

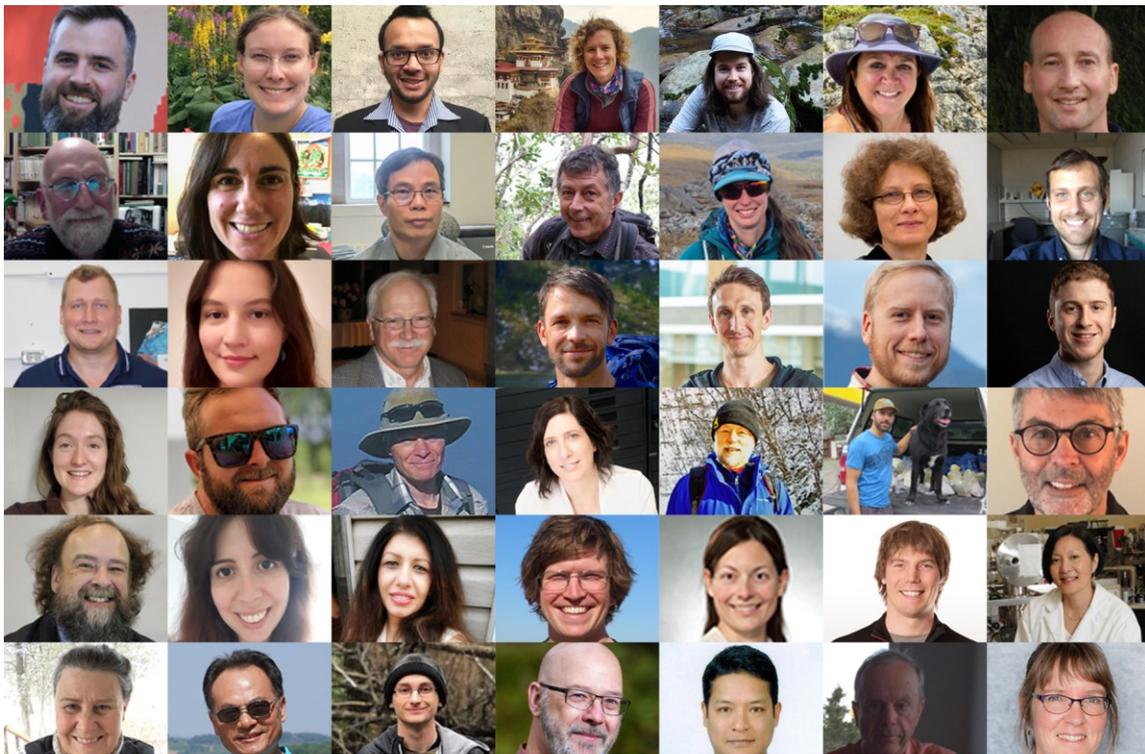


Winter 2021

www.canadiantectonicsgroup.ca

THE MAIN THRUST

NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN TECTONICS GROUP DIVISION OF THE
GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



2020 Online CTG Workshop

The Canadian Tectonics Group – highlights from 2020-2021

In case anyone is reading this 20 years from now and has forgotten, we have now spent nearly one year in a global pandemic from the COVID-19 virus. Many of us are still working from home, connecting online almost exclusively, and most of us have been prevented from doing field work. This has been a challenging time for many, but most certainly for students and post-docs. In the midst of all this uncertainty, several of our early career researchers (ECRs) have risen to the occasion. In the next section, **Sean Kelly** describes the very successful online 2020 CTG workshop (our first without an in-person field trip in 40 years) that he, **Renaud Soucy La Roche** and **Eric Thiessen**, all ECRs, organized and executed in November 2020. I would like to both congratulate them on an excellent event, and thank them sincerely for their service, and I know that everyone who attended felt the same way.

Here at the start of our annual newsletter, I would also like to celebrate the service of **Nadia Mohammadi** and **Gabriel Sombini dos Santos**, two other accomplished ECRs who have dedicated their time to serving the CTG community over the past year. In spring 2020, while we were all sitting at home wondering how long the lockdowns would last, I was inspired by my colleague David Lentz to start a biweekly online CTG seminar series. We ran the series successfully through the spring and summer, with well-attended talks that highlighted Canadian field areas and tectonics research and attracted many participants to join our mailing list. For the first time, we had the opportunity to hear directly from our David Elliott best paper award winners and honourable mentions through invited talks. The series was successful enough that the CTG executive and councillors agreed to launch a regular, monthly winter seminar series. Gabriel and Nadia volunteered to take the helm, and they have been ably hosting this seminar series, including creating a new CTG Youtube channel for preserving many of the lectures for future viewing. Catch all their hard work and the remaining winter schedule here: <http://www.canadiantectonicsgroup.ca/seminar-series.html>. We are excited to host Dr. Eric Thiessen, winner of the Jack Henderson best PhD thesis 2020 award, as our next speaker.

