

## **Vodden, Christy**

**From:** Vodden, Christy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2001 9:39 AM  
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**Subject:** Canadian Geoscience Education Meeting: Summary Notes

### **Canadian Geoscience Education Network January 29, 2001, Vancouver**

#### **Issues, Actions & Decisions**

**Present:** John Clague (incoming CGEN President), Fran Haidl, Maureen Lipkewich, David Mate, Alan Morgan, Pierrette Tremblay, Paul Robinson (outgoing CGEN President), Bob Turner, Christy Vodden

#### **Finances (Christy Vodden)**

There has been no allocation of funds to CGEN from CGC for the past two years. Action: John Clague to clarify status of funds with CGC President.

Funds received from GAC (\$5,000) were allocated to EdGEO (\$3,000) and to EarthNet (\$2,000). Financial report attached.



Cgenfin.j01

#### **Report of CGC meeting (Paul Robinson)**

There is an ongoing effort to refocus CGC to be relevant to the geoscience community. Funding is an issue. Cutbacks to the international programs have just been made. Education and public awareness are considered key roles for CGC.

For CGEN to function effectively as the education arm of CGC, all CGC member societies must be represented and active on CGEN. Action: John Clague will work with CGC executive to improve CGEN representation.

#### **EdGEO (Fran Haidl)**

There were eight EdGEO workshops in 2000, with 175 participants, at a cost of about \$70/teacher. All, with one exception, took place in western Canada. EdGEO also supported 37 teachers at GeoCanada 2000 and provided funding for the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Distinguished Speaker Tour.

There is a need to get more people to put on EdGEO workshops in eastern Canada and make more connections with education faculties. Action: Fran Haidl will get publicity out to publications such as Geolog and in science and geography teachers' newsletters. Everyone will look for useful web links for EdGEO and opportunities for EdGEO support in "EdGEO-like" activities.

There is also a need to have earth sciences made more credible in the education system. This will require a top-down approach: i.e. ensure that universities make earth sciences a requirement. Action: CGEN is to work out a strategy to propose to CGC.



Lesson plans coming out of EdGEO workshops are a valuable resource that must be compiled. Action: Jennifer Bates is to contact EdGEO coordinators to ensure that all are captured for EarthNET.

Pierrette Tremblay suggested that member societies be approached for special support to EdGEO workshops. For example, MAC is funding mineral kits for all EdGEO participants. Action: other member societies will be approached for similar support to EdGEO once their CGEN representatives are confirmed.

The EdGEO national committee membership has had some changes: Marathon, Ontario teacher Terry Needham replaced Rob Lord on funding review committee, and Maureen Lipkewich and Peter Russell have been added to the national committee. The newsletter editor, Gordon Domm has retired. Action: suggestions for new editor should be sent to Fran Haidl.

EdGEO was nominated for a Michael Smith Public Awareness of Science Award three years ago. Feedback from the coordinators was that we should try again. Action: Fran Haidl, Christy Vodden and Ward Neale are to revise nomination and resubmit it.

#### **Geoscape (Bob Turner)**

Geoscape is a national initiative, led by the Geological Survey of Canada, to produce educational materials about the geoscience that shapes the environment of communities and urban centres across Canada. The centrepiece is a large, graphic-rich poster describing local geoscience in plain language, with complementary print, overhead and web-based materials. There are 14 Geoscape projects underway/completed across the country. Each Geoscape is pulled together by a team of local scientists and educators.

CGEN has identified the Geoscape initiative as one of its core programs for support, and has put in a funding proposal to the Ontario Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology for the three Ontario-based Geoscape projects. Other funding opportunities will be investigated. Action: Suggestions to be submitted to CGEN at next meeting.

#### **EarthNet (Jennifer Bates via email)**

EarthNet is using funds from the Geological Survey of Canada program, ResSources GSC, to develop content, create a search interface for the Glossary database, put in place a French version, incorporate other online resources (Wat on Earth and Geoscape), and develop prototypes of two new sections (geologists at work in Canada and "ready to go" materials for scientists doing outreach). A contractor has done 150 resource reviews for the Teaching Resource data base. EarthNet was presented at the Nova Scotia EdGEO workshop, and to the annual Nova Scotia, Ontario and B.C. science teachers conferences, with promotional materials sent to various museums and science centres across Canada.

