



**Minutes of the 21st Annual General  
Meeting of Professional Geoscientists Ontario (PGO)  
June 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom Video Conferencing**

**1. INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING EXERCISES**

President of Professional Geoscientists Ontario, Melanie Siewert, P.Geo. (Limited), FGC, acting as Chair of the meeting, welcomed everyone to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM).

- She welcomed PGO registrants, Geoscientists-in-Training, Students, other members of the Geoscience Community and Guests.
- The Chair acknowledged the members of the PGO Executive Committee, Council Members, Chairs and members of Committees and Subcommittees, Past Presidents and Staff for their time and commitment without which the organization could not exist, as well as the small subset of these individuals who were actively participating in the meeting on this day.
- These individuals included:
  - Mary-Anne Hildebrandt- our Vice President and incoming President,
  - Paul Hubley - our Immediate Past President & Chair of the Professional Practice Committee
  - Imshun Je, Chair of our Diversity and Inclusion Committee
  - Claire Milloy, Regional Councillor for the South East Region and Chair of the Communications Working Group
  - David Leng, South West Regional Councillor
  - Paul Connor, Council Secretary and Chair of the Governance Committee,
  - Ana Misra- PGO Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee,
  - Eilidh Lewis, PGO Registrar, and
  - Tony Andrews, our CEO
- In the spirit of peace, friendship and respect, the Chair proceeded with PGO's Annual General Meeting, after acknowledging our location on the traditional territory of the Mississauga's of the New Credit First Nation and the traditional territories of the many indigenous groups on which professional geoscientists work and live.
- A special welcome was given to the Geoscientists-in-Training & student members who were participating in the meeting and were encouraged to be active participants in PGO as volunteers and committee members.
- A moment of silence was observed to honor the passing of former PGO registrants: John Buckle

(PGO Past President), Robert Rowland, Mark Higgins and Mark Foerster.

- MPP Anthony Leardi, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Mines offered a welcome address where he recognized the role PGO plays in safeguarding the public, as well as the importance of “Made in Ontario” minerals and how the Government of Ontario is supporting that mission.

## **2. BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **a) Call to Order**

- The Chair stated that according to By-law No.1A there must be an Annual General Meeting within 6 months of the end of the financial year. The notice of the Annual General Meeting must be given by the CEO to each Registrant of the PGO by mail, electronically, or through the PGO’s newsletter at least 10 days before the meeting.
- Tony Andrews, CEO confirmed that the notice was sent to all Registrants on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, by electronic means and through our e-newsletters, followed by subsequent reminders. He also informed that he would file a signed document with the Secretary of PGO noting this.
- The Chair reviewed the procedures and eligibility for voting on motions for this virtual AGM, which would require a vote for this virtual AGM.
- Lauren Atmore was appointed as the meeting Secretary, and Claire Milloy, Council Member and a P.Geo. in good standing was appointed as the Scrutineer for the meeting.

## **3. SAFETY AND DIVERSITY MOMENT**

### **a) Safety Moment by Mary-Anne Hildebrandt, P.Geo., FGC, Vice President**

The Minerals Industry Risk Management (MIRM) Maturity Chart shows us how to move from a vulnerable “accidents can happen” mindset to a prepared and resilient state of doing business.

### **b) Diversity Moment by Imshun Je, Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee**

Imshun encouraged members to seek out events and information that support and celebrate Indigenous and 2SLGBTQ communities.

## **4. ATTENDANCE/QUORUM – by Claire Milloy, Scrutineer**

- It was reported that a total 168 AGM participants were in attendance, 138 of whom were registered P.Geo.’s (Full Practicing, Limited, Temporary or Non-practicing P.Geo.’s), and therefore eligible to vote. Quorum was declared.
- 4 Proxy forms were submitted from Registrants in good standing, assigning Mary-Anne Hildebrandt with the right to vote on their behalf.

## **5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was reviewed. The Chair called for a motion to adopt the 21<sup>st</sup> AGM agenda as presented.

**Motion #1: David Leng moved that the agenda be accepted with amendment.  
Seconded by Paul Hubley.**

Lorne Burden brought business, asking “I would like to add to other business a discussion be had on the PGO, a professional regulator, as to why it is moving into advocacy and social commentary, which is not in its purview.” This amended the initial motion to accept the agenda as presented, which David moved and Paul seconded.

The motion was brought to a vote via Zoom poll platform and carried with no objections.

## **6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

The President requested that anyone who had a perceived conflict of interest in taking part in the agenda, to please declare this and take the initiative to kindly exit the virtual meeting.

