

**THE LEONARD G. BERRY MEDAL FOR 1999  
TO  
NORMAN M. HALDEN**

The 1999 MAC Berry Medalist is Norman Halden. Norman came to the University of Manitoba in 1983 after completing his Ph.D. at the University of Glasgow. He is currently Head of the Department.

Norman was brought into MAC's offices by his Manitoba colleague, Frank Hawthorne, to assist in the financial planning of MAC. In keeping with the times, NSERC had withdrawn support for *The Canadian Mineralogist*, and other factors contributed to significant concerns over MAC's financial future. Norman was appointed Chair of MAC's Financial Planning Committee, whereupon he examined MAC's finances for the previous 10 years and extrapolated the trends for the next five years. Out of this exercise came the realization that many changes were required to maintain the future viability of MAC and its activities. Norman's analysis and financial recommendations not only led to financial health for MAC, but enabled expanded activities. Significant (but needed) increases to membership dues were implemented, along with a re-examination of every facet of MAC's operations with regard to costs incurred and income generated. New budgetary procedures were put in place whereby each part of the Association's operations were classified as "income generating" or "good works", and the financial operation of each post was followed separately so that MAC had a handle on all facets of our income and more importantly the "outgo".

The consequences of Norman's contribution to MAC's activities were numerous. A smaller percent of members' dues went to support *The Canadian Mineralogist*, enabling MAC to expand its "good works" activities, such as the Distinguished Lecture Tours, the annual financial aid to the Student Inter University Geological Conferences, etc. Furthermore, it was Norman's careful and systematic financial planning that enabled Council to have the confidence to expand *The Canadian Mineralogist* to six issues a year from four. More recently, our improved financial position enabled MAC to establish the MAC Foundation, this past year.

Norman's contribution to MAC's financial health over the past eight years has been enormous. He has temporarily retired(?) from an Association that has and will continue to benefit from his past contributions.

Brian J. Fryer  
Vice-President, MAC

Thank you for the Leonard G. Berry Medal. It was very thoughtful of the Association and is much appreciated. Fourteen years ago, Murray Duke promised that the Finance Chair's job would be for three years, and Frank Hawthorne, as incoming President, persuaded me I would enjoy doing it. From the vantage point of the present, I now see that many tasks are scaled quite differently from the time allotted to them. I probably have not learned this lesson well enough, as I think I am reliving it now as a Department Head.

It was really Frank who suggested I might have some financial "talent". He had just spent a year on sabbatical and left me with signing authority on his grants. Despite being in debt, I "managed" his funds such that he survived the year without the University foreclosing, an impressive feat that he had to try and explain afterward. On the other hand, he was probably just being typically English in assigning pecuniary responsibility to a Scot. If you have any doubts about the future, you will note that Iain Samson has a similar brogue.



NORMAN M. HALDEN

In 1985, I joined an exciting group of people of varying stripe with three things in common, minerals, the Mineralogical Association of Canada and the idea that it should be going somewhere. The finances were definitely trending down. My part in the scheme of things was to create the finances to meet our aspirations. I think I have brought us closer to that goal. The job now is not any simpler. With funds comes the responsibility of using them wisely; fortunately MAC has many wise heads at its disposal.

I was part of a sometimes intense, but always dedicated, group. On the way, thank you to Gina LeCheminant for her recollection, Ann Sabina for being steady

even when panic seemed more the order of the day, and Mati Raudsepp for his attention to detail. Thanks also to the Presidents of MAC, Frank Hawthorne, Fred Wicks, Peter Roeder, Roger Mitchell and Jim Nicholls for consistently maintaining the common vision of financial stability.

I am confident that MAC has a bright future, and I would certainly urge younger members to spend some time with council. Time passes quickly when you are having fun.

Norman M. Halden