ResSources GSC has been the main funder of EarthNet for the past three years, but this program ends March 31, 2001. It is critical that other sources are identified to ensure that EarthNet continues to grow. Action: CGEN to work with Jennifer Bates in seeking alternate funding sources.

#### **Geoscied IV (Alan Morgan)**

CGEN is the sponsor of this international geoscience education conference, which is expected to attract about 400 participants to Calgary in 2003. While it is part of an international series of meetings, CGEN's goal for Geoscied IV is to mobilize benefits for Canadian educators and further education goals of the Canadian geoscience community.

The local organizing committee will be led by Godfrey Nowlan. Five regional committees will provide support and assistance: B.C. (David Mate), Prairies (Fran Haidl), Ontario (Alan Morgan), Quebec (Pierrette Tremblay), and the Maritimes (Paul Robinson). CGEN will provide a national perspective.

Funding is the main issue for the short term. Monies will be available from Geoscied III and from the CGC. Funds will be requested through the Canadian Geological Foundation, and donors will be sought from CGC member societies to support Canadian teacher participation, from government agencies such as CIDA and Indian and Northern Affairs, and from industry). Action: John Clague to request CGC funding. Alan Morgan to consolidate funds from previous Geoscied and prepare funding proposal to CGF.

#### **Pan-Canadian Science Curriculum (reference)**

The latest information about this national initiative can be found at <http://www.cmec.ca/indexe.stm>

#### **National Science and Technology Week (Christy Vodden)**

NSTW was initiated in the 1980s by Industry Canada as an annual celebration of Canada's science and technology. They provided national coordination and support to local groups taking part. Industry Canada withdrew from NSTW in the mid-1990s, with the hope that the event would continue on a grassroots, community-based level. The GSC has continued to use NSTW each year to put the spotlight on its science, with good



success. The Ottawa celebration has grown each year, with new groups joining in (Agriculture Canada, Fisheries and Oceans, Carleton University, Ottawa Lapsmith Club). Events also continue in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. Recently the Canadian Science Writers Association received funding to build a strong NSTW throughout Ontario. With NSTW building steam in several locations, CGEN members should look upon it as an opportunity to showcase geoscience across the country. The dates for 2001 are October 12-21.

#### **Mining Association of B.C. -- Fundraising Success (Maureen Lipkewich)**

MABC's recent fundraising success has revitalized its education programs. In 1999, MABC set out to raise \$2.2 million over five years. The fundraising committee has already met 55% of that goal. The key has been to provide industry donors with tangible information and examples of how the money is being used. A donor newsletter and special events that pull industry donors and educators together have been extremely successful. An exciting new initiative is the development of a university credit course for teachers in mineral education. More information and a listing of MABC materials are available from Maureen Lipkewich, [mel@mining.bc.ca](mailto:mel@mining.bc.ca).

#### **Lithoprobe (Ron Clowes)**

The Lithoprobe Secretariat, housed at the University of British Columbia, has had a part-time communications advisor on staff from its earliest days. This has allowed Lithoprobe to proactively seek both popular and specialist media coverage, and to develop a suite of promotional and educational materials (slide set, brochure, poster). Future plans include an educational CD ROM and a co-venture with Key Porter to publish a children's book on Lithoprobe. Lithoprobe also has a huge resource of video footage of its work in various parts of the country, and they are willing to consider ideas for its use. For more information about educational materials: <http://www.geop.ubc.ca/Lithoprobe/public/edu.html>. Ideas for distribution of the new poster would be welcomed by Ron Clowes, [clowes@lithoprobe.ubc.ca](mailto:clowes@lithoprobe.ubc.ca).

