

Date: 25 June 2019

Time: 06:30 p.m.

Location: PEO Head Office, 40 Sheppard Avenue West, 8th floor, Toronto, ON M2N 6K9

## MEETING MINUTES

Version: 1.0 - Approved

### Meeting Attendees

#### *In Person*

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Marisa Sterling, P.Eng., FEC | President and Chair               |
| • Sue Tessier, P.Eng.          | Vice-President                    |
| • Maria Iannone                | Secretary                         |
| • Dr. Sandra Ausma, P.Eng.     | Foundation for Education Director |
| • Dr. Bob Dony, P.Eng., FEC    | Foundation for Education Director |
| • Jonathan Hack, P.Eng.        | Foundation for Education Director |
| • Arthur Sinclair, P.Eng.      | Foundation for Education Director |

#### *Foundation Members*

- Jamie Gerson
- Ashley Gismondi
- Andre Lodhar
- Santosh Gupta, P.Eng.
- Valeria Mueller
- Changiz Sadr
- Baijul Shukla
- Marilyn Spink, P.Eng.
- Leon Wasser, P.Eng.

#### *Speakers*

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Christian Bellini, P.Eng.      | Professional Engineers Ontario – PEO Council                  |
| • Christine Hill, M.Eng., P.Eng. | Consulting Engineers Ontario – CEO                            |
| • Dr. Tibor Turi, P.Eng.         | Ontario Society of Professional Engineers — OSPE              |
| • Ivan Zvonkov                   | Engineering Students Societies' Council of Ontario —<br>ESSCO |

#### *Donors*

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Donald Grandy, P.Eng. | R.V. Anderson Associates Limited & PEO Chapter<br>Executive |
| • Valerie Sterling      | University Women's Club                                     |
| • Thia Sterling         | Consultant  |
| • Sherlock Sung         | Advanced Micro Devices & PEO Council                        |
| • John Turner, P.Eng.   | Swansea Consulting  |

### *University Contacts*

- Suzie Lee-Hortness Lassonde School of Engineering
- Dr. Medhat Shehata, P.Eng. Ryerson University
- Gayathry Wright Lassonde School of Engineering
- Yvonne Stefanin OntarioTech University

### *Student Award Winners*

- Katherine Chan Ryerson University
- Wilbert Cheng Ryerson University
- Lia Codrington University of Toronto
- Sameh Elgamal Ryerson University
- Antonio Juan Ding University of Toronto
- Elie Maamari Think Research
- Lauren McGregor McMaster University
- Francis Picotte Ryerson University
- Carly Robinson Ryerson University
- Huda Sarwar OntarioTech University
- Mia Van Oirschot Western University

### *Guests*

- Paula Habas Professional Engineers Ontario – PEO
- Roger Jones, P.Eng. Heintzman House
- Lin Lan P.Eng. Professional Engineers Ontario – PEO Scarborough Chapter Chair
- Bruce Matthews, P.Eng. Consulting Engineers of Ontario
- Ian McKenzie The Woodbridge Group

### *Virtual Attendees*

- Mitchell Cook
- Márta Ecsedi, P.Eng. Foundation for Education Director
- Dr. Ayman El Ansary
- Connor Lawless
- Rosa Sucilan

### *Staff*

- Javier Valdivieso Administrative Coordinator
- Patricia Lim Fundraiser

### *Visual Recorders*

- Tanya Gerber Gerber & Associates
- Adam Sidsworth Professional Engineers Ontario – PEO

### *Regrets*

- Sameh Elgamal Ryerson University
- Laura Yu, P.Eng. Ontario Society of Professional Engineers —OSPE

## **OPPENING MATTERS**

### **1. Call to Order, Opening Remarks, and Introduction of guests**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, M. Sterling at 6:44 p.m.

President Sterling opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement.

*We recognize that many Indigenous nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which PEO's office is located that precede the establishment of this building. The Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.*

President Sterling welcomed and introduced people in the room, starting with the Foundation's board of directors, followed by other members. The President also acknowledge people working behind the scenes.

