

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT)

August 26, 2024 (Virtual)

Present:

Rosanna Tyrer, C.E.T., rcji, CAPM	Past-President
Micheal Mooney, C.E.T.	President (** <i>Joined the meeting at 7:10pm</i>)
Christopher van Dop, C.E.T.	President-Elect
Norman Sandberg, C.E.T.	Central Region
Brian Raymond, CD, C.E.T.	Eastern Region
Shelley Parker, A.Sc.T.	Horseshoe Region
Stephanie Pesheau, C.E.T.	Northern Region
Roy Sue-Wah-Sing, C.E.T.	Toronto Region
Samuel Nammari, C.E.T., P.Eng.	Western Region
Mladen Ivankovic, C.E.T.	Young Professionals Representative
Daniel Liao	Heads of Technology
Alex Lusty	Public Representative
Liam Croft	Incoming Student Representative

Staff:

Cheryl Farrow, MBA, CAE	Chief Executive Officer
Lily Rudeychuk, CPA	Director, Finance and Corporate Services
Barry Billing	Director, RPP & Registrar
David Terlizzi	Director, MES
Elle Armstrong	Administrator

Guests:

John Longo	Counsel, Aird & Berlis (** <i>Left the meeting at 8:25pm</i>)
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Regrets:

Roy Sue-Wah-Sing, C.E.T.	Toronto Region
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❖ **President's Opening Remarks and Call to Order**

Past-President Rosanna Tyrer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. She welcomed the Board of Directors and noted that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of accuracy of minutes.

PROTECTION OF TITLE

Past-President Tyrer introduced key issues regarding the protection of the 'Certified Technician' title, particularly concerning specific usage identified by Kal Tire and Speedy Auto Glass (whose parent company is Belron Canada Inc.). The discussion centred on the need for legal action to protect the certification title as protected under the OACETT Act and ensure compliance. It was also identified that the recent introduction of the Building Skilled Trades in Ontario Act, which requires a "Certificate of Qualification" for certain compulsory trades, may be creating some new confusion as employers think it qualifies them to call these individuals "certified". Board members discussed potential litigation strategies, including pursuing court injunctions if necessary, to prevent misuse of the title. They emphasized the importance of engaging with government bodies

for clarification on certification practices, and a coordinated approach was deemed essential to address marketing practices. Concerns were raised about the financial implications of litigation and the timeline for obtaining court orders.

After some discussion, the Board authorized staff to proceed with legal actions if settlements could not be reached and to engage local Chapter representatives as required in monitoring advertising practices. The next steps include pursuing changes in Kal Tire's website terminology, suggesting a shift from 'Certified Technician' to 'Certified Automotive Specialist' as a middle ground, and that in-store advertising would be identified by OACETT representatives and addressed as required. It was agreed that a separate letter would be sent to Speedy Auto Glass to address similar issues.

Staff will also engage in further discussion Skilled Trades Ontario and potentially the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. It was clarified that any decision to move forward with litigation would be delayed until responses from the identified organizations were received. The Board retained decision-making authority, ensuring that staff would report back before proceeding with legal filings.

5905

Moved by Norman Sandberg, Seconded by Mladen Ivankovic and Carried.
Resolved that Board of Directors agrees in principle that the defense of OACETT's protected titles as articulated in the OACETT Act is critical and must be supported to the full capacity of the organization.

5906 – Original Motion

Moved by Stephanie Pesheau, Seconded by Shelley Parker.
Resolved that the Board of Directors authorizes staff and legal counsel to pursue injunctions in the two identified cases with Kal Tire and Belron Canada, unless an agreement can be reached with either/both organizations that satisfies the protection of title in OACETT's Act.

5907 – Motion to table the Original Motion # 5906

Moved by Brian Raymond, Seconded by Norman Sandberg and Defeated.
Resolved that the Board of Directors tables the motion to “authorize staff and legal counsel to pursue injunctions in the two identified cases with Kal Tire and Belron Canada, unless an agreement can be reached with either/both organizations that satisfies the protection of title in OACETT's Act”.

5906 – Original Motion

Moved by Stephanie Pesheau, Seconded by Shelley Parker and Carried, with one member opposing.
Resolved that the Board of Directors authorizes staff and legal counsel to pursue injunctions in the two identified cases with Kal Tire and Belron Canada, unless an agreement can be reached with either/both organizations that satisfies the protection of title in OACETT's Act.

5908

Moved by Christopher van Dop, Seconded by Shelley Parker and Carried.
Resolved that the Board of Directors authorizes staff to reach out to local members to seek their assistance in checking on signage in the Kal Tire stores in Ontario.

❖ Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Email vote subsequent to the August meeting:

Following the August meeting, legal counsel informed the Board that a response had been received from Belron Canada Inc. (parent company of Speedy Glass), and a settlement had been negotiated, pending the Board's approval. The proposed settlement specifies that Belron Canada Inc. cannot use the title in question and outlines the required changes, along with reasonable timelines for implementation.

Discussion was opened on September 9 with movers and seconders finalized and the vote was called on September 12, with a deadline of noon on September 13. The President announced the result later that day, on September 13.

The Board was asked to vote by email on the following motion:

5909

**Moved by Christopher van Dop, Seconded by Rosanna Tyrer and Carried.
Resolved that the Board of Directors approves as proposed the settlement with Belron Canada Inc. in protection of the Certified Technician title.**

The motion was carried.

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Secretary

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President

ACTION ITEMS

- Staff authorized to engage local members in monitoring Kal Tire's compliance.
- Separate outreach to Belron Canada Inc. initiated.
- Discussions to be scheduled with regulatory body (Skilled Trades Ontario).