#### **National Public Awareness of Geoscience Initiative (Paul Robinson)**

The CGC Executive has identified public awareness as a core area of endeavour and asked CGEN to consider a national workshop/initiative, by fall 2002, that would pull together key people working in this realm. A key element of this initiative would be getting representation from all the CGC member societies, with the longer term goal of revitalizing member society interest in CGEN. Action: CGEN will work hard to get member society reps to the St. John's meeting, consider holding a supplemental meeting linked to CSPG to attract Alberta-based societies, and work out action plan for submission to CGC Executive by June.

#### **New Initiatives for Public Awareness of Geoscience (John Clague)**

As the new CGEN President, John Clague outlined his vision for CGEN as a coordinator and facilitator of geoscience education at the national and regional levels. This can best be achieved by capitalizing on current, high-profile success stories, specifically EarthNet, EdGEO, Geoscape Canada, and Geoscied IV, all of which have great opportunities for synergies. This vision will be enunciated and promoted to the geoscience community through an article to be published in "Geoscience Canada". Funding and use of CGC resources such as their contract management service will be explored with the CGC Executive. Funding from the private sector and other sources will be sought for the core CGEN programs.



CGEN.vision.doc

#### **Funding Opportunities (Christy Vodden)**

There is a growing interest in funding public awareness of science initiatives at various levels of government. CGEN must educate itself about these opportunities and take strategic advantage of them. Four were discussed:

1. The Ontario Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology is providing \$1 million a year for the next five for Ontario-based public awareness projects ([http://www.est.gov.on.ca/english/st/st\\_ystintro.html](http://www.est.gov.on.ca/english/st/st_ystintro.html)). Funding applications may be submitted at any time. CGEN has submitted a three-year \$90,000 funding proposal for the three Ontario Geoscape projects. It is likely that other provinces have, or are about to have, similar funding programs.
2. NSERC PromoScience is awarding \$2 million over three years, although most of that funding may already be allocated. Cam Tsujita of the University of Western Ontario was successful in receiving \$17,500/year for the next three years to build a Southwestern Ontario Geoscience Outreach Network. Deadline is September 15 each year. Promoscience information is at <http://www.nserc.ca/promoscience/>. An update of "Careers in Geoscience" would be a good fit with the NSERC criteria for projects. Action: CGEN working group to develop funding proposal at next meeting. EarthNet would also fit the criteria. Action: Jennifer Bates to work up funding proposal.
3. The Geological Survey of Canada provides small grants towards projects that promote geoscience to the public. Contact is Anne Nederhof, [annederl@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:annederl@nrcan.gc.ca). "Careers in Geoscience" would fit the criteria a GSC grant. Action: CGEN to submit funding proposal asap.



4. Most major urban centres in Canada have rich community foundations (e.g. in 1998, the Vancouver Foundation had \$517 million, the Winnipeg Foundation \$117 million, etc.). CGEN will research the funding criteria of these foundations. Action: John Clague to approach Jeremy Hall about using CGC management service to carry out this research

**CGEN By-Laws and Website (John Clague and Jennifer Bates via email)**

The by-laws need to be reviewed and updated. For example, for continuity it would be very useful to have a Vice-President who moved up to be President. Action: Christy Vodden will do a first run at revising the by-laws for review by John Clague prior to next meeting.

The CGEN website update is nearing completion. Jennifer Bates will be sending the new version out for review by CGEN members shortly.

**Activity Reports**

Reports submitted by the Royal Ontario Museum, the Geological Survey of Canada and Geomatics Canada will be tabled at the May meeting. Action: all CGEN members unable to attend the May meeting should send brief reports of their outreach/education highlights to Christy Vodden by May 26, [cvodden@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:cvodden@nrcan.gc.ca).

