



# ATLANTIC GEOSCIENCE SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 34, Number 1, January 2005

**BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY  
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

**The Editorial Board**

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## **PRESIDENT'S FORUM**

*Joe White*  
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And so we approach the end of another year. The autumn has been busy with various AGS sponsored activities, whether it be public talks in Halifax or field excursions in Bathurst. Another excellent AUGC meeting and field trip was held, this year at Acadia, an endeavour that AGS is both pleased and proud to support in a small way. Since I only get one opportunity to do this, I would like to thank Heather Wolczanski and her organizing committee and, by extension, all the undergraduates who have and will work diligently to make this a success each year. The AUGC is one of the truly unique community activities we have.

The call for papers for the 2005 Colloquium has gone out and Randy Miller of the New Brunswick Museum and his crew have come up with an interesting program. Given the proximity of the meeting to the Museum, the pre-meeting workshop will examine aspects of public outreach and dealing with the media using the NBM facilities as backdrop. Two special sessions are being organized, sessions that reflect the diversity of interest and range of activities with-in geoscience. A session on "Geoarchaeology" is open to any workers in this field and intentionally does not focus on a single topic, region or theme. The second session should appeal to the hard rock lovers in the community and

is entitled "Magmas to Mineralization: Exploring the Continuum". As always, there are the general sessions looking at current research in Atlantic Canada and adjacent regions. Don't be shy: if you are of the AGS and working somewhere outside Atlantic Canada, come and tell us what you have been up to.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Saint John – don't forget to watch the web site for additional information. Be safe and enjoy the holidays.

Lastly, everyone needs to know that this is Mike Cherry's last issue as editor. Among the innumerable thankless jobs that get done, editors carry a special burden in that they have little control over that for which they are responsible. If nothing else, Mike has tolerated me and, I am sure, others with good humour (at least to our faces) and always got the job done even if we held him up. Mike – thanks for all the time and effort.

## **GEOLOGICAL SURVEY NEWS**

### **EXPLORATION AND MINING NEW BRUNSWICK 2004**

*Don J.J. Carroll*  
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New Brunswick's 2004 Review of Activities, this year renamed *Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2004*, was a resounding success. More than 280 people registered for the conference, which was held Nov-

**See page 5 for important  
information about the  
2005 AGS Colloquium and  
Annual General Meeting**

ember 7 to 9. This is the largest attendance in the 26 years that attendance figures have been kept.

This year's conference was a cooperative effort between the New Brunswick Prospectors and Developers Association, the New Brunswick Branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum, the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, the University of New Brunswick and Acadia University.

The conference began with a field trip to the Cape Spencer properties of Geodex Minerals Ltd. Field trip organizers Michael Henricksen (Geodex) and Malcolm McLeod (New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources) hosted more than 45 delegates to this southern New Brunswick locality. The excursion provided an update of exploration efforts in the Cape Spencer area as well as new insights into the genesis of gold occurrences in the region.

The general and technical sessions consisted of presentations by more than 35 speakers representing the



*Michael Henricksen of Geodex Minerals Limited explaining the geology of one of the company's Cape Spencer properties to field trip participants at Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2004. Photo courtesy of Don J.J. Carroll.*