**No conflict of interest was declared.**

**This item of business was declared closed.**

## **7. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM**

The Chair called for a motion to adopt the minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM of June 23, 2022. She informed that said minutes had been made available on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Motion #2: Robert Hearst moved that the Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting of June 23, 2023, be adopted as presented. Seconded by Imshun Je.**

**No discussions or questions.**

**The motion was brought to a vote via Zoom poll platform and carried with no objections.**

## **8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Chair declared that any business arising from the minutes, to which anyone wishes to bring before the meeting, would be deferred later under General Business.

## **9. ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chair introduced the Annual Report which provides a summary of the activities of PGO over the past 12 months. This was submitted to the Minister of Mines and was made available on the PGO Website at [www.pgo.ca](http://www.pgo.ca) on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2023. Registrants, GITs and student members were notified accordingly, to allow for review of the report prior to this meeting.

## **10. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

The Chair provided a summary of highlights for the 12 months preceding this AGM and directed participants to further details summarized in the 2022 Annual Report available on the PGO website.

## 11. AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Chair called upon Ana Misra, the Treasurer of PGO and Chair of the Finance Committee to give a brief overview of the audited, year-end financial statements for 2022. The audited financial statements, along with the Independent Auditor's Report were made available on the PGO website, as part of the Annual Report, on June 16th, 2023. The 2022 financial statements were audited by Bateman MacKay LLP and were approved by Council.

The Chair then called for a motion to accept the 2022 audited financial statements and auditor's report.

**Motion #3: Roger Woeller moved to approve the 2022 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's report. Seconded by Claire Milloy.**

**Lorne Burden asked why PGO exceeded the legal, professional and government relations expenses from the previous year, and Tony explained that we had a big complaint that was expensive to resolve.**

**Bill Stiebel asked if s should know the auditor's remuneration before voting, and Tony replied that it was \$11,000.**

**The motion was brought to a vote via Zoom poll platform and carried with no objections.**

The Chair called upon Ana Misra to report on the recommendation of Council for the appointment of the auditor for this year. Ana Misra recommended appointing Bateman MacKay LLP as the organization's auditor for the year end of December 31st, 2023.

**Motion #4: Mary-Anne Hildebrandt moved to appoint Bateman & Mackay LLP as PGO's auditors for 2023, at such remuneration as may be set by Council. Seconded by Imshun Je.**

**No discussions or questions.**

**The motion was brought to a vote via Zoom poll platform and carried with no objections.**

## 12. GENERAL BUSINESS

### **a) Business arising from the minutes and other business**

This portion of the meeting comprised a general question and answer period that provided the opportunity for Registrants and other members of the Geoscience community to ask any questions or to raise issues that they would like considered by the PGO Council in the coming year. The following topics were identified:

- PGO's climate change position and how it was agreed upon by Council.
- The role of PGO and regulators as political actors in the context of climate change.
- A breakdown of how many Registrants attended and their registration type.
- Why Registrants are no longer called Members.
- Clarification of interest, credit card and service charges in the audit breakdown.
- If and how long a disciplined Registrant would have their complaint posted online, despite

completion of the terms of the verdict and associated PGO legislation that directs that the discipline notice remains online indefinitely.

- The possibility of outlining the limits of a Limited Registrant's license on the PGO website.
- An inquiry about Registrant employment status statistics, which PGO doesn't currently collect.

Paul Connor, as Council Secretary, then encouraged participants who wish to have an influence on policies, budgets, By-laws, and activities of the PGO to get involved through volunteering. Participants were informed that if matters arise during the year, they are encouraged to contact PGO Staff or Volunteers on Council or Committees whose names they can find on the PGO website.

**Action Item #1: Council to review PGO's current climate change position statement published on the PGO website.**

**b) Presentation by Geoscientists Canada**

The Chair then recognized and welcomed Doug Bell, P.Geo., the new President of Geoscientists Canada, and invited him to provide a brief update on Geoscientists Canada's activities. This included welcoming Quebec's OGQ to the Geoscientists Canada board as a member, the development of Geoscience Canada competency-based online assessment tool, and the creation of the ethical tenets document Ethical Considerations in the Professional Practice of Geoscience. Doug encouraged registrants to take the Practical Geo-Communication course. He explained that Geoscience Canada is reviewing its strategic initiatives and appreciates the input given from members like PGO. Lastly, Doug acknowledged the PGO volunteers who continue to do great work supporting our projects.

### **13. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCILLORS**

The Chair recognized those who had served on PGO Council and whose terms had come to an end as of this AGM; namely:

- David Leng, P.Geo.
- South West Regional Councillor
- 2017 – 2020
- 2020 – 2023
- Councillor at Large
- 2015 – 2017

The chair also recognized those who had served on Council but due to various circumstances resigned their position:

- Siri Genik  
Non-registrant Public Appointee  
2021 – 2023
- Marco Simone  
Non-registrant Public Appointee  
2017 – 2022

The chair extended thanks to Marco and Siri for the generous commitment of their time and expertise on Council.