There have been a few other notable changes within CTG over the past year. After many, many years of service on the executive, **Juergen Kraus** and **Andrew Okulitch** have passed on their roles of secretary and treasurer, respectively, to **Alexander Peace** and **Chris Yakymchuk**. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Juergen and Andrew for their dedication to CTG. Alex and Chris, we are thrilled to have you join our team.

Finally, as many new people have joined our mailing list over the past year (sitting at over 500 list members), and as GAC, our parent organization, has been modernizing its codes of ethics and conduct, it seemed about time that we issue a code of conduct for our mailing list, which we have stored here:

http://www.canadiantectonicsgroup.ca/uploads/1/0/9/2/109291477/canadian_tectonics_group_mailing_list_code_of_conduct.pdf.

-Dawn Kellett, CTG Chair

2019 Canadian Tectonics Group Annual Workshop

The Canadian Tectonics Group held another successful Fall Workshop on November 20 and 21, 2020. This year's meeting, organized by **Dr. Renaud Soucy La Roche**, **Dr. Eric Thiessen**, and **Sean Kelly**, marked the 40th annual CTG Fall Workshop.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CTG was unfortunately unable to host an in-person workshop, or a field trip during 2020. However, despite these challenges, this year's on-line Fall Workshop was very successful, with 25 speakers and 65 participants. In fact, the on-line format and free attendance offered a unique opportunity for people who would otherwise be unable to travel to an in-person meeting to attend the workshop this year. Encouragingly, the workshop had participants from across Canada, as well as the US, UK, and Europe, and included students, early career researchers, and senior researchers, representing both academia and government.

The talks were organized as either 15-minute long-form or shorter 5-minute presentations, which accommodated more preliminary research results. This flexibility allowed for a variety of presentation styles, including giving students who are earlier in their research an opportunity to present their work and receive constructive feedback.

The presentations spanned a wide range of research topics, including geomorphology, regional tectonics, and methodological studies related to structural geology. Furthermore, the presentations spanned field areas across Canada, including Western Cordillera, Grenville Province, Trans-Hudson Orogen, Archean terranes in Northern Ontario and Western Quebec, but also global regions such as the Himalaya, Southwest Pacific and Andes.

The workshop, hosted via the Zoom platform, was launched by **Dr. Cees van Staal** (Geological Survey of Canada, University of Waterloo) and **Dr. Fried Schwerdtner** (University of Toronto), who shared their experiences of attending the first CTG Fall Workshop in 1981, albeit with some connection issues. The first day of the workshop had 10 presentations on topics ranging from the geomorphology of the Andes to Archean tectonics. The second day started with keynote speaker **Dr. Catherine Mottram** (University of Portsmouth, UK), who delivered an excellent talk titled "Syncing fault rock clocks: Direct comparison of U-Pb carbonate and K-Ar illite fault dating methods". Following the keynote presentation were 14 presentations on topics ranging from thermochronology to mantle-scale geophysics.

An additional advantage to the on-line format is that the workshop presentations could easily be recorded. Recorded presentations (from consenting presenters) have been uploaded to the newly created CTG YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuCh-8Mx7dwH8cuxiWcieKQ>), which also hosts seminars from CTG's new monthly lecture series. The abstract volume for the presentations is posted on the CTG website (<http://www.canadiantectonicsgroup.ca/workshops.html>). Overall, the 40th CTG workshop was a success with many exciting presentations and discussions, and a much-needed opportunity for the tectonics community to connect during these challenging times.

-Sean Kelly, CTG Fall Workshop organizer

Students: apply for a grant to attend GACMAC in London, Nov 1-3, 2021.

CTG will once again provide support to enable students to attend the GAC-MAC Meeting. Priority will be given to a student or students who are presenting talks or posters on a tectonics and structural geology-related topic. Students should contact the CTG Chair (dawn.kellett@canada.ca), attaching a copy of a submitted abstract, together with a short cover letter including:

- A copy of your submitted abstract
- A budget of the costs associated with attending the meeting including, e.g., abstract submission fee, travel and accommodation (if applicable), registration, childcare (even for online attendance) etc., as well as any other sources of funding available;
- A statement indicating why you wish to participate in the meeting, and how you expect to benefit from attending;
- A transcript or transcripts of your academic record.

