

Ontario Association of Architects

Meeting #265 Open

MINUTES

January 23, 2020

The two hundred and sixty fifth meeting of the Council of the Ontario Association of Architects, held under the *Architects Act*, took place on Thursday January 23, 2020 at the OAA Headquarters, Toronto, Ontario.

Present:	Kathleen Kurtin	President
	Amir Azadeh	Vice President Communications
	J. Gordon Erskine	Vice President Strategic
	Donald Ardiel	Councillor
	J. William Birdsell	Councillor
	Barry Cline	Councillor
	Jeremiah Gammond	Councillor
	Paul Hastings	Councillor
	Natasha Krickhan	Councillor
	Jeffrey Laberge	Councillor
	Agata Mancini	Councillor
	Elaine Mintz	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
	Milda Miskinyte	Councillor
	Sarah Murray	Councillor
	David C. Rich	Councillor
	Susan Spiegel	Councillor
	Andrew Thomson	Councillor
	Settimo Vilardi	Councillor
	Nedra Brown	Registrar
	Kristi Doyle	Executive Director
	Christie Mills	Deputy Registrar
	Tina Carfa	Executive Assistant, Executive Services
Regrets:	Donald Chen	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
Guests:	Richard Mateljan	President, Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Sciences (OAAAS) (<i>part attendance</i>)
	Garry Neil	Executive Director, Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Sciences (OAAAS) (<i>part Attendance – via skype</i>)

The President called the meeting to order at 11:43 a.m.

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-Wendat 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.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

The President reported that the Election of Officers would be the next item on the agenda.

8878. Election of Officers (*oral*)

Cooper and Wray joined the meeting at 11:45am.

The Registrar conducted the Election of Officers. As no Members-at-Large were present, the Registrar introduced two staff as possible scrutineers Communications Specialist, Marcia Cooper and Administrator, Licence, Kim Wray for Council's confirmation.

The Scrutineers for the election were confirmed by Council.

Brown reported that Kathleen Kurtin has been acclaimed to serve as President for 2020.

Brown announced that the following members of Council were nominated to stand for election as Senior Vice President and Treasurer: Paul Hastings and Susan Spiegel.

The candidates for Senior Vice President and Treasurer each made a brief address to Council.

Brown conducted the election for Senior Vice President and Treasurer.

Brown announced that Spiegel received the highest number of votes, as well as more than the required 50% of the possible votes and as such announced that she had been elected to the position of Senior Vice President and Treasurer.

Brown asked Hastings if he wished to roll down to stand for election to the position of Vice President. Hastings accepted.

Council members voted on the number of Vice Presidents they wished to have for 2020.

After some discussion, Council agreed to consider five Vice Presidents for 2020 to include a new portfolio for Education to be reassessed at the end of this year.

Brown announced that the majority of Council voted for five Vice Presidents for 2020.

Brown announced that the following members of Council were nominated to stand for election as Vice President: Amir Azadeh, Barry Cline, Paul Hastings, Natasha Krickhan, Agata Mancini, Andrew Thomson, and Settimo Vilardi.

The candidates for Vice President each made a brief address to Council.

Brown conducted the election for Vice President.

Brown announced that Azadeh, Hastings, Mancini, Thomson, and Vilardi received the highest number of votes, as well as more than the required 50% of the possible votes and as such announced that they had been elected to the position of Vice President.

Cooper and Wray left the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Council broke for lunch at 12:40 p.m. and resumed at 1:55 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

8879. The President noted that no items would be added to the agenda:

It was moved by Birdsell and seconded by Cline that the agenda be approved as circulated.

-- CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8880. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Draft minutes of the December 13, 2019 Open Council meeting.

The draft minutes of the December 13, 2019 Open Council meeting were reviewed.

A member of Council noted that under minute number 8858, third paragraph, the last sentence be finished with "...accounts".

It was moved by Laberge and seconded by Birdsell that the minutes of the December 13, 2019 Open Council meeting be approved as amended.

-- CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

8881. There was no business arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

OAAAS President, Rick Mateljan joined the meeting in person and OAAAS Executive Director, Garry Neil joined the meeting via skype at 2:00 p.m.

8882. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated January 10 2020 re. Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Sciences (OAAAS) – Annual Meeting of the Founder and supporting background documentation. **(APPENDIX 'A')**

The President welcomed Mateljan and Neil to the meeting.

Mateljan reported on the past year's activities of the OAAAS. He noted that the number of Licensed Technologists OAA has increased to 130 with an additional 175 going through the process of licensure via OAAAS.

Neil reported that the OAAAS exam updating renewal process has had an effect financially and will be recorded as a separate expense item going forward.

It was noted by Neil that spending on marketing and promotion has decreased over the past year. There was an effect on the application fee due to college students who were award recipients and given a complimentary one-year membership.

Neil indicated that the 2019 financial statements will be ready for approval at their Meeting of the Founder scheduled for February 6

The President thanked Mateljan and Neil for their presentation.

Mateljan and Neil left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting (Founder's Meeting) held on February 7, 2019 be approved.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that the proposed slate be appointed to the OAAAS Board of Directors.

Two-year term expiring in 2022:

Christina Facey, Lic.Tech.OAA

Francis Guanlao, Lic.Tech.OAA

(OAA Council Representative – to be determined)

The term of the following Directors expires in 2021:

Jamie Kuhl, Lic.Tech.OAA

Rick Mateljan, Lic.Tech.OAA

Jeremiah Gammond, Lic.Tech.OAA (OAA Council representative)

John Romanov, OAA (OAA representative)

Nicola Russo, Lic.Tech.OAA (OAA representative)

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that Rick Mateljan be elected President of the OAAAS to serve until the 2021 AGM.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that John Romanov be appointed Treasurer of the OAAAS to serve until the 2021 AGM.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that Garry Neil be appointed Secretary for the OAAAS to serve until the 2021 AGM.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that Garry Neil be appointed OAAAS Executive Director/Registrar of the OAAAS to serve until the 2021 AGM.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that the Financial Statements and Review Engagement for the fiscal year 2019 prepared by BDO Dunwoody LLP be approved.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that BDO Dunwoody LLP be appointed as accountants to complete a Review Engagement of OAAAS for the 2019 fiscal year for a fee not to exceed \$6,000.

-- CARRIED

It was moved by Gammond and seconded by Birdsell that the President be directed to vote in the affirmative on the motions at the Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Sciences (OAAAS) 2020 meeting of the Founder.

-- CARRIED

8883. Appointment to Complaints Committee (*oral*)

Brown reported.

It was moved by Erskine and seconded by Azadeh that Steven Hilditch be appointed to the Complaints Committee for a three-year term effective January 1, 2020.

-- CARRIED

8884. Appointment to Practice Resource Committee (PRC) (*oral*)

Doyle reported.

It was moved by Vilardi and seconded by Spiegel that David Sin be appointed for a one-year term to the Practice Resource Committee effective January 1, 2020.

-- CARRIED

8885. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated January 15, 2020 re. Canadian Standard of Competency for Architects and attached supporting documentation.. **(APPENDIX 'B')**

Doyle reported that the first documented competency standard was created in order to assess Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) candidates and has since been refined to reflect the national competency standard for the profession in Canada.

Doyle reported that the revised document was revised by a working group of OAA Council members in the fall and comments had been submitted to the national level. The final version was then tabled at the October 31 CALA meeting. Based on her review, Doyle noted that the majority of OAA comments had not been incorporated into the draft document.

It was suggested by a member of Council that sections 8 and 2 were light on the lack of knowledge of fibre, steel, and wood frame.

Doyle noted that the items under 6.2.1 and 6.3.1 were removed since it was felt by the national committee that the items were covered elsewhere.

It was suggested by a Council member that sustainability was not sufficiently covered in the document.

A Council member suggested that the consultation process be outlined before responding.

