2025 Design Registration Fee Consultation: What We Heard

Introduction

From May 8–June 14, 2024, we engaged with our clients and industry partners regarding Design Registration fee changes for 2025. The proposed changes included:

- a general fee increase of 13% for boilers, pressure vessels and refrigeration (BPVR), elevating devices (ED), and gas (GA) clients;
- new cancellation fees for ED, and GA; and
- updated cancellation fees for BPVR from a flat fee to a percentage of their application fee.

Summary of Responses

Survey participants rated the impact that each proposed fee change would have on their business from none to severe. The comments below summarize the feedback we received through the digital survey.

To view the fee proposals, please visit the consultation page on Engage.

Overall Fee Increase

Impact	Overall
No/low	58%
Moderate	27%
Significant/severe	15%

Fee Increase by Industry

Impact	BPVR	ED	GA
No impact	9%	10%	12%
Low	52%	20%	47%
Moderate	26%	50%	29%
Significant	10%	10%	6%
Severe	3%	10%	6%

By percentage of participants (excludes participants who responded with “I don’t know”)

Sentiment of Feedback

We received mixed feedback from participants. Some felt that the increase was significant and sought more justification, especially considering market conditions and our service levels. Other participants felt satisfied with our service improvements.

Summary of Comments

- “Services have improved greatly with further room for enhancement.”
- “Use one system in Canada similar to the other jurisdictions.”
- “We should be able to pick up the phone and speak directly with the engineer reviewing the application to get clarity when something is not to their liking.”

Outreach and Participation

We notified 2,000+ clients and 34 associations about the consultation by email. In total, 81 clients and industry partners participated in the consultation through the online survey, and we received 524 visits to the Engage consultation site.

Method	Participants
Survey	81
Meetings	2

*Note: Associations include: ASHRAE BC, ASTTBC, BCCA, BCCWITT, BCNPHA, Boilermakers Lodge 359, BOMA, Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society (BC), CanREA, CAPP, CECA, CHBABC, CHFCA, CHOA, CLRA, COCA, CPA, EFMA, EGBC, HRAI, ICBA, IPE, IPEIA, IUEC82, IUOE963, IUOE882, LandlordBC, MCABC, NEEA, RFABC, TECA, UA170, UBCM, Western Canada Black Liquor Recovery Boiler Advisory Committee

Next Steps

We have considered all feedback received through consultation and pre-consultation stages when drafting our final recommendation to the executive team.

We will announce the final decision in the next couple of months, and will provide 90-day's notice before implementing new changes to design registration fees.

Participant Demographics

Most participants worked in the **BPVR** technologies.

Technology	Participants (Total: 81)
Boilers, Pressure Vessels & Refrigeration	80%
Elevating Devices	16%

Gas	22%
Other*	9%

*Notes: Participants may work with more than one technology. “Other” includes technologies that fall under BPVR, elevating devices, and gas: fittings, mast climbers, water tanks in ASME Section IV and VIII Div 1, process piping to ASME B31.3, pressure piping, heat exchangers, and special effects industry (flame effects)

Most participants identified as an **equipment manufacturer**, **engineering firm**, or **licensed contractor**.

Participant Type	Participants (Total: 69)
Licensed contractor company with TSBC	22%
Engineering firm	22%
Equipment manufacturer	38%
Certificate holder (e.g. elevator mechanic, gasfitter, power engineer, pressure welder)	3%
Building owner or property manager (industrial)	3%
Representative of an industry association	1%
Other (please specify)*	9%
Skipped	3%

*Note: “Other” includes pressure vessel designers, owner users, instrument and fitting manufacturers, engineers at industrial plants, and special effects industry professionals

Most participants provide **equipment design** and **manufacturing services**.

Service Type	Participants (Total: 53)
Designing equipment	70%
Manufacturing of equipment	68%
New construction	55%
Installation	42%
Repair and replacement	60%
Modernization and upgrades	32%
Other (please specify) *	2%

*Notes: Participants were asked to select the type of services they provide. “Other” includes design and project management services, weld engineering, QA manual and submission for registration, design and installation of gas equipment for approval, alterations and rerates, pressure vessel and piping skid assembly.