

Registrar's Report

for 2025

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The Registrar is appointed by Council under Section 3(8) of the *Surveyors Act* and is responsible for administering the Association's statutory activities under the Act. The Registrar's activities focus primarily on the regulatory functions of licensing and registration, complaints and discipline, and unlicensed practice. The Registrar also responds to public inquiries, and represents the Association at meetings with various external stakeholders including with staff of MNR (the Ministry of Natural Resources, AOLS's oversight ministry) and the Fairness Commissioner's office (in relation to licensing processes). The Registrar also provides direct staff support to the AOLS's statutory committees.

The Registrar is supported by Spiro Sinnis, OLS, Deputy Registrar, who has the same statutory authority as the Registrar, but focuses on the Inspection Program (Survey Review Department), under Section 40 of Regulation 1026, and practice related committee work.

Licensing and the Academic and Experience Requirements Committee ('AERC')

The AERC is responsible for setting the academic and experience requirements for licensure. In 2025, the Committee also assessed individual applicant academic and experience qualifications to determine if requirements were met. If requirements were not met, the committee clearly articulated for applicants where they were deficient and provided a clear path forward. As a result of a policy change, in 2026 staff will be administering academic assessments and reporting results to the Committee, resulting in streamlined processes, and allowing the committee to focus on its policy mandate. The Registrar and AOLS staff support the AERC by administering the many steps of the licensing process ensuring AERC policy is adhered to, and communicating with applicants and articling students throughout the various licensing steps.

In 2025, the AERC managed a significant policy workload, and approved an updated policy manual, articling surveyor handbook, articling student handbook, and multiple additional policies, all in support of upholding licensing standards while streamlining processes. In addition, the Committee approved two new policies required by the Fairness Commissioner's office, see below under 'FARPACTA'.

In 2025, the Registrar and staff facilitated 33 Statutes examinations, three AIT exams, two professional examination sessions in May and November (Oral, Written, and Plan Check exams), and the annual professional lecture course in September. In addition, the Statutes exam was transitioned to an on-line multiple-choice format exam, available now for applicants as of Jan. 5, 2026.

