

Bulletin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 13, 2025

Bill 40 - Proposed Professional Governance Act (PGA)

On Tuesday, March 11, 2025, the Government of Alberta introduced <u>Bill 40</u> in the legislature. If passed, the Professional Governance Act (PGA) would consolidate nine pieces of legislation that govern 22 professional regulatory organizations (PROs) into one act. The government states that "This legislation would modernize professional legislation, emphasizing good governance and consistency in the regulation of the professions it covers, while remaining responsive to their unique needs and operations of each organization."

Along with other PROs like the Alberta Association of Landscape Architects (AALA) and the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists (ASPB), the Alberta Professional Planners Institute (APPI) is currently registered under the Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act (POARA). Under POARA, there is a Professional Planner Regulation. The regulation establishes APPI as the self-governing professional regulatory organization responsible for the registration, licensure, regulation, and discipline of people holding a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) designation in Alberta. The regulation also defines the profession's practice and grants title protection rights to APPI members practicing within Alberta.

A number of other PROs, however, such as the Alberta Association of Architects (AAA) and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA), have legislation adopted at different times that are specific to their professions. Through the proposed PGA, all non-health care and non-trade related PROs in the province will be regulated under the same statute. So, Bill 40 represents an expansion and update of POARA.

APPI will carefully review Bill 40 and determine how it impacts our organization and the professional work of regulated professional planners in Alberta. Already, it is clear that APPI will need to update its bylaws, since APPI will be given the authority to address some professional regulatory matters that currently reside in the Professional Planner Regulation. There also may be a need to update APPI committees currently constituted under the authority of the Professional Planner Regulation. It may take some time to review all the impacts because the government is planning to introduce new general regulations under the PGA in the fall as well as planner-specific regulations later on, and we know nothing about these regulations at present. Just be aware that APPI is actively engaged with Bill 40 and will provide more information through APPI channels as it becomes available.

Bill 40 would not legislatively apply to the regulation of APPI members practicing in the NWT or

Nunavut. However, the act would require a number of organizational changes and significant changes to the APPI bylaws that would have ramifications for APPI's members outside of Alberta, so we also encourage planners living north of 60 to keep an eye on developments related to the bill.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the APPI administration.

APPI Mission Statement

We are the face of the planning profession within Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. We serve the public interest by providing regulation, advocacy, promotion and services for our members.

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