



Canadian Mineral Analysts / Analystes canadiens des minéraux

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

[www.canadianmineralanalysts.com](http://www.canadianmineralanalysts.com)

# NEWSLETTER

December 2018

## 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Conference and Exhibition

September 8 – 12, 2019

Marriot on the Falls

Niagara Falls, Ontario

Website: [www.2019cma.com](http://www.2019cma.com)

The 2019 CMA Conference and Exhibition will be held in Niagara Falls, ON, September 8 – 12, 2019 at the Marriott on the Falls. ColdBlock Technologies Inc. is host for the Conference, with Nick Kuryluk being the Conference Chair. The local organizing committee is hard at work planning a great event to mark the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the CMA Conference!

Information about delegate registration, exhibitor booths, sponsorship, submission of technical presentations, workshops, tours and social program will be posted in the near future on the Conference website ([www.2019cma.com](http://www.2019cma.com)). Accommodation can now be booked at the Marriott on the Falls (Conference hotel). To obtain the preferred hotel rate, quote '2019 CMA Conference'.



Local Organizing Committee – 51<sup>st</sup> Annual CMA Conference

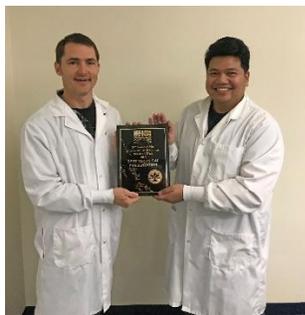


Conference Hotel - Marriott on the Falls

# Report of the 50th Annual Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Conference and Exhibition

Trail/Rosland, BC, September 9 – 13, 2018

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual CMA Conference and Exhibition was held in Trail/Rosland, BC, September 9 – 13, 2018 at the Prestige Mountain Resort & Conference Centre. The Conference was hosted by staff of Teck – Trail Operations, who organized an exceptional program of technical presentations, workshop, exhibit booths, tours, and social events. There were 129 attendees, 29 exhibit booths, 1 workshop instructed by Sue Bock, and 25 technical presentations. The Best Technical Paper was won by Jerico Gaspar, New Gold Inc. – New Afton Mine for his paper ‘Tighter Titres-Method and Instrumentation Towards More Accuracy in Copper Titration’. The Best Exhibit Booth prize was captured (again) by VWR International / Anachemia.



Best Technical Paper Award presented by John Andrew to Jerico Gaspar (right)



Best Exhibit Booth Award: VWR International / Anachemia



Sponsors – 50<sup>th</sup> Annual CMA Conference



Delegates at Trail Beer Refinery



Delegates at Trail winery tour



Jennifer Boss & Scott Daniels at Registration Desk



Richard Bredl, Conference Chair, doing the Cancon at CMA Banquet



Rocklabs – A Scott Company



Prolite Systems Inc.



PerkinElmer Inc.



Agilent Technologies Canada Inc.



ColdBlock Technologies Inc.



Burgener Research Inc.



Katanax Systems Inc.



Questron Technologies Corp.



Fishing Tour –  
Columbia River



Columbia River Suspension  
Bridge Tour



Casino Night – Columbo Lodge



Bocce Tournament

## **Highlights of the CMA Annual General Meeting: September 12, 2018**

The CMA Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at the Prestige Mountain Resort & Conference Centre following the annual CMA Luncheon. Twenty-six members were in attendance.

Highlights of the AGM include:

- Sean Murry will continue as CMA Treasurer, and Ed Debicki will continue as CMA Managing Secretary.
- Sean Murry, Jonathan Forrest and Ed Debicki will continue as the Steering Committee to seek organizations to host the annual CMA Conference, and review and approve applications for scholarships and equipment/program funding.
- Sean Murry presented the CMA Financial Statement (see below), and indicated the CMA is in good financial shape.
- Membership dues for 2019 will remain unchanged for individual (\$50), student, retired and inactive (\$25), and corporate (\$500) members.
- Richard Bredl, 2018 Conference Chair, provided a summary for the Trail/Rosland CMA Conference and estimated a profit of about \$20,000.
- Managing Secretary, Ed Debicki, summarized some of his activities during the year.
  - As of August 31, 2018, there were 40 CMA individual memberships and 5 corporate memberships. Eleven individual members were added from the CMA Conference.
  - A 'Members Only' page was added to the CMA website. It will house the proceedings of the annual CMA Conferences. A username and password will be required to access the 'Members Only' page. A DVD with Conference proceedings will no longer be produced.
  - Revisions and updates to the CMA website were undertaken.

