

Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (CFES)

Executive Summary

on

The 18th Annual CFES Council Meeting and General Meeting

April 21st and 22nd , 2017



CFES  FCST

Canadian Federation
of Earth Sciences

Fédération Canadienne
des sciences de la terre

- **A Question ;** What does CFES do for us for the money we give them?
- To quote Rob: *"We do pay \$1000 to be part of CFES, so I guess we should be interested in their activities!"*.

- **About:**

- **Established in 2006** as the successor to the Canadian Geoscience Council,
- The last CFES report was in **2012**.
- Over the last **4 four years** CFES has been **rebuilt** and now has a new foundation
- This is the first report after 2012 following The **18th Annual CFES Council Meeting** and General Meeting, April 21st and 22nd , 2017.

- CFES is the **coordinated voice** of Canada's Earth Science community
- Represents about **15 000 Earth scientists**.
- CFES brings together **13 organizations** of Earth scientists in industry, government and academia.
- **Advocates** on behalf of the Canadian Earth Science community **with government**, the **public**, and the **international** Earth Science community.

- Nationally, CFES advocates through memberships in
 - the Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (**PAGSE**) and
 - the Science Media Centre of Canada (**SMCC**), and
 - other communications efforts.

- **Funding**

- National Research Council (**NRC**), the Canadian Geological Foundation (**CGF**), revenues from **Four Billion Years and Counting** and other publications, and a variety of grants

- Executive Summary
- **Changes to the Board**
 - Past President: [Sandra Barr](#)
 - President: [Iain Samson](#),
 - President-elect: [Graziella Kirtland Grech](#)
- In the new CFES a key **objective** has been **to develop**
 - the relationship between the **member organizations and CFES**,
- **This report show the improvement over the past year**
- CFES is now well-positioned to be
 - a coordinator of **public policy advocacy**,
 - **a promoter of public awareness** of Earth Science and Earth Science literacy,
 - **an International representation** of Canadian Earth Sciences,
 - **a forum** for its member organizations,
 - **a supporter** of professional and academic Earth Science organizations in Canada.

CFES report on education, outreach and advocacy

Advocating for public education in

- **CGEN** (the Canadian Geoscience Education Network)
 - a new initiative on having **geoscientists integrated into Canadian National Parks.**
 - RFG(Resources for Future Generations) **2018 conference**, and
 - through **EdGeo workshops**,
- **PAGSE** (the Partnership Group for Science and Engineering);
 - **bringing expert opinion to the government;** This is achieved through briefs written for the government, meetings with prominent people in funding agencies, and through their Bacon and Eggheads breakfast series of talks (given to MPs, Senators, and staffers).
 - CFES had **a meeting with Maria DeRosa, the chair of PAGSE** , which developed a better understanding of how CFES can represent the Earth Science community.
 - Last year CFES **contributed to PAGSE documents on climate change, the pre-budget consultations,**
 - PAGSE is also always looking for nominations for the Bacon and Eggheads series.

CFES report on education, outreach and advocacy

- **Science Media Centre of Canada (SMCC)**
 - CFES had a **discussion** with Jim Handman, **Acting Executive Director** of SMCC
 - This led to a much better understanding of how science journalism operates, and **how we can help member organizations engage with the media.**
 - An additional aspect is that we can help **enhance their database of experts.**

- **CFES report on communication and coordination**
- CFES website Underwent a **major redesign** <https://www.cfes-fcst.ca>
- **French version** (<https://www.cfes-fcst.ca/fr>).
- **Please place**
 - Your items **on news and announcements page**,
 - links to your **newsletters**.
 - Please **link to CFES on your websites**
 - CFES is also actively seeking people to **blog** about their Earth Sciences activities.
- CFES can supply a **summary of CFES and its mandate** for your websites and newsletters.
- The **CFES website calendar** now aggregates all events and meetings for the member organizations, and other groups.
- All such items are on **Twitter** (@CFESciences) and **Facebook** (@CFESciences).

CFES report on communication and coordination

RESOURCES FOR FUTURE GENERATION (RFG 2018)

- RFG 2018 is an international venue to address questions around **supply and management of resources** of all kinds (water, minerals, energy), including the societal impact.
- The objective is to *“Bring industry, academia, governments and civil society together to examine future demand for resources and our ability to deliver these resources with the highest environmental standards consistent with global sustainability goals”*.
- **Chair of RFG emphasized** the need to get Canadian Earth scientists involved in the conference
- CFES is also **engaged** in the organization of the **RFG 2018**
- CFES **proposed a session** on the nature of national geoscience communities and the benefits and challenges of speaking with one voice.

- **CFES report on communication and coordination**
- **INTERNATIONAL**
 - CFES represents Canadian Earth Science internationally through its representation with **IUGS** (International Union of Geological Sciences) **and UNESCO**.
 - **IUGS**
 - **Two Canadians** are currently on the **IUGS Executive**:
 - Stephen Johnson, **CFES' International Director**, and. Any questions on international activities can be directed to Stephen Johnson (stjohnst@ualberta.ca).
 - Dr. Qiuming Cheng, who is now the **President of IUGS**.
 - **UNESCO** ; Canadian involvement in UNESCO occurs through IGCP and the **Global Geoparks program**.

- **CFES report on communication and coordination INTERNATIONAL**
- **Report on Geoparks, a Canadian Initiatives**
- **Global Geoparks** is a UNESCO program.
 - A Geopark is a “single, unified geographical area where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development”.
- **Canada now has two Geoparks:**
 - Stonehammer, NB, and
 - Tumbler Ridge, BC.
- **There are two additional advanced “aspiring geoparks”:**
 - Percé Aspiring Geopark, QC, which has submitted a formal application to UNESCO, and
 - Discovery Aspiring Geopark, NFLD.
- There are **another nine** aspiring geoparks in Canada (<http://www.canadiangeoparks.org/main.html>).

- **CFES report on CanGeoRef database, a Canadian Initiatives**
 - CanGeoRef is a Canadian subset of **GeoRef** allowing **lower-cost access to literature** on Canadian geoscience.
 - The CanGeoRef **database continues to grow** (<https://www.cfes-fcst.ca/cangeoref>).
 - **A significant objective was to add data on publications of the provincial and territorial surveys.**
 - The catalog for most provinces and territories **have been added and we are mostly moving to update mode.**
- **This is a tremendous opportunity for these organizations to make their publications known to anyone searching CanGeoRef or Georef.**

- **CFES report on Geoscience for Society Brochure,**
 - CFES in partnership with Geoscientists Canada **is creating a non-partisan brochure** that will highlight the importance of geoscience, and the work of geoscientists in a Canadian context.
 - **This is well on its way to completion** and is funded by a grant from the Canadian Geological Foundation.
- **Report on Geoscience for Recognizing Excellence**
 - The 2017 CFES Mentorship Medal recipient is Professor A.E. (Willy) Williams-Jones of McGill University
 - This was presented to Dr. Williams-Jones at the SGA (Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits) meeting in Quebec City in August.

- **A Question** ; What does CFES do for us for the money we give them? To quote Rob: *"We do pay \$1000 to be part of CFES, so I guess we should be interested in their activities!"*.
- **Answer**; CFES exists to facilitate and coordinate national (and international) dialog and initiatives.
- The dues are used to
 - fund CGEN,
 - membership in PAGSE,
 - the various special projects (e.g. CanGeoRef),
 - the annual meeting,
 - the web sites (including the Earth Science Hub).
- **A question**; "What important issues and messages can be discussed and addressed, or programs developed and enhanced, using the CFES forum?"