



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CSSS Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on a few initiatives that CSSS council has been working on over the past few months. We are continuing to work with the organizing committee for the CSSS conference scheduled for June 3-7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at Station de Duchesnay which is near Quebec City. Come and enjoy Quebecois culture and science in a relaxing tourist environment. There are several symposia planned for the conference including one that will be in memory of Dr. Régis Simard, a dynamic and productive past President (2000), Eastern Councillor (1995), Canadian Journal of Soil Science (CJSS) Editor (2000-2002), colleague and friend of many CSSS members. The organizing committee are already working on the program and planning the tours for the 2008 meeting at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George from July 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

I had the opportunity to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science Meetings in Philadelphia and I represented CSSS at the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) council meetings. The 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress will be held in Brisbane, Australia from Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The council also received requests from two countries to host the 2014 World Congress. A vote was cast and the 20<sup>th</sup> World Congress will be held in South Korea. The IUSS council also passed a motion to provide about \$20,000 per year to support an outreach program. CSSS and its members may be able to take advantage of this program to help support workshops and conferences especially when these are held in developing countries. There was also a plea from the Secretary General, Stephen Nortcliff for members to have a greater input in IUSS through participation in committees, running for offices and by responding to requests for information. Many of the issues that Soil Scientists deal with are global issues and hence the need for individual scientists and National Societies to maintain close associations with international organizations such as IUSS.

Please note the deadline for the 2006/2007 Karl Ivarson scholarship for Soil Science graduate students is Nov. 20, 2006. Please see the announcement in the newsletter for additional details and contact information.

**CSSS Council  
President**

Dr. Craig Drury  
Agric. Agri-Food Canada  
Harrow, ON, N0R 1G0  
Phone: (519) 738 2251  
Fax: (519) 738 2929  
Email: druryc@agr.gc.ca

**Past President**

Dr. Anne Naeth  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB, T6G 2P5  
Phone: (780) 492 9539  
Fax: (780) 492 0097  
Email: anne.naeth@ualberta.ca

**President-Elect**

Gerry Neilsen  
Agric. Agri-Food Canada  
Summerland, BC, V0H 1Z0  
Tel: (250) 494 6377  
Fax: (250) 494 0755  
Email: neilseng@agr.gc.ca

**Secretary**

Newton Lupwayi  
Agric. Agri-Food Canada  
Beaverlodge, AB, T0H 0C0  
Tel: (780) 354 5111  
Fax: (780) 354 8171  
Email: lupwayin@agr.gc.ca

**Treasurer**

Don Flaten  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2  
Tel: (204) 474 6257  
Fax: (204) 474 7642  
Email: don\_flaten@umanitoba.ca

**Eastern Councillor**

Sina Adl  
Department of Biology  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NS, B3H 4J1  
Tel: (902) 494 2753  
Fax: (902) 494 3736  
Email: sadl@dal.ca

**Western Councillor**

Xiyang Hao  
Agric. Agri-Food Canada  
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 4B1  
Tel: (403) 317 2279  
Fax: (403) 317 2187  
Email: haoxy@agr.gc.ca

**Graduate Student  
Representative**

Dean McKenzie  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB, T6G 2P5  
Tel: (780) 492 4135  
Fax: (780) 492 0097  
Email: deanm@ualberta.ca

**CJSS Editor**

Francis J. Larney  
Agric. Agri-Food Canada  
Lethbridge, AB, T1J 4B1  
Tel: (403) 317 2187  
Fax: 403-317 2187  
Email: larney@agr.gc.ca

There have also been some recent initiatives to update the image of CSSS. The President-elect, President and Past President have formed a committee to examine how we can best reflect and capture the interests of our members. Additional information is contained within this newsletter and we also welcome ideas and suggestions from our members.

Lastly, although my term as President will not be over until year end this will be my last opportunity to formally thank the current council for all of their help and support over this past year. It is with the enthusiasm and energy of many dedicated people that CSSS continues to be a vibrant society.

