

# TOWN HALL

## *Professional Governance*

### Act Transition

April 27, 2023



ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

440  
CAMBIE STREET  
archite  
CENTRE

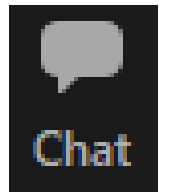
440  
CAMBIE STREET  
architecture  
CENTRE

# Welcome

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## > Housekeeping Notes

- Make sure you are muted
- Technical questions can be asked by using the **Chat icon** found along the bottom of the screen
- **Hold all questions until the live Q&A portion of the Town Hall, following the presentation**

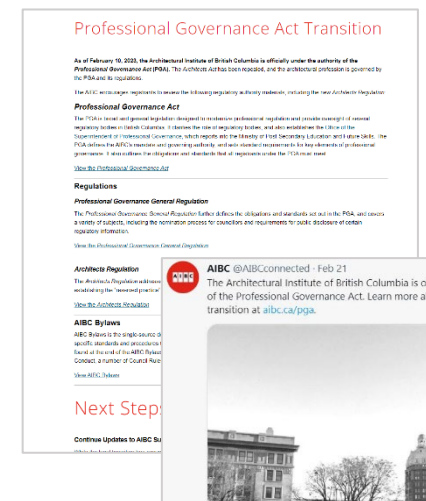
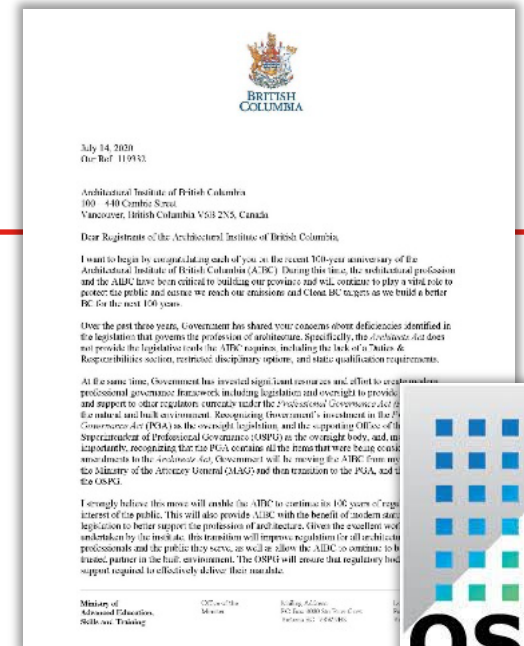


# Transition Timeline

## > Initial announcement July 2020

- Transitioned ministries (twice)
- Town Hall with OSPG in September 2021
- Stakeholder meetings and consultation
- Developed reserved practice recommendations
- Two bylaw consultation rounds
- Code of Ethics excerpt consultation
- Updated key regulatory documents
- 25+ articles published on the AIBC website

## > Officially transitioned February 10, 2023



# *PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE ACT*

## **REGULATIONS**

*PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE  
GENERAL REGULATION*

*ARCHITECTS  
REGULATION*

## **BYLAWS**

### **SCHEDULES**

*(Includes Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct)*

## **PRACTICE RESOURCES**

**WHAT'S ESSENTIALLY  
STAYED THE SAME?**

# AIBC Mandate & Core Functions

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- > **The AIBC's name, mandate and core functions** remain the same
  - The AIBC continues to regulate the profession of architecture **in the public interest**
  - Better aligns the profession with current societal and governmental **expectations and standards**



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BRITISH COLUMBIA**

# Titles & Designations

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- > **Titles and designations** remain the same.
  - “Architect” is a **protected title** and will continue to be restricted to registered architects.
  - “Intern Architect” and “Architectural Technologist” also remain unchanged
  - “Retired Architect” is still a title, per AIBC Bylaws



# Certificate of Practice

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- > The AIBC **Certificate of Practice** procedures remain unchanged.
  - Architects are not required to place their **Certificate of Practice** number on their signed and sealed documents.
  - Architects are **required to practice using the name on their Certificate of Practice**.
  - Engineers and Geoscientists have “Permit to Practice”, which is parallel to AIBC’s Certificate of Practice

# Registration Pathways

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- > **The pathways for registering as an Architect AIBC remain the same.**
  - The requirements for registration as an Architect AIBC have remained substantially the same.
    - Internship in Architecture Program
    - Mutual Recognition Agreements
    - Alternative Qualifications
  - There are some changes to the Broadly Experienced Applicant (BEA) Program.

