

GeoGazette

Spring 2016

Volume VI Issue I

Inside this issue:

Techsploration needs Role Models	1
Ritual of the Calling	2
Introducing Bill 149	3
Executive Directors Report	4
Message from the President	6
Message from the Past President	7
Annual General Meeting	8
Exemplary Service Award - Andrew Cameron, PGeo,	9
Registrar's Report	10
Call for Volunteers	11
2016 APGNS Council Update	12
A Day on the Liffe of a Councillor	13

Attention Female Geoscientists: Interested in Being a Role Model? Techsploration Needs Your Support

Jennifer McDonald, P. Geo. APGNS President

Techsploration works with girls in grades nine through twelve (in participating schools throughout Nova Scotia) to encourage and inspire them to consider careers in the sciences (including geoscience), trades and technologies, and to maintain the math and sciences that will keep their options open. One of the ways we do this is by introducing them to women - role models - who work in these and related fields.

We are looking for role models to attend one or more Techsploration events. There are two types of events:

Each of our fully-participating schools throughout the province hosts a mini-career event we call "Techsploration Goes to School". Role models are requested to bring 'props' - tools, pictures, samples of work...anything that will give participants a sense of the job the role model does each day. Small groups of students rotate through the 'stations' and spend on average, seven minutes with each role model. Clearly this time isn't intended to provide in-depth career information. This event is designed to create a both culture of curiosity and a sense of 'yeah, I can do that' in our students. In general, the Techsploration Goes to School event is about two hours...although there are some exceptions to that.

There are also three divisional conferences, known as "Techsplorer Events" at different locations across Nova Scotia (i.e. NSCC, Truro Campus May 19/20). These two-day events are designed to increase confidence, enhance presentation skills and learn about a multitude of careers in the sciences, trades and technology. While guest role models (you) are welcome at the entire conference, we would be asking you to participate on day two. Your participation will be formatted similar to the Techsploration Goes to School events ... just bigger!

Please consider getting involved. By doing so, you will have an opportunity to showcase your profession, encourage young women to pursue a career in the field of science, technology, and trades, and shape young minds for the future! **APGNS will consider your participation with Techsploration as acceptable Continuing Professional Development hours, at a rate of IPDH/hour of service to a maximum of 20 PDHs per year.**

For specific program information, please visit our website at www.techsploration.ca or contact Arylene Reycraft, Program and Fund Development Manager 902.491.2798 or Arylene.Reycraft@nscc.ca.

The Ritual of the Calling (Earth Ring Ceremony)

Patrick J.C. Ryall, PhD, P.Geo, FGC

This year marked the Sixteenth Ingathering for the Ritual of the Calling for geoscientists in Nova Scotia. The ritual is a formal ceremony which geoscientists attend voluntarily. Participation is limited to those students who are about to graduate with a geoscience degree and practicing geoscientists who would like to get a ring. The Ritual is structured to give geoscientists a strong sense of their responsibility to the public, their peers, their profession, and themselves.

So far more about 480 geoscientists in Nova Scotia have made the commitments and have an Earth Ring. This year's participants are: Margot Aldis, Thomas Allen, Jolene Ashini, Jeremy Bentley, Kai Bogild, Carmen Braun, Jordan Burke, Taylor Chew, Gareth Davis, Dewey Dunnington, Amara Ells, Arthur Fitzpatrick, William Garrison, Erica Gillis P.Geo., Jillian Haynes, Shaun Henry, Shane Higbee, Alexis Imperial, Abdul Wahab Israr, Zachary Herrick, Erin Keltie, Haley LeBlanc, Christian Lewis, Ian MacArthur, Alex Maenza, Connor Maessen, David Maguire, Michael Mahoney, Zachary Matheson, Katie McCulloch, Kelsey McInnis, Asia Reid, Joel Robinson, Monique Ruhl, Catheryn Ryan, Alexandra Squires, Cole Thompson, Sarah Thompson, Grant Wach P.Geo., MacKenzie Wade, Kyle Wittenberg, Caitlin Wood, Rebecca Woodcock. The students are from Acadia, Dalhousie, Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Mary's. For the first time for our ceremony, but following the practice of the engineers, a student was presented his ring by a relative who has a ring. The Ritual was held at the University Club at Dalhousie and followed by a delicious dinner. The cost of dinner for the students was subsidized by Geoscientists Nova Scotia, which was greatly appreciated by the students.

