

Minutes of the 105th Meeting of Council of the
Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 2400 - 333 Bay Street, Toronto, ON

PRESENT

Dave Hunt, President
Mark Priddle, Vice President
Andrew Cheadle, Past President
Ben Berger
Brad Leonard
Peter Diorio
Tony Lotimer, Treasurer
Milan Situm
Rusty Juma
Zen Keizars
Dorene Weston
Don Johnston
Rob Gordon

BY TELECONFERENCE

Don Johnston
Doug Cater
Robert Linnen, CCCESD representative
Bob Morrison
Megan Archer and Andrew Boddington, Policy Concepts

BY INVITATION

Gord White, CEO
Aftab Khan, Registrar
Marilen Miguel, Member Services & Stakeholder Relations
Coordinator
Megan Archer and Andrew Boddington from Policy Concepts
Avril Hylands, Recording secretary
Marjorie Friesen, guest speaker

REGRETS

Wally Rayner
Visha Sukdeo
John Gartner

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 9.01 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. He has been thinking about the APGO brand and was approached by some very young members with questions relating to that and also GIT training issues. He found some legal issues dating from 2011 when he reviewed some Geosciences Canada material. An article from some Geoscientists Canada material included an article re: "Economic impact of professional regulation" which indicated that in the U.S., any occupational licensing increase of wages and services they supply, did not

result in any overall improvement in the quality or service of the work product offered. We must be aware of the brand when we do our work on a regular basis – does it mean better work or just a higher price?

He noted this was the second last meeting of his term, which has gone very quickly and has been a lot of fun.

4. MEETING AGENDA

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

Some changes were made to the order of items. An item was added to Other Business to consider holding a short Council Meeting by teleconference in July. Under the Treasurer's Report it was noted that only the 2014 Audit required a Motion by Council.

Motion #105-1: Peter Diorio moved to have the Agenda approved as amended. Seconded by Ben Berger. All in favour. Motion carried.

5. ATTENDANCE RECORD

Council attendance report was presented and reviewed.

6. MINUTES OF THE MARCH 5, 2015 MEETING

Minutes of the March 5, 2015 meeting were reviewed and amendments made. A note was made to discuss APGO's participation in the Summer 2015 International Association of Canadian Hydrogeologists (IACH)/Canadian Groundwater Conference in Waterloo under Other Business.

Motion #105-2 Brad Leonard moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Mark Priddle. All in favour. Motion carried.

7. APRIL 8, 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Dave Hunt asked Council members if they had any comments on the minutes from the April 8, 2015 Executive Committee meeting. An amendment was made.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action 104 – 1: Tony Lotimer, referencing object #3 of the APGO Education Foundation, said the Foundation might be the entity to respond to any question raised as to 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.**

Gord advised that public promotion of geosciences and the role of geoscientists is being considered by Geoscientists Canada (GC). He will follow up with Bill Pearson after their June meeting and will let Council know what was decided.

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.** Rob advised no decision had yet been made.

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 June 2015. Mark Priddle volunteered to contact retired professors.

Mark has made contact. Gord White will lead and will schedule a meeting for July. He confirmed Bob Linnen is on the taskforce list. Gord further advised that at a recent conference in Montreal – which included academics from the U.S. and Canada – this matter was discussed and it was agreed that in the future, it should be P.Geo's teaching courses and not just academics.

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. **Gord White – also see Action 104 – 3.**

Action 104 – 5: Dave Hunt and Gord White will flesh-out the terms of reference for APGO Merit Award. This will be completed over the summer.

Action 104 – 6: Gord will check APGO by-laws to see if Council has the authority to make a motion regarding the proposed attendance policy.
Yes, Council can approve any Motion put forward.

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.
Completed – will be covered under Committee Reports.

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

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

9. STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Council reviewed the Strategic Plan implementation update and agreed that all actions are on plan with the exception of a couple of items.

10. INITIATIVES AND ISSUES

10.1 APGO Education Foundation Update

Andrew Cheatle informed Council that outreach to potential donors had begun. Next formal meeting of the Foundation will be tied in with the AGM. Bill Pearson via Dave Hunt advised that \$15,000 in donations had been received and an investment account set up. Office space in APGO's office is much appreciated and he will soon be able to devote more time to this project.

10.2 Geoscientists Canada Strategic Plan Initiatives

Andrew Cheattle reported that the next meeting is scheduled for June 5 & 6 after which a detailed report will be given to Council. The Executive Committee scored and sent back our prioritised projects for inclusion. APGO continue to push for Mobility as a very high priority. This is done by all C.A's.