**The next meeting will be held from 3:00 to 6:00 on Wednesday, May 30 in Seminar Room ER4054 in the Earth Sciences Department at Memorial University.**

***Christy Vodden***

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## 2000 EdGEO Workshops

<i>Location</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>	<i>Budgeted Expenditures</i>	<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	<i>Actual Revenue*</i>	<i>EdGEO Grant</i>	<i>EdGEO Refund</i>
Victoria BC	25	\$3,289.45	\$3,148.96	\$3,139.45	\$2,043.75	\$0.00
Lake Louise AB (Yoho Burgess Shale Fdn)	13	\$5,614.80	\$5,797.38	\$5,572.11	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Calgary AB	22	\$1,500.00	\$1,404.91	\$1,370.00	\$930.00	\$0.00
Edmonton AB <sup>1</sup>	25	\$985.00	\$1,009.91	\$985.00	\$985.00	\$0.00
Edmonton AB (Science Council) <sup>2</sup>	43	\$2,562.28	\$2,627.41	\$2,562.28	\$2,162.28	\$0.00
Eastend SK <sup>3</sup>	11	\$3,589.00	\$1,857.43	\$1,855.43	\$1,305.43	\$0.00
SE SK Teachers Conference <sup>3,4</sup>	13	\$785.00			\$635.00	
Antigonish NS <sup>3</sup>	23	\$3,967.83	\$2,958.62	\$3,337.83	\$1,842.83	\$361.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>\$22,293.36</b>	<b>\$18,804.62</b>	<b>\$18,822.10</b>	<b>\$12,904.29</b>	<b>\$361.21</b>

<sup>1</sup>Workshop provided to 4th year University of Alberta Education students.

**Average cost per teacher: \$71.67**

<sup>2</sup>Workshop provided by Yoho Burgess Shale Foundation in conjunction with meeting of Alberta Teachers' Assoc Science Council.

<sup>3</sup>Preliminary

<sup>4</sup>Workshop held in conjunction with SE Saskatchewan Teachers' Convention; 10 rock and mineral kits are available for future workshops.

\*Includes EdGEO grant.

**Note:** A labour dispute involving Saskatchewan teachers resulted in the last-minute postponement until May 2000 of a Regina workshop scheduled in October, 2000; materials purchased with \$3000 EdGEO grant and remaining funds will be used for May workshop.

### Other projects

#### **GeoCanada 2000**

37 teachers participated in the teachers' program at GeoCanada 2000 (16 from SK, 12 from AB, 8 from B.C.)

