



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a cool late spring here on the prairies, but as we wrap up the last few days of May, we are getting into that familiar pattern of sunny mornings powering up to deliver evening thunderstorms, but luckily no damaging hail so far.

Our joint Annual Meetings, with the Manitoba Soil Science Society and the Canadian Society of Agricultural & Forest Meteorology, are fast approaching. The meetings will be held at the Fort Garry Hotel & Conference Centre in Winnipeg, July 22-25. Our Society's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, July 24, with our Awards Banquet later that evening, both of which I encourage you to attend.

Our 2013 CSSS Awards Committee (David Burton, Chair; Ed Gregorich and Gordon Price) has been busy evaluating nominees for CSSS Fellow Awards, Student Travel Awards to the Annual Meetings, and Undergraduate Student Book Awards. The Awards Committee will need judges to assist with Student Presentation Awards (oral and poster) in Winnipeg, so if you are interested, please contact David Burton (dburton@dal.ca). From experience, being a student presentation judge is a great way to serve your Society and see our next generation of soil scientists in action.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations established the Global Soil Partnership in 2012 against the backdrop of a limited area of fertile soil in the world which is under increased pressure from climate change and competing land uses. The FAO currently estimates that 46% of the world's land is degraded and the Global Soil Partnership hopes to reverse that trend. Last month, CSSS nominated Dr. Dan Pennock, University of Saskatchewan, to the Global Soil Partnership's Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils. This panel will be composed of 27 worldwide experts who will provide technical advice and guidance on soil issues to the Global Soil Partnership. There is also an opportunity for CSSS to become a partner in the Global Soil Partnership which is a voluntary initiative open to international, national and regional organizations, governments, educational institutions and other stakeholders. Many national soil societies are already partners, including SSSA and the British Society of Soil Science. More details at: <http://www.fao.org/globalsoilpartnership/en/>

With your 2013 membership renewal, you were asked to vote on the transition of our Society to comply with Industry Canada's new Corporations Act. We received a unanimous 'yes' vote, so the Rules and By-Laws Committee will be working with Steve Sheppard to make the transition as seamless as possible. Speaking of membership renewal, there were some technical glitches with the on-line membership process earlier this year. Members are the lifeblood of our Society, so please make sure that you have renewed your membership for 2013. Visit "Membership" and then "Online Registration" on our website.

Word of the Day: manure, *noun* – refuse of stables and barnyards consisting of animal or bird excreta with or without litter. I've always been intrigued by this lowly word's rather noble etymology. It derives from *manus*, Latin for 'hand', as manure was applied to soil by hand in olden times. Hence the direct link between 'manure' and 'manuscript' (literally 'hand-written'). So if you happen to be toiling away on a scientific manuscript, think of how you could be spreading manure instead!

Sincerely,

Frank Larney
President, CSSS



President

Frank Larney
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
5403 1st Ave. S.
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4B1
Ph and Fax: 403-317-2216 & 403-382-3156
Email: francis.larney@agr.gc.ca

Past President

Denis Angers
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
2560 Hochelaga Blvd
Quebec, QC G1V 2J3
Ph: 418-210-5022
Email: denis.angers@agr.gc.ca

President-Elect

David L. Burton
Department of Environmental Sciences
Faculty of Agriculture
Dalhousie University
PO Box 550 Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Ph: 902-893-6250
Email: dburton@dal.ca

Secretary

Sina Adl
Department of Soil Science
College of Agriculture and Bioresources
University of Saskatchewan
51 Campus Drive
Saskatoon SK S7N 5A8
Ph: 306-966-6866
Email: sina.adl@usask.ca

Treasurer

Kent Watson
International Remote Sensing Surveys Ltd
426 Azure Place
Kamloops, BC V2E 2R1
Ph: 250-371-5578
Email: kwatson@tru.ca

Eastern Councillor

Isabelle Royer
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
2560 Hochelaga Blvd
Quebec, QC G1V 2J3
Ph: 418-210-5043
Fax: 418-648-2402
Email: isabelle.royer@agr.gc.ca

Western Councillor

Bobbi L. Helgason
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
107 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X2
Ph: 306-975-6510
Fax: 306-966-4226
Email: bobbi.helgason@agr.gc.ca

