

Report of the CCPG Director

Gary Ostry, P.Eng., P.Geo.

The Canadian Council of professional Geoscientists (CCPG) is an autonomous federation of provincial and territorial professional associations whose purpose is to provide services to its member associations.

The CCPG plays an important role in: 1) coordinating admission and education standards, mobility, and other activities affecting Canadian professional geoscientists, 2) acting as a forum within which common issues are addressed, 3) enhancing the image and practice of geoscience, and 4) representing Canadian professional geoscientists nationally and internationally.

The following issues have been discussed by the CCPG board of directors and APEGM throughout the year. The most recent meeting of CCPG was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 2, 2008.

The Canadian Geoscience Standards Board – update

The Canadian Geoscience Standards Board (CGSB), a standing committee of CCPG, was charged with establishing common nationally recognized requirements for professional geoscience registration. The CGSB is comprised of representatives from each of the 10 constituent associations (CAs) of CCPG that regulate the practice of professional geoscience in each of the 11 provinces and territories in Canada where licensure applies. The original draft document, "Recommended Minimum Requirements of Geoscience Knowledge and Work Experience for Professional Practice", was released in 2000 and over the last three years has undergone intensive review by the CGSB. In July 2008 the CCPG announced the unanimous decision of its Board of Directors to accept proposed revisions to the geoscience knowledge and experience requirements for professional registration in Canada. The new revisions are set out in the CCPG document entitled "*Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements for Professional Registration in Canada*" which will replace the aforementioned document "*Recommended Minimum Requirements of Geoscience Knowledge and Work Experience for Professional Practice*".

Inter –Association Mobility Agreement (IAMA) - update

The Inter –Association Mobility Agreement (IAMA) Task Force will continue to review the IAMA following the extension of the IAMA for an additional 1 year. In 2006 the Task Force was struck with the mandate to review the existing agreement and make recommendations for amendment when the agreement expired in 2008. At the June 2008 meeting final changes to the Agreement on

Mobility of Professional Geoscientist within Canada were recommended by the IAMA Task Force to ensure consistency with the Agreement on Internal Trade. The Agreement on Internal Trade was signed by First Ministers in 1994 and seeks to reduce barriers to the movement of persons, goods, services and investments within Canada. The most notable recommendation was the replacing of the overarching 'notwithstanding' clause that gave each CA a veto power, with a conditional clause that will only allow each CA to conduct due diligence on an applicant if a series of six listed conditions are not met. The IAMA was extended for 2 years in 2006 the Task Force was struck with the mandate to review the current agreement and make recommendations for amendment when the agreement expires in 2008.

- o Alberta will not sign the Agreement on Mobility of Professional Geoscientist within Canada without the 'notwithstanding' clause
- o BC will not sign the Agreement on Mobility of Professional Geoscientist within Canada due to conflicts between the agreement and provincial laws; the nature of the conflict(s) was not discussed

In light of the unwillingness of the BC and AB CAs' to sign the amended Agreement on Mobility of Professional Geoscientist within Canada the CCPG Board passed a motion to extend the current agreement until June 2009 to give the IAMA Task Force more time to try and resolve the AB and BC issues. By September 2008 all CAs had submitted executed copies of the Agreement that contained the extension provision.

Licensure Task Force

At the 2007 Annual Meeting of Council a Licensure Task Force was formed and given the mandate to bring forward a national strategy to encourage geoscience licensure for the non-registered. The Task Force recommended that a national marketing campaign be undertaken to promote licensure and raise the profile of geosciences in Canada and the formation of a Licensure Compliance Committee (LCC) to implement this strategy over the next three years. This was passed by Council and the LCC has been meeting on a regular basis.

Flagstaff Declaration

In September 2008 CCPG, along with the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), the European Federation of Geologists (EFG), the Institute of Geologists of Ireland (IGI), the Geological Society of London (GS) and the Ilustre Colegio Oficial de Geologos (ICOG), became signatories to the Flagstaff Declaration at the 3rd International Professional Geology Conference held in Flagstaff, Arizona. The signatories agreed to nominate representatives to

establish a global framework to improve international cooperation on a wide range of issues, from professionalism, ethics and enforcement, and CPD, to raising awareness of the importance of geoscience in society. It is anticipated other associations from other countries will soon become part of this network.

The 2008 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award

CCPG announced Dr. Hugh Miller, P.Geo., of Paradise, Newfoundland as the recipient of the 2008 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award. The Canadian Professional Geoscientists Award is given to recognize the achievements of an individual in his or her capacity as a registered Professional Geoscientist, 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

CCPG Executive for 2008/2009

Hamid Mumin of Manitoba stepped down as President and Bruce Bolster of New Brunswick assumed the Presidents chair for 2008 – 2009. Gary Vivian of the NWT is the President-Elect.

The new executive of the CCPG for 2007/2008 is as follows:

President: Bruce Bolster (APEGNB)
Past President: Hamid Mumin (APEGM)
President Elect: Gary Vivian
Secretary Treasurer: Vacant

The upcoming CCPG Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Toronto in November 2008 and the next CCPG Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 2009 in Fredericton, New Brunswick.