



Canadian Mineral Analysts/Analystes canadiens des minéraux

Communicate analytical technologies in the Canadian mining industry  
Communiquer les technologies analytiques dans l'industrie minière Canadienne

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# NEWSLETTER

August 2020

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## 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Conference and Exhibition

**CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 CMA Conference and Exhibition, scheduled to be held in Pointe Claire, QC, on October 18 – 22, 2020, has been CANCELLED.

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## 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Conference and Exhibition

Planning is currently underway by SCP Science to host the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual CMA Conference and Exhibition in Montreal in October 2021 at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 6700 Trans Canada (Route 40), 11 km from the Pierre Elliot Trudeau International Airport. George Feilders will serve as the Conference Chair. Information about accommodation, delegate registration, exhibitor booths, sponsorship, submission of technical presentations, workshops, tours and social program will be posted as it becomes available.

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SCP Science – Host of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual CMA Conference and Exhibition



Conference Hotel – Holiday Inn & Suites,  
Pointe Claire, Québec

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# **CMA Annual General Meeting**

## **POSTPONED**

The CMA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is normally held at the annual CMA Conference and Exhibition. With the cancellation of the Annual CMA Conference and Exhibition scheduled for Montreal, QC in October 2020, the 2020 CMA AGM has been postponed until October 2021.

A summary of CMA activities and financial report for 2019 – 2020 will be included in the December 2020 CMA Newsletter.

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## **Joint ILAC-ISO Communiqué on the Recognition of ISO/IEC 17025 During the Three-Year Transition**

Laboratories wishing to demonstrate their technical competence can do so via conformity with the international standard ISO/IEC 17025 '*General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*'. Conformity with this standard also means that the laboratory operates a management system generally in accordance with the principles of ISO 9001. In 2017, ISO published a revision to ISO/IEC 17025 (previously published in 2005) to ensure that requirements continue to meet the demands of the modern marketplace. As a consequence, it has been agreed that laboratories that demonstrate conformity through third-party accreditation will need to transition their processes to the new version within a defined timeframe.

ILAC, in consultation with ISO, agreed that a three-year period from the date of publication shall be allowed for this transition. During this transition period, it is important to note that both ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and ISO/IEC 17025:2017 are equally valid and applicable. Accreditation to either version of the standard granted by an accreditation body that is a signatory to the ILAC Arrangement should be recognised by the market place, and it is therefore strongly recommended that specifiers recognise both versions until after the 3-year transition period has closed.

June 2020 Revision: The end of the transition period has been extended from November 2020 to June 1, 2021. ILAC and ISO have agreed to this extension to ensure all laboratories are able to be transitioned following the restrictions imposed due to the global coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak.

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## **CALA Training Goes Virtual**

All CALA training courses have moved to a virtual format. This is an excellent opportunity for you to complete training while you are working from home. The courses, and the course formats, are listed below.

### Virtual Courses

- Introduction to Control Charts September 29-30, 2020
- Measurement Uncertainty (Analytical Chemistry) October 8-9, 2020
- Cause Analysis October 14-15, 2020
- Internal Calibration for Laboratories October 28-29, 2020

### Webinars

- Laboratory Information Management Systems 1: Overview and Benefits September 23, 2020
- Creativity at Work October 7, 2020
- Laboratory Information Management Systems 2: Major Functions and Other Potential Function October 21, 2020

For more information about these courses, cost and a full list of all courses, go to CALA's website: [www.cala.ca](http://www.cala.ca). To register for any of the courses go to: <https://cala-training.myshopify.com/>.

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## **In Memoriam: Ian Devereux**

Dr. Ian Devereux, founder of Rocklabs, passed away April 25, 2020 in his 80<sup>th</sup> year (born February 11, 1940) in his homeland of New Zealand. Ian is survived by his wife Rosy, his former wife Felicity, his two sons David and Michael, and his four sisters Anne Marie, Clare, Evelyn and Elizabeth. He was the son of Maurice and Eudora. Ian obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Otago University, and his Ph.D. at University of Victoria. He spent four years at Selwyn College where he was part of the Selwyn Ballet (Ian was tall and very thin!).

Ian was a great supporter of the Canadian Mineral Analysts. Rocklabs was the CMA's first Corporate Member. He would always arrange his schedule to ensure he included the annual CMA Conference and Exhibition in his itinerary. The Geoscience Laboratories in Sudbury, Ontario was the Rocklabs' first major customer with the purchase of a sample preparation system, which is why he had a sentimental soft spot for Sudbury. Ian contracted Parkinson's in his later years which prevented him from travelling and attending CMA Conferences.



Ian in his youth, 1956



Ian in the early days of Rocklabs



Ian Devereux (1940 – 2000)

Included below are a number of tributes about Ian's life and how he grew Rocklabs into a world-renowned company manufacturing sample preparation equipment.

### **Tribute by Hugh de Souza** (Originally published in the SGS Explore)

Dr. Ian Devereux passed away on 25 April 2020 at the age of 80. He was well known to the geochemical community as the owner of Rocklabs, a small New Zealand company making sample preparation equipment that he grew into a world leader. Ian completed his PhD in isotope geochemistry in 1968 at the University of Victoria while working for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR). His thesis was based on the use of oxygen isotopes in microfossils to document climate change in the Tertiary, one of the first studies of this kind. Shortly after, he founded Rocklabs in 1969 in partnership with a local lab owner, Dr. Jim Sprott. Ian took over full ownership of the Rocklabs equipment business in the mid 1970s.

Ian realised that his products needed to be simple to operate even though the engineering behind them might be complex. Reliability was essential especially as they were to be used at mine site labs most likely to be in remote locations. The local Australasian market for geological sample preparation equipment was relatively small, so Ian decided at a very early stage that the market for his niche product was global.