Best Wishes,

Craig Drury  
President CSSS

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## *CSSS Image*

The Society established a committee this summer to explore ways in which we could update the image of our society. The committee is composed of the President (chair), Past-President and President-Elect. **Input is also requested from council and all society members.**

In 1954, at Macdonald College, the Soils group of the Agricultural Institute of Canada passed the motion to establish the Canadian Society of Soil Science with an affiliation with AIC. In 1955, CSSS had 190 members and production agriculture was the primary focus for many of the CSSS members. We now have about 400 members and the range of interests and activities has expanded considerably. The expertise of Soil Science is being applied at scales that range from the molecular to the planetary and is being addressed to a wide range of issues including air and water quality, climate change, forestry, land reclamation, soil quality and soil biodiversity, etc. At the same time, soils expertise continues to be applied to traditional production systems involving horticultural and agronomic crops and livestock with new opportunities emerging with specialty crops such as nutraceuticals and biofuels and organic production systems. Thus the committee is seeking better ways for the CSSS to serve the interests and reflect the diversity of approaches of its members.

We are also planning to update the images used on our newsletter shell and update our logo to include our web address. So photos are also required. Anyone with images to donate? The first 25 year history of

our society is on our web site and Anne Naeth is working on the inclusion of information concerning our more recent history.

Our first initiative will be to look at ways in which we could update our web site. We would appreciate input from members in addressing questions as following:

1. How can we best reflect the diversity of interests of our members (links, images, etc.) on the web site?
2. How can we make the web site more user friendly (e.g. bring award information forward)?  
What is missing from the web site (eg. pedology subcommittee)?
3. Does the web site provide the necessary tools for graduate student members to find scholarship information, assistantships, post doctoral fellowships, and/or career opportunities?
4. Are we capturing international activities adequately?

We would very much like your suggestions. Please feel free to contact myself or any other council members (see below) on ways we can update our web site.

Craig Drury  
CSSS President  
[druryc@agr.gc.ca](mailto:druryc@agr.gc.ca)  
(519) 738-2251 x 473

Gerry Neilsen  
CSSS President-Elect  
[neilseng@agr.gc.ca](mailto:neilseng@agr.gc.ca)  
(250) 494-6377

Anne Naeth  
Past President  
[anne.naeth@ualberta.ca](mailto:anne.naeth@ualberta.ca)  
(780) 492 9539

## Call for Nominations for CSSS Council Elections

At the end of 2006, the following CSSS Council positions will become vacant:

- Western Councillor
- President-Elect

These positions are filled by election (or acclamation if there is only one candidate). They each require consent of the nominee and signatures of three CSSS members. The duties and responsibilities of these positions can be found on the CSSS website ([www.csss.ca](http://www.csss.ca)).

Please send nominations by **30<sup>th</sup> of November** to Newton Lupwayi ([lupwayin@agr.gc.ca](mailto:lupwayin@agr.gc.ca)). Elections, if necessary, will be held after that date. For more information about these positions, please contact Craig Drury, CSSS President at [druryc@agr.gc.ca](mailto:druryc@agr.gc.ca) or Gerry Neilsen, CSSS President-Elect at [neilseng@agr.gc.ca](mailto:neilseng@agr.gc.ca).

## Soil Sampling and Methods of Analysis

Update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Soil Sampling and Methods of Analysis* is now with the publisher, CRC Press part of the Taylor & Francis Group. The new edition has seven subject sections plus several appendices, 85 chapters, and involves in excess of 150 authors.

Similar to the 1<sup>st</sup> edition in 1993 book, a contract with CRC Press has been initiated that directs all royalties to CSSS and provides a 50% discount on book purchase for CSSS members.

We would like to extend a thank you to the 14 section editors and all the authors for their contribution to this endeavour.

