From the Editor

Like everyone else, the editorial staff at *The Canadian Mineralogist* has had to adapt to COVID-19. The biggest change is that we haven’t been in our offices at the University of British Columbia (Canada) since mid-March, but we communicate almost daily via telephone or Zoom. Despite the pandemic, things have been going well – as of October, we’d received more submissions in 2020 than in all of 2019. This has meant more work for our associate editors, and I thank them for rising to the task. I also thank two of our council members, Crystal LaFlamme and Andy McDonald, for volunteering as “temporary” associate editors.

The 2019 (newest) impact factors were released in July, and we were delighted to find out that ours was 1.449 (up from 1.398 last year). That is two years in a row we have achieved record high impact factors!

We have a number of upcoming thematic issues. A pegmatite issue in honor of Ana Neiva (Emeritus Professor at the University of Coimbra, Portugal) and an issue in honor of Elena Sokolova (University of Manitoba, Canada) are both in press, and two issues are in preparation, one issue in honor of Kurt Kyser (1951–2017, formerly of Queen’s University, Ontario, Canada) and one in honor of Anthony J. “Tony” Naldrett (1933–2020). We are currently accepting submissions for one future thematic issue on critical metals (submission deadline is March 2021).

The demand for paper copies of the journal has fallen dramatically over the past few years to the point that it no longer makes economic sense to produce them. Therefore, beginning in January 2021 *The Canadian Mineralogist* will only be published online (except for special circumstances; see below).

Finally, next year will be the 100th anniversary of *The Canadian Mineralogist*, which began as *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* (part of the University of Toronto Studies, Geological Series) in 1921. We plan to celebrate with a special anniversary issue that will include contributions from former editors and award winners, and even some surprises. This anniversary issue will be published online and as a physical (paper) volume.

Sincerely yours,

Lee A. Groat
Editor, *The Canadian Mineralogist*

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**Thematic Issue on Critical Metals – Call for Papers**

*The Canadian Mineralogist* is pleased to announce a thematic issue focusing on critical metals. Our inspiration is the special session entitled “Critical Metals and Raw Materials: Research, Exploration and Production”, which took place during the GeoConvention2020 (https://geoconvention.com/) online event 21–23 September 2020.

We will be accepting submissions not only limited to the abstracts presented during GeoConvention2020. Our aim is to have contributions that focus on the mineralogy, crystallography, petrology, economic geology, geochemistry, and applied mineralogy of the vast field of research that encompasses these important materials.

**Deadline for submissions is 31 March 2021.**

Guest editors for this thematic issue are Dr. Tania Martins (Tania.Martins@gov.mb.ca), Dr. Stefanie Brueckner (Stefanie.Brueckner@umanitoba.ca) and Dr. Simon Jowitt (simon.jowitt@unl.edu).

Please distribute this information to anybody you think might be interested or submit your paper at https://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca/submission/. For more information, contact one of our guest editors named above.

We are looking forward to your contribution.
We have lost a faithful contributor to *The Canadian Mineralogist*; it is the end of an era that came too soon. Tomas Feininger passed away 26 November 2019. As Book Review Editor extraordinaire from 2000 to 2017, Tomas took it upon himself to evaluate new textbooks and major treatises as they appeared in the areas of mineralogy and petrology. He did so creatively and critically, to the point that assiduous readers would zero in on the back pages upon opening each new issue of the journal. Tomas had a very broad background, which motivated me also to invite him to serve as Associate Editor (1986–1988). As was his character, he served with great distinction.

Tomas was born 21 September 1935 in Stockholm (Sweden). His family had moved there from Germany, and, in 1939, then moved to the United States ... New York, to be exact. His father, Andreas Feininger, an eminent photographer whose work regularly featured in *Life* magazine, was noted for his dynamic black-and-white scenes of Manhattan and for studies of the structures of natural objects. Tomas opted for a career in the study of geological structures. He attended Middlebury College (Middlebury, Vermont) for his first BA degree in geology (1956), then Brown University in Providence (Rhode Island) for his ScM (1960). In his thesis, he dealt with the surficial geology of the Hope Valley quadrangle in Rhode Island. Staying at Brown University, he turned his attention to hard rocks in his PhD thesis (1964) “Petrology of the Ashaway and Voluntown Quadrangles, Connecticut – Rhode Island”, his field work being supported by the U.S. Geological Survey. His mapping career with the USGS extended from 1956 to 1969. He joined the Department of Mineral Sciences at the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Washington (USA) for one year (1969–1970), then packed up to move to Ecuador! There, he was Professor and Chair of the Departamento de Geología, Escuela Politécnica del Ecuador (1970–1978). He published widely on various aspects of the geology of Ecuador and neighboring countries, from the distribution of petroleum to crustal structure based on geophysical data and to the petrology of high-pressure metamorphic rocks.

