

Technology Professionals Canada

Vision for National Accreditation



Agenda

- Status
 - TPC/Technology Accreditations Canada (TAC)
 - Dr. Rick Miner's role
 - Policy Consultation
 - Size of accreditation market/future investment?
 - Future relationship with Canadian Engineering Accreditations Board (CEAB)?
 - Ownership, development, approval of National Technology Benchmarks (NTBs)?
 - Blended/alternative standards?
 - Other?



TPC Status

- Four provincial associations, representing 85% of Cdn membership, created TPC with a Memorandum of Alliance, April 2, 2011
- Key Objectives:
 - Advocacy/coordination of common interests
 - Standards development
 - National Accreditation
 - Governance reform, costs reduction



TPC Status

- Legal incorporation within year
- Consensus decision making by Presidents
- Funding, business plan, staff & office in place
- Dialogue with Quebec association
- Visit www.technologyprofessionals.ca



TPC Vision for National Accreditation

- One national accrediting organization, one standard
- Primary objective to establish accreditation standards for acceptance of college graduates by the provincial associations
- Voluntary process for educational agencies
- Strive to reflect best practices as measured by other sectors within and outside of Canada



TPC Vision for National Accreditation

- Independent accrediting organization
- Participation of regulatory organizations, educational agencies, industry on the accrediting organization
- Programs evaluated against regularly updated standards
- Achieve equality of fair opportunity
- Clear roles and responsibilities



TAC Status

- TAC Working Group, comprised of volunteers/staff of four associations, developing TAC
 - Reports to TPC
 - Retained CSA & Dr. Miner for independent third party review/consultations on current accreditation model
- Subject to CSA recommendations and ongoing consultations with stakeholders, TAC will formulate policies and procedures, including provisions to deal with college programs currently nationally accredited by CTAB



Dr. Miner's Role

- Agreed to serve as “honest broker” to:
 - Assist in transition
 - Ensure all voices heard
 - Contact at miner@collegesontario.org
 - Feedback on important, potentially contentious issues, including but not limited to:



Issues & Policy Responses?

- Anticipated growth in traditional and emerging technician/technologist (TT) roles
- Adapting standards that could include other professions, partnerships, ministry requirements, college flexibility
- Manage costs, levels of subsidies, level of future investment and streamline processes



Size/Purpose of Accreditation Market?

- Why do we all get involved in national accreditation?
- Mature, stable or growing market, particularly in Ontario?
- What should be the pricing, investment and level of subsidies to support national effort?



Relationship with CEAB?

- Is there an interest in discussing with Engineers Canada the pros and cons of some form of partnership to reduce accreditation costs and/or improve credit transfers?



National Technology Benchmarks (NTBs)

- Is the issue of ensuring NTBs remain in the public domain paramount?
- Is the development and approval process of NTBs equally important?
- Is ownership of the NTBs a moot point?



Blended/Alternative Standards

- Should we provide a mechanism to recognize that an Educational Agency in a specific context may have reason to build their curriculum to an alternative standard?
- E.g., reciprocity agreements accommodating government standards unique to Ontario to avoid potential duplication of effort

