



ENGINEERS &
GEOSCIENTISTS
BRITISH COLUMBIA

POLICY

POLICY	Engineers and Geoscientists BC Appointments
NUMBER OF POLICY	CO-18-51
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APPROVED BY	Council

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Engineers and Geoscientists BC relies on a wide range of policies, procedures and practices relating to the many appointments it makes, both internal and external to the Association. Supporting documentation is widely distributed and takes on a range of forms. This policy and guidelines serve to consolidate all these into a single document that outlines all appointment policies and procedures, referencing governing documentation as may be necessary. In so doing, it is recognized that governing documents take precedence in the following order: the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*, the Bylaws of the Association, Council-approved policies, Committee Terms of Reference, and Council-approved procedures and practices.

Engineers and Geoscientists BC appointments (and elections) that are made include the following:

- 1.0 Councillors
- 2.0 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Foundation Trustees
- 3.0 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Benevolent Fund Society Directors
- 4.0 Boards and Committees of External Organizations
- 5.0 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Committees
- 6.0 Branch and Division Executives
- 7.0 Ad Hoc and Short-Term Appointments

Section 2 below summarizes the key features of each of the above categories of appointments and makes reference to the relevant documentation that govern them. This is followed by specific considerations to the cases of external appointments (Section 3) and of Engineers and Geoscientists BC committee appointments (Section 4). With the exception of the election and appointment of individuals to Council, the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Council, in fulfilling its responsibilities reserves the right to revoke any appointments and reappointments at any time, subject to the individual having the opportunity to appear before Council for a hearing.

2.0 SUMMARY OF APPOINTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

2.1 Councillors

2.1.1 Elected Councillors

Elected by the membership in accordance with the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act* (sections 6 and 9), the *Bylaws* (Bylaw 3), the *Election Policy* (as amended on January 24, 2014) and the *Nominating Committee Terms of Reference*. In summary, the Nominating Committee develops a slate of nominees so as to include at least one candidate for President, at least two candidates for Vice President, and at least three more than the number of vacancies for elected Councillors. The 25-name process may provide additional nominees for any of the positions. All nominees are required to submit a completed *Profile & Declaration Form*. The Registrar is responsible for the conduct of the election.

2.1.2 Government Appointees

These appointments are made by the Provincial Government through its *Board Resourcing and Development Board*. Although this Board has the power to make these appointments as it sees fit, the CEO and President may jointly recommend reappointments and new appointments.

2.1.3 Faculty Member/P.Ge. Appointees

If necessary, a faculty member and/or a P.Ge. are appointed to Council so as to assure that at least one of each of these categories of member serves on Council. Under Section 7 of the Act, Council makes these appointments. The procedure to be followed is as follows¹: Councillors and senior staff are invited to identify potential candidates to the CEO; from these, the President, Immediate Past President and CEO develop a ranked list of 3 – 4 individuals for each position; the ranked list will be taken to Council for ratification; the CEO shall then approach each candidate in the order approved until an acceptance is received.

2.2 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Foundation Trustees

The appointment of trustees is governed by the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Foundation* and by the *Foundation Nominating Committee Terms of Reference*. The latter document includes an Appendix that provides guidelines on the nomination and ratification of trustees. There are between 3 and 7 trustees, and any individual may serve no more 3 consecutive terms, each term of 3 years. The Foundation Nominating Committee brings forward its recommended slate to the Foundation members (i.e. Council) for ratification.

¹ This procedure is intended to mimic other committee appointments, except that – in order to expedite these appointments by Council – the ranked list is developed by the three individuals identified above.

2.3 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Benevolent Fund Society Directors

The appointment of directors is governed by the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Benevolent Fund Society*. There are between 3 and 5 directors, and any individual may serve for no more 3 consecutive terms, each term of 3 years. The Executive Committee acts as a nominating committee, takes account of the advice of the Trustees and brings forward its recommended slate to the Society members (i.e. Council) for ratification.

2.4 Boards and Committees of External Organizations

These include but are not limited to the Engineers Canada Board of Directors, the Geoscientists Canada Board of Directors, the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (of Engineers Canada), the Canadian Engineering Qualifications Board (of Engineers Canada), the Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors, and the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. It is noted that this policy is expressed in a generic form, such that the above list is not intended to be definitive and may be modified from time to time. (For purposes of this policy, appointments to Joint Practice Board follow the procedures relating to Engineers and Geoscientists BC Committees.) The policy and procedures relating to these external appointments are provided in Section 3 below.

2.5 Engineers and Geoscientists BC Committees

2.5.1 Categories of Committee

Engineers and Geoscientists BC has many standing committees, and these may be categorized in various ways:

- Committees that require at least one Councillor amongst the membership, sometimes referred to as "Council Committees": currently the Executive, Governance, Audit, Professional Practice, Registration and Geoscience Committees (although this list may change from time to time). The Nominating Committee, which is normally chaired by the Immediate-Past President, is not viewed as a Council Committee.
- Statutory committees that are referred to in the Bylaws: the Nominating, Registration, Investigation, Discipline, Conduct Review and Practice Review Committees and the Board of Examiners. (Of these, the Registration Committee is also a Council Committee.)
- All other committees reporting to Council that are neither statutory nor Council Committees are Standing committees. These include the Standing Awards and Continuing Professional Development Committees.
- Joint Practice Boards, with members from Engineers and Geoscientists BC as well as from an external organization. For purposes of this policy, Engineers and Geoscientists BC appointments to these are considered in the same way as are other Engineers and Geoscientists BC Standing committees.
- Task Forces that are established for a finite duration. For purposes of this policy, these are considered in the same way as other Engineers and Geoscientists BC committees, with the Executive Committee taking on the role of developing the list of nominees.

- Committees not reporting to Council such as the Professional Practice Committee and its various sub-committees, the Technical Divisions, the Mentoring Advisory Committee and others are groups of volunteers recruited and managed by staff. These groups are not appointed by Council, do not report to Council and are not considered further in this document.

From the viewpoint of appointments, there are four categories of appointment to be followed. There are special requirements relating to appointments to the Executive Committee and to the Nominating Committee. Beyond these, appointments to all other committees are covered by the same procedures. However, the method of appointment of Councillors follows one process, whereas the method of appointment of non-Councillors follows a different process. Therefore, there are four cases to be considered, and these are summarized below.

2.5.2 Executive Committee

The composition of the Executive Committee is provided for in its Terms of Reference. The Executive Committee is comprised of the President, Vice President, Past President, one government appointee elected by all Councillors and one elected Councillor elected by all Councillors. The election of Councillors is conducted at the inaugural meeting of Council in accordance with a procedure approved by Council: "Process for Electing Members at Large to the Executive Committee".

2.5.3 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has a prescribed membership as specified in Bylaw 3. The Chair is the Immediate Past President, eight members are appointed by the Branches, using a rotation scheme developed by the Committee, and three members are appointed by Council on the recommendation of the Past President. The three members have traditionally been a Past President, a P.Ge., and a member endorsed by ACEC-BC.

2.5.4 Councillor Appointments to other Committees

The committees that require at least one Councillor on the membership are the Governance, Audit, Professional Practice, Registration, and Geoscience Committees. Prior to the inaugural meeting of a new Council, Councillors are invited to express their preferences to the President and Executive Assistant to Council. The President then develops a recommended slate of Councillor memberships on these committees, taking account of preferences, for the ratification of Council. All these are one-year appointments.

2.5.5 Non-Councillor Appointments to other Committees

In all other cases, the appointment of non-Councillors to committees are ratified by Council, upon the recommendation of the staff member supporting each Committee and developed in consultation with the committee members. The process outlined in Section 4 should be followed.

2.6 Branch and Division Executives

Each Branch and Division is administered by an Executive Committee comprised of the Branch or Division Chair, Vice-Chair and possibly a Secretary and/or Treasurer. Governance Policy CG-5, Council Support Structure describe their terms of reference, including the appointment to Executive positions. These positions are filled in accordance with the branch and individual division's terms of reference. These may differ in their specific composition and election procedures.

2.7 Ad Hoc and Short-Term Appointments

These refer, for example, to appointments to Canadian Engineers Accreditation Board (CEAB) site visiting teams in British Columbia, invitations from external organizations to appoint an Engineers and Geoscientists BC representative to a short-term committee, etc. The appointments are generally made by the staff member responsible, either directly or through the CEO. These appointments are not conveyed to Council.

3.0 APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

3.1 Preamble

These appointments include the following: Engineers Canada Board of Directors, Geoscientists Canada Board of Directors, Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (of Engineers Canada), Canadian Engineering Qualifications Board (of Engineers Canada), the Canadian Geoscience Standards Board, the Securities Committee (of Geoscientists Canada), the Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors, and a representative on the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. (Appointments to Joint Practice Boards are included under Engineers and Geoscientists BC Committees.) The objectives of such appointments are to assure that well-qualified persons with the requisite character, knowledge, expertise, willingness and ability to undertake the duties of the position are appointed and that the appointments appropriately meet the needs of the external organization.

3.2 Principles

All such appointments should be based on the following principles:

Authority

For all external appointments, the Executive Committee plays the role of a Nominating Committee, the CEO supports the Executive Committee and Council by managing candidate materials and the process, and Council provides final approval of all such appointments (subject, in some cases, to the endorsement of the external organization).

