

G E O G A Z E T T E

JULY 2021: VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2



GEOSCIENTISTS
NOVA SCOTIA

In this Issue



- 2 Editor's Letter**
Summer
- 3 From the President's Desk**
Welcome Message
- 4 From the Registrar's Desk**
Certificate of Authorization
- 5 2021 Earth Ring**
The Ceremony
- 6 Salary and Benefits Survey**
2021
- 7 Geoscientist of Canada**
FGC Appointments
- 9 APGNS Awards**
Recognition
- 10 It Start's with Making a Goal**
Career paths
- 11 NSE Coastal Protection Act**
Coastal Erosion
- 12 Cheticamp Gypsum Quarry**
A beautiful swimming location
- 14 Photo Contest**
Feature your photo on cover
- 15 Advertisements**
- 17 APGNS Council Members**
- 18 Contact Us**
- 19 How to Advertise**
GeoGazette

Photo Front Cover Credit (First place): Marcos Zentilli, Meguma metaturbidites (Bluestone Formation, Halifax Group) in foreground with Halifax Port in background.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Who else is ready for summer? Especially this year after getting through yet another wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. I think we can all say, we are ready to embrace the province we live in by going to the beach or hiking with our favorite pals and definitely thankful to be getting to venture out to our neighboring provinces this summer as well.

We are constantly thinking of ways to engage the association members more in the newsletter and this issue, we are excited to share the first photo contest winner and contributors in our issue. Marco Zentilli, Emeritus Professor from Dalhouse University took a wonderful photo of the Meguma metaturbidites (Bluestone Formation, Halifax Group) and in the background is Halifax's Port. **(Photo showcased on front cover)**

We are planning in the upcoming newsletters to have more specific allocations for contributions, for example: Geo Travels, University Corner, An interview with a member and a dedicated space for advertising in a business card style format.

We are pleased to provide this issue of the GeoGazette. Please feel free to reach out to us with suggestions, articles and great photos to share in the next issue at fgallacher@dillon.ca.

So, go grab a cup of coffee and have a lovely read.

Respectfully, Fiona Gallacher. P.Geo.



Photo from: Kevin MacRae
"Sniffing out contacts in West Arichat, Nova Scotia
(with model Sawyer)"

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dan Parker., P.Geo.



When I moved home to Nova Scotia in 2018 after nearly 20 years working in western Canada and internationally, I didn't figure I'd be writing an "incoming President's Message" for the 2021 APGNS term. I initially agreed to join Council to learn more about the local market and regulations, to network with fellow Geoscientists, and to give back to the profession that has provided me with numerous opportunities throughout my career. And while my involvement with APGNS has satisfied those initial goals, it's also opened my eyes to the challenges and opportunities that a self-regulated professional association must navigate to stay relevant and meaningful for its Members and the profession.

We've all heard the line "the one constant in life is change", and we've certainly seen that play out over the past year. Whether it's in relation to climate, politics, digitization, energy transitions, or the COVID-19 pandemic, we've all been impacted by the various changes that have been taking place, both personally and professionally. Despite the challenges these changes bring, they also force us to adjust and adapt. It's through that lens that I see opportunities for our Association and the role we play in our Province. Ensuring our Members are equipped with the tools and resources to navigate the ever-changing landscape ahead of us will be crucial in the coming years, and we've been making progress to ensure that happens.

With a new Act and Regulations on the horizon, increased involvement through council and committees, increased participation in public engagements, revamping of our communications/website/social media, and other initiatives already in play, we are hopeful that these changes equate to future success for APGNS, our Members, and the general public. Strengthening our regulation and providing value to our Members will continue to be the primary goal of APGNS over the next year.

My time spent with the Association has been a great experience thus far. Seeing the dedication that folks like David, Jeff, Kim, Gavin, Bev, Belinda, and others have for their profession and the Association has been inspiring and motivated me to agree to take a term as President for APGNS. Thank you to the nominating committee for considering me for the position, and to outgoing councilors for their service (Matthew Harrington, P.Geo. - Councilor) and to the incoming councilors for their commitment (Robert Cuthbert, P.Geo. - Vice President, James Reeves, P.Geo. - Councilor, Rick Gagne, P.Geo., FGC - Councilor, Mike Power, P.Geo. - Councilor). APGNS relies on the time and efforts of our Members and our council and committees are only as successful as the effort we put in.