Although Ian considered himself a scientist and a very knowledgeable one at that, he was an astute businessman who grew Rocklabs into a \$20m company with over a thousand clients in 95 countries before completing its sale to Scott Automation in 2010. As he grew Rocklabs globally, he was epitomised as one of New Zealand export "Vikings", a group of innovative and entrepreneurial small business people who were at the core of the country's development as an export nation into a global market from the mid-1970s and onward. Ian was very much a one-man band in popularising his product, constantly on the road around the world. He was always present at the annual meeting of the Canadian Mineral Analysts, an association of lab analysts from Canadian mining and exploration labs.

Innovation was at the heart of Ian's business approach; it came from his deep interest in and questioning of existing lab processes and an ability to devise simple solutions to improve them. His goal was to increase the effectiveness of sample preparation equipment and help the operator to produce a quality product consistently, through properly designed equipment that could be operated safely.

Starting with a simple ring mill pulverizer that developed a reputation for reliability, he introduced products such as the hydraulic crusher that enabled contamination-free crushing of rocks. The multi-mill was an interesting solution to contamination control and improved efficiency – it was unlike anything else in the sample preparation equipment world. It could pulverize 80 samples simultaneously over a 12-hour period. Each compartment operated as a low energy rod mill that gently pulverized the sample and minimized contamination, unlike the high-energy action of conventional ring mills. His continuous ring mill (CRM) consisting of three stacked ring mills that provided an alternate method of pulverizing large samples compared to the very large pulverizers used by some labs.

The Boyd crusher was unique in being the first double acting jaw crusher that was designed to reduce drill core to -2mm in a single step. Each jaw moving independently with a slight oscillatory motion allowed progressive crushing of the sample as it dropped through the jaws and replaced a two-step process employed by many labs.

The importance of this innovation was that it improved the representivity of the sample split expressed by Pierre Gy's Fundamental Sampling Equation, which shows the importance of reducing particle

diameter in minimizing the sampling error. The Boyd, in combination with the CRM, was an efficient way of processing large samples to analytical fineness.

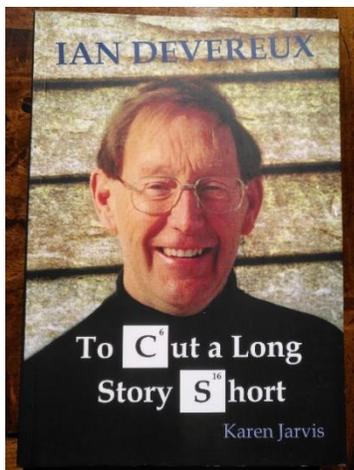
A further innovation was his development of the rotary sample divider. Rotary sample dividers were known as the best way to split a sample with an order of magnitude improvement in splitting error over the riffle splitter, which was the standard at the time. Existing rotary dividers were awkward to use in a sample preparation lab setting and not easy to clean. He designed a rotary splitter that could split the output from the Boyd as it was crushed, with split proportions easily adjusted. In combination, these innovations were a step change in the quality of sample preparation procedures, while the mechanisation introduced resulted in productivity and health and safety improvements for sample preparation technicians. They are in use in sample preparation labs around the world to this day and constitute his legacy to our industry.

From his travels to numerous mine sites, Ian knew that the mining industry was looking for further productivity improvements through automation and he used some of these components such as the Boyd, the CRM and the rotary sample divider as basic building blocks in customised automated systems. Mechanical conveyors were used to move material between components, with the system controlled by programmable logic controllers. These mechanised systems were significantly less expensive and more reliable than the automated systems based on the robotics that were available in the 1990s.

Following the Bre-X scandal in 1997 and increased scrutiny of lab QC procedures, Ian realised there was an opportunity for marketing reliable certified reference materials for precious metals analysis that were easily available. Most rock standards at the time came from government agencies and were expensive and only available in limited quantity. As those from Rocklabs were inexpensive enough for frequent insertion, available as sachets for individual use or in larger packs for labs and distributed globally through the Rocklabs sales network, they quickly became a popular and widely used product.

In person, Ian was affable and easy going, always the raconteur with a raft of stories from his extensive travels and from the labs he visited around the world. He was softly spoken and always a gentleman. In conversing with him one quickly became aware of his intelligence and wide knowledge. He could be very persuasive which no doubt contributed to his success in selling Rocklabs' products and solutions. Money was never central to Ian's vision and he shared his wealth widely; he instituted a profit-sharing scheme at Rocklabs that along with his people-centric management style ensured a strong and loyal team that propelled its growth.

## Book Review



Ian commissioned Karen Jarvis of Life Stories to write his biography ('To Cut a Long Story Short') so the younger generation of his family would know how he lived his life.

This is a vivid account of an inventor who followed his passion and believed in himself. From bullied farm boy to Ph.D. scholar, to family man and founder of the highly successful, internationally acclaimed company, Rocklabs, Ian Devereux has lived a full and fascinating life. Devereux gives a gripping account of his work as a forensic scientist on the Arthur Allan Thomas case. Anecdotes from business trips to politically unstable countries, including near-death experiences, will engross readers. His unorthodox approach and willingness to take huge financial risks gave rise to a niche marketing business model that was revered by economists of the day.

Shining through this biography is Devereux's generous and trusting nature, formidable intellect and contagious sense of humour. Karen Jarvis's lively narrative will keep the reader engrossed to the end.

Scientist turned businessman Ian Devereux was one of the export "Vikings" of the 1970s, 80s and 2000s who led New Zealand's expansion as an export nation. Devereux's Rocklabs was a company ahead of its time when it was founded in 1975 with its business model premised on being number one in a global niche – scientific rock-testing instruments for mines.

Devereux estimated there was a maximum client base of around 10,000 globally, when he persuaded the Bank of New Zealand (BNZ) to give him a loan of \$10,000, half of which was secured against his home. The company was hugely successful, but for Devereux, it was never about the money. Though that's said by many businessmen, Devereux's decision to share profits each year with staff showed that for him, it really was true.