Graduate Student Representative

Alison Murata
Department of Renewable Resources
University of Alberta
751 General Services Building
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H1
Ph: 780-492-8743
Email: amurata@ualberta.ca

CJSS Editor

Joann Whalen
Macdonald Campus, McGill University
2111 Lakeshore Road
Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC H9X 3V9
Ph and Fax: 514-398-7943 & 514-398-7990
Email: joann.whelen@mcgill.ca

Redefining Sustainable Agriculture

It's an exciting time for agriculture- with the global population expected to reach 9 billion by 2050, land prices skyrocketing and supplies of fossil fuels dwindling, those who put food on our tables have never been so important. Yet the number of Canadian farms continues to decline while the urban-rural divide grows.

"Redefining Sustainable Agriculture", a short documentary produced in cooperation with the University of Manitoba published on YouTube, features candid interviews with twelve grain producers from across Manitoba, discussing the challenges they face, the future of sustainable agriculture, and why they love farming.

Every producer must face the challenges associated with controlling weeds, disease and insects to prevent yield losses. The majority of Manitoban producers use pesticides to maintain the quality and productivity standards demanded by the marketplace, although they believe that pesticides should not be mandatory to access a market. With an ever-present concern about developing pesticide resistance, the conventional producer sprays as little as possible but as often as necessary to meet demands.

The definition of sustainable agriculture is dependent on how producers choose to address these challenges in the future. The question we often ask ourselves is: which is more sustainable, organic or conventional practices? "That's a trick question, because we know in theory that organic agriculture would probably be better but it's just not sustainable" said Butch Harder of Lowe Farm, Manitoba. The barriers to organic production can often be overwhelming, particularly during the three-year transition in which producers do not receive premium prices for their products. "There is a whole generation out there that would try it if they had the proper tools available to them" said Dan Mazier of Justice, Manitoba. "If you're not profitable for three years- you're even out of your support payments, and you were just trying something new".

They also indicated that conventional agriculture was unsustainable due to high debt loads and vertical integration within the industry. "We're allowing the agricultural system to be controlled by large multinational corporations, which are vertically integrated. When a few major companies control the food industry they will pit farmers from one country against the other and they will source it where they can get it the cheapest" said Harder. "The domination of agriculture by huge multinational corporations- I think everyone should be concerned about that".

If neither organic nor conventional agriculture is sustainable in their current form, perhaps we need to leave the two-sided debate behind and work together as consumers and producers to redefine sustainable agriculture for the future. As Mazier commented, "there are always three sides to the story, the one side, the other side and the truth". The definition of sustainable agriculture is an evolving concept, shaped by the demands of consumers and the priorities of producers. "At the end of the day the farmer has to make money. If you want cheap grain you have to be able to produce as much as possible to cover our costs and feed our families" said Paul Kaminsky of Brunkild, Manitoba. "If the world wants to go organic they're going to have to pay for it." After all, our producers gladly take on the immense responsibility of feeding our families. As Harder noted, "the joy of working the land, seeing a nice crop grow...it's hard to overcome that. It's in your blood. You just can't beat it."

*Karin Rose
Graduate student from the University of Manitoba*

Pedology Subcommittee Update

I recently received a notice of Charles Tarnocai's impending retirement from AAFC and was reminded of the key role Charles (along with the late Eric Beauchamp) played in setting up the Pedology Subcommittee of the CSSS. In the early 2000s both of these scientists were able to see that the federal government's commitment to pedology was waning, and both argued that the CSSS needed to step up to ensure the continued vitality of pedology in Canada. Their efforts led to the formation of the Pedology Subcommittee at the Halifax meetings in 2005.

Sadly the retreat of the federal government from pedology that was foreseen by Charles and Eric is now almost complete – there are now vast areas of Canada where there is no federal soil surveyor available. As well, the geomatics support of the national inventory in Ottawa has also been partially “affected”, and this essential repository of three generations of soil survey information may disappear as a casualty of over-arching decisions made in other divisions of the federal government.

The regionally based AAFC soil surveyors also played a critical role through their work with provincial and private sector soil mappers - the federal surveyors worked to ensure a consistent application of the Canadian System of Soil Classification across a range of users and settings. This very important yet largely unrecognized role is now also at risk with the downsizing of the federal soil survey unit.