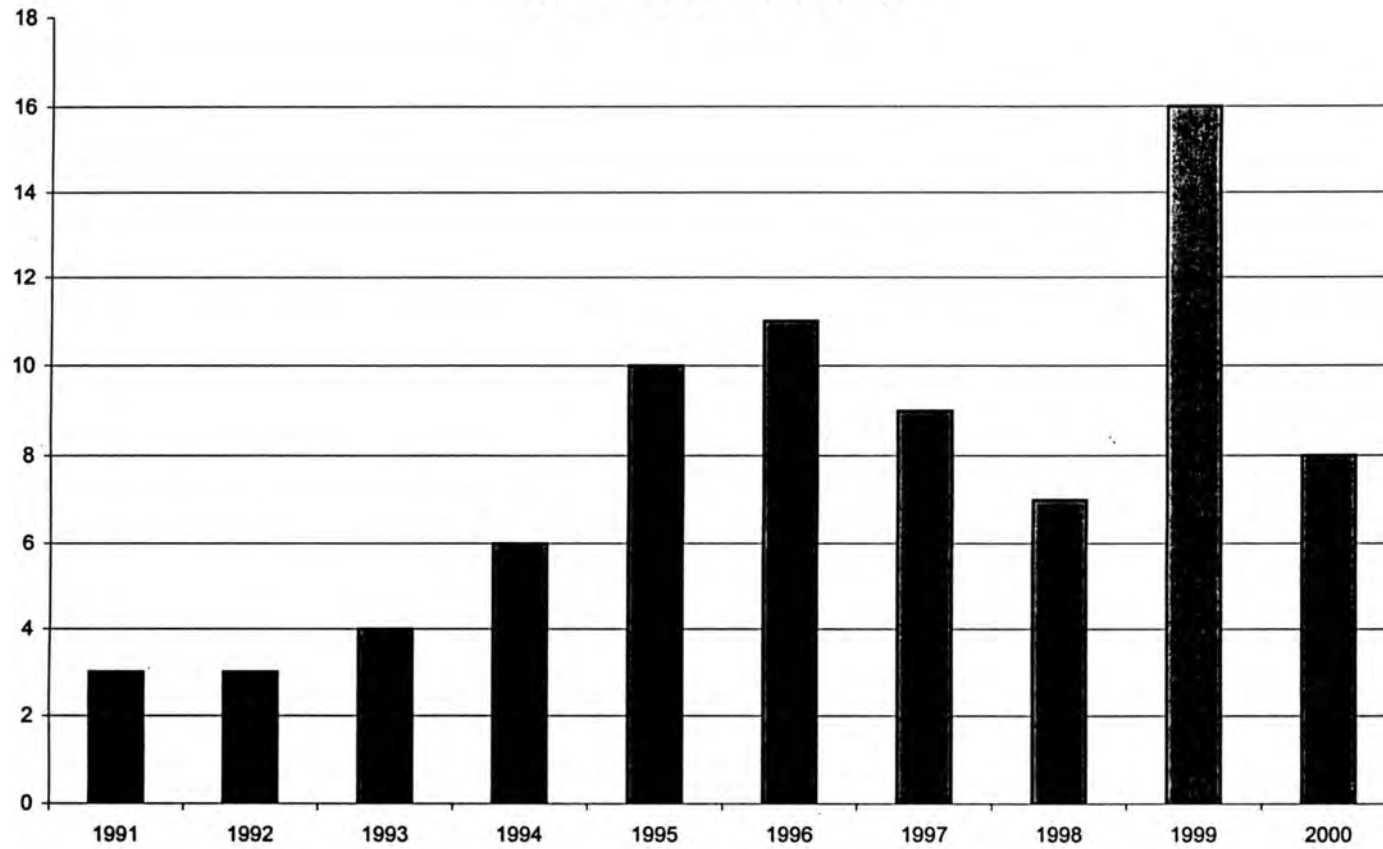
EdGEO provided \$765.97 in travel subsidies to teachers and assisted in the recruitment of teacher participants.

#### **National Association of Geoscience Teachers Distinguished Speaker Tour**

EdGEO provided \$234.99 towards travel costs of Dr. Lynn Howard who delivered workshops and lectures to teachers, University of Regina Education students and geoscientists in Regina.



## EdGEO Workshops





**Vodden, Christy**

**From:** Bates, Jennifer  
**Sent:** January 25, 2001 5:20 PM  
**To:** Vodden, Christy  
**Subject:** please tell CGEN members

Christy

*still had website*

At the last CGEN meeting, I volunteered to re-create the CGEN website. Would you please update the committee on the status on my behalf? I was hoping to have something ready for everyone to view for the meeting but it is not quite ready. But it should be done in the next week or so. Sheryl who is doing EarthNet web stuff is helping me and we have been doing between other activities.

I just realized that I should have sent an EarthNet update for the meeting. Perhaps you could mention that these highlights.

- received funds for third (and final) year from ResSources GSC initiative that will allow for continued build of content of all sections, creation of a search interface for the Glossary database (including online input form for external contributors), construction of French language component, incorporation of other online resources such as Geoscapes and Wat on Earth, and prototyping of two new sections (one which will present Canada's geologists and another that will provide ready-to-go presentations for new outreach geoscientists)
- contractor Stephanie Douma is doing resource reviews for the Teaching Resource database (150 done to date)
- developments in progress include contributions from GSC Atlantic (sea level change in the Atlantic Provinces), Parks Canada (geology of National Parks), Wat on Earth (numerous contributions to the Activities, Dynamic Earth and Geology of Communities section), SITS in Nova Scotia (climate change activities), and GSC Vancouver (various outreach products such as Geoscapes, Vancouver Rocks, etc.)
- EarthNet was presented at NS EdGEO workshop, NS Association of Science Teachers Annual Conference, Science Teachers Association of Ontario Annual Conference, British Columbia Science Teachers Association (thanks to Sonya Talwar of the GSC Vancouver office); flyers were sent to various museums and science centres across Canada
- with March 31, 2001 marking the end of funding from ResSources GSC, it will be critical to establish other sources of funding that will ensure EarthNet continues to grow as it has the last three years \*
- if anyone knows of new resources that should be included in EarthNet, please contact me.

