



Mineralogical Association of Canada

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Iain Samson, President

Another annual GAC-MAC meeting has come and gone, along with the attendant MAC Council meeting, awards luncheon, and annual business meeting. The Ottawa annual meeting, which was also sponsored by SEG and SGA, was, by all accounts, a great success, both scientifically and financially. The Association thanks co-chairs André Lalonde and Simon Hanmer for the success of the meeting, as well as the many other volunteers who were responsible for various aspects of the conference.

A high proportion of students made up the delegates. Student attendance was in part supported by the MAC travel awards program. This year we awarded fifteen travel and research grants to BSc, MSc, and PhD students from across Canada.

MAC Council met for 1.5 days prior to the meeting and discussed many issues of importance to the Association. Council welcomed Yulia Uvarova (Queen's University), Chris Weisener (University of Windsor), and David London (University of Oklahoma) as new councillors, and thanked outgoing councillors Danielle Fortin (University of Ottawa), David Pattison (University of Calgary), and Ian Coulson (University of Regina) for their contributions and involvement over the past few years.

The most significant issues discussed concerned *The Canadian Mineralogist*. With our involvement in GeoScienceWorld, the online journal-aggregation service for Earth science journals, individual library subscriptions to the journal continue to decrease. This, although expected, has had an important impact on revenues, and the decrease is not being compensated by income from GeoScienceWorld. Despite this, the Association's finances were healthy in the past year, but we will be modifying the financial model upon which the journal currently operates in order to ensure that *The Canadian Mineralogist* remains a sustainable endeavor into the future. Also related to the journal was a discussion about the position of editor. Bob Martin has now been editor of the journal for 33 years! Bob has provided extraordinary, highest-quality service to the journal and the Association, but time marches on, and the transition to a new editor or editors is in the not-so-distant future. Council struck a committee to examine how to best achieve this transition and how to identify a new editorial team. In addition, there was a consensus that the journal should move to an online submission and electronic tracking and handling system; however, it was decided that such a move should only happen in consultation with the new editor(s).

Plans are now well in hand for next year's annual meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland. This meeting will include a short course on the quantitative mineralogy and microanalysis of sediments and sedimentary rocks. Although focused on applications to sedimentary rocks, the techniques discussed can be applied to many different types of Earth materials, and the course should therefore appeal to a wide range of Earth scientists. The 2013 meeting will be in Winnipeg, and an exciting program is developing, so I hope to see many of you in both St. John's and Winnipeg.

Special Publication No. 7, the *Atlas of Non-Silicate Minerals in Thin Section*, by Joan Carles Melgarejo and Robert F. Martin, was launched at the Ottawa meeting (see the advertisement next page). This very

useful, comprehensive, high-quality book, consisting of over 500 pages and a CD, is available at a very reasonable price from MAC thanks to generous supporting donations from Robert Wares and Osisko Mining Corporation. I encourage you and your library to purchase copies of this work.

It is encouraging to see that MAC membership has increased slightly over 2009. Ordinary members are the life-blood of the Association, and it is gratifying to see growth in this area. To build on this, we will be asking members if the Association is serving them in the best way possible. Members can expect to receive a questionnaire in the future. Your collaboration will help MAC understand its membership better and thus offer better service. Please take time to respond as such information will help us move the Association forward.

Iain Samson (ims@uwindsor.ca)
MAC president

BERRY MEDAL TO BOB AND FRAN PINARD



Bob Pinard receiving the Berry Medal from Vice President Lee Groat

The 2011 Berry Medal for distinguished service to the Association was awarded to Bob and Fran Pinard during the annual luncheon. The award was made in recognition of their pivotal role from 1990 to 2006 in moving the Mineralogical Association of Canada forward along its path from an essentially volunteer-based organization at its incep-

tion, to our current status as a professional member-focused Canadian publishing house and contributing member of the international *Elements* consortium of societies. Bob Pinard spent his career at the Mines Branch in Ottawa and became involved in the Association in 1957, when it was a fledgling organization housed at the Mines Branch. After several years at the Royal Ontario Museum, the MAC office was moved to Ottawa in 1990, and Fran Pinard became manager of an office with an inventory of only 22 titles, no computer, no printer, no database, and no operational instructions, while Bob kept his role as subscription manager. Over the years, MAC affairs took over the Pinard's basement, and the family room was converted into a spacious office.

