BYLAW AMENDMENT SUMMARY

In Force Effective January 13, 2025

PUBLISHED JANUARY 23, 2025



The Engineers and Geoscientists BC bylaws that came into force on January 13, 2025, contain four substantive amendments and several minor and housekeeping amendments.

(A) Information from the Audit and Practice Review Committee to the Investigation Committee

The bylaw amendment clarifies the process for sharing information between the Audit and Practice Review Committee and the Investigation Committee. The amendments preserve a "privacy shield" to encourage candid participation by Registrants in audits and practice reviews, while ensuring that records can be disclosed to the Investigation Committee if an investigation may be warranted to protect the public.

(B) Limited Liability Partnerships

Amendments reflect the ability for Registrants to practice through Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs), similar to other professions. While LLPs limit a partner's personal liability, registrants practicing through LLPs remain fully accountable under Engineers and Geoscientists BC's enforcement and discipline powers for professional negligence. The amendments include requiring at least one individual partner to be a Registrant and notice to inform clients of the LLP structure, ensuring transparency and mitigating risks for third parties.

(C) Registrant Firms Assigning Roles and Titles in Compliance with the PGA

These amendments require Registrant Firms to ensure that they are assigning titles and roles to employees or persons under contract in compliance with the *Professional Governance Act*. Firms will include their plan to meet this responsibility in their annual Professional Practice Management Plan, enabling proactive discussion with Engineers and Geoscientists BC assessors to prevent misuse of title.

(D) Panel Member Appointments

The bylaw amendment addresses the situation where a panel member cannot continue by either replacing the member or continuing the proceeding with only two members. The amendment allows the chair of the Investigation or Discipline Committee to either appoint a replacement or permit the two-member panel to complete the proceeding, provided at least one member is a Lay Committee Member as required by the *Professional Governance Act*.

(E) Minor Amendments and Housekeeping

Multiple minor amendments were made to clarify or particularize the bylaw requirements, including the following:

- i. Update the definition of "Structure";
- ii. Require information regarding past registration cancellations be included in reinstatement applications;
- iii. Clarify documentation and retention requirements for field reviews; and

iv.	Remove references to "Branches" as Branches will no longer be administered by Engineers and Geoscientists BC.