



# Mineralogical Association of Canada

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

## MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA MOVES HEADQUARTERS TO LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY



(LEFT–RIGHT) Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) Treasurer, Rémy Poulin; Laurentian University Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Architecture, Joy Gray-Munro; MAC Business Manager, Cathryn Nadjiwon; Director of the Harquail School of Earth Sciences and Professor of Igneous Petrology, Pedro Jugo. PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY.

The Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) has recently shifted its headquarters to the 8th floor of the Willet Green Miller Centre at Laurentian University. Expressing gratitude for the support from the Harquail School of Earth Sciences and Laurentian University, MAC President Dan Marshall highlighted the organization's evolution toward a primarily digital business model. With new staff members and enhanced online services, MAC looks forward to the opportunities presented by its new headquarters. The move is celebrated by Laurentian University, known for hosting major international conferences by MAC, including the GAC-MAC-SGA in May 2023. Joy Gray-Munro, Dean of Laurentian's Faculty of Science, Engineering and Architecture, expressed appreciation for MAC's contributions to scientific literature and geoscience education. MAC's ties with Laurentian are further strengthened through recognition of Harquail School professor Andy McDonald and students with the Hawley Medal, showcasing the organization's commitment to supporting mineral sciences research and education. The move is expected to bring increased visibility to MAC's initiatives among students and researchers at Laurentian University.

We have hired new staff, including a Business Manager, Cathryn Nadjiwon, and a Business Assistant, Maxime Caldwell, who are Sudbury-based, as well as a Communications and Marketing Specialist, Lucy McLay, of Stratford, Ontario. On behalf of the MAC Board, the President extended his thanks and warm wishes to retiring Business Manager Johanne Caron, who has been a loyal and dedicated part of the Association for the past 20 years.

For nearly 20 years, MAC's national office was co-housed by the 'Institut national de la recherche scientifique' (INRS), and Geological Survey of Canada – Québec (GSC-Québec), in Québec City. Our association has greatly benefitted from the kindness of INRS and GSC-Québec and we express our deepest gratitude for the services provided to us over the last two decades.

## MEMBERS OF COUNCIL UPDATES

### *Election of a New Secretary*

Upon the resignation of Philippe Belley from the position of secretary, Benjamin Williams, was nominated, then elected by acclamation to take on the secretary position, from the position of Councillor.

### *Secretary (from May 2023)*

**Benjamin Williams** (Transition Metals Corp.)



Ben is currently a Senior Geologist with Transition Metals Corp. in Sudbury, ON. He obtained a BSc with Honours in Geology from Saint Mary's University, Halifax, followed by graduate work in the field of igneous petrology and isotope geochemistry at Carleton University, Ottawa. Mr. Williams has been with Transition Metals since 2018, where his work has focused on overseeing the company's various projects, including detailed mapping, geochemistry, structural analysis, diamond drilling, land management, and technical

report writing. In his roles at Transition Metals, Mr. Williams has supervised multiple crews of early-career geologists and students in conducting field work. Prior to joining Transition Metals, Mr. Williams worked as a Senior Mapping and Research Assistant in collaboration with Carleton University's Department of Earth Science and the Northwest Territories Geological Survey. In that capacity, he conducted various value-added and isotopic research programmes on multiple Neoproterozoic volcanic belts within the Slave Craton, with a focus on VMS-style mineralization. Mr. Williams is an active member of the geological community, and he regularly presents and evaluate industry-related projects and properties for many affiliates of the Ontario Prospectors Association (OPA). Likewise, Mr. Williams instructs and promotes ethical and sustainable prospecting activities and hobbies for all ages.

## COUNCILLOR MANDATE EXTENSION

A MAC councillor since 2021, Brian has graciously accepted to renew his mandate for another three years to fill a vacancy. He has been elected by acclamation, upon his nomination for an extension.

### *Councillor (2021–2027)*

**Brian O'Driscoll** (University of Ottawa)



Brian is currently professor and Newmont Chair in Economic Geology at the University of Ottawa. He studied geology at University College Cork, Ireland, where he graduated with a BSc in 2003. His PhD (awarded by Trinity College Dublin, 2007) was supported by an Irish Research Council scholarship and concerned with the petrogenesis of layered mafic-ultramafic intrusions. Prior to his arrival in Canada in 2022, he held academic appointments at the University of Manchester and Keele University (both in the UK) since 2008.

