

The 113th MEETING
OF THE CANADIAN GEOSCIENCE COUNCIL

9.00am June 19th, 2005

CSPG Office, suite #160, 540 - 5th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta,

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions
Opening remarks were made by Harvey Thorleifson, which included thanks to Jeff Packard and Simon Hanmer for organizing materials for the Council of President's meeting on June 18, 2005. Harvey noted that specialty groups such as CSPG, CSEG, MAC & PDAC are more effective in responding to member needs. Feedback from member organizations reveals a need for an umbrella organization for Earth Sciences in Canada that can play both a coordination and collaboration role addressing common issues.
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Bryan Schreiner and seconded by Steve Holysh. Motion was approved.
3. Approval of Minutes of the 112th Council Meeting (previously circulated and available at <http://www.geoscience.ca/minutes/112mintottawa.html>)
Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Bryan Schreiner and seconded by Dan Kontak. Motion was approved with two abstentions.
4. Action items.
Action item related to member fee review will be deferred until a new business plan has been formulated (expected in the fall of 2005)
5. CGC Board of Directors
No nominations had been received from member organizations. In the business meeting, a request was made for the current Board to remain in place until a new slate of candidates can be assembled. Jeff and Simon volunteered to find Presidential and Finance Director candidates by October 1 2005. A full slate of candidates is hoped to be ready for the late fall CGC meeting to be scheduled for November 27 2005 in Ottawa
6. Reports from the Board of Directors (tabled or verbal)
 - a. President (tabled)
 - b. Past President, Doug Stead commented that he was encouraged to sense a transition of CGC ownership to the member groups
 - c. Finance Director (verbal) Don (as Acting FD) expressed concern that a new Finance Director was needed to be in place by Dec 15 2005 at the latest. The current proposed budget should be viewed as interim only with

hopes for a more robust business plan and budget to be approved at the Fall meetings in Ottawa.

- d. Education (no report received)
- e. International (verbal) Bryan raised the question of what role CGC should play on the International scene. Should it be different from NRCAN?

7. Executive Officer's Report (verbal)

Verbal report received from Bob, which expressed optimism for the future as Member groups take ownership and more active roles in CGC. He expressed a willingness to continue in his current role until the end of 2005 in order to allow development of a multi-year business plan for CGC and to provide continuity with incoming Directors expected in late 2005.

8. The Council of President's Meetings

Verbal summary was received from Jeff and Simon (co-hosts of CoP) followed by comments from attendees:

PDAC (R Moore) was encouraged by the CoP meeting and will send a letter of encouragement and support for the re-organizing initiatives suggested for CGC
CCESD (J White) senses a positive evolution in CGC

GAC (S Barr) is very supportive of the re-organizing initiatives and stressed the need for action and the assurance that change will happen in a timely fashion.

NSERC (N Marcotte) supports the vision concepts and agrees that an action plan is critical to success. NSERC would like to see broader representation within CGC (CMOS, environmental groups, Geomatics).

IAH (S Holysh) commented that members need to take ownership of CGC and help elicit enthusiasm for change initiatives.

MAC (D Kontak) suggests that members need to find a common denominator or focus. Succession is an issue for many organizations. We need a voice or newsletter for geoscience. Consider CGC as honorary (or joint) host for GeoCanada 2010

9. Reports from members of Council

CAG & GAC will continue to participate in plans to restructure CGC.

CSPG (Jeff) & CCESD (Joe) will be approached to consider a request for financial support (membership fees)

PDAC is concerned that restructuring will not happen in a timely manner.

-----LUNCH Break-----

10. CGC AGM Business Meeting

The AGM started at 2pm and was suspended at 3pm and is expected to resume at the fall 2005 meetings in Ottawa.

