

August 25, 2023

## Update on Court Order Regarding Licensed Technologists OAA: August 2023

Further to the July 14 email update, the OAA is reaching out with additional information to all those directly affected by the Court Order earlier this year.

The Association is happy to report OAA President Settimo Vilardi and Executive Director Kristi Doyle met with the Honorable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, on August 17. The discussion, which was held in direct response to President Vilardi's June 6 letter, was positive and focused on next steps to move the legislative amendments forward that will allow the OAA to recognize Limited Licences. As a reminder, the direction of these amendments is based on the existing elements of the now-paused OAA Technology Program.

In June, the OAA had also written to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) with a request to issue a BCIN under the Building Code to all those that had held status as a Lic.Tech.OAA by virtue of their existing skills and training. This was intended as an interim measure to assist those in particular that had been offering services to the public under a Certificate of Practice. The Ministry has unfortunately been unable to render a decision on this matter at this time, and an outcome is still pending.

The OAA and its governing Council continue to place high priority on the resolution of these matters. Active collaboration continues with government to secure the necessary legislative amendments and to recognize para-professionals in the architectural profession through a Limited Licence.

As a reminder, refunds for 2023 membership dues were issued at the end of June to the individual or entity that had originally paid the required amount. The cheques were sent to the address of record that the OAA has on file. If you have not received your refund, please contact OAAfees@oaa.on.ca. To complete the refund process, the OAA is obliged to issue a credit memo to those that received a refund in relation to the HST. This credit memo will include a copy of the cheque for your records and note that the refunds included the HST. GST/HST registrants are required to include this refunded amount in their HST return.

As always, this email serves to keep the lines of communication open between the OAA and those affected by the Court Order. If you have specific questions, do not hesitate to reach out at OAATechProg@oaa.on.ca. This update will be added to the OAA Website as part of the ongoing efforts to ensure the latest information is available.

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