Deadline: June 30, 2021

Tectonics and structural geology (and related) program at the upcoming 2021 GACMAC, London, ON (rescheduled to Nov 1-3):

Symposia:

SY-01 Understanding the Precambrian. Conveners: Darrel G.F. Long (Laurentian), Charlie W. Jefferson (GSC), Rob H. Rainbird (GSC), Patricia Corcoran (Western), A Symposium in honour of Grant McAdam Young (1937-2020)

SY-02 Diversity in Geosciences. Convener: Catheryn Ryan (Western)

Special Sessions:

SS-09 New petrological, geochronological, and structural studies of the Appalachian-Caledonian orogen - changing our view of the Proterozoic-Paleozoic world. Conveners: Deanne van Rooyen (Cape Breton University), Sandra Barr (Acadia), Donnelly Archibald (St.FX)

SS-17 Minerals as strain and deformation recorders: what they can tell us? Conveners: Yaozhu Li (Western University), Laura Jenkins (University of Glasgow)

SS-24 Geochronology of Earth and Planetary processes: developments and advancements. Conveners: Joshua Davies (Université du Québec à Montréal), Gabriel Arcuri (University of Western Ontario), Morgann Perrot (Université du Québec à Montréal), Desmond Moser (University of Western Ontario)

SS-26 History of Geosciences in Canada. Convener: David Orenstein (Toronto DSB)

SS-27 Geoscience teaching and learning during a pandemic. Conveners: Jennifer Cuthbertson (University of Calgary), Robin Cuthbertson (University of Calgary)

General sessions:

GS-01 Recent advances in structure and tectonics. Conveners: Alexander Peace (McMaster), Chris Yakymchuk (Waterloo), Dazhi Jiang (Western)

40th CTG Fall Workshop in 2020

We are cautiously optimistic that our 41st CTG Workshop (2021) will be another CTG first – our first workshop to be held in the Superior province’s Abitibi region, organized by **Normand Goulet, Stéphane De Souza** and **Stéphane Perrouty**. We hope to have further details to share in time for the CTG annual general meeting (probably May 2021). Fingers crossed that we will be outside, together, looking at rocks.

Winners of Jack Henderson awards for best theses

We are very proud of the recipients of the Jack Henderson best PhD and MSc thesis for theses completed during the 2019 calendar year:

PhD thesis prize:

Eric Thiessen, Simon Fraser University, for the thesis: “**Paleoproterozoic tectonometamorphic evolution of the southeastern Rae craton margin**”, supervised by Dan Gibson.

MSc thesis prize:

Michael Duvall, University of Alberta, for the thesis: “**Subsurface structural variability of the Himalayan foreland basin, Nepal**”, supervised by John Waldron.

Congratulations to both winners and their supervisors, and thanks to all our readers!

Winner of the David Elliott Best Paper award

The David Elliott award for best paper in Canadian structural geology and tectonics, with publication year 2019, was awarded to:

Pascal Audet (U Ottawa), Claire A. Currie (U Alberta), Andrew J. Shaeffer (U Ottawa, now at GSC Pacific) and Alexander M. Hill (U Ottawa) for their paper "***Seismic evidence for lithospheric thinning and heat in the northern Canadian Cordillera***". The paper was published in *Geophysical Research Letters*, 46, 4249-4257 (2019). Citation: "This study by Audet et al. provides a multifaceted approach to investigate the origin of the lithospheric mantle beneath the northern Cordillera. The authors seamlessly integrate geophysical data with thermal modelling and geological observations to test hypotheses of the age and origin of the very thin lithosphere beneath the northern Canadian Cordillera. The paper is well-written, succinct and is accessible to non-specialists". The paper can be found here: <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019GL082406>. Congratulations to Pascal and co-authors!

We would also like to acknowledge and congratulate two honourable mentions: **Kelly, Beaumont and Butler** for their paper "***Inherited terrane properties explain enigmatic post-collisional Himalayan-Tibetan evolution***", published in *Geology*, 48, <https://doi.org/10.1130/G46701.1>.

Phillips, Rowe and Ujiie, for their paper "***For how long are pseudotachylytes strong? Rapid alteration of basalt-hosted pseudotachylytes from a shallow subduction complex***", published in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 518, 108-115, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2019.04.033>.

Many thanks to those who read papers and submitted nominations. Without your time and effort this award would not be possible.

Forthcoming David Elliott Best Paper Award

The call is still open for the David Elliott Best Paper award. Your councillors are preparing a shortlist of papers written *by authors based in Canada or dealing with Canadian topics and with a final publication date in the 2020 calendar year*. Priority will be given to peer-reviewed publications. Submissions from the membership and self-nominations are also welcome. The call closes on **26 Feb, 2021**. We will appoint a small committee of individuals not involved with any of the shortlisted papers to review the papers and select a winner, to be announced at the CTG annual general meeting in May, 2021.

CTG Business Meetings

Business meetings of the CTG were held online via the Zoom platform in June and Dec of 2020. Minutes are included below.

The next CTG business meeting will be held via Zoom in 2021 (since the London GAC-MAC annual general meeting has been postponed until fall 2021).

