



## Supply Chain Canada & BC Members TOWNHALL Q&As

On January 18, 2024, Supply Chain Canada met with the BC members in a Townhall forum to discuss the dissociation of the BC Association. The questions that resulted have been compiled and answered below. For more information please email: [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com)

Questions have been grouped by the following topics:

- A. About Supply Chain Canada & Member Status
- B. How We Are Supporting BC Members
- C. Credentials & Accreditation
- D. About the Disassociation

### A. About Supply Chain Canada Membership

#### 1. Confirmation of member renewal:

- I renewed my membership in late December. How do I determine whether I did it with the National Supply Chain Canada (my preference) or the new BC Association?
- I thought we were being moved to SCMA BC; however, I see Supply Chain Canada is a better option. How do I get to choose to be with Supply Chain Canada?
- SCMA BC office recently sent an email notification regarding membership renewal . . . if I renew my SCMA membership, is that with SCMA Canada or SCMA BC?

You can login to your [member portal](#) and check your renewal date and status under “Membership”. To remain a member of Supply Chain Canada, be sure to renew your membership. To confirm with the office, you can email [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com) for clarification.

- 2. What if I don't have a designation? Why should I pay for membership? What's the value to me?



Regardless of your designation status, a membership with Supply Chain Canada means that you're a part of a vibrant national supply chain community joined together to advance the supply chain profession. Members enjoy networking opportunities with over 4,000 supply chain professionals across the country and internationally. We have many events, discounts and perks. Moreover, we offer different pathways for you to progress in your professional development - from earning your SCMP™ designation to member events, including the national conferences and symposiums.

### 3. Dual membership:

- Can we be members in both associations and use both designations?
- Can a member change their mind later? If yes, for how many years?
- If someone chooses to stay with the BC association and let their national membership lag (and therefore their national SCMP), what happens in future if they want to reinstate national recognition of their SCMP designation?

You can be members of both associations. However, to continue to use the SCMP™ designation you must be a member of Supply Chain Canada.

People can become and discontinue being a member of Supply Chain Canada at any time. To maintain the use of your SCMP™ designation, designation holders must be a member in good standing with Supply Chain Canada. This means that you must maintain your membership with Supply Chain Canada, complete all annual professional development requirements, and adhere to our professional standard of conduct.

To protect public interest and the trust in our designation, those who let their membership lapse will be required to take corrective measures in accordance with the SCMP™ Designation Terms and Conditions. The actions for reinstatement will be dependent on the length of the designation lapse. Those that have their designation lapsed for more than three years, for example, would be required to successfully complete the Leadership Residency and Final Exam again before they are reinstated.

### 4. Also, how are we internationally recognized?



Supply Chain Canada's SCMP™ designation is the most prominent and recognized accreditation for supply chain professionals across Canada. With over 100 years of history, the association has credibility and trust internationally. The SCMP™ designation program was the first to be accredited by the International Federation of Purchasing & Supply Management, a worldwide association of Supply Chain professionals.

To support our members, we are working to receive reciprocal recognition of our accreditation programs with international regulatory bodies. As a leading national voice and accrediting institution in Canada, we are in a strong position to lead this effort and provide our members with international recognition.

5. Is Supply Chain Canada currently in a deficit? If so, what is the action plan to get out of the current deficit and is there a timeline to get out of the deficit?

No, Supply Chain Canada is currently operating with a small surplus for the year. While the pandemic, staff severances and the Ontario disassociation's legal costs created financial pressures, as explained at the AGM, we have made great progress in restructuring our costs. Consequently, the organization is financially viable for the foreseeable future.

## **B. How We Are Supporting BC Members**

### **1. Western Region Operations Team:**

- Where will the Western SCMA office / staff be located?
- To be clear, BC members who wish to remain part of SCMA and not SCMABC are now connecting with, under the direction of the Western Operation Team? Allan and his team?
- What actions are you taking to protect all of your members in BC and Ontario?

Our first priority is to our members, ensuring the continuity of service and support that you deserve. We have established the Western Region Operations team under the leadership of Allan To, SCMP™ to support BC and Alberta members. The team will work remotely with staff members currently residing in Alberta and Nova Scotia. The team



will evolve over time and the location of our staff will reflect this evolution. Similarly, we are also mobilizing a regional operations team to support Ontario members.

The Western Operation team will provide members in BC and Alberta with membership services, professional development opportunities and social networking events. Renewing your Supply Chain Canada membership allows you to use the SCMP™/SMT™ accreditation and continue to benefit from being a part of a national community of supply chain professionals. If you have questions or service requirements, you may contact the team at: [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com).

2. Will SCC be having a new secretariat/institute office under the 'Western Regional Support' model mentioned?

We have established the Western Regional Operations team to provide the continuity of services that members expect. The Western Regional Operations team will also work to grow membership value and engagement. Supply Chain Canada will continue to monitor and evolve our association and engage BC members as we deliver value to all of our members.

3. How is SCMA Canada planning to connect with BC members and encourage networking? Previously there were networking events organized by SCMA but now with national I believe there is no physical presence here?