I look forward to continuing to work with the aforementioned, as well as returning councilors and committee members, over the next year to further our efforts to date and continue to set up APGNS for future success. I would encourage all Members to reach out to myself, David, or the incoming council with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have for the upcoming year. Here's to a great year ahead (and for a shot in the arm so we can meet in person sooner than later!).

Respectfully,
Dan Parker, P.Geo.
APGNS President

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK

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

Photo from: Ralph Stea
St. Mary's River, evening of a thunderstorm in 1977
(near the site of old Hirschfield Pb mine)



Geoscientists Nova Scotia (APGNS) has been granted the privilege of regulating the geoscience profession through the regulation of geoscience practice and the registration of geoscience practitioners. This mandate to protect the public has been granted by the Government of Nova Scotia to do so through the **Geoscience Profession Act**.

APGNS Certificate of Authorization ...

The Geoscience Profession Act requires that both individual practitioners and corporate bodies who offer, provide or engage in geoscience or employ a geoscientist(s), in Nova Scotia must be registered. The Act requires that every partnership, association of persons or corporation that engages in the practice of geoscience, as its principal or customary function, shall obtain a Certificate of Authorization (CofA). The Certificate is essentially a company's license to offer geoscience services in Nova Scotia.

Who needs a Certificate of Authorization?

The requirement for a CofA applies equally to a large, publicly traded corporation and to a corporation in which one member is the sole shareholder, director, officer and employee (i.e., the sole practitioner).

This requirement also applies equally to the traditional geoscience and/or engineering consulting firm and to those firms that are not thought of as geoscience firms, but they customarily engage in the practice of professional geoscience.

A business or an individual that engages in the practice of professional geoscience as an unincorporated sole proprietorship is not required to obtain a CofA.

How to obtain and maintain a Certificate of Authorization?

On submission of the completed application form, along with proof of sufficient liability insurance, and the applicable fees, the Registrar is authorized to issue a CofA and it will be valid for the remainder of the calendar year. The CofA will be due for renewal on or before December 31st of the calendar year, along with the payment of applicable renewal fees. The holder of a CofA is limited to providing services under the supervision of a registered P.Geo.(s) or LTP(s) who hold a registration-in-good standing and in accordance with any limitations on that licensure.

Can a Certificate of Authorization be revoked?

If a partnership, association of persons, or corporation ceases to have an official representative, a P.Geo. who supervises and takes responsibility for the geoscience work, its CofA will be revoked and the company must cease its practice of professional geoscience. The CofA holder is considered a "registrant" and is subject to the same Code of Ethics as an individual member and is subject to the same sanction for unprofessional or unethical practice.

What information can be disclosed to the Public regarding Certificate of Authorization holders?

Geoscientists Nova Scotia will post the current list of CofA holders on the Association website (www.geoscientistsns.ca) and, on request, the Association may disclose the following information:

- 1.Name of the CofA holder;
- 2.Location; and
- 3.List of official representatives (i.e., P.Geo. taking responsibility for the geoscience work).

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



2021 EARTH RING CEREMONY

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

This year marked the twenty-first year for the Ingathering of the Ritual of the Calling for geoscientists in Nova Scotia. Normally 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. Due to COVID-19, this year we had a virtual ceremony, actually two because of scheduling conflicts. In the virtual ceremony all candidates made the same pledges as in the normal ceremony, but they did not get their rings put on their fingers – the rings were sent out to participants after the ceremony by registered mail. Thanks to David Carter, P.Geo. and Jeff Parks, P.Geo. for hosting the ceremonies.

More than 650 geoscientists in Nova Scotia have made the commitments and have received an Earth Ring. There were only 11 people getting rings this year because, due to the Universities being closed due to COVID-19, and it was difficult to contact the students.