Martin Carter and Ed Gregorich

## Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship

This Scholarship was created by Dr. Karl C. Ivarson through a gift to the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation. Dr. Ivarson's wish is to provide financial support to a student(s) entering second or subsequent year of post graduate studies in soil science (in areas of agriculture, environment, geology agro-ecology or other related disciplines) at a recognized Canadian University. At least one \$2000 scholarship will be presented annually. See the AIC website for application regulations and forms, at [http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation\\_initiatives.cfm](http://www.aic.ca/about/foundation_initiatives.cfm)

## Student News

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had a successful field season! Fall has come upon us quickly and winter seems almost near. For those that are still in the field I feel your grievances, its Cold. The summer's warm, moist soil is now starting to freeze, at least up North it is. Speaking of cold soil the 2007 CSSS AGM jointed with L'Association québécoise des spécialistes en sciences du sol (AQSSS) planned theme is "Soils in Cold Environments. The AGM will be held from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in the village of Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, Quebec. This is a very early reminder to start planning ahead.

I encourage you to check out the CSSS website for a brief explanation about the details for the 2007 AGM. This is a good time of year to get your colleagues that are not members involved with the CSSS; it will allow time for them to consider attending the AGM. If you are graduating this year check out the job postings on the CSSS website.

Enjoy the rest of the fall semester and please stay in touch.

Dean MacKenzie

CSSS Graduate Student Representative

**MEETING REPORT**  
**18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science**  
*Frontiers of soil science: technology and the information age*  
held July 9 – 15, 2006, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science focused on soil science advances with an emphasis on remote sensing, geographic information systems, landscape analysis, state-of-the-art- molecular scale analytical techniques, environmental soil biology, plant-soil processes, computer and computational modeling of soil processes, and precision agriculture. The technical program included over 2,700 oral and poster presentations that were organized within 83 symposia. Congress participants represented 110 countries and included 65 papers from Canada.

Pedology and pedogenesis were well represented in the technical program. Division 1, termed 'Soils in space and time', was one of the largest of the 4 divisions with 6 commissions including 'Soil genesis', 'Soil classification', 'Pedometrics', and 'Paleopedology'. One of the goals of Division 1 was to bridge advances in pedology with advances in information technology.

Mid-congress field tours were well attended. Themes included sustainable farming, new frontiers in soil survey, watershed management, and Pine Barrens soil ecology. Ambitious pre- and post- congress tours were somewhat less well attended and only two tours out of the dozen originally planned, went ahead. The pre-congress tour focused on acid sulfate soils of US Mid-Atlantic / Chesapeake Bay region while the post-congress tour, of a two week duration, took participants through the boreal forest in the Fairbanks area of interior Alaska.

The Congress also attracted about 60 exhibitors including publishing companies, consultants, laboratories, instrumentation manufacturers, and an impressive exhibit from the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit (<http://www.soils.org/smithsonian/>) and the USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Services. The duration of the trade show was only two days and these seem to be very busy days for all the exhibitors.

Organizing such a large conference was no doubt a challenge. The conference center spanned four city blocks and congress rooms were spread on two floors. Despite minor glitches, the Congress seemed to achieve its goal: to bring together scientists, experts and government officials from around the world and allow them to share their experience and communicate their knowledge and passion to scientists and non-specialists alike. Local media coverage of this event was unprecedented and proved that soils can make captivating news.

Next World Congress will be held in Brisbane, Australia from August 1 to 6, 2010 (contact: Neal Menzies, The University of Queensland, e-mail: [n.menzies@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.menzies@uq.edu.au) or check for updates at [www.iuss.org](http://www.iuss.org)).

