

FIRPAC – Summary of meeting February 22, 2017

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Federal Industry Real Property Advisory Council (FIRPAC)

The Council provides a forum for the public and private sector to discuss issues pertaining to the planning and management of federal real properties including the disciplines of architecture, engineering, construction, facility management, interior design, heritage conservation and landscape architecture. Common objectives consist of improved relations, information sharing and enhanced communications.

Topics of discussion

1. *Government of Canada workplaces*

A representative of Public Services and Procurement Canada gave an overview of **Activity-Based Working: Innovations in Mobility and Flexibility**, with a focus on an integrated and collaborative approach to building modern workplaces for the Government of Canada. The following words and phrases were used to describe the vision: productive, responsive, connected, informed, results-oriented, collaborative, innovative, workplace of choice, poised for success in the digital era, healthy and sustainable. Discussion took place as to implementation strategies, and the present Workplace 2.0 initiatives. The graphic questionnaire provided an useful tool to understand workplace flexibility and mobility.

2. *Re-Alignment of Public Services and Procurement Canada*

A Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) representative gave an update of the high-level re-alignment at PSPC focusing on accountability and on redistribution of workload in Real Property Services. The overview included the new organization structure, service lines, the key service delivery enablers, the enterprise service accountabilities and operational responsibilities of service lines

3. *National Performance Standards for Office Buildings*

A Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) representative provided an update on a document they have been working on called the *National Performance Standards for Office Buildings (NPS)*. The NPS is to be a companion to the document *Workplace 2.0*, the federal government's office space modernization program. PSPC has asked industry for comments. Over the last several months RAIC has collected comments from RAIC members and will be forwarding to PSPC.

4. *Security clearance and fingerprinting*

A representative from the Public Services and Procurement Canada – Industrial Security Sector (PSPC-ISS) provided an update of the intention of the federal government requirement for electronic fingerprinting for new security clearance applications as well as renewals.

5. *Public Services and Procurement Canada and government departments*

Discussion took place around the question “*What is the government doing to encourage the obtaining and requirement of professional designation?*” PSPC is currently developing a document describing which positions (architect and engineer positions in the Centre of Expertise) will require profession designation as a condition of employment.

6. *National Code Adoption*

A working group and terms of reference have been established to propose documentation with respect to the use of the National Building Code of Canada on government properties.

7. *Terms of Reference – Revisions*

The FIRPAC Terms of Reference have been revised to include communications strategies, which set out methods of communication of information provided at FIRPAC meetings by the Government of Canada

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 28, 2017.