

Council Response to 2016 Member Motion

At its July 2016 meeting, AIBC Council reviewed the motion-from-the-floor (MFTF) that was supported at the 2016 Annual Meeting. While noting that any such motions are advisory and non-binding to council, council reiterated its commitment to giving them due consideration. The MFTF and council's response are as follows:

MFTF:

Amending the AIBC's mandatory Continuing Education System (CES) Rules so that members who have earned the requisite Learning Units (LUs) within the reporting period are not fined, but are given until September 30 to report those units. Failing to report by September 30 would result in a fine and referral to 'discipline'.

Members who have not earned their LUs by the June 30 deadline would continue to be fined for that reason and would continue to have until September 30 to earn and report missing LUs before the non-compliance becomes disciplinary.

Moved: Mark Mathiasen Architect AIBC

CARRIED

Seconded: Ron Hoffart Architect AIBC

(61% In Favour)

Response to MFTF:

Decision:

Council has declined to pursue this MFTF.

Rationale:

AIBC Bylaw 30.2 and Council CES Rules 10 and 11 (Bulletin 80): Bylaw 30.2 stipulates that Mandatory Continuing Education is a professional obligation, including the reporting of that education within the timeline established by council rules (per Bulletin 80). The MFTF request is two-fold – one, that the council rules be amended to extend the reporting of learning units to beyond the earning deadline and without a fine, and two, that the council rules be amended to allow learning units to be earned and reported after the deadline albeit with a fine. Council's consideration of these amendments to the council rules would need to consider the following key points:

- **Provincial harmonized reporting:**
 - Extending the deadline for the reporting of learning units will put BC out of step with the current harmonized two-year CES cycle of the provincial architectural regulators, which begins July 1 and ends June 30 of even years. None offer a grace period to the CES deadline; all learning units must be earned and reported by the deadline.

- BC registered architects who use the reciprocal system for reporting CES in another jurisdiction(s) would be unable to confirm their CES compliancy until after September 30, and would therefore be subject to the non-compliance penalties of jurisdictions with a June 30 deadline.
- **AIBC self-reporting system:**
 - Members have a full two years to earn and report 36 hours of learning units. The AIBC self-reporting system provides for easy updating of learning units so that it is not necessary to wait until the end of the reporting cycle to report. Learning units can be reported as they are earned.
 - The AIBC provides opportunities to earn the required minimum amount of learning units through the Annual Conference and events approved through the Recognized Educational Provider (REP) Program, for which all learning units are recorded on the member's behalf, eliminating any need to self-report.
 - The amount of learning units required by the AIBC is currently the lowest in Canada, at 36 hours of learning for every two-year reporting.

Members' efforts to bring forward informed, well-formulated suggestions and recommendations for council's consideration are sincerely appreciated.

Mark Vernon CPA, CA, CPA (IL)

Chief Executive Officer