Prepared by: **Stephanie Grand**, PhD Candidate, Institute for Resources and Environment, University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC and **Dr. Maja Krzic**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Forestry / Faculty of Land and Food Systems, University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC



Believe it or not, but the downtown Philadelphia was decorated with flags indicating that 18<sup>th</sup> WCSS was held in the city



Philadelphia (which means “brotherly love” in Greek) was founded and developed in 1682 by William Penn



The Liberty Bell is a symbol of the battle for American independence and freedom. Its most famous ringing, on July 8, 1776, summoned citizens for the reading of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress

## News from the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*

Our publisher, the Agricultural Institute of Canada, moved to OSPREY on September 5, 2006. **OSPREY** is a partial acronym for **O**nline **S**ubmission **P**eer **R**eview, a web-based system which will streamline the submission and peer review of *CJSS* manuscripts. It was developed in Australia by CSIRO and is also used by NRC Research Press here in Canada. Authors are requested to submit their new manuscripts to *CJSS* via OSPREY. Manuscripts submitted prior to September 5 continue to be handled by the old system. A link to the OSPREY homepage has been posted in the “Submission of Manuscripts” Section on the *CJSS* website. The Associate Editors, Special Issues Editor and I are getting up to speed with the new system!

2007 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *CJSS*, as well as the *Canadian Journal of Animal Science* and the *Canadian Journal of Plant Science*. To mark the occasion of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a logo has been designed which will appear on the front cover of each issue in 2007. Also, Henry Janzen (AAFC, Lethbridge) is working on a review paper which will look back at 50 years of soil research published by *CJSS*. It would be good to have other review papers published in our anniversary year. If you have an idea, please get in touch with me.

I am fortunate to have an unbound copy of the very first issue of *CJSS* from February 1957. It was given to me by Tracy Anderson, a former agricultural engineer at the Lethbridge Research Station. Potassium was a hot topic back in 1957, as four of the ten papers dealt with potassium supply or release from soils.

As CSSS members, your support of *CJSS* is vital. Keep those manuscript submissions rolling in!

Frank Larney, ([larneyf@agr.gc.ca](mailto:larneyf@agr.gc.ca))  
Editor, *CJSS* ([www.nrc.gc.ca/aic-journals/cjss.html](http://www.nrc.gc.ca/aic-journals/cjss.html))  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
Lethbridge, AB

## COMMUNITY-BASED LAND MANAGEMENT FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN VIETNAM (2006-2011)

**PARTNERS:** Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS); National Institute for Soils and Fertilizers (NISF) Branch of the Vietnamese Society of Soil Science (VSSS); Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC); Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

### PROJECT SUMMARY

Over the past half century, massive deforestation to create agricultural lands in Vietnam resulted in severe soil degradation, exacerbated by farming systems that featured low nutrient



input and little attempt to conserve the soil. An estimated 10 million ha of land are seriously degraded, and another 5 million ha are slightly to moderately degraded land. The main cause of soil degradation has been the loss of topsoil by sheet erosion and surface wash on sloping lands. Today, almost one-third of Vietnam's 82 million people, representing three-quarters of the country's land area and many of the country's 54 minority groups, make their living from agriculture on steeply sloping lands. About 2 million people depend on shifting cultivation for their food supply, a practice that has led to more than 0.5 million ha being so severely eroded that this land is no longer of value for food or fibre production. Farming systems and practices that will reduce the rate of erosion and land degradation and, at the same time, improve food production on farms on sloping lands in the mountainous regions of northern Vietnam are key elements to addressing poverty in the country.

The recently completed VIETCANSOL partnership project, *Technology Transfer on Use and Management of Sloping Lands in Northern Vietnam*, showed that improved methods for erosion control, soil fertilization, crop rotations, and variety selection can reduce run-off and soil loss and provide a corresponding increase in crop yields and farm income. As part of VIETCANSOL long-term demonstration sites were established where innovative practices were introduced and monitored. These sites were effective in fostering the adoption of innovative methods by local farmers, as well as providing focal points for training farmers from distant villages. Local farm and village organizations, often involving women and youth of ethnic minority groups, were established to facilitate the training program and help ensure continuation of initiatives beyond the life of the project.

The main thrust of this new partnership project, *Community-based Land Management for Poverty Alleviation in Vietnam*, will be to promote the adoption of improved farming practices through farmer-participatory research initiatives on key farms within watersheds where the land has been strongly degraded through inappropriate management in the past. These key farms will be the focus for testing, innovating, and displaying technologies for all farmers in the local watershed. Community associations will be developed or enhanced to aid in site selection and farmer training. Local and provincial extension agencies will be partners as con--

tributors to the activities of the community associations. This active partnership will enable the extension agencies to more broadly apply outcomes of the watershed area.

