

Geoscientists Nova Scotia
P.O. Box 232,
53 Queen St.
Dartmouth,
Nova Scotia
B2Y 1C2

www.geoscientistsns.ca

GEOSCIENTISTS NOVA SCOTIA

GeoGazette

Summer 2012

Volume II Issue II

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As your new President, I would like to briefly share with you what your Council has been working on over the past five months.

Last year Geoscientists Nova Scotia embarked on an ambitious strategic planning exercise to assess where we are after ten years, where we are going and what we need to do to get there. Four strategic objectives were identified as priorities to strengthen the Association and raise the profile of geoscientists and their significant contributions to society. The objectives included: **1) Value for Members; 2) Licensure, Compliance & Enforcement; 3) Heightened Awareness of the Profession and the Association; and 4) Governance.**

Good governance provides the foundation for a solid organization to become established and grow through legislation, regulations and by-laws working together to protect public safety by regulating professional practice. The activities of licensure, compliance and enforcement are the tools by which professionals are registered and regulated by the association. Increased awareness of the association and its regulatory duties helps the general public or anyone in need of geological advice, from investing in mineral exploration/development to water quality assessment, understand the role and responsibility of the geoscientist in protecting public safety in all aspects related to geoscience.

Geoscientists Nova Scotia also recognizes that the Association is not simply a regulatory body. The association understands the need for professional development opportunities, member services and the need for better communications within the association and to the outside world. Thus, 'value for members' is a priority objective for the association.

The 2012 Council has made significant efforts on several of these priority objectives. First, Council has initiated a complete review of the Geoscience Profession Act and has engaged a lawyer to help facilitate the rewriting of the Act. The Act, associated regulations and by-laws will be rewritten to ensure the Association has the necessary, up-to-date tools to regulate the geoscience profession. Second, the Association has been strategizing with respect to increasing compliance and licensure. The struggle with licensure and compliance is a common problem across Canada according to our provincial counterparts, as discussed at the 2012

AGM this past June. It may surprise our members to know that we estimate that only approximately 50% of practising geoscientists in the province are APGNS members. We are working diligently to increase licensure through education and personal contact. APGNS has a responsibility to the public, our members and our sister associations across Canada to be diligent in regulating geoscience practitioners in NS.

Third, much effort has gone into increasing value to members. A few things we're working on include: extending Engineers Canada affinity programs to our members and establishing working relationships with The Environmental Services Association of NS (ESANS), the Mining Association of NS (MANS), the Atlantic Chapter of the Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) and the Licensed Professional Planners Association of Nova Scotia (LPPANS) to collaborate on professional development and networking opportunities. The Association is attempting to increase internal communications through this newsletter and by actively updating our website. Essentially, our goal is to ensure members feel they receive good values for their money.

Finally, spreading the word about the Association is important for many reasons. Aside from the public safety aspects, heightened awareness of the profession as a regulated activity is needed as geoscientists contribute to the understanding of large-scale environmental problems like climate change, they contribute to economic development through mineral and energy resource development and financial institutions rely on the work of geoscientists to provide accurate and objective advice regarding investment in mineral properties. It is vitally important that our universities not only prepare our students academically but also prepare them for entering the profession and what is required for licensure in Canada.

It is my objective as the 2012 President to move these four priorities forward as much as possible and have quantifiable results to report at the 2013 AGM. As always, we welcome ideas, thoughts and especially volunteers to help build the Association.

-Fred Bonner, P.Ge



Introduction of New CCPG President

Ollie Bonham, P.Geo

On June 9th at the 15th Annual Meeting of Geoscientists Canada, Timothy (Tim) Corkery, M.Sc., P.Geo., FEC (hon), took office as President 2012-2013, after serving a year as its President-Elect. Mr. Corkery of Winnipeg, Manitoba, is a consulting geologist, who recently retired from the positions of Manager - Compilation & Partnership Section and Acting Chief Geologist - Mineral Deposits Section at the Manitoba Geological Survey.

Geoscientists Canada, which is the business name of the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists, is the national organization of the 10 provincial and territorial licensing bodies/ordre that regulate the practice of geoscience in Canada.

Mr. Corkery obtained a B.Sc in Geology from McMaster University, and a M.Sc. in Economic Geology from the University of Manitoba. Since joining the Manitoba Geological Survey in 1974, Mr. Corkery has taken on roles of increasing responsibility in the areas of reconnaissance and detailed geological mapping, terrain and metallogenic analyses, and geological survey management. During the latter years of his long career in public service, much of the focus of his activities were in the areas of strategic planning, team leadership and mentorship of young geoscientists. Mr. Corkery authored/co-authored 216 publications while at the Manitoba Geological Survey, including 26 refereed scientific publications, 39 Open File reports and 74 Geological Maps.

