

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held online and at 870 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg, MB on Thursday, March 6, 2025.

PRESENT: David Amorim presiding; Steve Brennan; Kathryn Atamanchuk; Kaitlin Fritz; Mike Houvardas; Carol Martiniuk; Crystal Paculan; Alan Pollard; Justin Rempel; Julia Singh; Lisa Thomson; Shipra Verma; Kyle Ward; Steven Wu

ALSO PRESENT: Rob DeRooy; Michael Gregoire; Fiona Hillier; Angela Moore; Cella Rousseau; Antonio Ruales; Lisa Stepnuk; Anjanette Zielinski

REGRETS: Doug Bell; Jitendra Paliwal

25.02.1 CALL TO ORDER

President Amorim called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

25.02.2 TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Amorim announced that going forward, a different councillor would read the acknowledgment at the beginning of each Council meeting.

Councillor Ward read the statement acknowledging the traditional lands on which Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba sits and to recognize Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba's commitment to Indigenous peoples and communities.

25.02.3 INTRODUCTIONS

President Amorim welcomed everyone attending the meeting, both in person and online.

25.02.4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Amorim asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

Councillor Verma requested a discussion on the Association's role concerning tariffs, and its responsibility to the members and the public.

Councillor Rempel requested to add a topic for discussion during the In Camera section.

Hearing no objections, both items were added to the agenda. Hearing no further changes, the agenda was adopted as amended.

25.02.5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

President Amorim asked if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare on any item on the agenda. Hearing none, Council was reminded that a conflict of interest could be declared at any time, for any item, on the agenda.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

25.02.6 B1. CHAIR'S REPORT - PRESIDENT DAVID AMORIM, P.ENG.

President Amorim presented his report and summarized the key points discussed at the Engineers Canada Winter Meetings, which took place on February 27th and 28th.

25.02.7 B2. CEO'S REPORT – MICHAEL GREGOIRE, P.ENG., FEC

Michael Gregoire presented his report highlighting the notable activities by each department. He discussed the Act Change Report, noting that internal engagement sessions were nearly complete, and that external stakeholder engagement will begin this month. He also reported that after a review of the three proposals received for legal services to support the drafting of changes to the Act, a firm has been selected. Lastly, Michael reviewed the Governance Scorecard, and addressed questions concerning two indicators that are performing significantly below target.

25.02.8 B3. ENGINEERS CANADA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

President Amorim mentioned that Jitendra Paliwal sends his regrets and stated that any questions on the report can be sent to him, which he will then share with Jitendra.

25.02.9 B4. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

President Amorim mentioned that Doug Bell sends his regrets and stated that any questions on the report can be sent to him, which he will then share with Doug.

25.02.10 B5. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Amorim spoke to the Governance Committee report.

Councillor Thomson requested that the report include the committee's action item list along with status information moving forward. President Amorim will relay this request to the chair of the committee.

President Amorim invited Allan Silk from the Governance Committee to present a report on the President's term length. Allan reviewed practices from other Canadian regulators and other professional associations in Manitoba and shared feedback from former Presidents. He emphasized a review of the workload and work-life balance if considering a two-year term.

President Amorim noted that the purpose of the presentation was to elicit a recommendation from the Governance Committee on the term length for the president. He noted that a recommendation from the committee will be forthcoming.

President Amorim called for a break and indicated that once the meeting resumed, Council would proceed to agenda item D2. Following the presentation, Council would review agenda items B6 and D1.

At 1:33 p.m. Council took a break.
At 1:45 p.m. Council returned from break.

COUNCIL EDUCATION

25.02.11 D2. FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE - GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS INC President Amorim welcomed Rob DeRooy from Governance Solutions.

Rob from GSI provided a presentation on financial governance, covering the board's roles in financial direction, evaluating financial statements, and gaining reasonable assurance of the organization's financial health.

The floor was opened to questions and comments. After, President Amorim thanked Rob for his presentation.

At 3:01 p.m. Council took a break.
At 3:13 p.m. Council returned from break.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL (continued)

25.02.12 B6. BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT Councillor Thomson, Chair of the By-law Review Committee, provided an overview of six proposals under consideration and noted that members may still submit additional proposals in response to the call for member by-law proposals.

CONSENT AGENDA

25.02.13 C1. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 30, 2025

C2. MINUTES OF THE IN CAMERA SESSION OF JANUARY 30, 2025

C3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Council appoints President David Amorim as Vice Chair of the 2025 Nominating Committee.

C4. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA MANITOBA DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION

Council approves the recommendation to nominate Jason Mann, P.Geo., FGC for the position of Geoscientists Canada Manitoba Director and agrees to forward this recommendation to Geoscientists Canada for his appointment to their Board.

C5. AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Council appoints Tami Kjerulf, P.Eng. to the Audit Committee for a two-year term.

C6. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Council approves the appointment of Vitaliy Churilov, P.Eng. to the Registration Committee for a two-year term, renewable up to six years.

By placement on the consent agenda, Council has pre-approved these items with the approval of the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

COUNCIL EDUCATION (continued)

25.02.14 D1. EVALUATION OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

President Amorim reviewed the comments from the January meeting.

GOVERNANCE

25.02.15 G1. MANUAL OF ADMISSIONS – PROPOSED ACADEMIC CRITERIA

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Michael Gregoire, CEO & Registrar, dated March 6, 2025.

MOTION 1:

It was MOVED by Kathryn Atamanchuk and SECONDED that Council authorizes the task group to move the draft Manual of Admissions changes forward for further engagement with geoscience academics and officials, review by legal counsel and document formatting by communications.

CARRIED

MOTION 2:

It was MOVED by Kathryn Atamanchuk and SECONDED that Kathryn Atamanchuk be appointed to the interview panel to interview candidates for the Academic Review Committee.

