

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, 2004

The 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Mineralogical Association of Canada was held May 12–14, 2004 at Brock University, St. Catharines, in the beautiful Niagara region of Ontario. The meeting had over 540 registrants and included eight field trips, including the well-attended “Geology and Wine” trip organized by B. Grant.

The scientific program consisted of six symposia (including “S<sup>3</sup>: Sulphides, Structures and Synchrotron Light – a symposium in honour of Mike Fleet”), 25 special sessions and 20 general sessions. The MAC sponsored one well-attended short course at the Joint Annual Meeting: “Molecules to Planets: Infrared Spectroscopy in Geochemistry, Exploration Geochemistry and Remote Sensing” (coordinated by P.L. King, M.S. Ramsay and G.A. Swayze, Short-Course Volume 33) and the special session “Rare-Element Geochemistry and Ore Deposits” (organized by R. Linnen and I. Samson). Your Association has also continued to support the Leonard G. Berry Summer School Series. The third one, on “Archean Volcanology”, was convened by A. Fowler at the University of Ottawa, August 23–27, 2004, and attracted about 25 participants. The principal instructor was R.A.F. Cas (School of Geosciences, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia) and included field trips to classic localities near Timmins, Ontario (Munro Township) and Rouyn–Noranda, Quebec.

The annual MAC luncheon and award presentations were held May 13 in the dining room at Pond Inlet, Brock University. The Hawley Award, for the best paper in Volume 41 of *The Canadian Mineralogist* was awarded by Association President Daniel Kontak to James Mungall and James Brenan for their paper, “Experimental evidence for the chalcophile behavior of the halogens” (Vol. 41, p. 207-220). The Berry medal was awarded to J. Douglas Scott who has, for more than 20 years, undertaken the task of creating the yearly index for *The Canadian Mineralogist*. The Past Presidents’ medal was awarded to Fred Wicks (triple Hawley medal winner and just recently retired as Curator and Head of the Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Ontario Museum). The Young Scientist’s medal was awarded to Yuanming Pan (University of Saskatchewan), who is conducting multidisciplinary research in many areas, including the application of EPR to document the trace-element distribution in apatite-group minerals.

The Annual Business meeting took place on May 14 with 14 members in attendance. President Kontak began the meeting summarizing the successes of MAC

over the past year (Vancouver '03 meeting with two superb, MAC-sponsored short courses; the second Berry School on Silicate Melts, Glasses and Magmas; a proposed short-course on exploration for PGE deposits, the first to be held outside of Canada). The issue of electronic aggregation through Geoscience World was again broached. After much discussion, it was decided that the aggregate poses a real threat at this point, given the relatively small size of the MAC in light of other member organizations. As such, council decided to delay joining the aggregate in early 2005, but will revisit the issue next year. One particularly exciting discussion at the Council meeting was the establishment of the new magazine, *Elements*, which will be published by a consortium consisting of the MAC, MSA, Min. Soc., the Geochemical Society and the Clay Minerals Society. The magazine will replace the Newsletter, which has become a MAC tradition in recent times. The MAC will continue to play an important role in this new magazine, primarily through the untiring efforts of Pierrette Tremblay. Council this year voted in favor of a slight increase in individual membership fees (the first increase since 1999). The increase will help to offset any changes in income resulting from fluctuations in the Canadian dollar. Individual memberships will rise from \$90 to \$100, with institutional memberships increasing from \$390 to \$425. Council also voted to decouple cost of membership from the cost of receiving the journal. Ordinary members can retain their membership for \$50, receiving either the electronic access to the journal for an additional \$30 *or* both the e-version and the paper version for \$50. Retired members will be charged \$40 for their membership, student members, \$10, each receiving electronic access to the journal for \$10 or \$50 for both the paper and electronic versions. This coming year, the MAC will be publishing *The Atlas of Non-Silicate Minerals in Thin Section* (SP7, a joint publication with the University of Barcelona, scheduled to be released in late spring, 2005), *Minerals Discovered in Greenland* (SP8, by O. Petersen and O. Johnsen), and *The Atlas of Migmatites* (by E. Sawyer). The MAC awarded its first travel grants in the spring of 2004 to help students attend meetings. Council this year voted to increase these grants to a maximum of \$2000 and to expand the guidelines such that the monies may also be used to support research activities.

The audited financial statements to year end December 31, 2003, prepared by Joanne L. Dorman, Chartered

Accountant (Burnaby, B.C.) lists the equity for MAC at \$625,634 in the bank and in excess of \$380,000 for MACF. For 2003, MAC had a small surplus of approximately \$8,000. Overall, things are quite healthy from a financial standpoint, and the MAC is in an excellent position to stave off any short-term, potential problems. The audited financial statements will be made available on the MAC website ([www.mineralogicalassociation.ca](http://www.mineralogicalassociation.ca)).

The Association, through the MAC Foundation, awarded its \$10,000 graduate scholarship to Jacob Hanley (University of Toronto), who is conducting a Ph.D. research project into the role of high-temperature fluids (magmatic volatiles) and the controls they exert on the development of PGE deposits. Your financial support of this very deserving award is greatly appreciated. Please direct any inquires regarding donations to the MAC Foundation to R.H. Mitchell, Chairman of the Board, MAC Foundation, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5E1 ([rmitchel@gale.lakeheadu.ca](mailto:rmitchel@gale.lakeheadu.ca)).

The next Joint Annual Meeting of GAC and MAC will take place at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 15–18, 2005. The meeting, whose theme is (appropriately) “Building Bridges – Across Science, Through Time, Around the World” (<http://www.halifax2005.ca/>) will also be held in association with the Canadian Association of Petroleum Geologists and the

Canadian Society of Soil Scientists. Of particular interest to all members of the MAC is the fact that this meeting will coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our organization. Special plans are in the making, including invited contributions from leaders in the mineral sciences, both in Canada and around the world (organized by F.C. Hawthorne and R.F. Martin), a plenary talk by I. Parsons, President of the International Mineralogical Association, a public lecture at a local museum on the significance of minerals in our lives (by A.E. Lalonde), mineral displays from the Canadian Museum of Nature, and what we all hope will be an incredible visual presentation of highlights from the long history of the MAC. It is incredible to think of how far we have come as a society, from our humble beginnings as a small group of mineralogists who had a dream to one of the premier, international organizations in the mineral sciences. This meeting promises to be one of the most outstanding ever, highlighting both our past successes and our incredibly bright future. As a special note, all former MAC Councillors and Executive members are invited to attend the annual MAC Luncheon. We have all contributed in one form or another to the building of this incredible association. It is time to celebrate the fruits of those labors!

Andrew M. McDonald  
Secretary