# Practice Support & Professional Development

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## > Practice support in the public interest

- Continue to offer information and direction through the **AIBC's practice advice program**.
- Many practice resources are available (*Practice Guidelines, Regulatory Reviews*), with more explanatory material coming shortly

## > Professional development as a regulatory requirement

- AIBC will continue to provide learning opportunities, including: AIBC Courses, REP Program, Conference and PD Day, seasonal PD series, and more

**WHAT'S CHANGED?**

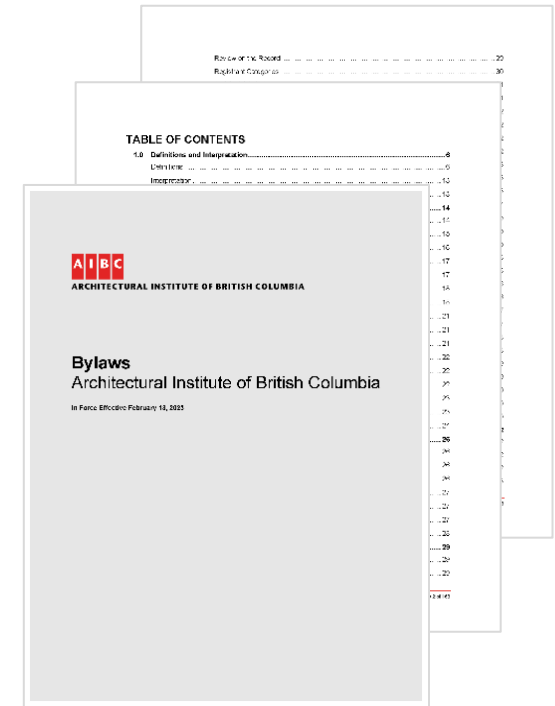
# Where Did it Go?

- > **Regulatory requirements and information are now found in different places.**

TOPIC	PREVIOUS LOCATION	NEW LOCATION
<b>Architects Seal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bulletin 60: Signature, Seal and Delivery of Electronic Documents</li><li>• Bulletin 61: Seal of an Architect</li><li>• <i>Architects Act</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct</li></ul>
<b>Reserved Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bulletin 31: Buildings Requiring the Services of an Architect</li><li>• Section 60 of the <i>Architects Act</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Architects Regulation</i> as Reserved Practice</li></ul>
<b>Qualifications and Admissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Architects Act</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AIBC Bylaws and Schedules</li></ul>

# Bylaws and Schedules 1/2

- > **AIBC Bylaws have been updated to meet PGA requirements**
- > **New format**
  - Now a **single-source document** for the **core regulation of the architectural profession in British Columbia.**
- > Set the specific standards and procedures that apply to the AIBC and its registrants.

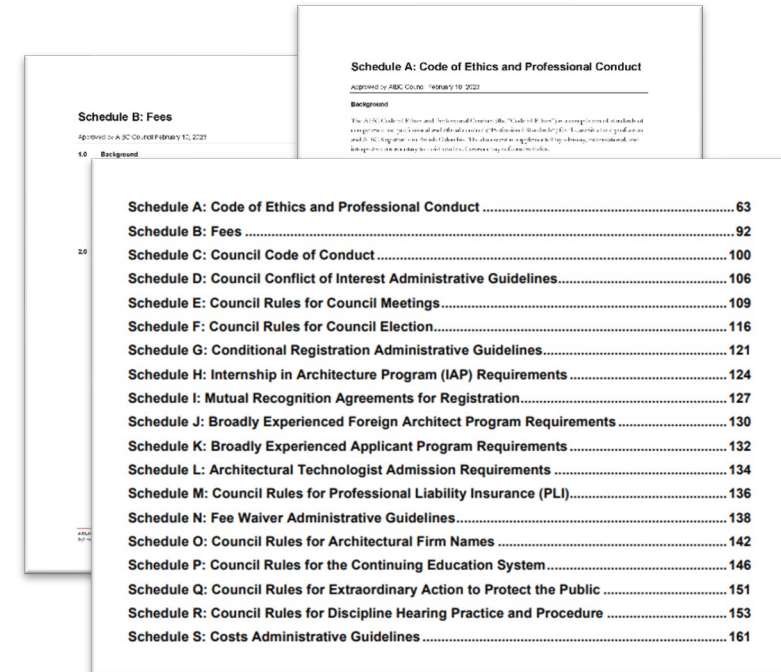


# Bylaws and Schedules 2/2

> **Schedules are regulatory documents that can be found at the end of the AIBC Bylaws.**

