



Minutes of the 111th Meeting of Council of the
Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Thursday, March 10th, 2016 at 333 Bay Street, 24^h Floor, Toronto

Present:

Mark Priddle, President
Tony Lotimer, Vice President
David Hunt, Past President
Peter Diorio, Treasurer
Ben Berger
Doug Cater
Shelly Cuddy
John Gartner
Rob Gordon
Don Johnston
Zen Keizars
Brad Leonard
David Leng
Bob Linnen
John McBride
Bob Morrison
Visha Sukdeo

Christine Vaillancourt
Dorene Weston

Regrets:

Rusty Juma

By Invitation:

Hendrik Falk, Incoming President, Geoscientists Canada
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 a.m.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None was identified.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked everyone for attending, including a special guest – Hendrik Faulk from Nunavut, the incoming President of Geoscientists Canada (GC) and GC's representative for NAPEG. He is the district geologist based in Yellowknife. The Chair attended the 2016 PDAC and met many attendees both at the APGO booth and at the Conference itself. He thanked Council members for their engagement in responding to his recent emails requesting comments on different topics. Council was asked to look at helping to support/protect its members by looking at an equivalent of OSPE, the Engineers' lobby group, but APGO's view is that this is a bit out of its realm. Outlook for the mineral sector appears to be slightly more optimistic and we hope this continues.

4. MEETING AGENDA

The Chair asked Council to review the proposed Agenda and indicate any changes or additions. It was noted that John McBride's name should be inserted as NW Regional Councillor.

Motion 111 - 1: Dave Hunt moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Seconded by Brad Leonard. All in favour. Motion carried.

5. ATTENDANCE REPORT

Council attendance was noted.

6. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14, 2016 MEETING

Minutes of the January 14, 2016 meeting were reviewed and amendments made.

Motion 111 - 2: Tony Lotimer moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by Ben Berger. All in favour. Motion carried.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action Item 110 – 1: Strategic Plan: Review and Update the 2014 Implementation schedule to clearly tie the Activities into the Outcomes. GW, MP. A few adjustments made – will review at this meeting.

Action Item 110 - 2: At the May 2016 Council Meeting, include an item on the Agenda to assess the current Strategic Plan and suggest topics to be included in the new one. GW

Action Item 110 - 3: FGC and CPG Awards. Members of Council should submit further names to Mark Priddle or Gord White as soon as possible. Completed.

Action Item 110 – 4: re National Guideline for GIT Programs – Council was asked to send any further specific comments to Mark Priddle within the next week. Some comments received. Completed

Action Item 110 – 5: Discipline of a member in another jurisdiction. Council asked Aftab Khan to look into the Regulations and ascertain any impact this may have on what APGO can do. Aftab said it would require a complaint from someone in Ontario and then it would be forwarded to the Discipline Committee. AK. Completed.

Action Item 110 – 6: Board Skills Composition Analysis – Each member of Council to complete the form and return it to Gord White prior to the March 10 Council Meeting. All members of Council. Completed.

Action Item 110 – 7: re Certification Marks – GW to have lawyer look at and approve the proposed Geoscientists Canada (GC) document with the addition of the word 'irrevocable' to 'licence' i.e. 'irrevocable licence'. He will also ask GC if they are willing to include the same change. Gord will report to the Executive Committee next month and, if both GC and our lawyer are in agreement, the Executive Committee can approve GC's request to move forward with trade marking. GW. Completed.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council reviewed draft Minutes of the February 10, 2016 Executive Committee meeting.

9. STRATEGIC PLAN

Gord White highlighted the recent actions/updates. The Timelines and Outcomes sections were further explained. For further clarity/ease of understanding it was suggested that dates other than start dates be included.

Action Item 111 – 1: re Strategic Plan. Rob Gordon and Christine Vaillancourt will draft a template to better explain Timelines and Outcomes. They will include start and completion dates to tie in with Outcomes. They will send their suggestions to Gord White. RG, CV.

