



# Mineralogical Association of Canada

[www.mineralogicalassociation.ca](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

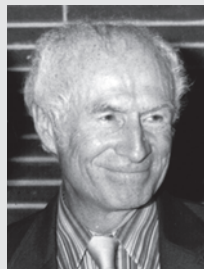
What are you going to do with all those back issues of the mineralogical journals that line your bookshelves? I no longer use these dusty volumes. When I need to refer to a paper, I find it quicker, easier, and more useful to download a pdf. I also have a filing cabinet full of reprints that I requested from authors when I was a graduate student. I remember filling out and mailing request cards and then waiting for several weeks for a reprint to arrive in the mail, often with a signature and "compliments of the author." I still remember when I got my first reprint request! This brings me back to what to do with all my printed journals. A few years ago, it was suggested that the paper copies could be sent to libraries where copies did not exist. Maybe there was a small window in time when this was a realistic option, but with the current price of shipping and the availability of Internet resources, this is no longer so. Sadly, my bound paper journals seem only bound for recycling.

*The Canadian Mineralogist* is beginning to leave the world of paper publishing behind. It will still be possible for die-hards to receive a paper copy through the mail, but most of our members now request electronic access to the journal. A tremendous advantage of electronic distribution of the journal is that we can publish papers online ahead of the printed version. Look at *The Canadian Mineralogist* web page [www.canmin.org/content/early/recent](http://www.canmin.org/content/early/recent) for "up-to-the-minute" papers.

Ready access to many journals through the Internet is great but is not available to all. Restricted access to publications is driven by the need to generate revenues to sustain the staff and resources necessary to publish a world-class peer-reviewed journal. Nevertheless, access to papers by all can be achieved if articles are published in a "gold open access" format. Many granting agencies now require that papers funded by them be made open access within 12 months of initial publication. In the future, as more manuscripts are published as open access, not-for-profit societies will find that their revenue stream from publishing will shift away from membership subscriptions to page charges for open access manuscripts. Publishing journals by societies and associations is a challenge in today's changing landscape. I encourage you to help your society through these challenges by continuing to be an active member and by paying page charges to keep this valuable system viable.

**Ron Peterson**, MAC President

## MEMORIAL TO ROBERT BURY FERGUSON, FRS (1920–2015)



August 1954, to set up the mechanism for the founding of the MAC in 1955. He was president of the association in 1977 and honored with the Hawley Medal in 1981.

Bob attended the University of Toronto from 1938 to 1947 (BSc 1942; MSc 1943; PhD 1948). His advisor was Martin Peacock, a great mineralogist and a leader in X-ray crystallography. Bob was appointed professor of mineralogy at the University of Manitoba in 1947. One of his first research projects was to determine the crystal structure of albite, with W. H. Taylor of Cambridge (UK). He went on to produce many publications, the majority on feldspar composition and structure, Si–Al ordering, and the determination and uses of

bond lengths and bond strengths in crystal structure determinations. Bob had three notable postdoctoral fellows: K. V. Subbarao, Petr Černý, and Frank Hawthorne. Bob's role as a teacher and mentor has been praised by his students, and he has received the special recognition of having a mineral named after him, *bobfergusonite* (a transition-metal phosphate discovered in a pegmatite at Cross Lake, Manitoba). Bob had a major impact on the science of crystallography in Canada: in addition to his "mineralogical children," Bob introduced many chemists, physicists, and scientists in other disciplines to crystallography through his teaching and collaboration. He retired from the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Manitoba in 1985 as professor emeritus but remained an active participant in the intellectual life of the department for many years.

This brief account of Bob's life in science and education fails to record the charm, goodness of heart, charitable and community initiatives, and optimism that captured generation after generation of students and colleagues.

**Allan Turnock**, University of Manitoba

## MAC UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received undergraduate awards for the academic year 2013–2014:

- JENNIFER M. ADAM (University of New Brunswick)
- TARYN LYNN AZZOPARDI (University of Windsor, Ontario)
- CHRISTOPHER BECKETT-BROWN (Laurentian University, Ontario)
- HANNAH CAVALLIN (University of British Columbia)
- ALYSSA DAVIS (Brock University, Ontario)
- JACK EASTWOOD (Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario)
- ALAN HANNAH (Mount Royal University, Alberta)
- PATRICK J. A. HILL (University of British Columbia)
- VICTORIA HOUDE (Western University, Ontario)
- JILLIAN KENDRICK (Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia)
- ALEXANDRA LAUDADIO (Carleton University, Ontario)
- MARIE-CHRISTINE LAUZON (Laval University, Quebec)
- DANIEL MACLEOD (St Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia)
- DOMINIQUE MORIN (University of Quebec at Chicoutimi)
- HAYLEA NISBET (McGill University, Quebec)
- ALIX OSINCHUK (University of Alberta)
- AMANDA DAWN PALANIUK (University of Regina, Saskatchewan)
- VIVIAN PATTISON (University of Victoria, British Columbia)
- SIMON POIRIER (Acadia University, Nova Scotia)



**Whitehorse 2016**  
**GAC®-MAC Joint Annual Meeting**  
**L'AGC®-AMC Congrès Annuel**  
**June 1–3, 2016**



Join us for the first GAC®-MAC annual meeting to be held in Yukon! The conference theme, "From Laurentia to Beringia: Margins through time", reflects a wide array of technical sessions and field trips sure to cover topics of interest to geologists of all kinds.

Joignez-vous à nous pour le congrès annuel de l'AGC®-AMC 2016 qui se tiendra pour la première fois au Yukon. Le thème de la conférence: "De la Laurentie à la Beringie: les marges au fil du temps", comprend une large variété de séances techniques et d'excursions qui couvriront sûrement les sujets d'intérêt des géologues de tout genre.

**Special Sessions**  
 Rodinia to Laurentia in NW North America  
 Geology and tectonics of orogenic belts  
 Remediation and mine closure in cold climates

**Séances Spéciales**  
 De la Rodinie à la Laurentie dans le Nord-Ouest de l'Amérique du Nord  
 Géologie et tectonique des chaînes orogéniques  
 Remédiation des sites miniers sous climats froids

[www.whitehorse2016.ca](http://www.whitehorse2016.ca)