

Professional Geoscientists Ontario Minutes of the 134th Meeting of the Council Thursday, March 19, 2020 Virtual

Present

Milan Situm, Chair Scott McLean Mark Goldie

John Ryder

Melanie Siewert

Zen Keizars

Roger Phillips Carole Gilbert

Don Johnston
Paul Connor

Marco Simone David Good

Paul Hubley David Leng

Pizye Nankamba

Tafa Gomwe Susan Carlyle

Robert Hearst

Regrets:

Nicole Januszczak

Staff

Tony Andrews, CEO Aftab Khan, Registrar

Marilen Miguel, Council's Secretary

By invitation:

Andrew Boddington, Policy Concepts Jonathan Rose, Policy Concepts

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

2. WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair acknowledged and thanked everyone for their online participation.

3. SAFETY MINUTE

Council members discussed the importance of following safety measures during the pandemic to safeguard one's health and minimize risks of community spread.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

None

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was reviewed.

Motion 134 - 1: Melanie Siewert moved to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Roger Phillips. Carried.

6. ATTENDANCE RECORD

The attendance record was noted.

7. MINUTES FROM January 24, 2020 MEETING

Council reviewed the minutes from January meeting. Minor edits were made.

Motion 134 – 2: David Leng moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Melanie Siewert. Carried.

8. POLICY CONCEPTS UPDATE

Jonathan Rose provided an update to Council on PGO's government relations activities. PGO representatives continue to meet with government staff at the Premier's office and other ministries to advance PGO's proposed PGA amendments and its position on a number of government's proposed regulatory amendments within the scope of PGO's public protection mandate.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM January 24, 2020 MINUTES

Action 133 – 1: Tony Andrews to get quotes from by-law specialists. Ongoing

Action 133 – 2: The Governance Committee will review David Hunt's report and will provide recommendation to Council regarding the report's proposal.

- A motion was proposed that non-practising P.Geo.'s will be able to participate in committee work but will not be able to vote.
- If this requires a vote by Council members, a full rationale should be presented for why Council should support this motion.

Action 134-1: Council will revisit Non-practising category issue at its May Council meeting.

Action 133 - 3: Tony Andrews will discuss the compensation survey with Andrea Waldie, CEO of Geoscientists Canada (GC). Ongoing

Action 133 – 4: John Ryder to bring the issue of payment disclosure to the Professional Practice Committee. Done

10. CEO REPORT

Tony Andrews, CEO, provided an update on the following areas:

1. Operations

- Digitization of Registrant Files work is ongoing
- Website-Registration
- Performance Reviews/Salary Adjustments
- 2019 Unaudited Year End Financials; Audit Committee
- Nomination and Election Process
- Annual Report
- Strategic Planning Completing the Action Plans

2. Initiative and Issues

- Professional Geoscience Act Amendments Keeping the momentum through meetings with the provincial government.
- Sustainability and Climate Change Discussed under the Professional Practice Committee Report.
- Annual Conference Discussed under the Conference Planning Committee Report.
- Letter of Understanding with BCSC This is finalized.
- MECP Projects
 - Bottled Water Review PGO formed a working group for this initiative.
 Working Group's report will be presented to Council.
 - o Excess Soil Aggregate Pit Project PGO will not be involved in this project.
- Mobility Agreement with OGQ Met with OGQ and the issue continues to be sorted out.
- RFP for Review of By-Laws Work is ongoing.

13. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Aftab Khan, Registrar provided update on PGO's registration and other key activities

 A number of registration statistics that include, but not limited to, membership as of March 2020.

Membership Class	March, 2019	March, 2020
Full P.Geo.	2128	2177
Limited P.Geo.	70	75
Non-Practising P.Geo.	146	199
Geoscientists-in-Training	451	526

TOTAL	2,795	2977
Student	623	904
Certificate of Authorization	204	205

- There continues to be no registration appeals filed since 2016 to date.
- There one active Discipline file.
- 505 active E&C files to date.

