

Ontario Association of Architects

Meeting #261 Open

MINUTES

June 19, 2019

The two hundred and sixty first meeting of the Council of the Ontario Association of Architects, held under the *Architects Act*, took place on Wednesday June 19, 2019 at the OAA Headquarters, Toronto, Ontario.

Present:	Kathleen Kurtin	President
	Walter Derhak	Senior Vice President and Treasurer
	Mélisa Audet	Vice President Regulatory (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Amir Azadeh	Vice President Communications
	J. Gordon Erskine	Vice President Strategic
	David Sin	Vice President, Practice
	J. William Birdsell	Councillor
	Barry Cline	Councillor
	Jeremiah Gammond	Councillor
	Jeffrey Laberge	Councillor
	Agata Mancini	Councillor
	Wayne Medford	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Elaine Mintz	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
	Sarah Murray	Councillor
	David C. Rich	Councillor
	Robert Sirman	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Susan Spiegel	Councillor
	Alberto Temprano	Councillor
	Magid Youssef	Councillor
	Nedra Brown	Registrar
	Kristi Doyle	Executive Director
	Tina Carfa	Executive Assistant, Executive Services
	Erik Missio	Manager, Communications
Regrets:	Mazen Alkhammad	Councillor
	John Stephenson	Immediate Past President
Guests:	Andrew Davies	Executive Director, No. 9: Contemporary Art and the Environment (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Parham Karimi	Architectural Graduate (<i>part attendance</i>)
	John Thomas	Maintenance Technician (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Arno Van Dijk	Policy Analyst (<i>part attendance</i>)

The President called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm

The President announced that today is LGIC Elaine Mintz's last Council Meeting. Mintz served on OAA Council since 2006 and has worked tirelessly and has been an invaluable resource to Council as well as the Committees she has worked with.

Congratulations and appreciation were given to Mintz.

Doyle introduced three members of staff. Arno Van Dijk is serving out the end of a contract in the position of Policy Analyst, Parham Karimi is the new Architectural Graduate beginning a one-year contract, and John Thomas recently hired as Maintenance Technician.

Council welcomed the staff members to the OAA.

The Vice President Communications recited the following acknowledgement that the Council meeting was being held on indigenous land:

"I would like to begin this open meeting of the OAA Council by acknowledging that we are meeting on aboriginal land that has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning.

As descendants of settlers, we're grateful for the opportunity to meet here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land - for thousands of years.

In particular, we acknowledge that the land on which we are meeting is the traditional territory of the Iroquois/Haudenosaunee, the Métis, and the Huron-Wendy peoples and most recently, the territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place. We also recognize the contributions made by the Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples, both in shaping and strengthening this community in particular, and our province and country as a whole.

This territory was the subject of the *Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant*, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy, the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. It is also covered by the Upper Canada Treaties which are agreements to share and care for the land and resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto (from the Haudenosaunee word Tkaronto) is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in this territory.

As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must also be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities

Of special interest to new Councillors is that Moatfield is also the location of an ossuary or gravesite near today's Leslie Street and Highway 401 that was rediscovered in 1997 during the expansion of a soccer field. The bones of 90 people were found there and then relocated to a secret location in the general area of the original grave site."

DECLARATION RE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The President called for declaration of any conflicts of interest.

Councillor Gammond cited a conflict of interest with respect to the report on the OAA/ARIDO Joint Task Group since his business partner is serving on ARIDO's Board of Management.

AGENDA APPROVAL

8739. The President noted that there were no new items to add to the agenda.

It was moved by Birdsell and seconded by Erskine that the agenda be approved as circulated.
-- CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8740. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Draft minutes of the May 22, 2019 Open Council meeting.

The draft minutes of the May 22, 2019 Open Council meeting were reviewed.

A Council member noted on page six, last paragraph that "...an interior design firm..." be changed to "...their interior design firm...".

It was moved by Youssef and seconded by Gammond that the minutes of the May 22, 2019 Open Council meeting be approved as amended.

-- CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

8741. There was no business arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

8742. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from President, Kathleen Kurtin dated June 7, 2019 re. Council Appointment to Committee of the Examination for Architects in Canada (CExAC) and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'A')**

The President reported that the following candidates expressed interest to serve as the Ontario representative to of the CExAC for a three-year term: Mélisa Audet, Bill Birdsell, Barry Cline, Jeffrey Laberge, and Magid Youssef.

A vote was conducted whereby Councillor Jeffrey Laberge received the majority of votes.

It was moved by Mintz and seconded by Azadeh that Council approve the appointment of Jeffrey Laberge as the Ontario representative to the Committee of the Examination for Architects in Canada (CExAC) for a three-year term effective January 1, 2020.

-- CARRIED

8743. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from President, Kathleen Kurtin dated June 14, 2019 re. Education Continuum Committee - Council Appointments and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'B')**

The President reported that the following candidates expressed interest to serve as a Councillormember of the new Education Continuum Committee: Mazen Alkhaddam, Jeffrey Laberge, and Agata Mancini. Additionally LGIC Sirman had agreed to assist over the summer as a resource to the Committee in its startup phase.

Councillor Speigel expressed interest in assisting in the startup of the Committee as well.

A member of Council noted that the Committee may wish to determine how to create subsets of the work that need to be undertaken. Clarification was requested with respect to the level of involvement by the schools of architecture.

Doyle noted that the Terms of Reference for the new Committee were approved at the May Council meeting which indicates that part of the roster consists of three members of Council, one of whom is the Senior Vice President and Treasurer. The call for members-at-large will be going out tomorrow in the OAA News.

It was noted by Doyle that the schools will factor in at some point adding that their role will be determined over the summer months. The schools will be a resource however, and it was not the intent that they would serve as a member of the Committee. There are likely a number of existing resources which may be sourced and pulled into the committee.

It was suggested by a Council member that the Committee should recognize the need to coordinate and align with the OAA's strategic interest and be inclusive in the education of the public.

The President suggested that an ad hoc committee be created to work over the summer to develop a strategy and then formally appoint members in the fall.

Action: Council directed that Council members Alkhaddam, Laberge, and Mancini who expressed interest in the Education Continuum Committee along with LGIC Sirman and Councillor Spiegel work with Senior Vice President & Treasurer Walter Derhak and President Kurtin to establish the strategic direction for the Committee and report back at the September Council meeting where Councillor Appointments will be conducted at that time along with members at large.

8744. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Communications, Amir Azadeh dated June 6, 2019 re. Local Architectural Society Special Project Funding Request and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'C')**

The Vice President Communications reported that the Committee reviewed all of the submissions received. As per the March Council meeting, in addition to the current approved budget it was suggested that consideration would be made to draw an additional amount if required from the policy contingency. The Committee determined that the remaining \$14,000 in the Society Special Project Funding budget would be utilized to fund the requests received and that the remaining \$15,000 be supplemented from the policy contingency. Normally the budget would be \$30,000, however, one-half had previously been allocated to pre-approved projects.

It was suggested by the Vice President Communications that the Committee is looking to review the current process and seeks ways to strategize on improvements in the fall. By increasing funding, this may encourage greater membership engagement.

Action: The Communications Committee was directed to provide input and a strategy with respect to Society Special Project Funding process in advance of the 2020 Budget discussions.

It was moved by Azadeh and seconded by Sirman that \$30,000 be approved in accordance with the recommendations of the Communications Committee for the allocation of the second installment of Society Special Project Funding for 2019 with \$14,020 to be drawn from the balance of the Society Special Project Funding Budget for 2019 and, the remaining \$15,080 to be drawn from the policy contingency budget.

-- CARRIED

8745. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Communications, Amir Azadeh dated June 7, 2019 re. Canadian Modern Architecture, 1967 to Present. **(APPENDIX 'D')**

The Vice President Communications reported that participating in the national panel discussions with respect to the sponsorship request would benefit the promotion of the national architecture policy, allowing for an opportunity to present to an audience.