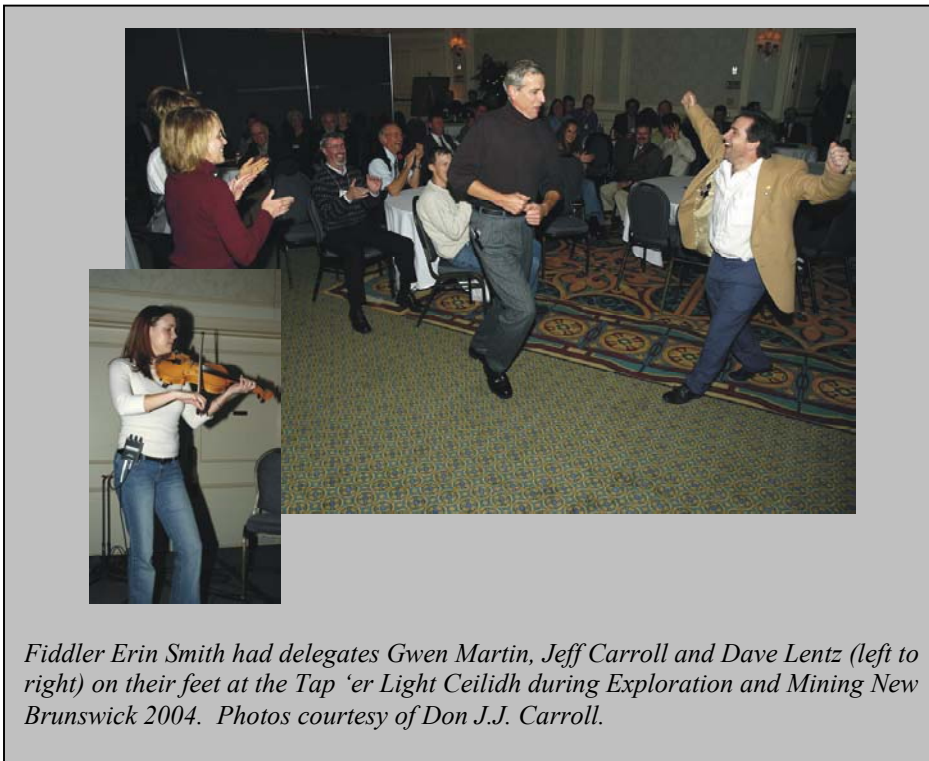
mineral exploration and mining industry, the service company sector, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy, Maine Geological Survey, University of New Brunswick and Acadia University, New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources,

Geological Survey of Canada, Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum.

This year's conference was also a banner year for exhibitors – more than 70 prospectors, junior mining companies, trade show participants, students, and Department of Natural Resources and university personnel took advantage of this opportunity to showcase their work to the conference delegates.

On the social side, delegates were treated to a rip-roaring good time on Monday night. As the evening progressed, almost all of the more than 100 attendees were swinging and swaying to the music of *Bottoms Up* as well as featured performer and fiddler extraordinaire, Erin Smith.

The closing banquet on Tuesday evening featured a presentation by Peter Dimmell, President of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. The focus of his presentation was prospecting in the Atlantic Provinces and its importance to the exploration and mining industry. Several prospectors were highlighted.



*Fiddler Erin Smith had delegates Gwen Martin, Jeff Carroll and Dave Lentz (left to right) on their feet at the Tap 'er Light Ceilidh during Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2004. Photos courtesy of Don J.J. Carroll.*

*Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2004* also recognized the great achievements over the past several years by one of the Province's most proactive prospectors – Emilio Doiron. Mr. Doiron passed away in early November after a sudden and brief illness. He will be missed.

Mark your calendars for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the New Brunswick Annual Review, to be held on November 6-8, 2005.

## **MINING MATTERS FOR NOVA SCOTIA 2004**

Mike MacDonald

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The 2004 Mining Matters for Nova Scotia conference was held at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax on Monday and Tuesday, November 1 and 2, 2004. The technical program for the conference featured a wide range of topics and can be viewed on the Department of Natural Resources web site ([www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb](http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb)).

Approximately 300 delegates were on hand to hear the oral presentations, view the many posters and enjoy some of the special functions, which included a reception on Monday evening hosted by the Hon. Richard Hurlburt, Minister of Natural Resources. In his remarks, Mr. Hurlburt stressed that the Nova Scotia government recognizes the importance of the mining industry, particularly in rural areas of the province. An example of this recognition was the attendance at the reception by several of Mr Hurlburt's colleagues, including Hon. Ernest Fage, Minister of Economic Development, Hon. Michael Baker, Minister of Justice, Hon. Murray Scott, Speaker of the House, and Mr. John Chataway MLA for Chester – St. Margaret's.

