

GeoGazette

Summer 2014

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Geoscientists Canada AGM Report

The Geoscientists Canada (GC) 34th Meeting of the Board of Directors and the 17th Annual Meeting of the Members was held Friday and Saturday, June 6 & 7, 2014 in Regina, Saskatchewan. The meeting included a facilitated Strategic Planning Session on Friday as well as informal meetings of the Constituent Association (CA) Presidents, Directors and the CEO's group (staff officers). The Board of Directors meeting was held on Saturday and the Meeting of the Members was held on Saturday afternoon. APGNS was represented by Jeff Parks, P.Geo, FGC (GC Director for APGNS) and David Carter, P.Geo, FGC (Executive Director and Registrar). Scott McCarthy, P.Geo, APGNS President was unable to attend; however, Jeff represented the President as required.

The facilitated Strategic Planning session started with a round table discussion to identify CA expectations and this led into a presentation of the Geoscientists Canada, Value Proposition by the Strategic Planning Committee with assistance from the facilitator. These discussions carried over to the Board meeting.

Most CA representatives stressed the need for GC to be responsive to the needs of the members. APEGA and APEGBC indicated their desire for a change in governance of the Corporation to include proportional representation. CA's also stressed the need for improved communication and transparency. They agreed that there is a need to define the roles and responsibilities of the staff, executive officers, directors and members as well as the fundamental question regarding who the CA Director actually serves (fiduciary responsibility). It was generally agreed that there is value in having federal government support for certain projects, however, it was also pointed out such projects may not be responding to the needs of the members.

The Strategic Planning Committee has recommended that the Board of Directors should be strengthened and expanded, through proportional representation on the Board and by extending voting rights to the Executive. Proportional representation, the 3:2:1 formula similar to Engineers Canada, would allow APEGA to appoint 3 Directors, APEGBC and APGO would each appoint 2 Directors, and the remaining CA's would appoint 1 each. The concept of a merger with Engineers Canada was also discussed but generally rejected since it was felt that geoscience issues might not be effectively addressed.

The Meeting of the Members included nominations for the position of President-Elect and subsequently the election of the APEGA Director, George Eynon, P.Geo, as President-Elect. The Members approved a motion to move forward with the model of an expanded Board of Directors, including the 3:2:1 formula for proportional representation. APGNS and NAPEG did not support the motion. The Members also approved the appointment of the auditors.

David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC, Executive Director / Registrar
Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC, APGNS Past President / GC Director

APGNS Awards 2014

The **Excellence in Geoscience Award** was established by APGNS to recognize and celebrate the important accomplishments of Nova Scotian geoscientists. It is awarded to a Professional Geoscientist to recognize outstanding contributions to the development and/or practice of professional geoscience, who advances public recognition of the practice of professional geoscience in Nova Scotia, and does so with the high levels of dedication and integrity.

This year's award recipient is Michael P. Cullen, P. Geo. Mike earned a B.Sc.(H) in Geology at Mt Allison University (1980) and an M.Sc degree in Earth Science at the Dalhousie University (1984). He has been registered by APGNS as a professional geoscientist member since 2000.

Mike's nomination for this award quotes his exceptional contributions to the mineral exploration in Nova Scotia, in Canada and in various parts of the world including the US, Russia, west Africa, Chile, Columbia, Bolivia and Australia. He has been instrumental in developing new exploration methods and targets associated with a number of mineral projects and he has also been a central figure in coal mine development in Nova Scotia. He is currently Chief Geologist with Mercator Geological Services and has been with them since 2001. He is also registered as a P.Geo. in Newfoundland (PEGNL) and New Brunswick (APEGNB).

He has over 30 years of experience as a geologist and senior manager. He has served on the Board of the Chamber of Mineral Resources of Nova Scotia and was recently nominated to serve on the Board of the Mining Association of Nova Scotia. Michael is also a member of the APGNS Mining and Minerals Committee. He has volunteered as a coach in Halifax area minor soccer and basketball programs, has served as a leader with Scouts Canada and volunteers as a church Board member. He is married with three children, resides in Halifax, is a long-time runner and basketball participant and generally enjoys outdoor activities such as canoeing.

