

MINUTES OF THE 105th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The meeting was held in a hybrid format on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, from the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre East in Vancouver, BC.

The Chair welcomed Elder Larry Grant and Carl Point from Musqueam Nation to the stage to lead the assembly in a territorial greeting to open the AGM. The Chair expressed her gratitude to Larry Grant and Carl Point for their presence at the meeting, and for the Musqueam's stewardship of these lands and waters since time immemorial.

The Chair then proceeded to advise the assembly that the meeting was being live streamed for virtual attendees and would later be made public on the organization's Knowledge Centre. She stated that the legal and notification requirements for the meeting had been met and the meeting duly constituted. After establishing that quorum of registrants was present, Chair, Michelle Mahovich, P.Eng., P.Geo., FCSSE, FEC, declared the meeting open at 2:10 pm.

The Chair addressed the assembly and provided a high-level overview of what was to be expected at the meeting. Highlights included: updates from the Board and senior staff on the organization's financial standing and how the work conducted over the last year has furthered the Vision set out in the 2022 – 2027 Strategic Plan, updates from several special guests, including the Vice Chair of the BC Society of Engineering and Geoscience, and the President and President-Elect of Engineers Canada and Geoscientists Canada, respectively.

Introduction of 2023/2024 Board

The Chair then introduced the members of the 2023/2024 Board:

Vice Chair: Mark Porter, P.Eng., StructEng., FEC

Immediate Past Chair: Mark Adams, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.)

Registrant Board Members are:

- Veronica Knott, P.Eng.
- Karen Ling, P.Eng.
- Mahsoo Naderi, P.Eng.
- Matthew Salmon, P.Eng., and
- Jens Weber, P.Eng.

Board Members appointed by government are:

- Bill Chan, CPA, CGA, ICD.D.
- Leslie Hildebrandt, LL.B, ICD.D
- Cathy McIntyre, MBA, C. Dir.; and
- Emily Pagdin, CPA, CMA

Introduction of Staff

The Chair introduced each member of the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Executive Team and also took a moment to thank all of the Engineers and Geoscientists BC staff who were actively participating in the meeting working behind the scenes for their efforts.

Introduction of Parliamentarian

Eli Mina, Registered Parliamentarian, was introduced as the parliamentarian for the meeting.

OVERVIEW OF MEETING RULES AND PROTOCOLS

The Chair reviewed the meeting's rules and protocols for registrants attending in-person as well as those attending the meeting virtually. She informed attendees of the designated question periods for the meeting and respective processes for both in-person and virtual attendees. She also advised registrants of the voting instructions and then launched practice votes to ensure that all attendees could successfully vote using the online module.

ANNUAL REPORT

Overview of Annual Report

The Chair then introduced the presentation of the organization's Annual Report. The Annual Report is made available on Engineers and Geoscientists BC's website and also available to download in the webinar platform.

She advised that discussion would begin with an overview of the organizational achievements and the Audited Financial Statements from Engineers and Geoscientists BC's Chief Executive Officer, Heidi Yang, followed by a 30-minute question period.

Mrs. Yang then took the stage and began by highlighting some the organization's achievements from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Highlights included:

- the introduction of an independent advocacy body for the professions—the BC Society of Engineering and Geoscience (BCSEG);
- the collaboration project with the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) to better understand the impact of the development of a reserved practice for applied science

technology for ASTTBC registrants;

- the signing of Engineers Canada’s National Statement of Collaboration with 11 other regulators, renewing our shared commitment to advance public safety and increase regulatory efficiency with our counterparts across Canada;
- development of the *Professional Practice Guidelines – Erosion and Sediment Control* published in collaboration with multiple regulators operating under the *Professional Governance Act*, including the BC Institute of Agrologists and the College of Applied Biologists;
- introduction of the *International Credentials Recognition Act* last fall to streamline registration for internationally trained professionals and attract new talent to our province. Though many of our processes (such as our competency-based assessment framework) already align with the *Act*, we have—and will continue to—analyze the *Act’s* impact on the professions and address areas for improvement to enhance equity and fairness for international professionals;
- the establishment of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Truth and Reconciliation Working Group to build the visibility of underrepresented voices and explore the challenges they face in the practice of engineering and geoscience;
- improvements in the Continuing Education and Annual Reporting programs; and
- the restructuring and establishment of six new registrant advisory groups to help the organization stay current on industry changes so we can best support registrants and their practice.

Mrs. Yang then moved to the discussion of the organization’s Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

At the conclusion of her presentation, the Chair opened the floor for questions on the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements.

Multiple questions were received from both in-person and online registrants and addressed by the Board Chair and members of the Executive Team. Questions related to a wide range of topics, including the financial statements (considerations for reserve allocations and surpluses, short-term investments, funds provided to BCSEG); the annual registration fee for registrants and firms; penalties for registrant non-compliance with continuing education requirements; fees for sole-proprietors and firms; the inclusion of government ministries under the regulation of firms program; the development of a reserved practice for applied science technology for ASTTBC registrants; current expected processing times for new applications; and supports for internationally trained applicants.

UPDATE REPORT FROM BCSEG

The Chair welcomed BCSEG’s Vice Chair, Katie Au, P.Eng., to the stage to provide an update on the status of the new advocacy body. She also advised that after the presentation, the floor would be open for a 10-minute question period. During the question period, many queries were addressed by Ms. Au and Heidi Yang. The questions received related to the timeline for the transfer of funds from the branches to BCSEG; the future of social events with branches; revenue sources for BCSEG; plans for relationship building with other engineering and geoscience advocacy bodies, the future of awards ceremonies,

whether or not BCSEG will have a student program; and marketing plans for building BCSEG's membership base.

