

Minutes of the 104th Meeting of Council of the  
Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario  
Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 2400 - 333 Bay Street, Toronto, ON

---

**PRESENT**

Dave Hunt, President  
Mark Priddle, Vice President  
Ben Berger  
Brad Leonard  
Robert Linnen, CCCESD representative  
Peter Diorio  
Tony Lotimer, Treasurer  
Milan Situm  
Bob Morrison  
Rusty Juma  
Visha Sukdeo  
Doug Cater  
Zen Keizars

**BY TELECONFERENCE**

Rob Gordon  
Dorene Weston  
Don Johnston  
John Gartner

**BY INVITATION**

Gord White, CEO  
Aftab Khan, Registrar  
Marilen Miguel, Member Services & Stakeholder Relations  
Coordinator  
Megan Archer and Andrew Boddington from Policy Concepts  
Jeff Pourier, Ontario Human Rights Commission

**REGRETS**

Andrew Cheatle, Past President  
Wally Rayner

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The President, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 9.07 a.m.

**2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Chair asked if any member of Council anticipated a conflict of interest with an item on the Agenda and none so indicated.

**3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**4. MEETING AGENDA**

The Chair asked Council to review the proposed Agenda and indicate if any changes or additions were required.

**Motion 104 - 1: Mark Priddle moved to have the Agenda approved as presented. Seconded by Bob Linnen. All in favour. Motion carried.**

## 5. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2015 MEETING

Minutes of the January 8, 2015 meeting were reviewed and amendments were made.

**Motion 104 - 2: Doug Cater moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Ben Berger. All in favour. Motion carried.**

## 6. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Dave Hunt asked Council members if they have any comments on the minutes from the February 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting. None.

## 7. STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Council members had the opportunity to review the Strategic Plan implementation update and no comments and/or issues were brought forward.

## 8. INITIATIVES AND ISSUES

### 8.1 Mentoring Program

Milan apprised everyone about the launch of APGO Pilot Mentoring Program via an announcement on Field Notes (February 26<sup>th</sup> issue). Currently compiling profiles from interested members. APGO will closely monitor the process and will survey participants halfway through the program about their experience.

### 8.2 APGO Education Foundation

The APGO Education Foundation had a soft launch at the PDAC Convention Awards Dinner when Bill Pearson, P.Geo. was recognized at the event as the recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Service Award.

Gord White showed the foundation website to members indicating that this continues to be a work in progress. The website is using the same platform as APGO's. Gord walked the members through the different pages highlighting the three main objects by which the foundation will accomplish its mission.

1. Providing scholarships to post-secondary students for the study of geoscience in a degree program;
2. Providing bursaries to immigrants to Canada who are internationally-trained geoscientists and have demonstrated financial need for completion of licensure procedures for registration as a professional geoscientist in Ontario; and

3. Holding lectures, presentations and conferences on geoscience to enhance the knowledge of the general public.

Tony Lotimer, referencing object # 3, raised the possibility of including the development of position and discussion papers on geoscience issues to enhance public understanding of geoscience. He suggested that object #3 could reflect this endeavour.

**Action 104 – 1: Gord White will follow up with this suggestion.**

As well, the Liaison Committee is in need of a new chair. Rob Gordon is taking this on.

Zen Keizars raised the question about designated donations. To date, there is no information yet specific to this giving option.

**Action 104 – 2: Rob Gordon will bring it up with Bill Pearson.**

### **8.3 OGQ Resignation from Geoscientists Canada**

OGQ officially resigned from being a CA member of Geoscientists Canada. It remains committed to working with CAs across Canada.

A letter signed by Dave Hunt was sent to OGG's President, Robert Wares, P.Geo., DSc. While APGO believes in the importance of its representation being at the national table to push forward APGO issues, it is equally important to maintain continued relationship with OGQ and is committed to continuing collaboration and communication with its Quebec counterpart.

### **8.4 2015 Nominations/Elections**

A call for nominations letter will go out on March 25<sup>th</sup>. It will include a statement on diversity. Council will be recruiting for 5 new members to serve a three-year term.

