



TAC wraps up pilot project, prepares for full operations

Technology Accreditation Canada (TAC) wrapped up its pilot project to glowing reviews from the Canadian college involved – Georgian College in Barrie. Georgian College’s electrical engineering technology program is the first Canadian college program to ever receive TAC accreditation.

“We are delighted to be awarding accreditation to this Georgian College program. It is the final step in the development of TAC leading up to the launch of full operations,” said Peter Portlock, TAC board chair.

Georgian College applied for accreditation online through TAC’s website. The application was reviewed and accepted by TAC and, soon afterwards, TAC assembled an audit team which was approved by the college and OACETT.

Georgian College completed a self-assessment which was posted on a secure website and accessible by TAC and the audit team. The site visit date was scheduled for four months after the college self-assessment submission was posted as is standard TAC protocol. In preparation for the site visit, the audit team reviewed the self-assessment submission, discussed via conference calls, and completed the requisite TAC draft audit report.

The site visit schedule was agreed to by the audit team and the college. The night before the August 6 site visit, the audit team convened with TAC representatives for a final in-person review. During the site visit, the audit team met with college administration, faculty, representatives from program advisory committees, alumni, and the graduating class, and received exposure to college facilities including labs and support services. They examined equipment, students’

work, safety components and student accessibility to equipment and labs. Representatives from OACETT and the TAC board were also present at the site visit.

Following the site visit, the audit team revised the audit report as required. If there were any areas where the college was found to not be in compliance, the college had six months to remedy the issue and send proof of it to TAC. The final report was submitted by TAC to its governance and audit council which conducted a second level review and approved the accreditation. TAC grants accreditation for five years only, after which time a new accreditation must take place.

“We found that TAC’s auditors were informative and knowledgeable as we learned of areas requiring strengthening. We were also impressed with TAC as an organization as to their effective and efficient approach to the audit process,” said Dan Brooks, associate dean, engineering technology and environmental studies, Georgian College. “While we have enjoyed excellent relationships with other accrediting bodies, TAC exceeded our expectations. We would have no hesitation referring TAC to our college colleagues across the system.”

Georgian College representatives attended TAC’s board meeting in Toronto on March 11 where the accreditation was officially recognized.

TAC launched full operations in March and is attracting growing interest, as evidenced by the rising number of enquiries and applications for accreditation received.

For more information, visit www.technologyaccreditation.ca.



Technology Accreditation Canada Agrément en Technologie du Canada

Members on the move

Matthew Aston, C.E.T., has been hired by the Township of Wellington North as the town’s new director of public works. The public works portfolio includes management of the town’s services and requires cost-effective delivery of these services. Aston comes to the township with experience managing people, and maintaining and building public infrastructure projects.

Bob Bieler, C.E.T., has started a new position with General Electric as a project development director, leading Canadian operations in the power, oil and gas sector and others where GE has products and service offerings. In his prior role, Bieler was vice-president, investment for SNC-Lavalin Capital, responsible for international project investment.

Gordon Carter, C.E.T., has joined Horizon Utilities Corporation as the control room operations manager. In this position, he oversees the day-to-day activities of the system operators who operate the electrical distribution system to maintain reliable supply of electricity. He is also responsible for implementing improvements to the system and providing technical direction when needed. Prior to joining Horizon Utilities, he worked at Enersource Hydro Mississauga as a system control supervisor for over 10 years.

Alexander Cole, C.E.T., has started a new job with Ainley Group Inc. as a civil engineering technologist. In this new role, he is responsible for preparing detailed civil engineering designs, drawings and specifications for land development projects, storm and sanitary sewer design, grading designs and finished ground TIN surfaces, corridor modelling in Civil 3D and storm-water management.

Jason Dobbie, A.Sc.T., is now a senior project manager with the environmental due diligence and remediation group at Pinchin Limited. Dobbie has over 18 years of experience as a project manager and senior reviewer of phase one and two environmental site assessments (ESAs) and has conducted over 800 ESAs for a variety of