These developments at the federal level have made it even more essential that Pedology Subcommittee and the CSSS overall increase our advocacy role for pedology (and soil science generally) and ensure to the full extent of our capability that the essential foundation provided by the soil survey program is not lost.

Thus far the Pedology Subcommittee has developed the Soil of Canada website and produced the special issue of the Canadian Journal of Soil Science on the Soils of Canada. Both are designed to summarize the decades of research done by pedologists across Canada and to ensure it is available for the next generation of soil scientists. The current project of the Subcommittee is the development of a Field Handbook for the Soils of Western Canada co-authored by Dan Pennock, Kent Watson, and Paul Sanborn. This handbook is one attempt to ensure a consistent and correct application of both field description of soils and their taxonomic placement into the Canadian System of Soil Classification. It also integrates new developments such as proposed Anthro-sol order into the established soil classification system.

There will be a working session with parts of the handbook as part of the Canadian Land Research Network (CLRN) workshop, which is being held on Monday July 22 as part of the CSSS Annual Meeting in Winnipeg. The Pedology Subcommittee will meet that day at the end of the CLRN meeting to discuss future activities. Membership in the Pedology Subcommittee is open to all, and please plan on attending if you are able.

Finally, happy retirement to Charles, whose career personifies the great contribution that the federal scientists made to pedology in Canada and which should inspire all of us to continue to build on the foundation they created.

Dan Pennock, Co-chair of the Pedology Subcommittee

Canadian Land Resource Network

July 22nd, 2013

Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Canadian Land Resource Network (CLRN) is an annual forum for researchers and professionals from across Canada and internationally to exchange information and network on projects, issues, and the latest technologies in land resource management - particularly as related to pedology and soil survey.

The CLRN meeting is an annual event that provides a venue for all levels of government, the private sector, universities and colleges to address soil and land resource issues of national interest. The annual meetings are held in different locations in order to facilitate regional participation and to promote pedology in all regions of the country. The Canadian Land Resource Network meeting is an initiative of land and resource professionals from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

The 2013 CLRN meeting will be held on July 22, the day before the start of the CSSS/MSSS conference and will focus on two topics: training in pedology and soil science, and the development of field manuals.

In the morning session, we will explore some innovative field training opportunities. Paul Sanborn (UNBC), Richard Heck (U of Guelph) and Angela Bedard-Haughn (U of Saskatchewan) will provide a review of their field and classroom training opportunities in pedology. The morning will be rounded off by a presentation from the manager of the Manitoba Soil Survey Unit, Lynn Manaigre, who will give an update on their program and provide an overview of the technologies they are using to map soils in southern Manitoba. In the afternoon, we will learn about various new initiatives to develop field manuals for describing soils and ecosystems in Ontario (Richard Heck), in Yukon (Scott Smith) and for Western Canada (Dan Pennock). The afternoon session will end with a break out session into working groups to review and provide feedback on the Field Handbook for the Soils of Western Canada.

This year, the Pedology Subcommittee of the CSSS will hold its annual meeting directly following the CLRN meeting. We hope you are able to join us this year for our meeting. For more information on the CLRN meeting and the CSSS/MSSS conference, please visit the CSSS website (www.csss.ca) or the CSSS/MSSS conference website (<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~tenutam/CSSS/index.html>).



Canadian Land Resource Network Meeting 2013

**Fort Garry Hotel
Winnipeg, MB
Monday July 22nd, 2013
8.00 AM to 4.30 PM**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

8.00 – 9.00 Registration, Coffee & Tea

Session 1: Field Training

Session chair: Daniel Saurette

9.00 – 9.15 Opening remarks/Housekeeping: Daniel Saurette, Stantec Consulting Ltd
Welcome: LOCAL/MSSS REP

9.15 – 9.45 Field training in soil science – the UBC + TRU + UNBC experience
Paul Sanborn

9.45 – 10.15 Field training in soil science – the U of G experience
Richard Heck

10.15 – 10.45 Morning Break. Refreshments provided

10.45 – 11.15 Field training in soil science – the U of S experience
Angela Bedard-Haughn

11.15 – 11.45 Manitoba Soil Survey – Progress and technology
Lynn Manaire

11.45 – 13:15 Noon Break. Lunch provided

Session 2: Field Manuals

Session chair: TBD

13.15 – 13.45 Field Manual for Describing Sites, Soils and Substrates in Ontario
Richard Heck

13.45 – 14.15 Yukon Ecosystem Field Manual
Scott Smith

14.15 – 14.30 Afternoon Break. Refreshments provided.