It was noted that shortly after Dave Hunt's article on the need for diversity in Council, there was interest from a number of female P.Geo's. to potentially apply for available Council positions.

Council members highlight the importance of clearly communicating what to expect when one joins the Council, particularly stressing the commitment to participate at Council meetings and committee work.

Members who wish to run for a Council position are required to have 10 P.Geo.s to sign on their nomination. Zen Keizars pointed out that this will be a challenge, particularly for those who are new P.Geo.s. Dave Hunt also added that this is also a challenge for members who are from smaller areas.

### **8.5 University Professors**

APGO compiled a list of faculty members of Earth Sciences Departments across Ontario. Preliminary scanning found that only 9% of Earth Sciences faculty members are registered with APGO as P.Geo. This result does not take into account faculty members who have a P.Eng. designation. It will be the next step.

A possibility to develop a P.Geo. Academic category is being explored with the long-term objective to influence curriculum development to ensure that academic courses are closely aligned with APGO's knowledge requirements. Bob Linnen emphasized that the universities' role is to help fulfill knowledge requirements NOT the professional practice requirements.

At this point, the Council did not feel that it has all the necessary pieces to move ahead with a motion regarding this issue.

Visha Sudeko raised the important question on whether or not the endeavour of getting faculty members register with APGO is defensible. There is a need to develop a strong case of support for such endeavour. Council members agreed that this requires buy-in from university professors.

**Action 104 - 3: A taskforce will be formed to investigate this further and make recommendations to the Council. Bob Linnen expressed interest to be part of the taskforce. Dave Hunt also volunteered to help after June 2015. Mark Priddle volunteered to contact retired professors.**

**Action 104 - 4: APGO will continue the work of compiling a more detailed list of faculty members across Ontario to help inform Council's future decisions on this particular issue. Sources of information will also be included in the documentation.**

## **8.6 Government Relations**

Megan Archer of Policy Concepts reported that MNDM will be reviewing its Mineral Development Strategy. There will be a public consultation over the coming months and the Ministry is seeking input from stakeholders to provide new direction.

APGO representation at the Minister's Mining Act Advisory Committee (MMAAC) is being considered.

Registration Regulation revisions are back to Legislative Council for review. MNDM contacts were optimistic that this will be signed off by July 31, 2015.

Policy Concepts along with Gord White and Dave Hunt will be meeting with MNDM representatives on March 9<sup>th</sup> to follow up on Regulations changes and discuss other items such as injunction authority and those related to the Professional Geoscientists Act 2000.

Overall, things are going well and moving, particularly in the area of regulations changes.

## **8.7 APGO's Award of Merit**

Gord White proposed that Past Presidents Group make up the selection committee responsible for the APGO's Award of Merit.

Bob Linnen cited that the terms of reference for both the professional services and technical contribution should be fleshed out further.

**Action 104 – 5: Dave Hunt and Gord White will flesh-out the terms of reference.**

Dave Hunt also indicated that APGO should also develop an award for up and coming talents in the geoscience field.

## **8.8 Geoscientists Canada Directors Meeting – February 8, 2015**

Dave Hunt attended the GC Directors Meeting in place of Andrew Cheadle. The meeting included further defining GC's strategic plan.

Changes on Board's proportional representation was also discussed. The proposed representation model has Alberta with three votes, Ontario and BC with two votes and the rest have one. However, the new Not-For-Profit Corporation Act does not appear to allow proxies. CA members with more than one vote are finding this set-up to be costly and inconvenient. The proxy issue is being explored by Geoscientists Canada.

## **8.9 Registration Regulation Update**

Registration Co-Chair, Ian Macdonald reported on the latest about Registration Regulation revisions. He presented on the summary of changes and indicated that the changes were more extensive than what were originally proposed. There is optimism that proposed changes will be signed off by July 31, 2015.

Gord White acknowledged Ian Macdonald and Andrea Waldie for their hard work in this area.

