

Minutes of the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia

The meeting was held at the Victoria Conference Centre in Victoria, BC, on Saturday, October 22, 2016. After establishing that quorum of members was present, Chair, President Dr. Michael Wrinch, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.), convened the meeting at 8:33 am. The Chair noted the ancestral, traditional and unceded Aboriginal territories of the Coast Salish People. The Chair noted that the legal and notification requirements for the meeting had been met and the meeting duly constituted.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ralph Sultan, P.Eng., MLA for West Vancouver-Capilano, brought greetings to the AGM on behalf of Government. In his comments he noted the importance of engineering and geoscience to the economy and the well-being of society. He reminded those present that self-regulation is a privilege given by government and the public to the professions.

A video message from the Hon. Andrew Wilkinson, Minister of Advanced Education, was played. The Minister thanked members for their contributions to the people of BC and provided good wishes for a successful meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF 2015/2016 COUNCIL

The Chair introduced the 2015/2016 members of Council to those assembled.

COUNCIL ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair reviewed Council's role and responsibilities under APEGBC's primary mandate of protection of the public. APEGBC is governed by a Council of elected members and government appointees responsible for setting policy and overseeing the affairs of the association as regulated by the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. Council is responsible for providing policy, governance and strategic direction for the operation of the association, including all financial matters. Council is accountable to the public, via the Ministry of Advanced Education, and the members of the association for both the governance and the management of the association as laid out in the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*.

The Chair remarked that he was pleased to begin work on the final year of the Strategic Plan for 2014-2017. The Strategic Plan will guide the association over the next year as a proactive, forward-thinking organization that delivers value to its members, industry, government, and the public.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the agenda of the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC be approved.

CARRIED

INTRODUCTION OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

Eli Mina, registered parliamentarian, was introduced as the parliamentarian for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MEETING RULES

The parliamentarian reviewed the meeting rules and voting procedures. The meeting rules pertain to this specific meeting and are not a proposal of permanent special meeting rules.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the Annual General Meeting rules be approved.

CARRIED

WELCOME TO VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

President Wrinch introduced and recognized the dedicated volunteers and contributors who give their valuable time and expertise to enhance the guidance and standards that are available to members, and which maintain our commitment to excellence. Volunteers serve as branch and division executives, on committees, task forces, and joint practice boards and as directors to provincial and national associations. President Wrinch also thanked the past presidents of the association, deans of educational institutions, student representatives to APEGBC and officials of other associations in British Columbia, Canada and the United States.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 96TH (2015) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Chair advised that the minutes of the 2015 AGM were made available at the registration desk for this meeting.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 96th Annual General Meeting (2015) of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC be approved as printed.

CARRIED

RESULTS OF THE 2016/2017 COUNCIL ELECTION

Paul Blanchard, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.), Chief Scrutineer, explained the process followed to receive and count both electronic ballots and paper ballots for the 2016/2017 Council election. Mr. Blanchard stated that he and fellow scrutineers, Kathleen Kompauer, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.) and Dennis McJunkin, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.) were satisfied that both the election and the special ballot were conducted in a confidential, fair and impartial manner.

This year 19.3% of eligible voting members participated. 4,902 votes were cast online and 19 paper ballots were returned.

The council election results were announced as follows:

President: Bob Stewart, P.Eng.

Vice President: Dr. Ed Casas, P.Eng.

Councillors elected to a two-year term: Brock Nanson, P.Eng., Larry Spence, P.Eng., Caroline Andrewes, P.Eng., Susan Hayes, P.Eng., Ross Rettie, P.Eng., FEC

Keith Sketchley P.Eng., requested information on how APEGBC's IT department and the external service provider ensure the quality of the software and the handling of the electronic ballots for the election. He raised a concern that a document distributed by APEGBC indicated that the results were provided to the Lead of IT Support.

Mr. Blanchard noted that it is the external service provider, Everyone Counts, that collects the votes, and that this provider has experience working with government and other organizations. To validate the system, staff does a trial run of the voting process and provides the results of the tests to the election scrutineers. It is the responsibility of the scrutineers to advise if they are satisfied that the process has been tested and is secure. No one has any knowledge of the voting results until after the election closes and they are delivered simultaneously to the Chief Scrutineer and the Registrar.

There were no further questions.

DESTRUCTION OF COUNCIL ELECTION BALLOTS

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the electronic and paper ballots for the council election and bylaw vote be destroyed at the end of three months.