Gord White briefly noted the projects as follows:

- Advocating for the Professional Reliance model to be used in all major GC activity across Canada
- Ensure consistent decision-making of all registration outcomes across Canada so there is no variation from Province to Province
- Consistent Mobility
- All academic programs offered by Universities meet the GKE requirements

10.3 AST Project Phase II

Greg Finn was unable to attend the meeting. This item was deferred to the June 11th meeting.

10.4 2015 Nominations/Elections

Gord White informed Council there are 9 members running for the 2 Councillor at Large positions. Approximately 300 votes have been received (2400 eligible) representing about 15% of members. The status of Wally Rayner on Council was questioned and Dave Hunt agreed to check.

Action 105 – 1: Wally Rayner Status: Dave Hunt to check and report back.

It was noted that Council can appoint people for a one-year term if someone has dropped out. The North West Ontario position remains open. Voting is open until May 27 – one reminder has been sent and one more will go out. There is a very good slate of candidates. Council will be advised of the election results after May 27.

Action 105 – 2: Doug Cater will follow up with those not elected to express APGO's appreciation and to keep them on board – he will suggest Committee work etc.

10.5 Award of Merit

Dave Hunt will announce the award at the AGM. He will be working on specific criteria over the summer and present to Council in the Fall. First award will be presented at the AGM in 2016. Over the coming year the award will be given publicity, nominations requested, etc.

10.6 Teaching Professors

Gord White reported a positive response from the international professors at GAC-MAC in Montreal last week, who agreed the P.Geo designation was an important issue. These are important contacts we can use to align ourselves with academia to bring programs more in line with geosciences knowledge and experience requirements. Formation of a group throughout July and August will get the ball rolling. Gord believes we can be successful in appealing to professors – by not talking about specifics but communicating that P.Geo.'s should be teaching future P.Geo.'s.

There was a comment made by professors that they are afraid of the PPE.

10.7 2015 APGO AGM

Gord White reminded Councillors to register for the June 11, 2015 AGM. Schedule of events as follows:

- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Council meeting at Fasken, Martineau
- 3.30 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. AGM at One King West
Invited speaker Amy Pressman (45 minutes) Changing Requirements for Qualified Persons but Many Different Professions – will explain how this might affect our members
- 5.30 p.m. – 7 p.m. Reception at One King West
- 8 p.m. Dinner at Rosewater Supper Club for Council and invited guests (including Past Presidents)

New/incoming Councillors will be invited to the morning Council meeting and if they attend, also to the dinner. Anticipate approximately 100 members will attend the AGM.

10.8 Grading Technical Exams

Gord White requested Council to consider the Motion: “That, where possible, only APGO P.Geos be selected to mark technical exams required by the APGO”

Motion 105 – 3: Tony Lotimer moved that, where possible, only APGO P.Geos be selected to mark technical exams required by the APGO. Milan Situm seconded. A detailed discussion followed.

Gord explained that, in the past, non-P.Geos in Universities were contracted to grade Technical Exams which had been questioned by an APGO member. Gord said that APGO always tries to get a P.Geo but it was not always possible.

This topic was delayed because of the arrival via teleconference of Megan Archer and Andrew Boddington of Policy Concepts.

10.9 Policy Concepts

Megan reported they had met with the Minister’s office re the proposed legislative changes and had provided follow up items from APGO. Minister’s office personnel said they would like to get the Regulatory changes completed before considering more changes. Regulatory changes continue to go back and forth. At present, their focus is mainly on the Provincial Budget. We continue to speak to them on a weekly basis and express our desire to see the changes posted as soon as possible. She informed Council that APGO is *not* affected by the January and July 1 deadlines for posting. Since their last report, APGO has been successful in getting a seat on the Minister’s Mining Advisory Committee. Doug Cater will be APGO’s representative supported by Brad Leonard.

Action Item 105 – 3: Re: the recent documentary from a CBC reporter on mining royalties. There does not appear to have been a response from the Minister’s office. Andrew Cheadle will check into this and report back to Gord White.

Andrew Boddington reported the election of the new Opposition Leader – Patrick Brown (the former Federal MP from Barrie). He is now selecting his staff. Shadow cabinet positions remain the same. His biggest challenge will be to rebuild a brand and an image and coming up with some policy decisions. They will be meeting with him in the near future. Brown will likely prove to be a pragmatic rather than partisan leader. He is a lawyer by background; aged 27 and has been in politics since the age of 22.

10.8 continued – Technical Exam

There was considerable discussion on the wording of the proposed motion.