Every employee received the same share in the profits, from senior managers to factory workers, and none of the senior managers ever complained they should be getting a larger share, he says. The impact on workers' lives was immense as the company managed a decade of year-on-year double digit growth. "One couple said they had paid their mortgage off in the ten years of profit-share money," he recalls.

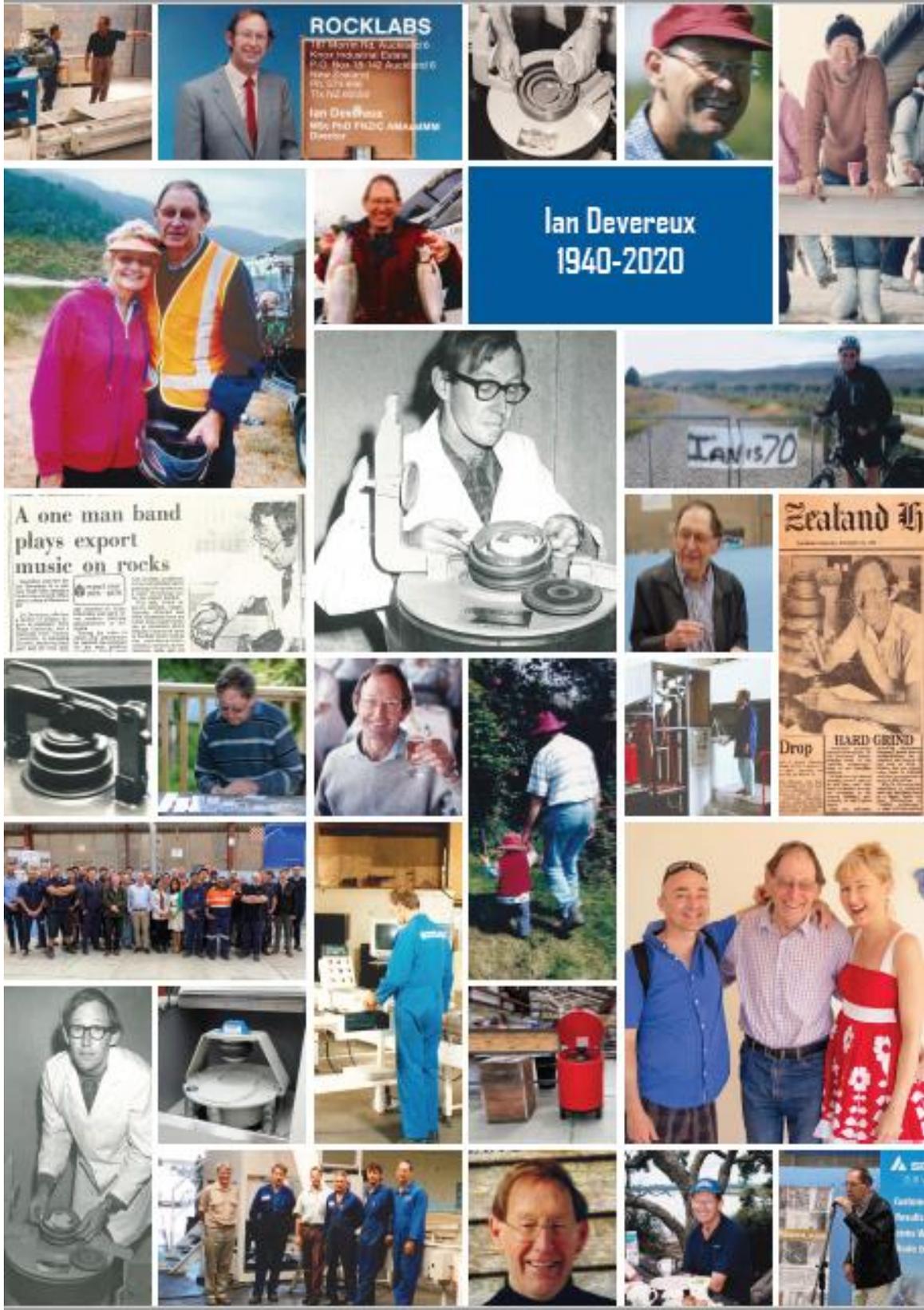
He also ensured that the lowest wage Rocklabs paid was at least equal to the country's average wage. He sheltered his workers from tougher times. When the BNZ asked him to pay down some of the company's debts, he did it by arranging to take a massive pay-cut himself until the bank was happy with the level of debt it had. No-one else's wages were clipped.

Devereux's work meant he was a huge traveller – notching up visits to 55 countries – but despite the family atmosphere in the business, there was some loneliness at the top. It came to a head when he attended a talk at Auckland University by business journalist Rod Oram, who was for more than a decade a columnist for Fairfax Media's *Sunday Star-Times*. Oram was the man who coined the term "export Vikings".

During his lecture, Oram spoke about a new type of business model on the rise: Specialised, world-class, hard-working, and little known. He gave the example of Rocklabs. "I just couldn't believe it," Devereux says. "Rod really understood the whole thing of what we were doing and I cried. I couldn't stop myself. I was just so relieved that there were other people like me and that this was real; it wasn't some crazy theory that I had."

Rocklabs was sold to Scott Technology in 2008 and continues to thrive. He might have got more by selling it to an overseas buyer, but he was a patriotic New Zealander and wanted to sell the business to a New Zealander. He also insisted the profit-sharing continue for two years after Scott bought it. He got a "substantial" amount, and promptly shared a large amount with family, friends, and Rocklabs' employees. One Rocklabs worker recalls of Devereux: "Money was a by-product of his passion rather than a propelling force."

Copies of the book have gone to Auckland Library and the National Archives to ensure Devereux's unique place in New Zealand corporate history is put on public record.



