

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 870 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3M 2M7

PRESENT: Jitendra Paliwal presiding; Vaibhav Banthia; Carolyn Geddert; Neil Klassen; Cheryl Lashek (via teleconference); Katrine Levesque; Jason Mann; Christina McDonald; Linda Murphy (via teleconference); Allan Silk; Ian Smallwood; Efrem Teklemariam; Izabela Witkowska (via teleconference)

ALSO PRESENT: Grant Koropatnick; Fiona Hillier; Doug Bell (via teleconference); Dawn Nedohin-Macek (via teleconference)

REGRETS: Ruth Eden

OBSERVERS: Mike Gregoire; Angela Moore; Scott Sarna (via teleconference); Lisa Stepnuk (via teleconference); Ian Wiebe

20.04.1 CALL TO ORDER

President Paliwal called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.
He welcomed everyone to the first ever physically distant meeting of Council.

20.04.2 TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Paliwal 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.

20.04.3 INTRODUCTIONS

President Paliwal announced that due to the Public Health mandated restrictions, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba was unable to accommodate presenters or observers at the June 11th Council meeting.

He welcomed staff, who were providing resources for specific agenda items. He welcomed councillors Lashek, Murphy and Witkowska, along with directors Bell and Nedohin-Macek who were joining the meeting via teleconference.

20.04.4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Paliwal asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was adopted as circulated.

20.04.5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

20.04.6 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MAY 14, 2020

President Paliwal asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2020.

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that the sentence in section 20.03.11 that states “Any member presently in the ‘retired’ category would not pay dues, but any member going into the new ‘senior’ category would pay dues.” be changed to say “the committee continues to discuss dues for the new senior member category. One suggestion is that, going forward, senior members pay a nominal amount for dues.”

CARRIED

Hearing no further corrections, the minutes were adopted as amended.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

20.04.7 B1. CHAIR'S REPORT - PRESIDENT JITENDRA PALIWAL, P.ENG., FEC

President Paliwal reported the highlights of the Engineers Canada Board Meeting and AGM (May 21-23) and the Geoscience Canada AGM (June 4-5). He noted that further details were provided in the director's reports.

20.04.8 B2. ENGINEERS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

President Paliwal invited Dawn Nedohin-Macek to speak to the report. Highlights from the Board Meeting and AGM included the board's first self-assessment report, updated national position statements, approved criteria changes for accreditation and the approved by-law change on how per-capita assessments were made for registrants.

20.04.9 B3. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

President Paliwal invited Doug Bell to speak to the report. Highlights from the Board Meeting and AGM included the approval of the new Fellow of Geoscientists Canada nominees and the slides from the CEO's report. Doug referred to slides “Diversity – Gender Balance” and “Canadian University Earth Science Registrants” which indicated a downward trend of the number of new graduates registering.

President Paliwal thanked the directors for their reports.

At 1:00 p.m. Doug Bell and Dawn Nedohin-Macek left the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

20.04.10 Council approved the Consent Agenda items with the adoption of the agenda.

C1. APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council received a list of applications approved by the Registration Committee between May 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020.

COUNCIL EDUCATION

20.04.11 D1. EVALUATION OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

President Paliwal spoke briefly about the evaluations from the May meeting and noted that overall, everyone was doing a good job.

GOVERNANCE

20.04.12 G1. 2020-2021 OPERATING BUDGET

Council referred to Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated June 11, 2020.

President Paliwal invited Councillor Teklemariam, Chair of the Finance Committee to introduce the budget. Councillor Teklemariam remarked that there would be no dues increase this year and that the budget covered all regulatory, essential and program items. Vice President Mann, Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, further commented that the Association held revenues from membership dues in cash and out of the markets, which was fortunate as it left the Association in a good cash position during the period of financial uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

It was **MOVED** by Efreem Teklemariam and **SECONDED** by Jason Mann that Council approves the 2020-2021 Operating Budget with dues and fees as presented.

Councillor Teklemariam invited Grant Koropatnick to present the 2020-2021 budget to Council. In the presentation, Grant spoke of the COVID-19 pandemic and reassured Council that the Association was in a good position primarily due to careful spending and a strong cash position.

He spoke of the work of the Finance Committee and the budget planning principles and goals. The 2020-2021 budget was based on the member due set last year with no increase, a post pandemic recovery to ensure the ongoing stability of the Association and maintaining the programming in the Equity and Representation department (Council's strategic priority on End 5).

The floor was opened up to questions which resulted in discussions on the first-floor renovations, the increase to credit card transaction fees, legal budget, cash on hand and the potential repurposing of unused Centennial funds.

