



**Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario
Professional Practice Committee
Terms of Reference**

Mandate

The Professional Practice Committee (PPC) is a standing committee of the APGO that is responsible for:

- Developing standards and guidelines for the practice of professional geoscience
- Developing an ongoing program of professional development
- Maintaining standards of professional ethics
- Undertaking other professional practice matters as may arise from time to time

Functions and Responsibilities

- Review existing and proposed standards and guidelines that may affect professional geoscience practice in Ontario, and recommend their updating, revision or acceptance to Council
- Determine whether new standards and guidelines are required to ensure professional geoscience practice is protective of human health and the environment, and, as appropriate, recommend their development to Council
- Ensure that the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program is effective and reflective of members ongoing professional requirements
- Ensure that the standards of professional ethics are pertinent to professional geoscience practice and societal expectations
- Support, advise and co-ordinate Professional Practice Subcommittee mandates, and terms of reference
- Establish a roster of Professional Geoscientist (P. Geo.) senior practitioners and Qualified Persons to provide Professional Practice advice to Council, APGO committees and members, when requested

Outcomes and Deliverables

- Recommendation and provision of professional practice standards, ethics and guidelines to be followed by APGO members
- Provision of professional practice seminars for members
- Guidance documentation for the CPD program
- Liaison with Regulators, other professional self-regulating organizations, technical organizations, etc, as appropriate, respecting issues affecting professional geoscience practice
- Presentation to Council of updates and key issues as requested
- Provision of an Annual Report to Council by February 28 following the December 31 year end

Operational Considerations

- Meet quarterly or more frequently, as required
- Deliberations of the PPC are considered confidential to committee members
- Provide minutes of PPC meetings to attendees and Registrar/Executive Committee on behalf of Council within 30 days of said meeting being held
- Outline resource requirements, respecting financial and technical/member support annually

Status and Authority

- The PPC is a Standing Committee of the APGO as referenced in By-Law No. 7
- The PPC reports to Council through its Chair
- The PPC shall conduct its activities in accordance with the Act and APGO Bylaws
- Decisions and recommendations of the PPC will be by consensus
- The PPC has the authority to establish working groups and subcommittees to address professional geoscience practice issues
- The PPC has established four subcommittees:
 - Environmental Geoscience Subcommittee
 - Geophysics Subcommittee
 - Geology (Mining) Subcommittee
 - Continuing Professional Development Subcommittee.
- The PPC's term is open-ended

Composition/Organization

- The PPC shall consist of the following minimum Members:
 - Past-President
 - One elected-Councilor
 - Two members of the Association who are not Councillors
 - The Registrar, sitting as ex-officio
- The Chair is to be nominated by the Committee and approved by Council
- The Vice-Chair is to be selected by Committee members
- Appointments are to be for a minimum period of 3 years, or as requested by Council
- Temporary committee members may be selected from amongst qualified member volunteers or other Qualified Persons by the Chair to address specific professional practice issues

Review

- The Terms of Reference of the Professional Practice Committee will be reviewed at least once every three years

References

- Professional Geoscientists Act, 2000
- APGO By-Law No. 1
- APGO By-Law No. 7