



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Soil science is a science of the interfaces: our work is fundamentally interdisciplinary at the interface of physics, chemistry, biology, geography, and many other disciplines. The pedosphere is at the interface of other components of the environment (hydrosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, lithosphere); and soils are composed of the three fundamental phases of matter (solid, liquid, gas) which interact strongly in ways that we still sometimes poorly understand. These considerations speak strongly about the nature of our work and the challenges that we face, and as such, our role as soil scientists in addressing scientific and broader societal issues is not about to diminish. The importance of soils in addressing global issues was made very clear by the five keynote speakers at our June Annual Meeting in Québec City under the theme: *Soils in a changing climate: friend or foe?* One message that came out strongly from these five talks was that soils are central to broader ecosystem functioning, and that as soil scientists we need to be proactive in ensuring soils are considered, and properly so, in tackling global issues such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, desertification, soil degradation, human health and food security.

Our Annual Meeting is the highlight of our activities as a scientific society. As you will see in the report presented by the organizing committee in this Newsletter, our 2012 meeting held jointly with the AQSSS (Association québécoise de spécialistes en science du sol) was a great success in terms of attendance and papers presented. As President of the Society, I was particularly pleased to see the very high number of young presenters with about one third of the 200 papers given by students. Many of them won awards as you will read later in the Newsletter. On behalf of CSSS, I would like to warmly thank Martin Chantigny, Isabelle Royer and the AQSSS crew for putting together such a great event.

Our next meeting will be in July 2013 in Winnipeg under the theme: "Soil Science: the Center of It All". Preparation is well underway and preliminary information is presented in this Newsletter. Discussions have also already started for 2014. We will be meeting with the CGU (Canadian Geophysical Union) in Banff in early May. This will be a great opportunity to consolidate our links with the broader Canadian geoscience community. This will be our third meeting with the CGU and I hope that it will be as great a success as the previous ones!

Later this year, we will be going into CSSS Council elections. The positions of President-Elect, Western Councillor and Student Representative will be open for election. We will also be looking to replace our Secretary. I strongly encourage you to consider nominating a colleague or yourself; this is really a great experience and an opportunity to serve our Society.

*Denis Angers*  
President, CSSS

## MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT

La science du sol est une science des interfaces. Notre travail est fondamentalement interdisciplinaire à l'interface de la chimie, de la biologie, de la physique, de la géographie et bien d'autres. La pédosphère est à l'interface des autres composantes de l'environnement que sont l'hydrosphère, la biosphère, la lithosphère et l'atmosphère. Le sol est composé des trois phases de la matière (solide, liquide, gaz) qui interagissent de façons que nous avons encore du mal parfois à comprendre. Ces considérations illustrent bien la nature de notre travail et les défis qui se posent à nous, spécialistes de la science du sol. L'importance de prendre en compte les sols dans les enjeux globaux nous a été clairement démontré lors de la plénière de notre dernier congrès annuel tenu à Québec en mai dernier sous le thème : « Les sols sous un climat en évolution : amis ou ennemis ? ». Les cinq conféren-



## CSSS Council 2012

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ciers ont clairement mis en lumière le rôle essentiel que joue le sol dans un problème global tel que le changement du climat. En tant que spécialistes des sols, nous devons nous assurer que les sols sont pris en compte dans la recherche de solutions aux enjeux globaux que sont le changement climatique, la perte de biodiversité, la désertification, la santé et la sécurité alimentaire.

Notre congrès annuel est le point fort de nos activités en tant que société scientifique. Comme vous pourrez le constater plus loin dans ce bulletin, notre dernier congrès tenu conjointement avec l'AQSSS a été un vif succès. Plus de 200 communications scientifiques ont été présentées, dont le tiers par des étudiants. Je suis particulièrement heureux de cette participation de nos jeunes collègues. Au nom de la SCSS, j'aimerais remercier de façon chaleureuse et amicale le Martin Chantigny, Isabelle Royer et toute l'équipe de l'AQSSS pour l'organisation de ce congrès si bien réussi.

Notre prochain congrès aura lieu à Winnipeg en juillet 2013 sous le thème : « La science du sol : au centre de tout », traduction libre de The Soil : the Center of It All » ! Les préparatifs vont bon train et les premières informations vous sont présentées plus loin dans ce bulletin. En 2014, nous tiendrons notre congrès conjointement avec l'UGC (CGU) (l'Union géophysique canadienne) à Banff au début mai. Ce sera l'occasion de consolider nos liens avec la communauté canadienne des géosciences. Ce sera la troisième fois que nous tenons notre congrès avec nos collègues de cette association. A chaque fois, ce fût un grand succès.