The Earth Ring ceremony is about a calling to service. It signifies that the participant has joined a profession dedicated to seeking the truth in Earth Science and applying this to the service of people. It is an honourable profession with a long tradition of service.



Introducing Bill 149: the New Mineral Resources Act

Donald James, P. Geo, and Lori Blackburn

Following several years of work, Bill 149, the new *Mineral Resources Act*, was passed by the Government of Nova Scotia on May 17 after its third reading in the legislature.

The new *Mineral Resources Act* will facilitate economic development, make Nova Scotia a more competitive jurisdiction, and assist in cutting red tape for industry and government. The new Act was drafted following extensive research by DNR staff and included reviews of mining legislation across the country. In addition, the department received input from industry, environmental non-government organizations, professional associations, the public and other government departments during consultation on the Act. Originally scheduled for submission in the fall of 2015, delays in getting the new bill to the legislature were to enable a second round of consultation with key stakeholders in the winter of 2016.

Effective legislation assists in reducing barriers to industry, and the review of the *Mineral Resources Act* was singled out in the *Now or Never, One Nova Scotia Report* as an exemplary initiative that will assist the sector to improve productivity and competitiveness. The new Act will require less frequent reporting on exploration licences so that industry can spend more time and money investing in exploration and less on administration of licences. The change from a one-year licence renewal to a two-year licence will allow industry to have more time to raise financing, complete necessary permitting, gain access to land, and to complete prospecting, field work and sample analyses. The new Act will only require filing an assessment report every two years. Having to review fewer assessment reports will also reduce work for DNR staff, improve times for licence renewals, and free-up more staff time to provide hands-on assistance to industry. The new Act provides the tools for streamlining the process of resolving private land access disputes. It also eliminates special exploration licences. This one change will allow for a more competitive, fair and timely process for acquisition of exploration licences for withdrawn minerals or for minerals on withdrawn lands. After the new *Mineral Resources Act* and *Regulations* are proclaimed, the Minister of Natural Resources may open selected areas in the province for mineral exploration, and issue an exploration licence for the selected area following a competitive and open request for proposals.

The new *Mineral Resources Act* requires companies to have, and implement, a community engagement plan for all stages of an exploration project. This new requirement, the first for any mining act in Canada, is supported by industry and non-government organizations. The Act will also contribute to public confidence by requiring regular reviews of mine reclamation plans and ensuring that mine sites have adequate reclamation security throughout the mining cycle.

The legislation strikes a balance between stimulating economic growth, managing mineral resources and protecting the environment. When the bill was before the Law Amendments Committee in April, the committee heard from a number of witnesses who expressed concerns about the potential for mineral development on private land trust protected areas. Government appreciates the need to protect Nova Scotia's most sensitive natural spaces, and the bill has appropriate tools in Sections 59(1) and 36(2) to protect the most sensitive areas wherever they may be in the province – on private land trust protected areas or any other sensitive area. Those sections of the Act provide the minister with the authority to withdraw mineral rights or to not accept an application for a mineral exploration licence where acceptance of an application and mineral exploration activities are not in the best interest of the Crown or the public.

Bill 149 has been positively received by industry. In a recent news release, the Mining Association of Nova Scotia stated: “the Mining Association has worked with the government on the review for several years

Executive Director's Report

David C. Carter, P.Geo, FGC

One of the first tasks for the new APGNS Council will be the review and appointment of the membership on the Association Boards and Committees. It has been reported before that APGNS “punches well above our weight” and this should be recognized as high praise for the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. There are many opportunities to get involved in the operations of the Association and I would encourage you to pick a spot. You should also note that volunteering with the Association is acceptable as a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credit.

The 2012-2017 Strategic Plan recognized that communications is a key element for the Association. The effective communication between the Executive and Council and the Members is critical to the success of the organization. The mandate of the Association is to regulate geoscience practice as well as register geoscientists. The role of the Executive and Council is to administer that mandate. The role of the Communications Committee is to deliver the messages associated with the mandate and, not only receive responses, but to gauge their effectiveness. Therefore, like a three-legged stool, the Executive and Council and the Communications Committee must provide support for the mandate of the Association. Currently, the Association is looking for volunteers to take on the important roles as Chair of the Communications Committee and the Editor of the GeoGazette newsletter.