Minutes for the June 2020 CTG Annual General meeting have been approved and are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Minutes for the Dec 2020 CTG business meeting have not yet been approved and are below:

Date & Time: Dec 8, 2020 at 1:00 pm ET

Location: virtual meeting hosted on Zoom platform

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting on Jun 23, 2020, held virtually on Zoom platform
2. Matters arising, not covered below
3. Financial report
4. Call for nominations for 2020 awards
5. Fall/winter CTG online seminar series and new CTG Youtube channel
6. Debrief of CTG online fall workshop 2020/discussion regarding potential format changes
7. CTG fall meeting 2021 – 41st anniversary of the CTG workshop
8. GAC London 2021 sessions
9. Other business

Number of eligible members present: 22

Meeting chaired by: Dawn Kellett

Minutes taken by: Alex Peace

Meeting opened by Dawn Kellett and seconded by Chris Yakymchuk

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting on Jun 23, 2020 online (minutes were distributed to membership on 7 Dec, 2020)

Minutes were circulated by email.

MOVED by Dawn Kellett

SECONDED by Renaud Soucy La Roche

VOTE (Motion CARRIED)

2. Matters arising, not covered below

RSLR – asks (on behalf of an absent member) if we have any statistics on the diversity (representative) of nominations for the student awards

DK – says that we do not have this data on the award nominees.

DvR – says we do not have a system in place for collecting this type of data. We could consider collecting this type of data but need to be careful. DvR suggests addressing at the individual competition level might be best way to handle diversity in the awards.

DK – Described the process in terms of how councillors make recommendations
 DK – suggests reminding people to consider diversity in nominations and also leave open the possibility of repeating calls if the pool is small/lacks diversity.
 DvR – Described the legal implications of collecting this type of diversity data
 JW – Reminds us that these are nominated by a nominator not the individual who would receive the award. So this poses risk of exposing information about an individual that they may not want in public.
 DK- Described the action we will take from this discussion: in our call for the best thesis we will remind all supervisors to consider the full diversity of all nominated candidates and that we will in needed issue a second call.
 WL (William Langenberg) – discussed the length of PhDs and the preservation of knowledge.

3. Treasurer’s report (Submitted by Chris Yakymchuk)

Treasurer’s Report: Fiscal Year, June 2019 – May 2020**

Opening balance:	-	\$ 2 760.08
Paper statement fees:	-	\$ 22.50
Transaction fees:	-	\$ 9.00
Best paper prize for 2018:	-	\$ 200.00
Best MSc thesis prize for 2018:	-	\$ 200.00
Student travel grant for 2020:	-	\$ 0.00
Best PhD thesis prize for 2018:	-	\$ 500.00
Interest:	+	\$ 4.34
Membership fees for 2019:	+	\$ 0.00
Net profit from CTG meeting, 2018:	+	\$ 595.35
Website management fee (2 years):	-	\$ 165.60
Closing balance (09 Dec 2019):	+	\$ 1 662.67

Tentative 2020 Expenses

PhD, MSc prizes	-	\$700
Zoom licence	-	\$174
ANTICIPATED: Best paper prize	-	\$200
ANTICIPATED: Membership fees (2018–2020)	+	(\$??)
<i>Tentative Running total</i>		<u>\$588.67</u>

**Note that the balance of the CTG account is in the process of being sent to GAC for central management and administration. Future transactions will be managed by GAC. Due to bank closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the exact balance of the account is not known. The figures reported above are approximate.

Meeting comments:

CY – GAC will be managing money more centrally rather than at the group level.
 CY – We are still waiting on funding for division meetings and membership fees
 DvR – GAC is now on an electronic system, this includes student awards
 DvR – At some point we need to write a cheque to GAC

CY – confirmed that this will happen.

Normand – asks how many members we have?

CY – Suggests that more people are joining this year to access our seminar series.

DK – reminds us that non-members can also attend the online lecture series we have been running

DK – reminds us about supporting GAC membership

4. Awards

a. GAC Student support:

none given this year for online participation, but will put out a call for student participation for GAC London 2021 in January.

DK – reminds us that the call for awards is coming up soon.

DK – Students presenting at GAC-MAC 2021 in a related session will be eligible for funding.

LH (Lyal Harris) – disagrees with DK about student support call. He suggests that it would not be fair as different restricts are in place across Canada. He also suggests that there is a liability issue. He suggests that offering student awards is not fair on some regions. He suggests putting the funds aside until after Covid-19 to make this fairer.

DK – response to LH: there will be an online component of GAC-MAC so DK suggests that we should still help students with registration.

DK and LH both agree that as the conference will be online supporting students should go ahead.

KL – Suggests that the scope of the awards could be a little broader. For example to allow people to cover child care costs.

b. Dave Elliott award for best paper:

Call for best paper will go out in January, and councillors are expected to develop short list as usual. Nominations are encouraged and accepted. Accepted papers with possible 2021 publication year will be accepted. We have asked awardees to present their work in a CTG seminar.

