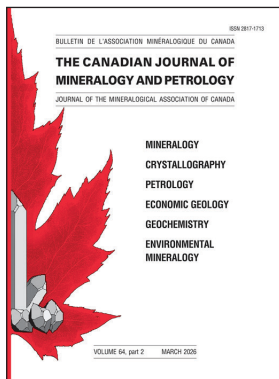




# Mineralogical Association of Canada

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

In the March issue of *The Canadian Journal of Mineralogy and Petrology* (formerly *The Canadian Mineralogist*), we feature articles on sheet silicates, including chromium-bearing sheet silicates associated with orogenic gold from the Kerr-Addison deposit in northern Ontario. A reminder that we can still learn a lot even when the mines are closing. In addition, the application of Li-mica compositions for the determination of fluorine content of aqueous solutions is critically assessed. Solid solutions in chromite–magnetite and spinel–hercynite series minerals in basic-ultrabasic intrusions in the Kola Peninsula are described, with implications for magmatogenesis and mineralization. Of course we have new minerals as well: a lead-tellurite from Mexico, shenganfuite, and a cadmium vanadate from Colorado, called cadvanite. We also feature some less regularly occurring contributions in this month's pages. These include a memorial to Tony George Plant, a mineralogist formerly of the G.S.C. in Ottawa, well remembered in this contribution from Graham Plant. In addition, we feature a book review by Steve Prevec of François Cardarelli's resource entitled "Heavy Liquids for the Separation of Minerals: Their Preparation, Properties, and Uses."



Our most recently cited paper continues to be ***Structural Controls on the Origin and Emplacement of Lithium-Bearing Pegmatites*** by Silva et al. (2023), now followed by ***Trace Element Characteristics of Tourmaline in Porphyry Cu Systems: Development and Application To Discrimination*** (Beckett-Brown et al. 2023).

## 2026 PEACOCK MEDAL AWARD RECIPIENT



**Prof. Lee A. Groat** graduated from Queen's University with a BSc (Honours, Geology) in 1982 and from the University of Manitoba with a PhD in 1988. From 1988 to 1989, he was a NATO Postdoctoral Fellow at Cambridge University (UK).

Professor Groat has been a faculty member at the University of British Columbia since 1989. In 2002, he was awarded the Killam Prize for

Excellence in Teaching, and since 2007, he has been Director of the Integrated Sciences specialization, which enables students to create custom degree programs.

Professor Groat's main research interests are the geology of critical elements, gem deposits, and the crystal chemistry of minerals. He has published approximately 200 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

From 2001 to 2006, Prof. Groat was Editor of *American Mineralogist*. From 2012 to 2022, he was Editor of *The Canadian Mineralogist*. From 2007 until 2021, Prof. Groat was Chair of the Commission on Gem Materials of the International Mineralogical Association.

In 2003, Prof. Groat was elected a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, and in 2009, the new mineral groatite,  $\text{NaCaMn}^{2+}_2(\text{PO}_4)[\text{PO}_3(\text{OH})_2]_2$ , was named in his honor. In 2019, he was awarded the Leonard G. Berry medal for distinguished service to the Mineralogical Association of Canada.

Professor Groat is an Independent Director of multiple companies in the exploration and technology spheres and a partner in a private consulting company.

## 2026 BERRY MEDAL AWARD RECIPIENT



**Dr. Andrew Conly's** interest in geology began thanks to a serendipitous course in high school and led him to complete an HBS (1993) and MSc (1996) at Carleton University. Through Wayne Goodfellow (Geological Survey of Canada), he participated in two oceanographic expeditions to the Juan de Fuca Ridge, experiences that ultimately brought him to the University of Toronto, where he earned his PhD in 2003 under the supervision

of Steve Scott. Following his doctoral studies, Dr. Conly joined the Department of Geology at Lakehead University, where he is currently Associate Professor and Chair. His research has expanded from an initial focus on sediment-hosted base metal deposits to include experimental mineralogy and petrology, pit lake remediation, and, most recently, the geology and mineralogy of graphite deposits. Dr. Conly has made significant contributions through professional service. He has served twice as Chair of the Mineral Deposits Division of the Geological Association of Canada and has held leadership roles including Academia Representative on NRCan's Steering Committee on Chromite Research and Development, Regional Vice-President of the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits, Director of the CIM Geological Society, and Chair of CCCESD. Since 2010, he has been actively involved with the Mineralogical Association of Canada, serving as Councillor (2010–2013), on Hawley Medal, student travel and research grant, and scholarship selection committees, and as a member of the Executive from 2018 to 2024, culminating in his term as President during the COVID-19 pandemic. His service to MAC has been inspired by past Berry Medalists Iain Samson, Pierrette Tremblay, and Andy McDonald, as well as by the dedication of MAC's Executive, Council, and staff.

## 2026 EMERGING SCIENTIST AWARD RECIPIENT



**Dr. Brendan Van Dyck** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus. He received his PhD from the University of Oxford in 2016 and subsequently held an 1851 Research Fellowship at the University of Cambridge (2016–2017). He was appointed Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University in 2017, where he served until 2020, before joining

the University of British Columbia in 2021.

His research focuses on the chemical and physical processes operating within metamorphic and plutonic crust. By combining elements of materials science, petrology, and solid-state chemistry, Dr. Van Dyck strives to develop new approaches for interpreting the rock record. His group studies topics ranging from reaction kinetics and stress distribution during regional tectonics to the bioavailability and geochemical cycling of life-essential elements. Their approach integrates thermodynamics, field observations, and analyses of mineral microstructure and crystallography to examine how crustal processes evolve over geological timescales. Dr. Van Dyck and his group employ a range of analytical techniques—including scanning electron microscopy with electron backscatter diffraction (SEM-EBSD), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), micro-X-ray fluorescence (microXRF), and cathodoluminescence (CL)—alongside petrological and chemical modelling to gain new insights into petrological processes.