The **Exemplary Service Award** was established to recognize significant and exemplary services to Geoscientists Nova Scotia. This year's award recipient is Cliff Stanley, PhD, P. Geo, FGC. Dr. Stanley represented Acadia University at one of the first national meetings of the Canadian Geoscience Standards Board (CGSB), held in Halifax in 1999. At that meeting, he presented the position that "small" Canadian universities must be recognized in the development of any Canada-wide geoscience academic standard. That position was adopted by the CGSB as a fundamental tenant of the Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements for Professional Geoscience Registration in Canada (GKE). The GKE is currently in its 2nd edition and it was recently recognized by the CGSB that it is the basis for evaluating applications for Professional Geoscience Registration across Canada.

Cliff has been a member of APGNS since 2000. His membership in APGNS was granted based on his previous



Awards Chair Paul LaFleche, P.Geo. FGC presenting to Michael Cullen, P.Geo.



Awards Chair Paul LaFleche, P.Geo. FGC presenting to Cliff Stanley, PhD. P.Geo. FGC

See **Exemplary Service Award** - Page 3

A Message from the President



Colleagues,

I'm pleased to have recently transitioned into the role of President of the Association. I've been an active member of the Environment Committee for a number of years and more recently a member of the Executive Committee. What has surprised me the most with the recent years of involvement is simply the amount of change that we have been faced with.

There are a number of significant issues in play on a local, regional and national level that certainly have the potential to impact our membership. Geoscientists Canada is undertaking an exercise that involves organizational and structural changes that may limit the validity of our input as a small geoscience-only association (i.e. an increased number of proportionate votes would be assigned to the larger associations). The importance of registration practices in light of the Agreement on Internal Trade has been highlighted to all associations and professions similar to ours. This has required us to review and update application processing, evaluation and registration procedures as the movement of members between provinces, and the issuance of licenses to practice have become commonplace. The concept of competencies and competency-based admissions processes has been introduced to several of the professions, Geoscience included. We will continue to monitor these issues and keep you informed.

Along with this, we have seen our level of membership grow, in terms of individuals, licenses to practice and most significantly, the number of corporate certificates of authorization. A great deal of effort was expended by preceding presidents, executive members and councillors to clearly plan and focus our efforts, with the underlying goals being to raise awareness of the profession as a whole, and to increase the number of registered professionals in Nova Scotia. And although we remain a smaller, autonomous association on a national scale, it is enviable to see some success in this regard. Our Association's administrative support has also undergone some reorganization, all in effort to find some efficiencies in our day to day operations.

We can't stress enough the importance of all volunteers within the Association that do keep it running, and keep us out in front of the key issues. A key component of my initial message here is to extend an acknowledgement and high degree of gratitude to all of those that volunteer their time on our behalf.

Kindest regards,
president@geoscientistsns.ca

Exemplary Service Award continued...

registration with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia which was granted in 1993. He was appointed to the APGNS Admissions Board in 2001, and has served as the Nova Scotia Representative on the CGSB since the Geoscience Profession Act was proclaimed in 2002. He continues to serve on the Admissions Board as well as the CGSB and will participate in the CGSB Admissions Support Tools Project, Gaps Working Group. This part of the AST project will explore the variability of Canada-wide academic programs as well as the definitions and evaluation of geoscience experience.

His contribution to the Association is evident through his guidance and leadership in the development and application policies and procedures as well as the mentoring of applicants and junior professionals.

New President of Geoscientists Canada for 2014-2015

On June 7th at the 17th Annual Meeting of Geoscientists Canada, Paul Rennick, P.Ge., took office as President 2014-2015, after serving a year as its President-Elect. Mr. Rennick resides in Fredericton, New Brunswick, where he is employed by the Department of Energy and Mines as its Manager, Promotion and Information Services.

