

Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia

GEOSCIENTISTS
NOVA SCOTIA

Annual General Meeting

June 24, 2020

10:00 to 12:00 am Atlantic Time

2019-2020

Table of Contents

AGENDA	2
Past Presidents (1999-2020)	3
Council (2019-2020)	3
Minutes of the 2018 - 2019 Annual General Meeting	4
Executive, Board and Financial Reports	6
President’s Report	6
Executive Director and Registrar’s Report	7
Treasurers Report	9
Audit Committee Report	9
Independent Financial Review Engagement Report	10
Admissions Board Report	13
Committee Reports	14
Governance Committee Report	14
Student Committee Report	14
Environment Committee Report	15
Mining and Energy Committee Report	16
Geoscientists Canada Director Report	17
Canadian Geoscience Standards Council (CGSC) Report	18
National Professional Practice Examination (NPPE)	19
Advisory Committee Report	19
NPPE Committee Report	20
Professional Development Committee Report	20
Insurance Task Group Report	21
Communications Report	22
Newsletter Report	22
Social Media Report	22
Website Report	22
Nominations Committee Report	23
New Councillor’s Bio’s	24
Award Presentations	27
APGNS Excellence in Geoscience Award,	27
The Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Awards	28
The APGNS Recognition of Service Awards	28
Incoming President’s Remarks	29

AGENDA

Unless otherwise noted all reports are contained in the AGM program

1. Call to Order; Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Recognition of Past-Presidents and Introduction of the 2019-2020 Council
4. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting
5. Business arising from the Minutes
6. Presidents Report
7. Executive Director and Registrar's Report
8. Treasurer's Report (Audit Committee Report; Independent Financial Review Engagement Report and Appointment of 2020 Year-End Financial Reviewer)
9. Admissions Board Report – included in program
10. Committee Reports
 - a. Governance Committee
 - b. Student Committee
 - c. Environment Committee
 - d. Mining and Energy Committee
 - e. Geoscientists Canada Director
 - f. Canadian Geoscience Standards Council
 - g. National Professional Practice Examination Advisory Committee
 - h. National Professional Practice Exam Committee
 - i. Professional Development Committee
 - j. Insurance Task Group
 - k. Communications
11. Nominations Committee Report
12. Introduction of 2020-2021 Council and recognition of out-going Councilors
13. New Business
14. Award Presentations
15. In-coming President's Remarks
16. Adjournment

Past Presidents (1999-2020)

President (1999-2001)	Patrick J. C. Ryall, Ph.D., P.Geo., FGC
President (2001-2003)	David C. Carter, MSc., P.Geo., FGC
President (2003-2004)	James H. Fraser, MAsC., P.Geo., FGC
President (2004-2005)	Theresa A. Rushton, P.Geo., FGC
President (2005-2006)	Andrew D. Cameron, P.Geo., FGC
President (2006-2007)	Paul LaFleche, Ph.D., P.Geo., FGC
President (2007-2008)	Gordon Check, MAsC., P.Geo., FGC
President (2008-2008)	Scott Llewellyn, P.Geo., FGC
President (2008-2010)	Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC
President (2010-2011)	Chrystal Kennedy, P.Geo., FGC
President (2011-2012)	Gavin Kennedy, MSc., P.Geo., FGC
President (2012-2013)	Fred Bonner, MAsC., P.Geo., FGC
President (2013-2014)	Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC
President (2014-2015)	Scott McCarthy, P.Geo., FGC
President (2015-2016)	Paul Batson, P.Geo., FGC
President (2016-2017)	Jennifer McDonald, P.Geo., FGC
President (2017-2018)	Belinda Culgin, P.Geo., FGC
President (2018-2019)	Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC
President (2019-2020)	Gavin Isenor, P.Geo.

Council (2019-2020)

Gavin Isenor, P.Geo., President; Dexter Construction
Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC, Past-President; Dillon Consulting
Kimberlea Green, P.Geo., Vice-President; wood plc
Robert Cuthbert, P.Geo.; Nova Scotia Environment
Matthew Harrington, P.Geo.; Mercator Geological Services
Dan Parker, P.Geo.; GHD
Kelsey O'Brien, P.Geo.; Stantec
John Kozuskanich, P.Geo.; Shaw Resources
Jeffrey Parks, P.Geo., FGC.; GHD
George Goad, P.Eng., FEC.; retired

Minutes of the 2018 - 2019 Annual General Meeting

June 24, 2019, Dalhousie University Club, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Annual General Meeting called to order at 11:00 hrs.

1. Welcome

- David Carter, P.Geo., FGC welcomed members and guests.
- All members were thanked who provided services to the Association by way of participating as volunteers as well as providing meeting spaces.
- The AGM sponsors were thanked for their support of the event and their continued support of the Association.

2. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

- President Beverly Smith, P.Geo., FGC called the meeting to order and reviewed the proposed agenda.

Motion: Moved by Dan Parker, P.Geo., seconded by Pat Ryall, P.Geo., FGC that the agenda be approved as provided. Carried.

3. Minutes of the 2018-2019 AGM

Motion: Moved by Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC seconded by John Kozuskanich, P.Geo. that the minutes of the 27 April 2018 APGNS AGM be accepted as presented. Carried.

- No matters arising from the minutes

4. President's Report

- President Bev Smith, P.Geo. summarized the President's Report provided in the AGM agenda package. Bev explained main topics discussed at the Geoscientist Canada meeting in Toronto early June 2019. Main topics being licensure, compliance and awareness of the profession; however, more recently, it has been news from British Columbia that the government passed the Professional Governance Act at the end of 2018 that covers the professions of engineering and geoscience, as well as forestry, agronomy, biology, and applied science and technology. The legislation is aimed at "making sure decisions affecting the province's natural resources are science-based, transparent and protect B.C.'s unique environment for future generations". Effectively, the Act provides another layer of administration over regulated professions and their members through the creation of the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance. This step and recent communications from B.C. reinforce the fact that self-regulation of our profession should not be taken for granted. Another recent change has been dismissal of the word "Association" by some CAs (the most recent being Ontario). In this province, Geoscientists Nova Scotia performs the role of regulator with the purpose of protecting the public and preserving the integrity of the profession, while our members are held accountable and expected to demonstrate technical competence in their work. Bev thanked the outgoing Council members (Maylia, Rick, Kim and Belinda).

5. Executive Director and Registrar Report

- David Carter, P.Geo. summarized the Executive Director and Registrar Report as provided in the AGM agenda package. The various committee reports were not presented individually to save time, but David referred them on pages 9 through 13 of the agenda package for members to read.
- David thanked Jeff Parks and Cliff Stanley for their work with Geoscientist Canada on the Board of Directors and Canadian Geoscience Standards Council, respectively. Theresa Rushton, P.Geo., FGC, Brent Cox, P.Geo., FGC, and Gavin Isenor, P.Geo. for their involvement on Geoscientists Canada's Admission Support Tools (AST) project – Phase II. Robert (Bob) Stewart, P.Geo., for his work on the National Professional Practice Committee. He ensures that a geoscience voice is clearly reflected in their work.
- David provided a summary of the current membership numbers, new admissions, efforts by the Association to issue Licenses to Practice individuals and other provinces. The Association continues to participate in Geoscientists Canada and Canadian Geoscience Standards Committee activities, the Academic Advisory Committee is working to ensure that student courses match Geoscientists Nova Scotia admissions requirements.
- APGNS was identified as a stakeholder during the review of the **Mineral Resources Act** and provided comments and suggestions to the **MRA Regulations** both in writing and in follow-up meetings. These

suggestions are under consideration by the NS Department of Energy and Mines and we are optimistic that they will be incorporated into the MRA Regulations.

- The report from the **Governance Committee**, the *Geoscience Profession Act* and the *Geoscience Practice Regulations* have been submitted to the Department of Justice for review and approval. We continue to be optimistic that they will be included on government's order paper. We are working on the revision of the by-laws and we are also developing policies and procedures which are consistent with the revised Act and Regulations.

Motion: Moved by Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC seconded by Paul Lafleche, P.Geo., FGC that the President's Report and Executive Director and Registrar's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

6. Treasurer's Report

- Paul Batson, P.Geo., FGC referred members to the Treasurer's report and financial summary tables on page 25 of the AGM agenda package.
- A comprehensive financial review has been prepared (in Draft) by Etter McLeod & Associates and was reviewed and approved, with minor edits, by the Audit Committee (Bridget Adams, P.Geo., Rick Gagne, P.Geo., Paul Batson, P.Geo., FGC).