- A new CMA Facebook page was established following unsuccessful attempts to resurrect the Facebook page set up in 2012 by the Quebec CMA Conference organizers.
- Reorganization of the CMA files was initiated with the objective of ensuring there was a complete set of Conference proceedings, Annual General Meeting Agendas and Minutes. Several gaps in the files were identified. CMA members will be contacted to determine if copies are available.
- CMA was advised by official receiver MNP Ltd. that CMA Creditor's claim for \$250 owed to CMA by bankrupt Accurassay Laboratories Ltd. would not be paid.
- CMA advertising and communication included updates to the CMA website and publication of two CMA newsletters.
- The elimination of 'Inactive', 'Senior' and 'Retired' categories for CMA Conference registration was approved.
- The change of the membership year from a calendar year to a fiscal year (September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year) to coincide with the CMA's financial reporting year, and to better align with the timing of the annual CMA Conference in mid-September was approved. CMA individual and corporate memberships for 2018 will be extended to August 31, 2019.
- 2019 CMA Conference was approved to be hosted in Niagara Fall, ON by ColdBlock Technologies Inc. Nick Kuryluk was approved to be Conference Chair.
- Elaine Woo thanked the CMA for the scholarship and equipment grant funding to BCIT. Members were asked to reach out to academic institutions that might be eligible to receive CMA scholarship funding.
- An amended CMA Constitution was reviewed and approved. The new Constitution will come into effect one year following the approved amendments (i.e., September 11, 2019). The amended Constitution now contains all of the requirements to be a legal document.

---

## **CMA Financial Statement**

September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018

### **Comments for the 2018 CMA Financial Statement** (Prepared by Sean Murry, CMA Treasurer)

- 1) The CMA is in a healthy financial position.
  - 2) The 2017 Conference in Kamloops, BC was a great success, generating a total profit of \$21,038.94. Congratulations to John Andrew (New Gold Inc. – New Afton Mine) and his team.
  - 3) With the demise of the BC Certified Assayers Foundation, no scholarships were given to them in 2018.
  - 4) Scholarships to BCIT increased to \$4,000 for 2018.
  - 5) BCIT was issued an equipment grant for a total of \$18,000 to be used towards the purchase of a micro-balance.
  - 6) The 2017 Conference advance of \$5,000 advance was recovered.
  - 7) The 2018 Conference was provided with a \$1,000 advance.
-

# Tribute to Wesley (Wes) Johnson



2018 Photo of Wes Johnson

At the 2018 CMA Conference in Trail/Rossland, BC, Wes Johnson unexpectedly announced that he was retiring and that Trail/Rossland would be his last CMA Conference. The CMA Steering Committee scrambled to find an appropriate way to recognize Wes's contributions and his many years of service to the CMA. A framed certificate making Wes a CMA 'Life Member' was hastily prepared, and the certificate was presented by Jennifer Boss at the CMA Luncheon. Wes was truly surprised and honoured.

Wes Johnson attended Nelson High School. His summer job was a lumber grader in a local sawmill. After high school, he joined Cominco's Trail Smelter operation as an assay apprentice to try to make enough money to go to university. While working for Cominco, Wes was in a class of twelve students who graduated with their BC Fire Assayers Certificate. He went onto University of British Columbia where he received his Honours B.Sc. in Chemistry in 1968. University of Washington was Wes's next step in his education career where he obtained his Ph.D. in fluorine chemistry in 1971. From there it was on to McMaster University where he completed his Post Doc under the sponsorship of the National Research Council (NRC).

A big influence in Wes's laboratory career was his grandfather, Cecil Crossley, who owned the E.W. Widowson assay lab in Nelson, BC. Wes returned to BC and in 1972 joined the laboratory staff at the BC Ministry of Mines. From 1973 to 1988 Wes was Chief Analyst and was actively involved in setting the exams for the BC Certified Assayers Program. While employed in the BC government Wes was very active in the Spectroscopy Society of Canada (national chair for one year), served as the national chair for one year with the Analytical Chemistry section of the Chemical Institute of Canada, and was elected as a Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada (FCIC) in 1981. In 1988, Wes joined Bondar Clegg in Vancouver and from 1989 to 1992 worked for Bondar Clegg in Ottawa.

A teaching position at the university in Kelowna drew Wes back to BC in 1992, and he continued in this position until he retired in 2001.

In 1995, Wes chaired the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual CMA Conference in Kelowna, BC. In 1998, Wes again chaired the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual CMA Conference in Kelowna, BC which was a joint meeting with the CMA's American counterpart, the Society of Mineral Analysts (SMA).



Jennifer Boss presenting the CMA 'Life Member' certificate to Wes Johnson

Starting in 1990, Wes spent many years volunteering his services as a laboratory auditor for the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and the Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation Inc. (CALA). He served as CALA's lead assessor for fifteen years.

Wes ran a consultancy business that was responsible for helping several laboratories in Peru, Burkina Faso, Canada and USA become accredited. Since 1992, he has run numerous ISO Guide 25 and ISO 17025 workshops.



