

COUNCIL OF CHAIRS OF CANADIAN EARTH SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS CCCESD

Teams meeting, 27 October 2022 – Notes from Meeting

Present: Jeff McKenzie (McGill), chair, Erin Adlakha (St. Mary's), Kathy Bethune (Regina), James Brenan (Dalhousie), Karl Butler (UNB), Sam Butler (Saskatchewan), Alfredo Camacho (Manitoba), Andrew Conly (Lakehead), Patricia Corcoran (Western), Joel Cubley (Yukon), Jay Cullen (Victoria), Fiona Darbyshire (UQàM), Greg Dunning (MUN), Tony Endres/Shoufa Lin (Waterloo), Sarah Finkelstein (Toronto), John Greenough (treasurer), Ed Hornibrook (UBC-Okanagan), Pedro Jugo (Laurentian), Yajing Liu (McGill), Des Moser (Western), Jeff Pollock (Mt. Royal), Tim Patterson (Carleton), Peir Pufahl (Queen's), Rob Raeside (secretary), Dave Schneider (Ottawa), Ian Spooner (Acadia), Glyn Williams-Jones (SFU).

Guest: Katherine Boggs (CFES)

- 1. Welcome:** Jeff McKenzie opened the meeting at 11 a.m. EDT. This year's edition of [Departmental Notes](#) is posted for reference.
- 2. Statistics**

R Raeside reviewed the annual statistics collection (<https://cccesd.acadiau.ca/rep2021.html>). Responses were received from only 26 out of 38 departments, with several historically larger universities omitted. The 2022 survey will be initiated on 1 December, with a due date of 31 January, 2023. Enrolments in our departments overall, and in the undergraduate Geology-Geophysics-Geological Engineering programs subset continue to decline. The number of faculty in our departments has reached a historic maximum of 600, and the number of women in undergraduate programs has now reached 50%.
- 3. Interactions between Canadian Earth Science departments and geoscience professional**

Craig Nichol (UBC-Okanagan) joined the meeting to provide an update on the survey of best practices for student advising regarding professional registration. His PPT file is posted as [2022 Nichol.pdf](#). Some of the major findings are:

 - each unit should appoint a Professions Advisor
 - names of Professions Advisors should be added to the CCCESD website, this to be provided to Geoscientists Canada
 - once report is complete, a national meeting should be convened (online) to review the project
 - a dedicated liaison person should be located by each regulator, and relations with university departments should be fostered via regular meetings
 - recommend annual information sessions with regulators
 - program alignment should be identified and compiled with the CCCESD survey
- 4. CFES matters**

Beth McLarty Halfkenny (CFES president, Carleton) provided an [overview](#) of the work of CFES, emphasizing the facilitation of public awareness of Earth science and Earth science literacy. Katherine Boggs (CFES International Affairs Director, Mt. Royal University) provided a model for changing the narrative around geosciences ([PPT slides](#), start at slide 19), culminating in a proposal for a national geoscience research plan. She will arrange a meeting for those interested in pursuing the proposal.
- 5. Visit from Geoscientists Canada**

Kevin Ansdell (U Sask, Past-president of Geoscientists Canada) reported that a group from Geoscientists Canada, CCCESD, and CFES is preparing a request for proposals for the promotion of

Geoscience university programs and careers to secondary school students and related stakeholders. A draft document was circulated to CCCESD members during the meeting.

6. Visit from the Geological Survey

Geneviève Marquis, Director, Lands and Minerals Sector, provided an overview of GSC activities. The presentation is available at https://cccesd.acadiiau.ca/2022_GSC.pdf.

7. Visit from NSERC

Liz Boston (Director, Mathematical, Environmental and Physical Sciences Division) and Breanna Gricken, Program Officer, Environmental Sciences Team) provided an update on NSERC's activities. They emphasized the new strategic plan, launched in September 2022, the role of the accessibility plan to address EDI issues, new guidelines on the assessment of contributions, and research security. They also provided a review of the previous year's results – the PPT file is available at https://cccesd.acadiiau.ca/2022_NSERC.pdf.

8. Visit from CFI

Alexandria Béland reviewed CFI's current mandate and operations. The PPT file is available at https://cccesd.acadiiau.ca/2022_CFI.pdf.

9. Round Table Discussion

Wide-ranging discussions addressed issues of EDI, field courses and accessibility, microcredits, decline in numbers of students studying geophysics, indigenization. Recommendations to diversify postings of positions were to use the Earth Science Women's Network ([ESWN](#)), [Black in Geoscience](#), and [SACNAS](#).

10. Finances

John Greenough presented a summary of the finances. Treasurer's report attached. P Corcoran moved, E Adlakha seconded, that the report be approved. Carried.

11. CCCESD issues

It was agreed that a listing of the Professions Advisors be added to the annual statistical survey, and posted on the website.