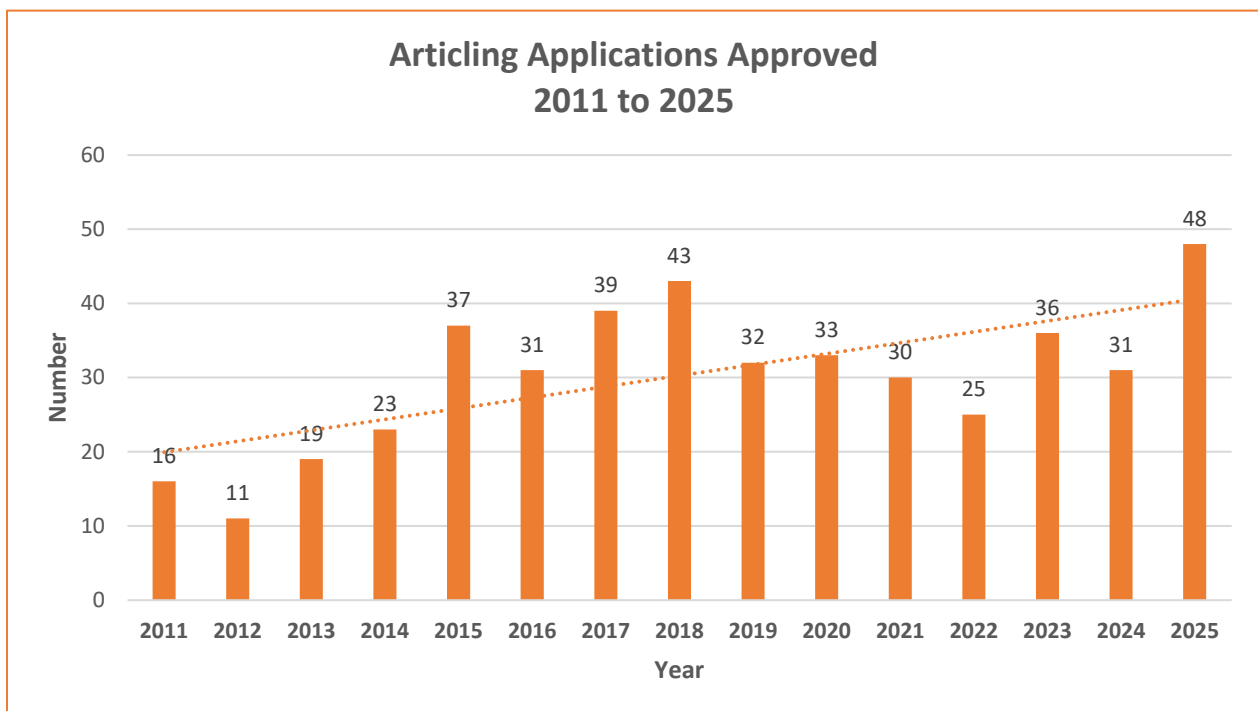
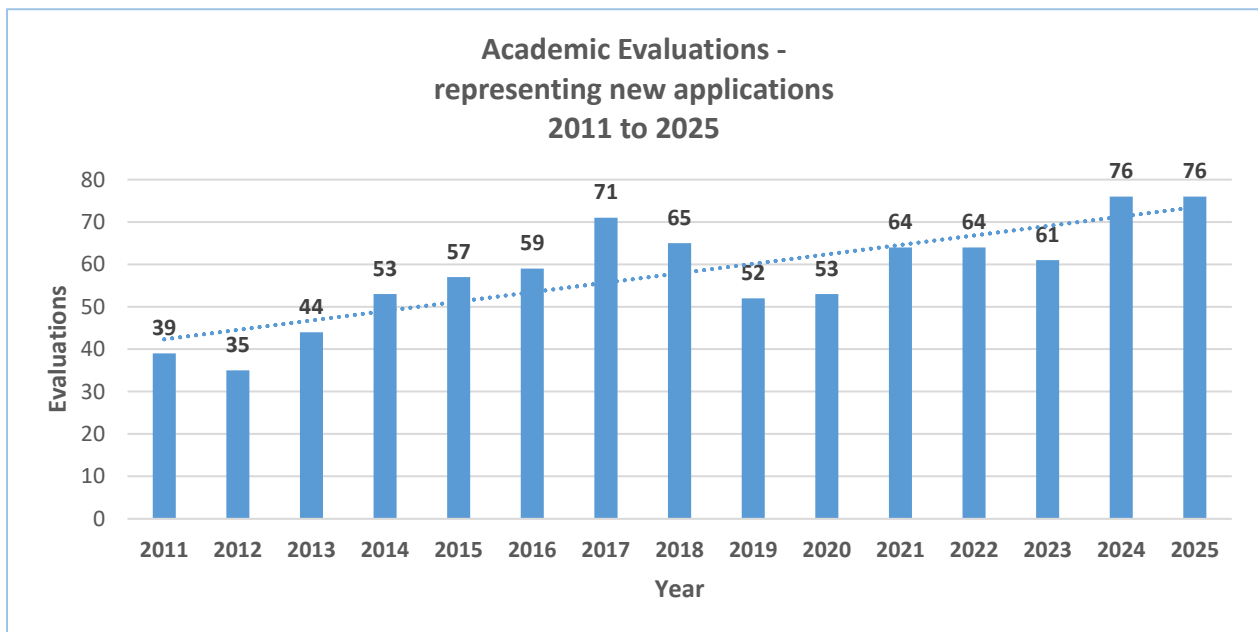
Licensing Statistics

The licensing process commences with an assessment of an applicant's academic qualifications. The AERC processed seventy-six (76) academic evaluations in 2025, of which 45, (or 59%) were for internationally educated applicants.

A record forty-eight (48) new applicants entered into articling contracts during 2025. At end of year 2025, there were one hundred and nine (109) articling students in total.

A total of 34 new OLS licences were granted over the course of the year, 4 re-instatements, and no Certificates of Registration.

The following charts show historical trends relating to these statistics.



Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act ('FARPACTA')

The AOLS, (as well as all the other non-health regulated professions in Ontario), continue to be subject to requirements pertaining to their licensing processes under this legislation. The AOLS is required to issue and publicly post an annual report relating to its licensing processes, initiatives and annual statistics. The Registrar and Executive Director meet quarterly with Office of the Fairness Commissioner's staff to provide updates on licensing initiatives, compliance with FARPACTA legislation, and quarterly licensing statistics.

