



The Precambrian Division of the Geological Association of Canada was founded in May 1976 at the GAC-MAC Annual Meeting held in Winnipeg. The original purpose of the division was to advance the study of Precambrian stratigraphy and set standards for the international community on matters concerning Precambrian stratigraphy. Since then, the membership of the Division has broadened to include researchers from all fields in Precambrian geology. An important current goal of the Division is to publicize and promote cutting edge research being done in Canada on all aspects of Precambrian geology.

The Division has sponsored field trips, field conferences and special sessions at annual meetings leading to a variety of publications. Encouraging student interest in Precambrian geology is a priority for Division. During each annual GAC-MAC meeting, the Division provides funding to help students attend field trips related to Precambrian geology.

In even-numbered years the Precambrian Division selects the Howard Street Robinson Fund lecturer, who tours geoscience departments across Canada lecturing on current research in Precambrian geology. The lecturer for 2014-2015 is Dr. Jean Bedard of the Geological Survey of Canada.

## **Volcanology and Igneous Petrology Division**

The Volcanology and Igneous Petrology Division of the Geological Association of Canada is a professional organisation for volcanologists, igneous petrologists, and for geologists who work on ancient volcanic and other igneous rocks. Members of this association receive regular newsletters with updates on activities and advances in volcanology and igneous petrology. The association has a membership of about 200 people.

The Division is producing a series of review type papers on Volcanology and Igneous Petrology for Geoscience Canada and produces a newsletter, Ashfall, three times a year. In addition the VIP Division annually presents three medals for the most outstanding theses (Ph.D, M.Sc. & Honours), written by Canadians or submitted to Canadian universities, which comprise material at least 50% related to volcanology and igneous petrology. The Division also occasionally sponsors relevant meetings outside of the GAC/MAC annual meetings.

For more information please visit our website at <http://www.vip-gac.ca/>



## **L'Association québécoise de sciences de la Terre (AQUEST)**

L'AQUEST a été fondée en septembre 2004 pour combler un besoin justifié et évident de promotion des sciences de la Terre au Québec en mobilisant les forces vivantes du milieu. Depuis le jour même de sa fondation, l'AQUEST fait des efforts de recrutement soutenus en organisant des activités géoscientifiques attrayantes pour des organisations et des individus intéressés par la qualité de la formation et de la recherche au Québec.

Les efforts de l'AQUEST sont bien imprégnés dans le cadre du congrès Québec Mines depuis 2005. Dans le cadre de cet événement traditionnel, un certificat d'excellence, le prix de l'AQUEST, est remis à chaque année et a pour but de reconnaître la qualité de la formation académique en géosciences offerte au Québec et facilite les échanges entre les étudiants gradués et les industriels. Depuis 2005, cette bourse était d'un montant de 500 \$, en 2011 elle atteignait 800 \$ et en 2013 5 000 \$ pour les étudiants de niveau collégial (700 \$) et universitaire : 1<sup>er</sup> cycle (1 100 \$), 2<sup>e</sup> cycle (1 300 \$) et 3<sup>e</sup> cycle (1 800 \$). Le succès de ce prix se traduit par l'augmentation progressive du nombre d'étudiants inscrits.

Les bourses de l'AQUEST encouragent les jeunes étudiants à persévérer dans leur domaine d'étude et stimulent la performance et l'innovation dans le cadre de leurs recherches.

En plus, chaque année, l'AQUEST est sollicitée spontanément pour s'associer à plusieurs événements, excursions et conférences, ce qui témoigne de sa renommée et de sa pertinence. Toutefois, ses moyens financiers et son capital humain présentent encore d'énormes défis, typiques d'une jeune société savante animée par des bénévoles. Sa capacité à soutenir progressivement de plus en plus d'initiatives étudiantes originales est liée directement à l'implication de ses membres. L'AQUEST est une société savante québécoise, qui utilise son statut de section de l'Association géologique du Canada pour intégrer un réseau dépassant largement les frontières du Québec. La langue d'usage étant le français, l'AQUEST est la porte d'entrée de l'Association géologique du Canada auprès de toute la francophonie.

Par ailleurs, cela permet aussi de consolider le réseau existant de jeunes scientifiques dédiés à la promotion des géosciences au Québec. Ceci est également une priorité pour l'AQUEST.

**The Cordilleran Section of the GAC** was established over 35 years ago in an effort to bring geologists in the Vancouver and lower mainland area together to discuss and debate topical issues. As the group evolved and more geologists settled in the lower mainland the range of events grew from small discussion groups to workshops and short courses, talk's series, as well as symposia.



**Objectives:**

- To advance the discipline of geoscience, particularly with respect to the Cordilleran region.
- To promote a better understanding of geoscience issues as they pertain to the development of natural resources, maintenance of public safety, and protection of the environment in the Cordilleran Region among geoscientists and the general public.

**Activities & New Initiatives:**

The Section traditionally puts on public evening lectures, workshops, lunchtime brown bag discussion groups and more recently, an innovative early morning Exploration Breakfast Talk Series. These talks are intended to provide geologists and companies with the opportunity to showcase projects and/or exploration ideas, with a focus on geological concepts, mineral deposit models or exploration technology that can be tested in an informal, interactive environment. Check our **website** ([www.gac-cs.ca](http://www.gac-cs.ca)) for details on these event, and more.

The Section embraces a collaborative approach to geoscience community activities and events, and is always seeking partners to share events with. We are strong supporters of student groups, and commonly financially support their field trips and other initiatives. Get involved with us!



**CANADIAN TECTONICS GROUP**

***(Formerly the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division)***

The Canadian lithosphere includes a vast range of tectonic styles, preserved in rocks ranging from those oldest in the world, those in young deformed sedimentary basins containing huge resources, and those currently forming in active tectonic zones that can result in geohazards. Formerly called the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division, the Canadian Tectonics Group provides a forum for geoscientists interested in all aspects of tectonics and structural geology in Canada and elsewhere. The division organizes an annual workshop held in the fall of each year at a different location in Canada. The meeting features a field trip, typically to an area of spectacularly-deformed rocks, coupled with a day of research presentations and posters. In addition, the division sponsors sessions and field trips at the joint annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada.

The Canadian Tectonics Group actively encourages participation by students, and offers prizes annually for the best thesis in structural geology and tectonics, at MSc and PhD level. Funds are available to assist students to attend the annual fall workshop, or to attend field trips that are part of the Geological Association of Canada joint annual meeting in the spring. The division also offers prizes for best research paper, and has recently established a lifetime achievement award.

Structural geologists and all those with an interest in research and challenges in tectonics are encouraged to join the division and participate in an active community. Membership is free to student members of GAC and available at \$10 per year to all full GAC members. For more information, consult our website at <http://gac.esd.mun.ca/sugd/> or look for Canadian Tectonics Group on Facebook.



## **Join the “Pack” - the GAC Pacific Section “PAC”**

The Pacific Section of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC-PAC) actively promotes and encourages geoscience activities on Canada’s west coast. Last year the Section co-hosted a very successful BC Geological Survey Open House and field trip in Victoria attended by over 100 delegates and plans to co-host another open house and other public lectures this coming year. All members of the general geoscience community are cordially invited to “join the PAC”. Remember that membership is still only \$10 and students are FREE.

Contact JoAnne Nelson ([JoAnne.Nelson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:JoAnne.Nelson@gov.bc.ca)) or Ray Lett ([Raylett@shaw.ca](mailto:Raylett@shaw.ca)) for further information.