Wes Johnson – 1998 Chair,  
Joint CMA-SMA Conference,  
Kelowna, BC

In 1992, along with John Lebreque, Ron Connell and Clint Smith, Wes co-authored the CMA's 'A Manual for Quality Control and Quality Assurance in Analytical Chemistry'. The manual has stood the test of time and the CMA still makes the manual available to members. Due to the popularity of the manual, Russ Calow at SGS Lakefield commissioned Wes to write a similar manual for SGS covering basic statistics, fire assay basics, traceability, method validation and measure uncertainty.

Wes has been involved in other publications including updating the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the original 1981 'Rock & Mineral Analysis' written by John Maxwell, Chief Assayer at the GSC. Five years ago, Wes co-authored a book with Jane Wetzel on traceability. Jane is now in the pharmaceutical industry in California.

Throughout Wes's career he has always found time to volunteer his services and contribute his expertise to the CMA through his involvement in the CMA Conferences. He has instructed many CMA Conference workshops, participated on CMA steering committees, and taken on roles Chairing and attending the CMA Conferences. Wes's smile and joviality will be missed. The CMA thanks Wes for all he has done for the organization. We wish Wes a long

and happy retirement. As a 'Life Member', Wes will continue to receive the CMA Newsletter which will keep him informed about the CMA. Perhaps it will be a way of enticing Wes back to an occasional CMA Conference!

At the CMA Banquet held at the Columbo Hall in Trail, Wes was caught enjoying his last CMA Conference.



Wes being entertained by a cancan dancer



Wes enjoying his refreshment with Bruce Weakland



Cancan girl had her eye on Wes

# LECO Instrument Bus Visits CMA Conference in Trail/Rossland, BC

During the 2018 CMA Conference in Trail/Rossland, BC, delegates and exhibitors may have noticed the large bus with the LECO logo parked in the lot beside the hotel. This LECO Corporation instrument bus from St. Joseph, Michigan is equipped with ten fully functional instruments. The bus is driven by Kevin Merrill, Mobile Labs Engineer, who was available to demonstrate any of the instruments during the CMA Conference. Kevin also serves as the scientist and maintenance technician responsible for keeping the instruments in working order.



LECO Corporation instrument bus  
from St. Joseph, MI



Kevin Merrill, LECO Mobile  
Labs Engineer



View inside the LECO Corporation  
instrument bus

Before arriving in Rossland, BC, the LECO bus, which left Michigan in May 2018, was on an extensive trip through Canada and the USA with stops in Toronto, Quebec City, the eastern USA, the Great Lakes area, and the USA Plains area. The final run of 1,919 miles (3,070 km) brought the bus from Omaha Nebraska to Rossland, BC. Following the CMA Conference, the LECO bus was headed to Kelowna, BC and then back into the USA with scheduled stops on the west coast and southern border areas of the USA before returning to Michigan in November 2018.

LECO has a fleet of four buses: hybrid bus, analytical bus, metallurgical bus and separation science bus. The bus visiting Rossland, BC was commissioned in 1996 and has 581,579 miles (930,527 km) registered on its odometer. It had been 15 years since this LECO bus was in Canada.

Perhaps the LECO bus will be at the 2019 CMA Conference in Niagara Falls, ON in September 2019.

---

## CMA Scholarships

The CMA awards \$1,000 scholarships annually to students enrolled in chemical engineering technology or fire assay programs in qualified Canadian colleges and universities. In previous years up to six \$1,000 scholarships have been awarded. Four scholarships are named in honour of James Tweed, Bill Clifford, Ian Devereux and Eric Hoffman. With the demise of the BC Certified Assayers Foundation and no applications received from any other Canadian college or university, the four 2018 scholarships were awarded to BCIT students.

### BCIT Scholarships:

- James Tweed Scholarship: Naomi George Oommen (June 2018 graduate)

- Eric Hoffman Scholarship: James Chhay (June 2018 graduate)
- Ian Devereux Scholarship: Jason Chiang (First year student)
- Bill Clifford Scholarship: Jinye (Quincey) Lin (First year student)



Jason Chiang, First Year BCIT Student



Jinye (Quincey) Lin, First Year BCIT Student

Thank-you letters were received from Jason Chiang and Jinye (Quincey) Lin. Jason's letter is reprinted below as it sincerely expresses his gratitude in receiving the CMA scholarship.

November 5, 2018

Dear award donor,

First and foremost, I would like to sincerely thank you for your donation to the Ian Devereux Award. I know the money does not come from thin air, and it is because you believe in providing people with the opportunity for success, that this award can happen at all. I just wanted to let you know that this award is very meaningful for me, both as recognition of my progress and financially, and I hope you can continue supporting this award for other people in the future.