Confidentiality

Consideration of potential candidates for any of the positions shall remain confidential to the Executive Committee, except for the potential appointees that are taken to Council for ratification. Consideration of potential nominees that are taken to Council for ratification shall remain confidential, and it is only the name of the confirmed appointment that is identified in the minutes of an open meeting.

Inclusiveness

Engineers and Geoscientists BC shall solicit expressions of interest from all its members through the member-only website, providing sufficient information on each position, identifying potential vacancies that may arise, and facilitating the receipt of expressions of interest.

Continuity

External organizations often seek longevity in the appointments that are made. Therefore, subject to the endorsement of the external organization and the wishes of the incumbent, reappointments are normally made for consecutive terms not exceeding 6 years in total. This six-year limit does not preclude consideration of an incumbent's candidacy with others for subsequent terms. Furthermore, special consideration regarding automatic extension of this six-year limit should be given to Engineers and Geoscientists BC appointees who have been asked or have expressed interest to serve in executive positions for the external organization (see 3.4.1 Procedures). Suitability. In all cases, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will be guided primarily by a candidate's suitability with respect to the criteria for each position.

Respectfulness

In order to attract and retain high quality candidates, the possible disenchantment of potential candidates needs to be avoided. Therefore, potential candidates will not be contacted until such time that their selection has been endorsed, and they are notified of Engineers and Geoscientists BC's interest in confirming the relevant appointment. Therefore, Council is requested to approve a ranked list of potential candidates, with each candidate to be contacted in order until the first agreement for the appointment is secured.

Conflict of Interest

In the case that a member of Council may have a real or perceived conflict of interest with respect to the consideration of a potential appointment or reappointment (most commonly by being considered for appointment, or by being closely related or affiliated to an individual being considered for appointment), the individual will absent himself or herself from all deliberations relating to the appointment or reappointment. In case of ambiguity, the meeting chair will make a ruling on this matter.

3.3 Criteria and Conditions of Appointment

Eligibility

To be eligible, a nominee must be an Engineers and Geoscientists BC member or licensee in good standing and may be required by the external organization to be a P.Eng. or P.Geo.. An appointment or election to Council, including the President, the Vice-President or the Past President does not preclude that individual from simultaneously holding an external appointment.

Criteria

For each of the relevant positions, the CEO will maintain and update periodically a brief statement (typically no more than a page equivalent) that refers to the criteria for the position, the primary roles and responsibilities, and the conditions of appointment (including the term, honorarium, reimbursement of expenses, etc.). As may be necessary, the relevant organizations will be requested to contribute to these statements. These statements will be brought forward to the Executive Committee or other committee considering the nomination of candidates. A synopsis of these statement may be made available on the members-only website in order to assist with securing expressions of interest for potential appointments.

Responsibilities to Engineers and Geoscientists BC

In certain instances, specifically the Engineers Canada and Geoscientists Canada Director appointments, the position responsibilities may relate to Engineers and Geoscientists BC itself, such as an expectation that appointees will report to Council and/or attend Council meetings to provide periodic reports and/or to consult with Council. Any such responsibilities will be included in the statement for each appointment.

3.4 Procedures

1. Reappointments²

In the case of potential reappointments, where the total term upon reappointment will not exceed 6 years (consistent with Engineers and Geoscientists BC committees, as stipulated in Section 4.4 of Governance Policy CG 5 - Council Support Structure), the CEO will contact the external organization to assess the desirability of proceeding with the reappointment; and will contact the incumbent to seek confirmation of willingness for reappointment. Provided that both responses are affirmative, the reappointment is brought forward to the Executive Committee for ratification and then to Council for ratification. Following such ratification, the process proceeds directly to steps 6 and 8 below. If neither of the required conditions is met, all the remaining steps given below are followed, although this does not preclude the incumbent from being considered for reappointment alongside other candidates. In the circumstances of an appointee who has been asked by the external organization or who has expressed an interest to serve in an executive position with the external organization, the reappointment of the member will be automatic and would not require Council's formal reappointment if the member will actually assume the executive position. The normal 6-year time limit will not apply in this situation.

2. Recruitment³

Engineers and Geoscientists BC's members-only website will include a list of Engineers and Geoscientists BC's appointments, including the dates of potential vacancies and an invitation for interested members to submit expressions of interest. For each of the relevant positions, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will include a brief statement⁴ (typically no more than a page equivalent) that refers to the criteria for the position, the primary roles and responsibilities, and the conditions of appointment (including the term, honorarium, reimbursement of expenses, etc.). For consideration, interested members may submit brief expressions of interest by a specified deadline.

3. Potential Nominees

Approximately three months prior to a potential vacancy, all Executive Committee members, the CEO and senior staff will be invited to identify and propose potential candidates, both from expressions of interest taken from the web-site and otherwise.