This award expresses more than MAC's appreciation for the Pinard's fulltime operation of the Association's business. It is also deserved praise for their dedicated service to the ordinary and institutional members of MAC. Bob and Fran brought members' voices to Council debate through their annual reports on subscriptions and the business affairs of the Association. Thus, they challenged the decisions and whims of Council—thankfully often visionary and strategic but at times insensitive to practical, operational matters—by focusing on service to members and growing the membership at affordable rates. They provided us with our flagship journal on time and met our demands for reprints, back orders, lost volumes, special and thematic publications, books, posters, cards, and anything else we needed from MAC. Fran and Bob, the membership thanks you heartily for your involvement.

OTTAWA 2011 HIGHLIGHTS



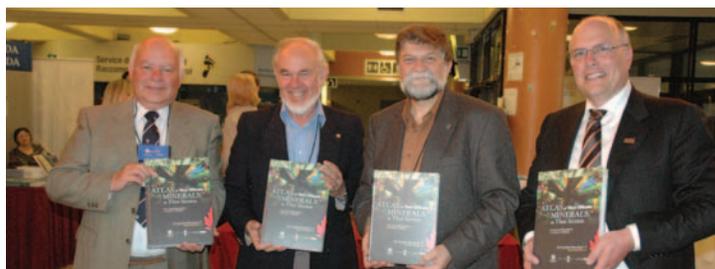
A well-attended luncheon. PHOTO OLGA IJEWLW



The 2011 medalists. From left to right, front row: David Fowle (Young Scientist Awardee), Lee Groat (MAC Vice President), Bob Pinard (Berry Medalist); back row: Joel Grice (Hawley Medalist), Dan Kontak (Peacock Medalist), Iain Samson (MAC President). See Elements 7: 195 for excerpts of citations. PHOTO OLGA IJEWLW



It takes commitment from a large number of volunteers to run a GAC-MAC meeting. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Ottawa 2011 local organizing committee (LOC) and their dedicated team of student volunteers. PHOTO OLGA IJEWLW



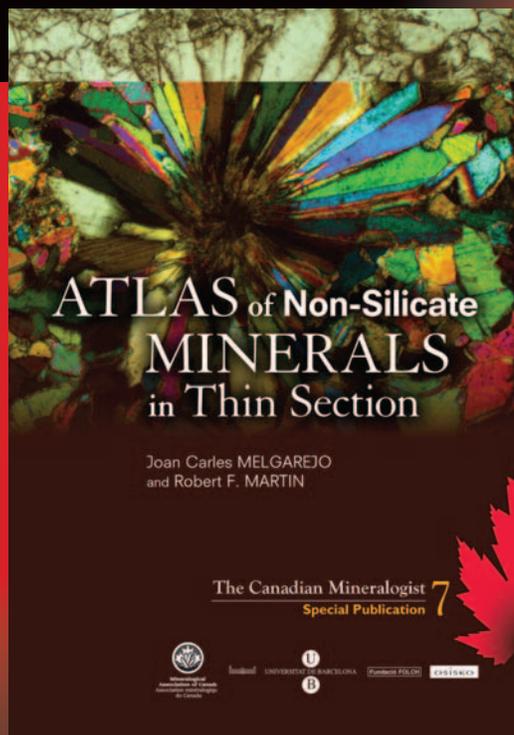
A book-signing event was held on May 26 to launch our new special publication *Atlas of Non-Silicate Minerals in Thin Section*. From left to right, Robert Martin (coauthor), Anthony Williams-Jones (GAC Logan Medalist), André Lalonde (MAC representative on the Ottawa 2011 LOC), and Robert Wares, whose generous contribution helped keep the book affordable, proudly display their copy of the book. PHOTO VICKI LOSCHIAVO

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