• Engagement & Risk Assessment (E & RA) Files as of March 2020

Total number of active files to date is 505.

Outreach to academia

Attended Student Outreach Meetings at Queens University on January 24, 2020 in Kingston and at McMaster University on February 26, 2020. Sustaining the work of building a consensus among university professors to get registered as professional geoscientists.

Other activities

- Attended monthly meetings of Professional Practice Exam Committee (PPEC) on January 29 and February 19, 2020.
- Meeting with Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC) to finalize the items in the PGO-OFC action plan on February 6, 2020.
- o 2020 PDAC Convention

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Complaints Committee – Update provided by the Registrar

• Status is the same - one complaint that is being reviewed by a Preliminary Review Panel (PRP).

Enforcement and Compliance Committee – No update

Professional Practice Committee – Update provided by Paul Hubley

• The PPC continues to work on updating PGO's professional practice guidelines in collaboration with its subcommittees.

Conference Planning Committee – Update provided by Paul Hubley, Chair.

- Conference Planning Committee is strongly considering a virtual symposium in light of the pandemic.
- The committee will meet again in late March to discuss further the virtual option.

Governance Committee – Update provided by Paul Connor

- The committee will be looking for recommendations on LGIC appointments.
- A concern was expressed that the VP position has been filled through acclamation for a number of years now. If this continues, PGO runs the risk of not getting the best people to take on the VP role.
- Due to the pandemic, PGO's AGM will potentially be done online.

Communications Subcommittee – Update provided by Zen Keizars

 Work on the development of communications policy is ongoing. Looking at existing communication policies from other organizations to draw from.

Geomorphology Subcommittee – Update provided by Roger Phillips

- The subcommittee is working on a technical guideline to be completed by June 2020.
- The subcommittee developed a PGO's response to Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) Technical Guidelines for Erosion Hazard Assessments.

Past Presidents' Advisory Committee – No update.

15. REGIONAL COUNCILLORS AND COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE REPORTS

- **North East (Tafa Gomwe):** The PGO regional networking event that took place in Timmins on February 5, 2020 was a great success. Tafa is looking forward to holding similar events in the region to encourage engagement of licensees with PGO's work.
- **South East (Paul Hubley)**: Due to the pandemic, PGO's networking luncheon at Eastern Ontario's Geoscience Open House (April 8) was postponed. PGO was also slated to present at the Eastern Ontario Geoscience Consortium Annual Meeting 2020 on April 7. The event was also postponed. The organizers are looking at rescheduling in the Fall.
- **South West (David Leng):** David Leng conducted a QP Short Course at McMaster University. The event had a good turn-out. He also conducted an information session at same university along with Aftab Khan, Registrar.
- **North West (Pizye Nankamba):** The networking event planned for April 6 was cancelled as a result of the pandemic.
- Central (Mark Goldie): Nothing to report at this time.
- Councillors-at- Large: Nothing to report at this time.

16. BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

 Treasurer, Marco Simone briefly provided a summary on the unaudited 2019 financial year-end.

Sustainability and Climate Change – Update provided by Paul Hubley

- Proposed a three-staged approach to this initiative.
 - 1. Develop a position statement focused on sustainability and bring back to Council for approval. A proposal was put forward to develop a position statement in collaboration with peer regulated-bodies.
 - 2. Develop a professional practice guideline on sustainability for licensees.
 - 3. Introduced the sustainability guideline to licensees through a webinar and introduce other online courses on the topic to amplify sustainability practices.

17 OTHER BUSINESS

None.

18 IN-CAMERA SESSION

Council had a brief in-camera session.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 134 – 3: Susan Carlyle moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Paul Connor.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

President's Signature

Summary of Motions and Actions

MOTIONS

Motion 134 - 1: Melanie Siewert moved to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Roger Phillips. Carried.

Motion 134-2: David Leng moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Melanie Siewert. Carried.

Motion 134 – 3: Susan Carlyle moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Paul Connor.

ACTION ITEM

Action 134-1: Council will revisit Non-practising category issue at its May Council meeting.