14.30 – 15.15 Field Handbook for the Soils of Western Canada
Dan Pennock

15.15 – 16.15 Field Handbook for the Soils of Western Canada – Horizon Descriptions
Working Session

16.15 – 16.30 Summary, Closing Remarks and Adjourn
Scott Smith

17.00 – 18.00 CSSS Pedology Subcommittee Meeting
CSSS Newsletter Dan Pennock, Angela Bedard-Haughn and Scott Smith

Soil Science: The Centre of It All

CSSS/MSSS/CSAFM 2013 in Winnipeg:

The Heart of the Continent

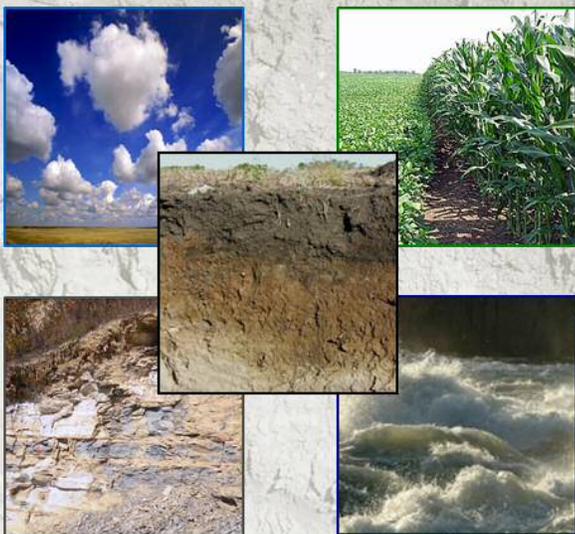
July 22nd-25th, 2013

Plenary Topics:

- Effects of soil processes on air and water quality - April Leytem
- The role of soil and atmosphere in controlling planetary flows of carbon, nutrients, energy, and water - Henry Janzen
- Understanding the effects of agricultural land management on water quality - Phil Haygarth
- Climate and land management effects on river discharge and water quality - Satish Gupta

Technical Sessions:

- Agricultural greenhouse gas emissions
- Environmental footprinting and fingerprinting
- Nitrogen cycling across land uses and ecosystems
- Phosphorus behaviour and management
- Fate of trace metals in the environment
- Soil ecology, food webs and nutrient cycling
- Soil amendments and remediation
- Teaching and training in Soil Science
- Carbon cycling in permafrost regions
- Measuring, modeling and managing soil carbon exchanges
- Soil quality gradients at the landscape level
- Soil survey and classification
- General soil science



The conference webpage is found at:

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~tenutam/CSSS/index.html>

**Early Bird Registration
Deadline: June 21st, 2013**

Soil Science: The Centre of It All

Joint Annual Meetings of the Canadian and Manitoba Societies of Soil Science Canadian Society of Agricultural and Forest Meteorology

In Winnipeg: The Heart of the Continent
July 22nd-25th, 2013

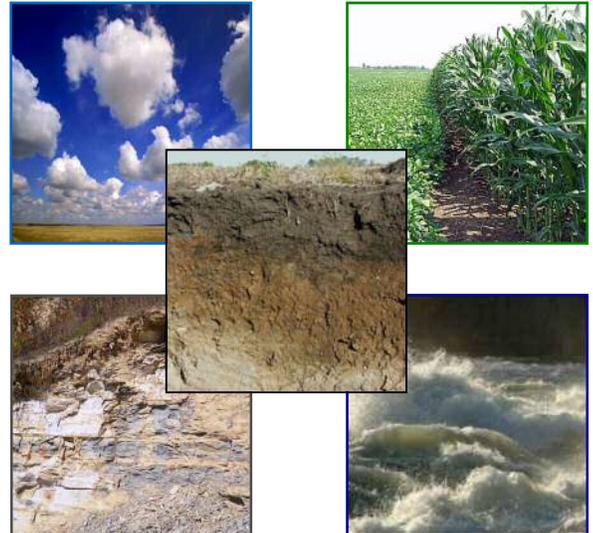
On-line registration is open. Early registration and accommodation discounts will end June 21, 2013

