November 25, 1980

Mr. Serge Joyal, M.P.
Co-Chairman of the Special Joint Committee
on the Constitution of Canada
P.O. Box 1044
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Mr. Joyal:

We have followed with great interest the recent proceedings of the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada. With regards to constitutional change, the CSPE would like to bring to your attention that present province-by-province licensing of professional engineers presents a problem which affects the free flow of engineering throughout this country.

The mobility of professional engineers within Canada is of utmost importance both to the industrial economy and to political unity.

At present, professional engineers are licensed to practise within provincial licensing statues which are not uniform from province to province. A professional engineer must apply for multiple licensing to practise in more than one province of Canada.

It is ironic that we educate engineers to a common standard throughout Canada yet restrict the practice of the profession by these engineers through individual licensing requirements.

Such requirements inhibit mobility of engineers across the country, which in turn creates a barrier to development of Canada by Canadians wherever and whenever engineering projects are involved. Furthermore, these constraints put Canadian engineering services at a disadvantage at home in Canada when competing with U.S. or other foreign engineering services.

Engineers are aware that industrial development for the good of all Canada is a critical matter in our country today and that engineers can contribute positively to the industrial prosperity of Canada, and perhaps to the unity of all Canada.
We propose that licensing of professional engineers be implemented on a Canada-wide basis through one federal jurisdiction instead of ten provincial jurisdictions. Such a change would conform to reason and make available to the entire Canadian public the unrestricted expertise of the engineering profession.

We would be interested to learn of your thoughts on this issue. Should you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

A. Aziz Akhtar, P. Eng.
President