#### **14. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING PAST PRESIDENT**

A special recognition and appreciation were given to the outgoing Past President: Paul Hubley, P.Geo., FGC.

**Past President, 2022– 2023**

**President, 2022 – 2021**

**Vice President, 2021 – 2020**

**South East Regional Councillor, 2017 - 2020**

Over the years, he had served as:

- Chair of Past Presidents Advisory Committee (2023)
- Chair of 2023 PGO Awards Panel
- Chair of Professional Practice Committee
- Inaugural Chair of PGO Virtual Symposium (2020)
- Chair of Risk Management Working Group
- Member of Communications Working Group
- Member of Sustainability and Climate Change Committee
- Member of Nominations Committee

Paul offered a few words highlighting his experiences on PGO Council and appreciation for PGO staff, fellow Council members and wider geoscience community.

#### **15. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS & APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL**

##### Appointment

##### **Lieutenant Governor in Council Registrant Appointee**

Roger Woeller, P. Geo., FGC (term extended to May 2026)

##### **Non-registrant Public Appointees (3 positions)**

1. Cerise Latibeaudiere, J.D. (2023 – 2026)
2. Ana Misra, C.P.A. (2023 – 2026)
3. Kelly Bolduc O'Hare (2023 – 2026)

##### Election

##### **South East Regional Councillor - Acclaimed**

Michel Kearney, P.Geo. (2023 -2026)

##### **South West Regional Councillor**

No nomination was received for the South West Regional Councillor position. As such Council may make an appointment for this position and seek a recommendation of the Nominations Committee

having given due consideration to the composition of Council as required by the Act, Regulations and By-laws and to the geographical distribution and field(s) of practice of the nominee(s).

## **16. INDUCTION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT**

Melanie Siewert, P.Geo. (Limited), FGC, introduced Mary-Anne Hildebrandt, P.Geo., FGC, as the new President of the PGO Council. The newly inducted President gave her acceptance speech.

## **17. OTHER BUSINESS TO THE BENEFIT OF PGO**

None to report.

## **18. CALL OF ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment to the official business part of the meeting was called by Mary-Anne Hildebrandt.

**Motion #5: Melanie Siewert moved that this Annual General Meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned.**

## **19. CLOSING REMARKS**

Mary-Anne Hildebrandt thanked all participants and invited them to remain a little longer for the recognition of this year's PGO Award of Merit Recipient and the recipients of this year's Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Designation to be presented by Paul Hubley.

## **20. AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Paul Hubley hosted the Awards Ceremony. He acknowledged the work of the Awards Panel in selecting the worthy recipient of the 2023 PGO Award of Merit. This award is presented annually to an individual registrant who, during the course of their career, has made significant contributions to public service and public protection

- The PGO Merit Award
  - Andrea Waldie, P.Geo., FGC

Andrea congratulated her fellow nominees and expressed her surprise at receiving the award. She noted her appreciation for being considered, and thanked the PGO volunteers who keep this form of recognition going. She thanked her nominators, her mentors and peer supporters, and her husband, Craig. She wanted to impart that to turn around low enrollment in geoscience degree programs, we need to improve geoscience communication starting with the Practical Geo-Communication course.

Paul Hubley announced the recipients of the 2023 Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Designation. This fellowship is administered by Geoscientists Canada to honour individuals who have given noteworthy service to the geoscience profession

- The Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada:
  - Michael Robert Fairbanks, P.Geo.
  - Richard Edward Gerber, P.Geo.
  - Beata Zielinska Golas, P.Geo.
  - Peter Andrew Gray, P.Geo.
  - Eric William Hodgins, P.Geo.
  - Roger Thomas James Phillips, P.Geo.
  - Melanie Siewert, P.Geo., (Limited)
  - Roger Michael Woeller, P.Geo.

## 21. ENDING

Mary-Anne Hildebrandt, P.Geo., FGC, the new President of PGO, provided a closing statement and thanks to participants.

### SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS

**Motion #1:** David Leng moved that the agenda be accepted with one amendment. Seconded by Paul Hubley. Carried.

**Motion #2:** Robert Hearst moved that the Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting of June 23, 2022, be adopted as presented. Seconded by Imshun Je. Carried.

**Motion #3:** Roger Woeller moved to approve the 2022 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's report. Seconded by Claire Milloy. Carried.

**Motion #4:** Mary-Anne Hildebrandt moved to appoint Bateman & Mackay LLP as PGO's auditors for 2023, at such remuneration as may be set by Council. Seconded by Imshun Je. Carried.

**Motion #5:** Melanie Siewert moved that this Annual General Meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned.

### SUMMARY LIST OF ACTION ITEMS

**Action Item #1:** Council to review PGO's current climate change position statement published on the PGO website.