



APGO Received Warm Reception at University of Waterloo and University of Western Ontario

APGO was buzzing with back to back networking events held in Waterloo and London, Ontario this November. We would like to recognize Council member, Doug Cater, our regional representative in South West Ontario for his leadership in making these events a success. APGO received a warm reception at both events, which highlights the strong relationship we developed through the years with both University of Waterloo (U of W) and University of Western Ontario (UWO). We saw a strong presence of department faculty members who took the time out of their busy schedule to support this initiative. We recognize Dr. Barry Warner (U of W) and Dr. Robert Linnen (UWO) for being strong APGO champions. Their role is critical in our effort to establish strong links with students – the future of geoscience. We saw first-hand their enthusiasm and commitment to prepare the future geoscientists of Ontario.

To all APGO members who showed up at our South West events, THANK YOU for generously sharing your time and professional insights. Your presence was deeply appreciated.

The South West events were just the beginning of a series of networking events that will take place at various regions for the next 12 months. One of APGO's strategic priority focuses on fostering strong relationships and partnerships with various stakeholders. At APGO, we believe that we are on course in following through with our action plan that includes more localized networking opportunities for our members and attracting future members through our strong ties, in this instance, with the academia.



Doug Cater, P. Geo. hosting the networking event at University of Waterloo. When asked by students what made him get involved with APGO, Doug said it was his way of giving back.

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APGO members with U of W students (from left) Bill Murray, P. Geo., Wayne Caston, P. Geo. and Tony Lotimer, P. Geo.

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The recent Building Strong Connections events that took place at University of Waterloo and University of Western Ontario demonstrated that commitment. We were pleased to see APGO members and a big number of students come together for these events. We were also pleased to be able to recognize two APGO members in the South West region as recipients of 2013 Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (FGC) designation – Mr. Wayne Alfred Caston, P. Geo. and Dr. Robert Hodder, P. Geo, P. Eng. They are the two among the 21 APGO members who received the FGC designation in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the geoscience profession. Recipients in Central and North East regions will be recognized at regional events that will take place in December 2013 and February 2014.



Gord White, CEO presenting the FGC award to Dr. Robert Hodder, P. Geo., P. Eng. Dr. Robert Hodder is a Consulting Geologist and a Professor Emeritus at University of Western Ontario.



Ian Macdonald, P. Geo., Past President, presenting the FGC award to Wayne Caston, P. Geo. Wayne has been actively involved with APGO for many years and is currently the Chair of APGO's Discipline Committee.

In partnership with University of Waterloo and University of Western Ontario

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Dr. Steve Evans

The University of Waterloo event featured guest speaker, Dr. Steve Evans, Earth and Environmental Sciences Faculty, who gave an interesting talk on “Geology and Natural Disasters”. His talk highlighted the importance of the role of geoscientists in studying the behaviours of natural disasters and their impacts; and analyzing the risks and potential risks to mitigate their impacts on the environment, thus potentially saving lives.

The University of Western Ontario event featured Bryce Pickard, Manager of Research Development at UWO, who spoke about research and industry partnerships, highlighting private and public sectors collaboration.

We thank Dr. Steve Evans and Bryce Pickard for sharing their expertise and insights with our members and students at the events.



Bryce Pickard



We thank all the students who showed up. Their curiosity and enthusiasm about the geoscience profession were reciprocated with equally enthusiastic response and participation of APGO members.

Initiating regional meetings is part of APGO’s strategic plan to function as a professional association as well as a regulator. One of the great values of professional associations is the opportunity to network with peers, learn from each other, collaborate, and for members to advance as professionals. *“I have been impressed with the enthusiasm and spirit our members brought to these meetings and their willingness to share, mentor, and work together on issues they have in common. It is clear to me and to APGO’s Council that these networking opportunities are an important part of our professional association’s mandate”*, said Gord White, CEO.

The next regional networking events will take place in February 5, 2014 in Sudbury and February 13, 2014 in Toronto. Detailed information will follow in the subsequent issues of Field Notes.