It was suggested by a Council member that at events where the national architecture policy is being presented consideration be made to open it to the public.

It was moved by Azadeh and seconded by Mancini that sponsorship of the Canadian Modern Architecture talks be approved at an amount of \$10,000 to be drawn from the sponsorship budget.

-- CARRIED

Davies joined the meeting at 2:20 pm.

8746. Presentation by No. 9: Contemporary Art and the Environment Executive Director, Andrew Davies re Imagining My Sustainable City Program (*oral*)

The President welcomed Davies to the meeting.

Davies presented the Imagining My Sustainable City school program to Council for information. OAA has been a long time sponsor of this program.

Davies left the meeting at 2:50 pm.

Audet joined the meeting at 2:50pm.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

8747. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Activities for the Months of May-June. **(APPENDIX 'E')**

The report was noted for information.

8748. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated June 10, 2019 re. Update on Activities of the Executive Director. **(APPENDIX 'F')**

The report was noted for information.

8749. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the OAA Building Committee dated June 11, 2019 re. Update from the OAA Building Committee. **(APPENDIX 'G')**

The President reported that the building renovation is in its final stages. There has been an increase in the cost of the project with approximately \$1.3 million in changes at this point. The contingency is now at 20%.

Due to increased costs, the President noted that a proposal to install lights on the solar panels has been declined.

A member of Council expressed some concern that safety markings had not been applied to glass doors within the meeting rooms.

The report was noted for information.

Medford left the meeting at 3:00 pm.

8750. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from OAA/ARIDO Joint Task Force dated June 10, 2019 re. Update from OAA/ARIDO Joint Task Force. **(APPENDIX 'H')**

The report was noted for information.

8751. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Senior Vice President and Treasurer, Walter Derhak dated June 10, 2019 re. Financial Statements for the Six Months Ended May 31, 2019 and supporting background documentation. **(APPENDIX 'I')**

The Senior Vice President and Treasurer reported that the beginning of 2020 Budget planning will commence soon with a date set for August 14 for the committee to review a first draft.

The report was noted for information.

8752. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Strategic, Gordon Erskine dated June 6, 2019 re. Update on activities under the Vice President Strategic Portfolio. **(APPENDIX 'J')**

The Vice President Strategic reported that two roundtables are scheduled for the fall: Designing for Resiliency, and Public and Corporate Architects.

It was noted by the Vice President Strategic that World Architecture Day has been moved forward to December 10 due to the extended summer break in the provincial legislature.

Doyle noted that the Construction and Design Alliance of Ontario (CDAO) is re-establishing discussions with Infrastructure Ontario. The past AFP and real estate forums unfortunately had been relatively unsuccessful as they did not allow for two-way dialogue among the industry.

The reported was noted for information.

8753. Update re. City of Toronto Zoning By-law and Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Appeal (*oral*)

There were no further updates since the last meeting of Council.

8754. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Communications, Amir Azadeh dated June 6, 2019 re. Communications Committee Update and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'K')**

The Vice President Communications reported that the Committee's meeting on June 4 included the review of the allocation of Society Special Project Funding, as well the development of digital spreadsheets for OAA committee members to provide feedback on the Website. A deadline of June 28 has been conveyed to committee members who wish to provide feedback on the Website.

It was noted by the Vice President Communications that a debriefing meeting regarding the SHIFT awards is scheduled for tomorrow.

The Vice President Communications noted that he had written a BLOAGG piece for the Website focused on Council's priority of diversity and inclusion, adding that it has been difficult to find other members to contribute content to the page. If there is interest among Council it is recommended that the piece be 200 words in length with one image and submitted to him.

A member of Council suggested that members could assist each other in drafting pieces for BLOAGG

It was suggested by a Council member that the wording on the page reflect that the postings are the opinion of the member and not those of the OAA.

