

Editors' Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs
Report on National Executive Council Meeting
November 29–30, 2008, Toronto

The national executive council met in Toronto on Saturday and Sunday, November 29 and 30, 2008. Major items of discussion were the budget and the organization review.

Budget

The 2009 budget was passed with a small surplus. Measures taken in March 2008—launch of the new ODE (revenue of \$34,000), the CaféPress marketing initiative (revenue of \$2,000), and online job ads (revenue of \$14,000)—kept the association out of bankruptcy. Without these measures, we would have had a \$50,000 deficit.

News from the EAC office

Finances, and revenue generation in particular, are still the office's number one priority. Processes for dealing with EAC finances are significantly improved. Michelle Ou has been promoted; she is now Communications Manager for the association, in charge of in-office marketing initiatives.

Francophone affairs

In the past, EAC translations were handled externally, and the results were not always satisfactory. Since April 2008, EAC translations have been done by EAC member volunteers. Their efforts have saved the association an estimated \$4,000. However, the volunteers were not expecting the large volume of work that has been required. The translation group will still provide volunteer translations when possible, but some of the translation work will be solicited from EAC members when necessary.

Certification

The Certification Committee reported in detail on proposed changes to the certification program reflecting the anticipated ratification of new professional editorial standards in 2009. Skill descriptions have been revised and regrouped, so that there will be five skill groups rather than four core areas, as per the new standards document. These new skill groups will include The fundamentals of editing; Structural editing; Stylistic editing; Copy editing; and Proofreading. Elementary Knowledge of the Publishing Process, formerly a standalone exam, will be folded into the other tests. The committee stressed that those who have already passed certification exams would be on an equal footing with those who pass future exams.

Publications

Peter Midgley was appointed chair of the Publications Committee. David Jolliffe, in his final report as chair of this committee, made these points: *Meeting Editorial Standards* needs revamping and revision, he says the target for completion of this work should be Q3 of 2009; *Editing Canadian English* also needs revision, he says the target for completion of this work should be Q2 of 2011.

Awards

A new annual award, the Claudette Upton Award, was approved in principle. It will be given to a student member in honour of Claudette's significant contribution to the association.

Policies

The NEC decided to recommend Planetair as a carbon footprint organization to EAC members when travelling to EAC events.

Organization review

The national executive council began a review of the restructuring that was put in place in 2002/03. After operating within the new structure for five years, council is examining what has worked well and what may need to be re-worked. A major aim will be to streamline operations where possible, and identify potential efficiencies.

Minutes of council meetings are posted in the Members Only area of the website once they have been approved (at the subsequent council meeting). The next council meeting will take place in Vancouver on February 28 and March 1, 2009. As usual, the meeting is open to any voting member in good standing who wishes to attend.