The participants this year were: Jessica Albert; Abdullah Asfour; Ian Campbell, P.Geo.; Ciaran Crouse; Julie Griffiths, P.Geo.; Ajibola Kareem; Alberta Hammond; Bailey Milos; Benjamin Myrer; Anna Ryan; and Natalie Shields.

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.

Respectfully,
Patrick J.C. Ryall, PhD, P.Geo., FGC.
Dalhousie University



GEOSCIENTISTS NOVA SCOTIA 2021 GEO SALARY AND BENEFITS SURVEY

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



Geoscientists Nova Scotia is participating with the other Atlantic Canada, Engineering and Geoscience regulators (APEGNB, EPEI, PEGNL, and ENS) to jointly complete an Engineering and Geoscience salary survey. Many members, employers, and those considering a career in geoscience have expressed an interest in obtaining current statistics on geoscience in the Atlantic region.

It has been six years since APGNS members participated in the last survey, (2013 and 2015). Those surveys were done jointly with PGO (Ontario) and OGQ (Quebec). Although the registration numbers in Nova Scotia were significantly fewer than the others, the level of participation by our members resulted in very reliable data specific to Nova Scotia. We hope that a similar response from our members in 2021 will also generate reliable data, based on similar registration numbers, and it will be very interesting to compare the results to the previous surveys. We hope that the results of this Atlantic Canada survey will be a useful planning tool, especially considering the current status of Geoscience in Nova Scotia.

Members will have been contacted by **ClearPicture Corp.** and that contact will direct them to the online, web-based survey.

Note that the survey will end on July 21st at 4:00pm.

Please also note that your Privacy is important to us. All data collected from individual members will be kept confidential by ClearPicture Corp., and ClearPicture Corp. will destroy individual response data once aggregate reporting is complete. Only the aggregated data and survey statistics will be made available to Geoscientists Nova Scotia.

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



This year marks 25 years of Geoscientists Canada facilitating the effective regulation of the geoscience profession in the public interest.

Originally constituted as the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (CCPG) in 1996, the organization rebranded to become Geoscientists Canada (GC) in 2011. There is a short video documenting the history at **www.geoscientistscanada.ca**.

Geoscientists Nova Scotia (APGNS) was accepted as a Constituent Association in 2002 marking the proclamation of the Geoscience Profession Act. To date, there has been one GC president from APGNS: **Jeff Parks, P.Geo., FGC (2019-2020)**.

Members of the Board of Directors from APGNS have included Jeff; David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC; Howard Donohoe, P.Geo., FGC, FEC (hon); Andrew Cameron, P.Geo., FGC; and the current Director, Beverly Smith, P.Geo., FGC. All have served Geoscientists Nova Scotia and Geoscientists Canada with distinction.

Congratulations to all.



The Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) Awards

Geoscientists Canada instituted its national fellowship program - The Geoscientists Canada Fellowship - in 2013 to recognize individual professional geoscientists and others who have given noteworthy service to our profession. Since June 2013, over 700 deserving candidates have been elected to the Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada (FGC or FGC (Hon)) and have been bestowed with their unique lapel pin and certificate at ceremonies across the country.

In honour of the commitment to achieve professional excellence through exceptional contributions to the geoscience profession in Nova Scotia and Canada, the 2020 FGC award recipients were announced at the June 24, 2020, Annual General Meeting and it was anticipated that they would be presented formally at a later date. Unfortunately, circumstances prevented the formal presentation of the awards. The 2021 FGC award recipients were announced at the April 30, 2021, Annual General Meeting. The 2020 and 2021 FGC awards have been forwarded to the recipients.

2020 FGC Recipients

Bridget Adams, P.Geo., FGC

Bridget has been a registered professional geoscientist since 1995. Initially with APEGA and then by APGNS since 2005. She has served on APGNS Council as a Councillor and Treasurer and currently as a member of the Financial Audit Committee.

Richard Gagné, P.Geo., FGC

Rick was a founding member of APGNS first as a registered Society in 1999 and then under legislation in 2002. He has served on Council as a Councillor, and Secretary. He currently is a member of the Financial Audit Committee and the Complaints Committee as well as the Chair of the Energy and Mining Committee.

Gavin Isenor, P.Geo., FGC

Gavin has served APGNS as a Councillor and President (2019-2020) of APGNS.