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## In Memoriam: Charles Wu

The world lost one of its greatest XRF scientists when Charles Tsai-Way Wu passed away July 17, 2020 at the Greater Niagara General Hospital in his 70<sup>th</sup> year (born May 31, 1951). Charles is survived by his wife Ellen, his son Frederick and daughter Margaret, both of Toronto, and two brothers, Tsai-Yu and Tsai-Zhong, both of Taipei. He was the son of Hai-Fung Wu and the late Tsun Wu. A memorial service was held on Friday, July 24, 2020 in London, ON.

Charles was very well known in the XRF community because he organized the annual University of Western Ontario XRF course. Many students and professionals attended this course to learn basic and advanced XRF principles and methods, and to hone their XRF skills. In 2016 Charles offered to organize and host the 2017 CMA Conference and Exhibition in London, Ontario but the 2017 Conference had already been awarded to Kamloops, BC.



Charles Wu (1951 – 2020)



Charles Wu in His Lab at  
University of Western Ontario



Charlie and Ellen Wu at Niagara Falls  
2015

### **Tribute by Maggi Loubser, Mike Hinds and Alexander Seyfarth**

I met Charlie in 2004 when I attended the Influence Coefficient Workshop at the University of Western Ontario in Canada, and quickly realised his stature belied the enormous heart and incredible passion this man carried.

The following year I was invited together with Mike Hinds and Alexander Seyfarth to come and teach at the annual XRF Short course organised by Charlie, and originally taught by James Willis and Andy Duncan. And so, a great friendship spanning many years was born. James and Andy retired and Mike, Alexander and I joined Charlie's faculty for the annual short course in Modern X-ray Spectrometry. This course was already a North American institution when we joined, and as a team the four of us adapted and changed and moulded it into a resource that educated hundreds of spectroscopists over the years. Bruno Vrebos from Panalytical also became a regular lecturer presenting the Fundamental Parameter workshop in the advanced week.

Charlie was the face of the UWO XRF Course – the first contact students had and the person who kept contact, sorted their problems and gave the solid logistical background to our teaching. The Annual XRF course was his passion and a year's course was barely over before he was at Denver X-ray Conference canvassing suppliers for sponsorship for the next year. He was truly the heart and soul of the course and forged friendships that extended far beyond the course.

One of the highlights of the course for him was always the weekend excursion to Niagara, and he NEVER got tired of the Maid of the Mist. Every year he showed the sights to the class as if he were visiting them for the first time. It was also time for his annual glass of wine at Joseph's winery.

In the class he was full of fun, and even managed to win the Jerk of the Year award for nodding off during the late-afternoon suppliers' presentations. It was the final year that we taught with James and Andy and James was trying to announce the award with tears of laughter rolling down his face, the whole class in stitches and Charlie still oblivious of the fact that we awarded him the most prestigious course award!

He was also the person who with infinite patience could take a student through a troublesome practical exercise repeatedly until they understood. His caring extended to us as faculty, and on many an occasion a sinusitis sneeze was all it took for him to call his Chinese Medical Practitioner wife Ellen, and next thing she was there with her box of needles and ointments to nurse you back to health.

His family was his pride and joy – we were regularly regaled with the latest news of Frederick and Margaret and he was immensely proud of Ellen's achievements and supportive of her studying and later practise. As Ellen progressed in her training, he increasingly converted us all to Chinese medicine!

After his retirement the XRF course moved to Hamilton College in the USA and there Charlie continued to charm the students and staff alike. He also took up cycling and we were all in awe of his adventures.

I am writing on behalf of Mike and Alexander too when I say that Charlie gave us an opportunity that had an enormous impact on our careers, and an opportunity for growth in our own knowledge and experience as only teaching a subject can provide. His commitment and passion helped to grow this course to the international gold standard in XRF training, as our students from every continent except Antarctica demonstrate.

He leaves an enormous gap in the hearts of all who knew him, and in the XRF community he will never be forgotten. As Bruno Vrebos always said – go well General!





Charlie Wu with Ferdinand Claisse and two students 2006



Andy Duncan, Charlie Wu and James Willis, Niagara Falls 2005



James Willis and Charlie Wu 2005



Charlie with Best of Class Lindsay McHenry 2006



Charlie proudly demonstrating sample preparation 2013



Charlie REALLY never got tired of Maid of the Mist 2013



Class of 2019 – Basic Short Course in Modern X-Ray Spectrometry Theory

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# CMA Scholarship Program

The CMA provides scholarships to students who are enrolled in fire assaying and chemical technology programs at Canadian colleges. The awards are not only made on the basis of the student's academic performance but students are evaluated by the college on their involvement, commitment and overall motivation towards pursuing a career in the Canadian mining laboratory industry.

In 2020, the CMA awarded eight \$1,000 scholarships: four to students at British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in Burnaby, BC, two to students at Cambrian College in Sudbury, ON and two to students at CÉGEP in Sept-Îles, QC. Photos of the students receiving their awards and thank you letters will appear in the December 2020 CMA Newsletter.

Some CMA scholarships have been named in honour of CMA members who were long time members and have been staunch supporters of the CMA and its activities. The individuals so honoured are Mr. James Tweed, Dr. Ian Devereux, Mr. Bill Clifford, and Dr. Eric Hoffman.

## ***The James Tweed BCIT Scholarship***

This scholarship is presented annually at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in Burnaby, BC. James Tweed, a founding member of the CMA and a past managing secretary had a lifetime



commitment to the Canadian mining industry having worked 25 years with Dome Mines, 10 years as a lab manager at Dome's Sigma Mine in Val D'or, Quebec, and 15 years as a lab supervisor at the Dome Mine property in Timmins Ontario. James passed away August 23, 1992. In 1992 at the Val d'Or, Quebec conference it was decided to name a BCIT scholarship in his honour.

