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June 2024

for the latest of happenings at WWNS, read on....

Waste Water Nova Scotia's Annual Report of the Chairman

April 13, 2024

Over the past year, WWNS and its Board of Directors continued to work hard to ensure the professionalism of your industry. Some of the things we have been involved in are as follows:

1. **Training:** 2023 was another busy year in Nova Scotia. The population increase in Nova Scotia continues to create a lot of opportunities for people in the construction industry. The expansion of the industry resulted in an increase in the demand for training. 5 Installer and 1 Qualified Person courses were held with 100 applicants attending the Installer training course and 20 applicants attending the QP training course. A number of Septic Pumpers, Portable Restroom Operators and Bed Flushers wrote online exams to obtain their certification.
2. **Delivery of Meetings:** WWNS held 13 meetings across Nova Scotia in January and February. The meetings were well attended by industry people looking to catch up on what's new and collect the Professional Development Points associated with these meetings.

As outlined in past meetings, WWNS is looking for persons interested in developing educational content for the Professional Development Program. If you are interested, please contact WWNS.

3. **Participation in the Home Show:** WWNS once again set up an educational booth at the Spring Ideal Home Show in March 2024. This gave WWNS the opportunity to educate the public at large regarding on-site services and promote using Certified Professionals to provide these services across the province. Hundreds of people attended the display.
4. **Newsletter:** WWNS compiled and distributed several newsletters to members over the past year. The purpose of the newsletters is to keep industry informed on what is going on and to solicit feedback from industry on any concerns seen within the industry.

5. **Bursary Awards:** WWNS awarded 3 Educational Bursaries in 2023. In hopes of increasing interest in the Bursaries, the amount for each Bursary was increased to \$2500 at the AGM in 2023. Applications must be received by August 15th each year.
6. **Professional Development Program:** PDP cycles were extended by 1 year to 5 years due to Covid in order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in the continuing education program and collect PDP points. 2023 was the last year in the PDP cycle for Installers. Installers wishing to avoid retaking the training were required to participate in the PDP program enough to collect a minimum of 100 points in each cycle to maintain their qualification. 2024 is the last year in the cycle for Qualified Persons, Septic Pumpers and Portable Restroom Operators.
7. **WWNS Board of Directors and Executive Director:** Over the past year your Board of Director's and your Executive Director continued to work in your best interest and have provided me with the support to carry out my job as Chair of WWNS. To all of them a hardy Thank-you. We continue to strive for the betterment of the industry and protection of the public and environment but it takes a great effort by all. Involvement of the membership is imperative to continue to move forward with positive changes. Your suggestions and ideas are all welcomed so please get involved.

Eric Morse, NSLS, P.Eng.
Chair, WWNS

QUALIFIED PERSON PDP CYCLE 2020 – 2024

2024 is the final year in the professional development cycle for Qualifies Persons. Individuals wishing to remain qualified to renew their certification after May 31, 2025 must have a minimum of 100 PDP points by the end of 2024.

SEPTIC PUMPER & PORTABLE RESTROOM OPERATOR PDP CYCLE 2020 – 2024

2024 is the final year in the professional development cycle for Septic Pumpers, Portable Restroom Operators and Bed Flushers. Individuals wishing to remain qualified to renew their certification after May 31, 2025 must have a minimum of 50 PDP points by the end of 2024.

WWNS is currently in the process of creating a new website and is currently not able to display the PDP points for 2024. The new website should be operational soon to allow you to check your points totals online. An announcement will be sent out when the new website is live. Our apologies for the inconvenience.

WWNS SEARCHING FOR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

After 15 years as the Executive Director of WWNS, I have decided to step down from the position to focus on my own business endeavors. The role has provided me with the opportunity to meet hundreds of hardworking individuals from across the province and beyond. I want to thank the Board of Directors and the membership for the support you have given me over the years in the position.

With that being said, the WWNS Board of Directors is searching for a new Executive Director.

The ideal candidates should:

- be able to work independently and be organized with an attention to detail
- be familiar with the industry
- have a working knowledge of Microsoft office including PowerPoint, Excel & Access
- be able to maintain financial records
- be comfortable interacting with the membership and public
- be available to travel throughout the province periodically, including winter months
- be comfortable speaking in public

If you are interested in the position, please send your resume to wastewatarns@eastlink.ca.
Applications will be received until 5pm, Monday, July 15th, 2024

Kind regards,
Gary

NEW CERTIFICATE OF INSTALLATION FORM

There is a new Certificate of Installation form available on the NSECC website
<https://novascotia.ca/nse/water/docs/Onsite-Sewage-Certificate-of-Installation.pdf>

As discussed at the winter meetings, the form provides an option to complete the COI outside the regular growing season and complete the final cover / seed or sod when weather permits.

