

## HELP THE PROFESSION – VOLUNTEER FOR THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

The Professional Standards Board (PSB), conceived as part of CIP's *Planning for the Future* project, is seeking volunteers to help in its certification and accreditation activities.

### Certification

Lend your experience and expertise to help Candidate members achieve certification as Registered Professional Planners. PSB is looking for volunteers for three key roles:

- Sponsors: the Sponsor is a key part of our quality assurance program. S/he verifies that experience reported by Candidates meets the definition of responsible professional planning experience, and that such experience occurred as described in the *Record of Work Experience*.
- Mentors: the Mentor provides guidance to Candidates in understanding the Institute's Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Practice as they apply to their day-to-day planning work. Mentors are very actively involved with their Candidates
- Professional Examination Question Bank Contributors: the final step in PSB's process leading to certification is the Professional examination. As a question bank contributor, you will be asked to develop 6-10 multiple-choice questions that may be used for future sittings of the Professional Examination.
- Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) reviewers: not all applicants to PSB's process have an accredited degree; some come through our PLAR process. PLAR applications require careful review and include a portfolio and self-assessment grid. You have the opportunity to help some potentially strong candidates enter the profession.

To fulfill any of these roles, you must be a certified (RPP/MCIP) member in good standing, and have been such for at least three years.

### Accreditation

PSB is responsible for accrediting Canadian university planning degree programs. The initial step in this process is a site visit to the university in question (2-3 days duration; PSB reimburses all expenses), and PSB is looking for volunteers to carry out these visits. During the site visit, you would meet with the program's administration, professors, current students, alumni and employers to assess the program's suitability. It's an intense, rewarding task and one that makes a great contribution to the future of the planning profession in Canada.

Ideally, you will have had previous experience with site visits and understand the accreditation process. You must be a certified (RPP/MCIP) member in good standing, and have been such for at least three years.

## Why volunteer?

Among others, the pay-offs for volunteering are:

- An opportunity to broaden your contacts within Canada's planning community
- A chance to contribute to the future of the profession in Canada
- The possibility of growing your own planning skills through a "cross-pollination" of ideas, opinions and experiences

In addition, your Affiliate may grant CPL points for your volunteer work – please contact them for confirmation and more details.

## To volunteer:

If you are interested in volunteering, or even if you just have questions about PSB and its role, please contact:

Maddy Marchildon, Executive Director  
Professional Standards Board  
Tel: 647-317-6924  
E-mail: [executivedirector@psb-planningcanada.ca](mailto:executivedirector@psb-planningcanada.ca)

We provide support to our volunteers, including the appropriate orientation.

On behalf of the PSB Board and staff, thanks for your interest and assistance!