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For Immediate Release

Newfoundland and Labrador Geophysicist, Hugh Miller, P.Ge., recipient of 2008 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award.

Vancouver —The Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (“CCPG”) is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2008 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award - Dr. Hugh Miller, P.Ge., of Paradise, Newfoundland.

The Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award is given to recognize the achievements of an individual in his or her capacity as a registered professional geoscientist, who has made an outstanding contribution to the development and practice of professional geoscience and who has advanced public recognition of the profession in Canada.

To be eligible for the award a nominee must meet a number of specified criteria, which include: a solid career as a professional geoscientist, an outstanding record of voluntary service to the community, and service to one of the provincial or territorial professional associations which regulate geoscience in Canada or to CCPG.

The Award, which consists of a labradorite marble sculpture made by a Canadian artist, is given to a person in mid-to-late career.

Hugh Miller, P.Ge., has not only a long and outstanding career as a professional geoscientist, but he has also served as a tireless and dedicated volunteer and leader to CCPG and Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador, (“PEGNL”).

As a graduate in physics from the Memorial University Newfoundland (“MUN”) in 1968 followed by an M.Sc. in physics-geophysics in 1970, and a Ph.D. from UBC in 1973, Dr Miller joined MUN in 1973 in the Physics Department and in 1979, moved to the Earth Sciences Department until his retirement in 2007. During that period, he was instructor and advisor of geophysics students for over 30 years, and was also an active research scientist in applying geophysical methods, particularly the use of gravity and magnetics, for the investigation of the crustal structure of Newfoundland and Labrador, the adjacent offshore and eastern Canada. He is now a consulting geophysicist.

Dr. Miller was a leading proponent and organizer for professional registration of geoscientists in Newfoundland and Labrador, commencing in the early 1980’s. And with the passage of the revised provincial *Engineers and Geoscientists Act* of 1982, Dr. Miller co-chaired the PEGNL committee that developed the academic and work experience criteria for geoscientist registration. It took until 1989 for the new Act to be proclaimed, whereupon, Dr. Miller became one of the first two PEGNL Geoscience councillors and also Vice-chair, Geoscience, of PEGNL’s Board of Examiners; a role he held for 10 years.

In 1989, Dr Miller was appointed to sit on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, where he served for 12 years.

In recognition for his services to PEGNL and the people of Newfoundland and Labrador, Dr. Miller received two awards from PEGNL - the Award of Service in 1997, and PEGNL’s highest honour, the Award of Merit in 1999.



He commenced his involvement in the national geoscience community through volunteer work with the Canadian Geoscience Council (now the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences) and was appointed the PEGNL representative on CCPG's Canadian Geoscience Standards Board ("CGSB"). While serving with the CGSB, he helped steer through some contentious issues in developing the very first national guideline on academic and work experience criteria for registration as a professional geoscientist.

In 1997, Dr Miller was one of a small group who helped found CCPG, serving as its first Chair-elect and subsequently its Chair in 1999 – 2000. During his CCPG chairmanship, Dr. Miller negotiated cooperation agreements with the US Association of State Boards of Geology, the American Institute of Professional Geologists, the Geological Society (in Great Britain) and the European Federation of Geologists.

In announcing the award, the President of CCPG, Dr. Bruce Broster, P.Geol. stated "Dr. Miller has been at the forefront of some of the most important events for geoscientists in his province, and indeed, in this country. Some notable achievements are his significant contribution to the establishment of professional regulation for geoscientists in Newfoundland and Labrador and the creation of CCPG and CGSB, during which he applied innovative thinking and drew on his considerable negotiation skills".

The citation on the 2008 award, which will be presented to Hugh in St John's, Newfoundland at the awards ceremony during the PEGNL AGM on June 13 2008, will read as follows: *Presented to Hugh Miller, PhD, P.Geol., in recognition of his visionary leadership for the profession and the development of geoscience practice standards in Canada.*

Nominations for this award are considered annually, although the award will not necessarily be presented each year. Further details on the award criteria and nominations process can be obtained from the CCPG website at www.ccpq.ca.

The mission of CCPG is to develop consistent high standards for licensure and practice of geoscience, to facilitate national and international professional mobility, and to promote recognition of Canadian geoscientists.

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