Plenary Topics and Speakers:

- Effects of soil processes on air and water quality - April Leytem, USDA-ARS Scientist, Northwest Irrigation and Soils Research Lab, Kimberly, Idaho
- Earth's malleable membrane: The role of soil and atmosphere in controlling flows of carbon, nutrients, energy, and water - Henry Janzen, AAFC Research Scientist, Lethbridge Research Centre
- Understanding the effects of agricultural land management on water quality - Phil Haygarth, Professor, Lancaster University and President of the British Society of Soil Science
- Climate and land management effects on river discharge and water quality - Satish Gupta, Professor, University of Minnesota.

Technical Sessions (125 oral presentations and 85 posters) Include:

- Agricultural greenhouse gas emissions
- Environmental footprinting and fingerprinting
- Nitrogen cycling across land uses and ecosystems
- Phosphorus behaviour and management
- Fate of trace metals in the environment
- Soil ecology, food webs and nutrient cycling
- Soil amendments and remediation
- Teaching and training in Soil Science
- Carbon cycling in permafrost regions
- Measuring, modeling and managing soil carbon exchanges
- Soil quality gradients at the landscape level
- Soil survey and classification
- General soil science



Meeting Location:

The meeting venue is the **Fort Garry Hotel, Spa and Conference Centre**. The "Fort Garry" is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2013 and, modelled after the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. This is the only surviving "grand railway hotel" in Winnipeg. "The Forks" is where the Assiniboine River joins the Red River and is comprised of a collection of parks, walkways, gardens, shops, and restaurants. It is located adjacent to the host hotel. For 6000 years, this junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers has served as Winnipeg's meeting place and continues to be Winnipeg's number one tourist destination.

For more information, go to: <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~tenutam/CSSS/index.html>.

Canadian Society of Soil Science 2011 Treasurers' Report

Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual General Meeting, June 3-7, 2012
Lac Beauport, Quebec

Financial Reports for 2011

As usual, it is a challenge to forecast some expenses and income up to 2 years in advance. The CSSS 2011 income expense statement shows the society continues to be very healthy financially, mainly as a result of unprecedented levels of income from conferences.

CSSS Operating Funds Income and Expenses

Total income in 2011 was much more than budgeted as a result of two unanticipated income sources. The 2010 Saskatoon conference generated a record \$18,000 of revenue which came through in 2011. In addition, a \$20,000 transfer of funds from the Trust Account was made to rebalance the amount owing to the operating account from previous years. If you remove these two items from the income column, the total income is only slightly higher than the budgeted amount, mainly because of higher than expected membership fees. Trust Fund income has slowly declined from the high level in 2008, when the release of new publications increased royalty payments.

Expenses in 2011 were close to budget except for the special contribution made for color figures in a recent CJSS publication. Income vastly exceeded expenses in 2011 but if the two unanticipated income items are removed, the balance would be very close to the shortfall projected. Our net income in 2011 was \$32,681.20.

CSSS Balance Sheet for Trust and Operating Accounts

Equity in the CSSS Trust Fund declined in 2011 because of the \$20,000 transfer to the operating account. If that factor is removed, the Trust Fund earned a return of just over 2% in 2011. This is below the target rate of 5% annual growth recommended by the Finance sub-committee. In 2011, some additional medium term bonds were acquired to replace some of those which had expired. The returns from bonds have declined with low interest rates. Part of the rationale for transferring \$20,000 to the operating accounts was that term deposits provide comparable rates of return to bonds. Thus, it is expected that interest payments in the operating accounts will increase. As of December 2011, the Trust fund held approximately 26% of its assets in equity funds and mutual funds. The majority of the Trust Fund (74%) is held as a series of different types of bonds with interest rates ranging between 4.16% and 5.53% and staggered maturity dates from September 2011 through December 2020.

The combination of funds in the CSSS savings account and term deposits provides a healthy buffer in case of large and unanticipated CSSS expenses. The CSSS remains financially healthy. Our overall equity from CSSS Trust Funds and Operating Accounts was \$404,991.47 in 2011.