Motion: Moved by Cliff Stanley, P.Geo, FGC seconded by Patrick Ryall, P.Geo., FGC to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented but with revisions of the financial summary tables to be circulated to members with Council approving those changes. Carried

7. Nominations Committee report

- Belinda Culgin, P.Geo. presented the Nominations Committee Report, indicating that all new positions had been filled by acclamation since only one person had been identified for each vacant position, with the elected slate of officers and councillors as follows:

		<u>Term ending</u>
President:	Gavin Isenor, P.Geo.	2020
Vice-President:	Kimberlea Green, P.Geo.	2020
Past President:	Beverley Smith, P.Geo.	2020
Councillors:	Robert Cuthbert, P.Geo.	2021
	Matthew Harrington, P.Geo.	2021
	Dan Parker, P.Geo.	2021
Public Representative Members:	George Goad, P. Eng.	2021

Motion: Moved by Rick Gagne, P.Geo., seconded by Cliff Stanley, P.Geo. that the Nomination Committee's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

8. New Business

- No new business

9. Awards

- Bev Smith, P.Geo. FGC presented the Recognition of Service Awards to Maylia Parker, P.Geo. Rick Gagne, P.Geo., Kim Green, P.Geo., Roxanne Tate, P.Eng. and Belinda Culgin, P.Geo.
- Paul LaFleche, P.Geo., FGC, presented the Exemplary Service Award to Brent Cox, P.Geo., FGC.
- Pat Ryall, P.Geo., FGC, presented the Excellence in Geoscience Award to Marco Zentilli, P.Geo.

10. Address from President-elect

- Gavin Isenor, P.Geo. thanked the outgoing Council for their dedication to APGNS and indicated his aspirations as incoming President.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Jeff Parks, P.Geo., seconded by Paul LaFleche, P.Geo. to adjourn. Carried.

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 hrs

Executive, Board and Financial Reports

President's Report



As I look back at my term as President and my past 4 years on Council, I am happy with the progress of our Association and the direction we are heading. 2020 has been a challenging year for us all with many changes in the way we all do business. The last in-person Council meeting we had was on March 10, just before the restrictions really took hold. Work and progress however have not slowed down and we have continued our efforts, discussions and meetings virtually.

With the regular daily issues our Council and Executive Director and Registrar are faced with, it is important regularly to take a step back and review our Strategic Plan and priorities. After an initial five-year timeframe, our Strategic plan was updated through a planning session in the fall of 2017 and another five-year plan was developed. Our key overarching strategic priorities remain:

- Value for Members
- Licensure Awareness, Compliance and Enforcement
- Awareness of the Profession and the Association
- Good Governance

Central to all four strategic priorities is the Nova Scotia *Geoscience Profession Act*. It has been a long road, but over the past year, in particular, a great deal of progress has been made in updating this Act. Significant in-roads were made after much effort and leadership by our Executive Director and our Governance Committee in conjunction with the Department of Mines and Energy. Unfortunately, a shift in government priorities due to COVID-19 has resulted in another delay in the adoption of the act by the legislature. However, we are on our way to finalizing the act adoption which will allow for enhanced enforcement of licensure and more control of by-laws by council.

Value for our members needs to remain central in our goals, objectives and strategic priorities. While the social events and affinity programs are an important part of this, our Strategic Priorities of Licensure Awareness, Compliance, Enforcement and Governance all create value for our members as well by enhancing the value of our right to title and license to practice. The updated Act will further assist in these efforts.

To the Councillors who are finishing up their term (Jeff Parks, John Kozuskanich and Kelsey O'Brien), it has been a pleasure working with you, on behalf of Council, I thank you for your efforts. To the new Councillors who are joining us (Chrystal Kennedy, Jim Millard and Scott Conrod), thank you for agreeing to serve on Council and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead. Going forward, Council leadership will be in good hands with Kim Green stepping in as President and Dan Parker assuming the Vice President role. Thank you to Paul Batson who has put in a lot of volunteer time as Treasurer for the past several years and to Belinda Culgin for serving as Secretary. Of course, thank you to the Committee Chairs for your ongoing efforts.

On behalf of Council I would like to thank Jeff Parks for serving as Geoscientist Canada President and representing us well on the National stage. Unfortunately, the Geoscientist Canada AGM planned for Halifax wasn't able to take place.

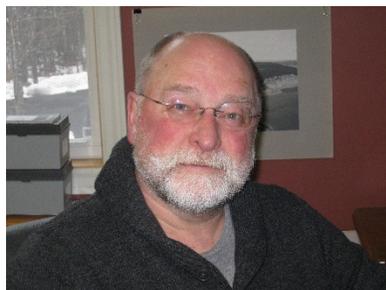
I see volunteering my time for our association, not just as an opportunity to give back, but as an opportunity to meet new contacts and be a part of the decisions that affect our association, our membership and our industry. As we

move forward, I would encourage you as members to try and find a way to get engaged with our Committees, Boards or Council.

Finally, thank you to our Executive Director and Registrar David Carter for your passion for our Association and everything it stands for.

Respectfully submitted,
Gavin Isenor, P.Ge.
President, APGNS

Executive Director and Registrar's Report



APGNS Official Register as of June 15, 2020

APGNS Membership	Registrants
P.Ge. Members	193
License to Practice (LTP; non-resident)	27
Members-in-Training (MIT)	23
Certificate of Authorization	47
Sole practitioners	23
Corporate	24

APGNS Members (P.Ge.) issued since last AGM (June 24, 2019)	Employer
Michael Simpson, P.Ge.	Atlantic Gold
Kristopher Ellis, P.Ge.	Alamos Gold, Young Davidson Mine
Klaus Popelka, P.Ge.	Atlantic Gold
Melissa Fitzgerald, P.Ge.	GHD Group
Dewey Dunnington, P.Ge.	Dalhousie Univ
Julie Griffiths, P.Ge.	Shaw Resources
Navjot Aneja, P.Ge.	Stantec
Taylor Chew, P.Ge.	Atlantic Gold
Kathleen Gould, P.Ge.	Halliburton - Landmark
Daniel Hagan, P.Ge.	Environmental Management
Noah Booth, P.Ge.	Dillon Consulting
Lucas Melanson, P.Ge.	CSR GeoSurveys
Pier Pufahl (pending)	Queens University
Gareth Dreimeyer (pending)	Maderra Engineering

Fergus Tweedale (pending)	Saint Mary's University
Mitchell Barteau (pending)	O'Kane Consultants
Evan Lapointe (pending)	Kinross Gold Corporation
Lachlan MacLean (pending)	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Allison Tremain (pending)	Atlantic Gold

APGNS License to Practice (LTP) issued since last AGM (June 24, 2019)	Employer
William Henkle, P.Geo.	Henkle & Assoc
Joe Mihelcic, P.Geo.	ClearView Geophysics
Steven Aitken, P.Geo.	retired
Karen Besemann, P.Geo.	Golder Assoc
John Fairclough, P.Geo.	AECOM Canada Ltd.

APGNS Members-in-Training (MIT) since last AGM (June 24, 2019)	Employer
Jon Edwards, MIT	Pretiem Exploration
Mike Robinson, MIT	Balmoral Resources
Zhihai (Adrian) Zhang, MIT	student
Chrystal Smith, MIT	Northern Shield Resources
Taylor Campbell, MIT	Atlantic Gold
Richard Creagan MIT	
Raymond Craddock (pending)	Stantec
Brendan Vibert (pending)	Atlantic Gold

APGNS Certificate of Authorization (CofA) issued since the last AGM (June 24, 2019)
AMK Geoscience Ltd.
ClearView Geophysics Inc
Morien Resources Corp.