Among the highlights of the technical talks was a presentation by Rhyne Simpson Jr., President of Federal Gypsum Company, outlining his company's plans to establish Nova Scotia's first conventional gypsum



*The Hon. Richard Hurlburt, Nova Scotia Minister of Natural Resources (right) addressing delegates to Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2004. Mr. Hurlburt was accompanied by (left to right) Hon. Michael Baker, Hon. Murray Scott and Hon. Ernest Fage. Photo courtesy of Mike MacDonald.*

wallboard plant at Point Tupper. The plant will occupy the former US Gypsum fibre board plant and will employ approximately 80 people when in full production, currently scheduled for late 2005.

A presentation by Rod Simpson of Scotia Slate Products Ltd. provided insight into the challenges faced by his company in establishing markets for its slate products. The company now exports manufactured and raw slate products from its operation in West Gore to local, national and international markets. Mr Simpson noted that Scotia Slate is having success in penetrating markets in the southwestern U.S., particularly with pool coping products, which have superior durability and non-slip characteristics.

The Mining Society of Nova Scotia hosted a Monday luncheon featuring a presentation by Dallas Davis entitled *Why We Explore for Gold: The Success of Plutonic Resources Limited in Australia*. Mr Davis made the presentation on behalf of Ron Hawkes, President of Australian-based Diamond Ventures NL, who was unable to attend the conference. The presentation provided an update of Diamond Ventures NL's Touquoy

project on Nova Scotia's Eastern Shore. Based on recent diamond-drilling and previous work by several companies, including Seabright Resources Inc., Westminer Canada Ltd., and Moose River Resources, Diamond Ventures NL now estimates that the Touquoy deposit contains a total of 472,000 ounces of indicated and inferred gold resources. In addition, the Touquoy West zone contains 99,000 ounces of indicated and inferred gold.

A special session on the afternoon of Nov. 1 celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of the East Kemptville tin deposit. The session highlighted the mineral wealth of southwestern Nova Scotia and included a presentation by Dan Kontak on the discovery and geological setting of the East Kemptville deposit. From 1985 to 1992, the East Kemptville mine was a major producer of tin, zinc and copper. A presentation by Brian Lewis outlined the on-going reclamation activities at the former mine by the current owner, BHP Billiton. Other presentations focussed on a variety of mineral resources including kaolin-quartz, peat, gold and industrial minerals including zeolite minerals and rare-metal pegmatites.





*Gordon Fader, well-known AGS member, scientist, raconteur and musician, did double duty at Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2004 by first entertaining delegates at a reception and later fascinating them with a luncheon address on the Halifax Harbour. Photos courtesy of Mike MacDonald.*

A session entitled *Rocks to Riches: Geology and Mineral Wealth of the Carboniferous in Nova Scotia* highlighted the geology and mineral wealth of the Carboniferous rocks of central Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island. Several presentations focussed on the Windsor Group, which is arguably the most important geological unit in Nova Scotia in terms of mineral wealth. The Windsor Group is host to numerous salt, gypsum, lead – zinc and limestone deposits and has excellent potential for development of underground hydrocarbon storage and potential for commercial oil and gas resources. John Calder highlighted potential developments for the Upper Carboniferous rocks including dimension stone applications of the famous Wallace Sandstone units, coal, oil and gas, and eco-tourism potential of fossil sites that are recognized as some of the best in the world.

Gordon Fader delivered a memorable keynote address entitled *The Story of Halifax Harbour* at the Geoscience Luncheon on November 2. The talk provided a unique view of the bottom of the harbour as seen by various sonar surveys. Recent surveys can outline individual shipwrecks, old Volvos, anchor and chain marks, and some of the effects from Hurricane

Juan on the bottom sediments in the harbour. The presentation was also memorable as it was one of Gordon’s last duties before retirement to Emeritus Scientist at GSC Atlantic after an illustrious career that included innumerable contributions to the Atlantic Geoscience Society.