– **Examples of Schedules:**

- Fee Schedule
- Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Admission to the profession requirements
- Administrative Guidelines
- Rules and requirements for programs like CES



**Schedule A: Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct**  
Approved by AIBC Council February 18, 2022

**Schedule B: Fees**  
Approved by AIBC Council February 18, 2022

**Background**  
The AIBC Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (the "Code of Ethics") is a comprehensive standard of conduct for all members and associates of the Institute of Architects of British Columbia. It is a regulatory document that is part of the AIBC Bylaws and is subject to the same approval process as the Bylaws.

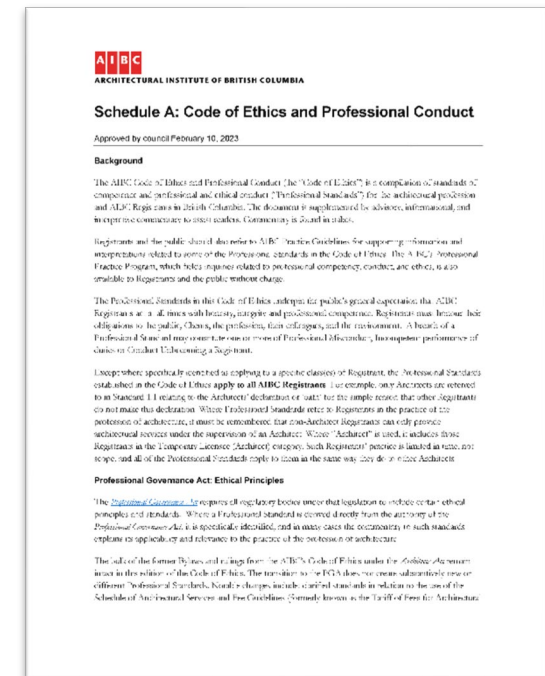
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# Professional Standards

## > Updated professional standards (Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct)

– PGA requires all regulators to include **12 specific ethical principles** in their Code of Ethics.

– Most **principles are consistent with existing professional standards**, but some are new or require interpretive guidance



# Council, Bylaw Making Authority

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- > **AIBC Council is leaner** with greater proportion of **lay (public member) representation**.
  - 7 elected architect councillors
  - 4 appointed lay councillors
  - 1 non-voting immediate past president.
- > All nominations and appointments will be **merit-based**. Architects will continue to vote for architect councillors in elections.
- > Bylaw making authority resides **only** with AIBC Council (the Board).

# Terminology

## > Terminology changes

- All regulators under the PGA are required to update their terminology to better reflect their roles as regulatory bodies.
- “Council” to “Board” coming into effect mid-May

PGA TERMINOLOGY UPATE EXAMPLES	
Previous Term	New Term
Council / Council Member	→ Board / Board Member
President / Vice-President	→ Chair / Vice Chair
LG Appointee	→ Lay Board Member
Council Rules	→ Board Rules
Committees ( <i>non-statutory</i> )	→ Advisory Groups
Registration Board	→ Credentials Committee
Nominations Review Committee	→ Nomination Committee
Certificate of Practice	→ <i>No change</i>
Members / Members	→ Registrant / Registrants
Intern Architect	→ <i>No change</i>