Speaking of CPD, over 90% of Members have utilized the CPD Program to document their **Continuing Professional Development and Competency Assurance**. The APGNS approach to CPD is that this is a “value-added” program and a benefit to the Members in support of their career development, and obviously the Members agree. Along with the 2014 CPD reports, we received several valuable comments regarding the structure of the program and the reporting format and we will work with those in the coming months. Remember that your 2015 report of CPD activities is due along with your professional fees on or before December 31, 2016.

As you are aware, the **Geoscience Profession Act** (GPA) and the **Geoscience Profession Regulations** have been submitted to the Department of Justice with a request for scheduling on the government's order paper. The progress of the Act has been delayed while the government considers a new corporate policy respecting self-governing occupations and while the **Mineral Resources Act** (MRA) is under consideration. Once the MRA has been proclaimed, we are hopeful that the GPA will be tabled, perhaps in the fall of 2016.

The report from the 2015 **Compensation and Benefits Survey**, a follow-up to the 2013 survey, has been circulated to the Members and is available on the Association web site. Once again the survey included APGO (Ontario) and OGQ (Quebec), the other Geoscience-only regulators. The response from APGNS members in support of this survey (40% response from APGNS and 34% response overall) significantly reduced the margin of error (1.97%) and therefore increased the level of confidence in the survey data and its value to the Members.

APGNS offers value to the Members through affinity programs and, based on our affiliations with **Geoscientists Canada** and **Engineers Canada**, this represents a significant purchasing block. For example, a discount program is available from UPS with savings of up to 30% for shipments in Canada. The Association has also been included in the **Secondary Professional Liability Insurance** program, at no additional cost to the Members, as well as the **Professional Retiree Health and Dental Plan** which also is available to self-employed Members.

Introducing Bill 149 (continued from page 3)

and we are pleased that the government accepted many of our recommendations for improving the Act. The Act has not been fully reviewed in a quarter century so many of the changes are common sense improvements that cut red tape and bring the Act in line with equivalent acts in other provinces. The changes will make the Act more modern and efficient, and encourage more investment and job creation in Nova Scotia.”

There is still a lot of work to do to review and modernize the *Mineral Resources Regulations*, including reviewing the fees for acquiring and renewing exploration licences, and modernizing the list of allowable exploration expenditures required to keep licences in good standing. Department staff have started the review process and will hold consultation meetings with industry and interested stakeholders in the coming months.

With the upcoming changes to the legislation there will need to be changes made to the NovaROC application. The Act and Regulations cannot be effectively implemented until NovaROC is ready to work within the framework of the new regulatory regime. All of the necessary changes should be in place to fully implement the new Act and Regulations before the end of 2016.

Finally, it's a pleasure to acknowledge the work of Scott Swinden and the teams of experts who have led the review of the Act for the past two years. Those teams have included staff of the Geoscience and Mines Branch and the Policy Branch of DNR. In addition, we'd like to recognize the work of the Act Consultation Panel, which consisted of Lorrie Roberts, Nova Scotia Environment, Michael Johnson, (then) Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, and Patricia MacNeil, DNR. Well done.

Executive Director's Report (continued from page 4)

The Council has approved and implemented several policy and procedures documents, for example, the **Member-in-Training Program Guide**, including the pamphlet and reporting forms and the **Components of Acceptable Geoscience for MIT's**, the updated **Admissions Board Policies & Procedures**, an **Applicant Self-Assessment Worksheet**, **Academic Assessment Guide for Applicants** and the **APGNS Communications Policy**.

The Association continues to support for the **Covenant of the Earth Ring Society**. The Society hosts the annual Earth Ring Ceremony and dinner. This year in addition to providing funding support, we set up an on-line payment tag on the Association website to facilitate registration. The Ceremony welcomes recent Earth Science graduates and others to the profession of geoscience. The Ceremony stresses the professional's obligation to the public and the profession and peers (please see the report in this newsletter).

Members of the Student Committee have made well received presentations at the Atlantic Universities Geology Conference (AUGC) and to University Geology Clubs and we hope to expand this representation in the coming months.