The Chair then thanked Ms. Au and expressed how the organization has appreciated the collaborative working relationship with BCSEG over the last year and is looking forward to an ongoing partnership to advance our respective missions in service to the people of British Columbia, engineers, and geoscientists.

REPORT FROM ENGINEERS CANADA AND GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA

The Chair welcomed Engineers Canada President Michael Wrinch, PhD, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon), ICD.D to provide an update on the work of our national engineering organization over the last year. After Mr. Wrinch's update, the Chair thanked him for his presentation.

The Chair then proceeded to welcome President-Elect of Geoscientists Canada, Matt Alexander, P.Geo., FGC to provide a report on behalf of their organization. Mr. Alexander's remarks were pre-recorded for the meeting. At the conclusion of the report, the Chair thanked Mr. Alexander for his update.

Acknowledgment of Guests from Other Regulators

The Chair welcomed special guests joining the meeting in person and virtually as representatives from engineering and geoscience regulators across the country, post-secondary institutions, and from other professional regulatory bodies. She thanked them for making time to join the meeting, and for their support as we work together on shared issues to protect the public interest.

The Chair then called a 15-minute break.

AGM MOTIONS

The Chair informed the assembly that in accordance with Engineers and Geoscientists BC's Bylaws, registrants had the opportunity to submit motions in advance of the AGM for the Board's consideration. All motions must have been received no later than 5:00 PM on September 14, 2024, to allow adequate time for review and inclusion in the hybrid meeting and to support fair and informed debate. Registrant motions are advisory and non-binding on the Board.

The Chair advised that two motions were submitted in advance of the meeting. They were reviewed and deemed to comply with the organization's Bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.

She then briefly summarized the motions from the 2023 AGM and shared how the Board considered and addressed them, and how those motions impacted the Board's decision-making over the last year.

Before moving forward and sharing the two motions received for the 2024 AGM, the Chair reviewed the meeting rules which establish how motions are put forward and debated.

The first motion for this year was moved by Lianna Mah, P.Eng., and seconded by Karen Savage, P.Eng.

The Chair proceeded to read the first motion which was displayed on-screen then asked the mover, Lianna Mah, P.Eng., to speak to the motion.

Ms. Mah thanked members of the BCSEG for their work to start up the advocacy body. She then introduced the motion. The floor was then open for debate.

Upon calling the question, the following motion was carried:

MOTION 1: That the Board consider providing the new advocacy Society, BC Society of Engineering and Geoscience, with suitable ongoing funding to support an effective transition period over the next 3 to 5 years.

CARRIED

The Chair then proceeded to read the second motion which was displayed on-screen. The motion was moved by Geoffrey W. Hodgson, P.Eng, and seconded by Lianna Mah, P.Eng.

Mr. Hodgson was unable to attend the meeting, so the Chair asked the seconder Lianna Mah, P.Eng., to speak to the motion instead. Ms. Mah then introduced the motion. The floor was then open for debate.

Upon calling the question, the following motion was carried:

MOTION 2: That the Board consider maintaining existing programs identified for termination/transition to BCSEG, with adequate resourcing, until such a time as BCSEG is financially positioned to take on the role of delivering these programs.

CARRIED

IN MEMORIAM

The Chair acknowledged registrants of the organization who had passed away over the last year. A moment of respectful silence was observed to honour these individuals and their important contributions to protecting the public interest and the environment.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

The Chair thanked the Board members who had completed their terms of service on the Board.

She began with acknowledging outgoing Past Chair Mark Adams, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.) for his many years of dedicated service and leadership on the Board as well as serving as a long-time volunteer for the organization.

Also completing their terms at this time were:

- Mahsoo Naderi, P.Eng.
- Leslie Hildebrandt, LL.B, ICD.D
- Emily Pagdin, CPA, CMA

On behalf of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, the Chair expressed her sincere thanks to all of the outgoing Board members for their tremendous dedication of time and energy to the organization and to protecting the public interest.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2024/2025 BOARD

The Chair announced that she would continue in the role of Immediate Past Board Chair in the 2024/2025 year.

New and returning Board members are:

- Veronica Knott, P.Eng.
- Karen Ling, P.Eng.
- Mark Porter, P.Eng., StructEng., FEC
- Matthew Salmon, P.Eng.
- Malcolm Shield, P.Eng.
- Jens Weber, P.Eng.; and
- Gordon Zhou, P. Eng.

Engineers and Geoscientists BC's public representatives appointed by government are:

- Cathy McIntyre, MBA, C. Dir.
- Bill Chan, CPA, CGA, ICD.D.

Joining the Board as of October 31st as public representatives appointed by government, are Colette Trudeau, M.A. and TJ Schmaltz. JD, FCPHR, SHRM-SCP, ICD.D.

Board Chair in Review

Heidi Yang, P.Eng., FEC, FGC (Hon.), Chief Executive Officer acknowledged Michelle Mahovich, P.Eng., P.Geo., FCSSE, FEC, outgoing Board Chair for her service over the last year and thanked her on behalf of Engineers and Geoscientists BC for her continued contributions to the professions and the public.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In closing, the Chair thanked all attendees for attending the annual conference and AGM and encouraged attendees to help identify and recruit candidates for next year's Board election. She also spoke to some of the major initiatives that the organization plans to work on in the coming year.

The Chair then offered thanks to those who had organized the AGM and the annual conference sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.