The Monday evening reception also featured the awarding of the Pulsifer – Horne Memorial Award for the Nova Scotia Prospector of the Year. The 2004 recipient is Guy MacGillivray of Arisaig, who was recognized for his diligent work in discovering the Flintstone Rock quartz-kaolin deposit that is now being developed by Black Bull Resources Ltd. The award, which was presented to Guy by Mrs. Edna Pulsifer, is sponsored by Jacques Whitford, in memory of two noted Nova Scotia Prospectors – Edgar Horne and Orville Pulsifer.

Two field trips were held on November 3. The first trip visited Black Bull Resources Ltd.’s new quartz mine near Yarmouth and the reclamation activity and the geology of the nearby East Kemptville tin mine. The trip was led by Dan Kontak, Phil Finck and Mike MacDonald and had approximately 20 participants. Driving wind and rain provided a background for the 2 mining operations and made the hot soup taste even better. The second trip was led by Howard Donohoe and Fred Bonner and featured the urban geology of the HRM metro area.



*Honest, if we just run over that way a couple of miles we can see some really interesting things! Dan Kontak persuading participants on the Mining Matters for Nova Scotia field trip to the East Kemptville tin mine. Photo courtesy of Mike MacDonald.*

**Atlantic Geoscience Society**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Colloquium and Annual General Meeting**

**February 4 - 6, 2005**

**Saint John Trade and Convention Centre, Hilton Saint John Hotel,  
and the New Brunswick Museum, Saint John, New Brunswick**

**Technical Program**

The technical program will include a workshop and oral and poster presentations in general and two special sessions:

Workshop: Geo-presentations: Getting your Message Across to Peers and the Public

Special Session 1: Geoarchaeology

Special Session 2: Magmas to Mineralization: Exploring the Continuum

General Sessions: Current Research in Atlantic Canada and Adjacent Areas

**Call for Papers**

Papers are invited from students and professionals for oral and poster presentations in the technical sessions. Individuals may present only one volunteered paper (either oral or poster), but may co-author other papers. Submissions to the General Sessions should reflect current geoscience studies in Atlantic Canada and adjacent areas, or other current geoscience studies by researchers from the region. Additional information about the Special Sessions is available from the convenors, who may be contacted at the following e-mail addresses:

Geoarchaeology - Pam Dickinson (Pam.Dickinson@unb.ca)

Magmas to Mineralization - Dave Lentz (dlentz@unb.ca).

Student presenters are eligible for the Rupert MacNeill Award for the best oral presentation by a student and the Graham Williams Award for the best poster presentation by a student.

**Registration**

A conference registration form is available on the AGS website (<http://is.dal.ca/~ags/>). Pre-conference registration is available until **January 27, 2005**, after which date only on-site registration will be accepted. Pre-conference payment of fees is by cheque or money order only. On-site payment of fees is by cash, cheque or money order only. Completed registration forms should be mailed, with payment (made payable to The Atlantic Geoscience Society), to: The Atlantic Geoscience Society, c/o Earth Sciences Department, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3J5. Early registration is encouraged to facilitate planning for the meeting.

**Fees**

Professionals	
Pre-conference professional registration (includes \$10 AGS membership for 2005)	\$40.00
On-site professional registration (includes \$10 AGS membership for 2005)	\$50.00
Students	
Pre-conference student registration (includes \$5 AGS membership for 2005)	\$10.00
On-site student registration (includes \$5 AGS membership for 2005)	\$15.00
AGS luncheon and annual business meeting	\$20.00
AGS awards banquet	\$39.00
Annual subscription to <i>Atlantic Geology</i> , the AGS journal:	
AGS members	\$35.00
Non-members	\$45.00

**Accommodations**

A block of rooms has been reserved for delegates at the Hilton Saint John Hotel. The convention rate is \$99 (plus HST) per night for single/double occupancy, with an additional \$20 for each additional person above 2 in a room. Executive rooms are available for \$149 (plus HST) per night. These rooms will be reserved until January 10, 2005. Mention the Atlantic Geoscience Society when making your reservation to obtain the conference rate. Reservations may be made by telephone by calling **1-800-561-8282** (toll free in Canada) or **1-506-693-8484**, or on-line through the Hotel's website at <http://www.hiltonsaintjohn.com>.

