

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM
SURVEY RESULTS

Background

Results

Conclusions

WHAT IS CON-ED? WHY DO WE DO THIS?

Continuing Education is a requirement of a self-regulating profession, intended to keep member knowledge current.

Objects of the SAA (Per the Architects Act, 1996):

- (a) To ensure for the public the proficiency and competency of the members who practice architecture;*
- (b) To promote and increase the knowledge, skill and proficiency in all things related to the practice of architecture.*

BRIEF TIMELINE OF SAA CON-ED

- Prior to 2012 – single calendar year cycle, Transition from form based system to computer entry/online transcript, establishment of fines for non-compliance
- 2012 – harmonized 2-year cycle starting in July
- 2012-2014 – first 2 year cycle complete
- 2014-2016 – first audits (3%) performed; fines assessed
- 2017 – Con-Ed members survey undertaken

WHY DO A SURVEY?

- Complaints from members about changes to Con-Ed program without their input
- Con-Ed compliance reviews - “Push-back” from members.
- Significant time spent at Member’s Forums discussing Con-Ed and how to change it
- Opportunity for all Members to comment
- Administrative realities associated with the audit process

SURVEY INTENT

- To inform on how the Con-Ed program is working (or not) for the Members
- To provide a “snapshot” of the areas where Members are dissatisfied with the current program, and where there are no issues
- To inform on potential changes to the Con-Ed program requirements and administration, for future cycles

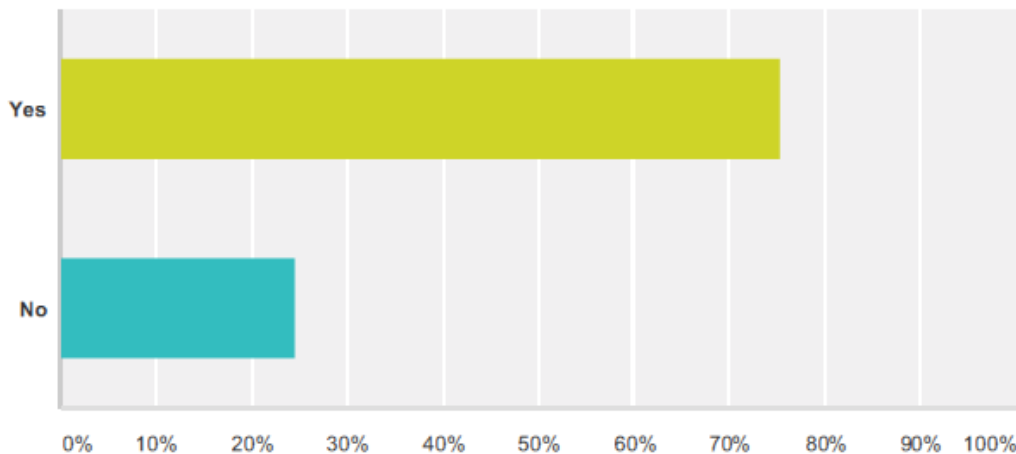
SURVEY PARTICIPATION

- On-line survey was sent to all 128 Members reporting the SAA as their home jurisdiction
- 81 Members completed at least some of the survey; 71 Members completed all 6 questions
- 44 Members provided written comments

SURVEY RESULTS – Q1

Q1 Equivalency: In accordance with an agreement with the other architectural regulators, effective July 1, 2012 SAA members who are registered/licensed in more than one jurisdiction have the option to report Continuing Education in only one jurisdiction, however not all jurisdictions recognize the SAA program requirements as equivalent. Is it important to you as a member that the SAA's ConEd requirement be recognized as equivalent in all jurisdictions?

