

**Minutes of the
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
A P G O**

**Held June 8, 2017
20 Toronto Street, Toronto, Ontario**

1. Call to Order

The President, Tony Lotimer, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3.30 pm. He noted that Avril Hylands was appointed Recording Secretary.

2. Notice of Meeting

The President called for verification that the Notice of Meeting was mailed in accordance with By-Law #1. The CEO declared the notice had been sent to all members of record. A signed statement to that effect was tabled.

The President stated that according to By-Law #1 of the Association, there must be an Annual General Meeting of the Association within six months of the APGO's financial year end, December 31st. On matters that require a vote, it is permitted under the By-Law to recognize a show of hands by members at this Annual General Meeting as representative of the wishes of the membership in general.

3. Attendance Report

Andrea Waldie, P.Geo., Scrutineer, reported that there were 50 members of the Association present at the meeting. Also present were 7 students and 3 Geoscientists in Training .

4. Adoption of Agenda

The President then called for a motion to accept the Agenda.

Motion #1: Shelly Cuddy, P.Geo., moved that the Agenda be adopted. Seconded by Caesar Esmo, P.Geo. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Introductions

The President recognized the Past Presidents of APGO and asked those in attendance to stand :

**Bill Pearson
Bill Stiebel
John Buckle**

**Scott McLean
Maureen Jensen
Steven Usher
Greg Finn
Steve Wilson
Deborah McCombe
Kristin Hanson
Ian Macdonald
Andrew Cheatle
David Hunt
Mark Priddle**

Special Guests

**Mr. Gerard McDonald, P.Eng., Registrar, Professional Engineers Ontario
Dr. Neil Westoll, Board Member, APGO Education Foundation
Dr. Nancy McInerney-Lacombe, APGO Education Foundation
Doris Chee, President, Ontario Association of Landscape Architects**

The President thanked the guests for attending. He introduced the Geoscientists in Training and students as those who represent the future of APGO. He invited them to stand and be recognized and encouraged them to meet as many practicing members as possible during the Reception.

6. In Memorium

During the past year, APGO received notice of the death of Dr. Earl Molloy, P.Geo. The President extended the Association's deepest sympathy to his family.

The President then acknowledged members of the Canadian Forces serving in Canada and other parts of the world.

A moment of silence was observed.

7. Jack Parker, Director of Ontario Geological Survey Branch, Ministry of Northern Development & Mines

Mr. Parker thanked the President for his invitation to give the opening remarks. He spoke about the strong relationship between the Ministry and APGO, the importance of education and training, that continuing professional development is critical and how APGO's work is investing in Ontario's continuing and future success.

He noted that assessments now are increasingly complex and must be supported by reliable scientific data to ensure public confidence. Educating the general public about geoscience and the work we do is more important than ever.

He is inspired by the work APGO does and everyone plays an important role in protecting the public. Mr Parker thanked both Council and staff for their hard work. He encouraged APGO to keep its commitment to increasing membership, Continuing Professional Development and working together towards excellence in geoscience.

8. Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting were made available on the website and at today's meeting. The President called for any errors or omissions. There being none, the President called for a motion that the Minutes be adopted as presented.

Jim Atkinson, P.Geo., asked if the Minutes had been signed. The President responded that they would be signed immediately after being approved.

Motion #2: David Leng, P.Geo., moved that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 8, 2016 be adopted. Bill McGuinty, P.Geo., seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes

The President asked if there was any business arising from the previous Minutes. There was none.

10. Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements

Shelly Cuddy, P.Geo., Treasurer of APGO and Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the 2016 audited financial statements and auditors report, which were prepared by Bateman MacKay and approved by Council. These were made available to all members on the website as part of the Annual Report. She added that copies were available at the back of the room.

Ms. Cuddy reported that a few changes were made to the wording of the report to improve readability and financial disclosure. The Balance Sheet and Operating Statements show the organization to be in good financial health, the year-end surplus was considerable and short term investments were in safe instruments.

11. Approval of Auditors Report/Audited 2016 Financial Statements

There being no questions, the President asked for a motion to adopt the year end 2016 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Motion #3: Zen Keizars, P.Geo., moved that the Year End 2016 Audited Financial Statements be approved. Seconded by Brad Leonard, P.Geo. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Appointment of Auditors

Shelly Cuddy, P.Geo, Treasurer of APGO and Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the selection of auditors and the recommendation of Council for appointment of the auditors for 2017. Council recommended the appointment of Bateman MacKay LLP as auditors for the year 2017 at such remuneration as may be fixed from time to time by Council.

Motion #4: Mark Priddle, P.Geo., moved that Bateman MacKay LLP be appointed Auditors of APGO for the ensuing year and that Council be authorized to fix the remuneration of the Auditors. Seconded by Wayne Caston, P.Geo. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Recognition of Outgoing Council

The President recognized those Councillors who have served the Association and who would be leaving as of this Annual General Meeting. The following were thanked for their service and neither could attend today.

