



Minutes of the 113th Meeting of Council of the
Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Thursday, June 9th, 2016 at 333 Bay Street, 24th Floor, Toronto

Present:

Mark Priddle, President
Tony Lotimer, Vice President
David Hunt, Past President
Peter Diorio, Treasurer
Ben Berger
Doug Cater
Shelly Cuddy
Rob Gordon
Zen Keizars
David Leng
Brad Leonard
Bob Morrison
Christine Vaillancourt
Dorene Weston

Regrets:

John Gartner
Don Johnston
Rusty Juma
Bob Linnen
John McBride
Visha Sukdeo

By Invitation:

Ian Macdonald
Gord White, CEO
Aftab Khan, Registrar
Avril Hylands, Recording secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President, acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 11.15 a.m.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None was identified.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and said how much he appreciated the support he had received from Council and staff over the past 8 years, particularly the past year as President. APGO has grown into a strong Association with a voice that is heard.

4. MEETING AGENDA

Council reviewed the proposed Agenda.

Motion 113 - 1: Doug Cater moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Brad Leonard. All in favour. Motion carried.

5. ATTENDANCE REPORT

Council attendance was noted.

6. MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2016 MEETING

Minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting were reviewed and amendments made.

Motion 113 - 2: Shelly Cuddy moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by David Hunt. All in favour. Motion carried.

7. REGISTRATION REGULATION CONSULTATION

Ian Macdonald held a conference call with the MNDM to discuss comments following the public posting of the proposed new Regulations. All were answered to the satisfaction of the Ministry with one exception. This related to the length of time members were given to pay their annual dues, which they understood to be 15 days. Ian explained that this was a misunderstanding and subsequently sent a full written response, which was accepted by the Ministry. No changes resulted from this process. Final draft expected with possible language changes as another lawyer has become involved. French translation being prepared. Ministry optimistic that final document will be ready for signing soon. Deputy Minister de Launay is scheduled to attend today's AGM and Gord White will follow up with him in person. Nothing more APGO can do to bring to completion.

Implementation of new Regulations takes effect the day they become law. Anyone in the process now completes with the old system. Council thanked Ian Macdonald and Andrea for their work over the past four years.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action Item 111 – 3: re Geoscience Definition: Mark Priddle will send to Council various definitions for review and comment with a view to gaining clarity for all CA's to abide by. Will send out when received. Sent to Council. Completed

Action Item 111 – 5: Certificate of Authorization for Provincial Ministries. Council to be ready to reach a decision at the May meeting on whether APGO should pursue the necessity for any Provincial Ministry or its employees providing professional services to the public to be in possession of a Certificate of Authorization and that all government employees who practice geoscience be registered. GW & Council. On June 12 Agenda.

Action Item 112 – 1: Council to convene a Task Force to produce a document describing the role of Councillor, to be ready for review of new Council in September. Zen Keizars, Christine Vaillancourt, Mark Priddle and David Leng volunteered to participate along with the Governance Committee. Mark will email the volunteers and Chair of the Governance Committee to arrange a discussion prior the June AGM. Two drafts completed – will be ready in September – Zen Keizars.

Action Item 112 – 2: CEO Report: The CEO will provide a summary/overview narrative to each Council meeting of activities undertaken between Council meetings and include how key decisions were made in reference to the new Policy Manual framework. GW. Completed.

Action Item 112 – 3: Formalize an Annual Work Plan for Council & Committees: A template to be produced showing the year's schedule of annual activities, along with proposed activities identified by the new Council and Committees in September each year. CV – ongoing.

Action Item 112 – 4: Council Non-member posting: Dorene Weston and Gord White to prepare a posting for recruitment of two non-members. DW, GW – on June 12 Agenda.

Action Item 112 – 5: Number of Students (679) will be analyzed for next report and will also be excluded from Total. AK – completed – new format at June 12 meeting.

Action Item 112 – 6: Complaints procedure: Mark will mention this at the AGM and include an article in Field Notes. MP – completed – report at June 12 meeting.

Action Item 112 – 7: Investment Policy: GW to check into the guideline or directive for investments and report back to Council. GW – there is no Policy – will consider over the summer.

Action Item 112 – 8: Rob Gordon will send the Final Audited Statements to Council electronically. RG – completed.

9. ORIENTATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Action Item 113 – 1: Orientation of New Council Members – Gord White to decide who will do this. Christine Vaillancourt volunteered to assist. GW, CV.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

In view of the large number of new Council members, it was decided at the May 12 meeting to hold the next Strategic Planning session in November 2016 or January 2017.

