



# Mineralogical Association of Canada

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings fellow mineralogists:

As you are reading this, the 2016 joint Geological Association of Canada–Mineralogical Association of Canada (GAC–MAC) meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon (the first time ever!), is now a distant memory. In the same vein, changes in the MAC Executive are also upon us: the baton has been passed from Ron Peterson to me as president, and we have a new face on the executive in the form

of Dr. Paula Piilonen as vice-president. It is very refreshing not only to have a new face but, in a few years from now, the MAC will have its first female president: a positive sign of how our association is changing. Many will not think heavily of new faces at the top of the MAC, but new faces hopefully translate into new ideas, new ventures and ways in which the association plans to move ahead. In these days of blogs and so many new methods of communication, it can be a challenge to not only stay on top of how the MAC provides information on what we do for our membership, but also to think far enough ahead so that there is a plan for the future. As president, I have no illusions as to the limitations we are facing and, while I transition into the position with significant trepidation, I also take a great deal of solace in knowing that we have a vibrant association that has been around for more than 50 years – there is something we are doing right! While we certainly stand on the shoulders of the great ones before us, I can only hope that, over the next 50 years, there will be others that will be saying something similar.

Anytime one embarks on a new path, it is reasonable to set tangible goals that one hopes will be achievable. In this respect, I am hoping that by the end of my tenure the MAC will be moving in a direction that offers more Berry Summer Schools, facilitates more advancement in public awareness and media-based perspectives and initiates new directives in regards to outreach. I have ideas, sure; but I will be depending to a great extent on members of the MAC Council to provide their energy, experience and ideas. We have two outstanding new members in Profs. Sytle Antao (University of Calgary, Canada) and Antonio Simonetti (University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA), and I look forward to working with them and the council as a whole. It certainly is a Brave New World around us, but knowing that the MAC has excellent volunteers that make up its executive and council, combined with a drive to propel the association forward, well, that's good enough to take the fears out of me.

**Andrew M. McDonald**  
Laurentian University

## MAC FACEBOOK PAGE

Check our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/MineralogicalAssociationCanada](http://www.facebook.com/MineralogicalAssociationCanada)), we now have 380 followers.



If you have a Facebook account, be sure to “like” MAC. You will get notified as soon as we post news.

If your institution has a Facebook page, make sure you like MAC, so that the MAC logo appears on your page. Let us know the address of your Facebook page, and we will do likewise.

## MAC TWITTER ACCOUNT

MAC just set-up a twitter account. If you have a twitter account, please follow us @MineralAssocCan.



## NEWS FROM OUR 2015 MAC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

### Peter Crockford



The generous support from the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) has been invaluable during the past year of my graduate studies. Due to the MAC's support I was able to conduct field-work on both Baffin Island (Canada) and in South Australia. These field campaigns allowed me to gather samples of evaporites in order to track changes in both atmospheric and ocean chemistry across the Proterozoic. Not only were these experi-

ences highlights of my PhD, but the results from the various isotope analyses are very exciting and will form a major portion of my thesis. The MAC's support also allowed me to attend conferences and to conduct laboratory work: through these avenues, I am hoping that lifelong collaborations have been fostered. In the upcoming year, I will be doing an internship at the Tokyo Institute of Technology (Japan), finishing my PhD, and looking forward to seeking out a post-doc. In sum, it has been a great year. I can't thank the Mineralogical Association of Canada enough for making it all possible.

### Philippe Belley



I am very grateful to have received the MAC Foundation scholarship in 2015. I have been conducting field work and research in my spare time for a number of years, in addition to my studies. My extracurricular work has led to several articles in *Rocks & Minerals* magazine, several papers in progress (to be submitted to the *Canadian Mineralogist*), and, more recently, to the discovery of a new mineral species (in the advanced stages

of research). The MAC Scholarship is enabling me to continue my mineralogical research, both in the lab and in the field, and is allowing me to pursue exciting new leads in gem deposit geology, to take on new collaborative projects and to accrue additional field experience with different types of gem deposits.

## 2017 MAC AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### Pinch Medal

The Pinch Medal has been awarded every other year since 2001 to recognize major and sustained contributions to the advancement of mineralogy by members of the collector–dealer community. This medal is named after William Wallace Pinch of Rochester (New York, USA) in recognition of his enormous and selfless contributions to mineralogy through the identification of ideal specimens for study and through his generosity in making them available to the academic community. Nominations for the 2017 medal should be submitted to **Ron C. Peterson** (Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering, Queen's University, 99 University Avenue, Kingston ON K7L 3N6, Canada; e-mail: [peterston@queensu.ca](mailto:peterston@queensu.ca)).

Please submit your nominations by 30 November 2016. Check our website, [www.mineralogicalassociation.ca](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca), for additional details.



