ENGINEERS GEOSCIENTISTS MANITOBA

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held online and in-person at the Victoria Inn, Brandon, MB on **Thursday, October 22, 2026**.

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1. Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, and Standing Rules of the Meeting

President Mike Houvardas, P.Eng., called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and welcomed in-person and virtual attendees to the 107th Annual General Meeting of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba. He then read the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

At the Call to Order, 82 professional members were in attendance. President Houvardas confirmed quorum and declared the meeting duly constituted.

President Houvardas read the meeting rules and introduced Brandon Mwedon, election manager from Data on the Spot, who explained the voting procedure and conducted a test vote.

2. Agenda

President Houvardas noted that the agenda was included in the meeting package and available on the Association website.

Under By-law 13.1(d), special business proposed by professional members shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting if received by the Secretary at least 48 hours before the meeting begins.

President Houvardas announced that no special business had been received.

He asked if there were any objections to the agenda.

Hearing none, the agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

President Houvardas asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the October 23, 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Hearing none, the minutes were approved as circulated.

4. Introductions

President Houvardas introduced the members of Council who were present in person and online; Kaitlin Fritz, P.Eng., FEC, David Amorim, P.Eng., FEC, Christian Bohm, P.Geo., Richard Marshall, P.Eng., Julia Singh, P.Geo., Lisa Thomson, P.Eng., and Brent Turman.

Regrets were received by Councillors Steven Brennan, Arshdeep Chauhan, EIT, Alan Pollard, P.Eng.(SM), FEC, Justin Rempel, Crystal Paculan, and Steven Wu, P.Eng., FEC.

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Also present were Michael Gregoire, CEO, Registrar and Association Secretary, Fiona Hillier, Executive Assistant to Council and CEO, and David Gray, Registered Parliamentarian.

Guests from outside the province and other Manitoba associations were welcomed. Special acknowledgment was given to the greetings from Jennifer Quaglietta, CEO/Registrar of Professional Engineers Ontario.

President Houvardas shared video greetings from Darlene Spracklin-Reid, President of Engineers Canada, and Darcie Greggs, President of Geoscientists Canada.

5. Moment of Silence for Deceased Members

A moment of silence was observed in the memory of those members who passed away since the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Ernest Bridges	Clyde McBain	Keith Spence
Vern Campbell	Peter Moeykens	Steven Spry
Donald Duprey	Donald Osman	Norman Ulyatt
George Gevaert	Edward Pudsey	John West
David Landsberg	Sital Rihal	
Jerry Martino	Archie Blair Seale	

6. Report of the President

President Houvardas transferred the role of Chair to Vice-President Kaitlin Fritz, while he presented his report.

President Houvardas reported that this past year focused on the Association's strategic priorities, including modernization of the Association's governing legislation through the Act Re-Write Project, governance framework improvements, and policy development. His report highlighted record membership levels, financial stability, positive public perception, and increased collaboration among Canadian regulators. The President welcomed incoming President Fritz and thanked Council, Association staff, and the many volunteers of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba for their contributions and dedication throughout the past year.

Vice-President Fritz called for any questions relating to the report.

Hearing none, the Secretary was asked to record that the Report of the President was discussed and received as information.

Vice-President Fritz returned control of the meeting back to President Houvardas.

7. Report of the CEO

President Houvardas invited Michael Gregoire to give the report of the CEO.

Michael reported on the progress Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba made this past year to strengthen its role as a modern professional regulator while protecting the public.

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Highlights included a modernized admissions framework, legislative renewal, and continued enhancement of regulatory programs. He also emphasized advancements towards professional development, mentorship, equity initiatives, and student outreach. He concluded that the Association remains in a strong financial and operational position, with priorities that include legislative modernization, stakeholder engagement, and renewal of its database system and IT governance.

President Houvardas asked for any questions relating to the report.

Hearing none, President Houvardas thanked Michael for his report.

8. Result of the Ballot for Elected Councillors

President Houvardas named the scrutineers appointed to oversee the 2026 Council election and by-law vote: Suman Suri, P.Eng., Gregory Page, P.Eng., FEC, and Jay Doering, P.Eng., FEC.

He invited Chief Scrutineer Suman Suri to present the Council election results.

Suman reported that this year there were eight candidates to fill three professional engineer positions, and one candidate to fill one professional geoscientist position.

The three professional engineers elected for a two-year term are

- Ellert Burton, P.Eng.
- Harmeet Gill, P.Eng.
- Lisa Thomson, P.Eng.

The one professional geoscientist elected by acclamation for a two-year term is

- Lisa Singh, P.Geo.

President Houvardas acknowledged the newly elected councillors and asked the Secretary to record that the result of the ballot for elected councillors was received.

9. By-law Changes

President Houvardas invited Suman Suri, Chief Scrutineer, to present the results of the by-law changes.

Suman reported that this year, Council proposed three separate by-law changes.

- By-law 10.1 Dues and Fees – PASSED
- By-law 10.2 Reduction, Waiver or Deferment of Dues – PASSED
- By-law 12.1 Report of the Investigation Committee – PASSED

President Houvardas thanked Suman for the report and asked the Secretary to record that the results of the by-law vote were received.