11. AGM

There was good response re attendance at the AGM. The Deputy Minister of MNDM will attend. There is a full Agenda. Council to meet at 3 p.m. for group photograph.

12. NON-MEMBER RECRUITMENT FOR COUNCIL

Two members and one non-member Lt. Governor appointments needed. Dorene Weston will send suggestions to Gord White of where to post for candidates. Profiles of preferred attributes have been determined. Goal is to fill the positions prior to the September meeting.

Action Item 113 – 2: Non-member recruitment for Council. CEO to send profiles to Council for review and suggest any candidates from their contacts. Deadline for submission – one month. GW and Council; GW also to post publicly for candidates.

13. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA

Mark Priddle and Gord White attended the recent GC meeting in Calgary.

Mark reported some highlights:

- CPD – Both Ontario and Nova Scotia have solid programs. Other CA's continue to have dissent. As all Regulations require members to prove they continue their professional development, Government could step in and make it compulsory.
- A QP Workshop in mineral exploration has been developed and will be rolled out September 2016. This workshop can be used in Universities. It is a full day course and appeared to be very good. It is available to all CA's for their Universities, as well as for GIT's and Practitioners and is available at no cost.
- Succession. Ollie Bonham's term expires in 2018. GC considering having a representative located in Toronto.
- Finances: Assistance requested for the Submission Support Tool – no response yet.
- Geo-ethics: GC would like to see Universities include courses on Ethics of Geoscience.
- Committee Terms of Reference are done.
- GIT Handbook formalized.
- GC considering hosting a session on geoscience at the Canadian Science Policy Conference in November. All health-related sciences are regulated but not all sciences e.g. physics, chemistry.

Gord White Chairs a group of CEO's from across Canada- most of which are engineers. They meet on a regular basis and the issues they focus on concern the specifics of licensure and at the moment the actual role of the Canadian Geoscience Standards Board. The CEO group believes it should not be called a Board but a Committee as it reports to the Board of Directors. Its core responsibilities mostly deal with the development of regulations. The CEO group is concerned with what is new and what may logically occur in the next few years. There is concern across Canada that the geoscience profession is suffering overall resulting in people leaving the profession and students not completing courses. Concern is how we are adapting to the challenges. Apart from actions being taken by our Registrar and others re accommodating members into different categories, no one came up with concrete ideas.

A consistent issue from Registration Committees across Canada is whether or not there is an issue that one regulatory authority is seen as an 'easy' marker or a 'hard' marker. The group felt the goal is aspirational – we can monitor and see if there are differences from month to month. Going forward Provinces need to be vigilant re consistency of the registration process from Province to Province and if there is a problem to bring it forward.

Mobility is on the agenda for the next meeting – end of August.

Biggest concern of the group now is illegal practitioners – how to find them and how to make sure they get registered. Aftab works hard and well on this.

14. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Registration update to June 9, 2016: Full Practicing 1962; Limited 55; Non-practicing 107; GIT 324
Total 2448. Students 709.

Applications received by month: 21 new applications in May.

Certificates of Authorization: 179

PPE and Technical Exams: 23 registered for June; Technical: June APEGA 10 registered; July 1 registered.

Appeals: None

Complaints & Discipline: C115 – 3rd panel being assembled. C117 and 119 – sent to Discipline. C118 and C120 with Complaints Committee. More members needed for this Committee.

Enforcement & Compliance: 558 active files at June 9; 137 active at Dec. 31/2015. (204 files closed in 2015 and 15 closed in 2016). Individuals added in 2016 = 436.

Data base gradually being cleared out.

15. COMMITTEES

Tony Lotimer advised that a new Governance Committee Chair and Treasurer were needed. The next Council meeting is in September but there may be an Executive Committee meeting required over the summer. Shelly Cuddy volunteered to become Chair of the Finance Committee and Treasurer. David Leng volunteered to become Chair of the Governance Committee and they were both thanked.

Ian Macdonald, co-Chair of the Registration Committee suggested forming a Geomorphology Subcommittee. They have struggled with a number of registration issues over the years. Aftab added that there are some 20 geomorphology members now and others who wish to become members but who do not have the necessary courses. There is also the question of whether such a Subcommittee should be part of the Registration Committee or the Professional Practice Committee.