Stricken from the Register since the last AGM (June 24, 2019)	
Prasanta K. Mukhopadhyay, Ph.D.	John Burton
Phil Finck	Steven Kramer
Steve Barrett	Josh Caines
Doug Currie	Sally Goodman

It has certainly been, and continues to be, a challenging year with the response to the COVID-19 virus controlling all aspects of our daily lives. The APGNS Annual General Meeting was originally scheduled, as in previous years, for late April, however, as the impact of the virus expanded, the Executive and Council agreed to delay the meeting in hopes that it could be re-scheduled. By late May it was apparent that a face-to-face gathering was unlikely and with the need to move to a new Executive and Council, it was determined that the business portion of the AGM should proceed in late June using a virtual meeting platform. Unfortunately, the Continuing Professional Development session and luncheon speaker presentation must be re-scheduled as well. All signs of the “new normal”?

Summary reports for several APGNS Boards, and Committees are presented in this program. On behalf of the Executive, the Council, the Association, and the Members, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for the on-going commitment of time and effort from all of our volunteers.

I would like to extend thanks to Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC and Cliff Stanley, P.Geo., FGC for their continued work with the Geoscientists Canada, Board of Directors and Canadian Geoscience Standards Council, respectively. Their participation and leadership keep the Association involved and current with national issues.

Jeff has completed his term as the 2019-2020 President of Geoscientists Canada. As President he would have had the opportunity to host 2020 Annual General Meeting in Halifax. Unfortunately, that meeting was also held using a virtual platform because of the COVID-19.

I would also like to extend special thanks to Robert (Bob) Stewart, P.Geo. for his work on the National Professional Practice Committee. He presents a geoscience voice and ensures that it is clearly reflected in their work. APGNS representation with these national groups is fundamental to our role as a Constituent Association of Geoscientists Canada.

For the first time since 2013, the annual membership fees for professional members will increase by approximately 10% (from \$450 to \$460.00). This is in response to increasing operating costs for the Association, including an increase in the per member assessment fee applied by Geoscientists Canada.

There are always opportunities for the Members to get involved on these Boards and Committees. Participation in support of the Association activities will also be recognized and credited as Continuing Professional Development. The structure and composition of the various groups will be reviewed at the first meeting of 2020 Executive and Council so if you would like to get involved, please volunteer.

As noted in the report from the **Governance Committee**, the *Geoscience Profession Act* and the **Geoscience Practice Regulations** have been submitted to the Department of Justice for review and approval. We worked with the Department to remove the “orphan” label and to involve the Department of Energy and Mines to assist in developing the legislative documents. Although the COVID-19 response has sidetracked the process, we will continue to work with Department representatives to include the Act and the Regulations on the government’s next available order paper. We will continue working on the revision of the by-laws and we are also developing policies which are consistent with the revised Act and Regulations.

APGNS continues to offer value to the members through affinity programs, for example the various insurance products available. Our participation in these programs is based on our affiliation with Geoscientists Canada and Engineers Canada, which represents a significant purchasing block. Other affinity opportunities include a discount program available from UPS with savings of up to 30% for shipments in Canada. This is available to the Association as well as our members.

Respectfully submitted
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC
Executive Director and Registrar

Treasurers Report

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee, Bridget Adams, P.Geo., Paul Batson, P.Geo., FGC, and Rick Gagné, P.Geo., met on March 3, 2020 to review the Association's financial source documents before the submission of accounting system files to David MacDonald (CA) for completion of the 2019 year-end financial reports for presentation at the Annual General Meeting. The Association's 2019 financial source documents were available for review and Tara Carr (Administration / Registration Assistant) had matched all of source documents with printed copies of their accounting system journal summaries.

Other than a few questions on small amounts which were mostly related to how the Harmonized Sales Tax had been reported on some expense accounts, the Audit Committee found that the accounting system entries matched all of the source documents and, with resolution of those questions, recommended that the accounting system files be forwarded to the accountant for preparation of the 2019 year-end financial reports.

Notice of a Motion to the Annual General Meeting:

The Audit Committee recommends that David MacDonald Accounting Services should be appointed to undertake the 2020 year-end financial review.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Adams, P.Geo.
Rick Gagné, P.Geo.
Paul Batson, P.Geo., FGC, Treasurer

Independent Financial Review Engagement Report

To: Executive and Council of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia
From: Dave MacDonald, CPA, CA, Chartered Professional Accountant

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Association of Professional Geoscientists of NS that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Association of Professional Geoscientists of NS as at December 31, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations



Statement of Financial Position (unaudited) For the Year Ending December 31, 2019

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$166,038	\$150,827
Term Deposits	69,824	84,269
Accounts Receivable	54,036	49,844
	289,898	284,940
Property, plant and equipment	542	985
Subtotal	\$290,440	\$285,940
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$11,055	\$10,904
HST payable	-	1,158
	11,055	12,062
Deferred Income	11,0395	107,000
	\$121,450	\$119,870
Subtotal	\$168,990	\$166,055
NET ASSETS	\$290,440	\$285,925
Original accepted on behalf of the Association		
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC, Executive Director and Gavin Isenor, P.Geo., President		

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures (unaudited) For the Year Ending December 31, 2019

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2018 actual
REVENUES			
Fee Revenue	\$33,750	\$36,425	\$39,482
Other Revenue	7,750	9,383	5,254
Professional Fees Revenue	91,750	91,450	91,850
Total	133,250	137,258	136,586
EXPENDITURES			
Amortization	-	443	286
Contracted Services	91,401	90,820	83,078
Administrative Expenses	12,100	14,481	10,306
General Expenses	21,625	23,147	21,355
Travel and Meals Expense	8,150	5,432	6,269
Total	133,276	134,323	121,294
(DEFICIENCY) EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$(26)	\$2,935	\$15,292

**Statement of Cash Flows (unaudited)
For the Year Ending December 31, 2019**

	2019 Actual	2018 actual
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$2,935	\$15,292
Adjustment for Amortization	443	286
Total	\$3,378	\$15,578
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Short term deposits	14,445	(15,417)
Accounts Receivable	(4,192)	13,439
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,007)	(3,954)
Deferred income	2,587	(3,954)
Total	15,211	7,082
INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	-	(1,271)
NET INCREASE IN CASH	15,211	5,811
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	150,827	145,016
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$166,038	\$150,827

Admissions Board Report

2019 Meeting	2019 Meeting Dates	Files Submitted for Review
19-01; Meeting #96	March 15, 2019	Noah Booth Melissa Fitzgerald Raj Toor Klaus Popelka Kristopher Ellis Leslie Shea
19-02; Meeting #97	August 30, 2019	Kathleen Gould Dewey Dunnington Navjot AneJa Dylan Farrell Lucas Melanson Mike Robinson Dr. Peir Pufahl Zhihai Zhang
19-03; Meeting #98	December 6, 2019	Gareth Driemeyer Chrystal Smith Taylor Chew Sean Freeborne Taylor Campbell

General Comments

The Admissions Board is appointed annually by Council and tasked with the assessment of applications for professional geoscience registration. The Board offers recommendations to Council regarding an applicant's qualifications and potential for registration.

The Registrar and the Board have developed an Applicant Self-Assessment Tool as well as an Academic Assessment guide which are both available on request and are posted on the Association Website. The Geoscientists Canada, Competency Based Assessment Tool is currently undergoing beta testing and it is anticipated that it will be approved by Council and available for use by the Board. The Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Guide for applicants and the Board is also under development and expected to be submitted for approval soon. In some cases, the applicant or the Board may apply PLAR in lieu of some academic requirements.

Council has approved the *Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements for Professional Registration in Canada (GKE)*, as the principle reference document for application assessment. The updated and revised GKE was issued by Geoscientists Canada and accepted by the Council and the Board in 2019.

Council has also approved the *Framework for Assessment in the Licensing of Professional Geoscientists in Canada*, updated and revised in 2019, and the principles of the Nova Scotia, *Fair Registration Practices Act*. The Board refers to the *Admissions Board Policy and Procedures* in the evaluation of applications.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brent Cox, P.Geo.; FGC. (Chair)
Theresa Rushton, P.Geo.; FGC. (Secretary)
Diane Webber, P.Geo.; FGC. (on leave)
Cliff Stanley, P.Geo.; FGC
Paul Batson, P.Geo.; FGC
Mark King, P.Geo.; FGC
Grant Wach, P. Geo.
Carl Makrides, P. Geo. (on leave)

Committee Reports

Governance Committee Report

The draft *Geoscience Profession Act (GPA)* and **Geoscience Practice Regulations**, which were first submitted to the Nova Scotia Department of Justice for consideration in 2014, are once again undergoing intensive review. Following discussions with DOJ in 2019, in February 2020, the Department of Energy and Mines (DEM) agreed to assist in the development of the legislation and submission to the Legislature. The DEM provided comments on the proposed GPA as well as a Policy Table with questions intended to clarify the intent of the revisions and the rationale for them. The comments/feedback on the GPA were reviewed in consultation with our legal counsel and the results were presented to the Executive, Council, and senior reviewers in April 2020.

