

Canadian Federation
of Earth Sciences

The unified voice of Earth Science in Canada

Fédération canadienne
des sciences de la Terre

La voix unifiée des sciences de la terre au Canada

Newsletter no. 12

April 2012

IGC2020 Bid Committee Continues to make progress

The bid for Canada to host the 36th International Geological Congress continues to make progress with its objectives.

The Canadian government and Tourism Vancouver have provided assistance in order to have four booths representing Canada at the 34th IGC, which takes place in Brisbane from 5-10 August 2012 (www.34igc.org), where the vote will take place to decide the location of the IGC in 2020 (the 35th IGC will take place in Cape Town in 2016).

Documentation required for the International Geological Congress Committee is in final stages of

completion and the next task for the committee is preparing for the actual bid process in Brisbane.

Canadians attending the 34th IGC in Brisbane are encouraged to inform the Canadian Bid Committee of their intentions as there may be events hosted by Canada to which they can be invited. Please contact Bill Mercer (see below)

The 34th IGC in Brisbane is shaping up to be an excellent congress, with more

abstracts submitted than the Australian hosts anticipated. There is also a strong component of field trips that include New Zealand as well as Papua New Guinea."

Bill Mercer, chair

IGC2020 Bid Committee

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Doug Uffen elected vice-president of CFES



Doug Uffen is a Calgary-based geophysicist and a past president of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists

(2002-2003). Doug was nominated by the CSEG executive and elected unanimously by both CFES/FCST Board and Council.

During his term as president of CSEG, Doug was one of the main drivers behind the successful CSEG Doodle Train Continuing Education initiative.

Doug earned a BSc in Geophysics with a minor in geology from the University of Western Ontario in 1982. He worked for a variety of petroleum companies in the Calgary

area until 2002, when he started his own company, Reflection Peak Enterprises. Doug is currently expanding his consultancy with a business partner under the new name of Geo-Reservoir Solutions Ltd.

Doug will start his term as president of CFES at the Fall Annual General Meeting, which will take place in Ottawa on Saturday October 27. He attended the CFES/FCST Council meeting in Vancouver this month (see p.) and declared that he was keen to contribute to CFES/FCST as it is still insufficiently known.

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SIFT AND S-IMEW starting this weekend

SIFT—by CSPG

The Student Industry Field Trip, a training initiative of the CSPG, has been organized annually since 1978. It is a two-week, educational program for promising 3^d year students from every geoscience program in the country, introducing them to the hydrocarbon industry. The program consists of lectures, core workshops, a field-trip and a rig visit. In addition, students participate in an exploration game, judged by industry judges. www.cspg.org/students



2011 SIFT participants . Photo: CSPG

S-IMEW—by PDAC

PDAC hosts the Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop for the 6th time. The program exposes 25 students

from across the country to training in all facets of exploration and regulatory and environmental issues. www.pdac.ca/students/simew/index.aspx

"We design this event to attract students into the mineral exploration industry and to give them a perspective different from what they experience in the classroom. I predict that some of our future industry leaders will come out of these workshops."

*Scott Jobin Bevans,
initiator of S-IMEW and
past president of PDAC.*

CFES Council meeting, Vancouver, April 14-15

The CFES Board meets twice a year with its Council, which consists of presidents or their representatives of the fourteen member organizations. We were lucky to be able to host this meeting in the newly renovated board room of the Geological Survey of Canada's Vancouver office. It was a busy agenda as usual, attended by the entire

CFES Board, 10 member society representatives and 3 guests.

CFES/FCST is still in a financially vulnerable position, its income sourced only in membership dues and a much appreciated Grant from Natural Resources Canada. But despite a tight budget, we are beginning to make our mark, carefully focusing our work on those types of

projects that serve all Canadian geoscientists in all sectors. In order to fine tune this focus, CFES will carry out an evaluation and strategic planning exercise this year.

The delegates much enjoyed an inspiring presentation by newly appointed Executive Director Kate Moran on NEPTUNE (www.neptunecanada.ca)

CanGeoRef

www.cangeoref.org



Only one reference database contains all Canadian geoscience references: CanGeoRef.

There are currently more than 200,000 references in (weekly-

update) CanGeoRef: peer reviewed articles, (chapters) in books, Geological Survey of Canada titles, theses, reports and maps by provincial and territorial surveys.