Doyle noted that there was a national survey several years prior, which included practices, interns, and architects. The results of the BEFA program evaluation which included input from the architectural profession such as assessors then passed through CALA several times.

Doyle suggested that perhaps items 3.7.2 and 7.7 sufficiently addressed sustainability.

A member of Council responded that there was not enough information contained within 3.7.2.

It was suggested by a member of Council that if there appears to be no issues of great concern that the document be moved forward since it will continue to be reviewed and revised going forward.

Council agreed that there is a desire to be more involved in the ongoing review of the competency standard moving forward at the national level. This document is also likely to be an issue of discussion at the 2020 national validation conference in the fall.

It was moved by Laberge and seconded by Vilardi that the revised Canadian Standard of Competency for Architects be approved in the document dated October 2019.

-- CARRIED (1 abstention)

8886. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated January 15, 2020 re. Canadian Education Standard for Architects and attached supporting documentation.. **(APPENDIX 'C')**

Doyle reported that the document incorporated some housekeeping changes ongoing over the past couple of years along with more substantive changes which are a direct result of a submission made by the OAA to the national level. For example, standards of education were revised with the addition of clear sustainability performance outcomes.

It was suggested by Doyle that unless there are any additional substantive changes that to be addressed then it is recommended that the document move forward so that the revised version can be adopted as the current Canadian Education Standard. The document will continue to be reviewed on a regular interval and evolve accordingly.

It was suggested by a Council member that the document is flawed and that insufficient time has been provided for review, suggesting that it be reopened in 24 months.

It was moved by Laberge and seconded by Vilardi that the revised Canadian Education Standard be approved, dated October 31, 2019.

-- CARRIED (1 abstention)

At the close of discussion it was agreed that the Canadian Education Standard be considered by the Comprehensive Education Committee in the context of future revisions.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

8887. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Activities for the Months of December-January. **(APPENDIX 'D')**

The report was noted for information.

8888. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated January 15, 2020 re. Update on Activities of the Executive Director. **(APPENDIX 'E')**

Doyle reported that the Education Committee reviewed and updated the schools' scholarships so that they are no longer solely based on academic performance.

A Council member indicated that in the past in some cases a student would win multiple awards based on marks alone. The Committee felt that other criteria should be recognized such as excellence in design and sustainability.

The report was noted for information.

8889. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the OAA Building Committee dated January 14, 2020 re. Update from the OAA Building Committee. **(APPENDIX 'F')**

A member of Council reported that the Committee continues to work through the deficiencies from building's renovation.

The report was noted for information.

8890. Governance Committee Update. *(oral)*

It was reported by the President that the Committee met yesterday and added that the topic of governance will be covered in more detail on the Thursday evening of the Council planning session.

Doyle provided several staff updates to Council. OAA Communications Specialist, Marcia Cooper provided notice of her retirement in May. Communications Coordinator, Chantelle Ng and Manager Finance, Melanie Walsh both will be on maternity leave effective May and June respectively.

It was noted by Doyle that an advertisement will be going out shortly for the next architectural graduate for a one-year term.

The President indicated that the Committee is looking into the development of a matrix of Council competencies and will be circulating a survey to Council. It is being recommended that going forward, communication regarding the election of members to Council include the type of skills and competencies being sought. This is a reality in the landscape of professional regulators such that there is a greater focus on competency based boards. The report was noted for information.

8891. OAA/Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) Joint Task Group Update *(oral)*

The President reported that meetings are currently on hold pending a meeting with the Attorney General.

The update was noted for information.

8892. Comprehensive Education Committee Update. *(oral)*

There have been no further updates since the last meeting of Council.

The report was noted for information.

8893. Capital Reserve Update. *(oral)*

The President reported that with the OAA Audit is nearing completion and the final statements for year end suggest a surplus around \$500,000.

Doyle noted that in December, Council had passed a motion stipulating up to \$400,000 of the 2019 surplus be moved to the capital reserve. It has been suggested however that Council consider moving the full amount to the capital reserve.