Mr. Rennick is a graduate of the University of New Brunswick (B.Sc.-Geology). He is a registered Professional Geoscientist in New Brunswick. His professional career includes serving as Project Geologist on various mineral exploration projects in Central and Atlantic Canada with the mining industry, and then as Manager, GIS section, with the New Brunswick Geological Survey.

Paul previously represented New Brunswick on the Board of Directors (2007-2012) of Geoscientists Canada and also served as Treasurer (2009-2012). In June 2013, upon being elected President Elect, he rejoined the Board of Directors of Geoscientists Canada and joined the Executive Committee. In fulfilling his duties as President, together with colleagues on the Executive Committee, Mr. Rennick will be focusing his attention on the concluding work directed at a new strategic framework for the organization moving forward.

Jeff Parks Elected Fellow of Geoscientists Canada

On June 7 2014, at the Geoscientists Canada Annual General Meeting in Regina SK, APGNS Past President, Jeffrey Parks, P.Ge., was elected as a Fellow of Geoscientists Canada. The award, established in 2013, recognizes "individuals who have given noteworthy service to the geoscience profession, through service to Geoscientists Canada, service to one of the provincial and territorial regulatory bodies that are the constituent associations of Geoscientists Canada, or service in another capacity".

Jeff served as President of Geoscientists Nova Scotia in 2013 and has served Council as Secretary and Councilor starting in 2009. He currently is serving as Nova Scotia's Director to Geoscientists Canada.



Photo: (l to r) Paul Rennick, P.Ge., President, Geoscientists Canada; Jeff Parks, P.Ge., FGC, Past President, APGNS; Tim Corkery, P.Ge., FGC, Awards Chair and outgoing Past President, Geoscientists Canada

Northwest Territories Geoscientist, Gary Vivian, P. Geo. 2014 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award Recipient



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.

Gary Vivian, P. Geo., the 2014 recipient of the Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award, is President of Aurora Geosciences Ltd in Yellowknife, NWT. Gary's career as a Professional Geoscientist spans over 25 years of geological mapping, prospecting, sampling and geophysical surveying - predominantly on projects "North of 60". Earlier in his career Gary worked for Noranda in Timmins, Ontario and Bathurst, New Brunswick. He later joined Covello,

Bryan and Associates, leading to the growth of that firm and its ultimate transition to become Aurora Geosciences Ltd.

Gary served on the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of NWT and Nunavut (NAPEG) Council from 1991 to 1993 and currently Chairs the Geoscience Committee. He served on a committee that developed NAPEG's practice guideline - Reporting of Diamond Exploration Results, Identified Mineral Resources, and Ore Reserves. For a number of years, this was the only guideline document of its kind in use in Canada.

At Geoscientists Canada, Gary served as NWT-Nunavut director from 2006; he later assumed the role of President of Geoscientists Canada 2009-2010; and he continues to contribute valuable input on several committees. More recently, Gary became actively involved in the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines, serving as its Secretary/Treasurer.

The citation for the 2014 award, which will be presented to Mr. Vivian at a later date, will read as follows: "Presented to Gary Vivian, P. Geo in recognition of his outstanding contributions to his community, his profession and its professional associations".

The Award, which consists of a labradorite and marble sculpture made by a Canadian geoscientist artist, is given to a person in mid-to-late career. Nominations for this award are considered annually, although the award is not necessarily presented each year. Further details on the award criteria and nominations process can be obtained from the Geoscientists Canada website at www.geoscientistscanada.ca.

Professional Development Opportunities

Upcoming selected professional development opportunities and conferences available:

- Atlantic Conjugate Margins Conference, St. Johns, August 16-19, 2014
- GeoRegina, Regina, September 28-26, 2014
- GSA 2014, Vancouver, October 19-22, 2014

Executive Director and Registrar's Report

Updated membership totals for 2014 (July) are shown below. There are an additional 5 applications that are pending, and 7 members and 3 certificates of authorization with outstanding fees or service charges which will be invoiced for the 2015 registration year with interest.

