

Listening to Our Members: ACPA Priorities for 2025

As part of the 2025 membership renewal process, the ACPA received *100 insightful comments* from members. These responses have been reviewed and organized into key themes that will shape our strategic planning going forward. Your voices are helping steer the future of the profession—and we're listening.

These priorities reflect not only the evolving landscape of chemistry in Alberta but also your deep commitment to advocacy, education, innovation, and public engagement.

This feedback is more than a snapshot—it's a springboard. Your insights help define our direction, advocate for the profession, and forge new pathways of influence and innovation in 2025 and beyond.

These are the themes as well as some targeted actions based on each theme that we could implement or improve and the committees that are involved:

1. Advocacy & Recognition

Members voiced a strong desire to **solidify and elevate the professional status** of chemists in Alberta. The call to establish the P.Chem. designation on par with P.Eng., and to secure exclusive rights to practice, came through loud and clear.

- **Generate a P.Chem. Advocacy Toolkit:** Give members ready-made materials to promote the profession in their own networks. (Marketing Committee)
- **Host a “Path to P.Chem.” Seminar:** Walk aspiring members through the licensing process and benefits. (Technical and Professional Development Seminar Committee)
- **Recognition Awards:** Celebrate members who've made significant contributions to the field. (Nominations Committee)

2. Regulatory Influence

The profession is ready to help **shape policy and regulatory frameworks**. Members emphasized the need for P.Chem.-certified reports to gain regulatory traction and for chemists to have a seat at the table when industrial and environmental decisions are made.

- **Policy Pulse Briefings:** Regular updates on regulatory developments and how ACPA is responding. (Newsletter and Website)
- **“Voices of Chemistry” Roundtable Seminar:** Invite members to share how regulations affect their work—and what needs to change. (Seminar committee)

(Advocacy + Regulatory = 32 comments)

3. Education & Training

There's a resounding appetite for **professional development and peer connection**. From analytical training to networking events, ACPA members want opportunities to grow and share knowledge.

- **ACPA Seminar Series:** Monthly skill-building workshops, from chemistry to soft skills. (Seminar committee)
- **Mentor Match Program:** Connect early-career members with seasoned professionals. (later)

4. Technology & Innovation

The chemistry profession is rapidly evolving, and members want to stay ahead. Topics like **AI applications in chemistry** and cutting-edge tech were highlighted as key learning areas.

- **AI in Chemistry Panel:** Feature researchers applying AI in chemistry. (Seminar committee)
- **Innovation Spotlight Newsletter Feature:** Members share tools and breakthroughs they're excited about. (Newsletter and Website)

(Education + Innovation = 28 comments)

5. Industry Collaboration

Connecting with Alberta's industries is vital. Members expressed interest in **strengthening ties with the energy, mining, and environmental sectors** to elevate the profession's profile and impact.

- **Industry Showcases:** Partner with companies for site tours or virtual demos. (ED to do)
- **"Chemistry at Work" Profiles:** Highlight members in diverse industries. (Being tried already)

(17 comments)

6. Membership Growth

To ensure a vibrant future, members suggested **engaging early-career chemists**, expanding local chapters, and improving visibility across sectors.

- **Young Chemists Council:** A youth-led advisory group shaping ACPA programming.
- **Campus Ambassadors:** Recruit students to represent ACPA and host mini events. (Student Liaisons committee)

(11 comments)

7. Public Engagement

Building public trust starts with storytelling. Members want to **highlight chemistry's contributions to society** and improve communication with non-technical audiences.

- **Chemistry in the Community Campaign:** Share real-world impacts of chemists' work through social media and local news. (ED articles)
- **“Ask a Chemist” Booths at Public Events:** Break down complex topics in simple, engaging ways. (Being explored)

(8 comments)

Please provide us with your comments.

Chris

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