It was anticipated that the revised GPA would be available for inclusion on the June 2020 legislative order paper and that it would be submitted to the Legislature in the all of 2020. However, the response to the COVID-19 virus and the declaration of a state of emergency has delayed the schedule. At this time, it is impossible to anticipate a schedule for the Legislature to consider the GPA. At best, the GPA may be placed on the Legislative Order Paper for the spring of 2021.

The Act and the Regulations will be considered separately, the Act by the Legislature and the Regulations by Cabinet; however, we have been advised and it is our intent to have the Regulations ready for consideration and in support of the Act. Once the Act is passed by the Legislature, then the Regulations can be put forward for approval by Cabinet and then work can get started on the by-laws.

In anticipation of the requirements of the revised GPA and the Regulations, Council has approved several administrative policies to manage the operations of the Association which are consistent with the revised GPA, the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement* and the *Fair Registration Practices Act (FRPA)*. These revised policies have been posted to the Association website as per the requirements of the FRPA review.

Respectfully submitted
Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC (Chair)
Jeff Parks, P.Geo. FGC
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC

Student Committee Report

APGNS Student Outreach Program Update – 2019/2020 Academic Year

The APGNS Student Committee had a very busy academic year, notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic, as all committee outreach events were held in the fall semester. These events included our very first (hopefully of many to come!) Student-Industry Networking Night, participation at this year's AUGC as a Judge and Speaker, and Student Awareness talks given at both St. FX and Halifax-area university undergraduate geoscience students. Our Committee Chair also had a great "cameo" role co-hosting the CSPG Challenge Bowl this year at the AUGC.

APGNS Student-Professional Networking Night

The APGNS hosted its first-ever Student-Professional Networking Night on November 21st at the Old Triangle Ale House in Halifax. This event included several short talks from APGNS members on their experience as a geoscientist interspersed with networking sessions for students and members accompanied by finger food and cold refreshments. A special thanks to Gavin Isenor, P.Geo. for sharing experiences in the aggregate industry at Dexter Construction, Maylia Parker, P.Geo. for discussing her experiences in consulting, government and traveling, David Lowe, P.Geo. for sharing his experience working at Atlantic Gold and his adventures in sandstone country in New York State, and to Sharon Blackmore, P.Geo. for some stories of environmental geochemical adventures in Northern Canada! Many thanks go out to Mercator Geological Services, Stantec, Dexter and BGC Engineering for sponsoring this event. Feedback from students and members was incredibly positive, which bodes well for this event to be an annual staple on the APGNS calendar.

AUGC 2019 and CSEG Challenge Bowl

The Atlantic Universities Geological Conference (AUGC) was hosted by St. FX University in 2019. Mike Power, P.Ge., our Student Committee Chair, helped kick off the conference by volunteering to help run the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG) Challenge Bowl with Taylor Till from the CSEG. Students from universities around Atlantic Canada took their best shot at the geology and geophysics trivia challenge, but in the end, it was the Memorial University Team who came on top and won a trip to Calgary for the National Challenge Bowl Competition during the 2020 Geoconvention in May.

Mike also staffed the APGNS booth with student member forms, Geoscience for Society Pamphlets, and the APGNS banner. Mike received lots of interest at the booth from eager students keen to learn about becoming a P.Ge. and obtaining geology employment in Nova Scotia. Mike also gave the APGNS Student Awareness Talk to attendees of the conference as part of the conference talk lineup. In his capacity as a “stand-in” rep for the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG) Mike also judged the oral presentations and student poster session, attended the AUGC Closing Banquet and awarded the Best Geophysics Presentation on behalf of the CSEG. Congratulations to the AUGC Organizing Committee for putting on a great convention!

Campus Outreach

The Dalhousie University outreach event was held in the Milligan Room at the Dal Earth Science Department in December that overlooks a stunning view of Point Pleasant Park and the Northwest Arm. Approximately 15 students attended this talk, also part of the Dal “Geobeers” series, with pizza provided by the APGNS. Several excellent questions regarding transfer of professional registration and types of work a geoscientist is competent to perform were asked, and Mike described his work experience to date in mineral exploration, environmental consulting, oil and gas, and academia.

The St. Mary’s University outreach event was held at the SMU Science Building in December, with approximately 15 people in attendance. Many thoughtful questions were asked, such as, ... “will my engineering courses count towards my P.Ge.?” Highlights included Mike recounting some of his mineral exploration and environmental consulting work experiences. Student members were signed up at this event as well.

These visits served to inform undergraduate and graduate students about professional registration requirements with our organization and to meet and network with current students in Atlantic Canada that are thinking of obtaining professional status in Nova Scotia.

With COVID-19 restrictions already reaching into next year’s academic year, it is anticipated many of our events, including the networking social and student awareness events, will be going digital. Please stay tuned to your email listserv and our LinkedIn page for details.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Power, P.Ge., Chair
Kelsey O’Brien, P.Ge.
Maureen Matthew, P.Ge.
Paul LaFleche, P.Ge., FGC.
Sharon Blackmore, P.Ge.

Environment Committee Report

The committee met three times in 2019/2020 (August 22, 2019, October 17, 2019, and February 6, 2020) since our last AGM.

The efforts of the Environment Committee have focused on several themes including monitoring of the Nova Scotia Environment Act, specifically the Contaminated Sites Regulations, which were introduced in 2013. The Contaminated Sites Regulations provide process changes for administering contaminated sites, as well as defining the roles and responsibilities of the property owner and Site Professionals (which by definition includes Professional Geoscientists).

Specifically, participation and discussion with Nova Scotia Environment on the new system for tracking contaminated site files and electronic forms at their Site Professional Information Session held November 4, 2019. The participants agreed that the round table meetings were beneficial and that they should be continued as an interface between practitioners and regulators.

At our February 2020 meeting, NSE presented updates on the regulations that are in development under the Coastal Protection Act. Geoscientists Nova Scotia is a key stakeholder in this initiative and NSE solicited the opinions, questions and advice of the Committee as the regulations are developed. Specifically, their approach to develop a Coastal Erosion Risk Factor Assessment methodology, which is an important part of how the CPA will work, and defining Designated Professional in the regulations (e.g., P.Geo. or P.Eng. with relevant work experience who would self declare). The RFP was issued by NSE in April 2020.

The Committee continued to monitor proposed revisions to the Mineral Resources Act and Regulations (as discussed with the department during our March 2019 meeting) as these have implications on environmental management, monitoring and reclamation. The Committee continued to develop its relationship with the Atlantic Geoscience Society (AGS) and Mining Association of NS (MANS), and participation in public events (e.g. Oak Island TV series), as a means to increase the visibility of Geoscience and the Association to industry as well as our role in resource development and protection of the environment.

Engagement with academia continued to be a focal point and sustained objective as interest in environmental geoscience is increasing in universities.

The Committee successfully increased its membership to include additional industry representation, and to maximize participation and views. The Environment Committee will continue to monitor important and current environmental issues as they arise.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberlea Green, P.Geo. (Chair)
Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC
Scott Conrod, P.Geo.
Julie Griffiths, P.Geo.
Russell Finley, P.Geo.
Ian Spooner, Ph.D., P.Geo.
Danielle Finlayson-Bourque, P.Geo.
Robert Cuthbert, P.Geo. (NSE observer)

Mining and Energy Committee Report

The Mining and Energy Committee was configured by Council a little over two years ago with a mandate to identify and monitor the current and pending issues and events affecting the mining and energy sectors.

Four Committee meetings were held in the past year; in February, June and September 2019 and in January 2020. We thank Stantec, Dillon Consulting, and Christal Kennedy for providing boardroom space for these meetings. The Mining and Energy Committee currently has fifteen members, most of whom have attended all of the meetings, and Richard Gagné, P.Geo. has remained as chair, Jeff Burke, P.Geo. as co-Chair, and Mike Power, P.Geo. as secretary.

