



August 17, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Professional Geoscientists obtain funding to support the development of a collective framework for geoscience professional practice guidelines.

The Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists ("CCPG") is pleased to announce that \$95,000 in support funding has recently been made available from the Government of Canada to assist in work to be undertaken over the next 10 months on developing a collective framework for geoscience professional practice guidelines.

The Government of Canada has provided the funding assistance as part of its focus to facilitate the mobility of regulated professionals under Chapter 7 of Canada's Agreement on Internal Trade ("AIT").

"Our government supports the removal of barriers to ensure full labour mobility for all Canadians," said the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development. "Through Canada's Economic Action Plan, we will continue to encourage qualification and certification recognition across Canada during this challenging economic time. It benefits workers and employers alike; offering workers a wider range of opportunities and employers a broader selection of candidates."

A number of the licensing bodies/ordre that comprise the membership of CCPG have developed and continue to develop, excellent Geoscience Professional Practice Guidelines ("GPPGs") that apply specifically to their own licensees. While differences in local provincial/territorial jurisprudence in GPPGs are expected, the geoscientific principles, scientific method, and expectations around independent professional judgment on which sound geoscience practice is based, are the same regardless of jurisdiction. Creation of a national framework for GPPGs will provide greater overall protection of the public across Canada.

Termed the "GPPG project", this initiative will seek to build on the considerable work already undertaken by individual licensing bodies/ordre and from that base will develop a collective framework to:

- 1) facilitate existing GPPGs being brought forward, made consistent and then available to be individually adapted by multiple other licensing bodies for future use in their jurisdiction, and;
- 2) allow for new consistent GPPG content material to be created collectively to cover practice areas that are not currently guided, that can then be used as the basis for new individual GPPGs developed by licensing bodies for future use in their jurisdictions.

Speaking about the announcement, CCPG President, Gary Vivian, P.Geol. said: "Having such a framework will not only provide greater overall protection of the public across Canada; it will be a considerable benefit to the profession as a whole - its practitioners and the licensing bodies that regulate practitioners"



Mr. Vivian went on to say: "Working on this is something our member bodies have been keen on CCPG doing for some time; it is now seen as a natural progression in the governance and guidance of a profession that is expected to increase its already mobile and inter-jurisdictional approach to practice, as the recent changes to the Agreement on Internal Trade take effect"

The Geoscience profession is made up of many specialized practice disciplines, which currently comprises just over 10,000 licensed professionals and Geoscientists-in-Training in Canada.

CCPG is the national organization of the 10 provincial and territorial licensing bodies/ordre that regulate the practice of geoscience in Canada.

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.

-30-

Contact:
Oliver Bonham, P.Geo.,
CEO - CCPG
604-412-4888
www.ccpq.ca