In 2025, the AERC and Council approved two new policies required under FARPACTA – an Alternate Documentation Policy, and a Parallel Processing Plan, both of which were required to be submitted to the Fairness Commissioner's office by year-end. The AOLS was among the first regulators to submit and receive approval for these documents by the Fairness Commissioner. The policies are posted on the AOLS website.

Compensation Fund

The Compensation Fund, established under Section 33 of the Surveyors Act, aims to provide compensation for losses incurred by an individual due to dishonesty or incompetence in the professional practice of surveying by a licence holder, for amounts that cannot be recovered through other legal means. During 2025, one application to the Compensation Fund received in 2024 was considered and not granted, and one new application was received, which remains under consideration by Council.

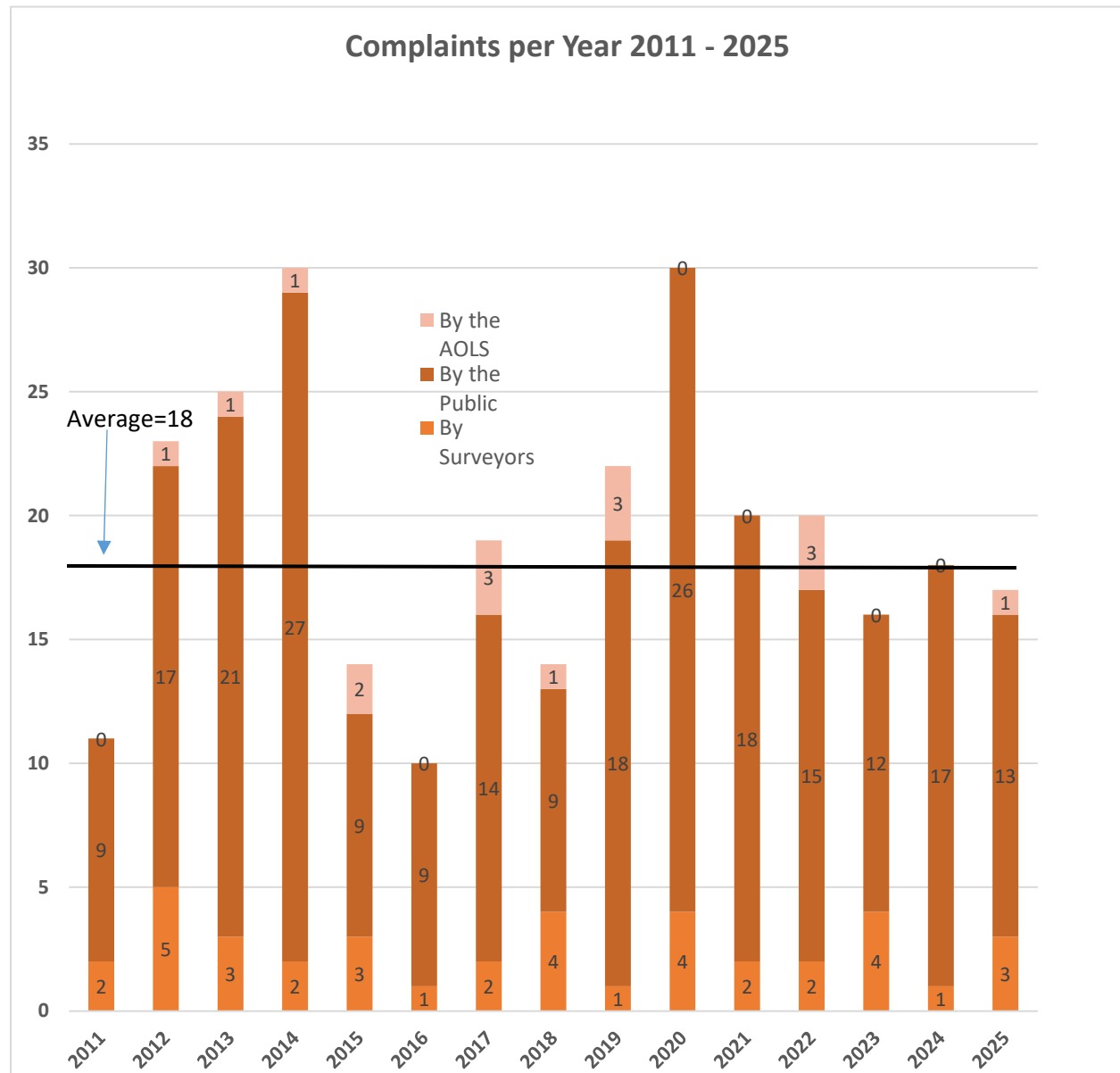
Complaint Investigations and the Complaints Committee

