

**Present**

Scott McLean, Chair  
Milan Situm  
Mark Goldie  
John Ryder  
Roger Phillips  
Don Johnston  
Paul Connor  
Marco Simone  
David Good  
Paul Hubley  
David Leng  
Pizye Nankamba  
Melanie Siewert  
Robert Hearst  
Patricia Lorenz  
Kristina Small  
Roger Woeller  
Bryan Brassington  
Milan Situm

**Regrets:**

Carole Gilbert  
Tafa Gomwe

**Staff**

Tony Andrews, CEO  
Aftab Khan, Registrar  
Marilen Miguel, Stakeholder Relations

**By invitation:**

Andrew Boddington, Policy Concepts  
Jonathan Rose, Policy Concepts  
Mary-Anne Hildebrandt  
Simon Gautrey  
Joanna Eyquem  
Mark Priddle

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The President called the virtual meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**2. WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Chair acknowledged and thanked everyone for their online participation. He acknowledged Tony Andrews and his team for being on top of PGO operations.

**3. SAFETY MINUTE**

The Chair provided Council with comparative statistics on COVID 19 cases showing November 2020 numbers vis-à-vis numbers as of March 2021. He also reminded everyone to be extra careful while driving this Spring season. In particular, be mindful of the following:

- ✓ Daylight Savings Time (20% accident increase attributed to disruptive sleep).

- ✓ Increase numbers of children playing in the streets
- ✓ Watch for runners – anticipate their path
- ✓ Watch for motorcyclists & cyclists
- ✓ Be alert for animals (salty ditches)
- ✓ Residual and stopping distance, motorcycle traction
- ✓ Watch out for potholes on city streets and expressways (Toronto repairs >235,000 potholes each spring)
- ✓ Beware of gravel shoulders
- ✓ Beware of slippery surface

**4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

None

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Council reviewed the agenda. Mark Priddle, Chair of Conference Planning Committee will be reporting after the Executive Committee report.

**Motion 139 - 1: Paul Hubley moved to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Roger Phillips. Carried.**

**6. ATTENDANCE RECORD**

The attendance record was noted.

**7. MINUTES FROM January 21, 2021 MEETING**

Council reviewed the minutes from January 21, 2020 meeting. A minor edit was made on Section #7 of the minutes.

**Motion 139 – 2: Melanie Siewert moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Roger Woeller. Carried.**

**8. MATTERS ARISING FROM January 21, 2021 MINUTES and Outstanding Items from November 20, 2020 Meeting**

Action 137 – 4: David Good and Paul Connor will meet to discuss further the content of the document and will provide a more cohesive feedback to the committee. Council will revisit the document at its January 21, 2021 meeting. **Paul Connor to provide update in May 2021 meeting.**

Action 138 – 1: Aftab Khan to review PGO By-Laws 2 & 3 and propose the changes to Governance Committee to align them with the PGO regulation on suspension and reinstatement of registrants. **Done.**

**Action 139 – 1: Paul Connor indicated that background work has been done on PGO By-laws 2 & 3 and will be discussed at the Governance Committee meeting.**

Action item 138 – 2: Marilen Miguel to give Roger Woeller the list of registrants who expressed interest to volunteer with PGO. **Done.**

Action Item 138 – 3: Pizye Nankamba to interface with Ami Mogaji to resolve password reset process on the PGO website. **Done.**

Action Item 138 – 4: PGO should investigate setting up general quarterly liaison meetings with MENDM. **Done - PGO regularly meets with MENDM.**

## **9. POLICY CONCEPTS UPDATE**

Jonathan Rose reported on their latest government relations activities. He noted that government's main focus continues to be on vaccination roll-out and that the Ontario budget is set to be announced on March 24<sup>th</sup>. PGO's group is actively engaging with government representatives to push for the PGO amendments forward via legislative options. Policy Concepts is working on including the Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction in discussions with a goal to include the PGA amendments in the omnibus bill.

In the environmental side, PGO also continues to be very active in providing input to a number of proposed amendments by provincial ministries. The Ministry of Environment and Conservation Parks (MECP) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) views PGO as an authority figure.

## **10. CEO REPORT**

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

### **1. Administration and Operations**

- Upgrading registrant database functionality
- 2020 Year End Audit Process
- SaaS (Software as a Service) Online Work Experience Assessment Tool
- Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Initiative
- Processing volunteers is an ongoing work.
- Certification Mark for Professional Geoscientist and P.Geo.
- PGO Symposium 2021
- Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (FGC)
- Award of Merit – main focus is public protection

- Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Nominations Process – AGM will take place on June 24, 2021.