Doug Cater, P.Geo. – South West Regional Councillor
Visha Sukdeo, LL.B. – Non-Member Public Appointee

The President then gave special recognition to **Mark Priddle, P.Geo., Past President** who was presented with a token of the APGO's appreciation for his years of service.

14. Announcement of 2017 Election Results & Appointments to Council

The President advised that in accordance with By-Law #8, the call for nominations to fill the positions coming open on Council in 2017 went out in the fall of 2016.

He explained that Council is populated in several ways, as outlined in APGO's legislation. Namely, individuals elected by the membership; some appointed by Council based on recommendations from the Non-member Committee (non-members represent the Public on Council); 3 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and one who is a representative of the Council of Chairs of Canadian Earth Science Departments.

The following were elected to Council:

Zen Keizars, P.Geo. – Vice President
David Leng, P.Geo. – South-West Regional Councillor

Paul Hubley, P.Geo. – South-East Regional Councillor

In addition, Wayne Caston, P.Geo., was appointed Councillor-at-Large for one year.

The President congratulated those elected and welcomed them to Council. He thanked the membership for participating in the APGO nomination and election process. He encouraged all members to become involved in the various Committees and on Council.

The President encouraged members to contact any member of Council to share feedback, ask questions, etc.

In addition to the election of members, Council appoints non-members to Council based on recommendations from the Governance Committee. Non-member Councillors represent the public on Council. This year there were two openings for these positions and the President introduced and welcomed the new Council appointed non-members:

Mr. Marco Simone, CPA, CA and
Ms. Susan Carlyle, LL.B.

The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario appoints three members to APGO's Council. This year, two positions were open and the following appointments made:

Ms. Nicole Januszczak, P.Geo. – Lt. Governor-in-Council Member (pending final confirmation)
Mr. Paul Connor – Lt. Governor-in-Council Non-Member

15. President's Report

The President noted the past year of progress, success and change – progress continues on routine initiatives; success came with the formal approval and adoption of the new Registration Regulations; and change with the new C.E.O. and Strategic Plan.

The new Registration Regulations provide greater clarity. Among the new items are:

- Limited members can now independently sign P.Geo. reports
- Clear CPD requirements
- Improvements in the requirements for registration
- Clarity concerning expiry and renewal of applications

The President welcomed the new C.E.O., Louis Kan, C.A., who was appointed in February 2017.

He outlined the focus of the new Strategic Plan (1) APGO to be known and recognized as a valuable, relevant and successful organization; (2) APGO to have legal authority to prevent practice by unlicensed individuals; (3) All APGO programs to be current, relevant and add value.

APGO is working with Government to update the Geoscience Act in three main areas – Definition, Protected Terms and Injunction Authority. It is hoped to have the changes in place by 2018.

APGO continues to work closely with Geoscience Canada (GC). Outgoing President, Mark Priddle, P.Geo., is President-Elect of GC for the year 2018-2019. The current President of G.C. and the C.E.O. attended APGO's March Council meeting. At the recent GC Board Meeting, they approved a new Working Group on Professional Practice and will be looking again at Incidental Practice and Mobility, both of which had been discussed at the March meeting.

The President noted challenges in both domestic and world economies, but with APGO's current membership, its diversity and demographics, he believed this bodes well for the future.

Operations at APGO are made possible by a small and very motivated staff as well as the volunteers on Committees and he thanked them all for their work this past year.

The President stated that each year the Association provides a report of its activities to the Minister of Northern Development & Mines. This annual report was delivered to the Minister and made available on APGO's web site. Copies were also available at the back of the room.

The APGO annual report contains reports from the Officers and Committee Chairs of APGO. The President encouraged members to ask questions about these reports either after the meeting or during the issues forum.

The President thanked the staff for their hard work in preparing this report.

He then invited Louis Kan, CEO, to give his report.

16. Chief Executive Officer's Report

The CEO acknowledged all former CEO's and, in particular, Gord White.

He stated that APGO is a strong organization – membership is diverse and accessible; its finances and administration are well managed and it is well respected by government.

He noted that over 25% of membership was foreign trained; that 40% of G.I.T's are female and that the gender gap is quickly closing. APGO is financially on solid ground both for the present and into the future.

He then called on Marilen Miguel, Director of Stakeholder Relations to expand on future projects.

Ms. Miguel provided background on the following projects:

- The Annual Report – produced entirely in-house
- Professional networking and learning events – both live events and webinars very well received
- Field Notes – now a weekly electronic communication. A new Q&A column – “Ask the Registrar” - will be added later this month
- Mentoring program continued to expand in 2016 to 30 matches. She thanked all the volunteer mentors.

She thanked all members who volunteer in various ways.

The CEO introduced Nathaniel Howell, Deputy Registrar, to provide an update.

Mr. Howell noted his appreciation of the efforts of Council and staff to protect the public and strengthen the organization. He noted the new on-line application process is aimed at adding value to members, becoming paperless and being customer service oriented – therefore providing a better experience for members. The process will be tested later this year.