The dissemination of innovative technologies will be applied to other regions and nation-wide through workshops and training of extension agents. The project is not intended to be replicable in its entirety, but primary components can serve as models for extension agencies, universities, and other agencies interested in watershed management and rural land appraisal. Local capacity building through training of farmers and establishing networks among local, regional and national extension agencies, NGOs and farmers will support interchange amongst these groups and ensure wider application of project results over time.

### **CONTACTS**

**Canadian Coordinator:** Dr. Ed Gregorich

**Vietnam Coordinator:** Dr. Tran Thi Tam

For more details go to: <http://www.aic.ca/international/itpp.cfm>

## **CSSS Meeting Announcement**

Chers collègues / *Dear colleagues,*

C'est avec grand plaisir que nous vous invitons au congrès annuel conjoint de l'Association québécoise de spécialistes en science du sol (AQSSS) et de la Société canadienne de science du sol (SCSS) sous le thème: «Les sols en milieux froids», qui se tiendra à la Station Touristique de Duchesnay (près de Québec) du 3 au 7 juin 2007.

*It is with great pleasure that we invite you to the joint annual conference of the Quebec Association of Soil Scientists (AQSSS) and the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) under the theme: "Soils in Cold Environments", which will be held at the Station Touristique de Duchesnay (40 km north-west of Quebec City) from June 3 to 7, 2007.*

Au plaisir de vous voir à Duchesnay / *See you in Duchesnay*

Denis Angers

### **Dates à retenir / important dates:**

December 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 *Call for titles / Appel de titres*

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 *Deadline for title submission / Date limite pour la réception des titres*

April 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 *Deadline for Abstract submission and pre-registration / Date limite pour la réception des résumés et la pré-inscription*

Site WEB / WEB site: [www.aqsss.com](http://www.aqsss.com)

**Station de Duchesnay:** Français <http://www.sepaq.com/ct/duc/fr>

English <http://www.sepaq.com/ct/duc/en>



## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### January 7–13, 2007

4th International Conference of the African Soil Science Society: Impacts of Climate Change, Global Trade Urbanization, and Biotechnology on Land Use in Africa  
Accra, Ghana  
[soils\\_intconf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:soils_intconf@yahoo.co.uk)

### February 5–8, 2007

Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX;  
[www.wssa.net/](http://www.wssa.net/)

### March 8–9, 2007

Western Nutrient Management Conference. Salt Lake City, UT [http://isnap.oregonstate.edu/WERA\\_103/](http://isnap.oregonstate.edu/WERA_103/) or [richk@wsu.edu](mailto:richk@wsu.edu)

### April 15–21, 2007

17th International Conference on Phosphorus Chemistry, Xiamen, China.  
Prof. Yufen Zhao  
Department of Chemistry, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China 361005  
Fax: +86 5922186292  
E-mail: [yfzhao@xmu.edu.cn](mailto:yfzhao@xmu.edu.cn)

### May 24–26, 2007

Zinc Crops 2007—Improving Crop Production and Human Health. Istanbul, Turkey;  
[www.zinc-crops.org](http://www.zinc-crops.org)

### June 3–7, 2007

Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting joint meeting with L'Association québécoise des spécialistes en sciences du sol. Auberge Duchesnay, a resort 30–40 km from Quebec city, Quebec  
[www.aqsss.com](http://www.aqsss.com)

### June 18–20, 2007

2nd International Symposium on Trace Elements and Health Helsinki, Finland  
<http://viikki.helsinki.fi/tracel2007/welcome.htm>

### June 25–30, 2007

5th International Congress of the European Society for Soil Conservation. Palermo, Italy. [dazzi@unipa.it](mailto:dazzi@unipa.it)