2021 FGC Recipients

Colin Walker, P.Geo., FGC

Colin is a former Councillor and member of the APGNS Communications and Professional Development Committees; Colin has quietly and efficiently provided signal service to the Association as manager / coordinator of the APGNS website.

Robert (Bob) Stewart, P.Geo., FGC

Bob has been a registered professional geoscientist since 2001 (APGO and APGNS); a member of the APGNS Energy and Mining Committee and the APGNS geoscience representative on the National Professional Practice Examination Committee; he is a long-time supporter of APGNS administrative activities.

Tara Carr, FGC (Hon.)

Tara, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Registrar (Administration Assistant and Registration Assistant) has been an integral part of the APGNS administration team; a point of contact for applicants, registrants, suppliers, contractors and consultants; financial services manager and valued advisor to staff, the Executive, Council, Boards and Committees.

Kimberlea Green, P.Geo., FGC

Kim has served APGNS as a Councillor and President (2020-2021) of APGNS.



2020 EXCELLENCE IN GEOSCIENCE AWARD

The recipient of the 2020 Excellence in Geoscience Award, Christopher E. White, P.Geo., PhD, recognizing his exceptional contributions to geoscience, was announced at the June 24, 2020, Annual General Meeting. It was anticipated that the award would be formally presented at a later date. Unfortunately, circumstances prevented the formal award presentation in 2020. However, the award was confirmed at the April 30, 2021, Annual General Meeting, and the award has been delivered to Dr. White.



The limited edition framed and mounted photograph, titled “Red Planet”, presented to Chris White, P.Geo., PhD by President Dan Parker, P.Geo.

2021 APGNS EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD

In June 2020, Bev Smith, P.Geo., FGC officially left Council for the first time in many years. Council has requested that she continue her involvement as a member and Chair of the Past-Presidents Committee. She accepted and in that role she will provide advise and guidance to the Association and the Council.

Council has also appointed Bev to the position of Geoscientists Canada, Director for Nova Scotia. That appointment was made official by GC at their June 2021 Annual General Meeting.

This award recognizes her exemplary record of past, current and on-going contributions both to the Geoscientists Nova Scotia and to the Geoscience Profession.



The limited edition framed and mounted photograph, titled “Between Two Lines”, presented to Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC by President Dan Parker, P.Geo.



IT STARTS WITH MAKING A GOAL

*Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC.
Nova Scotia Director, Geoscientists
Canada.*

I was recently asked to discuss this achievement of being appointed to Geoscientists Canada Board of Directors. After some thought, I realized everything starts with a goal. Everyone should have a goal. These will change at various stages of your career as goals are achieved.

When I first starting working as a geoscientist, my goal was to become a Member-in-Training (MIT). This led to becoming a full member (P.Geo.) of my local professional association, the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia (APGNS).

Throughout my career, I have been fully supported by my co-workers at Dillon Consulting Limited. I was encouraged to volunteer and join the Council for APGNS by a former Partner at Dillon (Theresa Rushton, P.Geo., FGC). It certainly was a great networking opportunity! Shortly thereafter, I became President (2009) and took on a leadership role. Following that, in my role as Past-President, I continued to mentor and support other Presidents and Council members.

Along the way, milestones are met – some are planned, some are not. In 2013, I was awarded the Fellowship of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) at the first ceremony held in Nova Scotia. It was an honour to receive this distinction for noteworthy service to the profession with others who had served in leadership roles prior to this ceremony.

I served a second term as President of APGNS in 2018 (which was not planned but great to serve in the role with the enhanced knowledge of how Council operates, the role of President and to assist with another AGM).

This June, I was appointed by my peers to the Geoscientists Canada Board of Directors. I am honoured to serve as the Nova Scotia representative and look forward to working with the other Directors from across Canada and the CEO (Andrea Waldie, P.Geo., FGC), noting that Geoscientists Canada's mission is

“in support of the Constituent Associations, to improve the effectiveness of regulation in Canada to achieve excellence in the geoscience profession”.

