

Alberta Board of Skilled Trades

Chair's Message



Since [the Alberta Board of Skilled Trades' \(ABST\) creation](#) in July 2022, the ABST has been focused on its mandate to consult with industry on the standards and requirements for certification in designated trades, advise the Minister on restricted activities in the trades, and promote the value of skilled trades professions in our province.

As a new board, we've been working these last few months to lay the groundwork of building the ABST's industry consultation structure, and implement sound governance structures and robust planning processes. We've also been reviewing past best practices of the former Apprenticeship and Industry Training (AIT) Board, as well as promising new practices, to ensure grassroots input from industry is combined with an updated and responsive industry consultation model. This will position the ABST to deliver sound advice and decision-making to meet the needs of industry, stakeholders, apprentices, and journeypersons.

Since its inception, the ABST has:

- Created the Industry Network Standing Committee, which has been working to build and implement an industry engagement model that is agile and responsive to board-related issues;
- Created the Industry Standards Standing Committee which has been addressing an outstanding list of industry issues from the former AIT Board requiring action from the new ABST; and
- Created the Board Operations Standing Committee to create the ABST's Strategic Plan, reporting mechanisms, and fulfill the ABST's legislated function to promote the establishment and maintenance of welcoming and inclusive work environments for designated trades.

The ABST has been extremely fortunate to have a [very skilled and qualified team of members](#) to guide the board's start-up and carry us through the ABST's first few years. The board members and I are committed to maintaining and growing Alberta's reputation of being a world-class skilled trades professions system. As the ABST continues its work, we welcome your input, and encourage you to reach out to us at Board.SkilledTrades@gov.ab.ca with your ideas, suggestions, or concerns.

Ray Massey, Board Chair

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