Minutes of the Committee of Council Chairs meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held in the Ontario Boardroom, 345 Carlingview Drive. Toronto, Ontario at 1:00 p.m. on the 11th day of January 2018.

Present: Lloyd Hall, Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Advisory Council; Dave Karn, Propane Advisory Council; Jane McCarthy, Consumers Advisory Council.


In attendance: David Scriven, Acting President and CEO (Chair of Committee); Peter Wong, Vice President Operations; Steve Robinson, Manager Communications Advocacy; Kristian Kennedy, Sr. Policy Advisor Stakeholder Relations; Consuelo Esquivel, Council Coordinator.

Regrets: Brent Francis, Liquid Fuels Advisory Council; Bruce Haynes, Ski Lifts Advisory Council; Martin Luymes, Natural Gas Advisory Council; Rod Philip, Operating Engineers Advisory Council; Cindy Sypher, Amusement Devices Advisory Council.

1. Constitution of Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. D. Scriven welcomed the Committee members and Nathan Fahey from the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services. He introduced two new chairs, Joe Adams of the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Advisory Council, and Martin Luymes of the Natural Gas Advisory Council.

A news clip of keeping the home safe during winter was shown for the Safety Moment.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda of January 11, 2018.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of September 7, 2017 as presented, as being a true and correct record of that meeting.

4. Review of Action Items

D. Scriven reported that there are no outstanding action items for this meeting.

5. TSSA President & CEO’s Report

In advance of the meeting, the Committee received the President and CEO’s report. It was treated as read.

He spoke about the audit by the Auditor General’s Office which was launched today. It is not a financial audit, but rather a value for money audit.

All the advisory councils were briefed at the Fall 2017 meetings of the fee review exercise. Fee reviews are required to be conducted in the BPV and Upholstered and Stuffed Articles (USA) programs, as a result of
recent regulatory reviews. D. Scriven provided a status of these reviews. For the other programs, more information on fee review will be provided during the council meetings between January and May 2018.

D. Scriven spoke about the National Public Safety Advisory Committee (NPSAC)'s 2017-22 Strategic Plan. He noted that three objectives have been identified:

- Establish a harmonized implementation process for standards to be referenced directly or indirectly in regulations that will work for all jurisdictions;
- A system where the development process of standards to be referenced directly or indirectly in regulations responds to policy, transparency, language and efficiency needs of regulators; and
- System and structure that leverages implementation of trade agreements to enhance safety, expand Canadian businesses and increase economic growth across the country.

In this context, N. Fahey responded to a question noting that the Ministry is in close contact with Quebec and Manitoba on proposed changes to the USA Regulation.

6. Ministry of Government and Consumer Services’ Update

N. Fahey reported that 2017 was a very busy year for TSSA and MGCS. Ministerial staff have updated Kevin French, the new Deputy Minister of Government and Consumer Services, on safety programs. He briefly touched on the Regulatory Review Initiatives and on the ongoing consultations on Operating Engineers.

2018 promises to bring in a high volume of complex work at the Ministry. Staff are working to get all the commitments completed before the June 2018 provincial election. While the Elevator Availability report has been received from the independent consultant, the Ministry is deferring its public release pending the development of an action plan.

7. Communication and Advocacy Initiatives

S. Robinson delivered his presentation slides on public safety initiatives on Carbon Monoxide Awareness and the ski lifts. He highlighted the customized mobile house featuring the risks of carbon monoxide with augmented reality. It has made its rounds in Ontario at various home shows. The mobile house will be on display at the Ontario Skills Competition in May 2018. New videos and safety awareness signage have been produced for the ski lifts industry. He showed two videos developed by TSSA on fire safety measures in restaurants.

8. Code Adoption Document – Process and Status

K. Kennedy elaborated on his slide presentation on this topic, which was shared with Council beforehand. After a TSSA review of existing processes, with MGCS support, new standard operating procedures for CAD amendments and Director’s Order development were put in place. K. Kennedy enumerated the CAD amendments currently under development.

9. Roundtable Updates from Chairs

Kelly Leitch said that the Elevating Devices Advisory Council would like to know more about the Code Adoption Document for their industry. Much effort was expended on the elevator availability study. The groups who were consulted noted that the subject is complex. EDAC anticipates the direction of government.

Rod Philip of OEAC, who was unable to participate in today’s meeting, had shared an update which D. Scriven read out. Regulatory review of OE continues, including the drafting of a revised regulation. The OE Advisory Council has a new member from the refrigeration industry. Council will be looking to replace representatives from the oil industry and academic institutions.
Joe Adams said that the BPV Advisory Council submitted a memorandum to the Ministry on agriculture exemption. There was a recent incident of Carbon Monoxide release in a greenhouse in Ontario which may prompt the government to review the current exemption of agricultural facilities.

Lloyd Hall said that 2017 was a very trying year for USA. He reiterated his concerns and disappointment with the government’s policy direction. From the USAAC’s viewpoint, the soon-to-be modernized regulation fails to reduce burden on industry nor improves public safety. He mentioned the challenges to be faced with regard to reciprocity between provinces, and additional concerns about regulating imported products.

Dave Karn said that PAC is still pushing for a level playing field with other fuels. He cited the compliance statistics in the Annual State of Public Safety Report. PAC will be looking for a new representative from the Canadian Propane Association.

Jane McCarthy reported that there were no issues from CAC. She said that consumers and the general public need access to information about certified TSSA inspectors on the website.

10. Information and other business

There was none.

11. Council Administration and other business

D. Scriven reminded the chairs about the annual report. A review of the Advisory Council Matrix will be included in the spring agenda.

The next Annual General Meeting will be held in Toronto.

12. In-Camera

The Committee met in-camera without TSSA staff and MGCS.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at around 2:30 p.m.