

The Rock Record – April 2008

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The SGS Newsletter is produced by the SGS executive. Letters, announcements, notices, comments, photos, news and information about SGS members, etc. are always welcome. Call an executive member or write to us at:

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All advertising inquiries should be directed to **Sean Bosman**

In This Issue

- **Lunch talks**
- **Other Events and Notices**

- **Time to renew your membership**

Engaging First Nations Communities

Glen Nolan

PDAC Director and

Chief of the Missanabie Cree First Nations in Ontario

Wednesday, April 16th, 2008

Lancaster Room, Royal Canadian Legion

Cash Bar: 11:30; Lunch: 11:50

Meeting: 12:15 – 13:00

Members \$7.00, Non-members \$11.00

Contact: Sean Bosman 787-2646

By NOON, Monday, April 15th

Geothermal Resource Potential in Canada

Dr. Stephen Grasby,

Geological Survey of Canada

Wednesday, April 30th, 2008

Lancaster Room, Royal Canadian Legion

Cash Bar: 11:30; Lunch: 11:50

Meeting: 12:15 – 13:00

Members \$7.00, Non-members \$11.00

Contact: Sean Bosman 787-2646

By NOON, Monday, April 29th

Talks

Engaging First Nations Communities

Glenn Nolan

Abstract: Today, more than any other time in recent history, aboriginal communities are looking for ways to be understood as more resource development companies continue to explore and develop Canada's vast resource potential. Recent Supreme Court rulings have affirmed the need to engage aboriginal communities early on in resource development projects. There are many conflicting ideas on how, who, and when to engage. Given the large number of communities and varied cultures, each resource development company must equip itself with a better understanding of the people they are planning to work with. The lecture will begin with a basic historical perspective on treaties and the various societies across Canada. We will also explore the current situation many communities find themselves in today. Building a meaningful relationship with a community is the foundation for a lasting partnership. Every community is unique and every approach to engage communities must be just as unique. The lecture will outline some basic steps that can lead to a better relationship building process between the communities and companies.

Geothermal Resource Potential in Canada

Dr. Stephen Grasby

Abstract: As of 2005, the global generation of electricity from geothermal power reached 8900 MW. Direct use of geothermal energy (space heating, heat pumps, etc.) accounted for 28,000 MW. Despite high potential, geothermal energy been a largely undeveloped resource in Canada. In response to the energy crises of the 1970s the federal government ran a Geothermal Energy Program (from 1976 to 1986). Resultant work provided a first order assessment of national geothermal energy potential which spurred a number of test sites that have shown both economic savings as well as significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Still some areas of high geothermal potential have never been developed to full realization. More recent increases in energy prices, declining conventional oil reserves, and increased concern over greenhouse gas emission has combined to renew interest in alternative renewable energy supply.

Geothermal energy can be subdivided into high and low temperature. High temperature resources, restricted to western Canada, allow direct generation of electricity, whereas low temperature resources available across the country allows for use of direct heating and heat pump technology. Potential sites for power generation have been examined in British Columbia (total estimated 1500

MW capacity) but have not been developed to date. Sedimentary basins of western Canada have also been shown to host localized areas of high temperature waters that could be used to generate electricity.

While historically discovering hot water has been a bad thing, there exists potential to make 'dry wells' a profitable geothermal energy resource. Estimates of total in-place geothermal energy resources of the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin ($\sim 13 \times 10^{21}$ J) exceed that of oil and gas energy reserves.

Canada has recently seen a rapid expansion of low temperature developments, over 40,000 private installations representing 2546 TJ/year of direct use. Many new developments and private home owners are now considering geothermal energy as a viable heating option. Spurred by the success of using warm waters in the abandoned and flooded mine at Springhill Nova Scotia, several towns are examining flooded mines for similar potential. In general Canada has a well defined and extensive renewable geothermal energy resource, a resource that has only barely been realized.

Time to renew your SGS Membership!!! .

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OR

Fill out the form on the following page and submit by mail

SGS MEMBERSHIP FORM – 2008

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I, _____, wish to renew my/apply for a membership in the
SASKATCHEWAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY for 2008.

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 ASSOCIATE (\$25.00) LIFETIME (\$350.00)
 AMATEUR (\$10.00)

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