DK – Call will go out in January. Call will allow for papers that are ultimately ‘published’ in 2021.

JW – Says that final publication date will result in things being eligible more than once (multiple competitions).

JW – Suggests considering the date of online availability, rather than acceptance date.

DvR – Mentions special publications.

DK – says that this situation often occurs when a paper is nominated from outside the group of councillors.

KL – makes the point that as long as nothing gets missed it should be fine.

DvR – Agrees with KL’s point.

CY – Brings up the issue of pre-prints.

CR – Brings up the issue of the reviewed version being available online before it is finally published

DK – Reminds us that this is rarely a deciding factor in deciding an awardee.

DK – We will reach out to external examiners of a thesis.

DK – These are important awards for students at an early stage of their career.

DK – Reminds us that awardees will give seminars to the CTG.

DK/JW – Length of degree is no longer a criteria (reminder)

KL – suggests that we don’t have enough awards in our group compared to other divisions.

CR – brings up the lack of mid career awards
 KL – suggests a ‘researcher of the year award’
 KB (Kathryn Bethune) – Says how useful these awards are for NSERC etc.
 CR - States that she is willing to brainstorm some ideas for new awards.
 AP – Asks how do we define early/middle/late career?
 DK – questions if we are a big enough community?
 KL – suggests a ‘researcher of the year’ rather than defined by career stage.
 DK – suggests that we build a small committee to work on new awards for the CTG group.
 AP/KL – discussed the pros/cons of a career stage vs non-career stage award criteria.
 DC – Suggests asking the wider CTG for proposals for a new award structure.
 DK strikes a committee to propose a new award for CTG.

c. Jack Henderson prizes for best theses:

- Call for best PhD and MSc theses will go out in January. Nominating supervisors are expected to review for the other award, and we appreciate all members who review papers. We are now also asking external examiners to provide a review, since they have already given theses a deep read and should be impartial reviewers. This is an important career stage award for graduating students that are building their CVs.
- We have asked awardees to present their work in a CTG seminar – e.g. excellent Sept seminar by Mike Duvall, upcoming seminar by Eric Thiessen.
- Note that as per our last meeting, length of degree is no longer considered in the evaluation criteria.
- Regarding new named Best MSc thesis as proposed at last meeting – sub-committee has been formed and has met - we hope to have the award in place by the May announcement of 2020 best thesis awardees.

5. Fall/winter CTG online seminar series and new CTG Youtube channel

- Gabriel Sombini dos Santos and Nadia Mohammadi have been running a very successful online fall/winter seminar series – congrats to them both, and feedback is welcome. Some presentations from these and the fall workshop are available on the new CTG Youtube channel – links on our website.
- Any feedback on format? Think about whether there is enthusiasm to continue this format next year – I will ask again in the spring 😊.

DK – thanks the students running the seminar series for a successful seminar series.

DK – asks if there is appetite to keep the seminar series going?

- People at the CTG meeting generally think we should keep going with the seminar series.

JW - says that the seminars are working on alleviate the travel restrictions on regular seminars series.

KB – says that GAC have been considering replicating the CTG seminar series because of its success.

DK – Thanks KB for the assistance/suggestion from GAC to initially start the series.

NM – Described the choice of days for the seminar series.

The group thanks NM for work on the seminar series.

6. Debrief of CTG online fall workshop 2020 and discussion regarding potential format changes

- Debrief from Renaud Soucy La Roche on behalf of Eric Thiessen and Sean Kelly – organizers of the online 2020 CTG fall workshop – what worked and what didn't, follow up feedback.

RSLR:

- about 60 people per day attended the Fall workshop
- Notes the diversity of speakers, including all student levels etc.
- Good participation from government and academia
- Some of the talks will be available on the youtube channel
- Timing seemed to work well
- Some talks were a bit long due to the format. But this format worked well for students
- Telling people that they are overtime is hard on Zoom
- Great discussions
- Posters – following previous conferences where these didnt work so well they were not included in the Fall workshop.
- Sea Kelly will write up the meeting for main thrust

Normand – talks about getting sponsors such as mining companies more involved with things like the Fall workshop

DK – discusses the issue of non-members participating.

JW – suggests that these people just pay the CTG not the GAC fee

RSLR – Brings up the implications of charging fees for government people.

Normand – Participation in such events counts towards professional development

DK – In future members will have a \$15 discount on future workshops.

DK – brings up the issue of future format of Fall workshops. This question will be posed on the CTG mailing list.

DK – presented several options for the format including (list is incomplete and DK will share the complete list via email):

- the option of including an online component to meetings.
- perhaps fieldtrips could be every other year? (one of the options)
- Another option is no change (pre-covid version).

LH/DC – Discussed attendance on previous field trips

DC – says we have already previously been at the limit for number of people (in terms of road safety etc.)

