



Minutes of the 109th Meeting of Council of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 222 Bay Street, 17th Floor, Toronto

Present:

Mark Priddle, President
Tony Lotimer, Vice President
David Hunt, Past President
Ben Berger
Doug Cater
Brad Leonard
Peter Diorio, Treasurer
Dorene Weston
John Gartner
Rusty Juma
Robert Linnen
David Leng
Christine Vaillancourt
Rob Gordon
Don Johnston
Shelly Cuddy

Bob Morrison

Regrets:

Visha Sukdeo
Zen Keizars

By Invitation:

Andrew Boddington & Megan Archer, Policy
Concepts
Ian Macdonald
John McBride
Bill Pearson
Gord White, Executive Director
Aftab Khan, Registrar
Avril Hylands, Recording secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None was identified.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He advised that Andrew Cheattle resigned from his position as APGO representative to Geoscientists Canada (GC) due to business commitments. The Chair was nominated to fill the position and he had accepted and attended his first meeting of GC last week.

4. MEETING AGENDA

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

An item was added to Other Business.

Motion 109 - 1: David Hunt moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Seconded by Peter Diorio.

5. ATTENDANCE REPORT

Council attendance was noted.

6. MINUTES OF THE JULY 23, 2015 MEETING

The Executive Committee suggested Council Minutes be more concise and Council agreed. Minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting were reviewed and amendments made.

Motion 109 - 2: David Leng moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Rob Gordon. All in favour. Motion carried.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action 104 - 1: Tony Lotimer, referencing object #3, ("Holding lectures, presentations and conferences on geoscience to enhance the knowledge of the general public.") said the APGO Education 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 geoscience 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. GW spoke with Bill Pearson, who is not able to address the issue until September. Ongoing. Bill Pearson recently retired from his business - will get back to GW in the Fall.

Will be reported today and completed.

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

Rob advised no decision had yet been made. No change.

Discussions held; bookkeeping has been set up; completed.

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

Will be reported today and completed.

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

This will be completed over the summer. DH and GW will work on this in August. DH has prepared some material and given to GW, who will review this month and get back to Council at next meeting.

Will be reported today and completed.

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. Doug has sent emails to them encouraging their participation and will contact them again after today's discussion to let them know what opportunities might be available. Ongoing. **Completed.**

Action 107 - 2: Appointment of North West Regional Councillor. David Hunt will provide a list of NW region members to Mark Priddle who will contact them to ascertain their interest in joining

Minutes of the 109th Meeting of Council of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario Council. He will work with Mark to follow up. Gord White will provide a list of NW members for Council to contact to ascertain their interest in taking up this appointment. Dave Hunt has highlighted some names who may be interested. Will be discussed today.
Will be discussed today and completed.

Action 107 - 3: Possibility of adding a Search tab (by Specialty and/or Geographic area) to the website. Gord White to check cost and report back. Ongoing.
Will be discussed today and completed.

Action Item 108 - 1: NW Regional Councillor Search - have a provisional list of members who may be interested at the November Council Meeting. MP, DH - All Councillors.
Will be discussed today and completed.

Action Item 108 - 2: APGO/APEGBC Bi-Lateral Agreement - Before the 2018 full review of the Agreement, GW to explore ways of tracking P.Geo's making use of it. GW
Will be addressed prior to 2018 renewal; The Agreement will be added to APGO web site. Completed

Action Item 108 - 3: Registrar to prepare a chart showing numbers of members requesting change of designation to Non-practicing and relief of dues, due to economic conditions. Report at November Council Meeting. AK
Will be discussed today and completed.

Action Item 108 - 4: Agenda for November 8, 2015 Council Meeting. Dorene Weston to review all Committee Chairs. GW
Will be discussed today and completed.

Action Item 108 - 5: APGO lapel pin - GW to look into possible design and cost - maybe include the Trillium - to be used for handing out at Regional Meetings, training sessions, the AGM, etc. GW
Will be discussed today.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council reviewed the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of October 14, 2015.

Motion 109 - 3: David Hunt moved to receive the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2015. Seconded by Dorene Weston. All in favour. Motion carried.

9. STRATEGIC PLAN

Gord White briefly reviewed the most recent updates, including the Mentoring Program and Regional Meetings all of which are going well. Other areas moving forward include Registration Regulations, gender diversity and governance training.

10. ISSUES

(a) Education Foundation

Bill Pearson reviewed the Foundation's Mission Statement - which is to provide scholarships for post-secondary students; bursaries to recent immigrants; and promote a broader public understanding of geoscience. Aim is to award 2 scholarships and 2 bursaries at 2016 AGM. Website launched along with other social media. Admin costs will be kept to minimum. Re: educating the public - a website domain has been reserved, a test video produced with Laurentian and a business plan is being prepared.