I realize this is rather slim but it hits the high points. Thank you for being the messenger.

I hope you enjoy the trip to Vancouver. I must include in my budget for next year.

Jenn

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## CGEN MEETING, JANUARY 29, 2001

### THOUGHTS ON GOALS

CGEN should coordinate and facilitate geoscience education at the national and regional levels.

CGEN can best advance geoscience education in Canada by capitalizing on current, high-profile success stories. To this end, I would like CGEN to promote four programs as the core of a national geoscience educational program:

- Earth Net (Jennifer Bates)
- EdGeo (Fran Haidl)
- Geoscape Canada (Bob Turner and John Clague)
- IGEO (Alan Morgan)

Other activities with strong champions should also be encouraged and supported by CGEN, but with limited resources we must focus on our strengths.

There are opportunities for synergy among the above-mentioned initiatives, e.g.

- Geoscape materials can be showcased on Earth Net
- Geoscape materials can be used in EdGeo workshops
- EdGeo workshops can be advertised on Earth Net
- EdGeo workshop materials can be placed on Earth Net
- EdGeo, Geoscape, and Earth Net can be showcased as Canadian geo-education success stories at IGEO

I hope to prepare an article, co-authored with Bob Turner, Jennifer Bates, Fran Haidl, and Alan Morgan, for *Geoscience Canada*. The article would propose an integrated Canadian geoscience educational initiative centered around Earth Net, EdGeo, Geoscape, and IGEO Calgary (a "four-legged stool", if you wish, with CGEN forming the seat).

I wish to propose to Canadian Geoscience Canada (CGC) that it champion CGEN in its effort to develop a national geoscience education program based on the above-mentioned core activities. CGC is searching for relevant projects to support, so the time is right. One tangible way that CGC could support CGEN is to allow us to use, at no cost to us, Best Consultants, their contract program management service. Best Consultants could develop a strategy that CGEN could use to obtain monetary support from prominent Canadian resource companies, or perhaps other corporations, for a national geoscience education initiative. Companies would benefit from the positive publicity associated with sponsoring a project that advances education and supporting activities with proven track records.

I would like to seek private-sector contributions to:

- Advance the Geoscience Canada effort; specifically to expand the production of local Geoscape Canada posters and websites and place the whole enterprise on firmer



financial footing. This would best be done by acquiring funds to acquire the services of GIS, cartographic, and website specialists.

- Provide more secure funding for Earth Net, which would allow Jennifer to expand her enterprise.
- Provide additional funds for EdGeo to allow the production of more local and regional geoscience educational materials for teachers.

John J. Clague  
January 2001



## **CGEN REPORT - ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION ACTIVITIES 2000**

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) welcomed over one million visitors in 2000, and virtually all of these were exposed (consciously or unconsciously) to some aspect of the geosciences, through permanent galleries, short-term displays, lectures, workshops, classroom lessons, or program activities.

The past year was a difficult one for public programming at the ROM. Pressures arising from ongoing restructuring, shifting institutional priorities, fiscal constraints, and a mid-year change in directorship all culminated in a reduction in the range and number of geoscience-related education activities delivered. Despite these setbacks, individual program quality and public interest remained very high.