Formal complaints regarding the actions or conduct of a licence holder must be submitted in writing to the Registrar, and are handled in accordance with legislation. The Registrar files the complaint, and acknowledges receipt of the complaint to the complainant. The member is provided with a copy of the complaint documents and is given at least two weeks to provide an explanation and supporting documentation in response. This response is provided to the complainant, who may make a further response, and the member is also provided with this response. Following this exchange, the member has the opportunity to make one final response/submission. The complaints process is a formal one, but which does not provide for the opportunity for an oral hearing before the Complaints Committee. If the Complaints Committee believes that further investigation is required during or following the exchange of documents described above, it is carried out. Finally, the Registrar compiles all the information in the complaint investigation file, and makes it available to the Complaints Committee, in as timely a manner as possible. The Registrar also acts as the staff resource to the Complaints Committee and distributes all correspondence and decisions resulting from Committee meetings. The Committee deliberates on all decisions – the Registrar does not participate in deliberations or decision-making.

Sixteen (16) new complaint files were opened in 2025, compared to eighteen in 2024, sixteen in 2023 and twenty in 2022. The Committee held nine formal teleconference meetings and one in-person meeting and training session in 2025. 13 of the sixteen complaints originated from members of the public, 2 from licence

holders, and one from the AOLS. The latter was a referral, based on an SRD review, to the committee from the Registrar. The Committee issued 10 final determinations in 2025. 7 complaint files are actively being investigated or considered by the Committee as of Dec. 31, 2025.

Of the 10 final determinations issued in 2025, two referred a member to AOLS Council with a recommendation that the matter be referred to the Discipline Committee for a hearing. The following chart shows the total number of complaints per year from 2011 to 2025, the average number over that period being 18 per year.



Discipline Committee

Two (2) discipline hearings were held in 2025. The hearings both proceeded by way of an agreed statement of fact and joint submission on penalty, significantly reducing the complexity, cost, and time required for each hearing.

In addition to the two hearings above, in 2025, 3 matters, 2 of which were subsequently combined into one, were referred by Council for a hearing before the Discipline Committee. As of Dec. 31, 2025, there were four active discipline matters.

The role of the Discipline Committee, if directed by the Council to do so, is to hear and determine allegations of professional misconduct or incompetence against any licence holder in accordance with section 26 of the Act; to prepare for the Council's approval rules governing the practice and procedures before a discipline panel appointed under section 26; and to perform the other duties that are assigned to it by the Council.

Fees Mediation Committee

In 2025, there were no new or active Fees Mediation files. Under the new *Surveyors Act*, effective January 1, 2026, this statutory committee is no longer required.

Unless the Committee considers it inappropriate to do so, the duties of the Fees Mediation Committee include the requirement to mediate any written complaint by a client of a member of the Association or of a holder of a certificate of authorization in respect of a fee charged for services in the practice of professional surveying provided to the client.

Registrar's Investigations

Section 30 of the *Surveyors Act* allows the Registrar to undertake an investigation where the Registrar believes that there are reasonable and probable grounds that a member of the Association has committed an act of professional misconduct or incompetence, or that there is cause to refuse to issue, or to suspend or revoke a Certificate of Authorization. No Registrar's Investigations were initiated during 2025.

Registration Committee

The Registration Committee is a statutory committee, created under Section 9 of the *Surveyors Act*, that holds hearings under the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*. When the Registrar proposes to revoke or refuse to issue or renew a licence, Certificate of Registration or Certificate of Authorization, or proposes to issue one of these subject to conditions, the member or applicant may appeal to the Registration Committee, who must then hold a formal hearing.

No Registration hearings were held in 2025, and there are no active matters.