## 2. Issues and Initiatives

### Government

- Ministry of Energy and Northern Development and Mines (MENDM): PGA Amendments
- MECP – Simon Gautrey, Chair of Environmental Geoscience Committee will report on some of these items.
  - ✓ *Qualified Persons (QPs) and Conservation Authorities Act (CAA)*
  - ✓ *Government proposed updates to Records of Site Condition (RSC)*
  - ✓ *RSC - Groundwater sampling*
  - ✓ *Minister's Zoning (MZ)*

### Other

- Mobility Agreements (BC and Quebec)
- Regulation of geoscience technologists
- PDAC Conference
- CNAR: Evolving Best Practices & Standards on Self-Regulation
- Strategic Plan

## 11. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

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

- A number of statistics that include, but not limited to, registration as of December 31, 2020.

<b>Registrant Categories</b>	<b>Mar 2020</b>	<b>Mar 2021</b>
Full P.Geo.	2252	2237
Limited P.Geo.	75	78
Non-Practising P.Geo.	199	226
Geoscientists-in-Training	526	538
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2977</b>	<b>3079</b>
Student	904	579
Certificate of Authorization	205	214

- There continues to be no registration appeals to date.

- Complaints – there is one new case that just came that is being looked at by the Complaints Committee.
- Engagement & Risk Assessment (E & RA) Files to date.
  - Total number of non-registered geoscientists who became P.Geo.'s as of March 2021 is five.
  - Total active files subject to enforcement and compliance to date is 493.
  - Total number of non-registered geoscientists who are considered to be potentially high-risk is 158.
- Other activities
  - Attended online meetings of Professional Practice Exam Committee (PPEC) on February 3, February 17 and March 3, 2021.
  - Attended Virtual Convention of Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) from 8-11 March, 2021.

## **12. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Executive Committee Report – Update by Scott McLean**

- Scott McLean reported that the committee had met twice to discuss the following topics including:
  - Regulation of technologists – what that looks like in Ontario
  - Mechanism for recruiting volunteers
  - Eligibility and evaluation criteria for PGO's Award of Merit
  - Review of the Objectives for 2020-2021; very pleased to see progress in many areas
  - Progress is slow in the areas of PGA Amendment and mobility but PGO is continuing to push forward.
  - PGO is looking at a new format for Field Notes

### **Conference Planning Committee (CPC) – Update by Mark Priddle**

- Mark Priddle reported that the 2021 Conference planning is continuing to advance rapidly. He extended the invitation to everyone in Council to attend the online event.
- It will be a virtual conference again this year. Several announcements have gone out about the program in Field Notes and e-blasts.
- The committee had secured 16 speakers for the four sessions that showcase topics in the areas of diversity & Inclusion, risk management, resource management and innovations and machine learning in geoscience.
- Mark thanked Council and staff for supporting this online learning initiative, which would be a great resource for registrants to help meet their CPD requirements for 2021.

**Discipline Committee (DC)** – Update provided by Paul Connor on behalf of Chair, Tammy Middleton

- Paul Connor presented to Council a motion put forward by the Discipline Committee to address the issue about the absence of policy around posting of interim decisions on PGO website
- The Discipline Committee recommends to Council *“that only final decisions and dispositions of charges under the Act be published. Interim orders should only be published if the panel making the order insists.”*
- Council agreed that only final decisions should be posted publicly. However, they also discussed factors that would warrant the public posting of interim decisions.

**Motion 139 – 3: Paul Connor moved to accept the Discipline Committee’s recommendation to only publish final decisions and dispositions of charges under the Act. Interim decision will be published only when timeline is a factor and it is deemed to put at risk the health and safety of the public. Seconded by Melanie Siewert. Carried.**

**Enforcement and Compliance Committee (E&C)** – Update by Roger Woeller

- Roger Woeller indicated that Kristina Small became a new member of the committee

**Registration Committee** – No update at this time.

**Complaints Committee** – Update provided via Registrar’s report.

**Governance Committee** – Update provided by Paul Connor, Chair and Melanie Siewert

**1. Non-member public appointee position**

- Paul Connor put forward a motion to extend Don Johnston’s Council term until PGO’s AGM, which would be on June 24, 2021.
- Don Johnston indicated that he will continue to extend help to PGO even beyond his term as Councillor.

