



# Mineralogical Association of Canada

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Iain Samson

The success of any scientific organization is founded on the people who volunteer their time and energy to its endeavors. It is therefore appropriate that I start my first message as president by acknowledging a few people. First of all, I would like to thank our outgoing president, and now past president, Peter Burns, for leading the Association for the past two years. MAC has remained a vibrant and healthy organization under his leadership.

Gratitude is also due to Sarah Gleeson of the University of Alberta and Michelle DeWolfe of Mount Royal University, who ended their terms as councilors. We welcome two new councilors, Ian Coulson of the University of Regina and Andrew Conly of Lakehead University. The Association also owes a debt of gratitude to David Fowle, who has stepped down as secretary after five years of dedicated service, and we are fortunate that Michelle DeWolfe has volunteered to take on this role.

The annual meeting in Calgary (GeoCanada 2010) was a large conference, run jointly with other organizations, including the Geological Association of Canada, the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, and the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists. Five successful special sessions were sponsored or cosponsored by MAC, as well as a well-attended (sold out) short course on thermodynamic modeling in metamorphism, organized by David Pattison. Ed Ghent and Rajeev Nair of the University of Calgary are thanked for being MAC's representatives on the organizing and technical program committees.

For many people, *The Canadian Mineralogist* is the face of MAC. The journal is of course a very important part of what the Association does, but as I am sure many of you realize, MAC is so much more. The purpose of MAC is to support and promote science as it pertains to mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, and mineral deposits. So, what has the Association done in this regard recently? In addition to its sponsorship of GeoCanada 2010, we have in the past year sponsored several meetings: the Canadian Astromaterials Working Group symposium, the student-run Advances in Earth Sciences Research Conference, and most recently, the 11<sup>th</sup> International Platinum Symposium in Sudbury. Another very important endeavor that MAC undertakes every year is student awards and sponsorship. This year we gave out 16 student research and travel grants totaling \$11,000. These were in addition to the annual MAC Foundation Scholarships worth \$5000; in 2009, these went to Guillaume Lesage and Katie Smart of the University of Alberta.

On the publications front, *The Canadian Mineralogist*, under the experienced leadership of Bob Martin, continues to be the flagship journal of the Association, and we are pleased to note that our citation index increased this year. We have been fortunate to have had Bob as editor for over 30 years, but we have started planning for a transition to a new editor, or more likely new editors. Another important contribution that the Association makes is in the area of print publications, such as short course volumes and our special publication series. Our next special publication, to appear later this year, will be the *Atlas of Non-Silicate Minerals in Thin Section*. We are extremely pleased to say that Robert Wares and Osisko Mining Corporation have given substantial donations to support the publication of this volume, which will allow us to make it affordable. This generosity comes on the heels of a major anonymous

donation in support of print publications over three financial years. On behalf of MAC and its members, I thank Bob Wares, Osisko, and our anonymous donor for their generous support and belief in what MAC stands for. Finally, we continue to support and contribute to *Elements*, a publication that has made a real impact on our community.

I started this message by emphasizing the importance of people. This, of course, extends to the members of the Association. What we want, as a community, is a healthy Association, and an important part of achieving that is having an engaged membership. So, I ask you to get involved. Propose sessions at conferences, short courses, and workshops; we are now looking for short course proposals for the 2012 annual meeting in St. John's and the 2012 Goldschmidt Conference in Montreal. Finally, look around your environment. Are there colleagues and students who ought to be part of our community? Talk to them; convince them to join—I have given you above many reasons for joining MAC.

**Iain Samson**

University of Windsor, Ontario

**University of Ottawa**  
May 25-27, 2011

  
GAC<sup>2</sup> MAC - SEG - SGA

 *Navigating Past & Future Change*

Ottawa will host the 2011 joint annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada, the Mineralogical Association of Canada, the Society of Economic Geologists, and the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits. Canada's Capital offers a unique blend of culture, history, and natural beauty, all in the heart of the city. It lies at the junction between the rocky edge of the Canadian Shield and the Cambrian and Ordovician deposits of an ancient sea, and is ideally situated for its two universities and the Geological Survey of Canada. The painting by artist Judi Pennanen shows the majestic limestone banks of the Ottawa River at Parliament Hill and highlights this meeting's opportunity to showcase the societal relevance of the Earth Sciences to federal decision makers.

Committed to exploring both the scientific and societal aspects of Earth Sciences, Ottawa 2011 will feature symposia and sessions that revolve around Navigating Past & Future Change.  
Join us May 25-27th, on the downtown University of Ottawa Campus, to make this meeting a success!

Details on registration, programs, and events are available on our website:  
[www.gacmacottawa2011.ca](http://www.gacmacottawa2011.ca)

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