DvR – Suggests changing the fieldtrip format would not necessarily be a good thing. Suggests not going to a model of longer trips. She suggests that thus will probably reduce participation.

Normand - reminds us that we have had problems finding people to organize trips previously

DC – Talks about international trips but mentions some of the legal/logistical issues.

LH – Mentions groups in NE states that we could collaborate with on future fieldtrips.

DK – asks people to email her regarding the fall workshop

- Sean Kelly will be writing up a summary for Geolog and the Main Thrust
- Gabriel Sombini dos Santos and Nadia Mohammadi have been running a very successful online fall/winter seminar series – feedback welcome. Some presentations from these and the fall workshop are available on the new CTG Youtube channel – links on our website.
- (PS – note that we have a new code of ethics for our mailing list – see our website)
- Short discussion on possible changes to fall workshop format beyond the pandemic
 - Traditional workshop but with online participation in workshop
 - Workshop online few days ahead of in person field trips, make field trips 2 days instead of 1 day
 - Workshop online, field trips only every second year, but for 3-4 days

- No change – go back to the way it was

7. CTG fall meeting 2021 – 41st anniversary of the CTG workshop

- Normand Goulet has agreed to postpone the Abitibi trip originally planned for 2020 to 2021. Not ready yet to plan for 2021 – let's see how next year goes!
- DK/Normand – we are waiting to see what the situation is before deciding on the format for this.
- CR – Discussed the use of Google tools in virtual field trips.

8. GAC-MAC London 2021 sessions

May 17-19 – likely combined in person (open air?) and online participation. Abstract deadline is 18 January.

Likely a hybrid meeting.

CTG-theme sessions:

There is also a general Structural Geology and Tectonics (DJ, CY, AP)

SS-09 New petrological, geochronological, and structural studies of the Appalachian-Caledonian orogen – changing our view of the Proterozoic-Paleozoic world.

SS-17 minerals and strain and deformation recorders: what they can tell us

SS-24 Geochronology of Earth and Planetary processes: developments and advancements

SS-26 History of Geosciences in Canada

SS-27 Geoscience teaching and learning during a pandemic

GS-01 Recent advances in structure and tectonics

9. Other business

CR – “Seismica” working on a new journal.

NM – asks for emails regarding improvements to the seminar series.

Motion to close meeting: DK

Motion: KL

Seconded: JW

Meeting adjourned: TIME: __2:30 PM ET _____

Current CTG Executive and Councillors

Chair: *Dawn Kellett*, GSC-Atlantic, Dartmouth

Vice Chair: *Edith Martel*, Northwest Territories Geological Survey, Yellowknife

Secretary: *Alexander Peace*, McMaster University, Hamilton

Treasurer: *Chris Yakymchuk*, University of Waterloo, Waterloo

Councillors:

Kathryn Bethune, University of Regina, Regina

Normand Goulet, Université Québec à Montreal

Lyal Harris, Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Québec

Mary Louise Hill, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay

John Waldron, University of Alberta, Edmonton

Joseph C. White, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton

Laurent Godin, Queen's University, Kingston

Dan Gibson, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby

Deanne van Rooyen, Cape Breton University, Sydney

Camille Partin, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon

Shoufa Lin, University of Waterloo, Waterloo

Dazhi Jiang, University of Western Ontario, London



**Canadian Tectonics Group
Annual General Meeting
MINUTES**
held virtually during
Covid-19 crisis
Jun 23, 2020



Date & Time: Jun 23, 2020 at 1:00 pm ET

Location: virtual meeting hosted on Zoom platform

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting in Oct, 2019, Rocky Brook cabins, Cormack, Nfld
2. Matters arising, not covered below
3. Financial report
4. Awards presentations
5. Proposals for changes to best thesis awards
6. Spring/summer CTG online seminar series, possible fall continuation (hosts/format/frequency/Zoom account)
7. CTG fall meeting 2020 – 40th anniversary of the CTG workshop, and planning for 2021
8. GAC-Geoconvention 2020 and GAC London 2021 sessions
9. New executive positions – secretary, treasurer
10. Other business

Number of eligible members present: 25
Meeting chaired by: Dawn Kellett
Minutes taken by: Alex Peace

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting at 2019 CTG workshop, Cormack (see accompanied document)

Minutes were circulated by email.

MOVED by John Waldron_____

SECONDED by _____Kyle Larson_____

VOTE (Motion CARRIED)

2. Matters arising, not covered below

None

3. Treasurer's report (Submitted by A.V. Okulitch)

CANADIAN TECTONICS GROUP
Treasurer's Report: Fiscal Year, June 2019 – May 2020

Opening balance:	-	\$ 2 760.08
Paper statement fees:	-	\$ 22.50
Transaction fees:	-	\$ 9.00
Best paper prize for 2018:	-	\$ 200.00
Best MSc thesis prize for 2018:	-	\$ 200.00
Student travel grant for 2020:	-	\$ 0.00
Best PhD thesis prize for 2018:	-	\$ 500.00
Interest:	+	\$ 4.34
Membership fees for 2019:	+	\$ 0.00
Net profit from CTG meeting, 2018:	+	\$ 595.35
Website management fee (2 years):	-	\$ 165.60
Closing balance:	+	\$ 1 662.67

Statement date: 09 December 2019

- There was to be a transfer of the bank account (previously managed by James Conliffe, NL)
- The money has not yet been transferred and this process is ongoing but is being slowed down by the current shutdown situation
- Once sorted this should make it easier to access the CTG accounts.
- We had about \$1600 – this does not include this years award winning cheques which total \$900
- We also made a profit at the Fall workshop but have not yet received this.
- This year we have had the additional expense of a Zoom account – We have the \$20 account but we have the option to use the GAC account so could cut this fee (note – total of \$160 in Zoom fees for May-Aug seminar series. From Sept forward we are using a GAC Zoom account).

- Updating the accounts is ongoing but the hope is to have this finished in the Fall by the new treasurer Chris Y. Covid-related delays expected to continue
- We probably have about \$1000 in the account right now without including the membership fees.

4. Awards

a. GAC Student support:

b. Dave Elliott award for best paper:

The 2020 David Elliott Prize has been awarded to Pascal Audet (U Ottawa), Claire A. Currie (U Alberta), Andrew J. Shaeffer (U Ottawa, now at GSC Pacific) and Alexander M. Hill (U Ottawa) for their paper “Seismic evidence for lithospheric thinning and heat in the northern Canadian Cordillera”.

The paper was published in *Geophysical Research Letters*, 46, 4249-4257 (2019). Citation: “This study by Audet et al. provides a multifaceted approach to investigate the origin of the lithospheric mantle beneath the northern Cordillera. The authors seamlessly integrate geophysical data with thermal modelling and geological observations to test hypotheses of the age and origin of the very thin lithosphere beneath the northern Canadian Cordillera. The paper is well-written, succinct and is accessible to non-specialists”

2020 Honourable mentions:

Kelly, Beaumont and **Butler** for their paper “Inherited terrane properties explain enigmatic post-collisional Himalayan-Tibetan evolution”, published in *Geology*, 48, <https://doi.org/10.1130/G46701.1>.

Phillips, Rowe and **Ujje**, for their paper “For how long are pseudotachylytes strong? Rapid alteration of basalt-hosted pseudotachylytes from a shallow subduction complex”, published in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 518, 108-115, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2019.04.033>

Thank all councilors, all those who nominated papers, and the short list selection committee.

c. Jack Henderson prizes for best theses:

2020 winner: Eric Thiessen, Simon Fraser University for his thesis "[Paleoproterozoic tectonometamorphic evolution of the southeastern Rae craton margin](#)" supervised by Dan Gibson

2020 winner: Michael Duvall, University of Alberta for the thesis "[Subsurface structural variability of the Himalayan foreland basin, Nepal](#)" supervised by John Waldron.

Thanks to all those who nominated and/or evaluated theses.

5. Proposals for changes to Jack Henderson best thesis awards

- Evaluation criteria – length of degree (Waldron)
- JW proposes some changes to the criteria for best thesis awards

- Specifically, JW's concern is that using the length of time taken in the criteria for assessing a thesis is potentially inducing biases to the demographic receiving the award.
- JW suggests not using the length of time taken to assess a thesis
- It has been argued that a quickly finished thesis is more valuable
 - NSERC is also having serious EDI discussion.
- Currently supervisors can highlight extenuating circumstances
 - However, not all students will want to publicly disclose such matters.
 - There are many valid reasons for this.
 - Particularly as the market for PhD level jobs in Canada is limited.
- JW urges the CTG to drop the length of time criteria for a thesis
 - This motion was supported by several members of the community
 - It was noted that it is very timely to do it now
 - The motion was passed
 - None against or abstained
- Name change for either PhD or MSc to increase diversity of recognition (Larson)
 - It was noted that both the MSc and PhD level awards have the same name.
 - KL suggests renaming one because of this.
 - KL does not provide any suggestions of names at this time, just a proposal to change one of the
 - DK has asked a few people about this, including asking people for a short bio about Jack Henderson.
 - DK reiterated this call for the short bio.
 - DK recalled the events of the EGU 2019 TS section meeting regarding the renaming of the Stephan Muller medal.
 - DK proposes the formation of a small committee to discuss this
 - SC (Sharon Carr) suggested discussing this with the Henderson family so that they are aware it is happening out of courtesy.
 - The group was asked by DK if anyone has contact with the Henderson family – JW possibly has a contact he can follow up on.
 - KB (Katheryn Bethune) suggests contacting GAC to see if they have a contact details.
 - JW suggests that a small group is a better approach than doing this in the public domain
 - DK asked the group for general approval.
 - SC played 'devils advocate' and questioned whether it would be better to create a new award rather than rename an old one.
 - DJ (Dazhi Jiang) suggests that if we create a new award keep the Jack Henderson award for PhD to be more sensitive
 - DK asked for people to email her about this – particularly for suggested names and to join the small working group committee.

