



Association
of Registered
Interior Designers
of Ontario

Terms of Reference ARIDO Practice Advisory Committee

(with Subcommittees: Ontario Building Code, Ethics & Practice Standards, Sustainability, and Accessibility & Inclusive Design)

Committee Objective:

The **Practice Advisory Committee** supports ARIDO's **Strategic Plan 2026–2028** by providing coordinated, practitioner-based advisory leadership on matters impacting the practice of interior design in Ontario.

The Committee advises the Board on strategies, guidance, and tools that:

- Support ethical, competent, and accountable professional practice
- Reinforce ARIDO's public-interest mandate
- Advance inclusive, accessible, and sustainable design practices
- Strengthen practitioner understanding of rights, responsibilities, and obligations related to the right to practice

The Committee ensures that **equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and sustainability (EDIAS)** principles are embedded across all practice guidance and advisory activities.

Committee Responsibilities and Scope:

The ARIDO Board of Directors has determined the scope of this Committee as follows.

The Committee will:

- Provide strategic coordination and oversight across all Practice Advisory subcommittees
- Ensure practice guidance initiatives are aligned, complementary, and non-duplicative
- Identify emerging issues, risks, and trends affecting interior design practice
- Advise the Board on practice-related implications impacting public safety, accessibility, and professional accountability
- Support staff and members through practitioner-informed advisory leadership
- Ensure recommendations align with ARIDO's regulatory authority and public-interest mandate
- Approve consolidated reporting to the Board

The Committee functions in an advisory capacity only and does not replace or duplicate ARIDO's regulatory, enforcement, or disciplinary functions.

Committee Structure

The Practice Advisory Committee functions as a parent committee with four standing **subcommittees**, each aligned to a core domain of professional practice:

- **Ontario Building Code Subcommittee** – Code Interpretation & Application
- **Ethics & Practice Standards Subcommittee** – Professional Conduct & Accountability
- **Sustainability Subcommittee** – Environmentally Responsible Practice
- **Accessibility & Inclusive Design Subcommittee** – Inclusive and Barrier-Free Design

Each subcommittee reports through the Practice Advisory Committee to the ARIDO Board of Directors.

Ontario Building Code Subcommittee
(Code Interpretation & Practice Guidance)

Objective

To support member understanding and application of Ontario Building Code requirements relevant to the practice of interior design.

Scope & Responsibilities

- Develop, launch and maintain Ontario Building Code reference materials for members
- Identify areas where additional clarification or guidance is required
- Monitor changes to codes and standards affecting interior design practice
- Provide practitioner insight on code-related practice challenges

Ethics & Practice Standards Subcommittee (Professional Conduct & Accountability)

Objective

To support ethical, consistent, and accountable professional practice in alignment with ARIDO's standards and public-interest mandate.

Scope & Responsibilities

- Develop and review guide related to:
 - Professional ethics
 - Practice standards
 - Professional conduct
- Identify emerging practice issues impacting professional integrity
- Support clarity and consistency in expectations for professional practice

Sustainability Subcommittee (Environmentally Responsible Practice)

Objective

To advance environmentally responsible and resilient interior design practices through practitioner-focused guidance and education.

Scope & Responsibilities

- Develop, launch and maintain sustainability-focused practice guides and resources
- Promote integration of sustainability into everyday professional practice
- Identify emerging sustainability trends relevant to interior design
- Support alignment between sustainability, ethics, and public interest

Accessibility & Inclusive Design Subcommittee (Inclusive and Barrier-Free Design)

Objective

To promote inclusive, accessible, and universal design as a core component of professional practice.

Scope & Responsibilities

- **Regulatory focused work**
 - a. Accessibility Guide - Practice of Interior Design - OBC & AODA

And

- **Non-Regulatory**
 - a. Value of Accessible Design for Interior Spaces - How to advocate for accessible design with clients
 - b. Determine consulting fees - RFP issued in September - to determine consulting fees for

2027 - Accessibility Audit

General:

- Deliver monthly reports to the ARIDO Board of Directors.
- Liaise and consult with other ARIDO Committees as necessary for the fulfillment of their mandate.
- Operate in accordance with ARIDO governance policies and the Charter of Respect.

Detailed Volunteer Responsibilities

Volunteer Members

- Contribute subject-matter expertise and practitioner insight
- Support development and review of practice guidance materials
- Participate actively in committee and subcommittee meetings
- Contribute to working groups as assigned

ARIDO Staff

- Coordinate meetings and administrative support
- Prepare agendas, minutes, and action tracking
- Support implementation of approved initiatives
- Liaise across departments to ensure execution

Reporting:

The Practice Advisory Committee reports directly to the ARIDO Board of Directors.

The Committee has no formal decision-making authority and brings forward recommendations for Board consideration.

Chair(s) of the Committee:

The Committee will have two (2) Co-Chairs who are current voting Directors on the ARIDO Board for the applicable term

Subcommittees may appoint Subcommittee Leads who report to the Committee Chair(s)

Structure:

- The Committee shall consist of 12–16 volunteers, with a minimum of three (3) volunteers per subcommittee
- Committee and subcommittee composition should strive to reflect diverse practice experience and under-represented groups, including Black, Indigenous, racialized, LGBTQ2S+, and other marginalized professionals

Committee meetings will be chaired by the Committee Co-Chair(s), and subcommittee meetings by their respective Leads.

The Registrar will assign ARIDO staff to support execution and administration.

The Chair(s) will:

- Set agendas and chair meetings
- Determine consensus and assign tasks
- Act as primary liaisons to the Board
- Ensure inclusion of the Charter of Respect at meetings

Qualifications:

Committee members must be ARIDO Registered or Retired members in good standing.

Term:

- One-year term, reaffirmed annually by the Board
- Members and Chairs may be removed for missing three (3) or more consecutive meetings, in accordance with ARIDO policy

Approval Date: 2026-05-21

Effective Date: 2026-05-21

Next Scheduled Date for Review: March 2027