

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held remotely online  
Thursday, May 14, 2020.

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**PRESENT:** Jitendra Paliwal presiding; Vaibhav Banthia; Carolyn Geddert; Neil Klassen;  
Katrine Levesque; Jason Mann; Christina McDonald; Linda Murphy; Ian  
Smallwood; Izabela Witkowska

**ALSO PRESENT:** Grant Koropatnick; Fiona Hillier

**REGRETS:** Ruth Eden; Cheryl Lashek; Allan Silk; Efrem Teklemariam

**OBSERVERS:** Mike Gregoire; Angela Moore; Sharon Sankar; Scott Sarna; Dan  
Shushkewich; Lisa Stepnuk; Ian Wiebe

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**20.03.1 CALL TO ORDER**

President Paliwal called the meeting to order at 1:53 p.m.

He welcomed everyone to the first online Council meeting and thanked everyone for their patience.

President Paliwal read the notice to online meeting participants and attendees.

**20.03.2 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.

**20.03.3 INTRODUCTIONS**

President Paliwal welcomed councillors and staff and noted the regrets of those unable to attend.

**20.03.4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

President Paliwal asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda.

It was noted that the In Camera session would be moved to the end of the meeting.

It was **MOVED** by Neil Klassen and **SECONDED** by Izabela Witkowska that the agenda was approved as amended.

CARRIED

**20.03.5 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.

**20.03.6 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 12, 2020**

President Paliwal asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the meeting on March 12, 2020.

Hearing none, the minutes were adopted as circulated

**20.03.7 MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR SUB-LIEUTENANT ABBIGAL COWBROUGH**

President Paliwal asked that Council observe a moment of silence to honour the life and service of (mechanical engineer) Sub-Lieutenant Abbigail Cowbrough.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

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

President Paliwal spoke to the online meetings he attended which included Engineers Canada webinar related to CEAB and the impact of COVID-19 on accreditation activities and Geoscientists Canada Board meeting held via videoconference on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

President Paliwal announced that Grant Koropatnick's presentation to the Engineering Faculty Council had been postponed. He also reported that the Engineers Canada Board meeting would be held online May 21-23. He would chair the President's Group meeting and former Past President Epp would chair the Annual Meeting of the Members.

**20.03.9 B2. ENGINEERS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT**

President Paliwal noted that the Accreditation Board held a teleconference on April 22<sup>nd</sup> where two motions were passed; all 2020-21 accreditation visits and decisions would be deferred for a year and all programs which received accreditation prior to June 5, 2020 would be granted an extension of one year.

**20.03.10 B3. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT**

President Paliwal noted the Board's concern for geoscience students scheduled to graduate this year and the potential for not being able to fulfill the Field School component of the degrees due to the pandemic. This had been raised with the various geoscience departments across the country and should be noted by the constituent associations as well.

**20.03.11 B4. BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councillor Smallwood spoke of the two by-law changes and provided an update on the proposed by-law regarding Non-Practicing Member Categories. The new “distinguished” category had been renamed “senior”. 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. Any member in the “senior” category would also be expected to maintain a reduced level of ProDev.

A final draft of the proposal would be provided to Council for approval at the June 11, 2020 Council meeting.

Council discussed the member-initiated by-law proposal and expressed concern that it could suppress funding and limit innovation going forward. It was suggested that the by-law review committee go back to the mover and seconder for further discussion of their proposal.

**20.03.12 B5. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Vice-President Mann remarked that the committee had been meeting frequently with lots of discussion on the impact of COVID-19 on investments and the budget. He noted that the Association had taken a cautious approach in the draft budget. As a result, there would be no increase to member dues for the coming year. The Finance Committee will present the 2020-21 draft budget for approval at the June 11, 2020 council meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**20.03.13** 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 January 1, 2020 and February 29, 2020.

**C2. MANUAL OF ADMISSIONS - EDIT**

Council referred to a Background memo from Sharon Sankar, Director of Admissions, dated May 14, 2020

**COUNCIL EDUCATION**

**20.03.14 D1. EVALUATION OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

President Paliwal remarked that Ownership Linkage needs to be re-incorporated into the council meetings. It was also noted that the online member forum was not user friendly and could not be accessed by appointed councillors. President Paliwal and Grant Koropatnick will discuss further.