Motion 105 – 4: Tony Lotimer moved that Motion 105 – 3 be withdrawn. Milan Situm seconded. All in favour. Motion carried.

After further consideration the following was proposed:

Motion 105 – 5: Bob Linnen moved that Technical Examinations must be marked by a qualified person. It is preferable that, wherever possible, this person should be an APGO P.Geo. Seconded by Peter Diorio. All in favour. Motion carried.

10.10 Attendance Policy

Dorene Weston presented the proposed Council Attendance Policy for review. It was presented as a 'soft' policy and although it recommends attendance in person it is understood that for various reasons this is not always possible.

Motion 105 – 6: Mark Priddle moved to accept the Council Attendance Policy as presented. Seconded by Andrew Cheatle. All in favour. Motion carried.

10.11 Governance Policies

Dorene Weston presented a review of APGO Committees and Terms of Reference which had been undertaken to ensure consistency. Some Committees were subsequently consolidated with others. All Terms of Reference were reviewed and some changes made. This also resulted in some further changes needing to be made to By-law #7 which will be proposed to membership at the AGM.

Tony Lotimer gave the background of the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee and noted that their Terms of Reference were in need of clarification. The following was agreed:

Action Item 105 – 4: Tony Lotimer to review the Finance Committee portion of By-law 7 and report back to Gord White as soon as possible.

Council thanked the Governance Committee for its hard work and agreed this had been very worthwhile.

10.12 Mentoring Project

Marilen Miguel gave an update on this project. To date there have been 13 matches with 6 mentees currently waiting for a match. There has been extremely positive feedback from participants. Next step is a questionnaire to survey participants half way through their term (6 months). If further members apply to participate, they will be advised that we are monitoring the first group and that we can add further names when the present group has finished its course. She feels this program is working out very well.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mark Priddle reported he had meetings with all Committee Chairs which had been very worthwhile. This had not happened before. They discussed:

- Committee rationalization plan
- Each Chair presented a brief description of their Committee
- GIT Terms of Reference – need to ensure their Committee has the right composition
- Compliance Committee – meets as required/volunteers required
- Registration Co-chairs Andrea Waldie and Ian Macdonald need new Chair
- Chairs encouraged to consult Past Presidents if they need help
- Regular participation of members required
- Tony Lotimer moving to Vice President; need new Chair of Finance Committee and Treasurer
- All Chairs should attempt to appoint Vice-chairs
- All Terms of Reference updated

Mark recommends the Vice President does this review on an annual basis – probably just prior to when the Annual Reports are due (end of February). He also noted there are a few inconsistencies on the website re Committee Chairs. Mark noted that there had been no response to emails or phone calls from the Environmental Geoscience Sub-committee for several months. Tony Lotimer had also heard nothing.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Dave Hunt reported the Thunder Bay networking event attracted about 30 people. It featured Tracy Armstrong making a presentation on “The W-5 of Setting Up Quality Control Protocols for Drill Programs and Application of Common Sense Guidelines in Monitoring Results”. Little student participation. Will continue to brainstorm on how to get more student attendance in future years. Work continues to be very slow in grass roots exploration.

Andrew Cheatle reported on exploration in the Yukon and Quebec. Ontario prospectors moving to new locations. Lots of publicity against mining – waiting for MNDM to make a statement. Feelings might be running more against government policies than the mining companies. He explained the diamond industry in Ontario is treated differently to other extracted minerals.

13. IN-CAMERA SESSION

A brief in-camera session was held.

14. REGISTRAR’S REPORT

As of May 12, 2015, APGO members totalled to 3,309 – 1,937 P.Geo.s; 53 Limited; 96 Non-practising; 298 GITs; 925 students.

Suspensions pending now 75

Enforcement and compliance active files are at 293

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

32 registered, 31 wrote the PPE exam in April 2015.

Gave student presentation to PDAC S-IMEW at College Boreal, Sudbury on May 2nd.

15. TREASURER'S REPORT

Tony Lotimer reviewed the April Financial Statements. There were no questions.

He then reviewed the Draft 2014 Audited Statements and a discussion of the Strategic Initiatives Fund followed.

Motion 105 – 7: Milan Situm moved to accept that the \$91,000 excess be applied to the Contingency Reserve Fund. Seconded by Don Johnston. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 105 – 8: Tony Lotimer moved to accept and approve the draft financial statements as presented. Seconded by Mark Priddle. All in favour. Motion approved.