Everyone's path to their goals will be different. It is important to always have a goal that you are striving towards, acknowledge when you have achieved your goal ... enjoy the moment! ... then carry that sense of achievement with you (it will come in handy down the road). Thanks again to Dillon for supporting me along the way and thanks to APGNS for putting my name forward to Geoscientists Canada!

Respectfully,
Beverley Smith, P.Geo., FGC.
Nova Scotia Director, Geoscientists Canada.

NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE, COASTAL PROTECTION ACT

John Somers, Executive Lead, Coastal Protection Act

The Coastal Protection Act was passed in 2019 and will come into effect with the approval of accompanying regulations. When that happens, a new Coastal Protection Zone will extend around the coast of Nova Scotia and new requirements will apply to constructing houses and other structures within the zone. These requirements are aimed at restricting or preventing development in areas where it will damage coastal ecosystems or where the resulting structures will be at risk from sea level rise and coastal erosion - problems we can expect to accelerate in the coming decades.

The coastal protection zone, where the regulations will apply, will be a band around the entire coastline on either side of the high-water mark. On the landward side the regulations will rely on both vertical and horizontal building setbacks to ensure new construction, or expansion of existing structures are safer from coastal flooding and erosion.



Queensland Beach parking lot



Glace Bay Erosion

With over 13,000 KM of diverse coastline and erosion threats that can vary greatly within short distances, applying common setbacks across large swaths of coastline is not evidence-based or practical. Consequently, the horizontal setbacks will be determined on a site-specific basis by a “designated professional” (a member in good standing of a professional body designated under the act) using a specific analytical tool developed for the Province by CBCL Limited. The designated professional will submit their determination in a report which the landowner must provide to the municipality as part of the building permit application process.

Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change staff have been working on the regulations since the act passed and are looking forward to sharing more details with Geoscientists Nova Scotia in the future.

Respectfully,
John Somers,
Executive Lead, Coastal Protection Act

CHETICAMP GYPSUM QUARRY

Sean Kirby, Executive Director, Mining Association of Nova Scotia

Reclaimed mines are often hidden in plain view! For example, this beautiful lake is the former Cheticamp gypsum quarry in Cape Breton. Here's the history of this amazing site:

Father P. Fiset, parish priest in Cheticamp, and his nephew Louis, a doctor, formed the Great Northern Mining Company about 1907. To raise funds, they sold shares for 5 cents each in Cheticamp. Shares were also sold in Quebec where the Fisets were well-known.

In spring 1908 equipment for a mill was delivered to Government Wharf and hauled by horse and cart to Bell-Marche where the mill was built. The first gypsum rock went through the mill on August 20, 1908.

To prepare for shipping gypsum to Quebec, Father Fiset bought a boat that had been sunk off Cuba during the Spanish-American War of 1898, the "Santiago de Cuba," later renamed "Lamethyst." In October 1908, gypsum was hauled by horse and cart from the mine to the mill, and then from the mill to the wharf where the boat was waiting to do its first shipment.

In 1909, a tractor and trailer were bought to transport the gypsum from the mill to the wharf. It was not like tractors today. It was as big as a railroad engine and had huge wheels that were hard on the road and often got bogged down. It was very loud and terrified horses. It was not a success.

In 1910 the company decided to borrow \$100,000 from P.M. O'Neil, a Montreal merchant, to build a new pier and a railroad from the mill to the wharf. Construction started in 1911.



The company had financial problems in 1914 and was sold to a Mr. Brodie. The mine kept operating but Brodie was late paying wages and when confronted by the miners, he wrote a cheque that bounced after he was gone. Work stopped in December 1914 and the miners put a lien on the mine.

P.M. O'Neil stepped in to pay the wages but the mine shut down until 1923 when Boston's International Gypsum Company operated the site. It also had financial problems and failed to pay the miners, so they again put a lien on the mine. Again, Mr. O'Neil paid the back wages. O'Neil operated the site for a few months but it shut down again in spring 1924.

In 1926 the Atlantic Gypsum Mining Company from Boston took over. Atlantic built a bigger mill, a steel building to store the gypsum and a new pier in 1928-29. The railroad track was also changed.

