

**Editors' Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs  
Report on National Executive Council Meeting  
November 20–21, 2010, Calgary**

The national executive council meeting in Calgary, AB, held November 20–21, was very productive. Following is a summary of the meeting.

At all of our meetings, the NEC covers many topics related to the association, so this little report often only scratches the surface. If one of the topics discussed below interests you, or if you would like more information, please let us know. Email me directly at [president@editors.ca](mailto:president@editors.ca), or contact your branch representatives, members-at-large or committee chairs as appropriate.

**Conference 2011**

In addition to our co-hosting partnership with the Indexing Society of Canada, we are pleased to announce that the Professional Editors Association of Vancouver Island (PEAVI) will also be participating in the 2011 conference. For conference updates, visit the website at <http://www.editors.ca/conference/conference2011>.

**Volunteer Training**

The NEC continued their discussion about the benefits of developing some form of volunteer training within the organization. Some of the possibilities being considered include a newsletter targeted to volunteer leaders to provide support and training, and some volunteer training sessions at the annual conference. While we are committed to improving our support to volunteers, the lack of volunteer human resources to provide this support continues to be the greatest hurdle.

**Contract Collective**

A couple of members have expressed concern about EAC's contract collective. Their concern is that EAC is in a conflict of interest when it is bidding against independent members or groups if members for work. The intention of the collective is to provide opportunities for members who would not otherwise be in a position to bid on large contracts. To help reduce any potential conflict, the NEC agreed to draft a set of parameters that would restrict the types of RFPs the collective would bid on to contracts worth over \$100,000/year in revenues and that require at least five editors to fulfill. The goal is to only go after work that independent members aren't likely to be eligible for individually. However, this remains an important issue and the executive would like to continue this discussion with any concerned members.

**Twig Formation, Governance and Representation**

Two Alberta members joined the NEC on Saturday afternoon to talk about twig formation, governance and representation in Calgary and Edmonton. Discussion focused on how to foster regional support and cooperation among regional branches and twigs.

**Francophone Affairs**

Francophone members of the association are in the very early stages of developing a certification program for French editors. Carolyne Roy, Francophone Affairs Director, described a workshop partnership that has been developed between EAC and the University of Montreal's Certificat de rédaction. She is now exploring the potential for extending the U of M partnership to potentially involve a certification program. She welcomes comments and, as always, offers of assistance.

**Vacant Positions**

There have been a number of key executive positions that have remained vacant this year—Training & Development chair, Membership chair and Website co-chair—which has prevented any development in those important areas. The national marketing advisory board is also looking for a francophone member.

**Budget**

After some discussion, the 2011 budget was approved at the November meeting. Some of the highlights from that budget include funds to assess and re-architect the way information is placed on our website, and, as an extension of that, developing a new EAC/ACR brand that will update our visual presentation, both online and in print. There was also funding allocated for researching e-publishing as a potential direction for our print publications like ECE, MPES and our certification study guides. Beyond e-publishing, we are trying to find ways to develop a much stronger online platform that could provide a foundation for other online services, possibly including online training or online testing.

Perhaps not as glamorous, we provided funds in the budget for the rebuilding of our reserves. We had a healthy reserve set aside in 2007, but this was largely depleted during our financial troubles in 2007–2009. Now that member fees cover the costs of delivering member services, we can look to our special projects to bring in marginal profits to save for future special projects. We hope to rebuild the reserve so that it will sufficiently cover future recession challenges as well as new initiatives.

And finally, we budgeted for a new position in the national office beginning in September. The new Branch Services Coordinator will provide support for branch and twig executives to help them coordinate meetings and events, develop and distribute communications, and keep in touch with each other. We hope to hire a fully bilingual person with strong administrative and communications skills.

**Next Meeting**

The National Executive Council meets again in Ottawa, ON, March 5-6. We will be hosting a few invited guests to the meeting, including Melva McLean, Publications chair, and Krysia Lear, Certification chair, as well as Frances Peck, former Standards and Certification chair, and Ipshi Kamal, an Ottawa member with experience in grant applications. The focus of the meeting will be the association's long-range goals and strategic planning for some of our important professional development committees.

Full minutes from all NEC meetings are available on the website at [www.editors.ca/members/readup/minutes.html](http://www.editors.ca/members/readup/minutes.html).

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