Avant la fin de l'année, nous procéderons aux élections. Les postes de Président élu, Directeur de l'Ouest et Représentant des étudiants seront en élection. Le poste de Secrétaire (qui est un poste nommé par l'exécutif) sera également ouvert. Je vous invite fortement à proposer la nomination d'un collègue ou de vous-même ; l'implication dans l'exécutif est une expérience très enrichissante et une occasion de servir notre communauté scientifique.

*Denis Angers  
Président, SCSS*

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE / MESSAGE IMPORTANT

As you know, the CSSS is in the process of revising its bylaws in order to comply with the new Not-for-profit Corporations Act. The process has to be completed before October 2014. In March last year, you were invited to vote on the proposed changes in a vote-in mail ballot. According to our current bylaws, we required 2/3 of members to approve the proposed changes. Unfortunately, we did not receive enough ballots to validate the changes, even though the vast majority of ballots received approved them. We will therefore have to conduct a second vote for the bylaws. Voting will be done by electronic means at the same time as CSSS membership renewal. We urge you to vote as the continuation of our Society depends on this.

Thank you!

Comme vous le savez, la SCSS est en processus de révision de ses règlements administratifs afin de se conformer à la nouvelle législation fédérale. Le processus doit être complété avant octobre 2014. Au mois de mars dernier, vous avez été invités à voter sur les changements proposés lors d'un vote par voie postale. Selon les statuts en vigueur, il faut que 2/3 des membres répondent dans l'affirmative pour que les changements concernant les règlements administratifs soient acceptés. Malheureusement, nous n'avons pas reçu suffisamment de bulletins de vote des membres. Nous procéderons donc à un deuxième vote pour les règlements administratifs. Le vote sera fait au même moment que le renouvellement de votre adhésion à la SCSS. Nous vous encourageons à voter en grand nombre car il en va du maintien de notre société.

Merci !



The 2012 CSSS Awards are now complete. While three nominations were received, no Fellow Awards were bestowed in 2012. At our Annual Meetings in Québec, Dr. Maja Krzic was honoured with a Soil Science for Society Award. A total of 36 students competed for the C.F. Bentley oral presentation awards and 25 posters were entered for the President's Award. This represented 29% of all oral presentations and 35% of all posters given at the meetings, which bodes well for the future of our Society. The Awards Committee reviewed 32 applications for Student Travel Awards and granted the maximum number of 12 (one of which was declined). Ten undergraduate Student Book Awards were presented. All 2012 Award winners are listed below.

I would like to thank everyone who was involved in any way with the Awards, especially the members of the Awards Committee: Anne Naeth and Dan Pennock. Craig Drury and Barbara Cade-Menun stepped in at short notice to lead the judging of Student Presentation Awards when I was unable to attend the Annual Meetings for medical reasons. I am very grateful to both of them. The following people helped with judging duties: Philippe Rochette, Cynthia Grant, Jim Miller, Claudia Goyer, Keith Reid, Athyna Cambouris, Gary Parkin, Nicolas Tremblay, Maja Krzic and Laura Van Eerd (oral presentations) and Ymène Fouli, Noura Ziadi, Kent Watson, Don Flaten and Angela Bedard-Haughn (posters).

Our suite of annual awards is an important part of the CSSS commitment to honouring distinguished members and promoting student participation at our Annual Meetings. It fosters a healthy Society and ensures excellence in our discipline for long-term advancement. Congratulations to all our 2012 CSSS Award winners!

*Frank Larney*

### **Soil Science for Society Award Dr. Maja Krzic**

Dr. Maja Krzic is an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver who has integrated research, teaching, and community education through the application of information technology. In 2004, Maja initiated the Virtual Soil Science Learning Resources (VSSLR) Consortium (<http://soilweb.landfood.ubc.ca/promo/>), which has become the focal point for collaborative educational efforts among scientists, students, and multimedia experts from 7 universities and 3 research institutions in Canada. Since its inception, the VSSLR Consortium has established an award-winning record of cooperation in the development of educational materials that include 11 web-based tools, two distance education courses, a multi-institutional soil identification and classification field course, and a cross-disciplinary graduate program. There is much potential to take this collaboration to the next level of jointly offered courses and curriculum development to sustain the discipline of soil science across Canada and beyond.