His feelings for the CMA are best reflected in these words from his last managing secretary's report in 1989: *"I like to think that our success as an organization is due to many factors such as good fellowship, a chance to discuss problems with your peers, an opportunity to see and discuss the latest technology with a variety of exhibitors."*

*"I also think it is important for our membership to attend our annual meetings as it gives them a break from the daily grind and I am sure they all return to their respective laboratories with a sense of renewal"*.

## ***The Ian Devereux Scholarship***

Created in 2009 at the Bathurst, New Brunswick conference and is presented annually to a student enrolled at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Before his retirement, Dr. Ian Devereux was the Managing Director and owner of Rocklabs, a company that manufactured sample preparation equipment for the mining industry. Rocklabs was recently purchased by Scott Technologies Inc.

He has a MSc (Honours) degree in Chemistry as well as a PhD in Geochemistry. He is a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry and Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Professional achievements include receiving the ANZAC Fellow awarded by the Australian Government and the 1996 Mineral Industry Operating technique award from the AusIMM.



Dr. Devereux has been a CMA member since 1967 and was presented with a Lifetime Membership in 2008 in recognition of his contributions to the CMA. As an international traveler Dr. Devereux promoted the CMA worldwide, and was a long-time advocate. Ian passed away April 25, 2020.

### ***The Bill Clifford Scholarship***

Created in 2015 and is awarded annually by the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) to a student enrolled in the BCIT Assayer Certification Training Program. Assayer Certification in BC started in 1895.

Bill worked in the mining industry for over 50 years. He was well known and respected for his knowledge of the methods, products, the business, his integrity and professionalism. He was a calm caring individual and always a gentleman.

After graduating from high school, Bill started working for Swastika Laboratories in Swastika, Ontario, which is part of the extended “gold camp” of Kirkland Lake, Ontario. The main service of the lab was assaying for gold content, working with exploration companies and established mines.



Bill started in the sample preparation room of the lab while learning the trade from the co-owners: Mr. William Gerrie and Dr. Douglas Ker-Lawson. Under their mentorship, Bill learned everything from sample preparation to all aspects of wet chemical analysis and fire assaying.

Bill moved on to X-Ray Assay Laboratories Ltd., a commercial laboratory in Toronto, where he worked in the Analytical Lab preparing samples and analyzing them by X-ray fluorescence and atomic absorption methods.

Bill then moved on to work as the Chief Assayer at Dome Mines, South Porcupine, Ontario, for 11 years. There he was responsible for all aspect of the department: personnel, budget, capital expenditures, purchasing, as well as ensuring the quality of analysis of 300+ samples a day – all with a keen focus on new method development.

Bill joined Mines Assay Supplies in 1986 as the General Manager; his knowledge of the business and products dovetailed nicely into sales. Mines Assay was purchased by Anachemia Science in 1993. Bill managed the Kirkland Lake Branch for 11 years before moving to a Director of Sales position at Anachemia in the Vancouver Office where he worked until he retired.

Bill became a member of the Canadian Mineral Analysis in 1976 and he remained active until his passing in May 2015. He was Secretary and Treasurer for many years. When mining had slow years and there was some doubt that the annual conference would happen, Bill took up the cause and was known at the annual event to be always on the lookout for someone who would commit to “Host” the next conference. Bill was instrumental in ensuring the CMA continued each year. He was also instrumental in assisting Jack Simmons to set up the Society of Mineral Analysts in the US.

Bill was very passionate and committed to the continuing education of people who were interested in entering the mining industry. This was evidenced through not only his active membership in the CMA and SMA, but also through the mentorship and support he offered others.

Over the years, Bill never stopped growing or learning. He took a two-year course in General Chemistry, a course to study conversational French, safety courses, photography, golf lessons, to name a few. He volunteered for the United Way, the CNIB, the Canadian Red Cross, the United Church, a Christmas

Food Fund, he coached soccer, and he was an avid Toronto Maple Leafs fan. He also enjoyed his annual family fishing trips, and treasured his family.

### ***The Eric Hoffman Scholarship***

Created in 2016 and is presented annually by the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) to a student enrolled at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Eric Hoffman was an economic geologist with over 30 years of experience in minerals exploration, analysis, and management. He passed away on July 10, 2015. He received his Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in Geology in 1974, and his Masters of Science in Geology in 1975, both from McGill University. In 1974, Eric was awarded the Logan Gold Medal for Highest Standing and graduated with First Class Honours with Great Distinction. He received his Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Toronto in 1978.

The Canadian Innovation Leader Award was presented to Eric in 2009 by the Government of Canada. In 2013, Eric received the Association of Applied Geochemists' Gold Medal for outstanding scientific achievement in applied geochemistry. In 1987, Eric established Activation Laboratories Ltd. (Actlabs) Group of Companies with a focus on commercializing innovative technologies with the highest quality standards for the minerals, metallurgy, petroleum, life sciences, environmental, forensics, material testing and agricultural industries.



He achieved global success by growing Actlabs into 27 laboratories in 12 countries. In 2014, Actlabs opened a new 200,000 square foot global headquarters in Ancaster, Ontario. Eric was a long-time member of the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA), a regular attendee at the annual CMA Conference, and an active participant at the annual CMA business meetings. Eric passed away July 10, 2015.

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## **Lab Humour**



I hear they're using lawyers in laboratory testing instead of rats. Apparently, you don't get that attached to them as much as you do with the rats.

What do you call a laboratory monkey that went through a meat grinder? Rhesus pieces.

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## **Ed Paski's New Assistant**



Ed Paski, Analytical Innovations, resides on Riverside Drive in North Vancouver, BC. Recently a black bear stopped by Ed's bird feeder to help himself to the peanuts. The bear was less than a metre from Ed's computer but luckily a glass window separated Ed from the bear. Ed did mention in his e-mail that he came close to having to change his underwear! Ed has decided he is not putting out any more peanuts in his bird feeder.