11. Future strategy for CGC

Members were asked to identify current issues for geoscience from their perspectives:

NRCAN/GSC:

- Lack of student enrollment in CDN universities
- Need for credible spokesperson for geoscience
- Currently geoscience is not well represented

MAC:

- NSERC re-allocations
- Fragmentation within geoscience
- Communication/liasson/bridging/collaboration between societies

IAH:

- Volunteerism
- Conferences with national scope

CAG:

- Lobbying in Ottawa (NSERC)
- Professional registration
- Education/Outreach/Communication

CPG:

- Influencing decision makers
- Linking geoscience with Issues

CANQUA:

- Communication/liasson
- Fragmentation
- Professional registration

CSEG:

- Coordination of Outreach efforts
- Cooperation/coordination of education efforts (courses)

CSPG:

- Renewal and recruitment
- Advocacy, building bridges
- Collaboration on conventions

CGU:

- NSERC re-allocation & the need for a common vision
- Closer links with other societies (ie: CMOS)

GAC:

- Fragmentation & lack of national coordination
- Declining memberships
- Communication with members & other geoscience organizations

CCESD:

- Student enrollment
- Lack of good volunteers
- NSERC re-allocation
- Advocacy

PDAC:

- Professional mobility
- Support for govt mapping
- Recruitment of students
- Need for more funding of geoscience research
- NSERC:
 - Support for new researchers
 - Broader geoscience representation within CGC
 - Geoscience NSERC re-allocation

Following these observations, several action items were identified and members took ownership. A summary follows:

Executive Slate	Business Plan
Responsibility for Jeff & Simon	Responsibility for Derek & Bob
Sept 1	Feedback received on Structural model
Oct 1 President & Finance Director	Oct 1 Draft –1 plan
Oct 15 e-vote on 2 Positions	
	Nov 15 final draft ratification
CoP/CGC meeting late Nov early Dec	

- “Coalition of the Willing” Members
- Members have responsibility
- Need an Action Plan
- Geoscience Canada to become communication vehicle (GAC Sandra Barr)
- Geo Canada 2010 (CSPG)
- New Website
- NSERC review (CCSED Joe White)

Request plan from GAC, with the support of fellow societies, for the community wide distribution of GC as the voice of the CGC for the fall 2005 CGC meeting. Implementation target in 2006.

Moved by Dan Kontak seconded by Doug Stead
Unanimously passed

Request CSPG play the lead role to develop a plan by the fall 2005 CGC meeting for a Canada-wide geoscience conference to be held on a regular basis and with a share of the conference proceeds becoming a revenue stream for CGC. Implementation target by Geo Canada 2010.

Moved by Steve seconded by Jeff P
Unanimously passed

Request Jeff Packard & Simon Hanmer seek qualified candidates for the position of President and Finance Director for CGC. Implementation target by Oct 1 2005

Moved by Sandra seconded by Jeff O
Passed with one abstention

Request Derek Brown & Bob Mummery to play the lead role in developing a draft business plan for CGC. Target for circulation of first draft to member societies by Oct 1 2005

Moved by Steve seconded by Joe
Unanimously passed

Request CAG to play the lead role in developing a plan for improving & maintaining the CGC website. Target for presentation of draft plan to members by the fall 2005 CGC meeting.

Moved by Doug seconded by Sandra

Passed with one abstention

Request CCCESD report by the fall 2005 CGC meeting, on the progress of canvassing academic researchers and the organizing of meetings aimed at developing a strategic vision for their relationship with NSERC.

Moved by Sandra seconded by Dan

Passed with one abstention

Request Harvey T contact member organizations to encourage their highest level participation in the fall 2005 CoP and CGC meetings suggested to be held in Ottawa Nov 26 & 27 2005.

Harvey/Bob also request NRCAN host the meeting. Target meeting dates & format to be established by Sept 1

12. CGC Standing Committees Update

No reports were tabled or received

13. Any other business

14. Tentative dates were selected for meetings in Ottawa:

CoP Sat Nov 26 2005 and CGC Sun Nov 27 2005