Staff of the ROM's Earth Sciences and Palaeobiology departments continued to host their ever-popular **PUBLIC IDENTIFICATION CLINICS** (for rocks, fossils, minerals, gems, and meteorites – with help from the Anthropology Department on North American stone artifacts) on one afternoon every second month. This service, which has traditionally been offered entirely free-of-charge (no admission necessary), was threatened with cancellation when the restructured programs department arbitrarily withdrew facilities and promotional support in mid-year. Intensive lobbying by participating curatorial staff saved the clinics, but only with the imposed condition that the service be provided to admission paying public (free to ROM members). In six 2-hour-long clinics throughout the year we identified 873 specimens and artifacts brought in by 258 participants. The May 2000 clinic was taped for a Discovery Canada feature and Janet Waddington of the Department of Palaeobiology was interviewed for a National Post article about the program at the September 2000 event.

The single biggest programming event in the ROM's calendar is our annual **MARCH BREAK** celebration. In 2000, the ROM was also hosting their immensely successful exhibition **EGYPTIAN ART IN THE AGE OF THE PYRAMIDS** and the overlap of the two events pushed institutional crowds to all-time highs. The departments of Palaeobiology and Earth Sciences both geared their public March Break activities to the Egyptian theme. Earth Sciences hosted a superb hands-on introduction to the use of mineral pigments in Egyptian art, while Palaeobiology operated a fossil touch-table session that featured the nummulitic limestones used in the construction of the Great Pyramids at Giza (yes, the pyramids are built of billions of fossil tests of simple marine amoebae!). Over 30,000 visitors swarmed through the ROM over the week-long event.

The ROM's annual **RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM** was convened for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time in late November 2000. The popular event is free to all comers and regularly attracts a broad audience of ROM members, students, media, and the general public. This year the Colloquium comprised a full-day program of 25 talks and 5 poster presentations with a heavy emphasis on the geosciences. Staff researchers representing the departments of Earth Sciences (Geochronology and Geology) and Palaeobiology covered 13 separate topics ranging from the early history of the Solar System to Quaternary Ice Age



environments of the Toronto area. The Colloquium, and particularly the geoscience component, was featured in Jay Ingram's Toronto Star column entitled, "The vast time scales of the ROM" (December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2000).

For many years, one of the ROM's most popular outreach programs has been the **LIVE & INTERACTIVE** series (formerly known as the ROM Speakers' Bureau). The successful venture took ROM geoscience staff to libraries, schools, clubs, and parks throughout the province for lectures in person, or via electronic presentations. Sadly, a management decision to increase the cost to clients resulted in unaffordable fees and the cancellation of the program in mid-2000. Some staff members have continued to represent the ROM and provide talks and workshops to geoscience special interest groups outside a formal programming structure, and they will continue to do so while lobbying to reinstate Live & Interactive.

During 2000 staff of the ROM's Earth Sciences and Palaeobiology departments took to the road and participated in a number of offsite events in southern Ontario to promote various aspects of the geosciences to a much broader public audience. Included among these **OUTREACH** activities last year were displays and talks on Ontario rocks, minerals, fossils, and geological maps for the **Cottage Life Show** (Toronto International Centre, April), and displays and information sessions on Ontario fossils and industrial minerals at the **International Ploughing Match** (Wellington County, September). At the latter event, we also supplied and distributed hundreds of fossil samples to visiting school children. A traveling display of selected Ontario fossils continued to make the rounds of the province and was so heavily used that it returned to the ROM for much needed maintenance in mid-year. The ROM's Dinosaur Museumobile also made the circuit of Ontario communities for another year, extending the reach of one of our most popular subjects well beyond the Toronto area. **TIMESHIP 2000**, a 5000 square foot traveling exhibit that played to selected venues throughout the province, was a joint collaboration between the ROM, the Ontario Science Centre, and Science North. TimeShip 2000 utilized used artifacts and natural objects (rocks, fossils, and minerals) to celebrate the story of humanity's fascination with time in advance of the turn of the millennium.

During 2000, many other partnerships with educational organizations and agencies expanded the scope of ROM-based activities and resulted in shared successes. Ongoing cooperation with the Ontario Geological Survey, especially through the Southwest Ontario Resident Geologist (Ken Steele) at the Mines and Minerals Information Centre in Toronto, allowed mutual support of several displays and public information sessions as well as a focus for advancing work on the **GEOSCAPE TORONTO** project. The ROM's Department of Palaeobiology continued to work with the **MINING MATTERS** program (of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada) to supply thousands of fossils specimens for distribution in classroom kits throughout Ontario. The ROM also participated in the inauguration of the Ontario Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology's "Ontario Science and Technology Awareness Partners' Forum".



