

Moving Forward

FOR MOST, THE last days of summer are upon us. This signals the start of many new activities for College staff as summer goals are completed. Over the course of this past summer, the College released the much anticipated online course in *Professional Ethics*. Thus far, over 40 members have completed the course and exam; feedback has been positive. The course will continue to be further refined based on additional feedback received. In addition, the College began accepting applications for its newest member category: Applied Biology Technician (ABT). This category will complement the College's current network of applied biology professionals, welcoming to the College those professionals who have on-the-ground expertise to provide valuable support to the RPBios and RBTechs. Information on the College's new membership category can be viewed at [ABT Information Bulletin](#).

The College continues to work toward providing support in many areas of practice for the membership. Over the next couple of months, the College will release the final *Riparian Areas Guidelines* document, a collaborative effort with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC), the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP), the BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA), and the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC). In addition, the College's Ethics Committee is making final edits to their *Conflict of Interest* document and staff are working towards the completion of a page on the College's website dedicated to providing information on climate change.

As we announced earlier in the year, the College is moving to electronic notification of dues this year. In anticipation of this move, in last year's mail-out, members were asked to confirm if they still wish to receive their notices by mail. To recall your recorded preference selection, you can visit your profile in the [Member Section](#) of the College's website.

Another recent upgrade to the College's website is the ability for members to update their speciality or area of practice. When a member of the public looks at your member profile, the list of your specialities appear. To ensure the information presented is current, please also refer to the Member Section of the College's website to update your member profile.

The College continues to ensure that it meets one of the mandates of the [2016-2018 Strategic Plan](#) by reaching out to industry, government, and the public. Over the course of the

summer, meetings were held with the Ministry of Environment (MoE), the BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF), and the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists (ASPB). Meetings are being planned with the Federal Government and First Nations.

As the College continues to grow, getting out the message of who we are and what we do remains a high priority. Over the last year, the College has made presentations to large companies, universities, colleges, federal working groups, and provincial government representatives. We attend the AGM's for other resource organizations and continue to reach out to companies and organizations to inform them about the College and its members. If you have any recommendations for outreach, please [contact the College](#) so we can continue to expand our messaging to promote the value of membership with the College and the work we do as applied biology professionals. 

Respectfully submitted
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