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## **2019 – 2020 CMA Corporate Members**

Listed below are the six CMA Corporate Members for 2019–2020. The CMA thanks each of them for their support.

- Prolite Systems Inc.
- New Gold Inc. – New Afton Mine
- Activation Laboratories Ltd.
- Scott Technologies Inc.
- Romquest Technologies Corp.
- Independent Laboratories Supplies Americas Ltd.

Your support of CMA Corporate Members is important. Be sure to thank each of them for their support of the CMA. Information on how your organization can become a 2020-2021 CMA Corporate Member can be found on page 22 of this Newsletter.

Each Corporate Member has provided a one-page information sheet which outlines their products and services.



Prolite Systems Inc.  
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## Industrial Plastics Manufacturing, Fabrication & Distribution



Prolite Systems Inc. is a Canadian based international thermoplastic manufacturer, custom fabricator and distributor specializing in dual laminates and many other types of plastic industrial and municipal corrosion resistant process equipment.

Our custom fabrication facilities affords us to be the leader in design of thermoplastics, dual laminates, Fume Hoods, Acid Scrubbers, piping and tanks.

Our services include everything from design and manufacturing, to transport and installation.



PVC Laboratory Fume hoods for perchloric and multiple assay acids  
PVC and PP centrifugal fans for flows of 500 CFM to 7,000 CFM  
PVC and PP horizontal low micron inertial type scrubbers for flows of 500- 45,000 CFM  
FRP blowers available up to 45,000 CFM  
PVC and CPVC ducting systems

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Website: [www.newgold.com](http://www.newgold.com)

### **New Gold Inc.**

New Gold is a Canadian-focused intermediate gold mining company engaged in the operation, development and exploration of mineral properties. The company's values of commitment, integrity, creativity, teamwork and people and communities guide decision making at all levels. New Gold's mission is to be a leading intermediate gold producer, driving responsible and profitable mining in a way that creates sustainable and enduring value for our shareholders, our stakeholders and our environment.

### **About the New Afton Mine**

New Afton Mine is a 15,000 tonne per day block caving operation, located approximately 10 km outside Kamloops, British Columbia. The operation is located within the asserted traditional territory of Stk'emlúpsəmc te Secwépəmc, comprised of Tk'emlúps te Secwépəmc and Skeetchestn Indian Band. A mutually beneficial Participation Agreement was signed in 2008 and amended and restated in 2011, as a show of the relationship between New Gold and Stk'emlúpsəmc te Secwépəmc Nation.

New Gold Inc. began construction and development of the New Afton Mine in 2007 and reached commercial production in July 2012. In January 2016, the C-zone mineral resource was added to reserves, and development of the C-zone Project kicked-off in February 2019. The operation occupies the site of the historic Afton open pit mine, which operated from 1977 until 1997. The site includes an inactive and dewatered open pit and other historic facilities.

New Afton's processing plant consists of grinding, flotation and gravity circuits, producing a copper-gold concentrate exported overseas. New Afton maintains three tailings storage facilities – the New Afton Tailings Storage Facility (NATSF), the Historic Afton Tailings Storage Facility (HATSF) and the Pothook Tailings Storage Facility (Pothook TSF). New Afton acquired the HATSF in 2017 and continues to dewater while monitoring air, water and vegetation. Water within the NATSF and Pothook TSF is continuously reclaimed and reused throughout the milling process.

The health and safety of employees is New Afton's number one priority. Management commitment and employee participation is the foundation of New Afton's low injury rate and strong safety culture. New Afton administers a comprehensive health and safety management system and injury management program.

New Afton is committed to creating shared value by offering economic opportunities for the community while also developing an experienced labour force for the operation. From the start of mine development, New Afton has actively recruited people – both with and without mining experience – from the community.

New Afton prioritizes responsible mining across the entire operation, from environment to processing, exploration, mining and more. New Afton maintains a comprehensive Reclamation and Closure Plan which is updated regularly to reflect current conditions. The site conducts progressive reclamation as opportunity arises, which helps reduce end of mine life liability and provides opportunity to complete site reclamation trials and optimize the reclamation methodology.

New Afton values your feedback. You can call us at (250) 377-2100 or email [info@newgold.com](mailto:info@newgold.com).



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**ACTIVATION LABORATORIES LTD. (ACTLABS) - GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS** 41 BITTERN STREET, ANCASTER, ONTARIO, CANADA, L9G 4V5 TEL: +1.905.648.9611 TOLL FREE: +1.888.228.5227 (ACTLABS) E-MAIL: [ANCASTER@ACTLABS.COM](mailto:ANCASTER@ACTLABS.COM) [WWW.ACTLABS.COM](http://WWW.ACTLABS.COM)

**Activation Laboratories Ltd. (Actlabs)** has provided industry-leading analytical services to the exploration and mining industry for over 30 years. Services include geochemistry, mineralogy, metallurgy, geochronology, on-site laboratories, environmental analysis, and more. The company is known for its focus on quality, customer service, innovation, and customized solutions to exploration challenges. Actlabs is a privately owned, Canadian company, based in Ancaster, Ontario, and operates 17 laboratories in 8 countries, including 10 locations in Canada. All locations are staffed by experienced personnel and house state-of-the-art equipment and instrumentation.