## 2026 PINCH MEDAL AWARD RECIPIENT



### Colonel (Ret.) Quintin Wight, CD, MA

His 37-year career in the RCAF took Quintin to many localities in which he could find mineral specimens to add to a growing collection. He began writing about minerals in 1966, and has since published over 200 articles and reviews on mineral-related subjects. He began to work in mineral photomicrography in 1973, and has given more than

205 presentations to groups across North America, and in England, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Tanzania, and New Zealand. Inducted to the Micromounters' Hall of Fame in 1990, he now coordinates that organization on behalf of the Baltimore Mineral Society. He also conducted an annual gathering of specialists in microscopic minerals at the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium from 2000 until the RMS demise in 2019. His book, *The Complete Book of Micromounting*, was published in 1993, and the mineral quintinite was named in his honour in 1992.

## 2026 HAWLEY MEDAL AWARD RECIPIENTS



**Mary G. Macquistan** holds an Honours BSc, Specialization Geology and Minor in Mathematics from the University of Ottawa, for which she was awarded the 2021 faculty plaque.

She then completed a Master of Science in Geological Sciences at the University of British Columbia in 2024. Her MSc research focused on the paragenesis and mineral diversity of the Gun occurrence

in Yukon Territory. This work has led to the publication of two papers (with a third in progress) and the discovery and characterization of two new barium minerals: ronpetersonite and raudseppite.

Following her MSc, Mary has worked in mineral exploration on mapping programs in northern BC and with the Yukon Geological Survey.



**Dr. Ron Peterson** (HBSc, Western, 1974, Digitizing Debye-Scherrer powder films, supervisor J. Starkey), (MSc, McGill, 1977 Crystal structure of sulfate scapolite, supervisor R.F. Martin), (PhD Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1980, Modelling of bonding electron distribution in aluminosilicate polymorphs, supervisor G.V. Gibbs) Ron is an Emeritus Professor in the Department of

Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering at Queen's University. Ron specializes in X-ray and neutron diffraction using both powders and single crystals. A wide variety of mineralogical problems have been investigated by laboratory and field-based observations. These include order/disorder behaviour in spinels, quantitative analysis of mineral mixtures with Rietveld refinement of powder data and the crystal chemical study of metal sulfates that occur in mine waste. In 1999, Ron designed and built 500 teaching kits to help grade 4 teachers present the geology requirements of the science and technology curriculum of the Province of Ontario. The kit weighs 10 kg and has 43 rocks, minerals, and fossils, as well as teaching guides and worksheets for six weeks of study, and was distributed across the province. Ron was the Director of Continuing and Distance Studies for Queen's University and designed and offered science enrichment programs for primary and secondary students in the Kingston area. Recently Ron investigated the occurrence in nature of hydrated magnesium sulfate minerals. During field studies he described the new mineral cranswickite  $MgSO_4 \cdot 4H_2O$  from northern Chile. During an experimental study of hydrated magnesium sulfate stability, the conditions of formation of  $MgSO_4 \cdot 11H_2O$  was determined and the prediction of where the mineral might be found on Earth led to the discovery of the new mineral meridianiite in a frozen lake in British Columbia. The mineral is named after the locality on Mars where the NASA rover Opportunity found evidence of hydrated magnesium

sulfate. The mineral ronpetersonite was described by Mary Macquistan at the Gun claim deposit as part of the larger study, which is the subject of the Hawley Award winning paper. Ron loves to play hockey and is spending retirement enjoying the company of his family and making furniture.



**Dr. Catriona M. Breasley** is a Project Geologist at Equity Exploration Ltd., where she works on a variety of mineral exploration projects across Canada. She is currently managing a multi-rig lithium pegmatite exploration project in the Northwest Territories.

She received her MSc geology in Earth sciences from the University of St Andrews, Scotland in 2021. She completed her PhD in geological sciences at the University of British Columbia in 2025, where her research focused on the formation, textures, and geochemical evolution of lithium mineralization in Canadian pegmatites, including the Tanco pegmatite in Manitoba and the Prof pegmatite in British Columbia. During her time at the University of British Columbia, she was awarded several competitive international scholarships and awards.

Her research combines mineralogical, geochemical, and advanced imaging techniques to better understand the processes that form critical element deposits and their implications for mineral exploration and ore processing. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications on pegmatite geochemistry and mineralogy.



**Prof. Lee A. Groat** is the recipient of both the 2026 Hawley Medal and the 2026 Peacock Medal. Please refer to the earlier award entry above for his full biography.

## COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

In a note to journal editors, Bosi et al. (2025) cited two of our publications as having failed to adhere to established IMA-CNMNC procedures (Cabri and McDonald 2025a, 2025b). In response to our questioning the validity of several newly approved minerals, our point was not to challenge the *raison d'être* or procedures of the IMA-CNMNC, both of which we have long supported, but to indicate that the process is flawed. We did this following the scientific method: critically examining the data available, considering the current state of knowledge regarding the minerals in question, then suggesting an alternate interpretation of the data, i.e., the 'new' species were, in fact, already established ones. It was our goal to elucidate that a holistic view of data being provided for new minerals must be considered, this requiring a strong background in all the facets of mineralogy. Unfortunately, Bosi et al. (2025) considered our publications as undermining the challenging and important work that the commission undertakes. Rather we were reinforcing the fact human interpretations can be flawed and that our science can only progress when informed decisions are made. If such decisions are incorrect, then it is our responsibility as scientists to point these out and to offer remedies, which is precisely what was done.

**Louis J. Cabri and Andrew M. McDonald**

### REFERENCES

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