## **8.10 GIT – Engineers' Canada's Guidelines**

After reviewing Engineers' Canada's National Guidelines for Engineer-in-Training Program, Dave Hunt expressed that it was more rigorous than what was originally proposed – a similar guideline for Geoscientists-in-Training (GIT).

## **8.11 Governance Committee Update**

Dorene Weston apprised the group about the work of the Governance Committee in reducing the number of current committees of APGO. Council members reviewed the list of committees and the recommendations made by the Governance Committee on what committees need to be dissolved. Council agreed to make a motion regarding this.

**Motion 104 – Brad Leonard made a motion to dissolve the following committees: Northern Ontario Sub-committee, Insurance Advisory Committee, Field Notes Committee, Enforcement and Compliance Committee, and CPD Sub-committee. Seconded by Zen Keizars. All in favour. Motion carried.**

Most work of Communications and Public Awareness Committee has become a staff function. Governance Committee will review its function.

Dorene Weston also proposed to expand the role of Governance Committee by absorbing the work of the Nominations Committee and the Non-member Appointment Committees as these are essentially Governance functions.

Dorene also brought up the draft attendance policy outlining Council and committee attendance requirements. This information will be part of the New Council Member Orientation package. She asked if the Council has the authority to make a motion on this at the meeting.

**Action item 104 – 6: Gord will check APGO bylaws to see if Council has the authority to do so.**

Dorene Weston reinforced the role of the Vice President in overseeing and monitoring APGO's various committees.

**Action item 104 – 7: Mark Priddle indicated that he will be in touch with the Committee Chairs to check on how their respective committees are doing.**

## **8.12 Removing the Canadian Experience Barrier**

Jeff Poirier, Senior Policy Analyst at Ontario's Human Rights Commission, presented on "Removing the Canadian Experience Barrier". This is a presentation on OHRC's policy regarding Canadian Experience requirement. OHRC's deems Canadian Experience requirement discriminatory and the onus is on employers and regulatory bodies to show that Canadian Experience requirement is a bona fide requirement and has gone through rigorous examination as set out in the OHRC's policy.

Ben Berger expressed that we need more training like this. It shows Council's commitment to due diligence in equipping Councillors with knowledge to help them make informed decisions on setting out policies impacting the organization's strategic directions.

## **9. REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

As of February 27, 2015, APGO members totalled to 3,297 – 1,946 P.Geo.s; 51 Limited; 97 Non-practising; 316 GITs; 887 students.

Aftab Khan noted that there was a marked increase of suspension letter sent out this year – from 104 last year to 212 this year. Will find out about the final number in May.

Enforcement and compliance active files are at 166

2 complaints to date with 1 brought forward to the Discipline Committee for review.

31 wrote the PPE exam in January 2015 and 29 passed.

Annual report was submitted to the Office of Fairness Commission and Geoscientists Canada.

Action Plan based on OFC's recommendations was also submitted to OFC.

## **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mark Priddle reported that 16 committees have already submitted their annual reports to Bernard for inclusion in the APGO 2014/2015 Annual Report. Mark will be checking in with committee chairs to help sustain volunteer engagement with committees' works.

Dorene Weston reported that she sent Gord White the link to the online self-evaluation survey. Gord will send it out to Council Members in April. Results will be discussed in June meeting.

**Action 104 – 8: Gord will send out the online link to the self-evaluation survey to Council Members in early April.**

## 11. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Doug Cater attended the PDAC Convention's Mineral Outlook Luncheon on March 4<sup>th</sup> featuring Matthew Hart as the speaker. He highlighted the significant issue of cyber hacking in the mining industry and how this adversely affect mining companies.

Dave Hunt brought up the increasing importance of educating APGO members about what it means to be a Professional Geoscientist. What does a P.Geo. brand means?

**Action 104 – 9: Dave Hunt will write an article to highlight P.Geo. brand awareness to members via Field Notes.**

## 12. TREASURER'S REPORT

Tony Lotimer reported on the latest financial statements of APGO dated February 28, 2015. He noted that actual income amount was lower than projected due to a significant outstanding amount in membership dues. Expenses are on track due to good cost control.

