



Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held online and in-person at the Fort Garry Hotel on **Thursday, October 24, 2024.**

1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

President Kathryn Atamanchuk, P.Eng., FEC, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

She welcomed everyone to the 105th Annual General Meeting of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, being held both in-person and virtually.

President Atamanchuk read the Traditional Land Acknowledgment Statement.

As of the Call to Order there were 81 professional members in attendance. President Atamanchuk announced that quorum was present, and the meeting was declared duly constituted.

President Atamanchuk provided instructions for the meeting and introduced Brandon Gallacher, election manager from Data on the Spot, who reviewed the voting instructions.

2. Rules of the Meeting

President Atamanchuk introduced the rules of the meeting.

It was MOVED by David Amorim and SECONDED by Ian Smallwood that the Rules of the Meeting be approved.

Hearing no discussion, President Atamanchuk called the question on the motion.

In Favour – 96%
Opposed – 4%

CARRIED

3. Agenda

President Atamanchuk announced that one resolution was received, in accordance with By-law 13.1(d). Consideration of the resolution would be addressed in agenda item #15.

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting

President Atamanchuk asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of October 19, 2023.

Hearing none, the minutes were adopted as circulated.

She noted that there was no business arising out of the 2023 minutes.

5. Introductions

President Atamanchuk introduced the members of Council.

Those attending in person included, David Amorim, P.Eng., Mike Houvardas, P.Eng., Carol Martiniuk, P.Geo.(SM), Christina McDonald, Alan Pollard, P.Eng.(SM), FEC, Ian Smallwood, P.Eng., FEC, Kyle Ward, EIT, and Steven Wu, P.Eng., FEC.

Those attending online included, Lisa Thomson, P.Eng.

Regrets were received by Jessica Adelman, P.Geo., Crystal Aliwalas Paculan, and Shipra Verma.

Also present, Michael Gregoire, CEO, Registrar and Association Secretary, Fiona Hillier, Executive Assistant to Council and CEO, and joining online, David Gray, Registered Parliamentarian.

A welcome was extended to guests joining from outside the province and from other Manitoba associations.

Greetings were shared from Michael Wrinch, P.Eng., FEC, President of Engineers Canada, Doug Bell, P.Geo., FGC, Past President of Geoscientists Canada and Alan Pollard, P.Eng.(SM), FEC, Board Member of the Engineering and Geoscience Education Foundation.

6. Moment of Silence for Deceased Members

A moment of silence was observed in the memory of those members who passed away since the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Charles Ralph Bouskill
David Edward Cross
Nicolas Patrick Feschuk
Richard Allan Johnson

Roger Errol McCallum
Stephen Alexander Okolita
Stephen Mark Peterson
Jacob Jan Schreuder

7. Report of the President

President Atamanchuk transferred the role of Chair to Vice-President David Amorim, P.Eng., while she presented her report.

In her report, the president highlighted the significant achievements from the past year, including an extensive recruitment process that led to the appointment of Michael Gregoire as CEO, Registrar, and Secretary. She also noted the formation of four new committees; Appeal Committee, By-law Review Committee, Governance Committee, and Human Resources Committee, as well as initiating the process to undertake a potential Act re-write project. She concluded her report by expressing her gratitude to Council, staff and volunteers for their support and commitment.

Vice-President Amorim called for any questions relating to the report.

Hearing none, the Secretary was asked to record that the Report of the President was discussed and received as information.

Vice-President Amorim returned control of the meeting back to President Atamanchuk.

8. Report of the CEO

President Atamanchuk invited Michael Gregoire to give the report of the CEO.

Mr. Gregoire reported on the many projects and initiatives undertaken by the Association over the past year, which includes a review towards a potential Act re-write, the development of our Equity in Professional Regulation Action Plan, and the significant strides in implementing the recommendations from the Governance Review from 2022. He concluded his report by thanking everyone for their ongoing support and dedication to our professions.

President Atamanchuk called for any questions relating to the report.

Franz Kasala, P.Eng., commented on the growth in membership and asked if there are any studies that show how many new interns are securing engineering jobs, noting that an increasing number are taking non-engineering positions.