Several topics and action items were identified and followed up on, including:

- continued review of committee terms of reference and mandate, procedures, policies, and reporting to council, with work on the terms of reference and mandate still on-going;
- continuing discussions on the Mineral Resources Act and Regulations;
- general discussions on the issues, interests and direction regarding developments in the Nova Scotia offshore oil & gas industry, and on industry news in New Brunswick;
- continuing discussions on the issues, interests and direction regarding industry, the media, and public awareness regarding mineral and offshore/onshore energy resource exploration, feasibility and development activities, particularly as related to perceptions about environmental issues around hydraulic fracturing and mineral exploration and development;
- progress is slowly being made on the Google-drive based industry fact sheet repository initiative and on the social media venue.

Association Members are encouraged to get involved with the Committee and to pass along to the Committee any issues in specific areas they feel may need attention.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Gagné, P.Geo. (Chair)
Jeff Burke, P.Geo. (co-Chair)
Mike Power, P.Geo. (Secretary)
Andrew Blackmer, P.Geo.
Tim Bourque, P.Geo.
Greg Isenor, P.Geo.
Chrystal Kennedy, P.Geo., FGC
Bob MacDonald, P.Geo.
Edwin Macdonald, P.Geo.
Duncan MacInnis, P.Geo.
Carl Makrides, P.Geo.
Maureen Matthew, P.Geo.
Bruce Mitchell, P.Geo.
Arden Thompson, P.Geo.
Stephen Warren, P.Geo.

Geoscientists Canada Director Report

I have had the privilege of serving as the first Geoscientists Canada President elected from Nova Scotia and I want to thank Geoscientists Nova Scotia for your support and guidance during my term. As President, I chaired both the Executive and the Governance Committees.

Governance undertook routine maintenance of our policy documents but of note was the consideration of posthumous award of the Fellowship (FGC), which we now allow. The Executive deals with the on-going oversight of the organization and met monthly throughout the year. The Board meets 5 times per year – usually 3 in person and two conference calls.

This year marked a renewal of the strategic plan – the Implementation Table - that provides Geoscientists Canada with the priorities and focus as suggested by the member Constituent Associations (CA). This renewal was based on a plan that was first developed 2014 and will be used for the next 3 to 5 years. Priorities may also be opportunities and Geoscientists Canada will monitor activities both at home and abroad and will participate in those opportunities that meet our vision and our means.

Our two-way engagement protocol provides for open and ongoing dialogues with not just Directors but the CA CEOs, Admission Officials, and Presidents on the Geoscientists Canada operations and activities. The Canadian Geoscience Standards Council is an integral cog in the communication strategy. We also try to ensure that there is consistent and meaningful dialogue between the Directors their CAs by providing weekly flash reports, timely minutes of meetings, and information that may be presented to Geoscientists Canada for dissemination.

The year was dominated by the Admission Support Tools II Project which was complete in March 2020. This two year project was completed on time and slightly under budget. This project saw the development of the professional practice geoscience work experience competencies (WECs). These competencies were then used in the development of a geoscience WEC online tool that is designed to assist the regulators in the assessment of professional geoscience applicants for entry to the profession. The tool was developed to the pilot stage; however, with additional funding through the AST II project and from CA support, and with the cooperation and support of EGBC, Geoscientists Canada is undertaking to complete the work on the WEC Online Tool for CA use. This new project was proposed through in a letter of interest for additional funding from ESDC in the name of the AST III project; however, we were not invited to submit that proposal.

Also, an outcome of the AST II project is the March 2020 launch of *Geoscience in Canada* (www.geoscienceincanada.ca), a comprehensive resource for information on professional geoscientist licensure in Canada. This important resource is designed to inform internationally and domestically trained geoscientists about practising geoscience and professional geoscience licensure requirements in Canada. The website includes a variety

of resources including a licensure readiness self-assessment tool which provides prospective applicants with the ability to anonymously self-assess their geoscience education and work experience as compared to the Canadian geoscience requirements for licensure.

For the first time in many years a member assessment fee increase of \$5 per person was passed by the Board, in consultation with the CAs, to meet our operating budget needs. The increase will be effective in 2021. This will also necessitate a redistribution of our reserve fund into a reserve fund and a strategic initiative fund that will be used for project related work that will be funded by savings in our operational budget and grant monies. As a part of this review, the CEOs asked the Board to develop a financial risk assessment for the organization. This document has been developed and is currently distributed for comment. Geoscientists Canada has also switched to using electronic fund transfer (EFT) for most of our banking transactions to further reduce risk of fraud.

Our committees provide ongoing commitment and dedication in their roles and have been instrumental in guiding the day-to-day affairs of Geoscientists Canada. The Directors provide many hours of volunteer time, during busy personal and work schedules, in additional roles as Committee Chairs and members.

The year did not exactly end the way we had anticipated. It is my belief that face-to-face meetings are the best approach to truly understanding what people think and how we best work together to address the expectations Geoscientists Canada and the membership, and it is unfortunate that we (APGNS) were not able to feature Nova Scotia to the rest of my Board colleagues from across Canada during this year's GC-AGM.

Thank you again for your continued support as I enter my last year on the Geoscientists Canada Board of Directors – serving as Past President.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC,
Nova Scotia Director
Geoscientists Canada

Canadian Geoscience Standards Council (CGSC) Report

The Canadian Geoscience Standards Council (CGSC) consists of appointees from each of the member constituent associations. The Council assists Geoscientists Canada in working with the constituent associations to coordinate, correlate and harmonize practices in the areas of registration of geoscientists, mobility of licensed professionals and inter-provincial practice, and to develop and maintain appropriate standards of geoscience practice.

CGSC provides assistance to Geoscientists Canada in the preparation of a national guideline and it advises Geoscientists Canada and constituent associations on matters concerning academic examination syllabi, professional practice and ethics examinations, continuing professional competence requirements, mentoring, codes of ethics, and other professional areas.

The CGSC also has the mandate to assess geoscience education across Canada in order to keep Geoscientists Canada and its constituent associations informed of the extent to which Canadian geoscience educational programs meet the recommended knowledge content for professional practice. Such assessment is a continuing process. Similarly, the CGSC has a responsibility to provide guidance on the assessment of equivalency of international geoscience education programs.

In 2019, the CGSC & Admissions Officer Group met to:

- 1) sign off on completion of Admissions Support Tools, Phase II Project and the development of Pre-Arrival Self Assessment Tool; and
- 2) participate in the demonstration and testing of the Work Experience Assessment Tool developed by EGBC and modified for geoscience.

The CGSC recommended acceptance to the Board and also that the CGSC be tasked with identifying Canadian work experience competencies that must be gained in a Canadian or equivalent environment for registration.

In March 2020, the CGSC convened a Special Online Meeting at request of the President and Board of Directors, to discuss the wide-spread cancellations of university field schools due to COVID-19 and forward suggestions to assist the Constituent Associations (CA's) in responding to the concerns of applicants.

It was agreed that the CGSC unanimously supports the necessity of maintaining the requirement of appropriate field experience in field mapping and field activities, as would normally be gained through multiple days in the field. CGSC is unanimous in the opinion that, it is the purview of each CA to decide on how the field knowledge requirement is fulfilled by an applicant. CGSC recognizes that an alternative field experience may be acceptable for a few rare cases and that member CAs will exert some flexibility in assessments. Such 'flexibility' in assessments may involve a demonstration of 'Work Experience Competency' during summer or part-time employment, or some other route of acquiring this knowledge (i.e. graduate thesis projects), that can be signed-off by a P.Ge., or P.Eng.

The CGSC has discussed the aggressive lobbying of Eco Canada (ECO) for recognition of this designation as professional status equivalent in standing to P.Ge. or P.Eng. for environmental projects and is aware of the potential risks to the public. The CGSC has recommended to the Board that there should be continued activity to educate provincial and territorial legislatures on the risks associated with misleading designations (e.g. ECO) that can be confused with P.Ge. or P.Eng designations.

Respectfully submitted,
Cliff Stanley, PhD, P.Ge., FGC, APGNS Representative
David C. Carter, P.Ge., FGC, Admissions Officers Group

National Professional Practice Examination (NPPE)

Advisory Committee Report

The National Professional Exam is an important component of professional geoscience registration. Each applicant must successfully complete the NPPE prior to registration. It is also a requirement for mobility / transfer to most other Canadian jurisdictions.