**Motion 139 – 4: Paul Connor moved to extend Don Johnston’s Council term until PGO’s 2021 AGM in June. Seconded by Roger Woeller. Carried.**

**2. Canadian Network of Agencies of Regulation (CNAR) Learning Sessions for Volunteers and Staff and Self Assessment Process**

- Melanie Siewert presented to Council the timeline for CNAR Sessions and Self Assessment Process.
- In May Council meeting there will be:
  - ✓ general discussion on CNAR Session learnings and implications for PGO
  - ✓ instructions to Council on PGO Governance and Regulatory Process Self-Assessment
- Execution of self-assessment process is anticipated to happen in late May.

- Special Council Meeting to discuss self-assessment results & implications for PGO will be scheduled for mid June, 2021.
- Timeline for third-party review of PGO governance and regulatory process is yet to be determined.

**Communications Subcommittee** – No update.

**Professional Practice Committee (PPC)** – Updates provided by subcommittee chairs.

**Environmental Geoscience (EG) Subcommittee** – Update by Simon Gautrey

- Simon Gautrey reported that the Environmental Geoscience Subcommittee has submitted a response to MECP's proposed implementation of updates to Ontario's Water Quantity Management Framework.
- The subcommittee is also working on developing a response to proposed updated Record of Site Condition Guide.
- For their upcoming meeting, the subcommittee will be looking at a number of items that include their terms of reference, professional practice guidelines and the Minister's zoning orders.

**Geology Subcommittee** – No update.

**Geomorphology Subcommittee** – Update by Roger Phillips, Chair

- Roger Phillips presented to Council the final version of the Geomorphology Professional Practice Guideline for approval.

**Motion 139 – 5: Roger Phillips moved to approve the Geomorphology Professional Practice Guideline as presented. Seconded by Paul Hubley. Carried.**

**Geophysics Subcommittee** – No update.

**Sustainability and Climate Change Risk Ad hoc Committee** – Update by Joanna Eyquem

- Paul Hubley introduced Joanna Eyquem as the new Chair of the Sustainability and Climate Change Risk Ad hoc Committee. Joanna is the Director of Climate Programs at Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation.
- Joanna Eyquem presented to Council the position statement developed by the committee to address climate change risks, which had gone through rigorous review and discussions. The statement highlights climate change and geoscience considerations for professional practice, the role that P.Geo.'s play in responding to climatic conditions and the role of PGO as a regulator.
- The position statement, once approved, will be posted on PGO's website.

**Motion 139 – 6: Roger Phillips moved to accept the position statement as presented. Seconded by Don Johnston. Carried.**

**Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Ad hoc Committee – Update by Mary-Anne Hildebrandt, Chair**

- Mary-Anne Hildebrandt reported that the D&I webpage has been launched along with the approved position statement. She acknowledged the support of Council and staff for the successful launch of this initiative.
- Mary-Anne announced they now have 9 members in the committee.
- The D&I survey is being planned to be released in April 2021.

**PGA Amendment Working Group – Update by Roger Phillips, Chair**

- Roger Phillips reported that PGO had two meetings with MENDM representatives February 1 and February 11, 2021.
- The first meeting was focused on title protection. PGO has requested for adequate documentation to highlight the areas of consensus and the areas of contention.
- The second meeting was focused on practice review. Background information on practice review by other jurisdictions was provided.
- PGO identified issues with how the meetings have been documented and communicated this issue with MEDNM. To date, PGO has not received a response on this issue.

**Past Presidents' Advisory Group – Update by Milan Situm**

**Award of Merit**

- Milan presented to Council the 2016 PGO Award of Merit terms of reference and evaluation matrix for nominees.
- Council discussed how awards should be aligned with PGO's public protection mandate.
- It was pointed out that contribution to geoscience is also a means to protect the public given that decisions involving public safety and protection of the environment should rely on sound science.
- It was also pointed out that PGO Award is an excellent tool for engaging with registrants.
- Evaluation matrix should show that contribution to public protection is paramount when evaluating nominees.

**Action 139 – 2: Executive Committee will review the PGO Award of Merit Terms of Reference.**



#### Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Designation

- Milan presented to Council a slate of nominees put forward by members of PGO committees and subcommittees for Geoscientists Canada's consideration to be recipients of FGC designation.