**QA/QC** is an integral aspect of our analyses and is a key component to Actlabs' vision, strategy and mission. Actlabs' Quality System monitors all aspects of our operations. Additionally, we are routinely audited by four regulatory agencies that focus on continual improvement, and we maintain extensive method accreditation to international standards including ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

Actlabs provides a wide range of geochemical analyses including:

- **gold** and other precious metals analyses by fire assay
- **multi-element geochemical exploration packages** and **ore grade assays** employing a variety of acid digestions and fusions with instrumental finishes by AA, ICP-OES, ICP-MS, XRF, and Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA)
- **gold bullion** and **concentrate** analyses
- **exploration techniques for blind mineralization** including a variety of selective extractions for metals and our proprietary Spatiotemporal Geochemical Hydrocarbons (SGH) method to help improve drill targeting success
- **Litho-geochemistry** and **Whole Rock analysis** employing a unique robotic system for high precision results to fully characterize samples and answer complex geological questions
- **Hydrogeochemistry** packages by High Resolution ICP-MS for unrivaled sensitivity
- **Biogeochemistry** packages using acid digestion and ashing with ICP-MS analysis, as well as INAA
- **Rare Earth Elements (REE)**
- **Radionuclides, Isotopic Analysis, and Geochronology**
- **Acid Rock Drainage (ARD)** and **Metal Leaching (ML)**

Additional services to support exploration and mine operations include:

- **Mineralogy** for exploration and process control
- **Metallurgy** for evaluation of ore processing methods
- Production and certification of **Customized Standard Reference Materials** to match your mine operation or advanced exploration program
- **On-Site Laboratory Services** from consulting, auditing and training; to designing, building and operating both temporary and permanent facilities customised to suit your requirements

Contact us to discuss your objectives and to see how we could provide the solutions you require.



Scott Technologies Inc.  
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Website: [www.scottautomation.com](http://www.scottautomation.com)

## Products/Solutions

SCOTT specialises in the design and manufacture of automated production, robotics and process machinery. Experts in automation & robotic solutions globally that improve productivity, reliability, yield, and safety for manufacturers and processors in industries. Widely recognised, as a world-class builder of advanced automation systems, particularly for the appliance, meat processing, mining, materials handling and industrial automation industries globally.



RoboPrep Elite



Rocklabs ABM3000 Batch Mill



Rocklabs Standalone RSD



Rocklabs BIG BOYD Crusher



Gravity Gold Concentrator



Spare Parts and Consumables



Drying Oven



Continuous Ring Mill



Rocklabs AP300

## The ROMQUEST Advantage

Romquest Technologies and Alpha Canada Inc. are exclusive Canadian distributors for reputable manufacturers of high quality analyzers and consumables from Germany, USA and Australia :



*Are you looking for a new Carbon Sulphur analyzer ?*

**The Eltra CS-i from Romquest Technologies, is your best-value choice !**

#### Acquisition Price :

- ✓ The New generation CS-i & CS-d Carbon Sulphur analyzers are competitively priced (replacing the popular CS-800 & CS-2000 models)
- ✓ Romquest's terms and conditions offer the best value-added benefits.

#### References :

- We have excellent references for analyzers installed over the last 16 years, still working well in busy laboratories, fully supported by our service team.
- Our loyal customers run the Eltra analyzers in remote mining locations coast to coast, from Whitehorse to Baker Lake to Marathon to Musquodoboit.

#### Installation, Training & Warranty :

- We travel to your site to fully commission the analyzer and provide 2 days onsite training for your team.
- 2 years complete warranty is included in the purchase price.
- Subsequently, we offer free training at our site in Toronto, or online, anytime you need it.

#### Extended Warranty :

- Optional 3 years extended warranty available (following the 2 years initial warranty).

**We never discontinue our analyzers.** We guarantee service, availability and support for the next 15 years. We build our customer's loyalty the old-fashioned way, by providing competent, dependable and honest technical service, at decent prices, since 2004

**Do you have a short term project ? or need to build up your data, to get necessary approvals ?**

**We have rental and rent-to-own options for certain models**



#### Consumables & Supplies :

- We carry a complete line of consumables and supplies made by Alpha Resources (USA), that includes a wide range of Certified Reference Materials. We keep a large stock in Toronto, with more than 90% of the orders shipping out the same day.

#### Operation & Maintenance :

- Based on our service experience, we developed tutorials that help the customers' lab technicians solve most of the problems themselves, keeping maintenance costs low.
- Remote technical assistance, combined with inventory of spare parts on hand, gets your analyzer back up and running, with minimum disruption and downtime.
- Preventative maintenance and calibration visits are scheduled by geographic area, to reduce travel costs and provide you excellent technical service at decent prices.

#### Long Term Service & Support :

- ✓ We have been Eltra's exclusive agent and distributor in Canada since 2004.
- ✓ We offer service options to best suit your needs, especially for remote locations : unlimited free-of-charge email and phone support, remote diagnosis via teamviewer, technical support and advice for remote troubleshooting done by your team.
- ✓ In-house repair of assemblies (like IR cells and boxes), return within 48 hours.
- ✓ In-house troubleshooting, repair and upgrades, with short turnaround time and cost-efficient.
- ✓ We replace only the part that broke down, not the whole assembly, wherever possible.
- ✓ Free software upgrades over the life of the analyzer.
- ✓ When you do need a service visit, we will travel to your remote location at a reasonable cost. 365 days a year. No overcharge for emergency visits or holidays.

#### Urgent Support Guaranteed With Inventory On Hand :

- We carry a **large inventory of spare parts and service analyzers** of every model in Toronto, that guarantees shortest response time for emergency situations :
  - We can ship any spare part the-same-day.
  - We can ship a complete service analyzer within 2 days.

**Do you have an expensive analyzer that was suddenly "discontinued" ?**

**We can help you to continue operating it, for a few more years**



INDEPENDENT LABORATORY SUPPLIES PTY LTD  
*Laboratory solutions the world over*

Independent Laboratory Supplies  
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Website: [www.indlabsupplies.com](http://www.indlabsupplies.com)

## INDEPENDENT LABORATORY SUPPLIES

“Your Independent Procurement Partner”

### INDEPENDENT LABORATORY SUPPLIES

(ILS) is an independently owned and operated company focusing solely on the supply and service of all your Mining Assay Laboratory requirements.

With over 35 years' experience in the mining laboratory supply business, **ILS** is committed to an “alternative” procurement solution.