Budget Proposed for 2013

There are no major changes anticipated for the 2013 financial year. The term deposits in the operating accounts are expected to increase interest earnings. Membership revenue is expected to remain at levels similar to 2010 and 2011. Potential conference revenues from the 2013 meeting in Manitoba are difficult to forecast and has been left at zero.

The student travel award value has been increased from \$500 to \$600, which is a \$1,200 increase for the total cost of 12 travel awards. Other expenses are expected to remain at similar levels.

Currently, there are no special projects anticipated for the Trust Fund. However, CSSS certainly is in a financial position to fund a special project if an appropriate initiative is identified.

The small deficit forecast for 2013 will not create any financial problems for CSSS.

Kent Watson and Paul Bullock

Canadian Journal of Soil Science Editor's Report May 2013

Greetings on behalf of the Editors, Associate Editors and staff at the Journals Office of CJSS!

Since the last report, we have welcomed one new Associate Editor to our team. Dr. Yong Sik Ok is a professor and department chair in the Department of Biological Environment at Kangwon National University, Chuncheon, Korea. His research focuses on remediation of contaminated soil and water, biosorption, environmental monitoring and assessment, nano-remediation and climate change (soil erosion and carbon sequestration). Dr. Ok serves as Director of the Korea Biochar Research Center and is the Vice Chair of Division II (Soil Properties and Processes) of the International Union of Soil Sciences.

We have nearly finished processing the manuscripts that were submitted to CJSS in 2012. Of the 137 manuscripts received, a final decision has been made on 131 manuscripts. We accepted 40% of those manuscripts, with 53% rejected and 7% withdrawn. There were 78 manuscripts submitted from 26 countries outside of Canada in 2012 (i.e., 57%), which is similar to the percentage of papers (53%) submitted from outside of Canada in 2011.

We continue to reduce the turn-around time for submitted manuscripts. The average time for authors of regular papers to be contacted about the status of their paper that would ultimately be accepted was 66 days in 2012, which was shorter than the 81 days for papers submitted in 2011. Authors of rejected papers were notified within 51 days in 2012 versus 59 days in 2011. The average time to reach a final decision for the regular issue papers was 142 days for accepted papers and 56 days for rejected papers.

Thus far in 2013, we have received 50 submissions, which include 38 regular papers, 6 short communications, 5 special issue papers and 1 review. Those submissions come from Canada and 11 other countries, with foreign submissions making up 62% of the total. CJSS also received a book review, which will be published in the August 2013 issue.

I really encourage you to consider CJSS as the venue for your next manuscript.

Special Issues/Sections

Special Issues in progress:

Freeze-Thaw Processes and Frozen Soils (Guest Editors: Barbara Cade-Menun, Martin Chantigny and Ymène Fouli – 13 Submissions).

Long-term field sites: past, present and future importance (Guest Editors: Craig Drury, Dan Reynolds and Jeff Schoenau – 8 Submissions).

Special Issues are an excellent forum for disseminating “hot topics” in soil science that may come from conferences, workshops and working groups. If you have any suggestions for future Special Issues, please contact Dr. Marie Boehm, the Special Issues Editor.

New Initiative with Canadian Science Publishing

The Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) is taking steps to boost the profile of CJSS and other scientific journals (e.g., Canadian Journal of Plant Science, Canadian Journal of Animal Science). They have commissioned Canadian Science Publishing to help us improve the profile of our journal in the international community. Ms. Kelly Bogh is preparing a report about CJSS, which gives us a benchmark of the position of our journal compared to others in the same discipline. The idea is to identify our strengths and weaknesses, and develop strategies to make our journal even better. I will present the report from Canadian Science Publishing and welcome your feedback and discussion at the upcoming CSSS Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg.

One of AIC's objectives for this year is to bring more attention to CJSS and the other scientific journals by preparing media releases on articles that are of interest to the scientific community and public. An article published in the May 2013 issue of CJSS was selected for wider publicity and was included in the weekly report of the Science Media Centre of Canada, which is sent to regional, national and international media on behalf of the Canadian research sector. This generated a request from CBC in Calgary to view the article, and it was provided to them.

We want to continue to publicize articles from CJSS to a broader audience. To achieve this, we will work closely with Tim Fenton at the Journals Office to identify potential articles of scientific and public interest. In the future, any CJSS articles chosen for public release will be made Open Access immediately.