Michael Gregoire responded by saying that the Association does not track the employment status of interns, but we are observing growth across the country with other regulators, and this is something we will continue to monitor.

Hearing no further questions, President Atamanchuk moved onto the next agenda item.

9. Result of the Ballot for Elected Councillors

President Atamanchuk named the scrutineers appointed to oversee the 2024 Council election and by-law vote: Gregory Page, P.Eng., FEC, Don Spangelo, P.Eng.(SM), FEC, and Suman Suri, P.Eng.

She invited Gregory Page, Chief Scrutineer, to present the results of the ballot for elected councillors.

Mr. Page reported that this year there were six candidates for three professional engineer positions and two candidates for one professional geoscientist position. He then announced the ballot results as follows,

The three professional engineers elected for a two-year term were,

- Kaitlin Fritz, P.Eng., FEC
- Alan Pollard, P.Eng.(SM), FEC
- Lisa Thomson, P.Eng.

The one professional geoscientist elected for a two-year term was,

- Julia Singh, P.Geo.

President Atamanchuk asked the Secretary to record that the result of the ballot for elected councillors was received.

She acknowledged the four elected councillors and announced the names of the two newly appointed councillors: Steven Brennan and Justin Rempel.

10. By-law Changes

President Atamanchuk invited Gregory Page, Chief Scrutineer, to present the results of the by-law changes.

Mr. Page reported that this year, Council proposed nine separate by-law changes. He then announced the results of the By-law vote as follows,

- By-law 1.1 Definition of an Officer – PASSED
- By-law 4.19 Chair’s Participation – PASSED
- By-law 9.1.3 Senior Members – PASSED
- By-law 10.1 Dues and Fees – PASSED
- By-law 15.7.2 Access to a professional members disciplinary file – PASSED
- By-law 18.2 Liability insurance requirements professional members, temporary licensees, and SSPL – PASSED
- By-law 19.2 Paying panel members for long disciplinary hearings – PASSED
- By-law 19.2 Salary for CEO and Registrar – PASSED
- New By-law Minimum time for expert reports – PASSED

President Atamanchuk asked the Secretary to record that the results of the by-law vote were received.

11. Auditor’s Report

President Atamanchuk invited Don Bergen, CPA, CA, Chair of the Audit Committee, to present the report of the external auditor.

Mr. Bergen provided a summary of the 2024 audit and reported that Fort Group issued Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba an “unqualified” or clean audit report with no identified deficiencies.

President Atamanchuk announced that Council approved the auditor’s report and the 2024 financial statements as part of its governance policies and processes.

She asked if there was any discussion on the report. Hearing none, she asked the Secretary to record the Auditor's Report as received and record the 2024 Financial Statements as information.

12. Appointment of Auditors

President Atamanchuk invited Don Bergen, CPA, CA, Chair of the Audit Committee, to present the Audit Committee's recommendation of the external auditor.

Mr. Bergen reported that the year ending June 30, 2024 was the second annual audit performed by Fort Group. Based on their strong performance, the Audit Committee recommends that Fort Group be appointed as the Association's auditor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Kyle Ward that Fort Group be appointed as the Association's auditor for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

President Atamanchuk asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, she called the question on the motion.

In Favour – 100%
CARRIED

13. 2024-2025 Budget and Schedule of Dues and Fees

President Atamanchuk reported that the 2024-2025 Budget and the Schedule of Dues and Fees were approved by Council, in accordance with By-law 10.1(b).

She invited David Amorim, Chair of the Finance Committee, to provide a presentation on the 2024-2025 budget.

Councillor Amorim presented an overview of the budget, noting that Council approved a largely balanced budget that aligns with the Association's activities, with no increase in member dues.

President Atamanchuk asked if there was any discussion on the presentation.

Franz Kasala, P.Eng., noted that line reference numbers 47 and 49 were missing from the 2024 Budget Notes and requested more information on number 49, which pertains to unrealized gains on investments. Ian Wiebe, Director of Finance and IT, confirmed that the exclusion of these reference numbers was an error and explained that they relate to accounting practices under GAAP, gains and losses on investments held due to market value changes, and the reconciliation between revenue recognized and cash received.