***Watch for the Second Circular, which will provide additional information  
about the program, submitting abstracts and other details about the meeting***

Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2004 was a great success and initial planning is already underway for next year. Mark your calendars – November 9 and 10, 2005!

## UNIVERSITY NEWS

### ACADIA

Sandra Barr

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It was an especially busy Fall term at Acadia, with hardly time to catch our collective breath in between activities. The focus of the term was planning, implementing, and then tidying up after the AUGC (see page 8). The department is grateful to the AUGC organizing committee (students David Hapgood, Jeffrey Bigelow, Matthew Phinney, and Heather Wolczanski, and faculty advisor Sandra Barr) for their dedicated work. Many other students, faculty, and staff also helped with the conference, which by all accounts was a great success.

We had a steady flow of interesting visitors to the department throughout the term. Dr. John Suter, American Association of Petroleum Geologists 2004-2005 Distinguished Lecturer, gave an informative talk in September on “*Deltaic Systems: Perspectives on facies models and sequence stratigraphy*”. The GAC’s 2004-2005 H.S. Robinson Fund distinguished lecturer, Dr. Herman Zwanzig, visited the department in late September to tell us about the evolution of the Paleoproterozoic Trans-Hudson Orogen in western Canada. In early October, Dr. Sonya Dehler gave a presentation on recent advances by her and her colleagues on presenting and interpreting regional geophysical data. Dr. Shoufa Lin, the 2004-2005 GAC Hutchison Medal winner, gave a talk in mid-October on “*Structural thinking: a key to mineral deposit studies in deformed terrain*”. In early November, Dr. Randall Miller came through as the APICS-AGS speaker and provided an interesting perspective on historical figures who worked on the geology of the Saint John, NB, area. In addition,



### AGS 2004 FALL FIELD TRIP

*AGS Past-president Reg Wilson (NBDNRE) led a group of approximately 30 students, professors and government geologists on an AGS fall field trip in the Dalhousie – Campbellton area of northern New Brunswick on October 1 to 3. The trip focused on volcanic facies analysis in the Siluro-Devonian Dalhousie and Chaleur groups. A good time was had by all. Photo courtesy of Dave Lentz.*

throughout the term several graduate and undergraduate students presented talks on a variety of course-related, thesis-related, or travel-related topics. We appreciate all these presentations, some of which not only educate us but also include a free lunch! Anyone interested in attending future events at Acadia should check out the website at <http://ace.acadiu.ca/science/geol/coming.htm>.

The department was well represented at the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources “Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2004” conference in early November with posters by students Jeffrey Bigelow, Patrick Moran, and Lori Cook, as well as a departmental poster. The subsequent week, Russel Hiebert gave a talk and Sandra Barr and Cameron Bartsch presented posters at the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources’ “Exploration and Mining New Brunswick 2004” conference in Fredericton.

The Christmas party and pot-luck supper was held at Rob and Wendy Raeside’s house on the evening of

November 28. This venue has become somewhat of a tradition, and we once again thank them for their exceptional hospitality. As always, the food was great (we have a department full of creative and excellent cooks!!) and the “ungiving gift exchange” was as entertaining and frustrating as always. Although the travel alarm clock that I ended up with is useful, I really wanted the Corona beer or the knife set or the fuzzy blue blanket, all of which passed through my hands in the course of the evening!