For her innovative efforts in teaching, Maja has received the UBC Killam Teaching Award in 2006 and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award of Merit in 2006.

#### Soil Science For Society Award

Honours a member or non-member who has made a significant contribution towards promoting soil science to the general public.

**Dr. Maja Krzic**

University of British Columbia

#### Student Presentation Awards

**Oral Presentations – C.F. Bentley Award:** Initiated in 1983 to encourage and recognize excellence in oral presentations by students at the CSSS Annual Meetings. The award honours Dr. Fred Bentley who was CSSS President in 1956-57 and inducted as a CSSS Fellow in 1973.

1 <sup>st</sup> (\$500)	<b>Michael Preston</b>	University of Toronto, Mississauga
2 <sup>nd</sup> (\$300)	<b>Michael McTavish</b>	University of Toronto, Mississauga
3 <sup>rd</sup> (\$200)	<b>Alisha Hackinen</b>	University of British Columbia

**Poster Presentations – President's Award:** Established in 1992 to foster excellence in student poster presentations as a means of disseminating research results at the CSSS Annual Meetings.

1 <sup>st</sup> (\$500)	<b>Lindsey Andronak</b>	University of Manitoba
2 <sup>nd</sup> (\$300)	<b>Hongjie Zhang</b>	University of Guelph
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Katelyn Congreves</b>	University of Guelph
3 <sup>rd</sup> } (tie, \$200 each)	<b>Amal Roy</b>	University of Guelph

## CSSS Awards – 2012 cont'd

### **Student Travel Awards**

Established in 1991 to encourage graduate student participation at the CSSS Annual Meetings. Each award is worth \$600 with a maximum of 12 awarded annually.

<b>Melissa Arcand (Declined)</b>	University of Saskatchewan
<b>Geethani Eragoda</b>	University of Manitoba
<b>Alisha Hackinen</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Emma Holmes</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Zaho Matheos</b>	University of Saskatchewan
<b>Michael Preston</b>	University of Toronto, Mississauga
<b>Alireza Rahi</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Daniel Seeton</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Kyra Stiles</b>	Nova Scotia Agricultural College
<b>Amanuel Weldeyohannes</b>	University of Alberta
<b>Thea Whitman</b>	Cornell University
<b>Hongjie Zhang</b>	University of Guelph

### **Student Book Awards**

Recognizes students at Canadian universities who demonstrate excellence in soil science at the undergraduate level. Soil science faculty nominate students (one per university) who receive a complimentary copy of Soil Sampling and Methods of Analysis (2nd Ed., 2007), published jointly by CSSS and CRC Press.

<b>Olivier Allard-Ruel</b>	McGill University
<b>Trevor Barker</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Chen Chen</b>	Nova Scotia Agricultural College
<b>Christopher Coxson</b>	University of Northern British Columbia
<b>Cambria Dunets</b>	University of Guelph
<b>Daniel Fehr</b>	University of Alberta
<b>Michael McTavish</b>	University of Toronto, Mississauga
<b>Sally Parsonage</b>	University of Manitoba
<b>Kendra Purton</b>	University of Saskatchewan
<b>Marie-Elise Samson</b>	Université Laval

## CSSS Awards – 2012 cont'd



### **Soil Science for Society Winner: Maja Krzic** (centre)

Denis Angers, CSSS president, (left), Joan Whalen (right)



### **2012 Travel Award Recipients**

**First row:** Kyra Stiles, Amanuel Weldeyohannes, Geethani Eragoda, Emma Holmes

**Second row:** Zaho Matheos, Alisha Hackinen, Daniel Seeton, Thea Whitman

**Third row:** Denis Angers (CSSS president), Alireza Rahi, Micheal Preston, Hongjie Zhang

### **2012 Oral Presentations—C.F. Bentley**



Winner:

**Michael Preston**

University of Toronto, Mississauga



2nd:

**Michael McTavish**

University of Toronto, Mississauga



3rd:

**Alisha Hackinen**

University of British Columbia

### **2012 Poster Presentations—President's Award**



Winner:

**Lindsey Andronak**

University of Manitoba



2nd

**Hongjie Zhang**

University of Guelph



3rd: (tie)

**Katelyn Congreves**

University of Guelph



3rd: (tie)

**Amal Roy**

University of Guelph

*All photos courtesy of Johanne Tremblay, AAFC, Québec*



# ***Soil Science: The Centre of It All***

## ***CSSS/MSSS 2013 in Winnipeg: The Heart of the Continent***



Joint meeting of the  
**Canadian Society of Soil Science**  
and the  
**Manitoba Soil Science Society**  
July 22-25, 2013

