

Minutes of a Special Meeting of The Association of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at the Canad Inns Fort Garry, Ambassador F, 1824 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

PRESENT: Lesley McFarlane, presiding; Ruth Eden; Jonathan Epp; Marcia Friesen; Lindsay Melvin; Dave Owens; Sheryl Rosenberg; Chris Trenholm; Steve Vieweg.

ALSO PRESENT: Digvar Jayas; Ganpat Lodha; Grant Koropatnick; Fiona Hillier.

REGRETS: Fred Cross; Pamela Fulton-Regula; John Guenther; Sarantos Mattheos; Howard Procyshyn; Don Spangelo; Brett Todd.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Lesley McFarlane called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm.

President McFarlane introduced herself, councillors, staff and welcomed the members; thanking them for attending tonight's meeting.

Council proposed a page: "Rules for the Meeting" and sought the will of the members through a paper ballot prior to the meeting. The majority (66 to 14) voted in favour of the proposed rules for the meeting.

President McFarlane acknowledged that the vote took place prior to the "call to order" therefore, she ruled that the vote was outside of a properly constituted meeting. Notwithstanding the will of the members was obtained by a fair vote, she advised that the rules for the meeting as presented would be voluntary.

UPDATE ON COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

In 2014 Council published the Strategic Priorities Report. Three priorities (from the Ends) were selected by Council as high priority items:

- **Public Perception: Comprehensive strategy to update our public profile**
 - Association Name Change (new logo) following a national trend to make organization names more relevant and accessible to the public.
 - Website updated (new style, new features, easier to navigate).
 - Plans for media campaign later this year to promote profession.

- **Government Relations:**
 - Increased communications to MLAs to improve knowledge and awareness of engineering and geoscience.
 - Seeking to positively interact with government.
 - Three information sessions on the proposed Act changes were held in 2015 for members, other professions and the general public.
 - A successful government reception was held at the legislature last winter.

- **Recruitment and Retention:**
 - Partnering with U of M Faculty of Engineering and WISE Program to help with recruitment.
 - 30 by 30 Campaign to increase female members to 30% of all newly registered professional members by the year 2030. Currently we are leading the country.
 - Association won the Most Interactive Booth at this year's Rotary Career Symposium.

SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Stakeholder Engagement:**
 - Also known as Ownership Linkage. Council has identified a list of stakeholder groups.
 - Council recently set a plan to meet with the different groups; including indigenous groups, school divisions, and other under-represented groups.

- **New India Chapter Group Formed:**
In addition to the Filipino Members and Chinese Member Chapters, we now have the India Members Chapter.

- **FE Exam Policy:**
The new FE exam policy has created another pathway to licensure for international applicants.

- **98% Compliance with ProDev Program:**
The Continuing Competency Committee has achieved 98% member compliance with the ProDev program. Currently leading in Canada.

- **Task Group Model:**
Moving to the task group model has resulted in reaching a broad cross-section of members and has increased participation by first-time volunteers.

LOOKING AHEAD

- 2016 AGM Format Change:
It was noted from the 2015 Ingenium week that there was significantly greater attendance on the Thursday but much less were able to come back for the AGM on Friday morning. In an effort to ensure that the AGM is accessible to a broad section of members, Council has passed a motion for a new format for the 2016 AGM.

Thursday, October 27, 2016 – Ingenium professional development day (8:30-2:00) with the AGM to follow (2:00-4:30pm). Reception to follow. The Gala Dinner and Dance will still occur on the Friday night.

- 2020 Centennial Year:
A task group is working on a plan for the 100th anniversary celebrations. The task group will propose 2-3 alternatives to Council for approval.

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION #1 FROM THE AGM OCTOBER 2015

President McFarlane introduced Jonathan Epp, Chair of the Resolution #1 Task Group and thanked him and the task group for their work.

Councillor Epp provided background to the events leading to Resolution #1 in an attempt to help clear up any confusion. He then spoke to the four points of Resolution #1:

- Response to first and second points; it was noted that both requests were very similar and treated together. The speaking notes presented by legal counsel Wells Peever at the AGM explained the rationale for Council's action and is available on the website. It was confirmed that the Act empowers Council to remove, reprimand or suspend a councillor.
- Response to the third point; after careful consideration Council believes they have both the right and the responsibility to remove councillors for a breach of the councillor Code of Conduct. Council wants to maintain a high standard. Therefore, Council will not be removing its authority to remove a councillor.
- Response to the fourth point; Council supports a mediation type process. Council passed a motion to create a task group to research a mediation process suitable for use on any future allegations of a code of conduct violation.

In summary, Council believes that removal of a councillor would only be exercised as a last resort if the situation warrants.

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION #2 FROM THE AGM OCTOBER 2015

President McFarlane introduced Steven Vieweg, CPA, chair of the Resolution #2 Task Group and thanked him and the task group for their work.

Councillor Vieweg presented background information on the work done by the task group:

- The task group reviewed current financial policies followed by Council, the Auditor General's guideline and policies followed by other associations and Engineers Canada. The task group recommended the creation of an audit committee.
- He reported that Council had already approved the new committee.
- The Audit Committee will be comprised of five individuals: two council members, two members in good standing that demonstrate financial literacy and one non-member from another regulatory organization who holds an accounting designation.

President McFarlane closed this part of the meeting by noting some volunteer opportunities that exist for members to get involved in the Association.

The floor was opened to questions.

Members who asked questions or made comments included:

Dan Blanchette	Adam Pawlikewich
Neal Boyd	Arnold Permut
Jules Gareau	Alan Pollard
David Grant	Raymond Reichelt
Jordan Ilott	George Rempel
Digvar Jayas	Roger Rempel
Dick Johnson	Frank Roberts
Garland Laliberte	Ian Smallwood
Dave McKibbin	Victor Thielmann
Andrew McMillan	Peter Washchysyn
Youssef Mouzahem	Ed Wilson
Julian Nedohin-Macek	Dan Zilinski

President McFarlane directed questions to councillors. Time was taken to respond to all questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no one at the microphone, President McFarlane thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm.