Message from the president

The Cordillera is still here and so is the GAC-Cordilleran Section, although it was easy to forget the latter over the past few months. A long list of events coming up in the next few months will hopefully remind everyone that the GAC-CS still exists.

Things kick off on Oct 6th with a brown bag luncheon tech talk by Dirk Tempelman-Kluit and James Hedalen titled “Safe, fast, inexpensive high resolution digital imagery and DSM for Mineral Exploration”.

The first high-profile event of the season is Geoscience BC day On October 8th. The event is celebrating a decade of achievements for this organization which stands as a great example of how academic researchers, industry professionals and public geoscience funding can work together to have a direct positive impact on resource development in the province. I encourage you to attend this event. However, if you cannot make it (as, unfortunately the case for me) there are rumours of additional events throughout the year where Geoscience BC data and their use for exploration will be presented.

The 2015-2016 GAC travelling lecturers have been announced. These are the W. W. Hutchison Lecturer Dr. Murray Gingras, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta, whose principal research interest lies in ichnology and sedimentology to better understand hydrocarbon reservoirs. The Howard Street Robinson Lecturer this year is Dr. Stephen Piercey, Department of Earth Sciences, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Stephen obtained his PhD from UBC where he worked on the Finlayson Lake VMS district in the Yukon. He continues to focus his research on the relationships between magmatism, tectonics, and ore deposit formation and is probably well known to many of you. We are working on having both speakers present one or two talks in Vancouver, but details on talk titles and dates are not yet available. These will be announced by e-mail and through www.gac-cs.ca.

The GAC-CS intends to collaborate with the BC Geophysical society to put on a porphyry copper workshop in April. This two day event will focus on the geology, geochemistry and geophysical signatures of porphyry deposits and prospective terrains and will include a hands-on portion. Further details will be communicated as soon as available.

Aside from the events mentioned above, the GAC-CS breakfast talks and additional talks and presentations throughout the year will be taking place.

Finally, I would like to say that all of the above depends on volunteers willing to present and organize events. The GAC-CS is not “them” it is “you”! Looking forward to seeing you at one or several of the upcoming events.

Thomas Bissig
Geoscience BC Update  By Kylie Williams

Geoscience BC was created in 2005 with a $25 million dollar investment from the Province of British Columbia to the BC & Yukon Chamber of Mines. This year, Geoscience BC are commemorating the 10-year anniversary with Geoscience BC Day on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver.

The one-day celebration will include a full day of technical talks highlighting the achievements of the last decade, and looking to the future of earth science in British Columbia and beyond. A networking mixer will take place after the technical session, followed by The Decade Dinner, with keynote speaker, The Hon. Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines. Tickets are available until midnight on October 5.

Some recent project highlights

Search project - Geoscience BC announced a major project in June 2015, launching a new multi-year minerals project in BC’s west-central region, named “Search”. This new project will highlight the region’s unique geology—an area arching two of the province’s mineral-rich geological terranes—to gather new, high-resolution data that will help geologists and land-users alike gain a better understanding of the ground beneath their feet. To date, the Geoscience BC Board has approved $2.4 million in funding to support Phase I of the Search project. An airborne magnetic survey began flying the project area in August 2015, and community outreach activities are underway.

Direct-Use Geothermal - In September, Geoscience BC launched a project to identify and evaluate direct-use geothermal energy opportunities for BC communities, providing them with data to potentially lower greenhouse gas emissions and drive economic development forward. The project will compile existing, publicly available geoscience data and survey communities to identify their needs, development choices and economic development goals, paving the way for future community engagement and development of identified resources. The result will be a Geothermal Direct-Use Road Map designed for communities, containing guidelines for surface exploration, land acquisition and permitting, drilling and testing wells, leading to design and construction of facilities.

TREK biogeochemical sampling – Tree-top vegetation samples were collected as part of part the ongoing, multidisciplinary TREK (Targeting Resources for Exploration and Knowledge) project, designed to stimulate exploration from south of Vanderhoof to west of Quesnel. The biogeochemical sampling sub-project was completed in summer 2015, collecting about 400 tree samples over four days, mostly from spruce species.

Tree-top sampling as part of the TREK project © GBC
Earth Science Viewer

Between May and July 2015, Geoscience BC made available the purpose-built Earth Science Viewer with improved features and content for a fuller interactive user experience.

Earth Science Viewer allows users to:

- download data and search results through the map viewer,
- upload and visualize the user's spatial datasets,
- export georeferenced images and share map views by email or post to social media,
- drill down through multiple data layers with on-screen selections, and
- enjoy an enhanced experience with their tablets and smartphone.

The beta testing phase ended in June and the new and improved Earth Science Viewer 1.0 is set to be launched in early October 2015.

Upcoming events

- The Geoscience BC Technical Advisory Committee for Minerals and Mining will meet in early October 2015 to discuss future projects.
- October 8 is Geoscience BC Day, celebrating 10 years of earth science for British Columbia. Visit geosciencebc.com for more information.
- Geoscience BC will have a booth at the Minerals South Conference and Trade Show in Cranbrook, B.C. November 3-5.
- Stay tuned for Geoscience BC’s annual Summary of Activities volume to be released next January at Roundup 2016.
Upcoming Talks & Meetings

Teck Tool Talk

SAFE, FAST, INEXPENSIVE HIGH RESOLUTION DIGITAL IMAGERY AND DSM FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION

Date: Tues Oct 6th, 2015
Time: noon - 1 pm
Place: Discovery Center, GSC
1500 - 605 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC

Admission is free! Space is limited! First come first seated!

Dirk Tempelman-Kluit  James Hedalen

AME BC Roundup

Welcome to Mineral Exploration Roundup 2016! This year’s conference will bring together geoscientists, prospectors, investors, suppliers and First Nation partners to share ideas that will help shape the future of mineral exploration and development. As the mineral exploration and development industry continues to work through the current downturn, we reflect on the importance of networking, professional development and relationship building with our partners, stakeholders and competitors. Mineral deposits are becoming harder to find; we must now travel to more remote locations, search deeper beneath cover, and sometimes settle for lower grades. These aspects, coupled with the challenging market conditions, remind us that we must be more creative and collaborative as we explore to discover and develop new mineral deposits.

Mineral Exploration Roundup 2016, Innovation in Exploration, will focus on sharing new ideas, generating new connections and creating collaborative solutions. Join us at Roundup 2016 from January 25-28 at Canada Place in Vancouver, BC! Learn, share ideas and connect with others from every aspect of the industry from prospecting to reclamation and everything in between.

http://amebc.ca/roundup

2015-16 Exploration Breakfast Talk Series Coming Soon!

If your company is interesting in highlighting and discussing its early-stage exploration project, please contact Chris Leslie, cdleslie at gmail.com
Upcoming Talks & Meetings continued

Howard Street Robinson Lecture Tour

Join us in November for a lecture by the Howard Street Robinson Medalist: Dr. Steve Piercey, Professor and NSERC-Altius Industrial Research Chair at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Stay tuned for details on the date, time and title of his talk.

BCIT offers a new Bachelor’s Degree in Mining and Mineral Resource Engineering

By Russell Hartlaub

Students torn between a career as a Geologist or a career as an Engineer now have a much easier decision. This September marked the launch of a new Bachelor of Engineering in Mining and Mineral Resource Engineering. This unique degree builds on BCIT’s 50-year track-record of offering the Mineral Exploration and Mining Diploma as well as industry relevant engineering and trades programs.

The Bachelor of Engineering in Mining and Mineral Resource Engineering program is designed to allow well qualified students who successfully complete the first year of the Mineral Exploration and Mining Technology diploma program to apply to complete an engineering degree through three additional years of full-time study. A unique combination of geology, mineral exploration, and mining, the new degree will prepare graduates to take a leading role in the discovery, evaluation, development, operation, and remediation of mineral resource projects.

The vision of the program is to provide students with a flexible educational path for successful careers in the mineral resource industry both in Canada and worldwide. As such the degree will have a strong practical focus built upon a broad foundation of engineering theory, analysis and design. Throughout this program, students will be challenged to develop their critical thinking skills and exercise their creative abilities.

For more information check out bcit.ca/mining

If you wish to contribute something to the newsletter, please send it to the editor:

news_at_gac-cs.ca
GAC-CS supports the Fuego Volcano Observatory in Guatemala

By Jeff Witter

After working out some technical details, the IVM-Fund is now providing ongoing support to the Fuego Volcano Observatory (OVFGO) by covering the costs of their internet connection. Thanks to modern technology, we are able to remotely recharge the OVFGO internet account from here in Canada. An internet connection not only allows the two OVFGO observers to communicate with the outside world via email (e.g. HQ in Guatemala City, government officials, civil protection, and other stakeholders) but it also serves a larger purpose. This internet connection makes possible continuous visual surveillance of the volcano via the Fuego volcano webcam. Last year, a webcam was installed at OVFGO with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the USGS, and Michigan Technological University. Without internet, the public safety value of the webcam would be lost. The IVM-Fund is proud to provide support to facilitate ongoing webcam monitoring of Fuego volcano. We have also offered to pay for internet connection at the Santiguito Volcano Observatory (OVSAN) once the webcam there is up and running.

The IVM-Fund greatly appreciates the continued support from GAC-CS. The projects described above, however simple they may be, are exactly the type of projects in which your support allows us to "fill gaps" to enable success of larger projects. We aim to continue this good work in Guatemala with our new project partner, Vancouver-based BGC Engineering. Working together, we hope to assist OVSAN by outfitting the new observatory structure with electrical wiring, lights, and plumbing. We are also in discussions with our Guatemalan colleagues to install an emergency siren system on the roof of OVFGO.

Learn more about the IVM-Fund by visiting www.ivm-fund.org/ or www.facebook.com/International-Volcano-Monitoring-Fund-47829876027
The Hope Mountain Centre

The mission of Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning is to provide outdoor education and ecological awareness opportunities in the watersheds of southwest British Columbia. Our mandate is to provide a common meeting ground for our membership, which includes representatives from industry, the provincial and federal governments, educational institutions and the general public.

Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning
PO Box 115
Hope, BC V0X 1L0
Canada
604-869-1274
info at hopemountain.org
http://hopemountain.org/

School of Rock

By Kelly Pearce

Since 2010, Simon Fraser University professor John Clague has led a popular series of fieldtrips across Southwestern British Columbia, teaching geology to the general public. Organized by Hope Mountain Centre (an educational non-profit) with support funding from GAC Cordilleran Section, “School of Rock” celebrated its 6th anniversary this past summer.

This year’s trip marked the 50th anniversary of the Hope Slide. Dr. Clague led a group of 21 participants on a tour of the slide area, explaining the geological factors that caused 130 million tons of rock and soil to plummet down the southwest slope of Johnson Peak (east of Hope) on January 9th, 1965.

After walking through the slide zone, participants hopped back on the bus and continued along Highway-3 to Manning Park. Manning offers dramatic geological stories from valley bottom to subalpine treeline.

Past trips have toured the Fraser Canyon, Coquihalla Highway, and the “fire and ice” landscape of the Sea-to-Sky Highway. Last year, a two-day tour explored the Interior Plateau and Upper Fraser River. On every trip, Dr. Clague reveals the many natural hazards that impact human infrastructure in BC, reminding us that the landscape where we live is not static, but dynamic and evolving.
2014 Financial Statement

By Peter Friz

Revenues in 2014 were derived primarily from two sources; Cordilleran Section membership fees collected on our behalf by GAC National and the revenues from the three Breakfast series talks held in 2014. Expenses incurred in 2014 were associated primarily with the breakfast series (coffee and muffins), the Jacob Hanley lecture (speaker and facility expenses) as well as two grants. One grant of $500 was provided to the Hope Mountain Centre School of Rock for a geological field trip of the Hope area, including the Hope Slide. A second grant of $1000 was provided to the International Volcano Monitoring Fund. GAC-CS also have expenses related to maintaining our website and our post office box in the Bentall Centre in downtown Vancouver. Overall GAC-CS had a small operating loss of $1,270.52.

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<td>EdGeo grant and registration fees</td>
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Net Income (loss) (1,270.52)

The GAC-CS wishes you a great fall and winter and we’ll be back in the spring with our next issue (really!).

Council

President: Thomas Bissig (UBC—MDRU)
Past-President: Jim Ryan (GSC)
Vice-President: Russell Hartlaub (BCIT)
Secretary: Tyler Ruks (West Cirque Resources)
Treasurer: Peter Friz (Hatch)
Membership/Website: Glyn Williams-Jones (SFU)
Newsletter: Nathalie Vigouroux (Douglas College)

Councillors:
Carl Verley (Amerlin Exploration Services)
John Chapman (GSC)
Chris Lesley (Tower Resources)

Contact Us

For more information about the GAC-CS and to become a member, contact us at:

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