Also at the AGM, the 2016 **Exemplary Service Award** was presented to Andrew D. Cameron, P.Geo, FGC. Andy has provided signal service to the Association in a number of roles including that of President and also as Geoscientist Canada Director. The award was presented by Paul LaFleche, P.Geo, FGC, also a past-President of the Association. On behalf of the Executive, Council and the Members of the Association, we extend our congratulations and thank you to Andy.

Message from the President

Jennifer McDonald, P.Geo.



I am pleased to serve the membership as President for the coming year.

I became involved with Council in 2013, first as a Councillor and Secretary, then as Vice President. I am also a member of the Professional Development Committee. During this time, through the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers, a lot of great work has been accomplished.

For 2016, I plan to continue with this positive growth and strengthen the Association.

Through our affiliation with Geoscientists Canada and the commitment of our Geoscientists Canada Director Jeff Parks, we will continue to have a strong voice at the national level.

With regards to the pending update to the Geoscience Professions Act, we are tracking our submission to the Department of Justice. We are hopeful that it will go forward this year.

APGNS recently established a relationship with Techsploration, a non-profit organization that provides young women with opportunities to explore careers in science, trades and technology. Their goal is to increase the number of women working in science, trades, and technology fields to 20% by 2020. I am looking forward exploring ways Geoscientists Nova Scotia can help Techsploration reach their goal.

With assistance from the Professional Development Committee, we will continue our work on the professional development program and we will continue to advertise professional development opportunities on our website, as they arise. We welcome your feedback on the program and if you have a professional development opportunity you wish to share with the membership, please send us the details.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those that have offered their time and expertise as volunteers to our association. Without volunteers, none of this work would be possible.

Compensation and Benefits Survey

The full report on the 2015 Compensation and Benefits Survey have been posted on the Association website (www.geoscientistsns.ca). The report details, including the survey questions, is also available on request.

This survey is an follow-up to the 2013 'geo-only' Compensation & Benefits Survey and we participated with APGO (Ontario) & OGQ (Quebec). As with the previous survey, the number of responses from APGNS members was good, significantly higher than the others, and therefore provides more confidence in the resulting data, even though our member numbers are significantly fewer. By surveying the members of the other geo-only associations there is added credibility to the results as they apply to our members.

The responses from several members indicated that they were pleased with the first survey and that the resulting data was, most importantly, useful.

Message from the Past President

Paul Batson, P.Geo.

The end of my term as your President has arrived. As such it gives me cause to reflect on some of the many activities undertaken by your Council. We finished the year in a healthy financial position, which will allow the incoming Council to move forward with confidence. Our membership maintained its numbers and grew slightly, which is encouraging in these challenging economic times.

Early on in my mandate, I accompanied your executive director in a presentation of a submission made to the NSDNR on behalf of APGNS as a stakeholder in the preliminary discussions leading to revisions to the Mineral Resources Act (MRA). The MRA has now received Royal Assent in the Legislature and will be implemented once changes to the regulations, NovaROC, and any other pertinent legislation are prepared and ready to be enacted. The MRA has impacted the timing of the passage of the Geoscience Profession Act and we now hope that the GPA can proceed and pass in a timely manner. In anticipation of the proclamation of the GPA, your Council passed addenda to the By-Laws to reflect the current operating environment of the Association.

In the fall there were three well attended workshops delivered by Fred Bonner, P.Geo, FGC, in partnership with the NSDNR. The theme of the workshops was "Social Licensing and Community Engagement". APGNS has recently entered another agreement with NSDNR for Fred to develop a web based version of the same workshop to reach a wider audience.

Recently we received a grant from the NSE to develop a standard for self-declaration as a site professional under the Contaminated Sites Regulations. The standard will be prepared in conjunction with Engineers Nova Scotia.

Last fall we rolled out the electronic reporting forms for Continuing Professional Development along with the Competency Assurance Guide. The first draft was well received and membership participation was excellent. Many constructive comments were submitted and will help to improve the process going forward.

APGNS entered an agreement for computer based testing for the NPPE early in 2016. An expanded test bank is being developed to include topics more relevant to geoscientists as well.

Your Association continues to be well represented on the Board of Directors of Geoscientists Canada as well as the Standards Board and other committees.

Other worthy accomplishments of your association include the release of the "Joint Salary Survey" with APGO and OGG. Expansion of our insurance affinity programs was recently announced. The Association is pursuing a new initiative with "Techsploration" which is a program that mentors girls in school to encourage them to pursue science based careers.