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10. Auditor's Report

President Houvardas invited Don Bergen, CPA, CA, Chair of the Audit Committee, to present the external auditors' report and 2026 financial statements.

Don reported that Fort Group issued Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba an unqualified audit opinion on the 2025–2026 financial statements, with no identified deficiencies or uncorrected misstatements. Revenues excluding investment income increased by 13.8%, and expenses increased by 19.8%, reflecting grant-funded activities and planned organizational initiatives. The planned deficit before investment income was $565,000; net investment revenue of $1,101,000 resulted in an overall surplus of $536,000. The Association maintained a strong financial position and Council approved the audited financial statements on September 10, 2026, on the Audit Committee's recommendation.

President Houvardas announced that Council received the auditor's report and approved the 2026 financial statements as part of its governance policies and processes.

He asked if there was any discussion .

Hearing none, he asked the Secretary to record that the 2026 Financial Statements were received as information and presented the following motion.

It was MOVED by Christian Bohm and SECONDED by Rick Marshall that the Auditor's Report on the 2026 Financial Statements be accepted.

President Houvardas called for discussion on the motion.

Hearing no discussion, President Houvardas called the question on the motion.

In Favour – 100%
Opposed – 0%

CARRIED

President Houvardas announced that the motion has been approved and the Auditor's Report on the 2026 Financial Statements has been accepted.

11. Appointment of Auditors

President Houvardas invited Don Bergen, CPA, CA, Chair of the Audit Committee, to present the recommendation for appointment of auditor.

Don explained that the Audit Committee selects external auditors on a five-year cycle, using a decision matrix to assess potential firms. Fort Group completed its fourth annual audit for the year ending June 30, 2026. Citing the firm's strong performance and weighing familiarity risks against audit quality benefits, the Audit Committee recommended appointing Fort Group as the Association's auditor for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

It was MOVED by Rick Marshall and SECONDED by Christian Bohm that Fort Group be appointed as the Association's auditor for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

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President Houvardas asked if there was any discussion.

Hearing none, he called the question on the motion.

In Favour – 98.8%
Opposed – 1.2%

CARRIED

President Houvardas announced that the motion has been approved and Fort Group has been appointed as the Association's auditor for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

12. 2026-2027 Budget and Schedule of Dues and Fees

President Houvardas reported that the 2026-2027 Budget and the Schedule of Dues and Fees were approved by Council, in accordance with By-law 10.1(b).

He invited Kaitlin Fritz, Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, to provide a presentation on the 2026-2027 budget.

Kaitlin provided an overview of the Council-approved budget reporting that the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, recorded a surplus of $535,997. She went on to report that the budget includes a planned deficit of approximately $324,000, supported by accumulated reserves, to fund membership database modernization, legislative updates, and governance initiatives. Capital expenditures of approximately $29,500 and negative cash flow of $502,400 are projected, with net assets budgeted at approximately $6.8 million. The report indicated that liquidity and reserves remain sufficient to meet operating and contingency needs, and member dues will not increase for 2026–2027.

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President Houvardas asked if there was any discussion.

Hearing none, President Houvardas thanked Kaitlin for the report and asked the Secretary to record that the 2026-2027 Budget and the Schedule of Dues and Fees were discussed and received as information.

13. Business Arising out of the Minutes from the Last Annual General Meeting

As per By-law 13.8.4(c) resolutions adopted at an annual general meeting shall be considered by, but are not binding upon, the Council, but the Council shall report on the disposition of any such resolution at the next annual general meeting.

President Houvardas reported that no resolutions were passed at the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

14. Motions related to Special Business

As per By-law 13.1(d) special business proposed by professional members shall be considered at an Annual General Meeting provided that the motion was received by the Secretary no less than 48 hours before the start of the meeting.

Michael Gregoire advised that no special business was received.

15. Recognition of Retiring Councillors

President Houvardas recognized the following councillors who have completed their term on Council and thanked them for their contributions and service to the Association.

- David Amorim, P.Eng., FEC
- Alan Pollard, P.Eng.(SM), FEC

16. Gavel Ceremony

The Scott gavel was passed from Mike Houvardas to Kaitlin Fritz, in accordance with the official ceremony for turning over the gavel to the incoming president. Kaitlin Fritz signed the scroll, which was then returned to its place in the gavel.

17. Incoming President's Address

Incoming President Kaitlin Fritz outlined priorities for the coming year, focusing on modernizing the Engineering and Geoscientific Professions Act and Council's governance structure. She noted Council's ongoing work with the Provincial Government to align the Act with regulatory frameworks across Canada and strengthen public protection. Proposed governance changes would clarify responsibilities, enhance Council's focus on strategic oversight and long-term priorities, and support sustainable volunteer roles. She expressed gratitude towards Council members, outgoing President Houvardas, CEO Mike Gregoire, Association staff and acknowledged the contributions of the many volunteers of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba.

18. Closing Announcements and Adjournment

President Houvardas thanked everyone for attending and announced that this year's Ingenium Professional Development Seminars would be held virtually from November 17 to 19. He also noted that registration for the Association's circular mentorship program would open in November.

President Houvardas adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

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Mike Houvardas, P.Eng.	Michael Gregoire, P.Eng., FEC
President	CEO, Registrar & Secretary