

CSEG Foundation 2018 Annual Report

Report from the Foundation Chair

Ron Larson, Chair and Director

In calendar 2018 the CSEG Foundation had a similar year to 2017: ongoing effects of continued market downswing affected revenue requiring the Board to focus on managing expenditure. For 2018, the Foundation board approved a deficit budget with expenses exceeding revenue from donations by \$89,000. Due to the diligent efforts of our committees and volunteers, and notably a few significant donations, we expect the actual deficit (unaudited year end financials) to be about \$58,000; an amount that is more than offset by interest and capital growth gains in the CSEGF endowment investments.

With a strong asset base and a solid balance sheet, the Foundation Board of Directors specifically elected to continue funding the programs that the Foundation supports despite reduced income, so that our services to the general public and various student communities are not adversely affected.

The Board will continue to monitor our financial situation and make prudent budgeting and fund allocation decisions while ensuring the continuation of our core programs. This will likely mean continued deficit budgeting for 2019 and perhaps the following year.

For the moment, the Board is committed to prudently monitored deficit budgets allowing for continued program delivery while maintaining the Foundation's total assets as measured on the balance sheet.

In other words, in the short term, the Board is letting Endowment Fund income carry some of the program load, without eroding the Fund's capital. The Board continues to place some focus on ongoing fund raising to support both year on year program delivery and Endowment growth.

Who we are:

The CSEG Foundation is a *registered Canadian Charitable organization* – the charitable operating arm of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists. It was initiated in 2003-04 as the brainchild of several CSEG Past Presidents and received charitable status in 2006. It is managed by an independent Board of Directors, is closely aligned with the CSEG and is ultimately controlled by the CSEG. The **Mission** of the CSEGF is: *to encourage and support scientific, educational and charitable activities that benefit geophysicists through the solicitation of contributions aimed at promoting the development of geophysical knowledge, education and public awareness.*

When the Foundation attends public events, career fairs, conferences for university students, high school science teachers and career counsellors, we strive to make the public more aware of geophysicists' contribution to the well-being of Canadian society. We convey to educators, students and the public our key role in not only the petroleum and mining industries but also in environmental engineering, the mapping of natural hazards and understanding the Earth beneath our feet. The scientists and support persons in the CSEG are ethical and conscientious stewards of the environment. They help to find and develop the resources essential to our daily lives.

The Foundation is a volunteer-run organization with only a small staffing overhead. Funding to support the Foundation's activities comes from generous donations from the public, members, corporate sponsors and the CSEG itself. Thanks to all who have contributed to this year's success through either your volunteer time or your financial support.

2018 Board of Directors: (names in **bold** are Directors; *designates a CSEG past-President) Each Director's term is nominally three years and candidates may be self-nominated, by the membership, or through the nominating committee. Committee Chairs appointed as Directors typically serve on the Board for one year. These are the Directors, staff and committee representatives at the **2018 year-end**:

Ron Larson* (Chair), **Kathleen Dorey** (Vice-Chair), **Nancy Shaw*** (Secretary), **David Cho** (Assistant Treasurer), **Neil Rutherford*** (Treasurer and Governance), **Neda Boroumand*** (CSEG President and Representative to the Foundation), **Adrian Smith** (Outreach Chair), **Doug Bogstie*** (Fund Development Chair), **Neil Orr** (Fund Development Vice-Chair), **Ian Watson** (Scholarships Chair), **Kun Guo** (Travel Grant and Learning Subsidy Chair), **Kristie Manchul** (Communications Chair), Marissa Whitakker (Earth Science for Society Chair), **Cec Keeping** (Governance), Peter Cary (CSEG Distinguished Lecturer Chair), Jim Racette (CSEG Managing Director), Alyssa Middleton (CSEG staff).

This year's highlights

- **Finance:**
 - **Foundation assets** grew marginally to about \$2.2M, from about \$2.16M thanks to the generous donations of our members and corporate supporters and the income generated from our investments.
 - **Foundation program spending** was about \$200,000 in 2018, a level consistent with 2017 spending.
- The eighth **Earth Science for Society** (ESfS) on March 18-20, 2018, hosted over 2550 attendees of the public, including students from 16 schools and 20 separate youth groups. The CSEG Foundation "adopted" ESfS in 2016 as our primary 'public' outreach initiative, and became the long-term Parent Organization for this self-funding event. Of particular importance in 2018, ESfS received a \$35,000 NSERC PromoScience grant, and a supplemental \$5,000 grant to participate in Science Odyssey which took place May 11-12, 2018 in Canmore and May 19-20, 2018 in Calgary. Brodie Sutherland chaired the ESfS committee for 2018. 2019 Chair Marissa Whitakker looks forward to the 2019 event on March 17-19, 2019.