At the Fort Garry Hotel and Conference Centre  
in Downtown Winnipeg

Organizing Committee Chair: Don Flaten ([don.flaten@ad.umanitoba.ca](mailto:don.flaten@ad.umanitoba.ca))  
Vice-Chair: Darshani Kumaragamage ([d.kumaragamage@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:d.kumaragamage@uwinnipeg.ca))



## **CSSS MEETING – 2012 – A GREAT SUCCESS CONGRÈS SCSS – 2012 – UN GRAND SUCCÈS**

### **Joint meeting of the CSSS and AQSSS, 3 to 8 June 2012 in Québec.**

Our Annual Meeting in June provided the opportunity to gather with members of the Association québécoise de spécialistes en science du sol (AQSSS) and members of the Canadian Land Resource Network (CLRN). This meeting included a pre-meeting workshop Digital Soil Mapping, followed by three days of oral and poster presentations, including a plenary session under the theme “Soil in a changing climate: Friend or foe?”, and ended with a two-day field tour that provided the opportunity to see soils developing under a climate gradient from the St-Lawrence Lowlands to the Taiga in the Canadian Shield. The meeting was a great success with 264 attendees, including 88 students, 125 oral presentations (41 by students), and 71 poster presentations (33 by students). Considering the enchanting venue of Manor Saint-Castin with its superb view on the Lac Beauport and the Laurentian Mountains, and the large number of participants, everything was there to foster scientific exchange, discussions, and networking. I would like to thank the organizing committee for preparing such a great event; Isabelle Royer who took care of all the logistics, registration, submission of Abstracts, and putting in the scientific program; Rock Ouimet, Athyna Cambouris and Lucie Grenon for organizing the field tour; Daniel Saurette for organizing the pre-meeting workshop; all the staff at Manor Saint-Castin who looked after every little details to make sure our stay was just as sweet as possible. I would also like to thank our Guest speakers at the pre-meeting workshop: Bob MacMillan (LandMapper Env. Solutions, Edmonton), Thomas Mayr (Cranfield Univ., UK), John Gallant (CSIRO, Australia), Hazen Russell (NRCAN, Ottawa), Doug Aspinall (OMAFRA, Guelph), Aubert Michaud (IRDA, Québec), Michel Nolin, (AAFC, Québec) and David Kroetsch (AAFC, Ottawa), and at the Plenary session: Hugh Henry (Univ. of Western Ontario), Serge Payette (Univ. Laval), Andrei Lapenis (Univ. of Albany, USA), Julien Fouché (CNRS, France) and Dan Pennock (Univ. of Saskatchewan). Finally, I must thank all the participants who made this event so lively.

Hoping to see you again in Québec in the near future.

Martin Chantigny, Chair.

### **Congrès conjoint de la SCSS et de l'AQSSS, 3 au 8 juin 2012 à Québec.**

Le congrès de juin dernier nous aura donné l'occasion de nous réunir avec les membres de l'Association québécoise de spécialistes en science du sol (AQSSS) et du Réseau Canadien des Terres (RCT) lors de notre congrès annuel. Ce congrès débutait par un atelier pré-congrès sur la cartographie numérique de sols, suivi de trois jours de présentations orales et par affiches, incluant une session plénière autour du thème « Les sols sous un climat en évolution : amis ou ennemis ? », puis se concluait par une tournée terrain de deux jours offrant une chance de voir des sols se développant sous un gradient climatique allant des basses-terres du St-Laurent jusqu'à la taïga dans le bouclier canadien. Ce congrès aura connu un franc succès avec 264 participants, dont 88 étudiants, 125 présentations orales (41 par les étudiants) et 71 présentations par affiche (33 par les étudiants). En considérant le site enchanteur du Manoir Saint-Castin, nous offrant une vue superbe sur le Lac Beauport et sur les Laurentides, et le grand nombre de participants, tous les éléments étaient présents afin de favoriser les échanges entre scientifiques, les discussions et le réseautage. J'aimerais remercier les membres du comité organisateur qui nous ont offert un si bel événement : Isabelle Royer qui s'est chargé des aspects logistiques, des inscriptions, de la réception des résumés et du programme scientifique; Rock Ouimet, Athyna Cambouris et Lucie Grenon pour l'organisation de la tournée terrain; Daniel Saurette pour l'organisation de l'atelier pré-congrès; tous les employés du Manoir Saint-Castin qui ont veillé à ce que notre séjour soit des plus agréables. J'aimerais également remercier nos conférenciers invités lors de l'atelier pré-congrès : Bob MacMillan (LandMapper Env. Solutions, Edmonton), Thomas Mayr (Cranfield Univ., UK), John Gallant (CSIRO, Australia), Hazen Russell (NRCAN, Ottawa), Doug Aspinall (OMAFRA, Guelph), Aubert Michaud (IRDA, Québec), Michel Nolin, (AAFC, Québec) et David Kroetsch (AAFC, Ottawa), et lors de la session plénière: Hugh Henry (Univ. of Western Ontario), Serge Payette (Univ. Laval), Andrei Lapenis (Univ. of Albany, USA), Julien Fouché (CNRS, France) et Dan Pennock (Univ. of Saskatchewan). Finalement, je dois remercier tous les participants qui ont fait de cette rencontre un moment fort animé.