It has been a great privilege to serve you as your President. I would like to thank all my colleagues on Council, our executive director and committee members for your tireless effort and support. I look forward to continue to serve on Council as Past President.



Annual General Meeting

David C. Carter, P.Geo, FGC , Executive Director and Registrar

The APGNS Annual General Meeting, reporting on the 2015 calendar year, was held on April 28, 2016 at the Dalhousie University Club, Great Hall. There were sixty (60) APGNS Members and guests in attendance, including several Dalhousie University Earth Science students. The guests also included APEGNB President Annie Dietrich, P.Eng, P.Geo, and Kris Dove, P.Eng, Director of Professional Practice & Development, Engineers Nova Scotia.

The business meeting started with an acknowledgement of the event sponsors and opening remarks from President Paul Batson, P.Geo. The staff and committee reports were offered, as presented in the agenda document, for discussion. The Nominations Committee report was presented by Jeff Parks, P.Geo, FGC (on behalf of Scott McCarthy, P.Geo, FGC) and the new Councillors were introduced. The Treasurer's report, as well as the report from the Audit Committee, were presented by Paul Batson, P.Geo (on behalf of Bob Stewart, P.Geo). It was noted that the Audit Committee had reviewed and approved the 2014 financial statements after the Annual General Meeting. This year, the Audit Committee reviewed and approved the 2015 financial records as well as the unaudited financial statement prepared by the accounting firm.

The **Exemplary Service Award** was presented to Andrew D. Cameron, P.Geo, FGC by Paul LaFleche, P.Geo, FGC. Not only are both Andy and Paul both past-Presidents of the Association, but they also have a long history of working together in government service.

A light lunch and presentation by Len Wagg followed the business meeting. Len is a well known photojournalist and author. He managed to hold everyone's attention during desert and coffee.

The afternoon Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Session, "**A Primer on the Nova Scotia Offshore Geology**" followed. The CPD session, including the panel discussion, was moderated by Jeff Parks, P.Geo, FGC and the presenters included:

- Carl Makrides, P.Geo, Director, Resources and Chief Conservation Officer, Canada Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board; "**Hydrocarbon Exploration & Development Offshore Nova Scotia**";
- Tony LaPierre, P.Geo, Technical Director – Seismic Operations and Site Investigations – RPS Group; "**Advances in Exploration Seismic**"; and,
- Grant Wach, P.Geo, Professor of Petroleum Geoscience & Stratigraphy, Basin & Reservoir Lab, Dalhousie University; "**Petroleum systems & risk elements of the offshore Atlantic Canada**".

APGNS 2016 Exemplary Service Award

Presented to Andrew Cameron, P.Ge, FGC. - April 28, 2016

The purpose of the Exemplary Service Award is to recognize significant and exemplary services to Geoscientists Nova Scotia.

This year's award recipient is Andrew Cameron, P. Geo, FGC. Andy has been an important member of the Association for many years, dating back to his registration in 2001, and this was also recognized with his appointment as Honourary Life Member of the Association in 2015. He has always been an active participant, proponent and supporter of the Association and particularly the principles of professional practice and Code of Ethics in his professional and personal activities.



The 2016 Exemplary Service Award is presented to Andrew D. Cameron, P.Ge, FGC (right) by Paul LaFleche, P.Ge, FGC. at the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

He served on the Association Council and as vice-President, President (2005-2006) and past-President. He represented APGNS on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (Geoscientists Canada) from 2007 to 2012. His contributions as an advisor to staff and Council and as part of the Professional Development Committee, the Environment Committee and the Governance Committee have been significant.

Andy continues to share his experience and expertise on professional practice and regulatory issues, both national and provincial. He is a valued and key resource as the Association moves forward with revised legislation.

The Award...

The 2016 Exemplary Service Award is based on a print by artist Paul Hannon, who paints urban and coastal scenes of Nova Scotia. Paul studied at the State University of New York at Oswego where he majored in Fine Arts. His training focused on drawing, painting and printmaking with special emphasis on the areas of etching, screen-printing and lithography. Paul studied at Pratt Graphics in New York City with Anna Wong and studio painting with Elaine de Kooning as part of the Empire State College "Studio Without Walls" program in the seventies. When moving to Halifax in 1989, Paul renewed his interest and passion for painting and since that time has become well known in the Maritimes for his oil paintings. Paul's paintings describe light and how it reveals itself naturally in everyday scenes like city streets, buildings at dusk, coastal inlets and Nova Scotia's landscapes.