Answered: 81 Skipped: 1

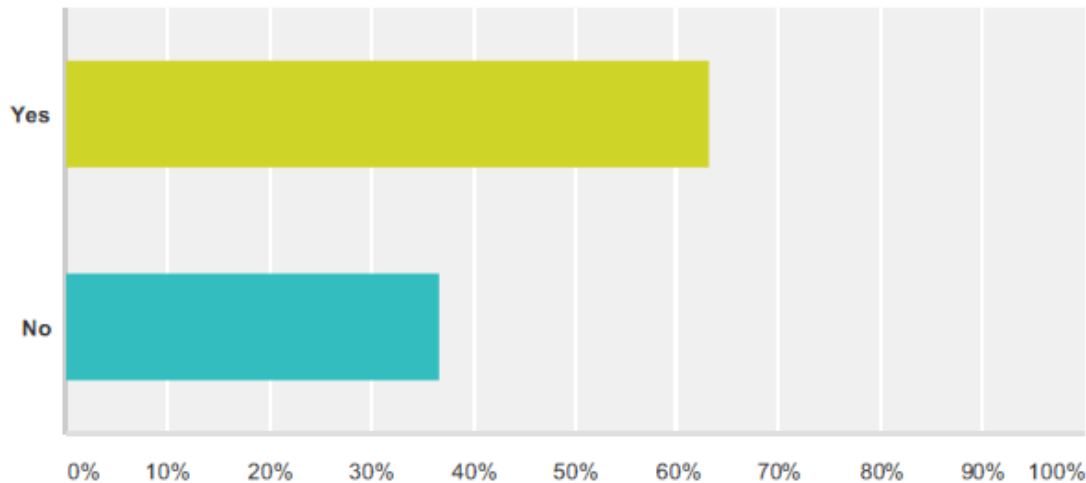


- Yes 75.31%
- No 24.69%
- Summary: 75% of the Members find it important that SAA Con-Ed is recognized as equivalent by other Jurisdictions

SURVEY RESULTS – Q2

Q2 Are you in favour of increasing core to a minimum of 25 hours per 2 year cycle and reducing self-directed to 45 hours per two year cycle for equivalency?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 3



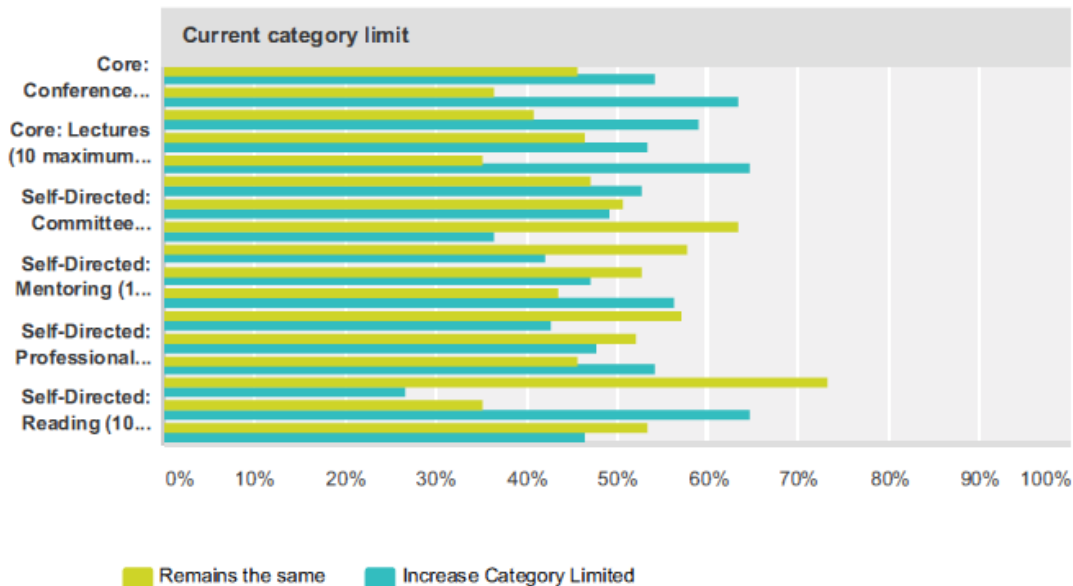
- Yes 63.29%
- No 36.71%

- Summary: More members are in favour of increasing the number of Core hours than not (but less than want harmonization)

SURVEY RESULTS – Q3

Q3 Category Limits: Currently, the number of hours of learning in each category are subject to a maximum number of hours per cycle that are accepted. For example, lectures equals 10 hours. The intent of this is to promote a diverse range of continuing education. For each of the listed categories please identify whether maximum number of accepted hours per two year cycle should remain the same or be increased.

Answered: 71 Skipped: 11



- Core Summary: more votes for increased hours in all categories
- Self-Directed Summary: more votes for increases in Other, Professional Tour, and Reading categories
- Only a few categories showed significant differences between ‘remain the same’ and ‘increase’ choices

SURVEY RESULTS

Q3 DETAILS

• Core results	same	increase
Conference	45.71%	54.29%
Course	36.62%	63.38%
Distance Education	40.85%	59.15%
Lectures	46.48%	53.52%
Other	35.21%	64.79%
Workshop	47.14%	52.86%