² This procedure is intended to make reappointments for up to 6 years routine, as is the case with Engineers and Geoscientists BC Committees.

³ This procedure is intended to solicit expressions of interest from the membership-at-large.

⁴ These statements are intended to avoid potential misunderstandings, for examples, as to whether or not Engineers and Geoscientists BC has a preference for recent Past Presidents for Engineers Canada appointments; or to clarify that CEAB does not require representation from any particular institution or industry sector and that there is any expectation of rotation.

4. Fit with the Criteria

The President (acting as chair of the nominating committee) and the CEO will then jointly develop a short list of 4 – 8 names as may be appropriate. Staff will prepare a confidential assessment of each of the candidates so identified, highlighting the fit with the criteria.

5. Selection of Short-List

The Executive Committee will discuss all the names on the short list, and thereby develop a ranked list of 3 – 4 individuals. This ranked list will be taken to Council for ratification.

6. Ratification by Council⁵

Council's ratification of the reappointment or the prioritized list of nominees is secured at a Closed Meeting.

7. Final Selection⁶

The CEO or staff member responsible shall approach each candidate in the order approved by Council until an acceptance is received. In some cases, the appointment needs to be ratified by the external organization.

8. Announcement

The Council motion that refers to all the names on a prioritized list will remain in closed-meeting minutes. However, the names of confirmed appointees are recorded in the subsequent open-meeting minutes for information.

4.0 NON-COUNCILLOR APPOINTMENTS TO ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS BC COMMITTEES

4.1 Preamble

As with external appointments, the objectives of committee appointments are to assure that well qualified persons with the requisite character, knowledge, expertise, willingness and ability to undertake the duties of the position are appointed. To a large extent, the procedures will follow those for External Appointments, but with particular exceptions: (i) in the case of reappointments for terms totaling no more than six years, only the willingness of the incumbent is needed to take the reappointments forward for ratification; (ii) the nominees are brought to Council for ratification directly by the staff member responsible and not by the Executive Committee; (iii) there is no ranked list brought to Council, but instead staff works with each committee to bring forward a single nominee. With this in mind, the modified procedures are given below.

⁵ This procedure is intended to avoid Councillors electing a nominee with little or no knowledge of the individual, and to avoid elections when an incumbent is being considered for reappointment within the six-year limit.

⁶ This procedure is intended to avoid potential disenchantment amongst senior members by contacting them prematurely only to inform them subsequently that they were not successful.

4.2 Procedures

1. Reappointments

In the case of potential reappointments, where the total term upon reappointment would not exceed 6 years (as in Section 4.4 Governance Policy CG5 – Council Support Structure) typically three 2-year terms; the member of staff supporting the committee will contact the incumbent to seek confirmation of willingness for reappointment. If this is secured, the reappointment is brought forward to the committee for ratification and then to Council for ratification. Following such ratification, the process proceeds directly to steps 6 and 8 below⁷.

2. Recruitment

Engineers and Geoscientists BC's members-only website will include a list of Engineers and Geoscientists BC's appointments, including the dates of potential vacancies and an invitation for interested members to submit expressions of interest. For each of the relevant positions, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will include a brief statement (typically no more than a page equivalent) that refers to the criteria for the position, the primary roles and responsibilities, and the conditions of appointment (including the term, reimbursement of expenses, etc.). For consideration, interested members may submit brief expressions of interest by a specified deadline.

3. Potential Nominees

Approximately three months prior to a potential vacancy, all Committee members, all Councillors and senior staff will be invited to identify and propose potential candidates, both from expressions of interest taken from the web-site and otherwise.

4. Fit with the Criteria

The staff will then develop a short list of 3 – 6 names as may be appropriate. Staff will prepare a confidential assessment of each of the candidates so identified, highlighting the fit with the criteria. Appropriate consideration should be given to ensure diversity amongst the Committee members.

5. Selection of Short-List

The Committee will discuss all the names on the short list, and thereby develop a ranked list of 3 – 4 individuals if available. This ranked list will be taken to Council for ratification.

6. Ratification by Council

Council's ratification of the reappointment or appointment of nominees is secured at a Closed Meeting.

7. Final Selection

The staff member responsible shall approach each candidate in the order approved by Council until an acceptance is received.

⁷ If a reappointment is not made in this way, then all the remaining steps given below are followed, although this does not preclude the incumbent from being considered for reappointment alongside other candidates.

8. Announcement

The Council motion that refers to all the names on a prioritized list will remain in closed-meeting minutes. However, the names of confirmed appointees are recorded in the subsequent open-meeting minutes for information.

REVIEW DATES

April 11, 2014 (Motion CO-14-53) – Approved by Council

June 15, 2018 (Motion CO-18-51) – Amended by Council