10. ISSUES

(a) Award of Merit

Terms of Reference were revised to include Nominees who meet the 10-year criteria but who are now retired or lifetime members.

(b) Geoscientists Canada

AGI Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct:

Hendrik Falk informed Council that GC has been trying to get a standard Code of Ethics document produced for use across Canada and believes this AGI document to be of considerable interest for discussion purposes.

Action Item 111 - 2: re AGI Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct, Board Diversity. Gord White to send to Council with a request they get back to Mark Priddle with comments/suggestions for how this might be used/adapted for producing a standard Code of Ethics across Canada. GW.

Geoscience Licence Definition:

Action Item 111 – 3: re Geoscience Licence Definition: Mark Priddle will send to Council various definitions for review and comment with a view to gaining clarity for all CA's to abide by. MP

Board Diversity:

All CA's are working towards diversity to reflect current population. It was noted that the large numbers of females in geoscience programs now means that their representation at Council level will naturally occur – if they remain in the profession.

(c) Council Governance Policies:

Dorene Weston reviewed the revised Council Policy Manual, which had been sent to Council. She explained that its purpose is to guide APGO's work. She briefly highlighted Council's Mission/Purpose, its Priorities (as per the current Strategic Plan and which will change when the 2016 Plan is established), its Limitations (focus is on what APGO can do rather than what it cannot). The importance of all members of Council to understand this new document was stressed and the process for its approval was discussed.

Action Item 111 – 4: re: Council Policy Manual. (1) the Governance Committee will prepare some ‘reflection’ questions and send to Council to assist their understanding when reading the document. Members undertook to read the document prior to the May meeting. (2) Gord White will invite Caroline, APGO’s facilitator, to attend the May meeting for about an hour to assist in answering questions and comments. (3) When finalized, Gord White will include this document in the Orientation Package for new members of Council. DW, GW.

(d) Certificate of Authorization for Provincial Ministries:

APGO received a legal opinion on the question of whether or not Provincial Ministries should be required to hold Cs of A, which concluded that the answer is not entirely clear. Council requested the definition of a C of A and how it is intended to be used. Aftab Khan explained they are for companies who practice using geoscientists and generally the holders are the P.Geo.’s. The C of A includes 3 basic documents - Certificate of Incorporation, Professional Liability Insurance and a list of the Practitioners. According to APGO’s legislation, any company which uses anyone using a different name from that company and which uses several practitioners, requires a C of A. A sole practitioner using their own name does not require one. An in-depth discussion followed – including that Cs of A are held by individuals not entities and responsibility always comes back to the individual who signed the report on behalf of the organization. Upon reflection, the following was agreed:

Action Item 111 – 5: Certificates of Authorization for Provincial Ministries. Council to be ready to reach a decision at the May meeting on whether APGO should pursue the necessity for any Provincial Ministry or its employees providing professional services to the public to be in possession of a Certificate of Authorization and that all government employees who practice geoscience be registered. GW & Council.

(e) APGO Council Election:

There are 5 elected positions open – NE, NW, Central and 2 Councillors at Large. There are 2 non-member positions open and 2 Lt. Governor Appointments. Several members indicated they will run again. One member declared an intent to run for Vice President (which would become an elected position if there is more than one candidate). Also the position of Treasurer will need to be filled.

Action Item 111 – 6: re Council Elections: Gord White will forward to Council the Skill Sets matrix for Boards. He will also prepare a note for the website encouraging employers to allow their employees to run for Council.

The election timeline was reviewed. Council was reminded that nominations require 10 signatures. The question of reducing this number was raised and after discussion the following was agreed.

Motion 111 – 3: Tony Lotimer moved that the number of practicing, temporary or limited seconders required on Nomination Forms (By-laws 7 & 8, Item 20) be changed from 10 to 5. Changes to By-laws 7 and 8 to be approved at the 2016 AGM. Seconded by David Hunt. All in favour. Motion carried.

