



# OSPG

Office of the Superintendent  
of Professional Governance

## Strategic Plan

Status as of November 21, 2019



## BACKGROUND

The *Professional Governance Act* (PGA) and the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG) were created in response to recommendations on professional governance provided in the independent final report on professional reliance in the natural resource sector completed by Mark Haddock in June 2018.

The PGA was passed in November 2018 and will initially govern five regulatory bodies: the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC), the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP), the BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA), the College of Applied Biologists (CAB), and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (also known as Engineers and Geoscientists BC - EGBC). The PGA is intended to strengthen government oversight of regulatory bodies by establishing a statutory oversight body (OSPG) within the Ministry of Attorney General, and by providing an effective and trusted framework for professional governance that protects the interests of British Columbians. The PGA is coming into force by regulation in stages beginning in June 2019 with the creation of the OSPG, the appointment of the Superintendent, and some initial requirements on regulatory bodies, such as nomination procedures for councils.



The enactment of key provisions begins the preparation of regulatory bodies to transition from their current governance statutes to the PGA, which is anticipated to be fully implemented in Fall 2020. During the implementation period, regulations and bylaws are being developed to support the full implementation of the PGA and will allow regulatory bodies to meet the specific needs of their professions. When the PGA is fully implemented, the current five governance statutes will be repealed.



## Professional Governance Implementation Plan

- The Professional Governance Act (PGA) provides a governance framework and ethical principles for professionals in B.C. in order to protect the public interest.
- The Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG) administers and enforces the PGA and provides oversight of the regulatory bodies covered under the PGA.
- The PGA provides authority for key functions of regulatory bodies, including: setting standards of competence and conduct; registration; education and continuing competence, and; complaints and discipline.
- There are five regulatory bodies currently included in the PGA:
  1. College of Applied Biology
  2. Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC
  3. Engineers and Geoscientists BC
  4. Association of BC Forest Professionals
  5. BC Institute of Agrologists



### Implementation Timeline

Implementation	PGA in Force	Operations
<p>PHASE 1: WINTER 2019 - SUMMER 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 2018 - The PGA received royal assent.</li> <li>• June 2019 - The OSPG was established and the Superintendent was appointed.</li> <li>• June 2019 - Select parts of the PGA were brought into force to begin transition to the PGA. The Superintendent now has certain administrative powers and regulatory bodies are subject to some parts of the PGA (e.g., Nomination procedures for councils).</li> </ul>	<p>PHASE 2: FALL 2019 - SUMMER 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSPG works with the regulatory bodies to prepare the OSPG and each regulatory body for transition (bylaw procedures; committee and council structure and election).</li> <li>• Joint policy work on topics relating to the key aspects of the PGA and functions of regulatory bodies including performance standards; advocacy and transparency; code of ethics; duty to report; and, complaints and discipline.</li> <li>• Begin discussions on key policy issues such as the regulation of firms, practice rights and scope of practice, and declarations of competence and conflict of interest begin.</li> <li>• Key milestones include the release of OSPG's first annual report (May 2020) and the establishment of a Professional Governance Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>PHASE 3: FALL 2020 ++</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PGA will be fully implemented and the current legislation of each of regulatory body is repealed.</li> <li>• Initial regulations required for implementation are complete.</li> <li>• Regulatory bodies' mandatory bylaws are filed and work commences on transitioning other bylaws.</li> <li>• Implementation of regulation of firms; scope of practice and practice rights, and declarations of competence and conflict of interest will be phased in and continue beyond Fall 2020.</li> <li>• OSPG will transition from implementation to operations and enforcement.</li> </ul>





## OPERATING FRAMEWORK

### OUR VISION

Effective, trusted and supported professional governance that protects the interests of British Columbians.

### WHAT WE DO

#### Research

- To incorporate best practices in professional governance
- To develop policy and guidance
- To assess impacts of policy/regulations on all interested parties

#### Review

- To identify and respond to systemic or general governance matters
- To assess regulatory body performance against standards
- To ensure regulatory body bylaws are in the public interest

#### Regulate

- To maintain a modern regulatory framework responsive to changing professional environments
- To support regulatory bodies effectively regulating their registrants
- To enforce compliance with the Professional Governance Act

#### Report

- To transparently communicate about matters of professional governance

### HOW WE DO OUR WORK

#### We are committed to being:

- Fair
- Transparent
- Collaborative
- Flexible
- Responsive
- Accountable



## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2020 – 2023

The strategic direction for the three years following initial implementation will focus on the full establishment of operations and oversight, as well as the development of, and education on, best practices in professional governance.