Cliff Stanley has done a stellar job of serving as Acting Department Head during the Summer and Fall while Rob Raeside enjoyed a 6-month sabbatical leave. In addition, Cliff managed to teach two courses, supervise various honours and graduate students, and squeeze in a lecture tour in China in October. We sense that he is will be happy to return to being just “one of the crew” rather than the captain. Rob will be back at the helm in January, so as to not disappoint the second year optical mineralogy class! Sandra Barr, however, begins a 6-month sabbatical leave in January and Dr. Elisabeth Kosters will be teaching two



courses in the Winter term as a full-time sabbatical replacement.

Barry Cameron and part-time faculty member Alan Macdonald are intending to at least partially retire at the end of this academic year, and hence we advertised during the Fall to fill a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in the general field of 'soft rock' geology. The response has been overwhelming, and the search committee is now in the process of going through the many excellent applications. It is anticipated that the interview process will take place in January.

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## AGS NEWS

### ATLANTIC GEOLOGY

Sandra Barr

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Our printer, Gaspereau Press, moved their shop and hence an unexpected delay ensued in the printing of volume 39, number 2. It was finally printed in mid-November, however, and mailed to subscribers during the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Volume 39, number 3, is now at the printers and we hope to get it back more quickly and in the mail to subscribers by early January. Volume 40, number 1 is at the galley proof stage, and we hope to have it printed early in 2005. As noted in the last issue of the AGS Newsletter, it is another "special issue" consisting of a single large paper by Con Desplanque and David Mossman, entitled "*Tides and their seminal impact on the geology, geography, history, and socio-economics of the Bay of Fundy, eastern Canada*". It also includes the AGS Colloquium Abstracts for 2004.

Someday, we WILL get the journal back on schedule (everyone has to have a dream....)! Thanks to all of you who have paid your outstanding subscription invoices for Volume 39!

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## The First Recorded Death in Nova Scotia of a Geologist in the Prosecution of Field Work?

Alan Ruffman  
Geomarine Associates Ltd.  
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William Fletcher seems to have died with no more than but a footnote. Hugh Fletcher, B.A., a geologist with the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, began to map the Carboniferous coal measures in Cape Breton Island in the Spring of 1875. From the start of his work in each of his reports to Alfred R.C. Selwyn, LL.D., F.R.S., Director of the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, save that for 1877, Mr. Fletcher credited among his assistants a William Fletcher of Toronto: "*In the prosecution of the survey I was assisted with zeal and ability, during the whole season, by Mr. William Fletcher of Toronto*" (Fletcher's 1875 report, p. 369). By the report for 1876, W. Fletcher is cited with a B.A. At no point over the next five years does the Alfred Selwyn "Report of Progress" record the relationship of William to Hugh Fletcher, if indeed there was any.

Fletcher's June 1<sup>st</sup> 1863 letter to Selwyn with his "*Report on the Geology of Northern Cape Breton*" for the seasons 1880-81-82 (published 1884) "*relates to that part of the island of Cape Breton which lies north of Judique and River Denys Basin in Victoria and Inverness counties and which has not been described in previous reports .... detailed surveys were made as in former years, the courses being taken by prismatic compass and the distance being measured in the records by the odometer, and the brooks by pacing ... The long rivers in the north are only approximately correct, as they were surveyed by pacing in a very rough country, by several different persons, and without a connecting base line, except on the shores. To expedite the survey of these rivers, main camps or depots for provisions were established at the headwaters of the N.E. Margaree, the North River of St. Ann's and the West River of Baddeck, thence traverses were made down the neighbouring brooks to the settlements, and thence back again to the camps*" (p. 3H, the first page of June 1, 1883 letter of Hugh Fletcher to A.R.C. Selwyn, published 1884).

And the footnote with no other explanation: "*In preparing the map I was aided .... My assistants in the field were William Fletcher, B.A., \* ....*"

\* *Unfortunately drowned on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1881, while fording the Northeast Margaree River, at Big Intervale.*

## NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

### FUNDY GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Ken Adams

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Although we had a event-filled summer, including the 39th Gem and Mineral Show, Dinosaur Dig 2004 and receipt of the Feasibility Assessment and Concept Plan for the Museum's expansion, overall museum usage and

visitation to our region were down. This has had a significant impact on the site and our winter hours of operation have been modified. From December 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005, exhibitions and the gift shop will be open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Museum's administrative office and laboratory will be staffed Tuesdays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The site will close on Friday, December 24 and reopen Friday, January 7. We have

introduced a new toll free number: for more information on events and museum hours, call 1-866-856-DINO (3466).