## UPCOMING GAC–MAC MEETINGS



### GAC–MAC 2017

#### *Back Where it Began* Kingston, Ontario, Canada 14–18 May 2017

The 2017 joint annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) and the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) will be held in Kingston (Ontario, Canada). This meeting coincides with the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Geological Society of Canada in Kingston, which is Canada's oldest scientific agency and was established in 1842. There are 19 technical sessions, 5 short courses, and 6 field trips scheduled.

For more information visit [www.kingstongacmac.ca](http://www.kingstongacmac.ca)



### *CIM–GAC–MAC Joint Meeting* *Resources for Future Generations* Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada 16–21 June 2018

The International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), which represents over 1 million Earth scientists from 120 countries around the world, is endorsing its first intercongress international conference in Canada in June 2018. Vancouver will play host to this inaugural event, entitled “**Resources for Future Generations**”. Representing some 25,000 Earth scientists in Canada, this conference is being organized and delivered by four key Canadian partners: the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM); the Geological Association of Canada (GAC); the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC); and the Canadian Federation of Earth Scientists (CFES). The aim of this event is to address and discuss issues surrounding the importance, availability and access to **energy, minerals and water**, from the perspective of **the Earth** because these resources relate to the good of people around the world.

Grounded in geoscience, the conference will serve as a forum for industry stakeholders to discuss their research initiatives and their activities. There will also be discussion on the key issues and trends that might shape the future of energy, minerals and water resources, including the science of the whole Earth and how that underpins sustainable discovery and extraction.

#### *Get Resourceful – Empower A Generation*

Submit your session proposal under the technical and non-technical themes and sub-themes. Proposals will be accepted until late fall 2016.

Submit your session proposal to: [RFG2018.org](http://RFG2018.org)

## OBITUARY: ZDENĚK JOHAN (1935–2016)



Zdeněk Johan, emeritus Director of Scientific Affairs of the French Geological Survey (Bureau de recherches géologiques et minières – BRGM), passed away in Orléans (France) on 13 February 2016. He was born on 18 November 1935 in Lomnice nad Popelkou in the north of the Czech Republic (formerly Czechoslovakia) and studied mineralogy at Charles University in Prague, graduating with honours in 1958. In 1961 he defended his PhD thesis on the mineralogy of the Cu–As system. Johan was persecuted by the communist regime, so he

decided to emigrate in France in 1969, where he became a research officer in the BRGM. Between 1977 and 1989 he was a Director of the Centre de recherches sur la synthèse et la chimie des minéraux of the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) in Orléans. He then returned to BRGM, where he served as a Scientific Director and a Scientific Advisor until his retirement in 2000. Over the years, he collaborated closely with a number of researchers around the world, but particularly with the geoscience community in the Czech Republic, always grateful for his tireless support. In his research activities he underlined the utility of mineralogy and crystal chemistry for understanding geological processes, especially those related to the formation of mineral deposits. Over the years, he significantly contributed to the understanding of ophiolite-type deposits, layered mafic and ultramafic intrusions. He particularly enjoyed working on the mineralization of Cr and the platinum-group elements, as well as the metallogenesis of granitoid-related W and Sn deposits (together with his wife Věra). More recently, he had worked on the mineralogy of high-temperature industrial materials of anthropogenic origins (slags, fly ash). He described a number of new minerals, often in tandem with Paul Picot, who was his co-author on the excellent *Atlas des minéraux métalliques* (1977; published in English in 1982). A special moment came when the arsenate mineral  $\text{NaPbCu}_5(\text{AsO}_4)_4\text{Cl}\cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (IMA 1992-037), which had been found in 1992 in the Cap Garonne Mine in Var (France), was named zdeněkite in his honour.

Zdeněk Johan was a fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America. He was also a member of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, the Société française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie (SFMC), and several other professional societies. He served as a president of the SFMC in 1993, was a treasurer of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS, 1996–2000), a vice-president of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA, 1994–1998), and a president of the Society of Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA, 1997–1998). During his life he received many honours, including medals and doctorates honoris causa. In 1990, he was elected a corresponding member of the French Academy of Science, and was decorated by two French national orders: Chevalier de l'Ordre national du mérite (1986) and Officier des Palmes académiques (1993). To cap it all, Zdeněk Johan was elected mayor of Isdes in Loiret (France) from 2001 to 2008: this was the town where he lived.

Zdeněk Johan was not only an excellent mineralogist, but also a man of culture, an excellent pianist, very generous, and always ready to help others. His death will be a great loss to the mineralogical and geological communities in general, and to all of his friends and colleagues around the world. He is survived by his wife, Věra, and his son, Zdeněk, along with his family.

**Vojtěch Ettler**, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic