

IAH-CNC Annual Report

April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017

The Canadian National Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH-CNC) had an exceptionally busy year.

By-Laws and Continuance of the Corporation

The IAH-CNC is a registered corporation in Canada. We operate under the Canadian Not-For-Profit Act. In early 2016, we were required to transition the corporation to the new Not-for-Profit Act. This required filing for continuance and re-writing our by-laws. I am pleased to report that the Special Resolution of Members concerning the Articles of Continuance and By-laws of the Corporation was passed at the May 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Board of Directors Meetings

IAH-CNC held Board of Directors meetings on May 24, 2016, June 20, 2016, October 17, 2016, December 12, 2016, January 30, 2017, and March 30, 2017. Apart from the one meeting held during our annual conference, Board meetings are via teleconference.

ECHN – Canada

The Canadian Chapter of the Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network has been ramping up its activities. ECHN-Canada has created a new webpage <http://iah-echn-canada.weebly.com/> as well as a LinkedIn Group. The President, Okenka Forde, is actively seeking student representatives from Canadian universities.

Membership

As of May 5, 2017, we had 321 members. We anticipate reaching about 400 members this year given that we typically gain members at our annual conference.

Finances

A draft annual financial statement has been prepared and is awaiting approval by the Board of Directors.

Awards and Scholarships

The IAH-CNC makes two awards annually: the Robert N. Farvolden Award to honour outstanding contributions to the disciplines of earth science and engineering that emphasize the role or importance of groundwater; and the Toth Award for the Best Student Paper in Canadian Hydrogeology. We also award a scholarship annually to a PhD student studying at a Canadian university.

In early 2017, the IAH-CNC established three new awards: The Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN) Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Long Term Service Award. We also established a Standing Awards Committee to adjudicate the new awards.

The terms of reference for all of these awards can be found on our webpage.

Bulletin and Newsletters

IAH-CNC prepares two Bulletins annually (one in June and one in December). These are only available to members – they are not posted on our website.

In addition, we send out newsletters via email periodically with notices of upcoming events, calls for nomination, etc.

Conferences

IAH-CNC participated in the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) annual conference held in Montreal in June 2016. In total, some 280 delegates from CWRA and IAH-CNC attended. Over the three days, there were typically five

concurrent technical sessions covering a range of water-related topics. Several IAH members served as session chairs for the groundwater related sessions.

IAH-CNC has been actively organizing two main conferences this year. In June 2017, the IAH-CNC will be co-hosting a symposium in collaboration with the IAH Commission on Regional Groundwater Flow. The symposium “Characterizing Regional Groundwater Flow Systems” will be held in Calgary June 26-28 and will focus on a range of topics, including water management, economic reserves exploration, variable density flow, and waste disposal (<https://regionalgwflow.iah.org/activities/calgary-symposium-2017>). While the call for abstracts is past, registration is still open if you wish to attend.

In fall 2017, we are partnering with the Canadian Geotechnical Society for GeoOttawa2017, which will be held in Ottawa, October 1-4. This will be our main conference during which we will hold our Annual General Meeting. The theme for GeoOttawa 2017 is 70 Years of Canadian Geotechnics and Geoscience and will celebrate the extensive contributions of geotechnical and hydrogeological practitioners to Canada’s built form since the Canadian Geotechnical Society was founded 70 years ago. The 2016 Farvolden award lecture by René Lefebvre will also be given at this conference, as well as the 2017 Farvolden award lecture (TBA).

Future conferences include “Resources for Future Generations” conference to be held in Vancouver in June 2018. This international conference is the first dedicated to the availability of resources needed to sustain future generations. The conference is expected to attract 4000-5000 attendees focused broadly on resource issues representing earth science and engineering research and practice, industry, governments and civil society, and First Nations and indigenous people. IAH-CNC is a technical partner for this event (<http://www.rfg2018.org/>), and IAH-CNC President serves on the technical committee for water sessions.

Preparations are also underway for GeoEdmonton2018, which is being co-organized with the Canadian Geotechnical Society.

Regional Events

IAH-CNC holds or sponsors groundwater-related events across the country. These are organized by our Regional Directors. Details can be found in our bi-annual Bulletin.

Canadian Achievements in Hydrogeology

IAH-CNC is preparing banners to celebrate Canadian Achievements in Hydrogeology, which we will display at our booth at the upcoming GeoOttawa 2017 conference.

Diana Allen, President, IAH-CNC

June 2017