Registrar's Report

David C. Carter, P.Geo, FGC

APGNS Membership	Members
P.Geo Members	172
License to Practice (non-resident)	10
MIT registrants	15
Student Members	18
Certificate of Authorization	43
Sole Practitioners	21
Corporate	22

Members, MIT's, and Licenses issued since the 2015 AGM

Alan Philippe, P.Geo.
 John Kozuskanich, P.Geo.
 Grant Wach, P.Geo.
 Evan Bianco, P.Geo.
 Jeffrey Faulkner, P.Geo.
 Martin Taiani, P.Geo.
 Nicolas A. Guest, P.Geo.
 Helen Cen, P.Geo.
 Gordon Murray, P. Geo.
 Toni Barresi, P.Geo.
 Arman Polatbekov, P.Geo.
 Heather Campbell, P.Geo.
 Mark Devitt, P.Geo.
 Heather Jaggard, P.Geo.
 Jonathan Kay, P.Geo.
 Daniel Parks, P.Geo.
 Steven Usher, P.Geo.
 John Waldron, LTP.
 David Rawlek, P.Geo.
 Robert Timlin, P.Geo.
 Michael Power, MIT
 Maria Celeste Whitehead, MIT
 Michael Reid, MIT
 Geoffrey Baldwin, MIT
 Dan MacDonald, MIT
 David Murray, MIT

Certificates of Authorization issued since the 2015 AGM

Elements Environmental
 Altantis Watershed Consultants Ltd
 EduTerra Consulting

Certificates of Authorization resigned or stricken since the 2015 AGM

H.J. Cross Hydrogeo
 SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd
 GP Isenor Co
 M.A. O'Kane Consultants
 Bluenose Gold Exploration Ltd
 Craig Hydrogeologic Inc
 XCG Consulting
 Ecology Action Centre
 Ressources Appalaches
 Thundermin Resources

Members, MIT's, and Licensees resigned, transferred, or stricken since the 2015 AGM

Karen White-Smith
 Lyndon Jenson
 Jamie Burns
 Rick Horne
 Joseph Kidston
 Jennifer West
 Edwin Layzelle
 Greg Paul Meiers
 Kevin Sinnott
 Michael Clough
 Heather Jaggard
 Mark Devitt
 Heather Campbell
 Neda Dokic
 Mitchell Barteau
 Maureen Kay MacKenzie

Call for Volunteers

APGNS relies on the skills and expertise, but mostly the dedication and pride of our Members and Members-in-Training. There are many opportunities to get involved with the Association. Members contribute their time, talent, and energy to APGNS each year. They are our lifeblood of the Association and provide a critical service.

Would you like to join those who are making significant contributions to APGNS by serving on a Committee, Board, or Executive, or by becoming a Mentor?

Email questions, comments, nominations, suggestions, etc. to exec.director@geoscientistsns.ca or call 902-420-9928 or contact a Committee Chair or a member of Council.

Why Volunteer?

- 'Give back' to your profession
- Contribute to the development of APGNS policies, direction and activities
- Offer fresh ideas
- Expand your business contacts and network
- Opportunities to meet new people; learn and expand your skills
- Earn Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits

The Committees of the Association include:

- Admissions Board (Brent Cox, P.Ge, Chair)
- Governance (Jeff Parks, P.Ge, FGC, Chair)
- Environment (Kim Green, P.Ge, Chair)
- Mining and Minerals (Bob Stewart, P.Ge, Chair)
- Licensure & Compliance (vacant, Chair)
- Student (Mike Power, MIT, Chair)
- MIT Mentorship (Cliff Stanley, P.Ge, FGC, Chair)
- Professional Development (Diane Webber, P.Ge, FGC, Chair)
- Energy (vacant, Chair)
- Insurance (vacant, Chair)
- Communications (vacant, Chair) - Newsletter (vacant, Editor)

2016 APGNS Council Update

The 2016-2018 APGNS Council was officially approved by the Members at the April 28, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Jennifer McDonald, P.Geo, incoming President; (Nova Scotia Environment).

Belinda Culgin, P.Geo, incoming Vice-President; (Golder Associates).

