CODE OF ETHICS AND RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

1. DEFINITIONS

In these Code of Ethics and Rules of Professional Conduct:

"Act" means the *Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists Act* 1998, Chapter Pr 7 Statutes of Ontario, 1998, Bill Pr 25;

"Association" means OACETT; and

"By-law" means By-law 20 of the Association.

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the By-law.

2. CODE OF ETHICS

Members of the Association recognize the precepts of personal integrity and professional competence as fundamental ethics, and as such each Member shall:

a) hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public, the protection of the environment and the promotion of health and safety within the workplace;

b) undertake and accept responsibility of professional assignments only when qualified by training or experience;

c) provide an opinion on a professional subject only when it is founded upon adequate knowledge and honest conviction;

d) act with good faith towards clients or employers, maintain confidentiality and avoid a conflict of interest but, where such conflict arises, fully disclose the circumstances without delay to the employer or client;

e) uphold the principle of appropriate and adequate compensation for the performance of their work;

f) keep informed to maintain proficiency and competence, to advance the body of knowledge within their discipline and further opportunities for the professional development of their associates;

g) conduct themselves with fairness, courtesy and good faith toward clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as provide, accept honest, fair, and constructive professional feedback;

h) communicate clearly to employers and clients the possible consequences when professional decisions or judgements are overruled or disregarded;

i) report to the appropriate agencies any hazardous, illegal or unethical professional

decisions or practices by fellow members or others; and

j) promote public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and applied science technology and protect the Association from misrepresentation and misunderstanding.

k) members' use of social media in a professional context — or in a manner where they are identifiable as OACETT members — is expected to uphold professionalism, respect, and good faith. This includes ensuring the accuracy of shared information, protecting confidential information, and avoiding conduct that could misrepresent the Association.

3. RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Rules of Professional Conduct are defined from the point of view of what constitutes professional misconduct. Professional misconduct means:

3.1 negligence: an act or omission in the carrying out of work that constitutes a failure to maintain the standards that a competent and diligent practitioner would maintain in the circumstances;

3.2 failure to make reasonable provision for the safeguarding of life, health or property of a person who may be affected by the work for which the practitioner is responsible;

3.3 failure to act to correct or report a situation that the practitioner believes may endanger the safety or the welfare of the public;

3.4 failure to make responsible provision for complying with applicable statutes, regulations, standards, codes, by-laws and rules in connection with work being undertaken by or under the responsibility of the practitioner;

3.5 signing or sealing a final drawing, specification, plan, report or other document not actually prepared or checked by the practitioner;

3.6 failure of a practitioner to present clearly to their employer the consequences to be expected from a deviation proposed in work, if the judgement of the practitioner is overruled by non-technical authority in cases where the practitioner is responsible for the technical adequacy of the work;

3.7 a breach of the Act or By-law, other than an action that is solely a breach of the Code of Ethics, or the Rules of Professional Conduct;

3.8 undertaking work the practitioner is not competent to perform by virtue of their training and experience;

3.9 failure to make prompt, voluntary and complete disclosure of an interest, direct or indirect, that might in any way be, or be construed as, prejudicial to the professional

judgement of the practitioner in rendering services to an employer or to a client, and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing, carrying out any of the following acts without making such a prior disclosure**:**

a. accepting compensation in any form for a particular service from more than one party;

b. submitting a tender or acting as a contractor in respect of work upon which the practitioner may be performing as a technology professional;

c. participating in the supply of material or equipment to be used by the employer or client of the practitioner;

d. contracting in the practitioner's own right to perform engineering technology services for other than the practitioner's employer; or

e. expressing opinions or making statements concerning matters within the practice of public interest, where the opinions or statements are inspired or paid for by other interests;

3.10 conduct or an act relevant to the practice of engineering technology that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by technology professionals as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional.

3.11 members' use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools must be in a transparent, ethical, and accountable manner. This includes taking responsibility for AI-generated outputs, actively mitigating algorithmic bias, safeguarding privacy and confidentiality, engaging in ongoing professional development in AI literacy, and upholding public safety — consistent with all other obligations under this Code.