Currently, the Western Regional Operations team does not work out of a physical office and there are no immediate plans to create a physical office in BC. We look forward to using virtual tools and in person meetings to develop relationships and plan events, programs and training opportunities. Stay tuned for exciting announcements on future events in BC.

## **C. Credentials & Accreditation**

1. What I am hearing is that to maintain the SCMP we need to be part of Supply Chain Canada and going forward all maintenance efforts need to be done through Supply Chain Canada. Is that correct?



Yes, and no. In order to maintain your designation you must maintain your Supply Chain Canada membership. Supply ChainCanada does however recognize PD from external organizations.

2. My designation certificate says, "This document is the property of SCMA British Columbia and is to be surrendered for no compliance of conditions and/or termination of membership". What does this mean if we stay with National? Do we get a new SCMP Designation certificate?

Supply Chain Canada will issue new SCMP™ certificates to all BC designation holders who renew their membership before March 31, 2024.

3. With the announcement to disassociate on November 24, 2023, the BC Association no longer has the right to grant the SCMP designation?

Yes. That is correct, only Supply Chain Canada has the right to grant the SCMP™ designation.

4. The BC Association advertises the SCMP designation on their website. To be clear - this is the same name but a different designation to yours.

The BC Association does not have the right to offer the SCMP™ designation as it is owned by the members of Supply Chain Canada. Supply Chain Canada has been taking concrete actions to support our members and protect the designation, brand, and intellectual properties.

SCMP™ candidates must register to Supply Chain Canada and complete our courses to be eligible for the SCMP™ designation. In order to use the SCMP™ designation, you must be a member in good standing with Supply Chain Canada.

5. What would be the enforcement mechanism if one were to continue to use their SCMP designation, but not be a member of SCMP Canada?

As members and holders of the designation, it is vital that we protect the credibility of our designation. The SCMP™ designation and SMT™ certification are the most recognized and trusted professional accreditations in supply chain management across Canada. Our designation provides the public with confidence that those who hold the designation have standardized competencies, are held to a high ethical standard, and



are governed by a professional body that enforces standards, investigates complaints, and ensures that designation holders adhere to ethical guidelines.

It is a serious matter when an individual uses the SCMP™ designation without being granted the ability to do so as this erodes consumer confidence and affects all designation holders. Supply Chain Canada takes this matter seriously and will take all steps under the laws of Canada to defend our designation. The public and members can direct such breach to Supply Chain Canada so we can investigate and ensure that your designation continues to be trusted and valued by the public.

#### **6. Quality of education:**

- The BC organization cited SCMP education material as very outdated and the lack of concrete plan to update said material as an example of wanting to disassociate. We were told Supply Chain Canada promised to provide a plan to initiate just a "review" by June 2024, and not even an updated material. This is one of the various claims I've heard that Supply Chain Canada is an inefficient and ineffective organization. What do you have to say about that?
- Has SCC had the current articulation agreements with universities and colleges for delivery of SMT™ and SCMP™ programs held by Institutes with post-secondary institutions transferred to SCC? Has SCC been conducting outreach to existing post-secondary partners where disassociation has occurred?

Modules were updated with new case studies and links in 2022. Significant work has been done over the past year to update our offerings further. We have committed to working with our Instructors to update even further for the fall 2024 semester. Through our many partnerships with post-secondary schools across Canada and our relationships with industry and government, we are in a strong position to evolve our educational programs to meet the needs of members and the public.

Supply Chain Canada has numerous agreements and relationships with post-secondary institutions across Canada. The SCMP™ designation is Canada's most trusted and recognized professional designation and we have agreements in place with schools to extend advanced accreditation to students in their programs. We will be working with schools that are affected by the dissociation to ensure the continuity of relationship and recognition of their courses towards the SCMP™ designation.



7. When I renew my SCMA Canada membership, which institute do I belong to if BC disassociates with the national?

You are currently a member of Supply Chain Canada until your renewal date of March 31, 2024. To continue to use the SCMP™ and SMT™ accreditation and receive the benefits of being a part of a national association for supply chain professionals, you are required to renew your membership with Supply Chain Canada **before March 31, 2024**. The BC Association has already dissociated from Supply Chain Canada, so if you choose to pay for a membership to the BC Association, this does not constitute a membership with Supply Chain Canada.

8. If I decide to stay with Supply Chain Canada, does the one course I have previously taken at the SCMAO transfer to the SCMP™ designation? Or do I have to take the course through Supply Chain Canada again?

We will evaluate on a case by case basis. Please reach out to [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com) and include your completion letter from the Ontario Association (“SCMAO”) and we will get back to you.

9. Is Supply Chain Canada going to offer a certificate/diploma option? I have lost track of whether that was a SC option or not. I don't want my junior staff to have to complete all the business courses first before starting on the Purchasing-specific courses.

Yes! We continue to offer the SMT™ Diploma for those early to mid-level in their supply chain careers. This is a tremendously popular program with growing enrollment. You can learn more [here](#).