Another chapter of his fascinating career began when he emigrated to Canada to begin his association with the Département de géologie et de géométrie géologique, Université Laval, at first in a research capacity (1978–1983). From 1983 to 1995, he worked at the Earth Physics Branch of the Geological Survey of Canada, before returning to Laval as Associate Professor. During this period, he published on typically Canadian topics, such as the petrology of anorthosite, the mode of intrusion of the Monteregian complexes, and the geophysical information on the shape and depth of those plutons. Tomas was definitely of the old school. When I got to know him, he had already given up driving his vintage Studebaker, but he was still drafting his own maps and figures, and preparing his manuscripts, including those memorable book reviews, with one of his vintage typewriters. He lived in Old Quebec, in a quaint house built around 1830, now part of the patrimoine architectural. He seemed to fit in so well there. He was strongly involved in conservation efforts in his neighborhood and in the quality of life of its residents. He served as President of the Logan Club, Geological Survey of Canada (1987–1988), and of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec (1993–1998).

He certainly made an impact in teaching his students all about mineralogy. Students are not likely to forget Tomas showing up for his lecture on the asbestiform serpentine-group minerals wearing a white vest tailor-made from an asbestos fabric. I recommend highly his Outreach column entitled Why Teach Mineralogy [*Elements*, v5(3), 2009]. He lectured about the paranoia associated with asbestos fibers and the detrimental consequences of a risk-free society in that context.

As befits a man with such a broad experience, Tomas had accumulated an impressive collection of books and bound journals, as well as meticulously trimmed samples of important suites of igneous and metamorphic rocks that he had sampled and studied. Just as he was thinking of downsizing, the needs of the Maine Mineralogical Museum in Bethel became known to him. The museum was starting out from scratch and was eager to acquire a working library. Tomas was very pleased to know that his collections (books, journals, as well as rocks) would fit right in. It was a win–win situation for both parties.

Tomas was incredibly generous in many ways. To the Mineralogical Association of Canada, he volunteered his time and shared his expertise. More than that, he was a generous benefactor, with an important contribution to costs of printing special publications. I shall miss his well-crafted and hand-written letters, his beautiful penmanship, his brown ink, and most of all, his friendship. On behalf of the readership of *The Canadian Mineralogist*, I express our condolences to his daughters Anna, Erica, and Ingrid, and to his partner Johanne Piché, who kept me fully informed.

Robert F. Martin

**LATEST RELEASE IN OUR TOPICS IN MINERAL SCIENCES (FORMERLY SHORT COURSE SERIES) – VOLUME 49**

**Fluid and Melt Inclusions: Applications to Geologic Processes**

*Editors:* Pilar Lecumberri-Sanchez and Matthew Steele-MacInnis (University of Alberta), and Daniel Kontak ( Laurentian University).

*Series Editor:* Robert Raeside

*ISSN 2561-6374 ISBN 9780921294634, TMS#49, 317 pages, soft cover*

The short course entitled Fluid and Melt Inclusions: Applications to Geologic Processes will be delivered at the GAC–MAC meeting in London, Ontario (Canada) in May 2021. The accompanying volume represents the fourth publication on the theme of fluid and melt inclusions in the series Topics in Mineral Science (previously Short Course Series) sponsored and published by the Mineralogical Association of Canada.

The main focus is on the applications of fluid and melt inclusions to answering relevant geologic questions across a wide range of settings. As such, each chapter in this volume includes aspects of two main themes:

1. How the analysis of fluid and melt inclusions has contributed, and continues to contribute, to answering key geologic questions.
2. How to go about using fluid and melt inclusions to answer such questions.

With regard to the second theme, we stress that this volume generally does not provide detailed descriptions of particular analytical methods, but rather it provides high-level overviews of the “philosophy,” approach, and best practices to keep in mind when designing a fluid and/or melt inclusion study.

For specific analytical techniques and thermodynamic considerations, the reader will mostly be referred to the previous volumes. The focus here is on relating the results of such analyses to large-scale geological processes.

Our hope is that, armed with the insights contained in this volume, even novice practitioners will have the perspective to recognize how fluid and melt inclusions can help answer key questions and to devise the best approach to extract the key information from those inclusions that are most beneficial for making robust interpretations.