

AGM COMMITTEE REPORT

Title Protection & Public Relations Committee

Progress Report from October 2023 to October 2024

Submitted to ATIA Council on October 24th, 2024.

Note that this report **should be completed and sent to the ATIA Admin (admin@atia.ab.ca)**.

This report should be prepared by the Chair(s) and approved by the members of the Committee before being submitted to ATIA Council.

Members (First name and surname)	Email address	Role Chair, co-chair, member by default	Status Active - Inactive (To be completed by chair)
Tania Therien	president@atia.ab.ca	Member by default	
Kea Adachi	development@atia.ab.ca	Chair	Active
Roula Salam	rsalamtranslations@gmail.com		Active
Mayada Tawachi	mtawachi@hotmail.com		Active
Samah Elzahaby	elzahaby1@yahoo.com		Active
Michel Selim	Michel.selim@gmail.com		Active

Number of meetings held during the period: 11

Date	Purpose	Main outcomes achieved
November 7, 2023	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATIA Letter of Support sent to Alberta MLA's Meeting with GoA (November 6, 2023) Talking points/Guidelines for ATIA Members when speaking about Title Protection
November 28, 2023	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayada's update on meeting with the Minister of Education and the Minister of Justice Tania and Samah updates on meeting with the Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism "Why Title Protection" info sheet Updates to the ATIA Letter of Support
January 12, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Why Title Protection" info sheet with FAQs update Request for support/update email letter draft Additional information/updates into organizations who claim the use of Certified members
February 7, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Why Title Protection" info sheet with FAQs update – committee members to edit Request for support/update email letter draft – committee members to edit Additional information/updates: Newsletter feature TP & PR Committee

March 13, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on GoA (March 7, 2024, meeting) Updated TP Documents
April 19, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on edits to “Why Title Protection/FAQ” and the “Draft Letter to Membership” (Tania) Update from Roula on rough draft of the letter/email to be sent to entities/organizations that use ATIA Certified translators and interpreters Additional updates from committee members and new times/dates for monthly committee meetings
May 8, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on edits to “Why Title Protection/FAQ” and the “Draft Letter to Membership” (Tania) Update from Roula on rough draft of the letter/email to be sent to entities/organizations that use ATIA Certified translators and interpreters Updates on Letters of Support from sister associations and CTTIC
June 21, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on GoA (June 18, 2024, meeting) Confirm edits to “Why Title Protection/FAQ” and the “Draft Letter to Membership” Update from Roula and Tania on FIT/FIT NA Conference
July 10, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm edits to “Why Title Protection/FAQ” and the “Draft Letter to Membership” Update from Roula about the upcoming meeting with Michael Burak of LIM (Languages In Motion) Update from Kea on future presentation/Q&A session with Rod Adachi, former Executive Director and Registrar of the ASCW (Alberta College of Social Workers)
September 5, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update from Roula on draft letter requesting support from other entities/organizations Update from Roula on talking points sheet for the committee to use when speaking to stakeholders Re-word the “Eligibility and Term of Office” requirements in the ATIA Committee Handbook/Manual
October 22, 2024	Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM report Committee Members returning for 2025 Mayada to update the committee on meetings with ministers in November New time/dates for monthly committee meeting
November 6, 2023	Meeting with GoA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Jane Graham (Director Governance, Advanced Education, GoA) Wayne Williams (Senior Professional Governance Advisor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Governance Act is in the mandate letter and has been sent to the Premier Proclamation for the PGA date of 2025 (Tentative) Update of materials for application should happen before the proclamation Timeline for act and regs/schedules is unknown
March 7, 2024	Meeting with GoA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Jane Graham (Director Governance, Advanced Education, GoA) Wayne Williams (Senior Professional Governance Advisor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Professional Governance Act- Timelines → Tentatively Fall 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The act will be reviewed and (hopefully approved) Once this happens then regulations and schedules will be developed (Spring 2025) The Act proclamation will occur (Spring 2025)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The doors would tentatively “open” for applications in fall 2025
June 18, 2024	Meeting with GoA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Jane Graham (Director Governance, Advanced Education, GoA) • Wayne Williams (Senior Professional Governance Advisor) • Ochucko Ofiuvwo (Governance Advisor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Professional Governance Act is still being drafted and was to be ready for the fall of 2024, it has been moved to spring 2025 • The proclamation likely won't occur until the fall/end of 2025 • Right now, the GoA are only meeting with a few groups and ATIA is one of them • ATIA will have priority when the “gates” open • Even with regulatory status, mandatory registration is not what would be required, it would be voluntary only (but this is a start)
October 28, 2024	Meeting with GoA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Jane Graham (Director Governance, Advanced Education, GoA) • Wayne Williams (Senior Professional Governance Advisor) Ochucko Ofiuvwo (Governance Advisor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting is scheduled but will not be included in this report

