

August 24, 2018

Lynn Barber
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CSA Group
By email: lynn.barber@csagroup.org

Ms. Barber,

The purpose of this letter is to address the CSA's revision of the new standard *CSA W201, Construction of Bioretention Systems*.

As the professional association of landscape architects in Atlantic Canada, the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects (APALA) promotes the responsible practice of landscape architecture in the region, fosters the good conduct and continuing development of our members, and advocates for the intelligent accommodation of human needs in the outdoor environment. We are writing today to express support for our partners at the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) in **strongly recommending that the standard specifically reference the approval of landscape architects on the design and construction of bioretention systems.**

As stated in the CSLA's letter covering same, APALA agrees that only licensed and recognized professionals should lead the design and construction of bioretention systems and stating that a 'Qualified Landscape Professional' is required in standard CSA W201 will add significant risk to the design of bioretention systems. There is no accreditation for a 'Landscape Professional', nor is there a code of professional conduct which can hold a 'Landscape Professional' accountable for the design of bioretention systems. Furthermore, there is no standard which provides the definition of 'qualified' for landscape professionals. Only the landscape architecture profession, specifically, can ensure this level of assurance because of the controls in place as a recognized profession.

As the CSLA indicated in their letter, landscape architecture is the only landscape-based profession that has the educational, professional and ethical requirements necessary to undertake the technical design work necessary for designing and implementing bioretention systems in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. For this reason, we agree with the CSLA that while landscape designers

could be engaged to design aspects of this work, the standard should require that landscape plans **must** be approved by a professional landscape architect.

We would be happy to discuss this matter with you further or provide additional information as required. Thank you for considering our letter.

Best regards,



Matthew Mills, APALA, CSLA
APALA President



Hans Pfeil, APALA, CSLA
APALA President-Elect