You can have all this at the tip of your fingers for less than \$100/yr as an individual and only a few hundred dollars for a small to mid-size company. A demo is at www.geoscience.ca/cangeoref

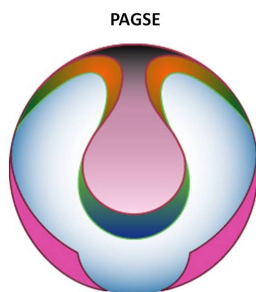


EARTH SCIENTISTS SPEAK AT BACON AND EGGHEADS BREAKFAST

PAGSE is a cooperative association of more than 25 national organizations in Science and Engineering, representing approximately 50,000 individual members from industry, academia, and government.

PAGSE, in partnership with NSERC, sponsors a monthly breakfast meeting known as "Bacon and Eggheads", to inform parliamentarians about recent advances in science and engineering.

The Partnership Group for
Science and Engineering



Le Partenariat en Faveur des
Sciences et de la Technologie

www.pagse.org

Its purpose is to provide unbiased insight into topical scientific issues, within a non-partisan forum in which lobbying is not permitted. This prestigious forum is a unique opportunity for scientists to communicate important findings to an influential audience, which includes key decision-makers

CFES/FCST is a member of PAGSE on behalf of its constituency.

The three most recent Bacon and Eggheads speakers have been very prominent Earth Scientists three very different backgrounds. For more information go to www.pagse.org/en/breakfasts.htm

*"Better understanding of
the processes that formed
these unique metal
concentrations will come
from harnessing the
power of our university
and government
researchers from all
scientific disciplines into
new collaborative
programs. Let's build the
team to accomplish it".*
Jim Franklin

Jim Franklin

Jim Franklin is one of Canada's most distinguished exploration geoscientists, with over 40 years of involvement in the discovery of base metal, uranium and gold deposits. He was chief scientist of the Geological Survey of Canada from '93 to '98. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Geoscience as a key to Canada's economic competitiveness, wealth and development

Canada's mineral & energy industries contribute 10% to its GDP. Globally, the demand for resources increases rapidly while many reserves cannot meet demand in as little as 10 years. To maintain Canada's position requires expanded investment by industry & gov'. Regional geoscience information, provided only by government agencies, underpins all discoveries.

Richard Peltier

Dick Peltier, a physicist, is the 2012 recipient of the Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science & Engineering, Canada's highest scientific honour. He is at the University of Toronto, where he founded the *Centre for Global Change Science*.

www.atmosp.physics.utoronto.ca/~peltier/.

The lowdown on the meltdown

Global warming is beginning to exert an impact upon polar land/ice concentrations. GRACE (Gravity Recovery & Climate Experiment) satellite observations have begun to play an important role in helping to quantify the rate of ice loss and thus the contribution to the rate of global sea level rise. These observations are strongly contaminated by the continuing action of late-Quaternary glacial isostatic adjustment.

Stephen Larter

Stephen Larter is Canada Research Chair in Petroleum Geology at the University of Calgary and Scientific Director of *Carbon Management Canada Inc.* He is a fellow of the Royal Society and a recipient of the William Smith Medal of the Geological Society.

www.ucalgary.ca/prg/larter

Alternate fuels for the oil sands industry: from the age of steam to the age of biology

Underground steam injection has made in situ recovery of oil sands bitumen possible, but it comes at a high cost. The boiling of water consumes energy and can create significant carbon emissions of its own. In the quest for a better extraction technology, researchers are now drawing inspiration from the abundant microorganisms that produced the bitumen in the first place.



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The CFES Newsletter is published four times per year in January, April, July & October. It is written and compiled by Elisabeth Kosters, CFES executive manager, unless otherwise indicated.

We welcome feedback and contributions about earth science issues of national interest.

Send submissions to
ekosters_cfes@magma.ca

All Newsletters are posted on
www.geoscience.ca/news

CALENDAR

Canadian Earth Science events: www.gac.ca/activities/calendar.php

International Earth Science calendars: www.agiweb.org/calendar/index.php and
<http://iugs.org/index.php?page=calendar>

CANADIAN CONFERENCES

See also www.geoscience.ca/calendars

2012

Canadian Institute for Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum National Convention, May 3-9, Edmonton, www.cim.org/edmontonr2012.