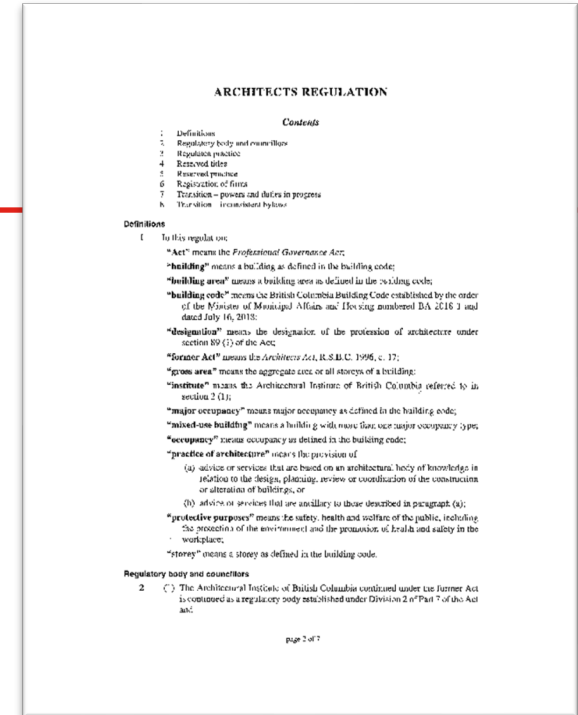
# Reserved Practice 1/2

## > Reserved Practice has been modernized.

- Section 60 replaced by an updated “reserved practice”, which is found in the *Architects Regulation*.

## > Primary changes include:

- Careful calibration of building type and size to align with the BC Building Code and public safety expectations
- Language written in the affirmative, minimize interpretive ambiguity for the public
- Focus on public safety, environmental protection and the right to access the built environment



# Reserved Practice 2/2

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- > **Reserved practice is now classified by occupancy type, as defined in the BCBC**
- > **Removal of gaps that existed under the *Architects Act***
  - For example, buildings allowed in the Act without an architect, but required Letters of Assurance under the BCBC

# Good Standing

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- > **The definition of “good standing” has expanded.**
  - Under *Architects Act*, simply meant a payment by registrants of their annual fee on or before February 1.
- > **Good standing** now includes:
  - Payment of **all fees owing** to the AIBC by the due date;
  - **Not being suspended or under a restriction, condition or limitation of practice** that removes a registrant from good standing;
  - **Compliance** with the Continuing Education System, and all Certificate of Practice, Professional Liability Insurance and Firm Update requirements.

# Continuing Education System

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- > A minimum of **two Core Learning Units related to Indigenous Peoples Learning** are required each reporting period.
- > **CES non-compliance will be addressed as an administrative matter.**
  - After an appropriate amount of notice and reminders, suspension/cancellation of a registrant's registration can take place

# ...and More

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## Other changes include:

- > More **modern approach** to handling complaint, investigation and discipline matters of AIBC registrants.
- > **Extraordinary action to the public**
  - Allows the AIBC to take immediate action to protect the public when information is received that there is an **imminent risk to public safety** resulting from the actions of a registrant.
- > **More transparency and public notices**
  - Former registrants will be searchable in the Register, more information about discipline history for all registrants (current and former) will be displayed.



# > Registrant QUESTIONS

# Question & Answer – OSPG

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- > **What is the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG)? What power do they have?**

# Question & Answer – Ongoing Applications

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- > What happens if I have an open and ongoing application that was submitted prior to February 10, when the AIBC transitioned legislation?**

# Question & Answer – Oral Exam

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- > **Will the Oral Exam include detailed questions about the *Professional Governance Act*, or the new Regulations?**

# Question & Answer – MRA

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- > How (or does) the transition to the PGA enable MRA with more non-English speaking countries?**

# Question & Answer – Scope of Practice

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- > Do Registrants who are not Architects AIBC (e.g. Intern Architects, Architectural Technologists) have a scope of work?**

# Question & Answer – Public Service

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- > Is there is anything about the PGA that architects working in public service (e.g. a municipality) should be aware of?**

# Question & Answer – Tariff of Fees

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- > The current Tariff of Fees for Architectural Services guideline is from 2009. Will the Tariff be updated given the recent transition to the PGA?**

Live

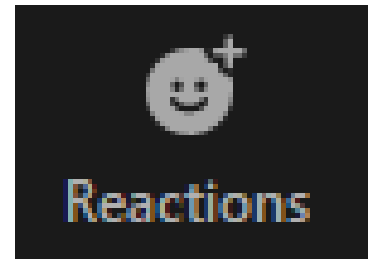
# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



# Asking a Question

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- > **Virtually raise your hand and you'll be called upon and asked to unmute**
  - 'Raise hand' can be found in 'Reactions' along the bottom of your screen
- > **Be on-camera when asking a question**
- > **Questions should be concise and on topic**



# Thank You

## PGA Transition Town Hall

- > [pga@aibc.ca](mailto:pga@aibc.ca)
- > [practiceadvice@aibc.ca](mailto:practiceadvice@aibc.ca)



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