Action Item 111 – 7: By-laws 7 & 8 – Governance Committee will make changes to the relevant sections of these by-laws to change the number of practicing, temporary or limited seconders on the Nomination Form from 10 to 5 and bring to the May Council meeting for approval. DW

11. OGQ QUESTION

APGO recently received a request from OGQ for its opinion on the practice rights of a university professor in a contest situation to give advice and recommendations on exploration efforts at a junior mining company's property in Quebec. It was agreed that the judge of the contest has to be a registered P.Geo but that anyone can put forward a model. A Canadian professor who is not a P.Geo does not have the right to practice in any jurisdiction. Gord White will respond to Alain Liard and include these comments.

12. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Aftab Khan reported the following:

Registration Update to March 4, 2016: Full Practicing 1995; Limited 57; Non-practicing 112; GIT 342; Students 644; Total 3150.

Other Stats: 30 Resigned in 2016; 10 Retired (lifetime); 21 changed to Non-Practicing; 50 Dues Relief. Suspension letters sent to 250 – anticipate 80 or 90 actual suspensions. Last Year 76 out of 212 were actually suspended.

Applications Received by Month: 11 new applications in February.

Certificates of Authorization: 188

PPE and Technical Exams: January - 22 Registered, 21 wrote and 16 passed; March 35 Registered. Tech: May APEGA 9 registered; July APEGA 1.

Appeals Update: None

Complaints & Discipline: C115 – request for second review – reply will be sent by end March. 3 complaints received in January.

Enforcement & Compliance: 137 active files at December 2015. (205 files closed in 2015 and 9 closed in 2016). 196 files added in 2016 for a total active of 325.

- Attended Internationally Educated Professionals Conference (IEP) as a panelist on February 26.
- OFC Annual Report filed March 1.

Dorene Weston noted that the Immigrant Access Fund can provide financial assistance to internationally trained professionals who may require extra money e.g. for registration fees. She will send details to Aftab as it may be helpful in a dues relief situation.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Professional Practice Committee held a teleconference meeting in early March. It is giving consideration to preparing a guideline for peer reviews. They had a good discussion and report to Council if the Committee believes it to be a good initiative to pursue. They are looking again at the concept of the Qualified Practitioner.

The Discipline Committee held a teleconference meeting in February. They are considering holding a training program again in conjunction with the AGM and want to gauge Council's interest in pursuing.

Audit Committee: Auditors are preparing their draft report.

Education Fund (EF) Liaison Committee: David Leng and Zen Keizars went to the Foundation office recently for an update and to see how APGO could become involved. The EF announced the launch of its scholarship and bursaries at PDAC. They saw the videos – David will provide a link which gives a description of the Fund and what potential involvement there could be between them and APGO – whether through mentoring or educating the public at large about geoscience. They have videos on geoscience and hydrology – David and Zen have offered to help prepare a geochemistry video. The intent is to provide an overview of various disciplines.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Christine Vaillancourt outlined a complicated situation that has occurred in Quebec. A prospector brought a proposal for mining a specific commodity to the CEO of a company in Quebec. The CEO is a well-known expert on this commodity and knew the location of the property involved. He rendered his decision as a professional geoscientist and included the fact that he knew the location but had not visited it and that his decision was based on what he had read and learned over the years. He concluded there was not a large potential for the commodity nor was there an economic deposit. The prospector had told the Municipality that there would soon be a mine and the Mayor was up in arms. The CEO sent a copy of his report to the Mayor. The prospector is suing the CEO. OGQ will not do anything to support the P.Geo. APGO's position would be to stay out of it once it becomes a court matter. The most that could be done would be to confirm that this person is (or is not) registered as a P.Geo. in Ontario. Another reason OGQ may stay out is if the CEO has insurance – which is highly likely. Most regulators see themselves more as protecting the public. If the prospector complained to OGQ, they would do nothing until the court case was resolved.

Doug Cater had several conversations during PDAC about the Rubicon situation and the professional in B.C. who was disciplined for his part. They seemed to be surprised that the larger company which was also involved, had not been mentioned as being partly responsible for letting the sub-standard report go through.

