

CFBA Committee Reports 2021

Governance

The Governance committee was active in 2021, preparing for, and overseeing the virtual delivery of the Annual General Meeting held on March 26th, 2021. The committee intends to work with the Communication committee in developing policy and establishing protocols for new initiatives the Communication committee has underway. The Governance committee received the report from the IT audit conducted in 2021, and will review and potentially make recommendations to the Board based on resource availability. Governance oversees the development of CFBA policy, and compliance with CRA and Corporations Canada requirements. We welcomed Wayne Blenkhorn (Stonecrest Engineering) and Bryan Quanbury (Britespan Building Systems of Ontario Inc.) as CFBA Directors in 2021, and James Austin (Robertson Building Systems) in early 2022.

Conference / Education

The CFBA was unable to hold an in-person conference in 2021 due to the pandemic, and opted to focus on the delivery of information and education related to continuing business operations of our members and meeting the standards of health and safety during this challenging time. The AGM / Conference / Education committee has been working for since November 2021 to deliver the 2022 conference we are all enjoying today. The conference is a long standing tradition at the CFBA, and we appreciate your feedback on this event. Thank you for attending, and for your support!

In Ground Pressure Treated Wood Post

CFBA continues its efforts to collaborate with primary stakeholders as we look at the Pressure Treated (PT) sawn timber posts that are used as structural load bearing foundation members in post frame farm buildings. The CFBA was informed of a situation of cited early post failure that occurred on a member project. A CFBA task committee was established to review and report their findings. The committee has the knowledge and experience to understand the issue and collaborate with stakeholders. A Wood Preservation Canada (WPC) spokesperson determined that this cited incident was the result of improper wood treatment specification resulting in a residential product being used whereas it should have been non-residential (ie. commercial). This led the task committee to identify a lack of knowledge by specifiers, builders, lumber distributors and building inspectors regarding proper specification of pressure treated wood



products, particularly between residential vs non-residential code compliant applications.

We shared dialogue & email exchanges with WPC, and attended WPC sponsored webinars during February 2022 along with other stakeholders, to become more informed of products and applications. WPC has further provided updated resources with regards to product specification, and we have viewed those relative to CSA .080 Standards, UC 4.1 & UC 4.2. referenced in building codes. Based on discussion with stakeholders at the present time, using CSA .080 UC 4.2 would seem to be the conservative approach to the classification of embedded PT-Posts, critical structural, & difficult to replace barn posts, with consideration of risk for public safety & required maximum life expectancy by owners. It would be beneficial for all stakeholders, including engineer specifiers, WPC, & the CSA Technical Committee to share agreement in the interpretation, or an alternative, for this use application. This approach should help lumber suppliers in meeting the needs of the marketplace and provide clarity for building inspectors to support the farm building industry. We believe this would go a long way to resolving earlier concerns and create a path forward.

We have shared this information with WPC and look forward to their presentation at the CFBA conference. We seek WPC guidance to continue defining the path to allow stakeholders to reach consensus. Our committee will continue sharing information and related education that CFBA can communicate with its members.

Awards / Awards Steering

As there was no in-person conference held in 2021 due to the pandemic, and we were unable to deliver the usual Builder Awards competition, the CFBA surveyed its Builder members to inquire if they would consider entering a virtual Builder Awards competition, or whether they would prefer to defer the competition until the next in-person conference. The survey result was that CFBA Builder members were supportive of deferring the Awards competition until the next Conference, allowing both the 2021 and 2022 entries to be eligible for this competition. We are pleased to deliver this to you today, and look forward to the announcement of the winners at the Awards Dinner, shortly. In addition, there have been a few proposed changes to the Builder Awards competition that are pending, and we hope to be able to review these during the next year, and potentially implement any updates before the 2023 competition (subject to resource availability). We view this as an excellent opportunity to strengthen the organization.



Farm Building Code Advisory Group

The Farm Building Code Advisory Group completed a review of the proposed updates to the National Farm Building Code in early 2020, and submitted 45 comments in response. The proposed updates included provisions for large farm buildings; 600m² or more building area, 4 or more storeys in height, and used for farming as the major occupancy. The CFBA Farm Building Code Advisory Group then awaited next steps as we moved closer to the revision of the farm building code. On June 30th, 2021, the CFBA received notification that after 15 years of advocacy, the update to the farm building regulations had passed its last hurdle, with confirmation that the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes had approved a significant number of code changes for large farm buildings. On April 4th, 2022, the CFBA was informed that the National Building Code 2020 (NBC) had been formally released with the publication including Part 2 Farm Buildings. This is a huge accomplishment, and we sincerely thank Will Teron of Tacoma Engineers, for leading this since 2007, and Tyler Griffith of Tacoma Engineers and Bram Van den Heuvel of Stonecrest Engineering for spearheading this since 2020.

Changes to the farm building portion of the Ontario Building Code were proposed in early 2022, and the CFBA's Farm Building Code Advisory Group reviewed these proposed changes and submitted 11 comments in response. The Canadian Farm Builders Association continues to be involved with and a leader in this initiative.

Communication

The Communication committee continues to pursue ways to bring value to the membership through the CFBA website, CFBA NEWS and other information shared via email, as well as exploring other potential avenues of promoting members. The committee provides support to the association by maintaining the website and approving content, and other messaging-related communiques. The committee developed a 'Spotlight on Members' feature whereby members would create content to communicate information about their company or organization, and the CFBA would share this. The committee would also like to see the CFBA start using social media as a tool to promote the association and its members, extending the CFBA's reach and enhancing the services we provide to our members. An update of the historical report on the CFBA's leadership and involvement with the revision of the Farm Building Code is in order, to reflect the further involvements and successes that have taken place. The Board of Directors has been supportive and pursuit of these projects is subject to resource availability.



Membership

The Membership committee oversees the application process for new members, reviewing applications and approving them accordingly. The Membership committee also provides input to any policies that may impact members, assesses fees, and periodically reviews the benefits of membership, ensuring we remain current and continue to offer value to our members.

The CFBA welcomed the following new members in 2021:

- Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)
- Canadian Horticultural Council
- Canadian Metal Buildings
- Element5
- Enbridge Gas

The invoice date (for annual fees) will be April 30th in 2022.

The CFBA received this from a new member: *"Thank you for accepting my membership. We need to protect our interests within the farming community and that happens with strong representation from well informed members. I look forward to profiting from all the great things the Association has to offer and especially staying current with information that you share. I am proud to be a member!"*

Golf

The CFBA held a robust golf tournament at Craigowan Golf Club on September 21, 2021. We had greater participation than any other year, with almost a full house; 140 of 144 tickets sold. An enjoyable time was had by all! There were many opportunities for networking throughout the day, and we paid tribute to former CFBA Board member, Greg Burke, honouring his memory. A \$1275 charitable donation was raised by our golfers for Camp Ooch. We thank all for their generosity in supporting this initiative! We have September 21, 2022 booked for the CFBA's 2022 golf tournament and we look forward to another amazing event!

