


Experience Review Committee

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To become registered professionals in Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, individuals must be academically qualified and have four years of acceptable work experience under the supervision or mentorship of qualified professionals. The Experience Review Committee (ERC) is a committee of the Executive Director that reviews/verifies work experience reports submitted by members-in-training (MITs). Prior to ERC's monthly meeting, each of the submitted experience report is reviewed by an assigned reviewer. The ERC meetings mainly focus on complex cases, problem files, MIT appeals and policy issues.

As of June 30, 2015, approximately 1400 MITs were enrolled with the association. MITs typically submit work experience reports every six months. These must be signed off by their supervisors and professional mentors and demonstrate:

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- application of theory and design to engineering/geoscience problems and their limitations;
 - exposure to project planning, scheduling, budgeting, supervision, management and risk assessment;
 - communication skills, ethical and social considerations;
 - teamwork and assumption of responsibility; and
 - continued professional development and growth.

Compliant MIT experience reports are approved as submitted. Common reasons for not accepting the experience claimed in a report are:

- the work description is so brief or lacking in specific detail that it is not possible to assess the merit of the experience obtained;
- the work reported is so similar to (or is a replication of) that in a previous report, thus not indicative of professional growth; and
- supervisor and/or mentor comments indicate substandard performance.

Once 48 months of work experience are approved and letters of reference attesting to the MIT's readiness for registration are received, ERC forwards the MIT's file to the Registration Committee.

Most MIT reports are submitted and reviewed online. The committee is continually making efforts to streamline the online file review process and to develop more consistent guidelines and policies. One of the major changes that were made to the review process during the past year deals with the way master's thesis research experience is granted to graduate students of Canadian universities. From July 2015 onwards, MITs graduating from a Canadian university with a thesis-based MSc degree are eligible to get a 12-month credit for their thesis work without submitting any reports. This has brought the Association in-sync with its other provincial counterparts and has reduced the work for the MITs, their MSc supervisors and the ERC reviewers. Additionally, all pre-grad experience will need to be claimed within the first 18 months of becoming academically qualified. This change has been implemented to keep the pre-grad experience current.

On behalf of the ERC, I would like to thank Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba staff members, Sharon Sankar (P.Eng.) and Chantelle Cabral, whose hard work, knowledge, diligence and attention to detail keeps ERC functioning smoothly. I would also like to thank the ERC volunteer members for their time, dedication and collective wisdom which stimulate deeper thinking, more diverse discussions and hence more reasoned decisions when assessing complex MIT work experience files.