

**Editors' Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs
President's Report on National Executive Council Meeting
March 5 and 6, 2005
Vancouver**

At this meeting, the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL focused primarily on policy development in preparation for the annual general meeting in June, where the membership will be asked to vote on a number of proposals.

Key points

The MEMBERSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE reported that it will have a proposal to modify the current membership structure ready for Council consideration in mid-April and, if all goes according to plan, for the membership at the annual general meeting.

The Council carefully reviewed the MANDATES AND POSITION DESCRIPTIONS growing out of restructuring. After 18 months of experience, Council is in a better position to assess how the committee structure in particular is functioning. A number of committees that were proposed have not been struck and Council members felt that they could be retired for the time being. The revised mandates and position descriptions will be available to the membership for comment before the meeting.

The Council also considered a draft CODE OF CONDUCT that lays out the responsibilities of all members and the association's options for responding if these responsibilities are seriously breached. This document, too, will be available in advance of the AGM.

At its November 2004 meeting, Council promised that the issue of whether *ACTIVE VOICE* should be made available to the public would be brought to a vote of the membership. Since there will be an AGM in June, it will not be necessary to conduct a separate referendum on this question.

However, the question of how to conduct a REFERENDUM in between meetings was discussed, and Council learned that there are organizations which provide legally binding voting services via the Internet. It was decided to investigate this method. A referendum policy is being developed for the membership to consider, yes, in June.

In the course of determining what the EAC/ACR CONSTITUTION has to say about branch formation, it was brought to Council's attention that section 4.4 stipulates that "the members of the Executive Council shall be elected annually by the members at the annual general meeting." This has clearly not been the practice in the case of branch chairs or representatives, who have long been elected by their branch meetings. An amendment to the constitution to bring it in line with practice is being prepared for the June meeting.

Lots of action on the policy front. We look forward to your comments.

Our remaining meeting of 2004-05 will be held in Toronto on June 12 and 13.