Action Item 113 – 3: Geomorphology Subcommittee: Registration Committee to prepare a report with recommendations/clarity of geomorphology to bring to Council for a decision to approve formation of a Subcommittee and, if approved, under which Committee jurisdiction it should fall i.e. Registration or Professional Practice. Ian Macdonald, Aftab Khan.

The Chair addressed the question of Standing Committees being required to provide reports of their meetings to Council. A discussion followed and various issues raised. After consideration, Council decided that Standing Committees should provide the office with Minutes of their meetings. This would ensure that the CEO is aware of any issue that may present a risk to APGO. These reports would be made available to members of Council upon request. In the meantime, the manner in which the Registrar reports Complaints and Discipline to Council is sufficient. It was noted there is a difference between Committee and Panel reports and that transparency is important.

16. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

David Hunt reported (1) that earlier optimism in exploration in the North West had dissipated; (2) Three Awards of Merit will be made at the AGM; (3) an e-mail was received from Lorne Burden reporting that some 10% of geoscientists fall off the roster every year – he asked if there was any plan to respond. Zen Keizars said that he responded. It had also been discussed at GC and referred to the CEO group, who discussed in some depth the difficulty of managing the labour market or stimulating the sector. They agreed to collaborate with other associations if they believed there was something they could do. There will be no APGO response. Gord White will forward the letter to all Council members; (4) this was his final day on Council after 6 years and he had had

a really great experience working with Council, Gord and the staff. He said the longer you stay the more interesting it gets, particularly if you work your way to Vice President and President.

Doug Cater reported that Timmins hosted a big event recently. It was very well attended. Many service, exploration and mining companies attended. June 1 mining claims event – staking open to everyone – it will be one of the last times this happens – just before computer staking takes over. Competitive staking in some areas. Some mining companies going out to stake claims. Refreshing optimism in the area.

17. TREASURER’S REPORT

Tony Lotimer briefly reviewed the May financial statements. Issue of higher Receivables mentioned at the last meeting were brought into line.

18. REGIONAL COUNCILLORS’ AND COUNCILLORS AT LARGE REPORTS

Ben Berger, North East: Some optimism here. Some prospectors selling some of their properties which has not been seen for a while. Some exploration going on but still quiet.

John McBride, North West: No report.

Doug Cater, South West: Mining Minister’s Advisory Committee will meet June 15.

Peter Diorio, Central: Thanked everyone for their help and support as his 6 year term ends today.

Zen Keizars, South East: The first annual Ottawa Pub Night was held – good number attended. Well received presentation on gold by Chris Fleming. Working with David Leng and Christine Vaillancourt on the description of the role of Councillor. Annual Gemboree will be held at the end of July. If anyone would like to participate let him know.

Christine Vaillancourt, CaL: Nothing to report.

Shelly Cuddy, CaL: Nothing to report.

David Leng, CaL: Bill Pearson will give a presentation on the APGO Education Foundation at the AGM. There is good potential for APGO to work with the Foundation through the Mentoring Program. There will be an article in Field Notes next week. Presently there are approximately 18 pairs in the Mentoring Program. Part of the potential of working together could be bringing the recipients into the Program.

Bob Morrison, CaL: Believes the biggest risk to APGO is non-members. Most important person now is Aftab, who is driving the process of discovering and pursuing non-registered practitioners. He finds it difficult to get people to join any union/organization. He stressed the importance of pushing APGO at College/University level to get the students to join because peer pressure works. Large and medium sized companies encourage employees to get registered. Smaller companies not so much. Dorene Weston added that the IA Fund has again expanded its office in Toronto to support the internationally trained. She agreed to send Bob the link to their website.

19. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair announced the following dates for Council Meetings in 2016-17:

July 21 – if needed by teleconference
September 8
November 10
January 12
March 9
May 11
June 8 + AGM

20. CHECK-IN ON TODAY'S MEETING

No questions or concerns were raised. The entire Council gave recognition to the outgoing President, Mark Priddle, and thanked him for his outstanding year as Chair.

21. IN CAMERA

An in camera session followed.

22. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion 113 - 3: Tony Lotimer moved to adjourn the meeting at 1.30 p.m. Seconded by David Hunt. All in favour.

Next Meeting: July 21, 2016 if required or September 8, 2016



President

SUMMARY LIST OF MOTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

MOTIONS

Motion 113 - 1: Doug Cater moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Brad Leonard. All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion 113 - 2: Shelly Cuddy moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Seconded by David Hunt. All in favour. Motion carried.

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