Gavin Isenor, P.Geo, incoming Councillor; (Property Manager - Aggregates, Dexter Construction); past President of the Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS); registered professional geoscientist since Sept, 2013.

Chrystal Kennedy, P.Geo, FGC, incoming Councillor; (President of Geochryst Geological Consulting); APGNS past-President (2010); registered professional geoscientist since March, 2005.

Carl Makrides, P.Geo, incoming Councillor; (Director, Resources, Chief Conservation Officer, Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board); registered professional geoscientist since November, 2013.

Robert Young, RPF, lay member appointed to Council; (Nova Scotia Power); Past-President of the Atlantic Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture; Past Chair of the NS Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry; Past President of the Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia; and Past Committee Member of the Utility Arborist Association Research Committee; currently serving as Registrar for the Registered Professional Foresters of Nova Scotia.

APGNS Council (2016)

Jennifer McDonald, P.Geo.	President	(2016 - 2017)
Paul Batson, P.Geo.	Past President	(2016 - 2017)
Belinda Culgin, P.Geo.	Vice- President	(2016 - 2017)
Mark King, P.Geo, FGC	Councillor	(2016 - 2017)
Charles Schaffer, P.Geo.	Councillor	(2016 - 2017)
Robert Stewart, P.Geo.	Councillor	(2016 - 2017)
Carl Makrides, P.Geo.	Councillor	(2016 - 2018)
Chrystal Kennedy, P.Geo, FGC	Councillor	(2016 - 2018)
Gavin Isenor, P.Geo.	Councillor	(2016 - 2018)
George Goad, P.Eng, FEC	Councillor	(2016 - 2017) appointed
Robert Young, RPF.	Councillor	(2016 - 2018) appointed

A Day in the life of a Councillor

Jennifer McDonald, M.Sc. P. Geo. APGNS President

I spent two years as a Councillor and Secretary before moving into the Vice President role in 2015. Being a member of Council has been an excellent learning experience. It has provided an avenue for me to get involved with and learn more about my profession. Over the course of the past three years, I have learned a lot about the Association, its challenges and achievements, and also gained insight into the professional Geoscience practice in Nova Scotia. By being a member of Council, I've had many opportunities to provide input and help shape the organization. I've also had the good fortune of meeting many of my fellow Professional Geoscientists, whom I otherwise would not have encountered in my day to day work.

Council consists of six Councillor positions, which includes a Secretary and a Treasurer, as well as a President, Vice President, Past President. Ex-officio members include the Geoscientists Canada Director, the Canadian Geoscience Standards Board Representative and the Executive Director and Registrar. Council can also include up to two lay (i.e. non-P.Geo) members. Council tasks include reviewing and approving budgets, voting on recommendations from the Admissions Board, planning the Annual General Meeting, hearing regular updates from and acting as a sounding board for Committees, reviewing and approving policies and procedures, as well as hearing regular updates from Geoscientists Canada, the Standards Board and making decisions regarding our involvement at the national level.

Council typically meets once per month for two hours. Councillors are expected to arrive at the meeting prepared, having reviewed necessary documents, such as minutes from the previous month's meeting. Meetings are usually held in Dartmouth (with free parking!). Council is looking into options to facilitate participation from members from across Nova Scotia, such as web-based meetings.

For those who are new to the profession, getting involved in Council is an opportunity for you to learn and grow as a Professional Geoscientist. For those who have been working in the geoscience field for many years, the Association could certainly benefit from your knowledge and expertise.

Consider putting your name forward during the next round of nominations!

Managing Transitions

Geoscientists Canada and Engineers Canada have published a new, planning resource guide outlining best practices for managing parental leave of engineering and geoscience professions. It is intended for employees and employers managing maternity or parental leave in Canada's engineering and geoscience professions.

[Managing Transitions: Before, During and After Leave](#) is intended to assist engineers and geoscientists who are considering maternity or parental leave, and is designed to also assist their employers. It provides extensive checklists and outlines steps that individuals, supervisors and companies can take to help smoothly off and on ramp employees taking a leave of absence.

For additional information please contact David Carter, P.Geo, Registrar at registrar@geoscientistsns.ca or 902-420-9928.

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Past President
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Members are welcome and encouraged to submit editorials, letters to the editor and articles of interest, including photographs, for publication.

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