- **Outreach/University Student Outreach (USO)/Schools and Public Outreach** continued to support students in universities and K-12 schools, and to inform educators and the public at large about geophysics. Adrian Smith chairs Outreach, the Foundation’s largest committee, accounting for about half of our operating budget outside of ESfS. The Outreach Committee has born the brunt of expense scrutiny over the past few years despite which they have managed to continue delivering important programs such as:
 - Junior Geophysicist Forum – a series of networking functions connecting experienced industry geophysicists with students and new grads.
 - Mentoring (A USO initiative)– a formal mentoring program, again, connecting students and new grads with established geophysicists.
 - University Student Outreach (USO) – In addition to other programs specifically mentioned in this list, USO’s activities in 2018 included attendance at two of the three geoscience undergrad conferences staged across the country. The 2019 goal is to attend all three and to seek / enhance opportunities to interact with university students.
 - GIFT (A USO initiative) – the Foundation is a Platinum level sponsor of this event, which took over 40 students from eight different universities to various host companies, where they learned about operations, processing, interpretation and other elements of applied geophysics. GIFT is self funding, and the Foundation expresses thanks to all donors.
- **Scholarships.** We continue to support post-secondary geoscience education and students through our **Scholarship Committee’s** efforts (Ian Watson, Chair). From 50 applications for university scholarships, the Foundation awarded 13 scholarships to students at eight universities across Canada. In addition, one scholarship was awarded to a student at a technical institute. The Foundation wishes to thank various CSEG self-funded social committees for their financial support of the Scholarship Committee’s efforts.

1. List of Scholarship recipients

Name (First)	Name (Last)	Degree	School	Sponsor
Marie	Flanagan	BSc	MUN	Anonymous
Jingchuan	Wang	PhD	UofA	Anonymous
Jeremy	Gosselin	PhD	UofO	Anonymous
Manuel Alejandro	Jaimes Caballero	BSc	MUN	Anonymous
Stephen	Mosher	PhD	UofO	Anonymous
Masoud	Aali	PhD	Dalhousie	Athena
Sara	Pieczonka	MSc	Queen’s	Imperial
Benjamin	Lysak	MSc	UofA	Members
Haoze	Zhang	BSc	UofC	Repsol
Michael	Audia	BSc	UofC	Russell
Hossein	Jodeiri Akbari Fam	PhD	Laurentian	Shugg
Jordan	Phillips	MSc	UofA	Social
Paulina	Wozniakowska	PhD	UofC	TGS
Jia Yuan	Song	Diploma	SAIT	WiSE/SkiSpree

- **Travel grants and learning subsidies** (Kun Guo, chair) continues to be supported by the Foundation. The program helps Canadian undergraduate and post graduate students take courses and attend conferences, seminars and geoscience field trips, importantly including such

CSEG events as the Geoconvention, the Symposium and Doodletrain. In 2018 \$10,000 in funding was budgeted, and some \$8,000 ultimately provided to assist over 15 recipients in support of travel or registration in events during the 2018 calendar year.

- **Communications:** In 2018, continued improvements in the Foundation's web presence and ongoing communications support was provided by the **Communications Committee** chaired by Helen Isaac through to June 2018 and Kristy Manchul thereafter. The Foundation is working with the CSEG's Digital Communication committee to develop such things as Webcast's of luncheons and CDL events.
- **Canadian Distinguished Lecture Tour** is one of the Foundation's keystone programs. Our 2018/2019 **Distinguished Lecturer** is David Gray, who is giving his talk entitled "An Unconventional View of Geoscience" to universities and institutions across Canada, wrapping up in April 2019. The Foundation extends thanks to Mr. Gray's employer, **Nexen Energy ULC** (Nexen) who financially sponsored the 2018/2019 CDL Tour in its entirety.
- **Fund Development,** The committee (Doug Bogstie, Chair) has been working diligently and 2018 donations exceeded the (admittedly modest) donation levels anticipated for 2018.
- **Governance.** Foundation Governance continues to be in good order, having been left in that state by previous Boards. 2018 saw the introduction of policy for safe reporting and serious treatment of complaints in the general area of whistle blowing and personal mistreatment.

In the big picture, **the CSEG Foundation's ongoing success** is attributable to several things:

- A strong Board of Directors with various levels of experience, a good set of Governance procedures, and advice and input from experienced and engaged members.
- Outstanding volunteers, some who have contributed for many years and some who are brand new, creating a dynamic mixture of experience, enthusiasm, energy and new ideas.
- Excellent financial support from our donors, including a number of very significant individual donations.

The CSEG Foundation Board, advisors and staff are a hard-working and dedicated group of professionals who volunteer their time and expertise to manage and lead the organization to the ongoing and future benefit of the Canadian geoscience and geophysics communities. At the heart of the Foundation are the volunteers who donate precious time with minimal thanks for the various committees. On behalf of the Foundation's Board of Directors, thanks to all the Foundation contributors (financial / volunteer / staff) for all they do to make this a successful venture in a challenging economic cycle for resource enterprises, furthering the geophysical cause and vision into the future. This will be my last year as Foundation Chair and I want to welcome Kathleen Dorey as Chair of the Board of Directors effective June 2019. The Foundation will experience an orderly transition to very capable new leadership.

Ron Larson,
CSEG Foundation, Chair (2018) , Board of Directors