

Ontario Association of Architects

Meeting #304 Open

MINUTES

March 5, 2026

The three hundred and fourth meeting of the Council of the Ontario Association of Architects, held under the *Architects Act*, took place on Thursday March 5, 2026 at the OAA Headquarters, 111 Moatfield Drive, Toronto, Ontario and virtually via Zoom.

Present:	Lara McKendrick	President
	Anna Richter	Senior Vice President and Treasurer
	Kristiana Schuhmann	Vice President (<i>virtual</i>)
	Susan Spiegel	Vice President
	Settimo Vilardi	Vice President
	Loloa Alkasawat	Councillor
	Donald Ardiel	Councillor
	J. William Birdsell	Councillor
	Maxine Blais	Councillor
	Jim Buttici	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
	Andrew Chau	Councillor
	Kimberly Fawcett-Smith	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee (<i>virtual</i>)
	Natasha Krickhan	Councillor
	Jenny Lafrance	Councillor (<i>virtual</i>)
	Michelle Longlade	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
	Elaine Mintz	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee (<i>virtual</i>)
	Angela Panacci	Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointee
	Nicola Russo	Councillor
	Ted Watson	Councillor
	Thomas Yeung	Councillor
	Kristi Doyle	Executive Director
	Christie Mills	Registrar
	Tina Carfa	Executive Assistant, Executive Services

Regrets: None

Guests: Member, Rafid Kustou (*part attendance*)

The President called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

The President noted that a land acknowledgement and recognition of the Indigenous land and its people is being shared with Council titled 'Uncovering an Oral History of Tkaronto' <https://youtu.be/voXySM-knRc?si=141smXbcb7CmQvMN>

The President welcomed staff and members in attendance at the meeting. The President also welcomed the Compliance Analyst for the Office of the Fairness Commissioner, Mercy Barzallo who was attending the meeting as an observer via Zoom.

DECLARATION RE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The President called for declaration of any conflicts of interest.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

AGENDA APPROVAL

10040. The President reported that there were no new items to be added to the agenda.

It was moved by Birdsell and seconded by Longlade that the agenda for the March 5, 2026 open meeting be approved as circulated.

-- CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

10041. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Draft minutes of the January 22, 2026 Open Council meeting.

The draft minutes of the January 22, 2026 Open Council meeting were reviewed.

It was moved by Longlade and seconded by Richter that the minutes of the January 22, 2026 Open Council meeting be approved as circulated.

-- CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

10042. There was no business arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

The President noted that the deputation to Council under 'For Information' would be addressed next on the agenda.

10043. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Deputation Brief submitted by member, Rafid Kustou dated February 12, 2026 and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'A')**

Rafid Kustou joined the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

The President welcomed Kustou to the meeting.

Kustou presented his deputation to Council which was contained in the open Council meeting package and received by Council the week prior.

There were no questions from members regarding the deputation.

The President thanked Kustou for the deputation, noting that it has been received by Council for future consideration as set out in the Policy regarding deputations.

Kustou left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

10044. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Finance and Audit Committee dated February 20, 2026 re. Audited Financial Statements as at November 30, 2025 and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'B')**

The Senior Vice President and Treasurer reported.

It was moved by Richter and seconded by Butticci that Council approve the 2025 OAA audited financial statements as presented to Council on March 5, 2026.

-- CARRIED

10045. Honorary Membership Nomination (*oral*)

The President reported that Council had considered a nomination for an Honorary Member in the in camera meeting.

It was moved by Birdsell and seconded by Speigel that Council approve the nomination of Rick Haldenby for election to Honorary Membership within the OAA at the Annual General Meeting on April 15, 2026.

-- CARRIED

10046. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated February 20, 2026 re. Council Appointments to Pro-Demnity Insurance Company (Pro-Demnity) Board of Directors and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'C')**

The President reported.

It was moved by Alkasawat and seconded by Longlade that Council approve the appointment of Susan Speigel for a two-year term and Natasha Krickhan for a one-year term to serve as interlocking Directors on the Pro-Demnity Insurance Company Board of Directors effective March 30, 2026.