It was moved by Erskine and seconded by Birdsell that further to the motion passed by Council at the December 2019 meeting regarding the transfer of up to \$400,000 of the anticipated 2019 surplus into the capital reserve, that Council direct that the entire amount of the surplus of approximately \$500,000 be transferred to the capital reserve.

-- CARRIED

8894. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Vice President Strategic, Gordon Erskine dated January 14, 2020 re. Update on the Activities under the Vice President Strategic Portfolio and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'G')**

The Vice President Strategic reported.

It was noted that a submission was made to the Smart City TO Public Consultation re improper posting of copyrighted materials.

A member of Council suggested that the Google Smart City Waterfront could be discussed at the next Policy Advocacy Coordination Team (PACT) meeting.

The report was noted for information.

8895. 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.

8896. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Communications, Amir Azadeh dated January 8, 2020 re. Communications Committee Update. **(APPENDIX 'H')**

The Vice President Communications reported that discussions regarding the SHIFT 2021 theme are progressing and being considered are strengthening community/identity as well as the climate crisis. The 2020 Awards program is underway with the announcement of the jury. Jury day at the OAA is scheduled for February 11.

The report was noted for information.

8897. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Registrar, Nedra Brown dated January 9, 2020 re. Activities under the Registrar – 2019 Summary. **(APPENDIX 'I')**

Brown reported on the various public speaking and outreach events done by the Office of the Registrar over the course of the past year. Carleton students attended a lecture at the OAA, the professional practice class was addressed at University of Toronto, as well as professional practice classes at Laurentian and Waterloo. The Deputy Registrar offered the OAA Regulatory Requirements: Ontario Architectural Practice seminar as well as the regulatory portion of the Admission Course.

The report was noted for information.

8898. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Practice dated January 9, 2020 re. Practice Resource Committee (PRC) Sub-Committee on Building Codes and Regulations (SCOBCAR). **(APPENDIX 'J')**

The report was noted for information.

8899. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Practice dated January 9, 2020 re. Overall Statistics of the Practice Advisory Services (PAS) Hotline and Update on Requests for Proposals (RFPs) Monitoring and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'K')**

The report was noted for information.

8900. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from President, Kathleen Kurtin dated January 6, 2020 re. Sustainable Built Environment Committee (SBEC) Update and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'L')**

The President reported that the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI) is withdrawing from the Toronto 2030 District as they move their focus to a more national level. Significant funding was fed into the project and some consideration needs to be made going forward.

A member of Council suggested that there are other larger scale initiatives similar to the Toronto 2030 District on a national level. Clarification was requested with respect to where the software tool platform resides, the amount of collateral developed and who currently holds ownership.

The President responded that she would investigate further and respond back.

The report was noted for information.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8901. Proposed Actions to Address Climate Change Crisis (*oral*)

Council deferred the item to the March Council meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8902. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Summary of Society Visits 2019. **(APPENDIX 'M')**

The report was noted for information.

8903. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President Communications, Amir Azadeh dated January 13, 2020 re. 2019 OAA Local Society Annual Reports. **(APPENDIX 'N')**

The Vice President Communications noted that all of the annual reports from the local societies have been received with the exception of two to follow.

The reports were noted for information.

8904. Society Updates (*oral*)

A member of Council noted that activities have been on hold with the Northwestern Society. There is new Chairelected and an uptake on activities is anticipated.

Doyle noted that next week the first of regularly scheduled skype meetings is being held with the society chairs.

OTHER BUSINESS

8905. There was no other business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8906. The next regular meeting of Council is Thursday March 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the OAA Headquarters, 111 Moatfield Drive, Toronto, Ontario.

The annual Priority Planning Session is scheduled for Thursday February 6, 2020 evening and Friday February 7, 2020 at the OAA Headquarters, 111 Moatfield Drive, Toronto, Ontario.

ADJOURNMENT

8907. **It was moved by Mintz and seconded by Azadeh that the meeting be adjourned at 3:35 p.m.**
-- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

President

Date