Documents of Importance:

- [POARA legislation](#) pay special attention to the public interest/safety component (Section 9.1)
 - o [Professional Governance](#)

Outline of the Work Plan:

- 1) Connect with Government of Alberta Advanced Education (Mary Jane Graham, Director Governance, Advanced Education and Wayne Williams Senior Professional Governance Advisor) regularly to determine what steps and other requirements are needed for ATIA to become a regulated profession and/or achieve Title Protection through the PGA.
- 2) Reach out to groups/stakeholders that use the services of Certified translators and Interpreters
- 3) Draft a Letter of Support to send out to the above groups/organizations/entities/individuals
- 5) Request support in the form of letters or Support Declaration
- 6) Continue to meet with GoA contacts and begin to submit information/documents (once there is a clear process laid out)
- 7) Update the 2018 POARA application with current ATIA information
- 8) Update ATIA membership and community regarding the progress of the TP & PR Committee

Objectives for the current mandate:

Make sure the objectives are **Relevant**, **Aligned with** ATIA's overall strategic goals and committee description, **Specific** to the Committee and **Attainable** within a clearly defined and realistic timeframe.

- 1) Outline why Title Protection is important for ATIA members, stakeholders, and community at large
 - a. See the ATIA Blog Post, "Help ATIA Achieve Title Protection", [HERE](#)
- 2) Reach out to community, stakeholders, and other entities to request support for Title Protection
 - a. The ATIA Letter of Support has been sent out to these groups
 - b. Committee members have been meeting with various MLA Ministers to request/garner support
- 3) Connect with other ATIA Committees to come up with ways to:
 - a. Enhance ATIA name recognition
 - b. Support and engage ATIA members
 - c. Reach out to potential ATIA members

Objectives completed to date:

Objective 1 is complete; the blog post is updated with new information when it is available

Objective 2 is in progress

Objective 3 is in progress; the committee hopes to have more engagement with other ATIA Committees following the 2024 AGM

Obstacles or issues encountered, and what steps have been taken to resolve these:

- 1) The loss of ATIA President, Tania Therien. She was a valuable member of the TP & PR Committee and is missed.
- 2) Determining a monthly meeting time that works for everyone
- 3) Information sharing
 - a. A Title Protection & PR Committee Google Drive was created for the committee members to share, edit, update, etc. information and documents, this is slowly being moved over to the new

ATIA Microsoft 365 Share.

- 4) Delays and communication with the GoA
 - a. The GoA is still in the process of updating the Professional Governance Act, currently there is no system for organizations to begin the process of applying for Title Protection
 - i. The TP & PR Committee has had multiple meetings with our contacts in the GoA in 2023 and 2024
 - ii. The committee is working on updating the 2018 POARA application with current information

Comments and observations:

The ATIA Title Protection & PR Committee members have worked well together this year, and all members have agreed to continue on with the committee for 2025.

Next steps:

- 1) Prepare for the tentative meeting with the GoA contacts on October 28, 2024
- 2) Meet with the committee after the AGM and welcome any new members
- 3) Continue to reach out to and connect with MLAs, MPs, City officials, and other stakeholders to educate them on the importance of Certified Translators and Interpreters and ATIA
 - a. Request their support for ATIA achieving title protection
- 4) Potential presentation and Q&A from Rod Adachi (Former Executive Director and Registrar of the Alberta College of Social Workers). Rod (Kea Adachi's father) has some valuable insights and knowledge on how the Title Protection process works. He spearheaded achieving Title Protection for the Alberta College of Social Workers in the early 2000's. And not only did the ASCW achieve Title Protection, but they also become a Regulatory body for social workers in the province of Alberta. He has offered to present/discuss the process that he and his colleagues went through to our committee in 2025.