The President also introduced Christian Bellini, P.Eng. from Professional Engineers Ontario; Christine Hill, P.Eng. and Bruce Matthews, P.Eng. from Consulting Engineers Ontario; and Ivan Zvonkov from the Engineering Students Societies' Council of Ontario.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting**

#### **2.1 Approval of 2019 Annual General Meeting Draft Agenda**

President Sterling drew people's attention to the documents placed in front of them at each table, calling attention to the meeting agenda, and invited attendees to review and approve it.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the members approve the agenda as revised.

**MOVED:** M. Iannone; **SECONDED:** S. Gupta; **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **2.2 Approval of 2018 Annual General Meeting Draft Minutes**

The President also called attention to the draft minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held in 2018, and invited participants to approve the document.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the members approve the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28 May 2018.

**MOVED:** M. Iannone; **SECONDED:** S. Gupta; **MOTION CARRIED**

## **MAIN AGENDA ITEMS**

### **3. Greetings**

After approving the meeting agenda, as well as last AGM's minutes, President Sterling invited some of the distinguished guests to address the audience, while sharing some fun facts about themselves. Before yielding the podium, President Sterling highlighted pointed out that PEO helped found the Foundation back in 1959 and has been a critical partner since.

Christian Bellini, P.Eng., Vice-President Elect of Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO)

Mr. Bellini conveyed the regrets of PEO's President Nancy Hill. He proceeded to congratulate the Foundation for 60 years of helping engineering students develop the skills necessary to make Canada more competitive, while promoting the benefits of full licensure as professional engineers.

Dr. Tibor Turi, P.Eng., President and Chair Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE)

Dr. Turi explained that OSPE is dedicated to fostering a diverse and inclusive engineering community in Ontario; and that's why it 's been a long-standing supporter of the Foundation and its dedication to removing financial barriers for deserving students. He also stressed that OSPE offers free student memberships providing access to learning and networking opportunities. Dr. Turi congratulated student scholarship winners encouraged them to join OSPE; while expressing that OSPE looks forward to continues collaboration with the Foundation in support of engineering students across Ontario.

Ivan Zvonkov, President Engineering Students Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO)

Mr. Zvonkov explained that the Engineering Societies Council of Ontario represents 30,000 engineering students across the province; and does advocacy work on their behalf. The organization recently released a report earlier this year on the state of tuition, job prospects and co-op and internships for engineering students. Mr. Zvonkov thanked the foundation and its members for the hard work they put in and congratulated the student awardees.

Christine Hill, M.Eng., P.Eng., Chair Consulting Engineers Ontario (CEO)

Ms. Hill thanked, on behalf of board and staff of CEO, for the opportunity to meet some of the young engineers of the future. She explained that her organization represents 170 consulting engineering firms in the province with main goals concerning advocacy of business practices and member engagement.

### **4. Entrance Scholarship Recipients**

Mia Van Oirschot, Western University

Ms. Oirschot told the audience that she had just finished first year general engineering at Western University. In September she will be starting a dual chemical and biomedical, which is being offered for the first time at Western University. She expressed her gratitude for the generosity helped her relieve financial stress, and shared that she would probably like to do research in stem cell.

Carly Robinson, Ryerson University

Ms. Robinson told the audience that she had just finished up her first year of chemical engineering at Ryerson University. She said that the scholarship helped her not having to commute to Whitby; and, instead, being able to live on campus in downtown; being able to interact with her peers a bit more, and being able to get more involved in school activities.

## 5. President's Report

After the entrance scholarship awardees presentation, President Sterling proceeded to draw attendees' attention to the annual report.

President Sterling highlighted the 60th anniversary milestone; explaining that throughout the years the Foundation has assisted 3,452 students, with awards totalling 3.2 million. She also pointed out that the Foundation has two programmes; the primary one being supporting students through awards: entrance, scholarships undergraduate scholarships and gold medal. The second programme is the Benevolent Fund, which was started with a bequest received in the 80s, to support engineers in need. Informed that fund was used once this past 2018 year.

President Sterling explained that the Foundation currently has only 42 members. She went on to say that the 36 PEO chapters have been invited to join, and that currently there are six chapters with membership on the Foundation.

The President went on to recognize Stephen Rose, past board member, who recently passed away. Stephen was a very involved Foundation member for many years presenting scholarships at RMC and Queen's and most recently as a board director.