More information on the change can be found here:
<https://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/Recent.Program.Changes.asp>

2024 EDUCATIONAL BURSARY

At the 2024 Annual General Meeting, a motion was passed to increase the number and amount of educational bursaries WWNS offers. There are now 4 Bursaries of \$4000 each available to members of WWNS and their families. Preference will be given to students training in a role related to the industry but is open to students training in other vocations.

An application is available at <http://wwns.ca/bursary.php>

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Waste Water Nova Scotia AGM
Truro, NS
April 13, 2024

1:35PM Meeting called to order by Eric Morse.

1:40PM Eric Morse updated the members on the activities of the Board and it's member throughout the year such as working with the Department of Environment, attending the home show, etc.

Review of Minutes

1:45PM Derek MacIsaac made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ian MacLean seconded.

1:45PM New Business

Andre Veniotte expressed his concerns surrounding the current education of new Onsite Installers and Qualified Persons. Would like to teach the course himself and also would like clarification on what the board's position is currently and what they plan to do going forward. The board is working on moving towards having the course material available to others to teach but not available at this time.

Ian MacLean expressed his concerns over the current PDP points and would like the AGM and the Regional Meetings to offer the same amount of points. Preferably 15 and 15.

Holton Wagner spoke of his experience and challenges over the growing number of lots being developed or that people would like to have developed that are less than ideal and the need for more wetland education. Gary Cameron updated the members that NSE and members of the board are working on material to be delivered in the courses and also presented at meetings.

1:55PM Review of Financial Statement

Gary Cameron presented the 2023/2024 Financial Statements.

Paul Sinclair asked what we are going to do with all the money.

Arni Lively made a motion to increase the current bursary amount to 10% of reserved cash. For example, 40,871.00 for 2024. Motion seconded by Andre Veinotte. David Roy and Arthur Backman expressed concerns regarding making a fast decision on the bursary. Arni motioned to amend his motion to not let cash reserves fall below 200k. Ken Dunphy made a comment that the program needs to be reviewed and perhaps changed to allow more people the opportunity to apply. Motion was NOT passed.

John Burgess asked that the financials, AGM schedule, etc. be presented before the meeting so decisions can be made / planned and the motions can be made based on more information. Seconded by Andre Veinotte. Motion was passed.

Paul Sinclair made a suggestion that we could be more aggressive in our investing.

Andre Veniotte made a suggestion that the board spend some funds on social media promotion such as the board's Facebook page.

Colton Wagner made a motion to increase to four bursaries of four thousand per bursary and was seconded by Ken Dunphy. Motion approved.

Paul Sinclair and Ken Dunphy suggested that the bursaries be available to members who want to further their education. One example could be taking a wetlands / water alteration course.

Nomination of Directors

Members up for renewal / nomination are Eric Morse, Steve Muise and Arthur Backman. Arthur Backman reoffered himself. Eric Morse reoffered himself. Marlene Myles motioned to continue on with existing board members and seconded by Matt Colins

2023 Bursaries

Andre Veinotte made a suggestion to update the form / website to be more inclusive and not limiting to the type of education being pursued by the applicant.

Appointment of the Auditors

Voted on to approve MacDonald & Murphy as the 2024/2025 auditors. Approved.

Recording Secretary

Derek MacIsaac



**INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT
FOR PORTABLE SANITATION**

**NOVEMBER 5-7, 2024
ONE KING WEST HOTEL
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA**

 **REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW**
USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!

SPONSORSHIPS/EXHIBITS ARE GOING FAST
USE THE QR CODE TO BECOME A SPONSOR! 

 **BOOK YOUR STAY WITH EARLY BIRD RATES**
ROOMS ARE JUST \$275 CAD PER NIGHT
USE THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!

On-Site Sewage Program Tidbits

1. New On-site Sewage Regulations can be found at <http://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envsewage.htm>
2. On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems Standard can be found at <https://www.novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/docs/On-Site-Sewage-standard-June-2022.pdf>.
3. Certification status for industry professionals can be confirmed here:
 - QPs, Installers, Pumpers: <https://www.novascotia.ca/nse/cms/search.asp>
 - Engineers: <https://www.engineersnovascotia.ca/member-directory/>
4. 2024 WWNS Membership applications are available in the resources section of our website at http://wwns.ca/UserFiles/file/WWNS_membership_form_2024.pdf