not in Attendance

Alan Lalonde

Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance

None

Staff in Attendance

Alice Power, Program Coordinator¹

*Attended by teleconference

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed members.

2. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION MADE BY T. Tysick, SECONDED B. Brassard AND CARRIED, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

¹ Recording Officer.

4. Previous Minutes

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY T. Tysick, SECONDED BY B. Brassard AND CARRIED, the draft minutes of the Trade Board’s April 23, 2014 meeting were approved as tabled.

5. Level 2 Utility Arborist Survey of Interest

It was reported that an informal survey to employers to estimate the number of apprentices waiting to take Utility Arborist training level 2 has not yet been conducted, pending data from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU). The Trade Board discussed concerns that the traditional block model of delivering the in-school program may not be the most effective. The Board discussed alternative methods suggesting, for example, that it would be preferable if the curriculum was delivered in 2-week periods with sections delivered online. B. Brassard and I. George agreed to further investigate the need to have alternate models of program delivery.

6. Fact Sheet Revision

ON A MOTION MADE BY T. Tysick, SECONDED BY M. Raaymaker AND CARRIED, the Utility Arborist Fact Sheet was approved as revised.

7. Red Seal Program – Update on Project

The discussion on the Arborist and Utility Arborist trades pursuing entry into the Inter-Provincial Red Seal program is on hold at this time.

8. College of Trades Update

8.1 Annual Meeting of Members

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) of the College was held on June 17, 2014. The Program Coordinator advised that the agenda and an audio recording of the meeting is available on the College’s website.

8.2 Membership

It was reported that the College is continuing to work on engaging the deemed Journeypersons and Apprentice class members that have not yet renewed their membership with the College.

The Board was provided with an overview of the current affinity program offered by the College. It was noted that home, auto and business insurance is being offered through Breckles Insurance and group Registered Retirement Saving Plans are being offered to members through Manulife Financial.

8.3 Enforcement Update

An overview of current College enforcement activities was provided. The Trade Board reviewed Enforcement statistics and public advisories currently available on the College website.

8.4 Communications & Marketing Update

An overview of the College’s recent communications and marketing activities was presented. It was noted that the summer edition of the Trades Today magazine includes an article titled “Going out on a Limb” that focuses on the Arborist and Utility Arborist trades and is available on the College website. The website has been updated and offers a redesigned News Page, live Twitter feed, Trades Today magazine, and a section called “Road to Apprenticeship”. The College’s strategic plan document has also been posted online and a document concerning apprenticeship grants and incentives will be posted in the near future.

The College has engaged in a number of activities focusing on increasing awareness about a career in the skilled trades. The College sponsored and attended the annual Ontario Technological Skills competition in Waterloo in May and was featured in the Toronto Sun's "Your Future Choice" special supplementary, as well as in Metro newspapers "Trades and Apprenticeships" career section. In addition, a new internet microsite called "Earn while you learn" is being developed, as well as a corresponding apprenticeship brochure that will be focused on youth. Both are scheduled for release in fall 2014 and will provide details on apprenticeship for anyone interested in exploring careers in the skilled trades.

8.5 Academic Entry Requirements

The Board of Governors approved a public consultation on the Academic Entry Requirements of each trade prescribed under the *Ontario College of Trades and Apprenticeship Act, 2009*. Once launched, there will be a 120-day public consultation. Members of the Trade Board will be informed of additional details and outreach strategy when more information is available.

8.6 Chair and Vice-Chair Board Member Training

It was reported that the College is presenting a half-day training and development session for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Trade Boards on September 11, 2014. An overview of the agenda was provided. It was noted that there will be similar training made available to Chairs and Vice-Chairs in the future.

8.7 Scope of Practice

The process of how to review and amend Scopes of Practice is still being considered.

8.8 Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer – Trade Classification Review Update

The Decision Report for the Trade Classification Review for the Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer trade has been posted to the College website.

9. Divisional Board Update

The date of the next Service Divisional Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 14, 2014.

10. Program Update

The Program Coordinator provided the Board with available apprentice statistics. Based on the numbers provided, the Trade Board estimated that there would be approximately 75 apprentices requiring level 2 training.

11. Training Delivery Agents (TDA) Update

There was no report provided by the TDAs for the trade.

12. MTCU Update

The Program Coordinator highlighted some of the current MTCU apprenticeship initiatives. It was noted the focus is in on apprenticeship retention and completion. It was also noted that the Apprenticeship Training Guide for Sponsors is being revised and will include an overview of the apprenticeship process, registering and managing apprentices, completion of training, benefits to the sponsors, and the role of the College.

13. Arborist Safe Work Practices Committee Update

A report from the Arborist Safe Work Practices Committee (ASWP) was presented.

13.1 Working at Heights Consultation

A summary of the ASWP and other arborist organizations' written submission to the Ministry of Labour's (MOL) Working at Heights consultation was provided. It was mentioned if a Utility Arborist or Arborist is working on a construction site they would be required to have received 'working at heights' training. It was further mentioned that several MOL inspectors have been trained on Arborist Safe Work Practice. As well, the Infrastructure Health and Safety Association is currently exploring providing working at heights training to Arborists/Utility Arborists. The next meeting of ASWP is scheduled for September 23, 2014.

13.2 Electrical Safety Rule Book

The new Electrical Safety Rule Book was distributed to the Board. The only major change is that the "EUSA hold offs" was removed.

14. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update

The Trade Board had a general discussion on their experience with EAB. It was agreed that EAB is spreading faster than expected, and it was reported that EAB was recently confirmed in Peterborough, Ontario. Currently, there is no federal action south of the regulated zone which is north of Sault Ste. Marie. It was mentioned that it has been difficult to obtain materials from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on EAB for distribution to the public.

15. Ontario Urban Forest Council (OUFC) Update

The Council has revamped its website and has a shopping cart for published materials and memberships now. The OUFC Annual General Meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2014 in Toronto, Ontario.

16. Election of Vice-Chair

ON A MOTION MADE BY T. Tysick, SECONDED M. Greer AND CARRIED, the Trade Board elected Blair Brassard as Vice-Chair of the Trade Board.

17. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for March 12, 2015.

18. Adjournment

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY M. Raaymaker, SECONDED BY T. Tysick AND CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned.

"Ian George"

Ian George, Chair

March 19, 2015

Date