

Minutes of the 123rd Meeting of the
Council of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 333 Bay Street, 24th Floor, Toronto

Present:

Christine Vaillancourt, President
Tony Lotimer, Past President
Zen Keizars, Vice-President
Bronwyn Azar
Francoise Campbell
Susan Carlyle
Wayne Caston
Paul Connor
David Leng
John McBride
Marco Simone
David Good
Tafa Gomwe

Via Teleconference:

Paul Hubley
Don Johnston
Nicole Januszczak
Brad Leonard
Renee-Luce Simard

Absent:

Shelly Cuddy

By Invitation:

Louis Kan, CEO
Aftab Khan, Registrar
Dennis Waddington
Richard Steinecke, Legal Counsel
Andrew Boddington
Jonathon Rose
Amy Boddington

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. SAFETY MINUTE

Francoise Campbell outlined the building's two alarm tone system.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nicole Januszczak declared a conflict of interest, therefore did not participate at Council's the in-camera session.

4. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME REMARKS

The Chair, Christine Vaillancourt, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Amendments to the agenda were made.

Ms. Waldie and Mr. O'Keefe will not be joining the meeting.

The in-camera session was moved to the start of the meeting.

MOTION: Tony Lotimer moved to approve agenda as amended; seconded by Wayne Caston.

Against: Paul Connor. Motion carried.

6. IN CAMERA SESSION

MOTION: Zen Keizars moved to go in-camera on the grounds that there will be discussions regarding personnel issues, and the Council will be receiving privileged legal advice; seconded by Tony Lotimer. All in favour. Motion carried.

7. ATTENDANCE RECORD

The attendance record was noted.

8. Minutes of January 11, 2018 Council Meeting

The minutes of the January 11, 2018 meeting were reviewed and amendments were made:

MOTION: Wayne Caston moved to accept minutes as amended; seconded by David Leng.

All in favour. Carried.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

122-1 - In response to Bill Pearson's recommendation that the Association ally with the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC), Christine Vaillancourt will get in touch with the Chair, Maureen Jensen. *Ongoing*

122-2 - Other committees will be asked to provide feedback on further professional development ideas. *Ongoing.*

122-3 - A report on disaster recovery planning will be provided to Council at its next meeting. *It was reported that 70% of the package is complete. Ongoing.*

122-4 - Bill Pearson will provide further information on mobility to Louis Kan. *Louis Kan reported that the information was received.*

122-5 - The budget will be examined for possible funding of student chapters. *Ongoing*

122-6 - Aftab Khan will provide a list of unlicensed practitioners. Council members are asked to seek out specific cases that demonstrate harm to the public. *Ongoing.*

10. ISSUES

CEO REPORT:

Louis Kan provided the Council with updates on ongoing issues as follows:

Disaster Recovery Plan: The recovery plan is in its final stages, 70-75% complete. A draft was provided to Council members for comment. It is estimated that the full and final plan will be complete in a few weeks.

Online Registration/Public Register: Online registration is going smoothly. The Public Register is 95% complete; just teasing out final details. The Register is projected to be fully compliant with the Act and fully accessible next week.

Paperless Office System: The software will be installed next week. The staff is trained on the system, and implementation is imminent.

Employee Benefits Program: The employee benefits program has been renegotiated with SunLife. It was noted that significant savings have been achieved, combined with additional benefits to staff.

Policy Concepts Update:

Andrew Boddington, Jonathon Rose, and Amy Boddington were welcomed to the meeting.

Jonathon Rose and Andrew Boddington gave an update on the upcoming election.

Jonathon Rose gave an update of activities at Queens Park.

Amendments to the PGA:

- It was felt strongly that both sides have bought into why an update to the Act is necessary and are now talking about how.
- There was positive feedback on the titles issue.
- Showing the impact on the public is essential to that piece. Feedback from other associations and from the professions themselves would be beneficial, as the Ministry wants to hear from the individuals who make up the professions to ensure buy-in.
- It is anticipated that the APGO will be asked to conduct a survey or outreach to the individual members to get their feedback on areas that they feel need adjustment. PEO is seen as best practice in this area. Jonathon Rose suggested that it would be beneficial to meet with the PEO to understand what they did and how they did it, as a pre-emptive measure. It was suggested that he work with the Board to figure out how to meet with the PEO. *Zen Keizars indicated that the PEO contacted the APGO on the CPD program; this could be touchback on them.*

Aggregate Resources Act:

- A new Minister of Natural Resources was appointed in mid-February. Work has continued with the Minister's staff on APGO's role on the Aggregate Resources Act amendments.