A director of the Atlantic Gypsum Mining Company visited Cheticamp in 1930 and donated \$5000 for the building of a hospital since people had died travelling to hospital in Inverness in winter. The company donated another \$1000 and a hospital was established in Dr. Louis Fiset's old house.

CHETICAMP GYPSUM QUARRY

Continued



In 1932 Atlantic opened another mine in Dingwall, Victoria County, which meant the Cheticamp mine would be producing less. Cheticamp's manager, Joseph MacFarlane, travelled to England in 1933 to find new customers.

Unfortunately, the outbreak of WWII in 1939 caused the Cheticamp mine to shut down permanently. Shipping to England was no longer possible and the Montreal market was too small to justify continued operation of the site. Cheticamp's last shipment to England was dumped at sea so the boat could immediately be used by the government in the war effort.

National Gypsum bought the Atlantic Gypsum Mining Company in 1937. It operated the Dingwall mine until 1955 when it opened the world's largest surface gypsum mine in Milford, East Hants. National Gypsum still employs about 100 Nova Scotians in Milford and at its dock facility in Bedford Basin.

National Gypsum donated the Cheticamp site to the community and today it is a beautiful swimming hole and hiking trail.

Respectfully,
Sean Kirby, Executive Director
Mining Association of Nova Scotia



Photo CONTEST



The GeoGazette is always having a photo contest:
We want to feature your photos in our next issue.

Rules:

- 1) The photos should be taken by members of the Association.
- 2) The photos can be geology related (outdoors or indoors)
- 3) A brief description to the photo and photographer's name

**Runner up Gordon Fader:
Chebucto Head
(Captured by Helicopter, Cannon
Camera photography)**

1st prize: Featured on the Front page

2nd and 3rd prize: Featured within newsletter.

(the rest will be recognized and put in the newsletters throughout the year, so please don't worry if you don't see your photo in one newsletter, it may fit with a seasonal perspective)

Please submit all photos to fgallacher@dillon.ca



DUALITY

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JULY 1 - AUGUST 29
viewPoint Gallery

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Executive Director & Registrar- David C. Carter, P.Geo., FGC.

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National Professional Practise Exam committee- Robert Stewart, P.Geo.

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GEOSCIENTISTS

NOVA SCOTIA

Newsletter Advertising

Geoscientists Nova Scotia is now accepting newsletter advertising as full, 1/2 or 1/4 page camera ready inserts. All submitted advertising is subject to approval as per the AGNS Communications Policy.

For more information, or to submit camera ready layout material please contact David Carter, P.Geo., FGC - exec.director@geoscientistsns.ca

Location / Layout	Standard non-member rate per issue*	Standard member rate per issue*
Full Page	\$600.00	\$550.00
1/2 page	\$400.00	\$350.00
1/4 page	\$250.00	\$200.00

* full year subscriptions will receive a 10% discount

The **GeoGazette** is a quarterly publication of Geoscientists Nova Scotia.

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

Opinions and views independently expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of Geoscientists Nova Scotia, the Council, Boards, Committees, and/or Staff.

Subscriptions to the **GeoGazette** are provided electronically to all registrants (members, licensees and members-in-training, and student members) in good standing, and are included in the annual registration fees.

The **GeoGazette** will be distributed electronically and posted on the Association website (www.geoscientistsns.ca).

The entire contents of the **GeoGazette** are copyright by the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia. Original material may be reprinted with permission.

APGNS Publication Policy

APGNS encourages the submission of articles and editorials for publication in the **GeoGazette** on topics related to the science and profession of geoscience.

Submittals shall be of interest to the members of APGNS, and others interested in earth science. Articles and editorials may be noted as follows at the discretion of the editor:

"The opinions, positions and conclusions presented herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions, positions or conclusions of APGNS."

All materials submitted for publication, including author opinions contained therein, shall include accurate and appropriate references. The Editor has the authority to solicit, edit, accept, or reject articles and editorials and other written material for publication. The APGNS Editorial Board has the authority, if it chooses to act on any particular case, to support or overrule actions of the Editor regarding the solicitation, editing, acceptance, or rejection of any particular article, editorial, or other written material for publication.