

# NBBOA NEWSLETTER



Summer 2021

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to begin my new role as your NBBOA President. I am the Chief Building Inspector for the Northwest Regional Service Commission in Edmundston. I have been an Executive Committee member for 8 years and involved with numerous related issues such as being part of the Minimum Planning Standard working group and advocating for the adoption of the 2015 National Building Code of Canada.

NBBOA continues to work and advocate for our members' education while recognizing the provincial and national level.

I hope you have a fun and safe summer.

**Julien Bouchard, PTech, NBCBO, CRBO**



*Pictured: President Julien Bouchard*

## NATIONAL BUILDING CODE CHANGES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

New Brunswick has adopted the 2015 NBC/NPC/NFC codes as of Monday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The new *Building Code Administration Act* and regulations are now up on the [gnb.ca](http://gnb.ca) website. A grace period has been established to allow the construction industry time to transition from the 2010 National Building Code to the 2015 version, as part of changes to a regulation under the *Building Code Administration Act* effective May 6<sup>th</sup> until Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Lastly, on May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mike Lewis from the Department of Justice and Public Safety became the new Acting Director of Technical Inspection Services.

## NBBOA EDUCATION-UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Training for National Building Code of Canada 2015:** The NBBOA Education Committee is working on a plan to delivery 2015 Code Updater Courses. The province has now set in motion the adoption of the NBC 2015, with full implementation coming in effect January 1, 2022. Additionally, any member who has attained a certification designation is required, under our bylaw, to complete a building code change course every building code cycle, in order to maintain certification. With all of this in mind, we are in the process of receiving proposals and contracts for these sessions. Both Part 9 and Part 3 in person sessions will be offered twice (Fall 2021 and Winter 2022), in order to accommodate offices with multiple members needing to attend. Announcements will be made once everything has been finalized.

**Courses:** The 2021 Fall calendar includes the Barrier Free Requirements course and the new updated Legal Responsibilities course. Both courses are in the process of being updated to include the new legislations. Although these are courses required for qualification and certification, they would be great refresher courses for all members and would count as maintenance points.

**Exams:** During the pandemic, NBBOA were allowing members to write exams within their offices with an approved proctor. More than 50 exams were administered, and just over half were sent out via post office this year in order to continue providing exams to our members. With the province moving into the green phase, we will no longer be offering this service in the fall (in-office exams were both time intensive and complicated to administrate). In person exams on specific exam dates will resume in September 2021 in Fredericton. Members will be able to write 2010 paper exams until December 31, 2021. Once the 2015 online exam platform is up and running, members will once again be able to write from their own office with an approved proctor. NBBOA and ACBOA are working on the contract for the online exams, which is tentatively scheduled to be ready for Fall 2021.

## Contact Us

### NBBOA

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## WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED AT THE 2021 AGM:

The NBBOA Executive was active in advocacy efforts in 2020, sending letters to the province encouraging 2015 Code Adoption, requesting flexibility around Barrier Free requirements, and advocating for continuing the link between building permits and wiring permits. The NBBOA participated in a Provincial working group, exploring what minimum standards (training, education, certification levels) could look like for building inspectors and development officers. While this work was not included in the new Act or Regulations, the NBBOA will continue to pursue this issue. Past President, Amy Poffenroth explained that in 2020, education revenue decreased slightly due to Covid-19 restrictions. Additionally, the annual 2020 conference was cancelled due to the pandemic; the conference usually generates much-needed revenue as well. However, the NBBOA was fortunate last year to benefit from the Government's 75% wage and rent subsidies, which accounts for just over \$21,000 in revenue. NBBOA facilitated 50 exams and all scheduled courses were provided in 2020. NBBOA shared seminar links to help members attain maintenance points throughout the year and will continue to do so.

## RECIPIENT OF THE 2021 MICHAEL O'NEILL BURSARY

The recipient of the Michael O'Neill Memorial Bursary is awarded to an applicant who is pursuing a technical field and is valued at \$1000. This year's recipient was Allyson Pospolita, daughter of Mike Pospolita, from Fredericton. Allyson will be pursuing an Engineering degree at the University of New Brunswick in the fall of 2021. NBBOA wishes to congratulate Allyson and wish her well in her future studies.

## WHO'S ON THE EXECUTIVE THIS YEAR?

The following members have been elected to represent the NBBOA membership.

Julien Bouchard	President
Amy Poffenroth	Past President
Jason Madore	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Kris Butcher	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Trevor Murray	Secretary
Amy Poffenroth	Treasurer
Gaetan Gallant	Zone 1 Representative
Sam Walsh	Zone 2 Representative
Brent DesRoches	Zone 3 Representative
Steve Bossé	Zone 4 Representative
Jules Leger	Zone 5 Representative
Marc Doiron	Representative at Large

NBBOA would like to say a special thank you to Amy Poffenroth for her dedication and hard work as our NBBOA President during the years of 2017-2021.