En espérant vous revoir à Québec prochainement,

Martin Chantigny, président du congrès.

## Canadian Journal of Soil Science Editor's Report

I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to Dr. Joann Whalen (CJSS Editor), Dr. Martin Chantigny (CJSS Editor), Dr. Marie Boehm (Special Issues Editor) and all of the Associate Editors (Drs. Lito Arocena, Angela Bedard, Nicolas Belanger, J.P. Bellenger, David Burton, Jean Caron, Richard Engel, Claudia Goyer, Newton Lupwayi, Paul Sanborn, Steve Siciliano, Bing Si, Myrna Simpson, Jeff Strock, Mario Tenuta, Bert VandenBygaart, Claudia Wagner-Riddle, Xueming Yang, Noura Ziadi, and Francis Zvomuya) for their hard work and dedication to our journal. The support and expertise provided by Tim Fenton and Laurie Scott in the journals office has also contributed to the success of our journal.

In 2011, there were 82 papers published in CJSS including 44 regular issue papers, 37 papers in a special issue/section and 1 review paper as well as 1 letter to the Editor.

There were 116 papers submitted to CJSS in 2011 of which 95 were 'regular issue' papers, 10 were Special Issue papers, 10 short communications and 1 review papers. There were 61 papers submitted from 20 countries outside of Canada in 2011 (i.e. 53%) which was similar to the percentage of papers (53%) submitted from outside of Canada in 2010. In 2011, 44% of the papers submitted were accepted, 48% were rejected and about 8% were withdrawn. The acceptance/rejection rate for papers submitted in 2011 was somewhat lower than for paper submitted in 2010. In 2010, 56% of the 167 papers submitted were accepted, 37% rejected, and 7% withdrawn.

In 2012 (as of October 15th) we have had 113 papers submitted of which 13 were special issue papers. The average amount of time for authors of regular papers to be contacted about the status of their paper that would ultimately be accepted was 81 days in 2011. Authors of rejected papers were notified within 59 days in 2011. Hence turn-around times have been reduced and continue to be reduced even further in 2012.

The 5-yr impact factors in 2011 have remained fairly steady at 1.21 which is similar to the 5 yr- IF for 2010 (1.20). We did have a very high immediacy index in 2011 (0.481) as a result of having a high number of citations in 2011 for papers that were published in 2011. The yearly impact factor does however vary from one year to the next as it is only based on citations received in one year for papers published in the previous 2 years. This value has ranged from 0.821 (2011) to 1.12 (2010) over the last 5 years. The half-life of the journal has consistently remained high (greater than 10 years).

### Special Issues/Sections

In **2011**, the following **Special Issues/Sections** were published:

1. Flow and Transport in Layered Soils (Guest Editors: Bing Si, Myles Dyck and Gary Parkin – 8 papers published).
2. Mitigation of Phosphorus Losses from Agriculture (Guest Editors: Tiequan Zhang and Keith Reid - 13 papers published).
3. Soils of Canada (Guest Editors: Dan Pennock, Lito Arocena and Scott Smith – 16 papers published).

In **2012**, the following **Special Issues** were published:

1. Soil Quality and Management of World Mollisols (Guest Editors: Xiaobing Liu, Ted Huffman, Bing Si and Richard M. Cruse - 20 papers published).
2. Land Reclamation (Guest Editor: Anne Naeth – 21 papers published).

### **Issues in Progress:**

1. Freeze-Thaw Processes and Frozen Soils (Guest Editors: Barbara Cade-Menun, Martin Chantigny and Ymène Fouli – 13 Submissions).
2. Long-term field sites: past, present and future importance (Submissions open December 1, 2012 and close February 28, 2013).