March Break events at the Museum are scheduled for March 11 to 19, 2005. Details will be posted on the Museum's website at <http://fundygeo.museum.gov.ns.ca> early in the new year. The program at the Museum will complement the dinosaur-themed March Break activities at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History and the Discovery Centre in Halifax. Come walk and rock with Nova Scotia's own prosauropod dinosaurs. Older than T-rex or Apatosaurus, the prosauropods roamed through Nova Scotia 200 million years ago. Visitors will learn how these animals are excavated from the cliffs and they can see the work being carried out in the laboratory to expose these early plant eaters.

Staff members and volunteers are already working on preparations for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nova Scotia Gem and Mineral Show, formerly and still widely known as Rockhound Roundup. There have been many changes over the years and a number of familiar faces are no longer with us. If you would like to share your memories of past shows or have any memorabilia (pins, posters, photographs), please contact Carol Corbett, Coordinator of the 2005 show.

The fossil material collected during Prosauropod Dinosaur Dig 2004 continues to be prepared in the Museum's Laboratory. This work is being carried out by museum staff and volunteers and can be followed on the Project Prosauropod website at <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/fgm/lab/lab.html>. Ph.D. candidate Tim Fedak has been following this work closely. As noted in the fall edition of the AGS Newsletter, Tim may be looking at a new taxon for North America. The work in the lab has confirmed the presence of ribs, teeth, skull fragments, and elements of the pelvic girdle, which will help to identify the

species of this dinosaur.

In October, the Museum's Board of Directors, staff members and representatives from the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association, ACOA and Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage and Office of Economic Development met to discuss the Final Report of the "Feasibility Assessment and Business Plan for the Fundy Geological Museum Expansion", prepared by Cantwell and Company. The response to the report has been positive, and the partners recognize that the Museum will continue to play a role in the development of the educational and tourism product available along the Fundy Shore. While an expanded facility and program will enable the site to attract new and repeat visitation, the need for an integrated regional marketing strategy has been flagged as a critical first step. As one of the main tourism destinations in the Parrsboro area, the Museum must take the lead in forging partnerships with other attractions and services in the region.

On a sadder note, Marilyn Smith, Education Officer at the Fundy Geological Museum and past Chair/Coordinator of the Rockhound Roundup/Nova Scotia Gem and Mineral show passed away November 23, 2004, after a short illness.

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## NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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The Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History is once again receiving applications for the Board of Governors' Research Grants. These awards, which are made in several different categories, are worth up to \$4,000. Of particular interest to AGS members is the palaeontology grant, which is awarded to a research project concerning significant Nova Scotia fossil occurrences, specimens, species, palaeoecology, or stratigraphic palaeontology. Previous recipients

include Mike Rygel, Dr. Howard Falcon-Lang, Dr. Erwin Zodrow, and George Hrynewich.

Additional information about the grants, including their Terms of Reference and the project submission format, is available from Research Grant Program, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Promotion and Development, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, NS, B3H 3A6. This information is also available on the Museum's website at <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/grants/index.htm>.

Applications must be received no later than 5 pm, February 1, 2005. Successful proposals will be announced by May 7, 2005.

### *The Dinosaurs Are Coming!*

The dinosaurs arrive in February. Come and see the amazing, moving, roaring, life-like Kokoro robotic dinosaurs. Go nose to nose with scientifically-accurate models of Tyrannosaurus rex, Apatosaurus, Protoceratops, and Pteranodon.