Geological Association of Canada - Mineralogical Association of Canada Joint Annual Convention, May 27-29, St John's, NL, <http://stjohns2012.ca>

Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society, May 29-June 1, Montreal, QC, www.cmos.ca/congress2012/index.htm

11th International and 2nd North American Symposium on landslides, June 3-8, Banff, AB, www.isl-nasl2012.ca

International Conference on the Regulation of Continental Shelf Development, Halifax, NS, 21-22 June, www.continentalshefconference.ca

IAH International Congress, Niagara Falls, ON, Sept 16-23, www.iah2012.org

Canadian Geotechnical Society, GeoManitoba 2012, Sept 30 - Oct 3, Winnipeg, MB, www.cgs2012.ca

CFES/FCST Council Meeting, Ottawa, October 26-28, www.geoscience.ca, contact: cfes@magma.ca

Canadian Earth Scientists (inter)nationally recognized

Dr. Richard Peltier (UoT): NSERC Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal (see p. 3), Canada's highest scientific honour.

NSERC Synergy Awards for Innovation: Rung Tien Bui (Univ. du Québec à Chicoutimi) with Rio Tinto Alcan; Roussos Dimitrakopoulos (McGill) with BHP Billiton, AngloGold Ashanti, Barrick Gold, De Beers., Newmont Mining and Vale, Eugene Fiume (UoT) with Autodesk; Yun Zhang (UNB) with PCI Geomatics.

Dr. Rob Kerrich, University of Saskatchewan, Penrose Medal of the Society of Economic Geologists (the society's highest honour).

Dr. Grant Wach, Professor of Petroleum Geoscience at Dalhousie University: American Association of Petroleum Geologists' Foundation inaugural Professorial Award for excellence in teaching natural resources in earth sciences.

Web

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Council of Canadian Academies expert panel on shale gas. www.scienceadvice.ca/en/assessments/in-progress/shale-gas.aspx

SEE WWW.GEOSCIENCE.CA (RSS FEED) FOR MORE CANADIAN EARTH SCIENCE NEWS

Member Society Portrait:

Canadian National Chapter for IAH



International Association of

Hydrogeologists

Association Internationale des



www.iah.ca

The International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) is a scientific and educational organization which exists to promote the study and knowledge of hydrogeological science and its application for common good throughout the world. The IAH was established in 1956 to promote cooperation, advance the science of hydrogeology worldwide and facilitate the international exchange of information on groundwater. IAH now has nearly 4000 members and associate members in 135 countries. The main office is in the United Kingdom.

The international organization undertakes activities to promote education and outreach in hydrogeology through its publications, conferences, committees and networks. The IAH publishes the *Hydrogeology Journal* (sent to members eight times per year), memoirs in the series *International Contributions to Hydrogeology*, a Newsletter and other membership information.

Worldwide application of hydrogeological skills through educational and technological transfer programs is encouraged

through various networks, commissions and working groups. Current commissions include work on **climate change, karst, outreach, mineral and thermal waters, managed aquifer recharge and regional groundwater flow**. Active networks feature efforts on groundwater and the millennium development goals (www.un.org/millenniumgoals), groundwater and ecosystems, early career hydrogeologists, coastal aquifer dynamics and urban groundwater. The Burdon Network was established by IAH to support hydrogeology in developing nations. IAH also runs a sponsored membership scheme for members in low income countries.

The Canadian National Chapter (CNC) is one of over 40 national chapters of the IAH established to promote local cooperation and member involvement. The CNC was founded in 1962 by Dr. Jozef Tóth, and is currently celebrating its 40th anniversary. The CNC currently has approximately 400 members across Canada. It hosts annual conferences, often with partners such as the Canadian Geotechnical Society and most recently with CANQUA. The CNC also sponsors other groundwater events

(including specialty conferences such as the 2nd Canadian Symposium on Aquitard Hydrogeology in Ottawa in 2011), and lecture series in several Canadian cities.

As part of its 40th birthday celebration, the CNC is hosting the 39th IAH Congress (iah2012.org) "Confronting Global Change" in Niagara Falls (ON) from September 16-21, 2012. The congress will feature a plenary program including talks by Drs. John Cherry, Allan Freeze, Franklin Schwartz and Jozef Tóth, four Canadians who have made globally significant contributions to hydrogeology. The congress will also include technical sessions in energy & climate, karst hydrogeology, groundwater-surface water interactions, groundwater management and groundwater quality. The congress received an overwhelming number of abstract submissions and is sure to offer an outstanding program.

The IAH welcomes all hydrogeologists, scientists, engineers and others who have an interest in groundwater resources to join and support our organization. Visit iah.ca for information on how to join the IAH.

Grant Ferguson, President

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www.geoscience.ca, www.earthsciencescanada.com, www.cangeoref.org, www.igc2020.ca