On the subject of numbers, the APGNS annual registration fee is \$450.00. In Ontario (APGO) fees are \$474.00 and in Quebec (OGQ) fees are \$884.31. These three are the only geoscience-only professional associations in Canada. In a comparison to other professional associations in Nova Scotia, our fees are comparable to the engineer's fees but are far below those for realtors, accountants and barristers.

On other matters, the new **Geoscience Profession Act** and **Geoscience Profession Regulations** have been circulated for stakeholder review. These documents will be submitted for consideration during the fall sitting of the NS Legislature. Work is also underway to update the Association by-laws.

The **Geoscience Professional Practice Guideline for Conducting Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessments in Nova Scotia** has been circulated to members and corporate license holders for stakeholder review. Comments have been requested by the end of July and the final document is intended for release in September.

Geoscientists Canada is revising its governance structure and updating their strategic plan. They are moving to a system of "proportional representation" for the Board of Directors, similar to the current structure at **Engineers Canada**. This new format will not change the APGNS appointment of one Director to the Board.

The **Canadian Geoscience Standards Board** has accepted the "entry-to-practice competency profile". APGNS members were surveyed to comment on the geoscience practice tasks. Approximately 40% of APGNS members responded to the survey and the results were very useful in finalizing the profile. It describes the skills and abilities that an individual should have at the point of licensure (i.e. academic training and 48 months of geoscience work experience complete). The profile will now be circulated to the Canadian constituent associations with a recommendation from the Standards Board that it be adopted.

For more information, question or comments, please contact me by email or you can reach me directly at 902-420-9928.

David C. Carter, P.Ge, FGC
Executive Director and Registrar
registrar@geoscientistsns.ca

Registration	P.Ge	License to Practice	Members-in-Training	Student	Certificate of Authorization
Total	170	6	23	17	44

10 Digit Dialing Comes to Nova Scotia/PEI In case you haven't heard already, on August 23 you will have to dial all 10 digits of a phone number (902-555-5555) to make a local call. If you don't you will get a reminder message prior to connection. After November 16, 2014 connections will not go through with 7 digits dialed. A new area code (782) will be introduced later this fall as the 902 area code reaches capacity in local areas.