Joann Whalen (CJSS Editor-in-Chief)

Introducing the Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS)

In 2011, a team of multidisciplinary researchers at the University of Alberta, led by Dr. M Anne Naeth, acquired funding from the NSERC CREATE program to establish the Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS).

Land reclamation is receiving increasing global attention as human population growth parallels the increase in land disturbances from human activities. Reclaiming disturbed lands is one of the century's most pressing issues, a necessity to provide for the livelihood of current and future generations. Land reclamation professionals will be in increasingly high demand to respond to these challenges. LRIGS attempts to address this need by training highly qualified land reclamation professionals in the natural and social sciences capable of finding solutions to the land reclamation problems that exist and that will emerge.

Our students and fellows are provided with a rigorous academic program, coupled with opportunities to meet and network with practicing professionals in industry, government and academia, and to travel to domestic and international land reclamation sites. Students in the natural sciences have exposure to the socio-economic and policy context of land reclamation while students in the social sciences have exposure to the environmental and biophysical sciences that underpin land reclamation. All of our students are given career skills training for their professional development into highly qualified personnel that are prepared to move into land reclamation leadership roles in industry, government and academia.

The research in this unique and innovative training program encompasses reclamation from micrometre to kilometre spatial scales and short to long term temporal scales. Students conduct field research at a landscape, operational scale, and laboratory research and simulation modeling in modern, efficient facilities.

Our students and fellows come to us from all over Canada and the world. Our first cohort of trainees, beginning the program in September 2012, has been involved in exciting and innovative research and many LRIGS initiatives. In fall 2012 we travelled to Germany to tour land reclamation sites in the eastern part of the country and we are planning a trip to Canada's north in fall 2013. In 2012/13 we hosted two land reclamation scholars who gave guest lectures and met with our trainees, Dr. Mohan K Wali from The Ohio State University and Dr. Eric Higgs from the University of Victoria. In early 2013, LRIGS hosted a workshop for industry and government representatives to garner feedback and ideas for LRIGS future directions and initiatives, renewed connections with many of our colleagues in the field and introduced them to our trainees. Most recently, LRIGS hosted a landform design short course for our trainees which was also attended by industry and government professionals. The course was instructed by Dr. Gord McKenna and Ms. Jordana Fair from BGC Engineering Inc., one of our industry partners.

We are proud of our school and the opportunity to help develop the next generation of land reclamation professionals through this innovative program. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.ualberta.ca/~lrigs/> and don't miss the dynamic and informative promotional video on the homepage. Please also feel free to contact us at michal.guzowski@ualberta.ca or anne.naeth@ualberta.ca.



LRIGS Fall 2012 tour participants at the F60 coal mining industrial site monument in Lichterfeld, Germany.



Soil sampling in Northern Alberta.

In Memoriam - Ian Morrison

Ian Kenneth Morrison, Retired Research Scientist with the Canadian Forest Service at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario passed away in Traverse City, Michigan, March 27, 2013 at the age of 73.

A LASTING TRIBUTE TO HONOUR IAN...

A student award is being established within the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto to honour Ian's memory.

Donations can be made by mail

**IN MEMORY OF
DR. IAN MORRISON** to:

University of Toronto
Donations Management
J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House
21 King's College Circle
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 3J3

Online Donations

- Go to the University of Toronto website: <https://donate.utoronto.ca/>
- Under **"Make A Donation"**, select your gift type of either a one-time credit card donation or payroll deduction, if U of T staff
- Under **"Support the University of Toronto"**, enter your donation amount in the **"President's Fund for Excellence"** category then click on **"Add to Cart"**.
- A box will pop up, click on **"Enter your Info"**. A form will pop up requesting completion of donor information. At the bottom under **"Tribute and Memorial Gifts"**, select **"Gift in Memory"**
- Enter Dr. Ian Morrison in the **"In memory of"** text box.
- Click on **"Review and Checkout"** to complete your donation.

NOTE: For questions or assistance in completing online donations, please feel free to call 1-800-463-6048.

IAN'S LEGACY...

Friends will remember Ian as an inspirational scientist and a supportive colleague. He was well respected by co-workers and national and international collaborators. He was a kind, gentle, caring man and is remembered for his wonderful stories and great sense of humour.