Mr. Corkery has extensive background in volunteering in the geoscience community, serving both technical and learned societies, and professional associations. He served on various committees and then on Council of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) on two separate occasions (1994-1998 and 2008-2011); he is the current chair of the GAC's Pre-Cambrian Division.

For his professional association - the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba (APEGM), Mr. Corkery served on Council 2005-2008, including fulfilling duties as President of APEGM 2007-2008.

At Geoscientists Canada, Mr. Corkery was appointed by APEGM to serve as Manitoba director on the Board of Directors of Geoscientists Canada in 2009, where he later joined the Executive Committee on becoming President Elect in June 2011.

In fulfilling his duties as President, together with colleagues on the Executive Committee, Mr. Corkery will be focusing his attention on the strategic objectives for the organization as set by the Board of Directors of Geoscientists Canada in its 2010-2015 Strategic Plan.

New Contaminated Sites Regulations

Scott McCarthy, P.Geo

In March, 2012, Nova Scotia announced new regulations regarding contaminated sites. These new regulations will be effective July 6th, 2013. Our Environment Committee has been very active in providing commentary through the development of these new regulations, particularly with respect to the definition of "Site Professional" in the regulations.

The new Contaminated Sites Regulations define Site Professional as someone who holds a valid certificate of registration or license to practice under the Geoscience Profession Act or Engineering Profession Act along with at least 5 years experience in prescribed areas of work. We see this as a very positive step for our members, as the Site Professional role to this point was not defined, nor limited to professionals. The regulations also require that the Site Professionals maintain professional liability insurance at a limit of at least \$2,000,000. In conjunction with this, the Atlantic Risk Based Corrective Action (RBCA) Version 3 implementation has been announced, and is effective August 1, 2012. This will result in certain process and criteria changes that will impact the practice in environmental site assessments and contaminated sites.

We will continue to provide updates, and are making efforts to coordinate and/or advise on professional development training to ensure our members are fully versed in these changes.

News Updates

Affinity Programs

At the request of Geoscientists Nova Scotia, Engineers Canada voted at their June AGM to extend Engineers Canada affinity programs to our members. These affinity programs include special rates for insurance plans such as home and auto, critical illness, sickness and accident protection, term life and accident, and pet health. Look for details on these programs to be posted to our website in the future. A summary of the Engineers Canada sponsored affinity programs can be found at: http://www.engineerscanada.ca/e/pr_member.cfm.

New Geoscientists Nova Scotia Treasurer and Secretary

Andrew Cameron, P.Geo has replaced Bridget Adams, P.Geo as the Association's treasurer and Bridget Adams has replaced Jeff Parks, P.Geo as secretary.

October Pub Social

Please come and join us on October 24th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm for the next APGNS pub social at Celtic Corner in Dartmouth, across from the Ferry terminal.

Geoscientists Canada Award

The Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award is given to recognize the achievements of an individual, who has made an outstanding contribution to the development and practice of professional geoscience and who has advanced public recognition of the profession in Canada in his or her capacity as a registered professional geoscientist. This year's recipient, Dr. Bruce E. Broster, P.Geo is an accomplished and respected professional geologist who has been involved at every level of his profession from research and teaching, to independent geological consulting and government relations.

Geoscientists Nova Scotia Exceptional Service Award

Congratulations to Theresa Rushton, the recipient of the Geoscientists Nova Scotia Exceptional Service Award. Theresa has served as a Councilor in 2002, as vice President in 2003, as President in 2004, past President in 2005, as a member of the Admissions Board since 2005 and Chair of the Admissions Board since 2006. She has also served on the APGNS Nominating (2005-2006) and Awards (2007) Committees.



Theresa Rushton, P.Geo., 2012 APGNS Exceptional Service Award

Geoscientists Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting



2012 APGNS (Geoscientists Nova Scotia) Annual General Meeting attendees.



APGNS 10th Anniversary Past-Presidents Award recipients; Fred Bonner, P.Ge., Andy Cameron, P.Ge., Gavin Kennedy, P.Ge., David Carter, P.Ge., Pat Ryall, P.Ge., Theresa Rushton, P.Ge., Bev Smith, P.Ge., Paul LaFleche, P.Ge., Gordon Check, P.Ge. (missing, Jim Fraser, P.Ge., Scott Llewellyn, P.Ge., Crystal Kennedy, P.Ge.)