**Motion 139 – 7: Milan Situm moved to approved the list of registrants to be nominated for Fellow of Geoscientists Canada designation. Seconded by Bray Brassington. Paul Hubley abstained. Carried.**

**Geoscientists Canada (GC) – No update.**

### 13. REGIONAL COUNCILLORS AND COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE REPORTS

- **North East (Tafa Gomwe):** See Pizye Nankamba's update.
- **North West (Pizye Nankamba):** Tafa Gomwe and Pizye Nankamba collaborated to jointly launch the virtual networking event for North East and North West Region on March 17, 2021. The March 17, 2021 virtual networking event featuring a talk by Jim Gallagher and Abraham Drost was well attended and well received.
- **South East (Bryan Brassington):** Nothing to report at this time.
- **South West (David Leng):** Nothing to report at this time.
- **Central (Mark Goldie):** Completed an outreach at McMaster University in February 2021.
- **Councillors-at- Large:** Nothing to report at this time.

### 14. BUSINESS

#### Strategic Plan Progress Report and Discussion

- Tony Andrews presented a progress report on PGO's Strategic Plan.
- Based on the progress chart presented, the PGO is averaging 36% of overall completion rate to date with 70% on the highest range and 5% on the lowest range.

#### Regulation of Technologists

- Constituent Associations (CAs) of Geoscientists Canada put forward a request that GC developed a position statement to address the call of Technology Professionals Canada

(TPC) on all provincial governments to grant independent practice rights to applied science and engineering technologists and technicians.

- GC put forward the draft position statement to CAs for approval. It will be up to each SRO on how it will deal with this issue.
- Ontario already has a regulatory body for technologists - Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, which has a dual function of regulating the profession and at the same time being the voice of technologist and technicians in the province.

**Action item 139 – 3: Tony Andrews to circulate the approved statement of principles to Council.**

**Action item 139 – 4: Registration Committee to look at the “regulation of technologists” issue and provide recommendations to Council.**

#### **Regulation of Academics – Report by David Good**

- David Good presented to Council the issue regulating university professors.
- Three types of academic:
  1. **Geoscience professor** that supervises undergraduate students and graduate students in Earth Sciences and conducts research in Earth Science. They do not work as a consultant in the industry.
  2. As for 1, except that **researchers** are partially funded by money provided by an Industry representative and administered by the University. In this case the funds are typically matched by additional provincial or federal granting programs.
  3. As for 1, except that the researcher is paid intermittently by industry as a **consultant**.

Currently, the Registration Committee is focused more on Categories 2 & 3.

**Action item 139 – 5: John Ryder will look at Categories 2 & 3 and will report back to Council.**

#### **15. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

#### **16. IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Council had a brief in-camera session at 12:55 p.m.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion 139 – 8: John Ryder moved to adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Ryder', is written above a horizontal line.

President

## Summary of Motions and Action Items

### MOTIONS

Motion 139 - 1: Paul Hubley moved to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Roger Phillips. Carried.

Motion 139 – 2: Melanie Siewert moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Roger Woeller. Carried.

Motion 139 – 3: Paul Connor moved to accept the Discipline Committee’s recommendation to only publish final decisions and dispositions of charges under the Act. Interim decision will be published only when timeline is a factor and it is deemed to put at risk the health and safety of the public. Seconded by Melanie Siewert. Carried.

Motion 139 – 4: Paul Connor moved to extend Don Johnston’s Council term until PGO’s 2021 AGM in June. Seconded by Roger Woeller. Carried.

Motion 139 – 5: Roger Phillips moved to approve the Geomorphology Professional Practice Guideline as presented. Seconded by Paul Hubley. Carried.

Motion 139 – 6: Roger Phillips moved to accept the Climate Change and Geoscience position statement as presented. Seconded by Don Johnston. Carried.

Motion 139 – 7: Milan Situm moved to approved the list of registrants to be nominated for Fellow of Geoscientists Canada designation. Seconded by Bray Brassington. Paul Hubley abstained. Carried.

Motion 139 – 8: John Ryder moved to adjourn the meeting.

### ACTION ITEMS

Action Item 139 – 1: Paul Connor indicated that background work has been done on PGO By-laws 2 & 3 and will be discussed at the Governance Committee meeting.

Action Item 139 – 2: Executive Committee will review the PGO Award of Merit Terms of Reference.

Action item 139 – 3: Tony Andrews to circulate the approved statement of principles to Council.

Action item 139 – 4: Registration Committee to look at the “regulation of technologists” issue and provide recommendations to Council.

Action item 139 – 5: John Ryder will look at Categories 2 & 3 and will report back to Council.