SURVEY RESULTS

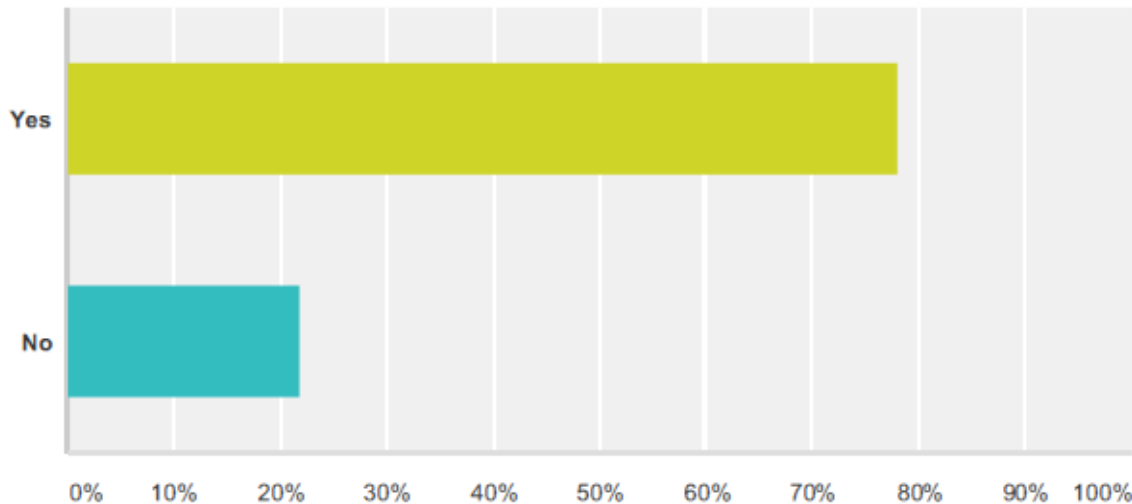
Q3 DETAILS

• Self-Directed results	same	increase
Committee Meetings	50.70%	49.30%
Council	63.38%	36.62%
Discussion Groups	57.75%	42.25%
Mentoring	52.86%	47.14%
Other	43.66%	56.34%
Presentations, Teaching	57.14%	42.86%
Professional, Community Services	52.11%	47.89%
Professional Tour	45.71%	54.29%
Professional Writing	73.24%	26.76%
Reading	35.21%	64.79%
Scholarly / Practical Research	53.52%	46.48%

SURVEY RESULTS – Q4

Q4 Core versus Self-Directed: Should a member be able to fulfill all Con-Ed requirements through core hours only?

Answered: 73 Skipped: 9



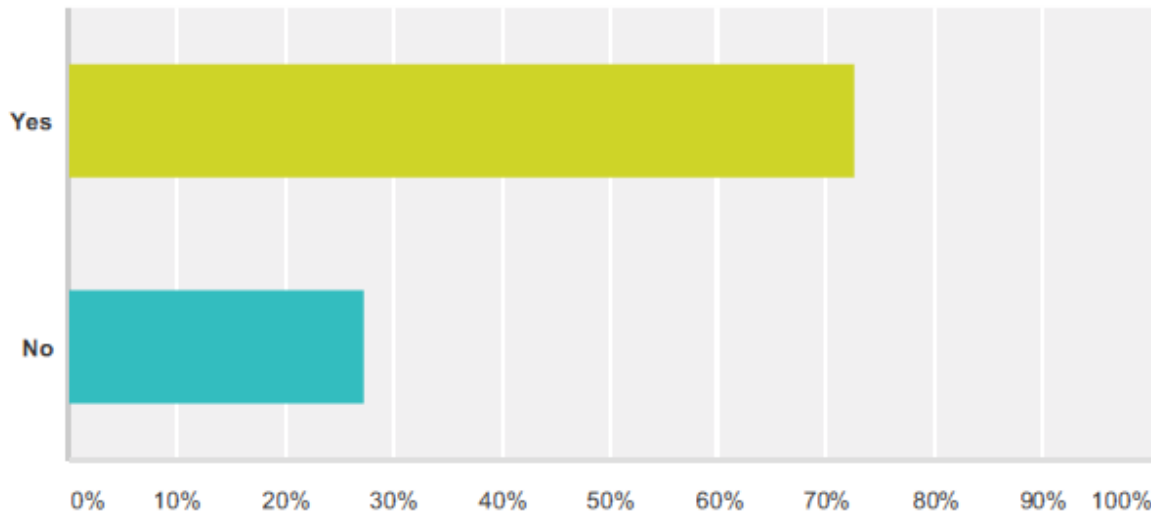
- Yes 78.08%
- No 21.92%

- Summary: Majority of members responding believe that Con-Ed could be fulfilled through Core hours only

SURVEY RESULTS – Q5

Q5 Is a wide enough range of learning experiences achieved with only core learning?