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## OTHER NEWS

### AUGC 2004 AT ACADIA UNIVERSITY

*Heather Wolczanski*

The 54<sup>th</sup> annual Atlantic Universities Geology Conference (AUGC) was hosted by the Fletcher Geology Club at Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, on October 28-30<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 115 students from Memorial University, Dalhousie University, St. Francis Xavier University, St. Mary's University, Acadia University, and the University of New Brunswick attended the conference. Several professors were also in attendance at part or all of the conference, including a delegation from the University of Western Ontario seeking potential graduate students!

The "career night" that formed a major part of Thursday evening's opening reception at the Old Orchard





*Robert Lodge of Acadia, winner of the APICS-NSERC award for best oral presentation at AUGC 2004. The award was presented by Ralph Nilson, Vice-President (Academic) of Acadia University.*

Inn was packed with practical advice for students. It consisted of entertaining and informative presentations by Dr. Chris White (Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources), Dr. Catharine Farrow (FNX Mining Inc.), Mr. Peter Oram (MGI Limited), and Dr. Grant Wach (Dalhousie University), with an impromptu summary at the end by Dr. Craig Lamb, President of CSPG.

On Friday, students had a choice of three field trips led by Acadia professors. Rob Raeside and Alan Macdonald were leaders of a highly popular excursion to the Ovens to look at metamorphism, structure, and gold-bearing quartz veins. Students had an opportunity to pan for gold and even found some! A second trip led by Cliff Stanley included a visit to the Fundy Gypsum mine and surrounding outcrops of the Horton and Windsor groups. The third trip, led by Sandra Barr and Ian Spooner, consisted of geological traverse across the Annapolis Valley that began with xenoliths and ended with zeolites.

On Friday evening, students from each university engaged in a friendly Geo-Jeopardy competition, ultimately won by Chris Galbraith of Dalhousie University.

Student oral and poster presentations took place all day Saturday in the K.C. Irving Centre on the Acadia campus, as well as a late-morning presentation about the petroleum industry by Dr. Craig Lamb, President of CSPG. Dr. David Piper, Geological Survey of Canada (Atlantic) and GAC Vice-President, was the speaker at the evening awards banquet, and delivered an entertaining talk with "lots of pictures" and good advice! Awards were given to four students for exceptional presentations and posters. Robert Lodge (Acadia) won the APICS - NSERC award for his oral presentation entitled "*Volcanism of the Silurian Eastport Formation, Maine, USA*". The accompanying photograph shows Robert with Acadia Vice-President Academic Ralph Nilson, who was on hand to make the award presentation. Perry Clark (UNB) received the CSPG award his talk on "*Sedimentology of the Minto Salmon Harbour mine site and its high sulphur coals*". The Frank Shea Memor-

ial Award went to Peter McChesney (St. FX) for his presentation on the Cu-Ni-PEG potential of the Romeo II Sill in the Cape Smith Foldbelt, Quebec. Jeffery Bigelow (Acadia) received the Imperial Oil Poster Award for his poster on the Callie Lode Gold Deposit, Northern Territory, Australia.

Congratulations to the winners and to all of the presenters, each of whom received a certificate and a one-year subscription to the AGS journal "Atlantic Geology".

The organizing committee for AUGC (Acadia students David Hapgood, Jeffrey Bigelow, Matthew Phinney, and Heather Wolczanski) thank the many volunteers and sponsors, and especially everyone who attended, for helping to make AUGC 2004 such a memorable event. Visit our website at <http://ace.acadiau.ca/science/geol/augc2004> for more details!

## COMING EVENTS

### **Atlantic Geoscience Society 2005 Colloquium and Annual Meeting.**

Saint John Trade and Convention Centre and Hilton Hotel, Saint John, New Brunswick, February 4-6, 2005. For information, see page 5 in this issue or visit the website at <http://www.dal.ca/~ags/>.

**Halifax 2005: Joint Meeting of the Geological Association of Canada, Mineralogical Association of Canada, Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and Canadian Society of Soil Science.** Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 15-18, 2005. For information, visit the website at <http://www.halifax2005.ca>.