



The Canadian Geotechnical Society
La Société canadienne de géotechnique

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (FINAL)
COLD REGIONS GEOTECHNOLOGY DIVISION**

September 22, 2015, 17:30-18:30
Room 2102B, Convention Centre, Québec City, QC

In attendance: Abdulghader Abdulrahman (Carleton U), Marolo Alfaro (Univ. of MB), Lukas Arenson (BGC), Earl Marvin De Guzman (Univ. of MB), David Flynn (KGS), Richard Fortier (Univ. Laval), Sylvie Gingras (BNQ), Ed Hoeve (Tetrattech EBA), Maritz Rykaart (SRK), Jack Seto (BGC), Baolin Wang (NRCan)

1) Welcome and Introduction

- Chaired by Baolin Wang. Roundtable introductions.
- Members of Executive in attendance were introduced: Arenson, Hoeve, Seto, and Wang.

2) Adoption of Agenda

- Agenda was distributed at meeting. Adopted as presented. Anticipate spending more time on Item 5, as a result of discussions at the CGS Board meeting on September 20, 2015.

3) Overview of Division's Annual Report

- A copy of the annual report was distributed at the meeting. Points reviewed by the Chair:

Section 4 – Affiliations with other organizations

- a) Hoeve is a representative of the CNC-IPA. Provided a brief report of their meeting the previous day. Primary subjects discussed were nominations from Canada for representatives on the Executive Committee of the IPA and supporting students to travel to conferences. With respect to the nominations, a request for suggestions will come within the month.
- b) Arenson is involved with the Organizing Committee of ICOP 2016, in Potsdam, Germany. There will be no proceedings; just extended abstracts. There will likely be about 3 sessions on engineering, and the rest will be permafrost science.
- c) Arenson and Fortier are on the IPA Permafrost Engineering Working Group – nothing to report.

Section 5 – Division Finances

The finances are healthy. Consider funding students to attend the young engineers' geotechnical conference. The Division has the authority to spend up to \$1,000 without seeking permission from the CGS.

Section 7 – Activities

- a) There were about 125 permafrost/cold regions papers (or about 40% of all papers) at this conference.
- b) The call for nominations for the next Roger J.E. Brown Award will be in March of 2016. Members encouraged to make nominations.

4) Financial Status

- Covered under 3) Report

5) Roger Brown Award

- Chair displayed clause from the latest available CGS Awards And Honours Manual (Section B-5) that was the subject for discussion:

“Unless stated otherwise in the guidelines for an award, only CGS members resident in Canada, or other individuals who have provided an outstanding service to the Canadian geotechnical community, are eligible for any of the CGS awards.”

- The CGS Board of Directors (BOD) meeting on Sept. 20, 2015 passed a motion to drop the residency requirement for other Divisions, as it is considered discriminatory. Now only CGS membership is required.
- Wang suggested removing the underline portion.
- Van Dine suggested removing “only”
- Fortier indicated that current version is inclusive as is; Hoeve agreed.
- Van Dine: Nominations of non-CGS members are eligible, but need to seek approval from CGS President.
- Conclusion of the group discussion was that the changes passed by the BOD are acceptable to the Division.

6) Collaboration with Other Organizations

- Covered under 3) Report

7) Vice Chair, Renewal of Committee

- Chair would like Vice Chair in place by the end of the calendar year, for continuity. The current Chair’s term ends at the end of 2016. The Vice Chair will become Chair and the current Chair will become Past Chair on Jan. 1, 2017. Will discuss further at next Executive Committee meeting.
- Executive renewal discussion will follow the identification of a Vice Chair.

8) Events/Activities

- a) The possibility of a short course on cold regions engineering at the next Canadian Geotechnical Conference in Vancouver was discussed. Alex Baumgard (BGC Vancouver) is newly delegated to represent the CGS Divisions on the Local Organizing Committee. Arenson

- will discuss with Baumgard on possibility to run a short course/workshop similar to that given in South America.
- b) U of A short course – planned for April 2015, but cancelled due to lack of registration. Hopefully there will be sufficient interest to run it next year.
 - c) Canadian Standard on Site Investigations for Building Foundations in Permafrost Regions: BNQ has been retained by the Standards Council of Canada to prepare this standard. Arenson and Wang are on the committee. Those not directly involved will be given the opportunity to comment during the public consultation phase. Notification of this will be channelled through the CRGD, among other outlets.
 - d) Question – is CRGD involved in update of CFEM? Chair was not aware of any direct involvement. Chair will check if there is an opportunity for input.

9) Roundtable

- Executive Committee will have a teleconference before the end of the calendar year.

Notes taken by: Ed Hoeve

Minutes edit: Baolin Wang

Distribution: All in attendance