



*Newsletter of the Volcanology and Igneous Petrology Division
Geological Association of Canada*

No. 54

May 2002

Message From the Chair

The Volcanology & Igneous Petrology Division plays an important role promoting igneous geology in Canada. First, we organize special sessions at GAC meetings. At Saskatoon 2002, we have a special session on the relationship between tectonics and volcanism. At Vancouver 2003, we have two special sessions so far, one on Cordilleran magmatism and the other on experimental petrology and new techniques. If you wish to propose a special session for Vancouver or any other future GAC meeting, I encourage you to do so, contact me for details. Second, we award a series of medals each year, honoring the memory of Professor Léopold Gélinais, for the best Ph.D., M.Sc., and B.Sc. theses in volcanology or igneous petrology. We also award a Career Achievement medal every other year or so. Third, Georgia Pe-Piper is working hard on editing a series of volcanology/igneous petrology papers for a special Geoscience Canada volume along the lines of "Facies Models". We are well underway, and if we are lucky, the volume will be ready to go by this time next year. Fourth, I would like to see us produce an educational CD-ROM with 100 or so excellent field photographs of volcanic and igneous textures. The information would be available on the web, as well. Fifth, I would like to increase the membership of the Division. So please tell your colleagues and students to become members, it costs almost nothing (\$6 for GAC members, free for student GAC members) and supports volcanology and igneous petrology in Canada.

There's a lot happening these days in volcanology and igneous petrology. It is a very exciting time. One interesting idea that Kelly Russell has thought about for a while is a joint graduate and/or undergraduate program in volcanology among two or more universities. Food for thought. If you have any ideas for the Division, please let me know, or bring them for discussion to our annual Division business meeting, which will be held during the Saskatoon 2002 GAC at 12 Noon, Wednesday, May 29th, 2002, in Room A101 of the Arts Building, University of Saskatchewan. I look forward to seeing you there.

John Stix
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Better Late Than Never.....

It's been eight months since Ned Chown passed the position of Secretary-Treasurer on to me and, as is the case for most everyone in geology these days, it has been an extremely hectic eight months. But there is a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel: Spring (randomly interrupted by short periods of Summer and Winter) has arrived, classes are over, the Annual GAC-MAC meeting is in only three weeks – so the field season must almost be here! Time to dust off the hiking boots, folks!

The question is, what is everyone up to this summer? Are you going to some exotic locale (Hawaii, Australia, or maybe Baker Lake?) to start an exciting new research project? Are you organizing or attending a scientific meeting over the next twelve months? Has a student just finished a terrific B.Sc, M.Sc., or Ph.D. thesis that the rest of us should know about? Have you pulled in a grant recently for new equipment or to fund a new research initiative? Have you recently moved to an exciting new job?

If any of the above apply to you, LET US KNOW! The goal of this newsletter is to keep you informed of events in the world of volcanology and igneous petrology, both within and outside of Canada. Without YOUR INPUT this goal can never be attained. So take five minutes to write up a quick summary of what is happening in your (and your department/business) life and e-mail it to me. Who knows, you may find a new student or enthusiastic collaborator as a result!

Brian Cousens

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GAC-MAC Meeting Highlights

SS5 Evolution of the Western Rae-Hearne Craton

SS14 Relationships and Links Between Tectonics and Volcanism

GS5 Petrology and Volcanology

GS6 Geochemistry and Precambrian Geology

Volcanology and Igneous Petrology Lunch Meeting Wednesday, May 29, 12-1PM, Rm. A101
(all VIP members are welcome!)

The Happenings Section

This is new section in Ashfall where announcements from the igneous and volcanology community can be posted. To post a “Happenings” announcement in upcoming issues, send an e-mail to Brian Cousens (brian_cousens@carleton.ca).

Happenings in Ottawa

The Department of Earth Sciences at Carleton University was successful in their application to NSERC for a new thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS). The Major Installation Grant will result in the purchase of a new Finnigan-MAT Triton T1 mass spectrometer to replace the 21-year old MAT261 currently in use at Carleton. The proposal, written by Sharon Carr (PI), John Blenkinsop, and Keith Bell, included numerous major and

minor users from Carleton and the University of Ottawa, as well as significant technical support from the Carleton University administration.

Recent Theses

Julie Prytulak, B.Sc. Honours, Carleton University: “Geochemistry of the Mio-Pliocene Carson Range Volcanic Suite, California/Nevada: Implications for Transitional Magmatism”

Hassan Mirnejad, Ph.D., Carleton University: “Isotope geochemistry, petrology, and source evaluation of the Leucite Hills lamproite, Wyoming” (K. Bell, supervisor)