Hearing no further discussion, President Paliwal called the question.

CARRIED

20.04.13 G2. 2020 By-law Proposals

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Councillor Geddert, Chair of the By-law Review Committee dated June 11, 2020.

President Paliwal invited Councillor Geddert to speak to the by-law proposals. Councillor Geddert reminded council that the term “former members” did not mean retired members but referred to members whom resigned from the Association.

Councillor Geddert referred Council to Appendix F, page 3 (9.1.2 (e)) and asked if a time frame for members on leave was necessary since each request was reviewed on a case by case basis. After some discussion, Council agreed to keep the proposed time frame.

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Carolyn Geddert that Council refer the by-law changes laid out in Council Proposed By-law Appendix F Proposed Wording for By-laws to a vote by the professional members.

CARRIED

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Katrine Levesque that Council approves the Policy on Designation for Former Members.

CARRIED

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Allan Silk that Council approves the Policy on Reduced Professional Development Reporting Targets.

Council discussed the importance of monitoring the targets going forward to determine if they were appropriate.

Hearing no further discussion, President Paliwal called the question.

CARRIED

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Katrine Levesque that Council approves the Draft Policy on Retention of Stamp by Former Members.

Councillor Geddert observed that many wanted to keep their stamp. It was pointed out that the draft policy would be in conflict with the current by-laws and the Act. Council agreed to vote down the motion and bring the revised policy back in September after further consideration of better wording.

Hearing no further discussion, President Paliwal called the question.

DEFEATED

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Ian Smallwood that Council refer the by-law changes laid out in Member Proposes By-law Appendix B Proposed Wording for By-laws to a vote by the professional members.

CARRIED
Councillor Mann - Opposed

20.04.14 G3. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS LIST

Council considered a memo from Grant Koropatnick dated June 11, 2020 and the cumulative outstanding action list from Council meetings after May 14, 2020.

- IC/DC Procedures Manual Task Group – in progress

20.04.15 G4. PLANNING AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Council considered a memo from President Paliwal dated June 11, 2020 and the proposed agenda for the next Council meeting on September 10, 2020.

Monitoring reports will be prepared for:

GP-8.3	Executive Committee	Neil Klassen
E-6	Consumers have access to a reasonable supply of practitioners' services	Grant Koropatnick
EL-3.1	Financial Condition	Grant Koropatnick
EL-7	Compensation and Benefits	Grant Koropatnick
EL-8	Communication and Support to Council	Grant Koropatnick

At 2:57 p.m. Council went on break

At 3:07 p.m. Councillor Geddert left the meeting.

At 3:12 p.m. Council returned from break and President Paliwal 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 3:55 p.m. Council came out of Camera

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS AND ENDS

20.04.18 M1. E-1 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PRACTISING ARE REGISTERED AND LICENSED – KOROPATNICK

Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated June 11, 2020.

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Katrine Levesque that Council accepts the reasonable interpretation of the policy statements and approves this report.

CARRIED

20.04.19 M2. EL-3.1 FINANCIAL CONDITION – KOROPATNICK

Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated June 11, 2020.

It was MOVED by Katrine Levesque and SECONDED by Vaibhav Banthia that Council accepts the reasonable interpretation of the policy statements and approves this report.

CARRIED

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

20.04.20 P1. GP-8.1 NOMINATING COMMITTEE – EDEN

Monitoring Report by Past President Eden dated June 11, 2020

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Linda Murphy that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

20.04.21 P2. GP-8.11 AUDIT COMMITTEE – BANTHIA

Monitoring Report by Councillor Banthia dated June 11, 2020

It was MOVED by Vaibhav Banthia and SECONDED by Efrem Teklemariam that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

20.04.22 S1. EL-3 REMOVAL OF POLICY TO GP

Council referred to Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated June 11, 2020.

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Efrem Teklemariam that Council moves the EL-3 policy from the CEO Executive Limitations into the terms of reference for the Finance Committee as given in policy GP-8.13.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

20.04.23 COUNCIL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ITEMS:

- N1. Membership Statistics as at May 31, 2020
- N2. Financial Statement as at April 30, 2020
- N3. Office Precautionary Measures
- N4. Fairness Act Amendment – Discussion Paper
Fairness Act Amendment Survey – EngGeoMB Response
- N5. Centennial Gala Dinner cancelled

SELF-EVALUATION

20.04.24 V1. EVALUATION PAGE FOR THIS MEETING

President Paliwal asked for councillors to fill out the evaluation form for today's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

20.04.25 The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 12:30 p.m.

Jitendra Paliwal, P.Eng., FEC
President

Grant Koropatnick, P.Eng., FEC
CEO & Registrar