



Association
of Registered
Interior Designers
of Ontario

Professionalization Update – March 2021

At the 2021 Town Hall meeting on March 25, President David Gibbons provided an update on recent advocacy initiatives and an update on the OAA Direct Regulation model. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) continued Stakeholder consultations on their proposed transition of building code services, including the BCIN, to a newly established Administrative Authority. ARIDO and many of our industry counterparts attended stakeholder consultations throughout 2020 and into early 2021. ARIDO remains concerned with several components of the proposed and do not see how issues related to the BCIN that exist today will addressed or resolved.

In our discussions with many other industry organizations, it has been clear that the industry does not feel heard by government on this model. ARIDO therefore rallied over the last several weeks to convene a meeting with all industry stakeholders to discuss our collective concerns and how we could potentially unite as an industry to address this with government. On March 19, ARIDO held a meeting and called our industry partners to the table to discuss an approach in particular as government has made this initiative a priority, and that its implementation may be moving quicker than we had all originally anticipated.

Following our meeting on March 19, the industry has agreed to work together and submit a written position to government as a united front to outline our concern with the model presented and to demonstrate we collectively do not support the proposal as the only option.

Additionally, ARIDO and the OAA believe there is an opportunity to demonstrate that the Direct Regulation Model, if implemented, will address some of the current issues related to BCIN Large and public interest. The two organizations are therefore meeting with MMAH to speak to the ministry's branch responsible for the Building Services Transition model to identify how the Direct Regulation Model can support specific issues the ministry wishes to address.

We are hopeful that presenting this information to this particular branch with MMAH could facilitate conversations around the importance of the model with the Attorney General's Office and demonstrate how its implementation can support priorities in other ministries. We will keep the membership informed of the outcome of these meetings.