

Minutes of the Incoming Board of Directors meeting of the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT)

Friday June 13, 2025 at 11:00am-12:20pm
In-Person at the Caesars Windsor Hotel and Casino
Mercuri Meeting Room

Present:

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| Micheal Mooney, C.E.T. | Past-President |
| Christopher van Dop, C.E.T. | President |
| Stephanie Pesheau, C.E.T., CAPM | President-Elect |
| Norman Sandberg, C.E.T. | Central Region |
| Brian Raymond, CD, C.E.T. | Eastern Region |
| Scott Martin, C.Tech. | Horseshoe Region |
| Steven Finley, A.Sc.T., rcca | Northern Region |
| Taylor Rohmann, C.E.T. | Toronto Region |
| Lara Widdifield, C.E.T. | Western Region |
| Mladen Ivankovic, C.E.T | Young Professionals Representative |
| Riley Burton | Heads of Technology Representative |
| Camille Glover | Public Representative (<i>**Attended virtually</i>) |
| Alex Zebadua | Student Representative |

Staff:

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| Cheryl Farrow, MBA, CAE | Chief Executive Officer |
| Lily Rudeychuk, CPA | Director, Finance and Corporate Services |
| Barry Billing | Director, RPP & Registrar (<i>**Attended virtually</i>) |
| David Terlizzi | Director, MES & Government Relations |
| Elle Armstrong | Administrator |

Guests:

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| Rosanna Tyrer, C.E.T., rcji, CAPM | Outgoing Past-President |
| Liam Croft | Outgoing Student Representative |

❖ President's Opening Remarks and Call to Order

President van Dop called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. He welcomed the Board of Directors and noted that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of accuracy of minutes. Board members then took a moment to introduce themselves around the room.

❖ Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

There were no disclosed conflicts of interest.

❖ Approval of the Board Meeting Agenda

Due to time constraints, it was suggested that Agenda Item #4.1 – Mega Issue: 2026 Emerging Market Priorities be deferred to the Sunday June 15th Orientation session or the second part of the Orientation, which will take place online in August.

**5969 Moved by Norman Sandberg, Seconded by Mladen Ivankovic.
Resolved that the Board of Directors approves the agenda as amended.**

INCOMING BOARD

❖ Swearing of Oaths

As part of the meeting proceedings, a formal Swearing-In Ceremony was conducted for the newly appointed Board members. The ceremony was officiated by Barry Billing, OACETT's Commissioner of Oaths, with authority granted by the Attorney General of Ontario.

President Van Dop was formally sworn in as President of OACETT and Chair of the Board of Directors, officially accepting the responsibilities associated with the position. Then all incoming Board members were instructed to read their oaths in unison, affirming their commitment to their roles.,

The Board members were officially sworn in and accepted their respective roles on the Board for the 2025-2027 term:

- Norman Sandberg, C.E.T.
- Brian Raymond, CD, C.E.T.
- Scott Martin, C.Tech
- Steven Finley, A.Sc.T., rcca
- Taylor Rohmann, C.E.T.
- Lara Widdifield, C.E.T.
- Mladen Ivankovic, C.E.T.
- Alex Zebadua
- Riley Burton
- Camille Glover

Officers whose term commenced at the June 7, 2025, AGM and will continue until the Annual General Meeting in 2027:

- Christopher van Dop, C.E.T. will serve as President
- Micheal Mooney, C.E.T. will serve as Past-President
- Stephanie Pesheau, C.E.T., CAPM will serve as President-Elect
- Cheryl Farrow, MBA, CAE will serve as CEO, ex-officio member (non-voting)

A copy of the signed documents will be mailed to all participants after the meeting, once Mr. Billing has had an opportunity to sign and stamp the hard copies, as he attended remotely.

❖ Indemnification Agreement

Incoming Board members were asked to sign a personalized version of the Indemnification agreement and Conflict of Interest agreement, which had been drafted by OACETT's legal counsel and were made available for advance review in the meeting package. A copy of these signed documents will be provided to all participants after the meeting.

