

Ontario College of Trades applauds appointment of Reviewer to support independent technical review

Statement from CEO and Registrar David Tsubouchi

In just over one year, the Ontario College of Trades (the College) has already made significant progress as a new self-regulatory body mandated to oversee and modernize skilled trades in Ontario and protect the public interest.

Not only do consumers now have the opportunity to confirm the qualifications of skilled tradespeople through our public register, but for the first time in Ontario, there are enforcement officers dedicated to making sure individuals who, for example, work on your brakes or wire your home, have the required qualifications to do the job safely and knowledgeably.

As with any new organization — and given its unique mandate — the College has also taken this first year to learn and identify areas for improvement. Based on our own observations, feedback from industry stakeholders and from comments from our first independent trade classification review panel decision, we believe there is an opportunity to improve some of our processes with regards to determining scopes of practice and trade classification reviews.

In her 2014 Plan for Ontario, Premier Kathleen Wynne made a commitment to support the success of the College through the appointment of a special advisor to conduct a review.

Today, the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, the Honourable Reza Moridi, appointed Tony Dean as a Reviewer to conduct an independent technical review. We believe Mr. Dean's expertise and knowledge will be extremely beneficial to the College and to addressing areas where there is an opportunity for improvement.

I want to assure the public and the industry that the College's important work as it relates to consumer protection and promotion of the skilled trades will continue throughout this Review. The College will continue issuing Certificates of Qualification and statements of membership, developing Training and Curriculum Standards, assessing individuals' prior skills and experience through the Trade Equivalency Assessment process, protecting the public through compliance and enforcement activities, promoting the skilled trades and apprenticeship system and serving our members and the public as per normal practise.

Given the main focus of this Review may impact on the process and criteria for trade classification reviews, the College will pause any further trade classification reviews until Mr. Dean's review has been completed. We owe it to the hardworking men and women in the skilled trades and the public to get it right.

To read the announcement appointing Tony Dean, [click here](#).

To learn more about the College or to access the public register, visit www.collegeoftrades.ca. Follow us on Twitter [@collegeoftrades](https://twitter.com/collegeoftrades).