Through its global logistics network, **ILS** is able to provide its products to anywhere in the world with a focus on quality, service, knowledge and trust.

**ILS** also offers laboratory consultancy chemist services through our Technical Services Division. Our experienced technical team works with companies requiring mine site and exploration laboratories and can offer a broad range of services.

Our head office is in Perth, Australia, and we are pleased to announce the opening of Independent Laboratory Supplies Americas Ltd (**ILS Americas**), which provides our existing services to mining companies within North, Central and South America. Our new office and warehouse is in Sudbury, Ontario.

**ILS Americas** is now starting to provide and distribute laboratory equipment, reagents and day-to-day consumables as well as laboratory technical services, such as audits, technical evaluations and onsite laboratory design and construction. **ILS Americas** will stock items in our warehouse on request. If we don't have it, will get it for you!



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## **Call for Interest in Hosting a Future CMA Conference and Exhibition**

The CMA Conference and Exhibition relies on individuals and organizations to volunteer to organize and host the annual Conference. Currently, the CMA is canvassing its members, exhibitors and other interested parties to secure a host and venue for a future Annual CMA Conference and Exhibition to be held in mid-September each year.

Ideally, the annual CMA Conference and Exhibition should shift back and forth between Eastern Canada and Western Canada.

If you are interested in hosting a future CMA Conference and Exhibition, please contact Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary.

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## **Members-only Page on CMA Website**

At the 2017 CMA Business Meeting held in Kamloops, BC, a decision was made to no longer produce a Conference DVD with delegate and exhibitor lists, technical papers, photographs, etc. The rationale for this decision was to eliminate the cost of producing and mailing the DVD, plus the changes in computer technology where many computers no longer have a DVD player.

In its place, a Members-only Page was established on the CMA website. The content consists of the list of delegates and exhibitors, technical papers, and photographs for each annual Conference starting with the 2017 CMA Conference. This page is accessible to CMA individual and corporate members, and the delegates and exhibitors of the annual CMA Conference and Exhibition. The Members-only page is accessible by username and password. Everyone eligible to access the Members-only page is sent the username and password by e-mail.

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## **Newsletter Submissions for Next Issue**

Submissions for the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Newsletter are always welcome. The next issue is scheduled for the December 2020.

Submissions should be forwarded to Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary, no later than November 27, 2020.

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## **CMA Individual and Corporate Memberships**

The 2020 CMA Conference and Exhibition scheduled for Montreal, October 18–22, 2020 has been CANCELLED due to COVID-19. As a result, the CMA will not generate any Conference revenue for 2020. It will be forced to rely heavily on funds from 2020-2021 memberships if it is to fund its \$1,000 scholarships to students studying fire assaying and chemical engineering technology at Canadian colleges. These

students are the future of our industry. The CMA is your organization, and your 2020-2021 membership is very important.

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## **CMA Individual Membership**

The Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) invites you everyone to become an Individual Member. The membership year runs from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

An Individual Membership Form and a copy of Benefits of Individual Membership can be found on the CMA website on the 'Individual Membership' page:

<http://www.canadianmineralanalysts.com/Individual-Membership.html>

Membership Fees are: Renewal / New: \$50; Senior (65 and over) / Inactive: \$25; Student: \$25. The completed Form and payment (cheque payable to 'Canadian Mineral Analysts') can be mailed to Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary, to the address on the Form.

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## **CMA Corporate Membership**

The Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) invites all companies and organizations to become a Corporate Member for 2020-2021. The membership year runs from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

A Corporate Membership Form and a copy of the Benefits of Corporate Membership can be found on the CMA website on the 'Corporate Membership' page:

<http://www.canadianmineralanalysts.com/Corporate-Membership.html>

The Corporate Membership Fee is \$500. The completed Form and payment (cheque payable to 'Canadian Mineral Analysts') can be mailed to Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary, to the address on the Form.

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## **Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA)**

The Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA), formed in 1969, is an association comprised of: 1) Canadian earth science, mineral exploration and mining analytical laboratories in government, academic institutions, the mining industry, and the private/commercial sector; 2) manufacturers and suppliers of instruments and equipment for analytical laboratories; and 3) suppliers of laboratory consumables.

The annual CMA Conference and Exhibition is held in mid-September in a different Canadian city. The first Conference was held in Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec in 1969.

The mission of the CMA is to 'communicate analytical technologies in the Canadian mining industry'.

The CMA is a not-for-profit organization with membership dues and proceeds from the annual CMA Conference and Exhibition used to provide: 1) scholarships for Canadian college and university students studying fire-assaying and/or chemical engineering technology, and 2) equipment and program grants to qualified fire-assaying and/or chemical engineering technology programs in Canadian colleges and universities.

The CMA membership year was revised in 2018 to run from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. The 2020 – 2021 membership year will run from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

The CMA does not operate with a formal executive committee. The CMA Steering Committee (SC) comprised of the CMA Treasurer (Sean Murry), CMA Managing Secretary (Ed Debicki) and a CMA member (Jonathan Forrest) serves as the CMA's informal executive. The SC's duties are: 1) seek out organizations and individuals who are willing to take on the CMA Conference in future years, and 2) review and approve applications for scholarships and equipment/program funding.

For information about the Canadian Mineral Analysts, please visit the CMA website or contact:

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CMA Managing Secretary  
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CMA website: [www.canadianmineralanalysts.com](http://www.canadianmineralanalysts.com)

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## **Newsletter Credits**

This August 2020 CMA was put together by Ed Debicki, CMA Managing Secretary.

Thank you to Ruth Debicki who applied her proof-reading and editorial skills to improve the Newsletter.

A special thank you goes to George Feilders, Glen Graham, Hugh De Souza, Alexander Seyfarth, Maggi Loubser, Mike Hinds, Ed Paski, the six 2019–2020 CMA Corporate Members, and CALA for their contributions to the Newsletter.