CARRIED

25.02.16 G2. MANUAL OF ADMISSIONS – INTERIM ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Michael Gregoire, CEO & Registrar, dated March 6, 2025.

MOTION 1:

It was MOVED by Carol Martiniuk and SECONDED that Council approves amendments to the Manual of Admissions (see Appendix 1) related to academic assessments performed by APEGS and that Council endorses entering into a letter of agreement to use APEGS' assessor to conduct assessments for consideration by the Registration Committee.

CARRIED

MOTION 2:

It was MOVED by Lisa Thomson and SECONDED that Council approves changing the Association's current transcript requirement for internationally-educated applicants to the WES ICAP course by course document effectively immediately.

CARRIED

MOTION 3:

It was MOVED by Kaitlin Fritz and SECONDED that Council provides direction to charge assessment applicants the re-assessment fee of \$125.

Council discussed whether the Association should charge an assessment fee or waive it until the new manual of admissions is implemented.

President Amorim called the question on the motion.

DEFEATED

Councillor Paculan Abstained

MOTION 4:

It was MOVED by Steven Brennan and SECONDED that Council approves waiving any assessment fees until June 30, 2025 or until the new Manual of Admissions comes into force (whichever is earlier) and directs Management to provide appropriate notification to applicants.

At 4:10 p.m. Councillor Pollard left the meeting.

CARRIED

At 4:13 p.m. Councillor Pollard returned to the meeting.

25.02.17

G3. PROPOSED CHANGE TO BY-LAW 4.3 NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from the Nominating Committee, dated March 6, 2025.

MOTION:

It was MOVED by Kathryn Atamanchuk and SECONDED that Council forward the Principles Document for Proposed Changes to By-law 4.3 – Nomination Procedure to the By-law Committee and legal counsel for review and drafting of amended by-law language, for Council's consideration at the June 2025 meeting.

Council deliberated on the recommendation to amend the current nomination procedure. The proposed change would remove the Nomination by Members approach and instead implement an open call, competency-based nomination process for identifying election candidates.

At 4:49 p.m. Councillor Paculan left the meeting.

Councillor Brennan proposed amending the recommendation in the Principles Document to state, "To explore the establishment of a competency-and merit-based nomination process," in order to further investigate this proposal's implications. Kathryn, as author of the document, agreed to the proposed revision as suggested.

President Amorim called the question on the motion.

CARRIED

Opposed: Councillors Pollard and Thomson, and Vice President Houvardas

President Amorim addressed Councillor Verma's earlier request to discuss the Association's response to tariffs. Due to time constraints, Councillor Verma proposed that this topic be deferred to the next Council meeting.

At 4:52 p.m. Vice President Houvardas left the meeting

25.02.18

G4. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS LIST

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Michael Gregoire, dated March 6, 2025 and the following updates were made,

- CofA Task Group – in progress
- Manual of Admissions Task Group – in progress
- Chapter Task Group – in progress
- Develop Info Package to Council candidates – in progress
- Perform an assessment of a two-year presidential term – in progress
- Nominating Committee to review their TOR – in progress
- Climate Change Resolution Task Group – in progress
- Revise GP-8.6 National Liaisons to align with Engineers Canada and Geoscientists Canada's process for appointing the Manitoba Director – in progress
- Investigation Committee to review Practice Guidelines, Practice Notes, and Practice Bulletins and Advisories and report back to Council – in progress
- Dues Relief Task Group – in progress
- Geoscientists Canada Manitoba Director Search – complete
- PIRC Task Group – in progress

- Audit Committee Interviews – complete
- CTTAM Joint Board Interviews – in progress
- Registration Committee Interviews – in progress

At 4:57 p.m. President Amorim moved that the meeting go in camera for the purposes of discussing private and confidential matters about an individual, labour relations, investigations, discipline, appeals, litigation or potential litigation.

At 5:14 p.m. Council came out of camera

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS AND ENDS

- 25.02.21 M1. E2 – PRACTITIONERS PRACTICE WITH COMPETENCE AND CONDUCT THEMSELVES PROFESSIONALLY – GREGOIRE**
Michael Gregoire, CEO & Registrar spoke to his monitoring report dated March 6, 2025.
- 25.02.22 M2. EL-6 – APPLICATION OF THE ENGINEERING AND GEOSCIENTIFIC PROFESSIONS ACT – GREGOIRE**
Michael Gregoire, CEO & Registrar spoke to his monitoring report dated March 6, 2025.

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

- 25.02.23 P1. GP-8.7 OWNERSHIP LINKAGE COMMITTEE - POLLARD**
Deferred to May 8th meeting
- 25.02.24 P2. GP-8.10 CONTINUING COMPETENCY COMMITTEE - VERMA**
Defer to May 8th meeting
- 25.02.25 P3. GP-15 COUNCIL LINKAGES WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS - FRITZ**
Councillor Fritz spoke to her monitoring report dated March 6, 2025.

Michael Gregoire suggested that this policy be forwarded to the Governance Committee to determine if it is still a Council function. President Amorim will present this to the Governance Committee at their next meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- 25.02.26 COUNCIL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ITEMS:**
N1. Applications approved by the Registration Committee
N2. Planning agenda for the next meeting
N3. Membership statistics as at January 31, 2025

- N4. Price Faculty of Engineering – Thank you
- N5. Engineers Canada Per Capita Fee Assessment Briefing Note
- N6. Registration Data Report Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba

SELF-EVALUATION

25.02.27 V1. EVALUATION PAGE FOR THIS MEETING

President Amorim asked for councillors to complete and submit the evaluation form for today's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

25.02.28 The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

David Amorim, P.Eng.
President

Michael Gregoire, P.Eng., FEC
CEO & Registrar