16. JULY 2015 COUNCIL MEETING

There is no Council meeting scheduled for July but Council considered holding a short (one hour) meeting via telephone for the benefit of new Councillors and to take action on any significant issues that may arise.

Action 105 – 5: Gord White and Mark Priddle to arrange for a short telephone Council meeting to be held towards the end of July.

17. IAH CONFERENCE IN WATERLOO – OCTOBER 27-30

Council was asked to consider whether APGO should have a presence – possibly via a booth or sponsorship. Many participants come from outside of Ontario. It was thought that all booths might already have been taken. It would be good exposure for our members to the international community in the environmental field.

Action 105 – 6: IAH Conference – October 27-30. Tony Lotimer will find out if booths are available and get back to Gord White. Marilen Miguel will get in touch with IAH via the website to ascertain various sponsorship opportunities and get back to Gord White.

18. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Ben Berger, North East

Attended MNDM Mining Development Strategy Workshop in Sudbury March 18. Reviewed Ontario's mining strategy; where Ontario should be going with its mineral policy; situation of staff and skilled workers in the years ahead. Approx. 12 attended. First Nations involved.

Attended March 30-31 Kirkland Lake Symposium. Well attended with over 200. Had the opportunity to talk to the Timmins people and set up a networking event through the Porcupine Prospectors & Developers Association.

May 5 – Leading a couple of student workshops – PDAC specific – will include field trips and course work.

The guest speaker arrived and Councillors' Reports will continue later.

19. SOFT COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Guest speaker Marjorie Friesen gave a presentation on the importance and effectiveness of Soft Communication Skills (Small Talk) in the workplace. She also covered the importance of non-verbal communication (body language, facial expressions). She stressed that such skills are the first step in establishing and forwarding good relationships.

18. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS CONTINUED

Dave Hunt, North West

The Thunder Bay Regional event already covered. Was told by a Lakehead University Professor that, for the first time, several students will graduate without any summer work experience, which is very worrying, as it is hard to get started without practical field experience. Industry summer work has dropped off, which will affect our industry. The only summer work available appears to be through the Government. He noted that Australian companies make great efforts to keep their staff on through the hard times.

Doug Cater, South West

Will attend MNDM Advisory Committee meeting June 4. Has reviewed previous Minutes and looks forward to representing APGO. Attended Kirkland Lake Symposium – strong local representation. On May 26-28 will participate in Timmins Mining Trade Show representing APGO.

Peter Diorio, Central Ontario

April 9 networking event went very well – over 100 registered. James Saedar, SRK, gave an excellent presentation.

Zen Keizars, South East

Hopes to organize a meeting with other local professionals group. Assisted Stephen Benetto in organizing “Diamonds in Ontario”.

Tony Lotimer, Councillor-at-Large

Nothing to report.

Milan Situm, Councillor-at-Large

Nothing to report.

Bob Morrison, Councillor-at-Large

Really enjoyed the article on Professionalism in Field Notes. Recently read a lot about the Ontario Mining Industry/CBC report. Was disappointed about the lack of engagement from MNDM. An attitude problem? Can APGO be more engaging? Recently the First Minister paid a visit to the office of a small mining company in Ireland – the government here is very enthusiastic about mining. Dave Hunt responded that government here takes the mining industry for granted and assumes it will just keep on going. They still repeat figures and projections from past years and ignore present difficulties. Now that APGO has a seat on the Advisory Committee maybe we can do more. Ben Berger, who worked for the government for many years, believes their opinion is that mining is a sunset industry.

20. CHECK-IN FOR COMMENTS ON TODAY'S MEETING

The Chair asked if anyone had questions about any matter discussed during the meeting. Dorene Weston asked for confirmation that the entire surplus funds went into the Contingency Fund. This was confirmed. Gord White asked for any comments on the guest speaker – would the topic be useful for members? It was generally felt the topic might be useful but that there may be a 15 minute presentation; many sources offer

similar topics; presentations are always good for us/we always learn something; there may be a more dynamic way of delivering the message; importance of soft skills can be a difficult concept for new Canadians.

21. IN CAMERA

A brief In Camera session followed.

22. NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL:

Thursday, June 11, 2015 at Fasken Martineau.

23. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Motion 105 - 9: Milan Situm moved that the 104th meeting of Council be adjourned. Seconded by Zen Keizars. All in favour. Motion carried.

President

Secretary

SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

MOTIONS

Motion 105-1: Peter Diorio moved to have the Agenda approved as amended. Seconded by Ben Berger. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 105-2 Brad Leonard moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Mark Priddle. All in favour. Motion carried.

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