It was noted by Doyle that media consultant Proof's contract is ending this month. Although not retained full time, consideration may be made to use their services on specific future projects.

The report was noted for information.

8755. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from President, Kathleen Kurtin dated June 6, 2019 re. Sustainable Built Environments Committee (SBEC) Update and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'L')**

The report was noted for information.

8756. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Regulatory, Mélisa Audet dated June 10, 2019 re. Vice President Regulatory Activities. **(APPENDIX 'M')**

The Vice President Regulatory reported that the Interns Committee is looking into rebranding its name to make it more inclusive.

The report was noted for information.

8757. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Regulatory, Mélisa Audet dated June 3, 2019 re. Activities under the Registrar – May 4, 2019 through June 3, 2019. **(APPENDIX 'N')**

The Vice President Regulatory reported.

The report was noted for information.

8758. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Practice, David Sin dated June 11, 2019 re. Practice Resources Committee (PRC) and Practice Advisory Services (PAS) Update and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'O')**

The Vice President Practice reported that discussions regarding Project Management Services will continue over the summer and a report to Council with recommendations is anticipated for the September meeting.

It was indicated by the Vice President Practice that Committee discussed changing the *Architects Act* to include environmental stewardship in its wording, however, it has since been recommended that this initiative be voiced in the Vision Mission and Mandate of the OAA.

It was noted by a member of Council that it is noted in the Code of Ethics.

Brown noted that in looking at the language being proposed to include the regulation of interior designers other changes may also be considered.

Brown noted that there is a standard of care related to the profession and introducing additional elements to which a standard of care would need to be applied may be inappropriately placed in the Act. It was suggested by a member of Council that Committee's concerns be paraphrased to Brown which would allow for her to respond directly.

Sirman left the meeting at 3:40 pm.

Doyle suggested it is important to stay focused on priorities and consideration should be made as to how this item fits within current priorities.

The report was noted for information.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8759. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Report to OAA Council from the Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Science (OAAAS) dated June 7, 2019. **(APPENDIX 'P')**

Councillor Gammond reported that OAAAS is looking for a mechanism to accredit the college architectural technology program in order to establish a clearly defined education standard for Licensed Technologist OAA members.

Councillor Gammond indicated that from the perspective of OAAAS this discussion was triggered by ARIDO and their desire to identify accreditation requirements. Additionally, stemming from regular discussion with the colleges, the schools have expressed interest in working with the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) to establish a system for accreditation. OAAAS is seeking support from Council with respect to the necessity for a system for accreditation of architectural technology programs.

Brown noted that this request is specific to Ontario, whereas the CACB is a national organization supported by the Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities (CALA). Training and experience competencies are important adding that part of the education is provided by the schools and competencies are gained from school to licence.

It was suggested by a member of Council that the issue be passed back to OAAAS for further discussion. Originally, the entrance aspect to OAAAS was knowing the individual had membership with the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT) which confirmed they had a certain level of education or degree/diploma.

The Council member noted that it would require consent from the 11 jurisdictions to allow for CACB to allocate a portion of its time to OAAAS.

It was noted by Doyle that there are organizations which exist who review education course calendars.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8760. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Draft Minutes from the University of Toronto Faculty Council meeting dated April 17, 2019. **(APPENDIX 'Q')**

The draft minutes were noted for information.

8761. Update re. Society Chairs Meeting – May 21, 2019 *(oral)*

The minutes from the meeting will be included in the September Council package.

8762. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Grey Areas Newsletter dated May 2019. **(APPENDIX 'R')**

The newsletter was noted for information.

OTHER BUSINESS

8763. There was no other business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8764. The next regular meeting of Council is Thursday September 19, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the OAA Headquarters, 111 Moatfield Drive, Toronto, Ontario.

ADJOURNMENT

8765. **It was moved by Laberge and seconded by Sin that the meeting be adjourned at 4:00 p.m.**
-- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

President

Date