Geology Matters 2012

Diane Webber, P.Geo

Online registration is now open for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) 36th annual fall conference on **October 29 and 30 at the Westin Hotel, Halifax.** Geology Matters 2012 will attract a broad audience around the theme "Growing the Economy". DNR staff, prospectors, exploration companies, and numerous related associations will showcase their initiatives, exploration activities and results with poster displays and presentations. Topics covered will include geosciences and municipal planning, aboriginal and community consultation, geoharitage and economic growth, community engagement, geohazards and health and safety, new strategies for managing Nova Scotia's resources, mineral exploration projects, reclamation and much more.

The program will include presentations from DNR staff and guest speakers, luncheons, a student workshop, Exploration and Mining 101 workshop, and the annual Minister's Reception hosted by the Honourable Charlie Parker, Minister of Natural Resources. There will be a student workshop on the first day of the conference and an Exploration and Mining 101 workshop on the second day. Geology Matters traditionally draws representatives from provincial government departments, Regional Development Authorities, the general public, environmental networks and non-government organiza-

tions, Aboriginal groups, municipal planners and administrators, university professors and students, consulting groups, mining companies and investment representatives. Information about the conference and online registration forms can be found on the Mineral Resources Branch website (<http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb/oh/index.asp>). For further information please contact Diane Webber at 902-424-3053 or webberde@gov.ns.ca.



Geology Matters 2012 Conference

October 29th and 30th, Westin Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Growing The Economy

Highlights

- Exhibits, Presentations
- Geological Resources and the Economy
- Geoscience and Municipal Planning
- Nova Scotia's Energy Future
- Geohazards: Protecting Health and Safety
- Geoharitage and Economic Growth
- New Strategies for Managing Nova Scotia's Resources
- Student Workshop
- Exploration and Mining 101 Workshop

For more information contact:
 Diane Webber
 tel: 902 424-3053
 email: webberde@gov.ns.ca

Register online: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb/oh/index.asp>

Free Admission to Displays and Technical Talks

Geoscientists Nova Scotia
P.O. Box 232,
53 Queen St.
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Upcoming Events:

*Atlantic Reclamation
Conference
Sydney
September 25-28th
[www.atlanticclra.ca/
clra37/index.html](http://www.atlanticclra.ca/clra37/index.html)*

*Geoscientists Nova
Scotia Pub Social
Celtic Corner
Dartmouth
October 24th
5:30 to 7:00 pm*

*Geology Matters
Halifax,
October 29-30th
[www.gov.ns.ca/natrl/
mebloh/index.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/natrl/mebloh/index.asp)*

Executive Director’s Report

David Carter, P.Geo

Environmental Site Professional & Qualified Person

Nova Scotia Environment is preparing to implement revised Contaminated Sites Regulations in 2013. This is significant for geoscientists since the new regulations designate that only a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.) or a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) can sign off on critical assessment documents to be accepted by the Department.

This follows the revision National Instrument 43-101 regarding the filing of resource estimation reports on mineral properties. The NI 43-101 companion policy designates that not only must the signing authority be a Qualified Person (QP), i.e. a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.) or a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.), but the QP must be registered in the jurisdiction where the mineral property is located.

Therefore, if you are working on the assessment of contaminated sites in Nova Scotia, you must be a registered professional. If you are working on a mineral resource assessment in Nova Scotia, you must be a registered professional. The knowledge and acceptance of the reality of professional geoscience registration is growing in Canada as well as internationally and also in Nova Scotia.

Professional registration is a demonstration of competence, integrity and accountability. You would expect that your doctor performing surgery or your electrician wiring your house, or your hygienist flossing your teeth, or the architect designing your building, or the engineer supervising the construction, would be licensed. Professional licensure equates to accountability and public trust. Why should the public place any trust in the work or services provided by an un-registered geoscientist?

So, the next time someone says that they do not need to be registered, perhaps we should ask them why they would not want to be registered?

Governance and Act revision

It has been 10 years since the proclamation of the **Geoscience Profession Act**. Geoscientists Nova Scotia is preparing an update and revision of the Act. The new Act will continue to provide for the protection of the public as well as “right-to-title” and “license-to-practice” for registered professional geoscientists. The new Act will also include the development of regulations and by-laws intended to effectively service our members. The new Act will be circulated for member consultation in early 2013.

For additional information please visit the Association web site (www.geoscientistsns.ca). If you have questions or comments, please contact the Executive Director / Registrar at info@geoscientistsns.ca or registrar@geoscientistsns.ca or directly at 902-883-7415.

Membership Update

The registration of professional geoscientists in APGNS has increased by 23% since January, 2012. Similarly, Certificates of Authorization, issued to companies undertaking geoscience work or offering geoscience services in the province, has increased by 34% during 2012.

	Pending Applications	MIT’s	P.Geo’s	Certificates of Authorization	Student memberships
Totals	12	23	176	35	9