One of the biggest **PUBLIC AWARENESS** coups in Canadian geoscience for the year 2000 was the announcement in May of the discovery of the world's biggest trilobite on the Hudson Bay coast of northern Manitoba. A joint media event in Winnipeg, hosted by partners Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, the University of Manitoba, and the Royal Ontario Museum, captured the attention of Canada and the world, and resulted in extensive coverage in the press (local and national), on television and radio (local and national network), and the web. Soon afterwards, the international press picked up the **GIANT TRILOBITE** the story and it has now run worldwide. This excellent exposure has raised the public profile of palaeontology and the geosciences in Canada, particularly among young people. The original specimen of the 70 centimetre-long trilobite is on display at the Manitoba Museum and full-size replicas can be seen in exhibits in the University of Manitoba and the Royal Ontario Museum.

The ROM's **DYNAMIC EARTH: INCO LIMITED GALLERY OF EARTH SCIENCES** received one of two top honours at the American Association of Museums *12<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition Competition* in 2000. Work continues on updating and improving various display elements in the heavily used gallery. In December 2000 the ROM opened a small display of **BURGESS SHALE** fossils designed to showcase recent interpretations, and to test a new fibre-optic lighting system for the specimen cases. The interim exhibit features over 80 individual fossils and three full-colour, painted mural backdrops of reconstructed communities by renowned artist Marianne Collins. The opening of the display coincided very closely with the premiere of five new plastic models of Burgess Shale animals (*Opabinia*, *Pikaia*, *Olenoides*, *Wiwaxia*, and *Laggania*) now available exclusively through the Royal Ontario Museum. The display is a prototype for the more comprehensive Burgess Shale component of a planned new gallery that will also feature Ontario fossils (hopefully to open in 2001).

Numerous **POPULAR ARTICLES**, book reviews, and newspaper items on geoscience-related subjects were produced by ROM staff. Spin-offs on the giant trilobite story appeared in newsletters, magazines, and websites around the world.

Geoscience **TEACHING** at the ROM continues to be an integral activity. **CLASS VISITS** to the museum for curriculum-related geoscience programs kept the school buses lined up outside the front doors in 2000, despite on-going strife in the Ontario educational system. ROM teachers offer a wide variety of classroom and exhibit-based lessons for grades K-8, and at the high school and post secondary levels. Staff members of the Earth Sciences and Palaeobiology departments hold numerous cross-appointments and adjunct positions in university geoscience departments and teach at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Many staff members are also becoming more involved in life-long learning programs, offered both internally (Elderhostel tours and workshops) and outside the ROM (e.g. Later Life Learning at the University of Toronto).

A growing volume of geoscience-related enquiries is being received through the heavily visited ROM website. Many of the questions can be handled by ROM reference librarians, but a large number are forwarded to the appropriate department (Palaeobiology or Earth Sciences) for expert response.



In January 2000 Dave Rudkin participated in GEOSCIED III in Sydney, Australia, presenting a paper entitled, "**Eyes in stone....or, what the trilobite saw and other lessons of life long ago.**" (Abstract published in *Third International Conference on Geoscience Education (GeoSciEd III) Abstract Volume and Conference Proceedings, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, p. 112*) and coauthoring a second presentation by Kathleen Kemp on, "**GEOSCAPE TORONTO - A geoscience public awareness project.**" (Kemp, K., Rudkin, D., Sharpe, D., Steele, K., Freeman, E., Gartner, J., Dillon, P., Lilge, L., and Tyrer, V., *Third International Conference on Geoscience Education (GeoSciEd III) Abstract Volume and Conference Proceedings, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, p. 63-64.*) Rudkin also chaired a technical session and participated in preliminary planning discussions for GEOSCIED IV.