Answered: 73 Skipped: 9



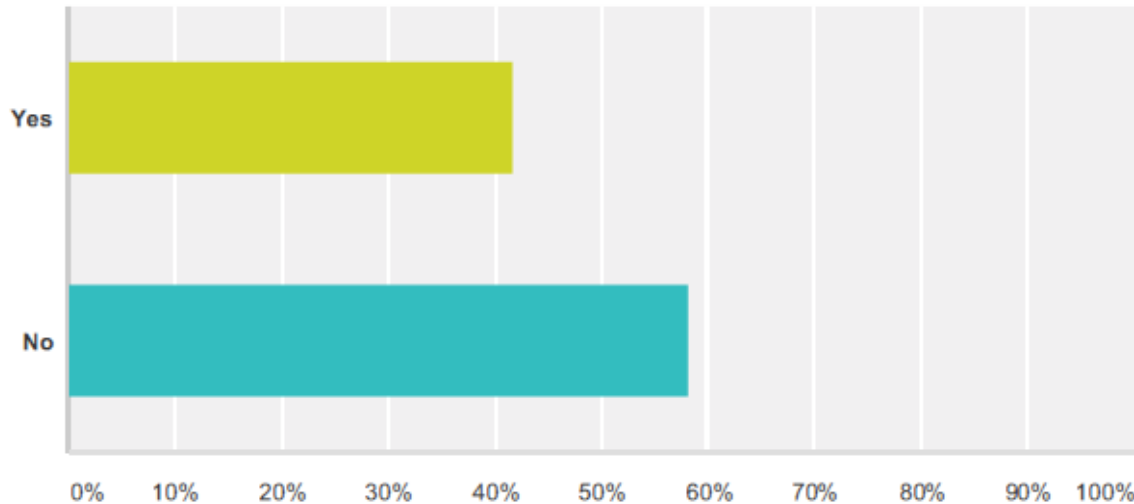
- Yes 72.60%
- No 27.40%

- Summary: Majority of members voted that Core learning can provide a wide enough variety of learning experiences for Con-Ed

SURVEY RESULTS – Q6

Q6 Carry Forward Hours: Did you use carry forward hours to meet the requirements of the 2014-2016 Con-Ed cycle?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 10



- Yes 41.67%
- No 58.33%
- Summary: More members did not use carry forward hours for their Con-Ed hours than did use them.

SURVEY COMMENTS

- Overall, the comments provided detailed feedback on what works and what doesn't with the current program.
- Comments included suggestions for improvement, indications for some members that the program is working, complaints, and comments on the requirement for and administration of the Con-Ed program.

COMMENTS SUMMARY

- Members questioned the necessity or relevance of category breakdowns and the associated maximums and felt the program should have more flexibility.
- Too many categories, too prescriptive, more information needed on categories and what to include where
- Core is more relevant from a learning and administrative perspective.
- Members either didn't understand the guide, or felt that there was a lack of clarity.

COMMENTS SUMMARY

- Members did not understand or agree with the regulatory responsibilities of the SAA and Con-Ed.
- SAA should be more proactive in providing Learning Opportunities.
- Members questioned the use of Survey Monkey for this purpose.
- Technical interface for reporting needs improvement.
- Some members thought the program worked well as is.

SO...

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- Clarity – More member education on guide and program is required.
- Core revisions – harmonization, increase minimum core hours permitted
- Con-Ed opportunities – assist the Members with identifying opportunities (Web site and newsletters).
- Don't change it too much – about half the respondents made positive suggestions for minor improvements

2016-2018 CON-ED PROGRAM

- For the 2016-2018 Continuing Education Program, there are minimal changes:
 - Guide dates revised to reflect the current cycle
 - All Carry Forward hours will go into the “Other” categories in both Core and Self-Directed
 - Self-Directed “Other” Category has been increased from 20 hours to 50 hours max. to allow room for Carry Forward and excess Core.
 - Increasing Con-Ed records storage from 3 years to 4 years to match 2 year cycle, in case of an audit.
 - Formatting, grammar, editing revisions.

2018-2020 CON-ED PROGRAM

- The survey results inform on potential revisions for the 2018-2020 cycle
- Focus groups in Saskatoon and Regina: Member feedback on proposed revisions in advance of the cycle start

Ongoing Education Committee work