

***For the attention of all APGNS Members ...***  
***the Covenant of the Earth Ring Society is pleased to announce***  
***the 2019 EARTH RING CEREMONY***

**The 2018 Earth Ring Ceremony (the Ritual of the Calling) will be held Friday, April 5, 2019 in the Dalhousie University Club.**

**The ceremony will commence at 6:00 pm with a dinner and reception to follow.**

Recent Earth Science graduates and practicing Nova Scotia Geoscientists wishing to become obligated and receive a ring are welcome to request a ring. Please contact Patrick Ryall, P.Geo at [Patrick.Ryall@Dal.Ca](mailto:Patrick.Ryall@Dal.Ca) to place your ring order. Note that the ring is to be worn on the smallest (pinkie) finger of your working hand. Please have your finger sized by a jeweller before ordering.

All Geoscientists who have received an Earth Ring are welcome to attend the 2019 Ceremony and Reception as an opportunity to welcome new graduates and practitioners into the Geoscience profession. Please R.S.V.P. to Patrick Ryall, P.Geo at [Patrick.Ryall@Dal.Ca](mailto:Patrick.Ryall@Dal.Ca) or if you want to receive a ring or if you plan to attend. Observers are not permitted to attend the ceremony, however, guests are welcome at the reception and dinner.

The cost for the sterling silver ring is \$75. The cost of the dinner for graduating students (subsidized by Geoscientists Nova Scotia) is \$25.00, The cost for the dinner for P.Geos., observers and guests is \$40.00. Payment may be made directly to Dr Ryall along with the order or can be made using a credit card and the secure link (follow payments / events / Earth Ring) at [www.geoscientistsns.ca](http://www.geoscientistsns.ca).

**The deadline for ring orders / ceremony registration is March 1, 2019.**

To take part in the ceremony and receive an Earth Ring, you must be an Earth Science graduate of a recognized university and/or be practicing geoscience in Nova Scotia.

**The Earth Ring is a symbol of your obligation to the Geoscience profession as committed and affirmed by the professional oath you are asked to offer during the ceremony.**

**The only way to receive an Earth Ring is to participate in the ceremony and affirm the professional oath and therefore, attendance and participation in the ceremony is mandatory in order to receive your Earth Ring.**

## **Brief History of the Earth Ring Ceremony**

The tradition of the Earth Ring Ceremony began in Alberta in 1975 as a ritual of welcome for newly qualified geologists and geophysicists by senior practicing Earth Scientists. This tradition has since been adopted across Canada, including: British Columbia, Manitoba, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In Nova Scotia, the Earth Ring Ceremony is administered by the Covenant of the Earth Ring Society and supported by Geoscientists Nova Scotia. The first Ceremony in Nova Scotia was in 2001, and since then over 500 people (graduating students and P.Geos.) have received an Earth Ring. Note that the Earth Ring is not a requirement for, or an indication of, registration as a professional geoscientist.

Like the Iron Ring of the obligated engineer, the Earth Ring for the obligated Geoscientist is worn on the smallest (pinkie) finger of the working hand. It is intended to serve as a reminder to those who wear it of the values at the core of the profession and of the trust placed in them by society. Also, like the Iron Ring and as noted above, the Earth Ring Ceremony is conducted by a society that is independent of Geoscientists Nova Scotia.

The simple design of the Earth Ring is an alternating pattern of the crossed hammers of geology and the seismic trace of geophysics - symbolizing both the immediate, and the remote, searching out of Nature's mysteries and knowledge. Without beginning and without end, the ring represents the continuous and continuing interplay of ideas, of instrumentation and of material realities. The Nova Scotia Earth Rings are made of sterling silver (\$75) or titanium (\$120).

Receiving an Earth Ring is not a requirement or condition for being registered by a professional association. The ceremony is about a calling to service. It means you are part of a profession which is dedicated to seeking the truth in Earth Science and applying this to the service of humankind.