Code of conduct

- GAC is updating/creating a code of conduct/ethics for its meetings

- This is an ongoing process
- There is a CTG code of conduct being written - DK
 - DK referred to the Geotectonics recent events
 - DK has produced a draft of the CTG code of conduct
 - This will be circulated amongst the councilors shortly
 - It will then be placed on the CTG website

6. Spring/summer CTG online seminar series

- Hosts
- Format
- Frequency
- Zoom account
- Fall continuation
- Way to highlight and increase exposure for our award winners?

These appear to be going well according to the general feedback from the meeting participants

- DK – the seminars were put together quickly
- All speakers were thanked for their efforts by several present at the meeting
- DO (David Orenstein) noted how the seminars have helped seniors in particular who cannot attend other events, and that he has very much enjoyed them.
- MLH (Mary Louisehill) notes that she is enjoying the seminars.
- DK notes that some students have found them useful for establishing collaborators and getting feedback.
- KL (Kyle Larson) noted that it might be good to preserve some of the seminar materials online.
- DK suggested the idea of students hosting the seminars
 - KB supported this idea and noted that in the Fall people might start to be more busy, particularly with teaching.
 - KB also noted that the quality of the presentations has been excellent
 - LH (Lyal Harris) – notes that students are running the seminars in the ore deposits section of GAC
 - This section is apparently having 2 seminars a week and this seems to be going well (LH)
- KB notes how it has given an opportunity to showcase the talent in the group
- KB notes that we could consider inviting international speakers
- JW furthers this remark and notes that we are having seminars without the financial and environmental implications.
- KB notes that there is still an intention to have a GAC lecture tour which gives opportunities for students to interact with the speakers
- Shoufa Lin (SL) suggests a small seminars committee and also the recording of seminars
- AP notes that recording lectures should be optional, particularly with industry data
 - As a result KB suggests that a protocol for this is needed.

- JW suggest it should be up to the speaker and makes a comparison to online lecturing generally
- We can post recordings to seminars (when permission is granted) – DK
- Overall based on the feedback Dk suggests that we keep going with the CTG seminars
- Dan Gibson suggests further interaction with American colleagues
 - DK has mixed feelings about this
 - DK likes that we have a Canadian focus. DK has discussed involvement of USA partners with Christie Rowe (regarding GSA in Montrea)
 - DK has also been in touch with TSG in the UK
 - DK asked if it was appropriate to ask award winners to give seminars.
 - The group generally think this is a good idea
 - Laurent Godin noted the importance of inviting early career people, particularly recent PhD graduates.

7. CTG fall meeting 2020 – 40th anniversary of the CTG workshop, and planning for 2021

- DK said we are in a ‘wait and see’ situation for the workshop
- Norman D gave an update on this workshop
 - The workshop was planned to be in the Abitibi region
 - He was part of the group organizing the workshop
 - It is inevitable that this will be postponed due to COVID-19.
 - Weather in this region this region can be unpredictable
 - No money will be lost as a result of the cancelled booking
- SL notes that planning is very difficult at the moment
- JW talked about virtual fieldtrips
 - Mentioned the UCL webinar on virtual field trips and noted that they had a lot of materials already
- ND proposes to postpone the workshop for 1 year
- DK said it would eb great for the CTG to get out to Archean rocks and we should therefore postpone rather than come up with a new location.
- DK asked if a online event in the fall could work.
 - The question of the best day of the week for this was asked (DK)
 - The group is generally in favour of a weekend day in the Fall
 - DO notes it should not be a date close to geoconvention
 - JW notes that Fall is always a problem finding dates

8. GAC-Geoconvention 2020 and GAC London 2021 sessions

- DK asked for any updates on Geoconvention
- DK notes that the London 2021 call has opened and encouraged people to get involved with that.

9. CTG executive open positions

Secretary – Alex Peace, McMaster U, 2020-2023 term

Treasurer – Chris Yakymchuk, U Waterloo, 2020-2023 term

10. Other business

- SC thanked DK and the rest of the executive committee
- DK said she has lost track of how long councilors have served for and asked councilors to let her know if they have had enough.
- DK notes that the next seminar is next week.

Motion to close meeting:

Motion:

Seconded:

Meeting adjourned: TIME: __Approx. 2 PM ET_____