Water Management Committee:

- The committee is continuing to meet and finalizing some of the work on international best practices for providing water as they develop the new framework.

Excess Soil:

- Have yet to land on a path forward at this point. Continuing to review submissions. Trying to figure out scope of what a new regulation would look like. Will continue to monitor.

11. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Aftab Khan presented the registration update:

- As of March 8, 2018 - 2714 members.
- 2017 Statistics: 34 resigned; 7 retired; 32 non-practising; 3 people deceased; sent 77 letters, out of which 30 people were reinstated. Lost 91 people in total starting 2018.
- Applications received: 35 in January; 35 in February. New Members: 35 in January; 6 in February.
- Certificate of Authorizations: 198 at present.
- 29 wrote PPE, 23 passed. Fifteen registered for April/May technical exam for APEGA.
- Complaints and discipline: 9 complaints in 2017; 2 pending with Complaints Committee at end of the year. One closed last week, one pending hearing in May or June 2018. No complaints in 2018 to date.
- Enforcement and compliance status: 520 total active files - separated according to high, low, and medium risk. Closed year with 577 files, added 8 this year. Closed 204 files in 2017; closed 49 files in 2018 to date.

ACTION ITEM 123-1: Aftab Khan to send breakdown of criteria for different risk levels to committee members.

Continuous Professional Development Audit: A request was made for a four P. Geo volunteers from Council. The plan is to pick up 20% of the membership for audit and distribute among the four volunteers. This is a three-month time commitment and a yearly meeting.

Annual report submitted to the Office of the Fairness Commissioner on February 27, 2017.

ACTION ITEM 123-2: Aftab Khan to provide a trend line re: workloads for subcommittees to Council members at the next meeting.

12. TREASURER'S REPORT

Council Members were referred to the financial statements, current as of January 2018.

Audit Committee

Dennis Waddington presented the third draft of the 2017 Year-End Audit to the Council. Minor changes from prior year's presentation were outlined. It was noted that 2017 was a successful year, as evidenced by a surplus. A Resolution of the Audit Committee has been passed for approval and recommending that Bateman MacKay continue to be retained as auditors for 2018.

Questions and Comments:

Louis Kan noted an error on page 3 of the Balance Sheet., which will be corrected.

A Council member expressed appreciation for how quickly the audit was completed this year

Louis Kan noted \$114,000 surplus in operating fund.

MOTION: Paul Connor moved not to transfer any operating funds to contingency funds; seconded by Tony Lotimer.

All in Favour. Carried.

MOTION: Don Johnston moved to approve the audit, subject to the auditors' final adjustments; seconded by Susan Carlyle.

All in favour. Carried.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committees' reports were presented:

Professional Practice Committee: Paul Hubley would like Council to direct subcommittees to conduct a review of the professional practice guidelines that have been published on the APGO website. Even if there are no updates the guidelines should be reaffirmed for 2018. Paul is asking to Council to request subcommittee Chairs to review the professional practice guidelines under their purvey, and report back to Council with recommendations as to which ones should be updated, along with the rationale for changes.

Wayne Caston suggested renewal clauses on all policies every three years. It makes sense to have a policy at the council level to have a renewal. Can be staggered.

ACTION ITEM 123-3: Zen Keizars will spearhead writing up a Professional Practice Guidelines updating policy.

ACTION ITEM 123-4: Paul Hubley will direct subcommittee Chairs to give direction for guideline revisions.

ACTION ITEM 123-5: Zen Keizars will create a point-form outline to define scope of what will be included in the policy upgrades for subcommittees to be able to get started.

Governance Committee: Working on timeline. Will send documentation to the members ASAP.

Geology Subcommittee: The Geology Subcommittee experienced three members leaving within a short period, which left the subcommittee without quorum. John McBride was brought forward for the position of Chair. Christine Vaillancourt welcomed John and thanked him for stepping up.