If you have any suggestions for future special issues, please contact Dr. Marie Boehm, the special issues editor.

*Craig Drury (CJSS Editor-in-chief)*  
craig.drury@agr.gc.ca



## IN MEMORIAM

### **Dr Eric Beauchamp**

Eric died on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 after a very courageous battle with cancer. Born in Quebec on January 6, 1936, Eric graduated from Macdonald College (McGill University) with a B.Sc. in 1960 and M.Sc. in 1962, and received his PhD in Soil Science from Cornell University in 1965 following which he was appointed to the Agriculture Canada research station at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec. In 1967, Eric joined the Department of Soil Science- later named Land Resource Science-at the University of Guelph. He had an outstanding research career focusing on nitrogen, particularly in relation to timing and method of manure application. Understanding that it was the ammoniacal-N content that was the main determinant of manure-N availability and that much of the ammonia was lost when surface applied, Eric developed and tested an applicator for injecting manure slurry under the soil surface. Recognizing also that significant losses of nitrogen occurred through denitrification, one of the least understood soil nitrogen processes, Eric and his students devoted much effort to understanding the process and to developing a method to measure it. While this was relatively easy to accomplish in the laboratory, in the field, the micro-scale variation in N and carbon supply made it much more challenging. Eric received international recognition for his contribution to the understanding of denitrification. During his career, Eric was the supervisor of 24 MSc and 8 PhD students as well as a number of postdoctoral fellows and along with these published 115 research papers as well as several chapters in books. He was named a Fellow of the Canadian Society of Soil Science in 1995 and served as its President in 1998. He retired in 1996 and was named University Professor Emeritus in 1998. Eric is survived by his wife Emmy, three children and five grandchildren.

*Murray Miller and Ken King*

### **Dr Paul Hoyt**

Paul died late in 2011 between Christmas and New Year in Penticton, British Columbia after a multi-year battle with cancer, during which he continued to display the quiet courage and modesty that characterized his life. Born in Millville, New Brunswick in 1930, Paul was part of the post war graduating cohort of Macdonald College, McGill University. He had a long and distinguished career with Agriculture Canada which started as a recently graduated BSc student conducting field plot research at Lethbridge Research Station and ran through extensive periods of research at the Beaverlodge and Summerland Research Stations. During study leaves from the federal government, Paul obtained an MSc degree at Cornell University and a PhD at Rothamsted Experiment Station in the UK where he studied under the renowned soil fertility expert, Dr. George W. Cooke. Study leave was also spent with soil chemist Dr. Bob Turner at the then Soil Research Institute in Ottawa. In turn, Paul became internationally known for his work on soil acidification, first in the extensive grain growing Peace River region of Alberta and British Columbia and subsequently, in the intensive fruit growing Okanagan Valley region of southern British Columbia. In both regions he earned the respect and friendship of producers for the development of practical strategies to effectively ameliorate their soil acidity problems via liming. He developed techniques including the 0.01 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>-extract for soil Mn solubility and the acidification resistance index that provided insight into the severity of producer problems. His interest in agronomic production problems at the world scale was enhanced during a study leave spent in Tanzania in the 1970's and a work assignment in the Sudan following his retirement from Agriculture Canada in 1989. Paul was an ideal collaborator and was well regarded by his fellow researchers due to his gentle nature, loyalty and hard work. For the past 20 years, Paul lived in quiet retirement in Penticton occupied with his productive home garden, duck hunting forays to his old stomping grounds in the Peace River region, and participating in community social, sport and work activities with friends and church. He will be missed.

*Gerry Neilsen and Mel Webber*

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### **Joint ASSSI and NZ Soil Science Conference 2012**

2 to 7 December 2012, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

Website: <http://www.soilscience2012.com>

### **4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Soil Organic Matter Dynamics**

May 5-10, 2013, Nanjing, China

<http://www.ireea.cn/som2013/>

### **IUSS Global Soil Carbon Conference**

3-6 June 2013, Madison, USA

[http://www.iuss.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=407&Itemid=31](http://www.iuss.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=407&Itemid=31)

### **12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Biogeochemistry of Trace Elements**

16-20 June 2013, Athens, GA, USA

<http://icobte2013.org/>

### **Canadian Society of Soil Science and the Manitoba Soil Science Society (CSSS/MSSS 2013)**

22-25 July 2013, Winnipeg, Manitoba

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

3-7 November 2013, Tampa Florida, USA



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