GOVERNANCE

**20.03.15 G1. COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION – MR. MACSKIMMING**

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

It was MOVED by Jason Mann and SECONDED by Carolyn Geddert that Council accepts the resignation of Councillor Andrew MacSkimming effective March 12, 2020 and thanks him for his service.

CARRIED

**20.03.16 G2. FAIR REGISTRATION PRACTICES ACT AMENDMENT**

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

It was MOVED by Katrine Levesque and SECONDED by Vaibhav Banthia that Council forms a task group comprised of Grant Koropatnick, Sharon Sankar, Scott Sarna and councillors Klassen, Murphy, Mann, Witkowska and McDonald to provide feedback; responding to the discussion paper on the Fair Registration Practices Act amendment.

CARRIED

**20.03.17 G3. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS LIST**

Council considered a memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020 and the cumulative outstanding action list from Council meetings after March 12, 2020.

- Ownership Linkage Committee – complete
- IC/DC Procedures Manual Task Group – in progress

**20.03.18 G4. PLANNING AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Council considered a memo from President Paliwal dated May 14, 2020 and the proposed agenda for the next Council meeting on June 11, 2020.

Monitoring reports will be prepared for:

GP-8.1	Nominating Committee	Ruth Eden
GP-8.11	Audit Committee	Vaibhav Banthia
GP-8.13	Finance Committee	Jason Mann
E-1	Individuals who are Practising are Registered and Licensed	Grant Koropatnick
EL-3	Financial Planning & Budgeting	Grant Koropatnick
EL-3.1	Financial Condition	Grant Koropatnick

20.03.19

**G5. POLICY FOR BY-LAW 4.20 - ATTENDANCE**

Council referred to a Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

It was MOVED by Izabela Witkowska and SECONDED by Jason Mann that Council approves the policy for By-law 4.20 as presented.

CARRIED

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS AND ENDS

20.03.20

**M1. E-3 UNQUALIFIED PERSONS DO NOT PRACTICE – KOROPATNICK**

Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

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

CARRIED

20.03.21

**M2. EL-2 TREATMENT OF STAFF – KOROPATNICK**

Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

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

CARRIED

20.03.22

**M3. EL-5 INTERACTIONS WITH MEMBERS - KOROPATNICK**

Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 14, 2020.

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Neil Klassen that Council accepts the reasonable interpretation of the policy statements and approves this report.

CARRIED

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

**20.03.23 P1. GP-8.2 PAST PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE – PALIWAL**

Monitoring Report by President Paliwal dated May 14, 2020

President Paliwal transferred the role of Chair to Vice-President Mann.

It was MOVED by Jitendra Paliwal and SECONDED by Carolyn Geddert that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

Vice-President Mann transferred the role of Chair back to President Paliwal.

**20.03.24 P2. GP-8.4 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – MCDONALD**

Monitoring Report by Councillor McDonald dated May 14, 2020

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Ian Smallwood that Council approves this monitoring report and the removal of clause 2.2.

CARRIED

**20.03.25 P3. GP-8.5 INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE – GEDDERT**

Monitoring Report by Councillor Smallwood dated May 14, 2020

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Linda Murphy that Council approves this monitoring report.

Secondary Motion

It was MOVED by Carolyn Geddert and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that Council remove clause 1.2 and 2.2 from GP-8.5

CARRIED

President Paliwal called the question on the first motion and Council voted.

CARRIED

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### **20.03.26 COUNCIL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- N1. Membership Statistics as at April 30, 2020
- N2. Financial Statement as at March 31, 2020
- N3. Admissions during the pandemic
- N4. Event List Update
- N5. Notice for Online Meetings
- N6. Supreme Court Ruling

## SELF-EVALUATION

### **20.03.27 V1. EVALUATION PAGE FOR THIS MEETING**

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

## FYI 'NICE TO KNOW' INFORMATION

### **20.03.28 F1. WINNIPEG HARVEST THANK YOU LETTER F2. TED BOCK THANK YOU LETTER**

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 went In Camera

At 4:45 p.m. Council came out of Camera

## ADJOURNMENT

**20.03.31** The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, June 11, 2020, at 12:00 p.m.

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Jitendra Paliwal, P.Eng., FEC  
President

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