Have talked about rebranding Geology Subcommittee to Mineral Exploration and Mines Subcommittee.

Discipline Committee: Teleconference with proponent on April 8 prehearing hearing to see if there is any way to get to a resolution before bringing it to a full panel hearing.

Complaints Committee: One complaint pending. Hope to wrap up by mid-month. No other complaints at this time.

Registration Committee: John Ryder was appointed as Chair.

Geomorphology Sub-committee: A Position Statement Draft for Consultation was presented to the Council. The subcommittee is doing outreach regarding the professional practice of geomorphology in Ontario and looking for support from Council. They are looking at standard definitions of qualified geomorphologists for APGO. A referral to the Registration Committee was recommended.

Aftab Khan indicated that the sub-committee has provided him with a list of 40 geomorphologists not registered.

ACTION ITEM 123-6: Aftab to refer the 40 geomorphologists not registered to the Registration Committee for comment.

Zen Keizars brought up the topic of inclusion of hydrologists within the APGO. Discussion ensued regarding hydrology versus hydrogeology.

Don Ford at the City of Toronto was put forward as a contact.

ACTION ITEM 123-7: Zen Keizars will touch base with the GSC and City of Toronto and bring back to the table at Council for discussion.

14. UPDATE FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Environmental Scanning:

Do we have any nominees for the fellow of Geoscientists Canada? One was submitted.

ACTION ITEM 123-8: Louis Kan will report back with more information.

REGIONAL COUNCILLORS AND COUNCILLORS AT LARGE REPORTS (IF ANY):

Paul Hubley, South East: Met with Carlton University students. Positive feedback. Trying to coordinate with Queens University, stalled at the moment due to election of new Chair. Arrangements are being made for regional meeting in Ottawa -- details to follow.

Bronwyn Azar: Planning event in Sudbury for students at Laurentian University. Was a panelist on a student session at the PDAC Convention where 200 to 300 students attended. Made a pitch for becoming a member of APGO.

Tafa Gomwe: Participated at the PDAC Convention - a lot of people are quite upbeat about the mining

industry, exploration industry, but also still very cautious.

John McBride, North West: Networking event planned for April 2, re: Bitcoin. OPA Symposium scheduled on April 3 to 5.

Zen Keizars (for David Leng): Networking event at University of Waterloo – March 8, 2018.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

None

16. COMMENTS ON TODAY'S MEETING

No comments

17. IN CAMERA

MOTION: Susan Carlyle moved to go in camera; seconded by John McBride
All in Favour. Carried.

18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Tafa Gowme moved to adjourn meeting; seconded by Paul Connor.

Meeting concluded at 3:54 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be on May 10, 2018.



President

SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

MOTIONS

123-1: Tony Lotimer moved to approve agenda as amended; seconded by Wayne Caston. Carried.

123-2: Wayne Caston moved to accept minutes as amended; seconded by David Leng.

123-3: Zen Keizars moved to go in-camera on the grounds that there will be discussions regarding personnel issues, and the Council will be receiving privileged legal advice; seconded by Tony Lotimer. Carried.

123-4: Paul Connor moved not to transfer any operating funds to contingency funds; seconded by Tony Lotimer. Carried.

123-5: Susan Carlyle moved to go in camera; seconded by John McBride. Carried.

123-6: Tafa Gomwe moved to adjourn meeting; seconded by Paul Connor. Carried.

ACTIONS ITEMS

123-1: Aftab Khan to send breakdown of criteria for different risk levels to committee members.

123-2: Aftab Khan to provide a trend line re: workloads for subcommittees to Council members at the next meeting. 10

123-3: Zen Keizars will spearhead writing up a Professional Practice Guidelines updating policy.

123-4: Paul Hubley will direct subcommittee Chairs to give direction for guideline revisions.

123-5: Zen Keizars will create a point-form outline to define scope of what will be included in the policy upgrades for subcommittees to be able to get started.

123-6: Aftab to refer the 40 geomorphologists not registered to the Registration Committee for comment.

123-7: Zen Keizars will touch base with the GSC and City of Toronto regarding inclusion of hydrologists and bring back to the table at Council for discussion.

123-8: Louis Kan to report back on FGC nominees.