President Sterling outlined that in 2018, the Foundation presented awards to 110 students – 20 entrance scholarships for a total of \$42,000, 66 undergraduate scholarships for a total of \$99,000, as well as 15 gold medals to top graduating engineering students.

President Sterling introduced Leah Coddington, recent award recipient, noting that she had previously been awarded an entrance scholarship by the Foundation.

Ms. Coddington told the audience that the Foundation's support meant not having to worry about work, being able to focus on studying instead. She stated that it was nice to have support behind her, and that knowing that the foundation thinks she is doing a great job means a lot to her.

Following Ms. Coddington's words, President Sterling drew attention to the recent implementation by OSPE of a portal that allows members to donate to the Foundation when they pay their annual dues. President Sterling also made the point that the Foundation had updated its website, making it more modern and interactive, while providing room for students' stories. The President went on to say the Foundation has migrated donation records onto the online software called Little Green Light.

President Sterling pointed out that the Foundation has agreements with 15 engineering schools across Ontario, which are executed thanks to relationships with liaisons at each university. She went on to say that the number and value of scholarships have increased by 50%; partly because two large bequests the Foundation received in the last seven years. The Foundation is currently

rolling out an equity strategy so that entrance awards are always given to at least one female identified student.

## 6. Undergraduate Scholarship Recipients

President Sterling invited award recipients to come to the podium to let audience know a bit more about them.

Katherine Chan, Ryerson University - Ms. Chan just graduated with a degree in biomedical engineering.

Wilbert Cheng, Ryerson University - Mr. Chen has just finished his third year of industrial engineering.

Lauren McGregor, McMaster University - Ms. McGregor said that she's looking into going into the environmental side of civil engineering.

Sameh Elgamal, Ryerson University - Ms. Elgamal said that discovering electrical engineering was major turning point for her, as she found her life purpose.

Francis Picotte, Ryerson University - Mr. Picotte explained that he had gone back to university as a mature student to study astronautical engineering.

Antonio Juan Ding, University of Toronto - Mr. Ding said that he received a scholarship while studying chemical engineering, and that currently is working towards a master's degree.

## 7. Treasurer's Report and Appointment of Auditor

The President provided highlights of the 2018 Financial Statements.

President Sterling told the audience that the Foundation had net assets of \$2.2 million; and that it had ended the year with a deficit of about \$130,000. In comparison, in 2017 the Foundation's assets gained \$156,000, thanks, in part, to having received a significant bequest.

This deficit was the result of the investment portfolio subjected to markets fluctuation towards which the Foundation had unfortunately no control. During 2018 the investment portfolio had a loss of \$17,000.

Revenue from memberships was \$3,000 in 2018. However, all revenues combined, do not necessarily cover the expense of having to give out student awards, which is about \$230,000. That is why the Foundation is now aggressively focusing on fundraising.

The Foundation had a clean audit for 2018.

President Sterling opened the floor to questions. Since there were no questions, the President invited to move a motion to approve the financial statements.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the members approve the audited Financial Statements for the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education, for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2018.

**MOVED:** J. Hack; **SECONDED:** S. Gupta; **MOTION CARRIED**

President Sterling also invited to move a motion to appoint the Foundation's auditor for the year 2019.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Chaplin and Co. Chartered Accountants be appointed as auditor for the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education for the year 2019.

**MOVED:** S. Tessier; **SECONDED:** A. Sinclair; **MOTION CARRIED**

## 8. Gold Medal Winners

Following, President Sterling introduced the gold medal winner award category, explaining that the award is given to the students with the highest achievement throughout the year, not just in their engineering discipline, but across their school. She noted that the winner, Connor Lawless from the University of Toronto, could not attend the ceremony and had sent his regrets.

## 9. By-Law Amendments

President Sterling explained that there were three proposed changes which were going to be addressed separately to allow for proper discussion.