### July 9–13, 2007

Information Agriculture Conference (InfoAg 2007), Springfield, IL  
[www.infoag.org](http://www.infoag.org)

### July 15–19, 2007

The Third International Conference on Enzymes in the Environment: Activity, Ecology, and Applications. Viterbo, Italy  
[www.unitus.it](http://www.unitus.it) or [Richard.Dick@snr.osu.edu](mailto:Richard.Dick@snr.osu.edu)

### July 15–19, 2007

9th International Con-

ference on the Biogeochemistry of Trace Elements  
Beijing, China  
<http://www.conference.ac.cn/icobte.htm>

### July 16–20, 2007

30th International Conference on Solution Chemistry, Perth, Australia.  
Prof. Glenn Hefter  
School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences  
Murdoch University  
Murdoch, WA 6150  
Australia  
Tel.: +61 8 9360 2226, Fax: +61 8 9360 1711  
E-mail: [g.hefter@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:g.hefter@murdoch.edu.au)

### August 19–23, 2007

International Symposium on Forest Soils and Ecosystem Health: Linking Local Management to Global Change Challenges. Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia  
[www.griffith.edu.au/conference/isfs2007/](http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference/isfs2007/)  
or  
[t.blumfield@griffith.edu.au](mailto:t.blumfield@griffith.edu.au)

**Sep 15-19, 2007**

International Symposium on Air Quality and Waste Management for Agriculture  
Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, CO  
<http://www.asabe.org/meetings/airwaste2007/index.htm>

**November 4–8, 2007**

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings  
New Orleans, LA; New Orleans  
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

**June 29 – July 5, 2008**

XXI International Grassland Congress/ VIII International Rangeland Congress  
Huhhot, Inner Mongolia, China  
[www.igc-irc2008.org](http://www.igc-irc2008.org)  
or [secretariat2008@hotmail.com](mailto:secretariat2008@hotmail.com)

**July 6-9, 2008.**

2007 Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting  
Prince George, BC

**September 18–22, 2008**

5th International Conference on Land Degradation  
Valenzano, Bari, Italy  
[www.iamb.it/5ICLD](http://www.iamb.it/5ICLD)  
or [pandi@iamb.it](mailto:pandi@iamb.it)

**October 5–9, 2008**

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings  
(Joint Meeting with the Geological Society of America)  
Houston, TX  
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

**June 22 –26, 2008**

11th North American Forest Soils Conference  
Blacksburg, Virginia

**June 29 – July 5, 2008**

XXI International Grassland Congress/ VIII International Rangeland Congress  
Huhhot, Inner Mongolia, China  
[www.igc-irc2008.org](http://www.igc-irc2008.org)  
or [secretariat2008@hotmail.com](mailto:secretariat2008@hotmail.com)

**July 6-9, 2008.**

2007 Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting  
Prince George, BC

**September 18–22, 2008**

5th International Conference on Land Degradation  
Valenzano, Bari, Italy  
[www.iamb.it/5ICLD](http://www.iamb.it/5ICLD)  
or [pandi@iamb.it](mailto:pandi@iamb.it)

**October 5–9, 2008**

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings  
(Joint Meeting with the Geological Society of America)  
Houston, TX  
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

The 5th ISMOM and 2nd Interconference Commission 2.5 IUSS - 2008 organized by the Working Group MO “Interactions of Soil Minerals with Organic Components and Microorganisms” of the International Union of Soil Sciences, now Commission 2.5: Soil Physical/Chemical/Biological Interfacial Interactions, Pucón, Chile, November 26-30, 2008. Further Information: [www.ismom2008ufro.cl](http://www.ismom2008ufro.cl)

<b>CSSS – Business Office</b>
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**Contact: Steve Sheppard**

P.O. Box 637, Pinawa, Manitoba R0E 1L0 Canada.

Telephone: (204) 753-2747; Fax: (204) 753-8478; Email: [sheppards@ecomatters.com](mailto:sheppards@ecomatters.com)