



CARIBBEAN ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATION



Accredited as a Full Member
of the International Actuarial Association

"Crossing the Boundaries of Tradition"

19th Annual CAA Conference

Rose Hall Resort and Spa, a Hilton
Resort in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

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Influencing Public Policy

Canadian experience

Bob Howard

President, CIA

2009 12 03

Guiding Principle #1 – CIA

- In carrying on its activities and programs, the Institute holds the duty of the profession to the public above the needs of the profession and its members.

March 1993



Public Positions

- History
- Recently
- Policy
- Why?
- So what?

Several years ago

- Achieve consensus first
- Never did
- No public positions
- Two approaches
 - Individual responsibility
 - Collective responsibility

Currently

- New Policy in 2005
- Respond to regulators
- Issue public positions
- Write op-ed pieces for newspapers

Consequences

- Many public positions
- Actively promote opinions
- Sought by media and government
- See www.actuaries.ca > advocacy

Policy on Public Positions

- Definition
- Process
- Communication

Definition – Public Position

- Establish and document views of CIA
- Statement on an issue
- Submission to an external audience
- Not a press release
- Communications based on public positions

Process 1 – Initiate

- Decide to develop a public position
- By President and Executive Director

Process 2 – Governing entity

- Identified by President and ED
- Normally Board or a Council
- Has authority for public position

Process 3 – Drafting entity

- Appointed by governing entity
- Committee / task force / individual(s)
- Drafts the public position

Process 4 – Authorizing Cttee

- Appointed from governing entity by chairperson of governing entity
- May not be on drafting entity
- Responsible for release of public position

Process 5 – Draft

- By drafting entity
- Required to take into account all relevant practice areas
- View with support

Process 6 – Review

- By all members of governing entity
- Comments to authorizing committee

Process 7 – Finalize

- By authorizing committee along with drafting entity
- No further interaction with governing entity

Process 8 – Distribute

- By Secretariat

Process – Overview

- A few days to a few months
- Emphasis on speed, with checks
- Members not consulted
- Not all members happy with a public position

Urgent Response Team

- Response needed in hours
- Team appointed by Pres and ED
- Authorized to develop response and speak for CIA
- May follow-up with formal public position

Communication – Submission

- Send letter
- Post on website
- Announce to members

Communication – Statement

- Post on website
- Notify members
- Use as needed for external communication

Spokespeople

- Individual(s) who speak for CIA on issue
- Appointed by authorizing committee
- Confirmed by Pres or Chair of governing entity
- Spokesperson represents spirit and intent of public position

Recent Submissions

- Quebec regulator
- Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions
- House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
- Manitoba Pension Commission

Recent Statements

- Retooling Canada's Ailing Pension System Now, for the Future
- Pandemics
- Health care

Why public positions?

- Unique skills
- Unique understanding
- Good reputation and credibility
- If we are silent, others will speak
- Serve the public interest
- Promote the profession

Why CIA's Process?

- Need for speed
- Review by leaders

Call to action

- Valuable advice to offer
- Important issues being considered
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Positive impact on Caribbean nations