The CEO concluded with the reminder that APGO serves the public and operates at the discretion of government. The organization will continue to provide self-development courses, updated and relevant practice guidelines and provide value added service to members. The strength of APGO resides in the many cities and towns where members live and work and the quality of that work is what defines the organization. He welcomed any and all input from members.

17. Registrar’s Report

Aftab Khan gave highlights of the past year:

- Steady growth in membership
- Big drop in members going out of practice
- No appeal filed against Registration Committee decisions in last two years
- Enforcement & Compliance significant source of new memberships
- Complaints & Discipline Committees making timely decisions
- Geoscience community recognize APGO as source of help and guidance
- Starting monthly Q&A section in Field Notes “Ask the Registrar”

He noted that registration was 2,620 as of June 2017, growth was steadily increasing, members moving out of practice had declined and Enforcement & Compliance is approximately 21%.

18. Issues Forum

Martin Sykes, P.Geo., asked about delays in the registration process and the lack of opportunity to provide feedback by the applicant on-line. The Registrar responded that it is APGO's practice to respond immediately to an application and to complete the process in 8 to 10 weeks once all the paperwork is in place. The new on-line process will include a "comments" page at the end where any concerns can be communicated to APGO. Mr. Khan added that he is always available by telephone to assist an applicant.

Jim Atkinson, P.Geo., asked if members were allowed to attend Committee meetings and was it possible to have Committee minutes published in Field Notes. The President responded that he would research this and respond in due course.

Mr Atkinson then asked if APGO had a peer review of Council Minutes. The President responded that the Minutes of every Council Meeting were reviewed in detail at the following meeting to ensure accuracy. APGO's Auditors and the Ministry receive copies of all Council Minutes.

Bruce Heitkamp, P.Geo., requested that APGO 'put the word out' about the Ontario Ground Water Association (OGWA). The OGWA is interested in having more P.Geo's join their association, some benefits being access to insurance programs, regional meetings (CPD qualifying); well contractors require 7 hours continuing education per year; all training sessions approved by the MOECC - this fall focused on Geotechnical Drilling and will be held at the Walkerton Clean Water Centre. He encouraged P.Geo's to join OGWA to keep on top of Reg. 903 – some training can be used towards CPD hours.

Peter Stewart, P.Geo., noted the demise of Dr. Robert Hedder, P.Geo., earlier this year.

19. APGO Education Fund

Bill Pearson introduced Andrea Waldie, Business Manager and Dr. Dina Schwartz, Project Manager of the APGO Education Fund. The Fund was established in 2014 and its Mission is to provide financial and other support to promote a greater understanding of geoscience to the public. It also supports individuals who study geoscience. The Fund is a registered Not For Profit organization.

Mr. Pearson recapped the number of scholarships and bursaries given last year and listed various organizations it currently supports. The new website is geoscienceinfo.com which will be administered by Dr. Schwartz. He gave a brief overview of the Fund's financial situation.

He also noted the establishment of a scholarship in honour of the late Dr. Robert Hedder to be awarded in 2018. Two specific bursaries have been established for the internationally trained – the Past President's Bursary and the Arsalan Mohager Bursary. Mr. Mohager was invited to speak and gave a brief history of his career and his association with APGO and that the Bursary was his way of giving back.

Mr. Pearson added it was important that we all give back to the next generation of students and the internationally trained.

There were 22 applicants for the 2017 scholarship and bursary awards. The two recipients for scholarships were Pamela Iraheta Muniz, Laurentian University and Adrian Oberland, Laurentian University. The first recipient of the Past President's Bursary was awarded to Pt. Prashant Roy Ravishankar, Shukla University, India

20. Other Business

The President asked if there was any other business to come before the business section of the meeting. There being none, the business section of the meeting was closed.

21. Induction of the New President

APGO's tradition in inducting the new President is to "Pass the Rock Pick". The President stated that as he now is at the end of his term, it gave him great pleasure to pass on the "APGO Hammer" to his successor, Christine Vaillancourt, P.Geo. Upon passing the gavel, Mr. Lotimer completed his term and handed the meeting over to the President for 2017-2018. He called Ms. Vaillancourt forward to act as Chair.

Ms. Vaillancourt thanked the outgoing President for his past service and that it had been a great year working with him.. She then presented a token of appreciation to the Past President. She said she had served on Council on and off since 2006, had worked with exceptional Presidents and seen tremendous growth in APGO. She invited all members to participate and contribute to APGO.

22. Acknowledgement of AGM Sponsors

The President acknowledged TD Insurance Meloche Monnex for sponsoring the evening Reception.

23. Close of Business meeting

The President called for a motion to formally adjourn the business meeting.

Motion #5: Wayne Caston, P.Geo., moved that the 15th Annual General Meeting of the APGO be adjourned. Seconded by Andrea Waldie, P.Geo. Motion carried unanimously.