From 2007–2008, he held a postdoctoral position at University College Dublin, Ireland, funded by an Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology scholarship.

Brian has been an ordinary committee member of the UK Volcanic and Magmatic Studies Group (2007–2010) and a committee member of the UK Metamorphic Studies Group (2011–2014). He has also served as an Ordinary Council Member (2013–2015) and as Vice-President (2016) of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, as well as Associate Editor for *Mineralogical Magazine* (2014–2019), Associate Editor for *Lithos* (2013–2016), and Review Editor for *Frontiers in Earth Science (Petrology)* from 2017 until present.

His research interests are broad, mainly focused on elucidating the emplacement and solidification of magma bodies in the Earth's crust, as well as constraining melt generation and migration in the upper mantle. He also carries out work in ore deposit (principally platinum-group metal) petrogenesis and early Earth evolution within the framework of the latter areas. He combines field observations, as well as petrological, geochemical, and isotopic information from igneous (and sometimes metamorphic) rocks, to address these topics.

### REGISTER FOR THE GAC-MAC-PEG 2024 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING Brandon University, May 19–22, 2024

This meeting will include all the expected GAC and MAC programming, as well the 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Granitic Pegmatites with field trips and special sessions.  
Register here: [event.fourwaves.com/gacmac2024/registration](https://event.fourwaves.com/gacmac2024/registration)

GAC-MAC-PEG 2024

AGC-AMC-PEG 2024

AT THE HEART OF THE CONTINENT  
AU COEUR DU CONTINENT

BRANDON, MB

### IN MEMORY OF DR. MATI RAUDSEPP (1947–2024)

It is with profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Dr. Mati Raudsepp, one of the stalwarts of Canadian mineralogy, on 10 January 2024 after an extended illness. Dr. Raudsepp had retired to Guelph, ON, after serving as the Director of the Electron Beam/X-ray Diffraction facility and as an Honorary Professor in the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences at the University of British Columbia for nearly 25 years.

Mati was born 27 March 1947 in Göteborg, Sweden, to Pauline and Arnold Raudsepp (predeceased), who had escaped their home in Tallinn, Estonia, just hours before Soviet soldiers began their occupation in September 1944. The family immigrated to Canada (via Halifax) in 1951 and settled in Hamilton, ON. Mati was a proud Estonian-Canadian who contributed to ensuring traditions remained vibrant on this side of the Atlantic.

Dr. Raudsepp grew up in Hamilton, ON and obtained a BSc from McMaster University (1971), along with a MSc (1979) and PhD from the University of Manitoba (1984). His PhD focused on the characterization of the bulk composition and structural state (cation order) in synthetic amphiboles using a combination of an SEM examination of run products (before it was the norm) and refinement of PXRD data via the Rietveld method. The latter was of high interest to Dr. Raudsepp and it underpinned his research program throughout his career. He was meticulous, with an incredible eye for detail and a gift for translating his knowledge and observations into solutions related to

solid-state or geologically relevant problems. He gave freely and willingly of his time to all those conducting research, regardless of what stage they were at in their career



In addition to his commitment to research and mentorship, Dr. Raudsepp served the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) in several ways. Most notably, he was Treasurer in 1996–2006, leading the MAC in developing fiscally responsible approaches that would serve the Association well over the long term. He also served as an Associate Editor for *The Canadian Mineralogist* (now the *Canadian Journal of Mineralogy and Petrology*) over the period of 2002–2005. Dr. Raudsepp also played a key role in running the first Berry Summer school, appropriately dedicated to powder X-ray diffraction techniques. In recognition of his long-term commitment to the MAC, Dr. Raudsepp was awarded the Leonard G. Berry medal in 2006.

We are all a bit poorer with the loss of Dr. Mati Raudsepp, a friend, mentor, and professional colleague of many. Our condolences go out to his sister, Evy Beraldo (Guelph, ON), and all of his family members.

**By Andy McDonald, with contributions from Evy Beraldo, Scott Ercit, Gina Lecheminant, and Sasha Wilson.**

Complete memorial tribute: [mac-amc.myshopify.com/blogs/featured-area/remembering-dr-mati](https://mac-amc.myshopify.com/blogs/featured-area/remembering-dr-mati)