Ken Boyko, P.Eng.(SM) commented that the auditor's financial report offers transparency regarding both achievements and deviations from acceptable financial performance. In contrast, other reports seem to lack this level of transparency. He recommends that a balanced scorecard approach is adopted for future reporting to members. David Amorim noted that this would be taken into consideration.

Hearing no further questions, President Atamanchuk asked the Secretary to record that the 2024-2025 Budget and the Schedule of Dues and Fees were discussed and received as information.

14. Business Arising out of the Minutes from the Last Annual General Meeting

As per By-law 13.8.4(c) resolutions adopted at an annual general meeting shall be considered by, but were not binding upon, the Council, but the Council shall report on the disposition of any such resolution at the next annual general meeting.

President Atamanchuk announced that there were no resolutions passed at the 2023 Annual General Meeting to report on.

15. Motions (as per By-law 13.1(c) and By-law 13.1(d))

As per By-law 13.1(c) special business properly brought before the meeting shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting.

As per By-law 13.1(d) special business proposed by professional members shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting provided that the motion was received by the Secretary no less than 48 hours before the start of the meeting.

Mr. Gregoire advised that one resolution was received.

President Atamanchuk read the resolution.

Resolution 1:

WHEREAS the changing climate enhances risks (physical, regulatory, technological and financial) that can reasonably be expected to be managed by Engineers and Geoscientists, and the firms for which they work;

AND WHEREAS registrant knowledge and skills in responding to the implications of a changing climate should be enhanced to position Geoscientists and Engineers to maintain their ability and authority to effectively manage climate related risk;

AND WHEREAS amongst young professionals and those considering a career in engineering and geoscience the changing climate is now a significant consideration in their perception of the professions and their desire to have a career in engineering and geoscience;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba allocate the necessary human and financial resources to develop a strategic plan to address the roles and responsibilities of the professions in a changing climate. The plan should guide members, including all registered professionals, licensees, permit holders, certificate holders and regulated firms, on how to include and respond to the changing climate so that the engineering and geosciences professions remain relevant and effective in discharging their duties while also attracting top talent.

It has been MOVED by Curtis Hull and SECONDED by Jeff O’Driscoll that Resolution 1 be sent forward for Council’s consideration.

President Atamanchuk asked if the mover or seconder would like to begin the discussion

Curt Hull, P.Eng. and Jeff O’Driscoll, P.Eng. both spoke to the resolution.

Council informed the membership that they received a presentation on an Environment and Climate Change proposal last year and explained the reasons why they decided not to pursue it, which included a lack of details and direction, and a misunderstanding of how consulting members currently navigate the code environment.

Curt Hull explained that the resolution is meant to encourage Council to determine what needs to be put in place to support the membership, without being overly prescriptive. The aim is to create a forum for discussion and collaboration.

Hearing no further discussion, President Atamanchuk called the question on the motion.

In Favour – 57%
Opposed – 43%

CARRIED

16. Recognition of Retiring Councillors

President Atamanchuk recognized the following councillors who had completed their term on Council and thanked them for their service.

Jessica Adelman, P.Geo.
Ian Smallwood, P.Eng., FEC

17. Gavel Ceremony

The Scott gavel was passed from Kathryn Atamanchuk to David Amorim in accordance with the official ceremony for turning over the gavel to the incoming president. Mr. Amorim signed the scroll, which was then returned to its place in the gavel.

18. Incoming President’s Address

Incoming President Amorim discussed the transformational period the Association and Council have experienced over the last few years. He shared some key highlights and thoughts for the upcoming year. He concluded his address by emphasizing the importance of volunteers and encouraged members to get involved. He expressed gratitude to Council, especially out-going President Atamanchuk, for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

19. Closing Announcements and Adjournment

President Atamanchuk thanked everyone for attending and announced that this year’s Ingenium Professional Development Seminars would be taking place virtually, from November 19th to 21st

President Atamanchuk adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

Kathryn Atamanchuk, P.Eng., FEC
President

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

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