David Hunt noted that he too had run into a lot of comment about that. He also added:

- Five nominees so far received for the Award of Merit.
- Ten registered for the Drone Workshop in Thunder Bay.
- Junior Exploration Assistance Program - \$5m to be made available by the Northern Ontario Heritage Foundation to support small companies in early stage exploration. Rebates up to 30% per \$100k spent on the project. Being administered by the OPA. Wally Rayner and he are the two administrators of the Program. Qualifying companies can be either private or public with a market capitalization of less than \$5m.

Mark Priddle- commented on the Permit to Take Water program. A new streamlined the process could be rolled out later this year. Some comment that approval can be obtained on-line by 'registration'. Tony Lotimer explained that it is a self-registration process rather than by Permit. Any change to a process like this first has to be posted on the EBR and that has not yet occurred.

Shelly Cuddy attended a Conservation Authority (CA) a forum where geoscientists and CA's get together. There was good representation from MOECC and MNRF. There was an update on current regulatory changes and other topics that the Environmental Subcommittee is looking at. Also changes to the building code

and some landfill mapping going on – some vulnerability of mapping from the 80's looking at landfill sites for hazardous waste.

Other topics – again qualifications with P.Eng.'s undertaking geoscience work and persons with qualifications that the Environmental Subcommittee is also looking at.

Tony Lotimer noted it was recently in the media that Toronto may be considering sending its garbage to Ingersoll.

David Leng added that the proposed radioactive waste repository in Kincardine is getting opposition from over 150 towns and municipalities. The level of rhetoric is worrying and there is an article claiming that geologists are downplaying the risk of radioactivity.

Ben Berger added that the long term proposal for Ignace is being met with enthusiasm by both the Municipality and the public as they see the opportunity for job creation. One of the reasons for the good reception may be that a great job of communication and consultation at all levels were being undertaken by Nuclear Waste Management Organization, particularly with First Nations.

15. TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Diorio advised that the Audit Committee must sign off on the Audit before the May Council Meeting.

He then briefly reviewed the balance sheet, revenue and expenses.

16. REGIONAL COUNCILLORS' AND COUNCILLORS AT LARGE REPORTS

Ben Berger, North East: Sudbury is quiet.

John McBride, North West: At the PDAC conference yesterday, a special award was made to the Bjorkman Family. We will have the Drones talk before the Symposium as David Hunt mentioned. Registration is open.

Dug Cater, South West: Nothing to report.

Peter Diorio, Central: Rob Gordon has found a speaker for our regional event to take place late April or early May.

Zen Keizars, South East; Last month, APGO held its annual regional meeting in Peterborough. A sequel to the annual meeting will be held at the end of April in Ottawa. Still looking for a speaker.

Christine Vaillancourt, CaL: Nothing to report.

Shelly Cuddy, CaL: The GSC and OGS is hosting its annual regional workshop today. Program is similar to last year – groundwater modelling etc. Expected to be widely attended.

David Leng, CaL: Fairly quiet. Recently gave a presentation to a local Mineral Society composed of members of the lay public who have a fairly strong interest not only in minerals but also in business. About 40 attended. Interesting questions about fracking and regional-flavoured topics.

Bob Morrison, CaL: No report.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

- Christine Vaillancourt recently learned that the Engineers' Association does not allow members from Ontario to write their Ethics Exam in French. APGO allows either language, of course, and should be congratulated for that.
- Hendrik Falck, as the GC representative from Nunavut and NWT brought greetings to APGO from its fellow professionals in the North. He would like to hear from anyone as to what concerns and issues APGO has and how it sees GC working on a national scale in the future; what would you like to see looked at going forward?

18. CHECK-IN ON TODAY'S MEETING

There were no questions or concerns. The Chair was commended for running a great meeting.

19. IN CAMERA

A short in camera session followed.

20. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion 111 - 4: David Leng moved to adjourn the meeting at 1 p.m. Seconded by Peter Diorio. All in favour.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2016.



President

SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

MOTIONS

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