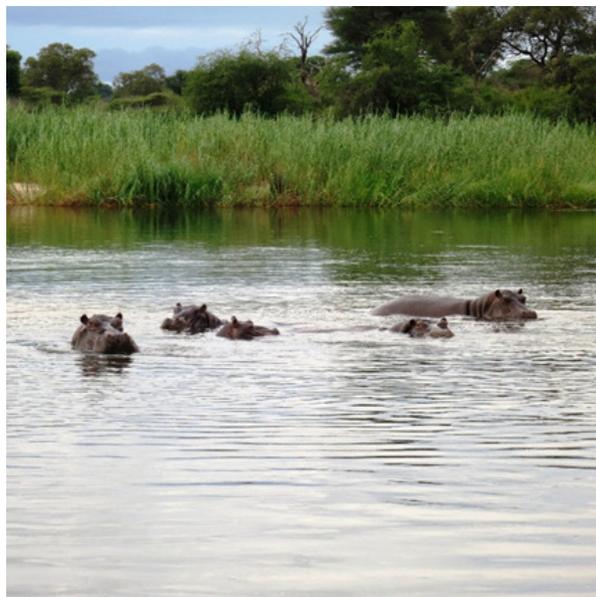
Geo-Travels

by Amy Tizzard, P.Geo

The Otavi Mountainland region of northern Namibia is a large metallogenic province that hosts numerous carbonate-hosted Copper, Lead, Zinc and Vanadium deposits. The most famous of these deposits is the pipe-like Tsumeb Mine, which produced over 30 million tonnes of ore at 4.3% Cu and 13.9% Pb/Zn from 1907 to 1996. Approximately 55 kilometres to the south, the Kombat Mine sits under the care and maintenance of Kombat Copper Inc., a Canadian exploration and development company based out of Toronto, Ontario. The Kombat Mine produced over 12 million tonnes of ore at 2.3% Cu and 1.9% Pb from 1911 until 2008, at which time it was closed due to water inflows and the global economy. I have been consulting to Kombat Copper on-site in Namibia since mid- 2013, collating and assessing the historic information with the primary goal of bringing the Kombat Mine back into production.

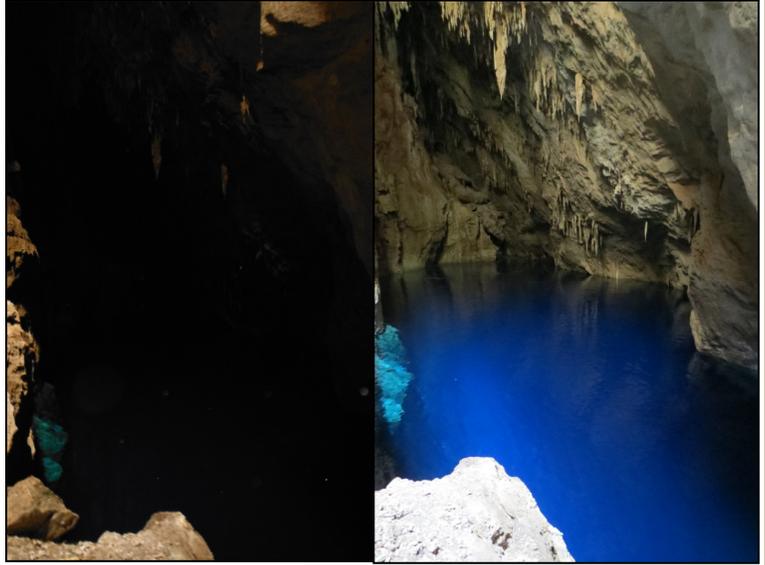


Namibia is generally known for its staggering scenery, wildlife safaris and fishing adventures, of which there is no shortage. At the Atlantic coast, endless miles of sand form a barrier between the ocean and the desert, reminding you that you've been sitting at a desk too long as you make an ascent. Farther to the north, sharp-toothed tigerfish, a prized and challenging game fish, share the water with hippos and Nile crocodiles.



Geo-Travels (Continued)

Specific to the Otavi Mountainlands, however, karstification of the carbonates has developed a number of subterranean lake systems, including the Dragon's Breath and Harasib caves. Entrance to Harasib Cave is granted via special permissions and abseiling over 110 metres through a keyhole opening into complete darkness. As the sun's height reaches the entrance above, the cave lights up to reveal a crystal clear lake. Divers have yet to reach the bottom of the lake at 145 metres depth.



Other karst-related lakes in the area have a history relating to WWI. The 110 metre wide sinkhole, Lake Otjikoto, for example, is one of only two-permanent surficial lakes in Namibia and was used as a dumping ground for German troops during their retreat in 1915. Artillery artifacts have been salvaged from the lake are on display in a mining museum in nearby Tsumeb.

And just down the road from the Kombat Mine, the "World's Largest Meteorite" sits unassumingly in the middle of a calcrete and sand plain with no sign of impact. The Hoba Meteorite is a 60 tonne piece of ataxite that is thought to have skipped onto the Earth some 80,000 years ago.

Namibia is host to many geological spectacles and is vastly underexplored. The country is politically stable and mining-friendly with several mines currently in development near Kombat, including B2 Gold's Otjikoto Gold deposit and Weatherly International's Tschudi Copper deposit. I look forward to a continuing involvement with the Kombat Project and am grateful for having the opportunity to explore the many natural wonders Namibia has to offer.

