

MOECC's Modified Generic Risk Assessment (MGRA) Training Sessions: A Big Success!

The beginning of 2018 has already been a busy time for APGO. Among our activities were the delivery of professional development sessions on the Modified Generic Risk Assessment (MGRA) Approved Model in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC). The MGRA training material was developed by the MOECC in close collaboration with risk assessment experts from the environmental sector.

APGO promoted and hosted the training sessions, which resulted in very positive response from APGO members and other stakeholders in the environmental sector. This successful partnership with the MOECC was the second for APGO in less than a year. Prior to this initiative, APGO held a successful event in collaboration with the MOECC on the ABCs of Conceptual Site Models (CSM) in September 2017. The MGRA training session was a very fitting follow-up.



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The training sessions were held in Toronto and Guelph on January 15 & 17 respectively and both locations were oversubscribed by P.Geo.'s, C of A holders' staff, P.Eng.'s and other professionals in the environmental sector. In total, over 135 participants attended the two sessions. Due to the enthusiastic response and demand, a third training session is currently being planned.

The one-day training session was made available not just to QPRAs, but also to QPESAs, those who are working to become QPRAs and to other professionals who are part of a Risk Assessment (RA) team. The session consisted of demonstrations, tutorials and group exercises that walked participants through various ways of generating property specific standards (PSS) under the approved model.

At the end of each training session, participants were asked to provide feedback. Based on the compiled results, the training sessions received very positive response. In particular, participants cited the group exercises as the most useful component of the session.

APGO members who took part in the training sessions expressed their appreciation for the access to this learning experience. APGO's CEO, Louis Kan said, *"We are very excited about our partnership with the MOECC on initiatives that promote greater clarity and understanding of Ministry's expectations around submissions by QPs. We will continue to move forward with our plan to deliver value-added training courses to our members to promote continuing excellence."*

APGO would like to acknowledge the MOECC staff leads- Rebekah Blok, Alexina Mo and Nafiseh Pourhassani who worked diligently to make these training sessions a success. We would also like to acknowledge the great works of the training instructors who provided highly engaging and informative training sessions to the participants.

Visit www.apgo.net or subscribe to APGO's weekly e-newsletter, Field Notes, to keep abreast of training events. **APGO**

About the MGRA Approved Model

The MGRA Approved Model was developed in April 2011 and was last updated in November 2016 as Version 2 of the Approved Model. It aims to provide a more streamlined approach to developing property specific standards (PSS) as part of the risk assessment (RA) process under the Ontario Regulation 153/04. As per the MOECC guide, "Version 2 is designed to allow a greater number of sites across the province to qualify for this streamlined RA process. These changes provide a greater number of options for modifying component values, make the model more user friendly, correct errors in the model discovered since the model was first published, and update the model to reflect current science while continuing to provide the same level of environment and human health protection." To access the MOECC's complete guide on how to use the MGRA Approved Model, please click on this [link](#).