10. For existing SCMP™ candidates, if we decide to go with BCSCMA will we have to renew SCMA membership, to have the current modules we are completing that will extend into April recognized?

You will be allowed to complete your courses with Supply Chain Canada beyond the March 31, 2024 membership renewal deadline. However, to register for additional SCMP™ courses in the future and be eligible for the SCMP™ designation, you must be a member of Supply Chain Canada.

11. I am registered for module 7 starting Feb 6 and module 8 starting Feb 26. Are these nationally hosted modules or SCMAO / SCMABC modules? It is unclear as they are called SCMP™ modules.

Please reach out to [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com) and they can verify if you are registered with Supply Chain Canada.

12. The membership period is 1 April. Our current modules extend past this date, if we go with BC (Association), will National require us to pay a renewal to get the results of those modules that are due to finish POST April 1?

You will be allowed to continue the modules that go past the expiry date without renewing your membership. However, you will not be able to register for additional SCMP™ modules without a membership with Supply Chain Canada and you will not be eligible for the SCMP™ designation without completing your education through Supply Chain Canada.

13. As an executive and hiring manager at a federal Crown corporation I have met with many of my peers at BC Provincial Crowns. Moving forward we have decided to ONLY recognize the "SCMP™" National designation for the hiring of supply chain professionals. Does this mean that BC members would need to be a member of National to retain the SCMP™ designation?

Yes, anyone with the SCMP™ designation must be a member of Supply Chain Canada.

14. In reference to Allan To's comment, about SCC being the only one to grant SCMP™ in principle I would agree but wonder how this is being addressed in terms of existing legislation, i.e. BC Institute grandfathered occupational title protection in BC under the old society act of BC.

This is under discussion, please contact [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com) for more information.

15. What will be our designation after completing this course? I have 3 more modules to go. Once you have successfully completed all 8 modules, 6 workshops, Leadership Residency, and passed the final exam with Supply Chain Canada, you are eligible to receive the SCMP™ designation.





16. How to access the 2024 Professional Development Online workshop, I haven't got any emails about this series. Thanks!

Members can continue to benefit from and sign-up for professional development opportunities through the Supply Chain Canada website and members portal. To inquire about any professional development courses, please contact us at [info.bc@supplychaincanada.com](mailto:info.bc@supplychaincanada.com)

**17. Professional Development:**

- If we stay with SCMA Canada, will PD points be recognized if we take in seminars or conf etc. held by the BC organization.
- What about PD points for SCMP™ designation maintenance? I am attending webinars sent by SCMA AB. Free SCMA Ontario seminars (Leadership Passport) were made a part of the early membership renewal... Will those activities be added / recognized as PD maintenance points towards maintaining my designation? And which designation?
- Will all of my PD from 2023 that occurred in BC be recognized by Supply Chain Canada? And what about PD that is currently happening through the BC association?

Yes, Supply Chain Canada recognizes PD taken from external organizations.

## D. About Disassociation

1. Is the Federation Council where much of the disagreement occurred planned to be dissolved / morphed into a new model?

Yes, all members of the Federation Council (including BC) signed an MOU in 2023 to work towards a new affiliation agreement. This agreement is in development with all remaining institutes and we have made strong progress to date.

2. Given 2 provinces have now disassociated from SCC, what is being done to address changes moving forward to make us a more united front and to prevent further dissociations of other provinces in the future? Perhaps some of the issues brought up by both BC and Ontario warrant future changes?



All members of the Federation Council (including BC) signed an MOU in 2023 to work towards a new affiliation agreement. This agreement is in development with all remaining institutes. We understand that there is a lot of work to be done and are committed to addressing the issues brought forward in the best interest of our members.

### 3. Future Relationship with BC Association

- I question the validity of, and process used by BC during the dissociation meeting/ vote in 2022. Is there an opportunity for BC members to reconsider the dissociation now that we have more information?
- What is National doing to reconcile and bridge this separation?
- Are you at the table trying to resolve this?
- Are there any plans to convince BC to rejoin?
- I would like to see you reach out directly to Patrick Shannon as the BC President and have a conversation - we here on the West Coast are hearing that National has not reached out to him in any way shape or form and I have no reason to believe he is not telling the truth. Disappointing all around for a 21-year member.

We have had many virtual and in-person conversations with representatives of the BC board to talk out the differences and how to work together. The BC board also signed an MOU in July 2023 with the Federation Council to work towards a new affiliation agreement, to take effect in June 2024. That is still the plan that we are all working towards a new operating model that will enable us to be more effective.

The BC Association is now a separate organization from Supply Chain Canada and is governed by its own bylaws and policies. Members of the BC Association may exercise their rights afforded by its bylaws. Questions and concerns with regards to the BC Association should be directed to that association and its Board. We are not currently in active discussions with the BC Association. We are now focused on creating our new governance model for June 2024 and serving our BC Members.

### 4. Are there any other Provincial Associations considering disassociation?

No. All of the Institutes are committed to a shared national vision to advance the supply chain profession. All institutes have signed an MOU and have been working collaboratively towards a new affiliation agreement to come into effect in June, 2024.