David Carter, P.Ge., FGC and Robert Stewart, P.Ge. are the APGNS representatives for the National Professional Practice Advisory Committee (NPPEAC) and the Examination Committee (NPPEC) respectively. The NPPE has been adopted by most Constituent Associations of Geoscientists Canada and Engineers Canada as a requirement prior to entry-to-professional practice.

The NPPEC meets about twice a month in 75-minute teleconference calls that typically involve 8 to 12 attendees from across the country. Robert Stewart is a regular and active participant in these meetings. The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) has staff that are dedicated to developing and maintaining the NPPE database and its administration. They are experienced in applying the objective metrics required to ensure testing is fair, defensible and equal for each administration of this high-stakes examination.

After each of the exam administrations, field tested questions are reviewed by the SME's and APEGA staff;

- a.) prior to incorporation into the examination databank; or
- b.) rejection because the field testing results did not meet acceptable the testing criteria or
- c.) revision that results in further field-testing.

The NPPE examinations follow the 2017 Syllabus so that a typical 100 question examination comprises:

- I. Professionalism (7 – 10 questions);
- II. Ethics (17 – 21 questions);
- III. Professional Practice (27 – 32 questions);
- IV. Law for Professional Practice (23 – 28 questions);
- V. Professional Law (7 – 10 questions); and
- VI. Regulation of Members & Discipline Processes (7 – 10 questions)

Professionalism is constantly changing, and the NPPE preparation materials are also being updated regularly. A sub-committee of the NPPEC is currently comparing changes in the 6th Edition of Andrews *et al*, 2018 text to the 5th Edition (2015).

Since the NPPE transitioned from paper to computer-based in October 2015 remote proctoring has been available. Until April 2020 approximately 3% of candidates each session took the exam by remote proctoring. Due to COVID-19 closing test centres in April, 100% of candidates took the exam remotely. Although there were some lessons learned from the April session, we did have mostly positive feedback.

The NPPE is the only exam required for licensure administered to engineers and geoscientists that is still operational due to COVID-19 (e.g., ASBOG FG, NCEES FE, PE, SE cancelled until further notice). Feedback from applicants indicates that they appreciate that their registration is not being delayed.

Respectfully submitted,
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC,
NPPE Advisory Committee

NPPE Committee Report

Stan Zwierzchowski, P.Eng. is the Chair for the Professional Practice Examination Committee (PPEC) meetings and overall lead in the PPEC's activities. He has substantial experience in active professional practice and teaching about professional practice in Alberta universities. Robert Stewart, P.Geo., has been one of the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on the APEGA PPEC since May 2015. Hendrik Falck, P.Geo., a past-President of Geoscientists Canada, is also on the current PPEC and helps ensure questions are balanced and not engineering-centric.

In addition to reviewing about 40 new questions per month, the PPEC reviews the experimental testing. The April 2020 examinations were modified to comply with social-distancing and shutdown requirements. In April, applicants wrote the examination from their homes using remote proctoring. In early June, about 2000 applicants, took the examination under these remote proctoring conditions.

The Syllabus or Examination was approved in 2019. The PPEC is expanding the approved reading list to include multiple texts and other information sources and applicants can prepare for the examination using the "blueprint". New texts and revisions of old texts are being published more often and the PPEC is involved in keeping up to date with these texts. As professional practice adapts to change, so too will the examination blueprint be refined on a 5-year regular basis (2021-2022) by the PPEC reporting to the NPPE-AC. Professional practice issues common to geoscientists and engineers should be added to the "examination blue-print" and any suggestions are welcome

Engineers Ontario (PEO) has adopted the NPPE and that is expected to result in over 8000 applicants taking the NPPE each year. All questions in the operational database were reviewed and vetted for PEO at a 2-day meeting in APEGA's Edmonton offices in February 2020. Planned quarterly face-to-face 2-day PPEC meetings for 2020 have been deferred until travel restrictions ease.

Robert (Bob) Stewart, P.Geo.,
NPPE Committee

Professional Development Committee Report

The Professional Development (PD) Committee (established in 2013) to support the Continuing Professional Development and Competency Assurance Program (CPD) identified and posted information regarding lectures and other events which may be eligible for members to submit as Continuing Professional Development. It should be noted that each member should submit CPD reports that are specific to their area of competence / professional development / practice. Events have been hosted at the Atlantic Geoscience Society Colloquium, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dalhousie University, St. Mary's University, the Joggins Fossil Institute and the Natural History Museum.

Members are encouraged to provide the committee with information and recommendations regarding events that may be considered as applicable for CPD credit. A summary of the recent events posted to the Association website are shown below.

Event	Format
The Search for Sand: Mountains, Rivers and Deltas 150 Million Years Ago	Lecture
IAH Atlantic Seminar: Lithium brine deposits, with examples from the Andes, Nevada, and California	Lecture
Earth Ring Ceremony	Event
Webinar: Use of Geophysics for Optimizing Environmental Site Characterization and Remediation	Webinar
NGWA: Fractured Rock and Groundwater	Conference
IAH Atlantic Seminar: Cape Breton's Springs - so what do we know?	Lecture
Boundary Time Surface - Arts & Geology in Dialogue	Lecture
East Kemptville Tin: An Innovative Environmental Rehabilitation Solution for a Closed Mine Site	Lecture
IAH Atlantic Seminar: Secret Seeps: Groundwater - An Invisible Conduit between Land and Sea	Lecture
NGWA Groundwater Week	Conference
Is Mining Innovation an Oxymoron?	Lecture
Student-Professional Networking Social	Event

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Webber, P.Geo., FGC. (Chair)
Colin Walker, P.Geo.
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC.

Insurance Task Group Report

APGNS members are eligible for a number of affinity programs offered through Engineers Canada (EC) and Geoscientists Canada (GC). The purchasing power of EC (over 240,000 members) provides a significant opportunity to APGNS members. As a Constituent Association of GC and affiliate of EC, APGNS Members are eligible to partner with TD Insurance - Meloche Monnex and Manulife Financial.

APGNS members have access to the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), Errors and Omissions Professional Liability Insurance. The coverage is offered through Partners Indemnity Insurance Brokers Ltd. And additional coverage e.g. Commercial Business Insurance, including office and field equipment, is also available.

APGNS Members have Secondary Professional Liability Group Insurance Plan offered through EC. The premium for this coverage is paid through the Association annual registration fees and details can be found on the Association website.

APGNS members are eligible for accident/life/sickness insurance through Manulife, car/auto through TD Meloche Monnex and Pet Insurance through PetSecure. Information is available through the Association web page, or the EC webpage and the insurance providers can be contacted directly for a quote.

The Association will continue to work towards expanding the affinity program and improving the promotion of these opportunities to our members.

Respectfully submitted,
David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC.

Communications Report

The Association continues its efforts to inform members on the activities of the Association, primarily through the newsletter and the website as well as social media and directed emails.

Newsletter Report

The GeoGazette continues to be a beneficial way to reach and communicate with our members and others. This past year there was a phase in publishing, however, it is anticipated that it will resume before the end of 2020. The next issue will include information following the AGM.

The recent additions to the GeoGazette newsletter, the “University Corner” section where Nova Scotia Universities can showcase current and upcoming events, awards, activities, or achievements that may be noteworthy to the APGNS community.

As always, the GeoGazette welcomes member contributions or ideas. The GeoTravels section will be continued with submissions from our members in various parts of the geo-world.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelsey O’Brien, P.Geo. (newsletter editor)

Social Media Report

Geoscientists Nova Scotia is currently operating only on LinkedIn, with little online traffic but correspondingly little in posted content. Articles posted include some local announcements, events, as well as public health concerns such as the Oxford sinkhole. As LinkedIn is a professional targeting platform, keeping formal announcements and events related to the association, journal and professional development should be its focus.

We are seeking help from a student or recent graduate, to utilize the twitter, tumblr and Instagram platforms with an “all in one app” to deliver content to multiple accounts would engage a larger audience. Since this is public focused, it is a great avenue to promote local activities, education, and other positive community engagement news in the geoscience to the public. It could be as simple as sharing an elementary school trip, public presentations, or promotion of the science (obviously unbiased towards any extractive or other related industry). This intern would help improve the underlying issues of unregulated media postings in the public space and encourage involvement, community engagement and education which is critical to the growth and longevity of the geoscience profession.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Burke, P.Geo. (social media manager)

Website Report

There were no major changes to the website in 2017. The home page is updated frequently to show news and upcoming events, including a front-page banner to highlight the most important items. We welcome suggestions from members on events or news that could be highlighted on the front page. Please contact the Colin Walker or David Carter to submit ideas.

