

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Engineers and Geoscientists BC's Board of elected registrants and public representatives meets throughout the year. The following are the highlights of its February 21, 2025, meeting, which was briefly interrupted at 1:27 p.m. PT by an earthquake.

2025 AGM FORMAT APPROVED

The Board discussed and approved the format and schedule of the 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM will be held in Vancouver, on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 2 pm.

Following the success from the 2024 AGM, this year's event will again use a hybrid format allowing registrants to attend virtually. More than 750 registrants attended the 2024 AGM either in person or online. Post-2024 AGM registrant surveys identified the weekday scheduling and hybrid format contributed directly to the record attendance.

The Board is looking at other changes to make the meeting more effective, including:

- Shortening the meeting
- Ensuring content focusses on the regulatory mandate, reinforces Engineers and Geoscientists BC's role and highlights regulatory trends/findings
- Exploring additional engagement opportunities outside of the AGM for registrant feedback so that the AGM is not the only engagement opportunity for registrants

For more information about the 2025 AGM, visit the AGM webpage.

ORGANIZATIONAL POSITION STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Board discussed and endorsed Engineers and Geoscientists BC's updated Position Statement on Climate Change, subject to non-material changes during editorial and legal review.

This document articulates the organization's regulatory role and reaffirms expectations for registrants in addressing climate change. It also serves as a visioning document guiding the development of the Organizational Climate Change Strategy (OCCS). The OCCS will be presented to the Board for approval in June 2025.

"The critical points to note are that this consolidated statement is largely consistent with Engineers and Geoscientists BC's long-established position, and the updates bring the document in line with our organization's current strategy and the *Professional Governance Act*," said Harshan Radhakrishnan, P.Eng., Manager, Climate Change and Sustainability in Engineers and Geoscientists BC's Professional Practice department. "We have required registrants to consider the impact of their work on the climate (rather than mandating or requiring it) and noted that this may look different depending on professional areas of practice and provided an indication of what that looks like. On the flip side, we have renewed and expanded on our commitment to support registrants, which now includes firm registrants as well."

For more information on Engineers and Geoscientists BC's environmental and sustainability initiatives and programs, visit the <u>Climate and Sustainability registrant program webpage</u>.

BUDGET UPDATES

The Board reviewed and approved the FY2026 Budget Guidelines, Engineers and Geoscientists BC's guiding document for drafting its annual budget. The budget for the 2025/2026 fiscal year will be brought to the May 28 Board meeting for approval.

Budget Guidelines language has been updated to better reflect that the organization has transitioned to the role of a full regulator and the factors the organization considers when assessing costs to regulate. Factors to fee considerations include but are not limited to inflation, increased regulatory demands, and organic from in individual and firm registrations. Following existing practice, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will consider past surpluses when setting annual fee increases.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Board received an update from the Credentials Committee on registrant applications.

In 2024, the Credentials Committee processed 7,633 total applications (not including reinstatements), including 2,496 first-time applications for the P.Eng. designation and an additional 160 for first-time P.Geo. designations.

Of the first-time P.Eng. applications, 61% came from applicants with international education. For first-time P.Geo. applicants, that number stood at 43%. The majority of first-time applications are from mature applicants with experience gained abroad.

This upward trend in application volumes overall has led to an increased number of files that require specialized review. For example, committee members reported an increase in applications from individuals who disclose criminal convictions, past disciplinary infractions, and/or licenses from other provinces with practice conditions, which require a deeper examination of an applicant's "good character."

The committee also highlighted process improvements, including measures implemented to avoid implicit bias, and decreased processing and review time for applications deemed low-risk and non-contentious.

For more information, visit the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Registrant Application webpage.

OTHER REPORTS PRESENTED

The Board received reports from staff and representatives on the following additional topics:

- Progress on the organization's Year 3 projects within its Strategic Plan
- The Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Professional Practice Practice Advisory, published November 22, 2024, which provides guidance to registrants on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) appropriately in their professional activities or work
- The publication of the *Diamond Drill Core Logging: Structure* Practice Advisory, published December 4, 2024, which establishes the expectations of professional practice related to logging of geological structures as observed in diamond drill core for mineral exploration, mining projects, and related geotechnical engineering studies.

APPOINTMENTS

Nomination Committee

Alison McMahon

Investigation Committee

Matthew Hayne, P.Eng.



Karl Williaume, P.Eng. Leon Plett, P.Eng., Struct.Eng. Matthew Friderichs, P.Eng. Avy Woo

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