-- CARRIED

10047. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Senior Vice President and Treasurer and Interlocking Director, Pro-Demnity Insurance Company, Anna Richter dated February 25, 2026 re. Pro-Demnity Insurance Company – Annual Appointment of Auditor and Actuary and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'D')**

The Senior Vice President and Treasurer reported.

It was moved by Richter and seconded by Butticci that Council direct the OAA President to vote in the affirmative regarding the recommendation to appoint BDO Canada as the Auditor, and J.S. Cheng as the Actuary for Pro-Demnity Insurance Company at the March 30, 2026 Annual Meeting of the Shareholder.

-- CARRIED

10048. Council Appointment to the Province of Ontario Electoral District (*oral*)

The President reported that Council had the opportunity to consider the individual submissions for the Province of Ontario Electoral District during the in camera meeting noting requirements to hold discussions regarding individuals/personnel in camera.

It was moved by Vilardi and seconded by Longlade that Council approve the appointment of Clayton Payer to the Province of Ontario Electoral District Council seat and deemed to be an elected member of Council and shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the member whose office they are appointed to fill.

-- CARRIED (11 in favour, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions)

10049. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Finance & Audit Committee dated February 18, 2026 re. Draft Investment Policy & RFP for an Investment Manager and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'E')**

The Senior Vice President and Treasurer reported that the Committee plans to review a shortlist of investment managers with an appointment to be brought forth for consideration at the May meeting of Council. The Senior Vice President and Treasurer noted that the RFP document would be amended to reflect a change in the quantity of funds from \$10 million to \$5-10 million.

It was moved by Richter and seconded by Butticci that Council approve the RFP as amended for the engagement of an external Investment Manager ; and, the Finance & Audit Committee be directed to undertake the selection process and bring a recommendation to the May 12 meeting for Council's consideration.

-- CARRIED

10050. *Reference Materials Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President and PRC Chair, Kristiana Schuhmann dated February 20, 2026 re. OAA Document Maintenance – Updates to Practice Tip PT.12. Residential Clients and attached supporting documentation. **(APPENDIX 'F')**

Vice President Schuhmann reported.

It was moved by Schuhmann and seconded by Vilardi that Council endorse the revised OAA Practice Tip PT.12 Residential Clients (Small Projects) as presented to Council on March 5 2026.

-- CARRIED

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

10051. There were no items for discussion.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

10052. *Reference Material Reviewed:* President's Activities for the months of January 2026 to March 2026. **(APPENDIX 'G')**

The report was noted for information.

10053. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Report from Executive Director, Kristi Doyle dated March, 2026 re. Executive Director Report to Council and attached background information. **(APPENDIX 'H')**

The report was noted for information.

10054. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Registrar, Christie Mills re. Office of the Registrar Statistical Report to Council for the period January 1 to February 17, 2026. **(APPENDIX 'I')**

The report was noted for information.

10055. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Communications and Public Education Committee (CPEC) dated February 20, 2026 re. General Update from the Communications and Public Education Committee (CPEC). **(APPENDIX 'J')**

The report was noted for information.

10056. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Governance Committee dated February 16, 2026 re. Update from OAA Governance & HR Committee. **(APPENDIX 'K')**

The report was noted for information.

10057. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the OAA Building Committee dated February 16, 2026 re. Update from the OAA Building Committee. **(APPENDIX 'L')**

The report was noted for information.

10058. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from the Practice Resource Committee (PRC) dated February 20, 2026 re. Practice Resource Committee (PRC) - Update. **(APPENDIX 'M')**

The report was noted for information.

The report was noted for information.

10059. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Memorandum from Vice President and Chair, Settimo Vilardi dated February 19, 2026 re. Update on the Policy Advisory Coordination Team's (PACT) work. **(APPENDIX 'N')**

The report was noted for information.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10060. *Reference Material Reviewed:* Local Architectural Societies Annual Reports. **(APPENDIX 'O')**

The report was noted for information.

10061. The Deputation from member, Rafid Kustou was minuted under number 10043.

OTHER BUSINESS

10062. There was no other business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10063. The next regular meeting of Council is Tuesday May 12, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Silver Lake B Room at the Delta Hotels by Marriott, Waterloo, Ontario.

ADJOURNMENT

10064. **It was moved by Butticci and seconded by Watson that the meeting be adjourned at 2:50 p.m.**

-- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

President

Date