Survey Review Department Referrals

In 2025, one firm was referred to the Registrar from the Survey Review Department pursuant to Regulation 1026, S.40(8), subsequent to a Comprehensive Review. The associated licence holder was referred to The Complaints Committee in 2025 as a result of this review.

Certificates of Authorization

The Registrar is responsible for the issuance, revision, and renewals of Certificates of Authorization (C of A). Five applications for a Certificate of Authorization (C of A) were received in 2025. Two were issued with conditions, and three full CofAs were granted. The total number of CofAs at year end was 134.

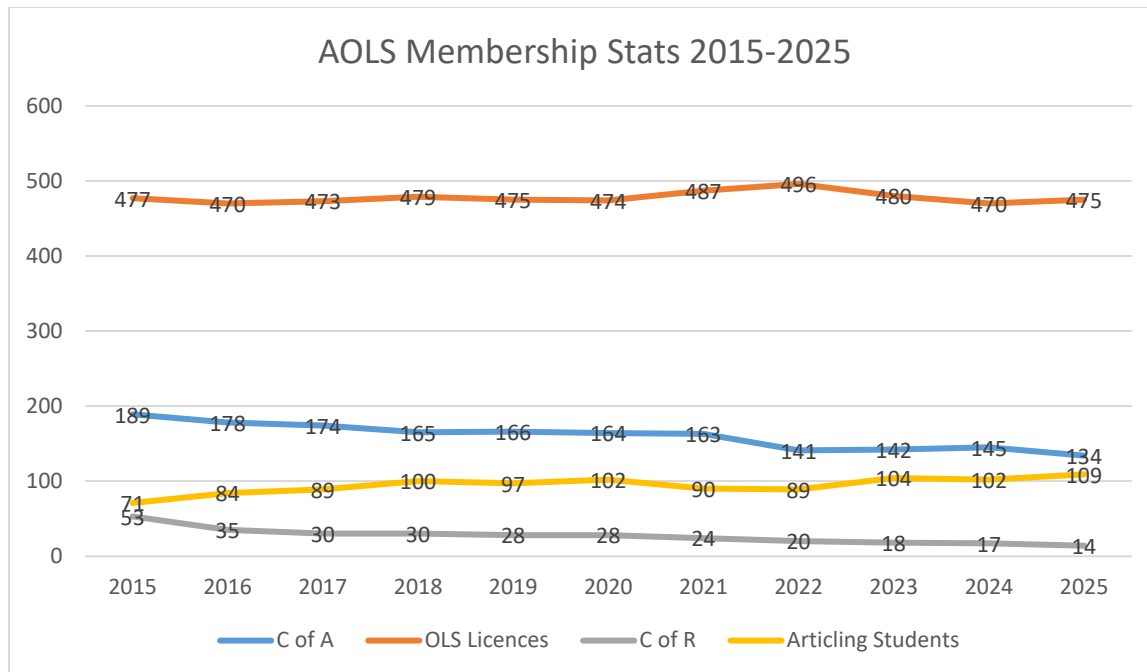
Elections and By-Laws

The Registrar oversees the distribution and counting of ballots for voting on By-laws, Regulations and elections to Council. The vote on By-laws and Regulations is reported on in the Executive Director's year-end report.

For the 2026 Council, Vice President Natalie Vibert was acclaimed as President and Senior Councillor Robin Fleguel was acclaimed as Vice-President. Chris Oyler and Vicky Kumar were nominated as candidates for the two Junior Councillor positions and were acclaimed for 2026.

Membership Statistics

	2025	2024	2025/2024 Change	2025/2024 %Change
OLS Licenses	475	470	5	1%
Certificate of Registration	14	17	-3	-18%
Certificate of Authorization	134	145	-11	-8%
Retirements/cancellations in the year	36	21	15	71%
New OLS licences issued in the year	38	10	28	280%
Articling Students	109	102	7	7%
Retired Members	182	159	23	15%
Associate Members	51	51	0	0%



The above chart illustrates the trends in AOLS membership over the past 11 years, during which the number of licences and CorRs has decreased by 8%. The number of CoAs has decreased by 29%. The number of articling students has risen steadily from a low of 71 in 2015 to the current number of 109, an increase of 54%.