The two highest-traffic areas of the website provide information on becoming a member, and resources for existing members. Members and applicants can continue to pay dues, purchase event tickets, and order earth rings using the Payments icon at the top-right of the home page. We invite you to visit the website weekly to check the Events section at the bottom of the home page. Research talks, professional development opportunities, and conferences that may be of interest to members are listed there with links to the event poster or website.

Website traffic summary

Page	Cumulative Hits
Become a Member tab (home page)	4054
List of Registered Professional Geoscientists	3988
For the Public tab (home page)	3852
For Members tab (home page)	3273
About Us tab (home page)	3259
Application for Assessment and Registration	2587
President's Message	2582
Member Benefit Program	2149
Council, Committees and Staff	2113
List of Authorized Companies	2051
Forms	2019
Members in Training Area	1873
Knowledge Requirements	1845
Writing the Professional Practice Exam	1637
Featured Topic	1604
Student Area	1601
How to Apply	1597
National Professional Practice Examination	1591
Phased ESA Professional Practice Guideline	1503
Our History	1499
Newsletters	1447

The traffic record suggests that the website is serving as a resource for members of the Association and members of the public wishing to learn more about us, or to check the list of individual and corporate Registrants. The site is a cornerstone of the application and registration process and sees increasing traffic by members paying their annual dues, fees, service charges and event fees.

Development of a web-based database of membership and registration is an on-going goal.

Respectfully submitted,
Colin Walker, P.Geo. (website manager)

Nominations Committee Report

Nominations for six positions on Council (President, Vice President, three Councillors and one public representative) were called on November 22, 2019.

Current Council status:

Kelsey O' Brien, P.Geo., John Kozuskanich, P.Geo., and Jeff Parks, P.Geo. FGC are completing their terms on Council at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Robert Cuthbert, P.Geo., Matthew Harrington, P.Geo., and Dan Parker, P.Geo. have one year remaining in their appointments.

The *Geoscience Profession Act* provides for the following:

"... two persons who are not members of the Association or licensed to practice, who shall be appointed by the Governor in Council and hold office as prescribed by the by-laws (Ref Section 15c)."

APGNS Council has indicated their intention to appoint two public representatives to serve on Council, with overlapping terms to ensure continuity of representation. The proposed revisions to the *Geoscience Profession Act* and the **Geoscience Practice Regulations** continue this policy. Therefore, the Nominating Committee was instructed by Council to address this obligation with the identification of qualified candidates.

George Goad, P.Eng., FEC has one year left of his appointment as public representative.

The other public representative position has been vacant since September 2019. The committee will continue to work with the Executive Director to identify a candidate for this position.

2020/2021 Nominations:**President 2020-2021:**

- Kimberlea Green, P.Geo. (wood plc)

Vice-President 2020-2021:

- Dan Parker, P.Geo. (GHD Group)

Past-President 2020-2021:

- Gavin Isenor, P.Geo. (Dexter Construction)

Councillors 2020-2022:

- Crystal Kennedy, P.Geo., FGC (Geochryst Geological Consulting), President
- Scott Conrod, P.Geo. (Golder Associates), Associate of Business Development
- Jim Millard, P.Geo. (Atlantic Gold), Manager Environment and Community / Atlantic Mining NS

Notice of a Motion to the Annual General Meeting:

That the recommendations of the Nominations Committee, as approved by Council, be accepted and that the nominees be declared elected by acclamation.

New Councillor's Bio's**Kimberlea Green, P.Geo.**

Kimberlea Green, M.Sc., P.Geo. is a Senior Environmental Professional with over 18 years' experience in managing environmental projects for both private and public clients. Her expertise includes environmental assessments, all aspects of the regulatory approvals and permitting processes, and developing relationships with key stakeholders. Kim spent the first four years of her career with the federal government managing contaminated sites at various military bases and has worked in consulting for the past 15 years.

Kim graduated with a B.Sc. in Earth Science from Memorial University of Newfoundland and completed an M.Sc. in Oil & Gas Management from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Kim has worked in Nova Scotia for the majority of her career and has been a registered geoscientist with APGNS since 2014. She has been a volunteer with the APGNS as a member of the Environment Committee, now Chair, and Council, serving as a Councillor for the past 3 years, and Vice President for the past year.

When not working she enjoys spending time with her family - camping and at the hockey rink!

Dan Parker, P.Geo.

Dan Parker, P.Geo., is a Senior Geoscientist, project manager, technical reviewer, as well as staff coach and mentor. He is active in the development and implementation of business strategy and client relations. He has managed over 200 technical consulting projects including resource, environmental and engineering geophysical investigations, as well as large scale multidisciplinary projects (geoscience, water, environmental), both within Canada and internationally. He works with integrated multidiscipline geoscience and technical teams to help solve private and public clients most challenging geoscience and engineering issues.

Dan graduated with a B.Sc. in Earth Science (Hons) from Dalhousie University in 2000 and has recently relocated to Halifax, Nova Scotia after working the past 18 years in western Canada. He transferred his APEGA registration to APGNS in 2018 and he is excited to be home with his wife and kids, and to be part of the geoscience community in Atlantic Canada.

Crystal Kennedy, P.Geo., FGC

Chrystal Kennedy has owned and operated her Nova Scotia-based geological consulting firm, Geochryst Geological Consulting, for the past ten years and has more than 25 years of professional exploration and management experience. She has degrees in both Geology and Biology from Dalhousie University. Chrystal is a Registered Professional Geoscientist, a Council member and Past President of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia (APGNS), as well as former Director of Geoscientists Canada.

Chrystal's geoscience background includes detailed geological evaluations and exploration for iron ore, hydrocarbons, base metals, gold and industrial minerals. Property assessments, mineral resource evaluation and estimation studies with associated reporting to National Instrument 43-101 compliance standards were routine duties of her contracts. She has extensive capabilities in designing, implementing and managing diverse exploration programs including compilation, interpretation, and target generation through to supervision of large scale diamond drilling programs.

To her, community is very important, and she adheres to the school of thought that was best expressed by playwright George Bernard Shaw who said his life belongs to the whole community. He added, "As long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. The harder I work, the more I live." To that end, she enjoys volunteering with various charities.

She is a competitive person by nature and likes to win. As a competitive rower and runner who has taken part in international rowing competitions and marathons, she follows a popular athlete's mantra that has carried on into her work and life: "Good. Better. Best. Never let it rest. Until your good is better and your better is best." She loves all outdoor activities, including hiking and biking, but she also enjoys the theater and a nice glass of wine, or as any good geologist, a good microbrew beer ... or two.

Scott Conrod, P.Geo.

Scott Conrod is Golder Associate's Senior Professional Geoscientist in Atlantic Canada providing earth and environmental consulting. Scott attended Saint Mary's and Dalhousie University. He graduated from Saint Mary's with a Bachelor of Science in Geology. Scott worked for Seabright Exploration and British Petroleum Resources in the late 1980s and he then moved into consulting in 1990. Scott has been a member of APGNS since the early 2000s and is a registered Professional Geoscientist in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland.

Scott is an Associate at Golder Associate's and he is based in their Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. He established Golder's Dartmouth, NS and St John's, NL offices as the Operations Manager in 2011 then moved into the role of Senior Project Director/Technical Advisor since 2014. He has over 30 years of experience in the Oil and Gas, Mining, Power and Infrastructure Sectors. Scott has assessed and remediated contaminated sites across Atlantic Canada, Ontario, Quebec ranging from retail service stations, bulk plants, commercial and industrial facilities, power plants, military bases, refineries and mine sites.

Scott has been involved with many industry working groups and committees with respect to contaminated site regulations, protocols and guidelines in Atlantic Canada. He is past Chair of the Environment Committee for APGNS and he remains active member on the committee. He is one of the co-authors of the Geoscience Professional Practice Guideline for Conducting Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessments in Nova Scotia. Between the mid-1990s to 2012, Scott was an active member, spent some time as a Board of Director and one year as President of the Environmental Industry Association of Nova Scotia, including time as Chair of the Environment Committee and Chair of the working group on the Nova Scotia Domestic Oil Spill Policy.