## 13. COUNCILLORS' REPORT

### **Ben Berger, North East**

Ben reported that IAMGOLD filed its environmental assessment for the Côté Gold Project with MOECC. He also reported that government employees' strike will likely happen before the end of the month.

**Action 104 – 8: Ben will also explore strategic alliance with Porcupine Prospectors and Developers Association to establish an APGO network in Timmins.**

### **Dave Hunt, North West**

APGO is holding its regional networking event in Thunder Bay on April 13, 2015.

### **South East**

APGO regional networking event is scheduled on April 28, 2015 in Ottawa.

### **Peter Diorio, Central Ontario**

APGO regional networking event is slated for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Toronto.

**Doug Cater, South West**

Doug Cater will be one of the Technical Presentation Speakers at North Eastern Ontario Mines and Minerals Symposium that will be held at Kirkland Lake on March 30 & 31, 2015.

**Tony Lotimer, Councillor-at-Large**

Tony mentioned the 2015 Canadian Groundwater Conference that will take place in Waterloo on October 27 – 30, 2015. This important event is being hosted by the Canadian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists.

**Milan Situm, Councillor-at-Large**

Nothing to report.

**Bob Morrison, Councillor-at-Large**

Bob shared his experience of working in Ireland and highlighted the importance of establishing a positive relationship with communities in which his company operates.

## 14. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

## 15. CHECK-IN FOR COMMENTS ON TODAY'S MEETING

The Chair asked if anyone had questions about any matter discussed during the meeting. There were none.

## 16. IN CAMERA

A brief In Camera session followed.

## 17. NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL:

May 14, 2015 at Fasken Martineau  
Thursday, June 11, 2015 at Fasken Martineau.

## 18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

**Motion 104 – 4: Visha moved that the 104th meeting of Council be adjourned. Seconded by Doug Cater. All in favour. Motion carried.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

DRAFT

## SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

### MOTIONS

Motion 104 - 1: Mark Priddle moved to have the Agenda approved as presented. Seconded by Bob Linnen. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 104 - 2: Doug Cater moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Ben Berger. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 104 – 3: Brad Leonard made a motion to dissolve the following committees: Northern Ontario Sub-committee, Insurance Advisory Committee, Field Notes Committee, Enforcement and Compliance Committee, and CPD Sub-committee. Seconded by Zen Keizars. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 104 – 4: Visha moved that the 104th meeting of Council be adjourned. Seconded by Doug Cater. All in favour. Motion carried.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Action 104 – 1:** Tony Lotimer, referencing object # 3 of the APGO Education Foundation, raised the possibility of including the development of position and discussion papers on geoscience issues to enhance public understanding of geoscience. He suggested that object #3 should reflect this endeavour. **Gord White will follow up with the suggestion.**

**Action 104 – 2:** Zen Keizars raised the question about designated donations. To date, there is no information yet specific to this giving option. **Rob Gordon will bring it up with Bill Pearson.**

**Action 104 - 3:** A taskforce will be formed to investigate further the possibility to develop a P.Geo. Academic category and to make recommendations to the Council. Bob Linnen expressed interest to be part of the taskforce. Dave Hunt also volunteered to help after July 2015. Mark Priddle volunteered to contact retired professors.

**Action 104 - 4:** APGO will continue the work of compiling a more detailed list of faculty members across Ontario to help inform Council's future decisions on this particular issue. Sources of information will also be included in the documentation.

**Action 104 – 5:** Dave Hunt and Gord White will flesh-out the terms of reference for APGO Merit Award.

**Action 104 – 6:** Gord will check APGO bylaws to see if Council has the authority to make a motion regarding the proposed attendance policy.

**Action 104 – 7:** Mark Priddle indicated that he will be in touch with the Committee Chairs to check on how their respective committees are doing.

**Action 104 – 8:** Gord will send out the online link to the self-evaluation survey to Council Members in early April.

**Action 104 – 9:** Dave Hunt will write an article to highlight P.Geo. brand awareness to members via Field Notes.

DRAFT