Ian is survived by his wife, Donna and his two daughters Allison (Chris) Nicolson and Christina (Martin) Korson. He is also survived by five grandchildren: Kaitlin, Benjamin, and Aaron Nicolson, Madeline and Ella Korson. His youngest granddaughter was named Ella Morrison Korson after her grandpa. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

IAN'S DEDICATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION...

Dr. Morrison joined the Department of Forestry and Rural Development in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario on August 1, 1968. His early research focused on forest fertilization and nutrient cycling in the boreal forests of northern Ontario. In 1979, Dr. Morrison and colleagues from the Canadian Forest Service and the Canadian Departments of Environment and Fisheries and Oceans founded the Turkey Lakes Watershed Study, to examine the impacts of acid deposition on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems on the Canadian Shield. Dr. Morrison's studies at Turkey Lakes were important to the development and signing of the 1991 Canada-U.S. Air Quality Agreement, which established guidelines for reducing atmospheric pollution emissions and programs for monitoring environmental impacts of emissions. During his career Dr. Morrison was an active participant in the Acid Rain National Early Warning System (ARNEWS) and the Fluxnet-Canada research programs.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS...

Ian Morrison was born in Barrie, Ontario on August 5, 1939. At the youthful age of 16, Ian became a Queen's Scout, the highest award achievable in the Scouting movement. Dr. Morrison earned degrees from the University of Toronto (B.Sc.F., Forestry, 1962, M.Sc., Forestry, 1964, Ph.D., Forestry, 1968). Ian devoted his entire 36-year career to forestry and forest soils research as an employee of the Government of Canada. He was an active member of the Canadian Institute of Forestry (Secretary and Council Member), the Canadian Soil Science Society, the Soil Science Society of America and the International Energy Agency – Biomass for Energy Working Group.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS...

Dr. Morrison was the author of more than 100 published research papers for his work in biogeochemistry. Ian was honoured with many awards over the course of his career. He received a Canadian Forest Service Merit Award in 2001 for his research on organic matter decomposition and its contribution to the global carbon cycle. He was also awarded the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association J. A. Bothwell Award for meritorious work on behalf of forest conservation in Canada and the Canadian Institute of Forestry Tree of Life Award in 2004 given to recognize superior, dedicated or particularly effective contributions to sustainable forest resource management. Ian trained and mentored many undergraduate and graduate students and was a judge of elementary and secondary student science projects for many years for the Algoma Rotary Science Fair in Sault Ste. Marie. He often would state "I never worked a day in my life" as he so loved his profession.

CSSS Website Update

Recently, our website was migrated to a new software platform, WordPress. In order to maintain user familiarity with the information on our site, the format of the new site was kept very similar to the previous version. However, there are a couple of features that we would like our Membership to be aware of. First, there is an “Upcoming Events” window on the homepage which scrolls through information related to current items of interest. Second, we would like to gauge the response to a new “Opportunities” section. Traditionally, graduate student and post-doctoral position announcements have been disseminated by Steve Sheppard directly through email to our members. However, we would like to try using the website as a means of advertising opportunities.

Please check out these new features next time you visit the website!

If you have information that you would like to post, please contact the Western Councillor directly (bobbi.helgason@agr.gc.ca).

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Canadian Society of Soil Science, the Manitoba Soil Science Society and the Canadian Society of Agricultural & Forest Meteorology (CSSS/MSSS/CSAFM 2013)

22-25 July 2013, Winnipeg, Manitoba

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~tenutam/CSSS/index.html>

2013 Canadian Society of Agronomy meeting will be held in conjunction with the ASA -CSSA-SSSA

3-7 November 2013, Tampa Florida, USA

<https://www.soils.org/meetings/am>

International Pedological Meeting : “Soils in Space and Time”

30 September – 5 October, Ulm, Germany

<https://iuss-division1.uni-hohenheim.de/>

CSSS – Business Office

Contact: Steve Sheppard
P.O. Box 637,
Pinawa, Manitoba, Canada
R0E 1L0

Telephone: (204) 753-2747
Fax: (204) 753-8478
Email: sheppards@ecomatters.com
Website: www.csss.ca