### 9.1 By-law Amendment #1: Addition of Past President Position to the Board

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that By-law No.1 of the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education be amended as follows to add the immediate Past President as a Director to the Board of the Corporation:

*Section 3 – The affairs of the corporation shall be governed by a board of ten (10) directors plus one (1) director position exclusively for the immediate Past President.*

*Section 11 – The Past-President shall support and advise the President and Directors.*

**MOVED:** S. Tessier; **SECONDED:** M. Iannone; **MOTION CARRIED**

### 9.2 By-law Amendment #2: Membership Improvements

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that By-law No.1 of the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education be amended as follows to include Gold Medallists as Corporation members:

*Section 3 – At least one (1) director shall be from the Gold Medal Category as set out in section 16. (b) (iv) of this by-law.*

*Section 16(b) – (iv) All persons who have received the Foundation's Gold Medal, have active EIT or licence status with PEO and who have demonstrated an interest in the objects of the Corporation.*

*Section 16(c) – The certificate of the Registrar of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, the Executive Director of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers, the PEO Chapter executive roster as filed with the PEO Chapter Office, or the Corporation records as the case may be, shall be conclusive as to whether or not*

*a person is eligible for membership in accordance with this provision for all purposes of the Corporation.*

*Section 16(e) – The membership of the Corporation at any one time shall be limited to one hundred (100). An additional fourteen (14) individuals shall be winners of the Corporation’s Gold Medal and eligible for membership as set out in section 16. (b) (iv) of this by-law.*

**MOVED:** L. Wasser; **SECONDED:** J. Hack; **MOTION CARRIED**

### **9.3 By-law Amendment #3: Duration of Term of Directors**

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that Motion: Be it resolved that By-law No.1 of the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education be amended as follows to provide for three-year terms for Directors.

*Section 3 – Each director shall be elected to hold office for a three (3) year term. Elections will be held at the annual meeting of the Corporation. The election will be by popular vote with the candidates receiving the most amount of votes in order from highest to lowest to occupy the number of available vacancies.*

*Section 4 – The term of office for the director who fills a vacancy, will be equal the term remaining when the vacancy occurred.*

**MOVED:** S. Gupta; **SECONDED:** A. Gismondi; **MOTION CARRIED**

### **10. Leaders of the Future Winner**

President Sterling referred the audience back to Lia Codrington from the University of Toronto, who she had introduced earlier.

### **11. Election of Directors**

President Sterling drew attention to a document presenting the Board slate for 2019-2020:

#### *PEO Affiliated*

- Sandra Ausma, P.Eng. PEO Council—Current
- Márta Ecsedi, P.Eng. PEO Council—Past
- Ashley Gismondi PEO Staff—Current
- Maria Iannone PEO Staff—Current
- Arthur Sinclair, P.Eng. PEO Council—Current
- Marisa Sterling, P.Eng., FEC PEO Council—Current

#### *OSPE Affiliated*

- Jonathan Hack, P.Eng. OSPE Board—Current
- Valeria Mueller OSPE Staff – Current
- Sue Tessier, P.Eng. OSPE Board—Past
- Laura Yu, P.Eng. OSPE Board—Current

President Sterling opened the floor and invited any interests or nominations. She mentioned that Dr. Sandra Ausma, P.Eng., Jonathan Hack, P.Eng.; along with Márta Ecsedi, P.Eng. and Laura Yu, P.Eng. Who couldn't join the meeting, are willing to stand.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the listed Members of the Corporation be elected Directors for the 2019-2020 term, and that there are at least two directors affiliated with the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) as set out in section 16(b)(ii) of the Corporation's By-Law N<sup>o</sup>1.

**MOVED:** B. Dony; **SECONDED:** S. Gupta; **MOTION CARRIED**

Afterwards the President invited all of board to come to the podium, so attendees could get to know them.

President Sterling thanked Dr. Bob Dony, P.Eng., FEC, who was retiring from the board after serving for two years.

### ***CLOSING MATTERS***

#### **12. General Questions**

After the presentation of the Board of Directors, President Sterling opened the floor for questions.

#### **13. Adjournment**

The President called the Annual General Meeting to a close, thanking everybody, including those who had been watching online. President Sterling said that the Foundation would love feedback to continue improving its processes and asked everybody to join in a group photo.

**MOTION** duly made, seconded, and carried; **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the 2019 Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education Annual General Meetings of Members be adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

**MOVED:** L. Wasser; **SECONDED:** S. Tessier; **MOTION CARRIED**