CARRIED

ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair directed the assembly's attention to the 2015/2016 Annual Report, which included reports from the President, the Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, and APEGBC's financial statements. The report was distributed electronically. Printed copies were sent out on request and made available at the AGM registration desk.

President's Report

President Wrinch, reported on APEGBC's highlights and accomplishments during 2015/2016.

The Chair opened the floor for questions regarding his report.

Timothy Smith, P.Geo., Eng.L. FGC, FEC (Hon.), asked if APEGBC considered the cost implications of the regulation of companies? Has a cost/benefit analysis been completed?

President Wrinch advised that the Advisory Task Force on Corporate Practice is examining the benefits as well as the issues and costs associated with regulating companies and that this work is still underway.

Derek Doyle, P.Eng., FEC (Hon.), asked if it would be reasonable for APEGBC to work towards a single Code of Ethics for all Engineers and Geoscientists in Canada?

President Wrinch answered that every association has its own code of ethics. While they all share similarities, they are also different in some aspects. A national Code of Ethics has been considered by the provincial bodies. Four provinces have adopted it to date and it is the subject of ongoing discussion.

Dr. Philippe Kruchten, P.Eng., FEC asked about the status of the amendments to the Act that were requested by Council.

President Wrinch answered that Council requested a number of amendments to the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*. APEGBC exists at the pleasure of Government and only it can make changes to the Act. The Minister has indicated that he is supportive of the requests and overall modernization of the legislation. In order for the amendments to be made they must be included on the Government's

legislative agenda. A definitive timeframe cannot be determined for the changes, but there will likely be further dialogue following the next election.

Dr. Mahmoud Mahmoud, P.Eng., FEC, noted the failure of the bylaw to make CPD mandatory and Council's decision to approach Government for an Act amendment, which has caused some issues with the membership. Dr. Mahmoud inquired whether it was fair and reasonable with hindsight to declare that there was perhaps an error in judgment on the part of Council to make that request with government.

President Wrinch noted that he does not see a lot of value in looking at hindsight and that we should be looking forward and engaging everyone to ensure that we are satisfying the public interest.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Ann English, P.Eng., Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, briefed the assembly on major operational activities of the past year.

The Chair opened the floor for questions regarding the Chief Executive Officer's report. There were no questions.

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES TO COUNCIL

John Turner, P.Ag. (ret), reviewed the report of the public representatives to Council as printed in the Annual Report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Chair called upon Ken Laloge, CPA, CA, TEP, Chair of the Audit Committee, to explain the auditing process and to present the financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, as provided in the Annual Report.

There were no questions regarding the audited financial statements for 2015/2016.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the appointment of PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP, Chartered Accountants, as the association's auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, be approved.

CARRIED

GREETINGS FROM ENGINEERS CANADA AND GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA

Chris Roney, P.Eng., FEC, President of Engineers Canada, brought greetings to the assembly along with a report on Engineers Canada activities.

Oliver Bonham, P.Geo., FGC, CEO of Geoscientists Canada, brought greetings to the assembly along with a report on Geoscientists Canada activities.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DECEASED MEMBERS

President, Michael Wrinch, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.), acknowledged members of the association who had passed away over the last year. A moment of respectful silence was observed.

At this point in the meeting a refreshment break was taken for 20 minutes.

MEMBER MOTIONS

President Wrinch reminded the members present that motions from the floor are for Council consideration.

Motions received from members were as follows:

MOTION 1: That Council consider developing a proactive guideline that will require all members to take into consideration options to achieve net zero emissions in their professional practice

CARRIED

MOTION 2: That Council consider reporting the results of membership voting by branch, which then would be aggregated to the total returns.

CARRIED

MOTION 3: That, in the interest of improved openness and transparency with the membership and the public, Council consider implementing a policy of publishing, both in *Innovation* and by broadcasting to the membership by email, any received written request signed by 25 members [pursuant to section 12(7) of the Engineers and Geoscientists Act] at the earliest possible opportunity.

CARRIED

INDUCTION OF 2016/2017 PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL

President Wrinch introduced Bob Stewart, P.Eng., as incoming president for the 2016/2017 Council year. Mr. Stewart read the President's Oath of Office and then introduced the 2016/2017 Council. He advised that members of Council would be signing their oaths of office following the meeting.

President Stewart presented the Gold Foil Life Member disc to Past President Wrinch with sincere thanks for his efforts over the past year.

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND 98TH AGM

The Chair announced that the 2017 Annual Conference and 98th AGM will be held in Whistler, BC, October 19–21, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:21 am.