

APEGBC COUNCIL 2016 – VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE STATEMENT

KATHERINA V TARNAI-LOKHORST, P.ENG., FEC

Statement of Purpose or Goals for APEGBC

If elected Vice President, my priority will be to rebuild the relationship between Council and APEGBC members. Over the last three years, I have significantly contributed to Council and to several APEGBC committees (listed below). I have gained an intimate working knowledge of not only our organization's operations and its finances, but also of the complexities of managing our dual responsibility as regulator and member advocate. This information needs to be more readily available and transparent to you, our members.

On the Board of Governors of Camosun College, on APEGBC Council and on APEGBC's Governance Committee, I worked to implement clear and transparent systems, procedures and communication. These are vital for ensuring the long term success of any large organization. As Vice President, I will continue to promote and implement such practices at APEGBC.

Regulation is expensive and requires significant resources to legitimately qualify the knowledge, abilities, expertise and ethics of new, current and returning members who practice engineering and geoscience. We manage to keep fees as low as they are in part thanks to thousands of hours of volunteer service given by members on more than 50 committees across the province. I intend to ensure that APEGBC continues to be financially viable and prudent.

Some of the advancements we made during my years on Council include

- fair policies and guidelines that meet the needs of all members, especially in terms of diversity and professional development;
- enhanced recognition of technologists and other qualified members of the engineering and geoscience team, as Licensees;
- increasingly positive relationships with government representatives regarding engaging with APEGBC in all matters pertaining to engineering and geoscience;
- educating and building relationships with the people of British Columbia.

APEGBC has two distinct roles: one, as provincial regulator of engineering and geoscience; the other, as member advocate. These two roles are interwoven and necessary to one another. Many of the benefits we receive as APEGBC members support public safety, the purpose of regulation. For example, the Mentoring Program provides members with the direct, one-on-one support and guidance of more experienced members, to improve the technical and soft skills of professional practice. Another example is the new competency-based assessment system, developed to make the registration process smoother for applicants, staff and volunteers on the Registration Committee and the Fairness Committee, which is now nationally-recognized for its ability to provide more accurate information about applicants' qualifications. In the same way, the Organizational Quality Management (OQM) program is in demand as a value-added vehicle for certifying organizations. It is very important to me that these opportunities, arising from member ideas and input and developed by staff, continue to be fostered at APEGBC.

We are entering a critical time. Two Canadian engineering associations were recently required to change their regulatory models, while some professions in BC lost their rights to self-regulation. Our government has demonstrated its concern that public interest is jeopardized when regulators focus too much on member needs. Now is the time for strong leadership to promote the legitimate advantages inherent in the dual purpose of APEGBC. Our member activities enhance our regulatory role.

I look forward to working with you to build better relationships and to make sure we continue to move our association in the right direction. At APEGBC, we will continue to demonstrate that we are responsible public stewards who value the safety of our communities.

For more about my intentions as VP candidate for election to Council and more information on these issues, please see <https://kathylokhorst.com/apegbc-vp-candidate-2016/>.

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KATHERINA V TARNAI-LOKHORST, P.ENG., FEC

Education

MBA (General), University of Phoenix, 2008

BASc (Mechanical Engineering), University of British Columbia, 1987

Professional History

Instructor, Mechanical Engineering, Camosun College, 1994 – 1996, 2001 – present

Principal, The Lokhorst Group Ventures, Inc., 2008 – present

Doctor of Social Science Candidate, Interdisciplinary Studies, Royal Roads University, 2014 – 2018

Mechanical Engineer, Boeing Canada, de Havilland Division, 1988 – 1991

APEGBC Activities

Member, Council, 2013 – present

Director, APEGBC Foundation, 2015 – present

Member, ASTTBC-APEGBC Joint Board, 2015 – present

Member, Registration Committee, 2015 – present

Member, Mentoring Committee, 2013 – present

Member, Audit Committee, 2013 – 2015

Member, Governance Committee, 2013 – 2015

Outreach Coordinator, Victoria Branch, 2012 – 2013

Outreach Activities Volunteer, Victoria Branch 2009 – 2013

Related Professional Activities

Member, Education Council, 2008 – 2013

Chair, Education Council, Camosun College, 2009 – 2011

Chair, Academic Governance Council of British Columbia, 2010

Member, Camosun College Board of Governors, 2009-2011

Community Involvement

Director, CCA Board, UVic & Camosun College, 2015-present

Healthy Minds Ambassador, Camosun College, 2012 – present

Peer Coach, Camosun College, 2011 – present

United Way Campaign Co-Chair, Camosun College, 2014-2015

Awards and Honours

[Fellowship, Engineers Canada](#), 2015

[Engineers Canada–TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Scholarship](#), 2015