Instead of giving you my motivations and goals, which I am sure you can guess at, I simply want to tell you about what I value: learning. Learning about the world around us, learning from our mistakes, and most importantly, loving to learn; these are the values I uphold at BCIT and are values that I will uphold in my future education, workplace, and personal life.

Through your generosity, you have confirmed that these values are worth cherishing, so I will continue working hard and chase my dreams.

I did not get to meet you at the award ceremony to thank you in person, but that in no way takes away from my genuine appreciation I have for your donation.

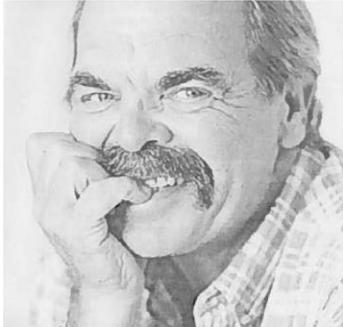
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jason Chiang

Recipient of the CMA Ian Devereux Award

## In Memoriam – Jim Kent



CMA recently learned of the passing of Jim Kent. Jim was an active member and supporter of the CMA and attended several CMA Conferences.

Dr. James (Jim) Peter Kent, 63 years old, passed away in Gordon's Bay, South Africa on March 4, 2016. Jim was born and raised in Richmond Hill, ON. He worked for Falconbridge/Xstrata at Kidd Creek in Timmins and then in Sudbury as the Chief Chemist until his retirement in 2009.

Jim worked hard to achieve a level of scientific understanding obtaining his Ph.D. from McMaster University in the field of inorganic chemistry. Spending time in South Africa brought Jim much happiness in his retirement. He loved listening and playing music, sitting outside on his patio on sunny days, and travelling with his friends.

Jim is survived by his children, Christopher 'James' McCarthy of Hartland, NB and Kaitlin Kent of Paris, ON, and his beloved friend, Renee Van Der Merwe. He was predeceased by his mother Olga Kent.

---

## 2017 and 2018 CMA Corporate Members



Prolite Systems Inc.  
20127 113b Avenue  
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0Z1 Canada  
Tel. (604) 460-8250  
Fax. (604) 460-8254  
E-mail: [brad@prolitepiping.com](mailto:brad@prolitepiping.com)  
Website: [www.prolitepiping.com](http://www.prolitepiping.com)



SGS Canada Inc.  
PO Box 4300, 185 Concession Street  
Lakefield, ON K0L 2H0  
Tel. (705) 652-2000  
Fax. (705) 652-6365  
E-mail: [ken.maley@sgs.com](mailto:ken.maley@sgs.com)  
Website: [www.sgs.com](http://www.sgs.com)



Geoscience Laboratories  
Willet Green Miller Centre  
933 Ramsey Lake Road  
Sudbury, ON P3E 6B5  
Tel. (705) 670-5643  
Fax. (705) 670-3047  
E-mail: [john.beals@ontario.ca](mailto:john.beals@ontario.ca)  
Website: [www.mndm.gov.on.ca](http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca)



New Gold Inc. - New Afton Mine  
Assay Lab  
PO Box 948  
Kamloops, BC V2L 5N4  
Tel. (250) 377-2885  
E-mail: [john.andrew@newgold.com](mailto:john.andrew@newgold.com)  
Website: [www.newgold.com](http://www.newgold.com)



Hoskin Scientific  
4210 Morris Drive  
Burlington, ON L7L 5L6  
Tel. (905) 333-5510  
E-mail: [jzambito@hoskin.ca](mailto:jzambito@hoskin.ca)  
Website: [www.hoskin.ca](http://www.hoskin.ca)

For information on CMA Corporate Membership, including benefits of Corporate Membership, visit the CMA website or contact Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary.

---

## **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 CMA Conference and Exhibition. In addition to Niagara Fall, ON for 2019, the CMA has tentatively lined up SCP Science to serve as host for the 2020 CMA Conference to be held in Montreal, QC.

If members, exhibitors or other interested parties are interested in hosting a future CMA Conference and Exhibition, please contact Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary

---

## **Newsletter Submissions – Next Issue**

Submissions for the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) Newsletter are always welcome. The next issue is scheduled for the summer 2019.

Submissions should be forwarded to Ed Debicki, Managing Secretary, no later than July 19, 2019.



## **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, 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.

For individual and corporate membership information in the Canadian Mineral Analysts (CMA) visit the CMA website or contact:

Ed Debicki  
CMA Managing Secretary  
629 Ester Street  
Sudbury, ON P3E 5C6  
Tel. (705) 522-5140  
Cell: (705) 923-5383  
E-mail: [ed.debicki@sympatico.ca](mailto:ed.debicki@sympatico.ca)

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

An Individual Membership Form and a Corporate Membership Form, along with an outline of benefits in each membership category, are available on the CMA website.

Effective September 1, 2019, the membership year for individual and corporate membership now runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. All 2018 memberships have been extended to August 31, 2019.