12. Executive Changes

R Raeside and J Greenough offered to continue as secretary and treasurer, respectively. J McKenzie's term as chair ends at this meeting. S Finkelstein nominated J Brenan as chair, seconded by D Moser. Carried.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 2.55 p.m., 28 October

CCCESD Treasurer's Report 2021-2022

To: Members of CCCESD

Listed below are the transactions and deposits since the last CCCESD meeting, and account status as of October 20, 2022, just prior to our October 27, 2022 meeting.¹

Date ²	Comment ³	Amount	Balance
October 20, 2021	Bank balance for 2021 meeting		\$21,919.93
January 12, 2022	Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences Membership Fees	-\$500.00	\$21,419.93
February 17, 2022	Lakehead U. membership direct deposit	\$150.00	\$21,569.93
February 18, 2022	UNB and St. Mary's U. direct deposits	\$300.00	\$21,869.93
February 23, 2022	U. Quebec Montreal direct deposit	\$150.00	\$22,019.93
February 25, 2022	Laurentian U. direct deposit	\$150.00	\$22,169.93
March 04, 2022	U. Windsor direct deposit	\$150.00	\$22,319.93
March 9, 2022	U. Saskatchewan direct deposit	\$150.00	\$22,469.93
March 15, 2022	U. Calgary direct deposit	\$150.00	\$22,619.93
March 21, 2022	Deposit of 18, \$150, membership cheques	\$2700.00	\$25,319.93
March 31, 2022	Mount Royal direct deposit	\$150.00	\$25,469.93
May 03, 2021	Deposit of 6, \$150, membership cheques	\$900.00	\$26,369.93
October 27, 2022	Bank balance for 2022 meeting ¹		

¹ There have been no bank transactions since October 20, 2022 that I know of.

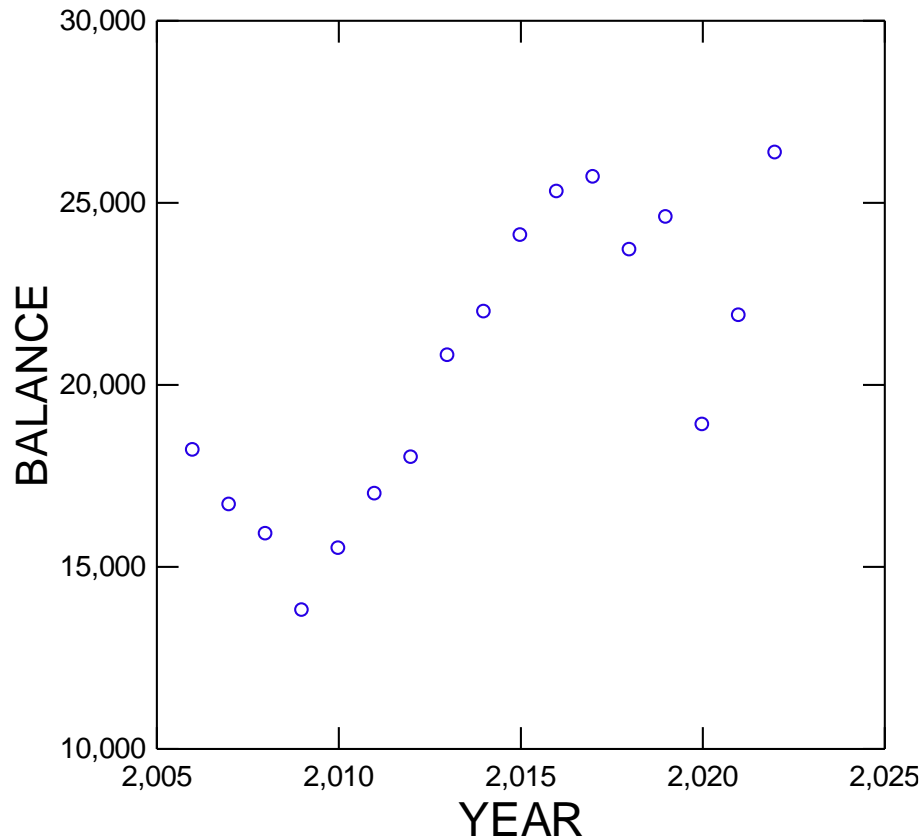
² For cheques (debits to account), "Date" is the date the account was debited by the bank. For CCCESD Membership fees, "Date" is the date the cheques (or direct deposits) appeared in the account.

³ The attached spreadsheet lists CCCESD members who paid the voluntary membership fees (\$150.00) this year (2022) for the 2021 year and compares contributions from previous years.

Comments: The number of membership contributions for the 2021 year (33) is above the average (31.5) since we started collecting these voluntary memberships in 2009 but partially reflects an increase by one in the number of members in CCCESD in the previous year. We continue to recover from the very low membership contributions in 2019 related to COVID. Our account balance is strong (\$26,369.93) and above the 2017 maximum of \$25,700. It is well above the balance in 2009 (\$13,812.71) when we initiated the voluntary membership contributions.

As in 2020 we did not incur the normal ~\$2000-\$3000 meeting expenses in the fall of 2021 due to having the meeting on line.

Our annual account balance since 2006 is plotted below.



My account records date back to 2006 when I assumed the treasurer position. In 2009 we initiated voluntary contributions because we lost support from the GSC and the annual operating costs, though small, were steadily reducing our account balance. The voluntary contributions resulted in our bank balance increasing until 2017. Meeting and operating costs started exceeding contributions after 2017. The somewhat low balance in 2018 significantly reflects two CFES payments in one year due to us not receiving a bill in 2017. The exceptionally low balance in 2020 is largely due to a \$5000.00 payment to Geoscientists Canada, along with poor contributions from members during the start of COVID. Our balance this year is the highest it has been in 16 years. This reflects two years (2020 and 2021) where we had no meeting expenses and at the last meeting we increased the voluntary contributions from \$100 to \$150.

A total of 33 members made contributions this year which translates into \$4950.00. Our primary expenses are our CFES membership fees (\$500) and meeting costs (average for the last five years that we had in-person meetings is \$2133 but the last three (2017, 2018 and 2019) averaged \$2783. Thus, unless meeting expenses dramatically increase, the higher membership fees should allow us to have a slow annual increase in our bank balance for a few years.

Yours truly

John D. Greenough

Treasurer, CCCESD