Scott is a proud father of two young adults. He enjoys anything outdoors with his family, especially travel, hiking, fishing, golf, hunting, rock hounding, reviewing E.R. Faribault's maps, visiting old mine sites, touring the province and pointing out contaminated sites to his children, which they no longer find interesting.

Jim Millard, P.Geo.

James (Jim) Millard is a professional geologist/hydrogeologist and environmental scientist with over 30 years of combined mining and industry environmental consulting experience. His professional experience includes 20 years employed directly by mining companies in roles that have included Exploration/Mining Geologist, Environmental Specialist, Environmental Superintendent, Environmental Manager, and most recently, Manager Environment and Community.

Jim has worked for major mining companies, including BHP Billiton, Arcelormittal, and most recently St. Barbara Limited. His environmental consulting practice has been mining and industry-based in Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC
Nominations Committee Chair

Award Announcements

APGNS Excellence in Geoscience Award

Christopher White, PhD, P.Geo.

Geoscientists Nova Scotia is pleased to announce the recipient of the **Excellence in Geoscience Award**. The award was established to honour an eminent and exemplary member of Geoscientists Nova Scotia (the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia) who is also a valuable contributing member of the Nova Scotia, Canadian and/or global geoscience community. Nominations for this award are considered annually, although the award is not necessarily presented each year. It is awarded to a Professional Geoscientist to recognize outstanding contributions to the development and practice of professional geoscience, who advances public recognition of the practice of professional geoscience in Nova Scotia and does so with the high levels of dedication and integrity.

To be eligible for the award, a nominee must meet a number of specific criteria, which include the following major categories:

- Excellence in Geoscience: Outstanding technical accomplishments; exploration/development successes; building the workplace (corporate or academic);
- Building the Geoscience Profession: Commitment to APGNS and the profession; representation provincially, nationally and/or internationally, assisting in the development of Standards/Professional Practice Codes/Guidelines; Professional Geoscience Education/Promotion; and
- Service to the Community: Outstanding contributions to the well-being of the community.

This year's recipient, Dr. Chris White, is the Senior Provincial Geologist with the Nova Scotia Department of Energy and Mines, Geological Surveys Branch. He received his BSc Honours (Geology) from Acadia University (1984) and his Ph.D (Earth Sciences) from Dalhousie University (1996).

He has been registered by APGNS as a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.) since 2001. He was previously recognized by the Atlantic Geoscience Society with the **Distinguished Scientist Award – Gesner Medal** in 2013 and the **Laing Ferguson - Distinguished Service Award** in 2014. He received the **Canadian Provincial and Territorial Geologists Medal (Sudbury-Ontario)** in 2014. He has published extensively including maps, open file reports, abstracts and peer reviewed scientific papers;

- 355 authored and co-authored abstracts in local, regional and international journals, including many with mentored students; (he has mentored a total of 34 summer students since 1998)
- 119 open file reports from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and related field guides and illustrations;
- 90 authored and co-authored bedrock maps of Nova Scotia at various scales;
- 90 authored and co-authored bedrock maps of southern New Brunswick at various scales; and
- 98 peer reviewed authored and co-authored papers local, regional and international journals.

Dr. White has peer reviewed several scientific manuscripts and bedrock/surficial maps for provincial and federal government agencies (Canada and United States), in addition to regional, national, and international journals including:

- NS Department of Natural Resources Review of Activities Reports, and Open File Geological Maps and Reports;
- NB Department of Natural Resources Current Research Reports, and Open File Geological Maps;
- Geological Survey of Canada Open File and A-based Geological Maps;
- Atlantic Geology;
- The Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences;
- The Canadian Mineralogist;
- Journal of Structural Geology;
- C.R. Academy Science of Paris;
- Geological Society of America, Special Paper;
- American Journal of Science; and
- Tectonophysics

In addition to being an active mentor for summer students and junior geoscientists, he also continues to be active with the Atlantic Geoscience Society, the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences as well as serving as a Research Associate for the Nova Scotia Museum, adjunct at the Department of Earth Sciences, Acadia University, and honorary Research Associate at Dalhousie University and others.

Announcing the award, the President of Geoscientists Nova Scotia, Gavin Isenor, P.Geo. commented: *“We are delighted that Dr. White is being recognized as this year’s recipient. Throughout his career he has demonstrated excellence in geoscience and dedication to the Nova Scotia community. He has earned the respect of his peers, as evident in the many accolades he has received throughout his career and he is what the **Excellence in Geoscience Award** represents.”*

The Award would normally be presented at the Annual General Meeting of APGNS Members. However, as per the Nova Scotia government state of emergency and COVID-19 response requirements, the AGM has been postponed until an award ceremony can be scheduled.

The Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Awards

Geoscientists Canada instituted its national fellowship program - The Geoscientists Canada Fellowship - in 2013 to recognize individual professional geoscientists and others who have given noteworthy service to our profession. Since June 2013, 699 deserving candidates were elected FGC or FGC (Hon) and have been bestowed with their pin and certificate at ceremonies across the country.

In honour of the commitment to achieve professional excellence through exceptional contributions to the geoscience profession in Canada, the award recipients are Announced at the Annual General Meeting – June 24, 2020; to be presented formally at a later date.

Bridget Adams, P.Geo., FGC

Bridget has been a registered professional geoscientist since 1995. Initially with APEGA and then by APGNS since 2005. She has served on APGNS Council as a Councillor and Treasurer and currently as a member of the Financial Audit Committee.

Richard Gagné, P.Geo., FGC

Rick was a founding member of APGNS first as a registered Society in 1999 and then under legislation in 2002. He has served on Council as a Councillor, and Secretary. He currently is a member of the Financial Audit Committee as well as the Chair of the Energy and Mining Committee.

Gavin Isenor, P.Geo., FGC

Gavin has served APGNS as a Councillor and President (2019-2020) of APGNS.

The APGNS Recognition of Service Awards

Kelsey O’ Brien, P.Geo., John Kozuskanich, P.Geo., and Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC are completing their terms on Council at the 2020 Annual General Meeting and certificates in recognition of their service to the Association will be presented at a later date.

Incoming President's Remarks



Thank you very much to the Nominating Committee for the opportunity to serve as president of APGNS for the 2020/2021 term! I have participated in Council for the past 3 years, and on the Environment Committee for the past 5 years, which has provided insight into the workings of the Association and governance.

The Strategic Plan identifies the key objectives for the Association and is reviewed every 5 years (the Plan will be up for review again in 2022). The objectives are as follows:

- Value for Members;
- Licensure Awareness, Compliance and Enforcement;
- Awareness of the Profession and the Association; and
- Good Governance.

In alignment with these objectives, over the past few years the Association has been working on:

- compliance with NS the *Fair Registration Practices Act* (FRPA);
- the revision of the *Geoscience Profession Act* and development of the **Geoscience Practice Regulations**;
- continued engagement with provincial regulators (Environment, Energy and Mines); and
- outreach to students.

Council and the Committees have been working tirelessly on these issues and have made great progress. The Governance Committee continues to work with the Departments of Justice and Energy and Mines to have the GPA placed on the Legislative Order Paper. The Environment and Mining Committees are engaged with regulators on legislative reviews and provide valued input. The Student Committee hosted events throughout the year to engage students with the Association and provide networking opportunities.

Given the current pandemic environment that we are all living in, there also new challenges in the coming year, such as the Geoscience Knowledge and Experience (GKE) requirements and the transition to online delivery platforms at universities.

I would also like to acknowledge the generosity of my employer to allow me the time to volunteer with the Association and in recognizing the importance of professional accreditation.

Finally, I would like to thank the Councillors who are completing their terms (Kelsey O'Brien, Jeff Parks and John Kozuskanich), and welcome new Council members, Jim Millard, Crystal Kennedy and Scott Conrod. The Association relies on the time and efforts of all our volunteers and the Executive Director will continue to be integral in advancing the strategic objectives of the Association. It has been great working with you all and I am excited to culminate my volunteering with the Association as President and look forward to continuing the efforts of Gavin, David and Council in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberlea Green, P. Geo.