❖ Appointment of Committee Chairs

- Lara Widdifield, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Brian Raymond, CD, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Norman Sandberg, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Governance, Policy and Strategy Committee (GPSC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Brian Raymond, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as Treasurer for OACETT until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Scott Martin, C.Tech. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Human Resources Committee (HRC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Steven Finley, A.Sc.T., rcca is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Member Engagement and Services Committee (MESOC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Micheal Mooney, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Nominating Committee (NC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Taylor Rohmann, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Registration and Professional Practice Committee (RPPC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.
- Mladen Ivankovic, C.E.T. is hereby appointed as the Chair of the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.

5970 Moved by Mladen Ivankovic, Seconded by Norman Sandberg and Carried. Resolved that the list of Committee Chairs as recommended by the Nominating Committee be approved as presented.

5971 Moved by Lara Widdifield, Seconded by Mladen Ivankovic and Carried. Resolved that Brian Raymond, as the appointed Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC), be the appointed Treasurer for OACETT until the Annual General Meeting in 2027.

BRAINSTORMING SESSION

❖ Economy Relief measures

The Board discussed the economic challenges affecting members, including job losses, underemployment, and instability linked to tariffs and international trade actions. Concerns were raised about members' ability to pay dues, even with the current reduced rate of \$90 for those demonstrating financial hardship. It was agreed that no members would be removed due to financial hardship and that financial relief measures would be reviewed annually to remain responsive to changing member needs. The Board supported revisiting financial relief measures year by year and tasked staff with reviewing past COVID-era supports for potential application. There was also agreement to waive reinstatement fees for inactive members impacted by unemployment. To avoid inflated membership figures, the need for improved tracking of membership status was noted.

The Board acknowledged the financial strength of the past year but expressed caution about reducing dues permanently, given the potential difficulty of reinstating them later. As an alternative, exploring new services to better meet member needs was recommended. It was noted that the new internship pilot for internationally educated professionals (IEP) would launch in the fall, with potential expansion under consideration. Staff will return with relevant data for further evaluation of support programs.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025-2026

❖ Orientation plan and 2025-26 meeting schedule

The incoming Board of Directors were reminded that a calendar of key dates was included in the meeting package, and that calendar invitations will be sent to each member. President van Dop confirmed that Board orientation will take place in two parts: an in-person session at the Conference on Sunday, June 15, and a virtual session on August 20 focused on legal briefings and financial statement analysis. The first virtual Board meeting will follow in September. If the August 20 date is not suitable for all members, a poll will be issued to determine an alternative date.

❖ Budget and initiative plan schedule

President van Dop informed the Board that a detailed schedule outlining the Budget and Initiative Plan Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025 is included in the meeting package. The schedule outlines critical timelines to be achieved by the Committees to ensure there are enough resources to fund activities related to the strategic priorities. President van Dop invited any questions from the Board, of which there were none.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board's scheduled participation in the regional meetings has been updated: the session will now take place on Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:30 AM, shortened from the original 8:30 to 10:00 AM timeframe. Incoming Board members are asked to attend to engage with their respective Chapters and listen to member concerns — with the understanding that no commitments should be made during these discussions.

Key dates related to the Name Change initiative have also been confirmed and can be shared with the Chapters:

- **Fireside Chat** – September 9 (5:00p.m.-7:00p.m., virtually)
- **Special Members' Meeting** – September 16 (5:00p.m.-7:00p.m., virtually)

Staff will ensure that the Member Engagement and Services Committee (MESCC) representatives are informed, and that these updates are effectively communicated to the membership.

ADJOURNMENT

President van Dop made his closing remarks, thanking everybody for their participation. He declared the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m., as moved by Mladen Ivankovic.

Email vote subsequent to the June meeting:

Following the decision made at the November 2024 Board meeting, staff prepared the June Board meeting minutes for review and approval via email vote. This streamlined process allows staff to post the approved minutes on the website more promptly, enhancing transparency and communication with members and chapters.

The Board was asked to vote by email on the following motion:

5972 Moved by Stephanie Pesheau, Seconded by Micheal Mooney and Carried.
Resolved that the Board of Directors approves the June 13, 2025 Outgoing and Incoming Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

The motion was carried.