

**COUNCIL OF CHAIRS OF CANADIAN EARTH SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS
CCCESD**

CAPITAL HILL HOTEL, OTTAWA,
28-29 OCTOBER 2019

Present: Russ Pysklywec (Toronto, chair), Hugo Beltrami (St. F.X.), James Brenan (Dalhousie), Sam Butler (Saskatchewan), Alfredo Comacho (Manitoba), Marc Constantin (Laval), Patricia Corcoran (Western), Brian Cousens (Carleton), Stan Dosso (Victoria), Greg Dunning (MUN), Mostafa Fayek (CFES), Joel Gagnon (Windsor), John Greenough (treasurer), Pete Hollings (Lakehead), Ed Hornibrook (UBC-Okanagan), Stephen Johnston (Alberta), Pierre Jutras (St. Mary's), Francine McCarthy (Brock), Jeff McKenzie (McGill), Bernhard Mayer (Calgary), Bruce Newbold (McMaster), Jeff Pollock (Mt. Royal), Peir Pufahl (Queen's), Rob Raeside (Acadia/CCCESD), Dave Rudolph (Waterloo), Dave Schneider (Ottawa), Doug Tinkham (Laurentian), Alain Tremblay (UQàMontréal), Brent Ward (SFU).

1. **Welcome:** Russ Pysklywec opened the meeting at 1 p.m. Russ had invited Kirsty Duncan (Minister of Science) to attend, but was unable to secure a booking this year.
2. **Finances**
John Greenough presented a summary of the finances. Treasurer's report attached. moved, J Francine McCarthy seconded that the report be accepted. Carried.
3. **Statistics**
R Raeside reviewed the annual statistics collection (<http://cccesd.acadiau.ca/2018summary.pdf>). Responses were received from 33 out of 38 departments. The 2019 survey will be initiated on 1 December, with a due date of 31 January, 2020. Enrolments in our departments overall, and in the Geology-Geophysics-Geological Engineering programs subset have continued to decline, and the number of graduated students has begun to decline too. On a regional basis, undergraduate enrolment is down 6% in the Atlantic region, 24% in Quebec, 16% in Ontario and 18% in the western provinces over the last two-year period.
4. **Report from CFES**
S Butler reported that he had participated in one teleconference call since he assumed the role of liaison between CCCESD and CFES.
5. **National Geoscience Research Plan**
Mostafa Fayek presented an overview of a possible future National Geoscience Research Plan, comparing it to the Australian and US 10-year research plans and long-term research plan developed by Canadian Association of Physicists for Physics. Questions posed were:
 - Do we need a national geoscience research plan?
 - How do we proceed to develop a plan?
 - How do we fund such an endeavour?
 - How do we engage the federal government to adopt this plan?F McCarthy suggested that Geoscientists Canada, Geological Survey of Canada, PDAC should be advised of this plan. Feedback was positive and heads/chairs were requested write in support of the development of this plan.
CFES is looking for a president-elect.
6. **News and Views from Departments**
See [Departmental Notes](#) document for submitted notes on departmental issues.

7. Visit from NSERC

Kate Hembest (Team Leader, Mathematical, Environmental and Physical Sciences Division), Tiffany Lancaster, Program Officer, Mathematical, Environmental and Physical Sciences Division, and Kenn Rankine (Program Officer, Mathematical, Environmental and Physical Sciences Division) attended the meeting. The presentation is available at http://cccesd.acadiau.ca/NSERC_2019.pdf. Particular emphasis was placed on the new Alliance Grants (merging of Engage, CRD Grants, IRCs and Strategic Grants) and on EDI and its role in Discovery Grant applications.

8. Visit from CFI

Mohamad Nasser-Eddine, Interim Vice President, Programs and Performance, gave an overview of CFI activities, several of which are still in the planning stages.

9. Visit from the Geological Survey

Daniel Lebel, Director General, and Mike Villeneuve, Director, provided an overview of GSC activities. The presentation is available at http://cccesd.acadiau.ca/GSC_2019.pdf.

Some items that were highlighted include:

- CMMP – Canadian Minerals and Metals Plan
- Pan-Canadian Geoscience Strategy

They posed four questions for CCCESD members:

- How do you see the role of universities in the Pan-Canadian Geoscience Strategy and next generation geoscience vision?
- Would universities team up to help develop a national geoscience plan, or would they contribute individually?
- What role (if any) do you see organizations such as the Council of Canadian Academies, Geological Association of Canada, or Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences playing in scoping the plan?
- Where are the obstacles to achieving a whole-of-Canada way forward for geoscience?

10. Update of constitution of CCCESD

S Butler moved, J McKenzie seconded, that the CCCESD constitution be updated to include reference to CFES membership, statements about the fiscal year-end, annual presentations of a financial report, remuneration of officers, and distribution of assets. Motion was carried.

11. Wrap-up session

- agreed to continue with the CCCESD questionnaire as in previous years.
- agreed to meet next fall, and the possibility of meeting in Montreal around the time of the GSA will be investigated.
- agreed to maintain the \$100 contribution meantime.
- P Hollings moved, B Ward seconded, that payment of \$5000 be made to Geoscientists Canada to reprint the Geoscience in Canada brochure.
- suggested groups to include next year: Environment & Climate Change Canada; EdGEO

12. Executive Changes

- No changes were made

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3.00 p.m.