A variety of ways APGO can help promote the EF were suggested - Regional Meeting presentations; Bill will prepare an article for Field Notes and will work through Bob Linnen to disseminate information to Universities.

(b) Registration Regulations Update & Policy Concepts

Ian Macdonald reported that the amendments had been close to finalization but it had been discovered that Fees, which are currently covered in By-laws, should have been included in Registration. This will set completion back to Spring 2016. The task force will stay focused on the intent of the changes. Dorene Weston will follow up on changes that will be required to By-laws 2 and 3. When the final changes are posted for the mandatory 45-day period, Council were encouraged to send in positive comments. Megan Archer had spoken to the new Chief of Staff, who confirmed the Ministry too is keen to finalize. She added that it will not be easy to add the P.Geo.(Academic) category at a later date.

Megan gave a brief review of the new Federal Liberal Ministers and said that the Mandate Letters will show more detail of each Ministry's focus and will be made public for the first time.

(c) NW Regional Councillor Search

David Hunt introduced John McBride who volunteered to become NW Regional Councillor. John gave a brief description of his background and experience. After a conversation with Council, John left the meeting. The Chair noted that Council has the ability to appoint a Councillor for one year.

Motion 109 - 4: Tony Lotimer moved that John McBride, P.Geo. be appointed North West Regional Councillor. Seconded by Peter Diorio. 16 in favour. 1 abstention. Motion carried.

Gord will contact John to complete the formal process.

(d) Merit Award

David Hunt updated Council on the intent, criteria and timing of this new Award.

Nomination forms will be distributed in January 2016. He will prepare a Field Notes article for January 2016. It will be made clear that the award can be made to a P.Geo. in any field i.e. industry, academic or government.

11. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA

Mark Priddle (Chair & President) now represents APGO at GC and he attended their recent meeting. He reported a good atmosphere. Some topics discussed included geoscience definition; admission support tools (Phase II); certification mark; diversity; managing transitions in the workplace - a well thought-out document from Engineers Canada that GC agreed to endorse; succession; challenge of opening up the Act to cover all professional associations; climate change; APGO's Education Fund. He will be attending the Canadian Science Policy Conference later this month.

12. P.GEO. (ACADEMIC)

The issue is to find a way Professors can join as P.Geos. while teaching courses at Universities. The Working Group (David Hunt, Mark Priddle, Robert Linnen, Greg Finn, Fred Michel) met with Ian Macdonald to consider implications of the new Regulations. Ian Macdonald explained the background and barriers. Discussion came down to the question "Does APGO want to impede the registration regulation in progress?" - unequivocal answer was "no".

Motion 109 - 5: Dorene Weston moved to proceed with the Registration legislation changes as they are. Seconded by David Leng. 16 in favour. 1 abstained. Motion carried.

It was recommended that the dialogue continue and the task force continue its work. Registration Committee might consider holding parallel meetings with students and faculty, and particularly to encourage younger professors to consider joining APGO. The Registrar will continue to pursue professors who are consulting on the side.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee: Dorene Weston confirmed they are reviewing the Governance manual to render it more understandable. Also working on the Skills Inventory and will bring update in January 2016.

Gord White brought up the topic of dissent in meetings and the importance of voicing different points of view. He played a short video which addressed this and showed how differing views resulted in a positive result.

14. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Aftab Khan reported the following:

Registration Update: Full Practicing 1996; Temp. 2; Limited 56; Non-practicing 94; GIT 324; Students 567; Total at 3037.

Membership Statistics: At Council's request, statistics showing members' requests for change of designation and dues relief were reviewed over the past three years and the trend noted. He will bring an updated graph when 2015 numbers are final - March 2016.
He also showed Practicing Member charts by age group and gender, as well as GIT members - which showed the change in gender diversity.

Applications Received by Month: Total received to November 10; Practicing 9; GIT 11; Temporary 0;

Certificate of Authorization: 189

PPE and Technical Exams: Oct. PPE 19 registered; 18 wrote; 15 passed. All went well with this, the first on-line exam.

Appeals Update: One appeal filed and accepted.

Complaints & Discipline: C114 - heard. C115 - second review panel being constituted.

Enforcement & Compliance: 137 active files.

- Attended annual Geoscientists Canada board meeting in Toronto
- Attended Canadian National Association of Regulators' meetings Nov. 3-4 in Vancouver.

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental: Tony Lotimer reported the new Chair is Ron Ormson.

Complaints: Doug Cater agreed to become new Chair. Endorsed by Council.

Professional Practice: Committee reviewed the GIT background paper produced by the OGQ.

16. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Business environment about the same as in September. Re Aftab's statistics - APGO may see the number of members leaving increasing as there is not a lot of optimism in the profession, especially the younger ones. The issue of water modeling, the permit to take water in Wellington County and the granting of permits is closely monitored by the Province.

17. TREASURER'S REPORT & PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET

Peter Diorio reviewed the Balance Sheet and financial statements for October.

He then presented the proposed 2016 Budget, which had been reviewed by the Executive Committee and by the Finance Committee. Revenue and expenses were reviewed in some detail.

Action Item 109 - 1: 2016 Audit Fees - GW to check 2016 Audit Fees with current Auditors and obtain a competitor quote. Report findings to Peter Diorio and President. GW

Motion 109 - 6: Peter Diorio moved to accept the proposed 2016 Budget. Seconded by Tony Lotimer. All in favour. Motion carried.

The question of the value of GC to APGO was raised and whether the new Federal Government had an interest in pursuing a National Regulatory Body for professional associations. The following was decided:

Action Item 109 - 2: Re value of GC to APGO. Put on Agenda for January 2016 meeting. Advise Ollie Bonham APGO is considering forming a Task Force to determine GC's value and invite him to phone in to the January 2016 meeting to share his thoughts with Council. GW

18. REGIONAL COUNCILLORS' AND COUNCILLORS AT LARGE REPORTS

en Berger, North East: Almost no early stage exploration. Jobs few and far between. Talked to about 20 students with Aftab on Sept. 23 - very encouraging. Networking event on Nov. 5 attracted approx. 35. Good feedback. Thanks to Gord and Marilen for contributing to its success. Brad Leonard reported that there had been 2 meetings recently of the Minister's Mining Advisory Committee - main topics, on-line staking and mineral resource development strategy. Structure of meetings was clarified.

David Hunt, North West: Almost no early stage exploration. Rubicon in Red Lake recently halted mining operations. Met with approx. 12 students with Renee last week at Lakehead U. APGO will need to appoint a new delegate on OPA's Board as he is retiring at the 2016 AGM.

Doug Cater, South West: Ian Macdonald, David Leng and Gord White spoke to students at Waterloo U - very well attended. Social mixer held Nov. 2 at Western - thanks to Bob Linnen and David Leng for attending. Rob Carpenter was a really good speaker on the thought process that went into the discovery of Yukon Gold. 35 attended - very well done. Regional Meeting Nov. 25 at University of Waterloo.

Peter Diorio, Central: Downtown UofT meeting held Sept. 16 - 40 attended; UofT Scarborough held Oct. 21 - 20 attended.

Christine Vaillancourt, CaL: Met a group of Geochemists at Ottawa U with Zen. Very interesting - good questions. Zen presented at Carleton to 10 students - also very interesting. Mark & Christine Vaillancourt at U of Ottawa to 50 students.

Minutes of the 109th Meeting of Council of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Shelly Cuddy, CaL: International Assoc. Of Hydrogeologists Conference attracted a good number of students. Good promotion by Career Networking Group. Also a session on Mentoring.

David Leng, CaL: Next Wednesday presenting to a Collegiate in Brantford (Gr. 9-12) to those showing an interest in Science, technology, engineering and math. Intent is to talk about the industry. Bill Pearson suggested he touch base with Mining Matters personnel for material.

Bob Morrison, CaL: No report

19. OTHER BUSINESS

APGO Lapel Pin

Gord presented a suggested design and some suggestions were made for changes. It was agreed the pin would be made of silver.

Sponsorship of APGO

The Chair informed Council a complaint was received from a member that a member's company sponsoring APGO resulted in a biased decision. It was agreed the complaint was without merit. As a general principle, it was noted that if a question was asked of a member of Council by the press, they should be put in touch with Gord White.

On-line Directory of Geoscience Service Providers

Gord White presented this idea. It will be based on APEGBC's model which was shown to Council. It is a searchable directory; voluntary for members to be included; can be searched by business. Gord will keep Council advised of progress.

20. CHECK-IN ON TODAY'S MEETING

There were no requests for further clarification.

21. IN CAMERA

A short in camera session followed.

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion 109 - 7: Bob Linnen moved to adjourn the meeting at 3 p.m. Seconded by Rob Gordon. All in favour.



President

SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

MOTIONS

Motion 109 - 1: David Hunt moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Seconded by Peter Diorio. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 109 - 2: David Leng moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Rob Gordon. All in favour. Motion carried.

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ACTION ITEMS

Action Item 108 - 5: APGO lapel pin - GW to look into possible design and cost - maybe include the Trillium - to be used for handing out at Regional Meetings, training sessions, the AGM, etc. GW Example design shown - discussion and suggestions made for further design. Agreed on silver.

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