

CSEG Foundation

The CSEG Foundation (CSEGF) is a registered Canadian charity and charitable operating arm of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG). Since its inception in 2006, 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'. Managed by an independent Board of Directors it is nevertheless closely aligned and controlled by the CSEG.

The 2021 Board of Directors (in bold) are: **Ron Newman*** (Chair), **Laurie Weston** (Vice-Chair & Governance), **John Parkin** (Past-Chair), **Nancy Shaw*** (Secretary), **Tammy Wilmer** (Treasurer), **Colleen Whelehan** (Assistant Treasurer), **Kathleen Dorey*** (Representative to the Foundation), **Adrian Smith** (Outreach Chair), **Allan Chatenay** (Fund Development Chair), **Darren Kondrat** (Fund Development Vice-Chair), **Darren Hinks** (Scholarships Chair), **Kristy Manchul** (Communications), **Pam Bucher** (Travel Grants and Learning Subsidies), **Richard Smith** (CSEG Distinguished Lecturer Chair), **Marissa Whittaker** (Earth Science for Society Chair), **Jim Racette** (CSEG Managing Director), **Alyssa Middleton** (CSEG staff). The asterisk (*), designates a CSEG Past-President in that position. Each Director's term is nominally three years and candidates are nominated through the Foundation Board nominating committee.

As has been the case throughout the many challenging months of the pandemic, your board members and committee volunteers have demonstrated remarkable leadership. They have continued to provide creative means for providing online resources for students and interested members of the public. I want to thank them for their dedication and drive to promote our programs. Hopefully, 2022 will provide opportunities for our colleagues to more easily advance the Foundation's goals.

The Foundation's funds remained stable. The stock market continued to see gains in 2021 which resulted in healthy growth to our investment accounts. While the economics of the oil and gas industry continued to improve, the impact of donations and fund development has seen minimal recovery and resulted in the Foundation Board approving a deficit budget in 2021 of \$83,970.

Following the lack of activity and events in 2020, and delay in professionals returning to the office the financial projections remained muted. Respecting the changes in personal and business incomes, the Board elected to pause fund development. With in-person events cancelled and/or shifted online, expenses were dramatically reduced. Expenses totalled \$82,429 compared with \$91,265 in 2020. Income was similarly impacted as donations to specific events which did not occur were eliminated. The Foundation had an income of \$65,927 compared with \$71,686 in the previous year. By 2021 year end the deficit (unaudited year end financials) which was budgeted to be \$83,970 came in at \$16,502.

We continue to have an advocacy group which focuses on geophysics, intending to convey to industry a highly educated workforce within the CSEG whose talents can be applied not only in the oil and gas industry but also mining, environmental, and the engineering world as well.

2021 Highlights

- **Fund Development Committee:** With the ongoing pandemic, the Fund Development Committee continued to pause all in-person fundraising activity. Sensitive to the COVID-restriction-induced financial plight of many, and with the Fund in robust shape with reduced spending overall, we continued to stay low key until the economy recovers. We focused on a simplified and near zero-cost approach with links encouraging people to donate to the Fund integrated to CSEG web pages and in CSEG email distributions. We expect to resume in-person fundraising efforts as restrictions ease and the economy rebounds in 2022
- **Earth Science for Society** Although the Earth Science for Society (ESfS) initiative was unable to proceed with an in-person event in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has maintained its presence through an online talk series hosted by the Calgary Public Library. The ESfS committee is planning on resuming its in-person event November 27-29, 2022 at the University of Calgary. This year's event will cater to a smaller group of schools and the general public to ensure it meets or exceeds all public health protocols.
- **Outreach / University Student Outreach (USO) / Schools and Public Outreach 2021** was a challenging year for us all. Many past cornerstone Outreach programs (ESfS, GIFT, JGF, etc...) were unfortunately canceled again due to pandemic concerns and a shifting community landscape that made engagement difficult. The Outreach Committee looks forward to rebuilding in 2022; working with other Foundation and CSEG Committees to build on past successes, better align mandates, maximize volunteer resources, and ultimately deliver impactful programming for our stakeholders as we all navigate through uncertain times. We are beginning to make concerted efforts to engage with external organizations who share similar aims of supporting University students, K-12 schools, and informing educators and the public at large about Geophysics.
 - In 2021 we sponsored and virtually attended the Atlantic Universities Geoscience Conference (AUGC), reaching about 50 students. We awarded the best Geophysics presentation to Joseph De Luca, an undergraduate student at the University of New Brunswick, for his talk "Geothermal potential in New Brunswick: updated maps and databases".
 - Our **Mentorship program** successfully paired students and young professionals with professional Geoscientists in 2021, hosting several virtual events throughout the year designed to bring mentees and mentors together. The Mentorship Committee is currently undergoing discussions with other Geoscience organizations across Canada with the aim of developing a much broader mentorship program. This exciting opportunity will allow the CSEG Foundation to extend our reach to a much greater audience. Stay tuned for more information!
- **Scholarships.** We continue to support post-secondary geoscience education and students through our Scholarship Committee's efforts which are Darren Hinks (Chair), Steven Quan (Senior Trustee), and Lori Barth (Junior Trustee). From 20 applications for university scholarships from students at 11 institutions, the Foundation awarded 9 scholarships to students at eight universities across Canada. University Entrance Scholarships supported 2 students completing high school as well.
 - The Foundation wishes to thank the very generous sponsors in 2021 with 3 fully support \$2,000 scholarship by Athabasca Oil, Brian Russell and Imperial Oil Resources. This is

the first year that fundraising was able to support the majority of distributed scholarships thanks to multiple individual donations and corporate support.

- **Travel grants and learning subsidies** continue to be supported by the Foundation. The program helps Canadian undergraduate and postgraduate students and those un/under-employed in industry take courses and attend conferences, seminars and geoscience field trips including the Geoconvention, CSEG Symposium and the Doodletrain. 2021 showed a transition, with the majority of applicants requesting funding for online courses.
- **Communications** - 2021 saw the communications channels that the CSEG Foundation uses to disseminate information increase in importance as the pandemic hindered in-person events and activities. The active use of the CSEG's social media accounts, The Recorder and other resources to send out updates to our outreach activities, highlight our programming successes and spread the messages of our Distinguished Lecturer across Canada amongst other initiatives has allowed us to remain relevant and timely for our membership and beyond. Going forward in 2022, the CSEGF Communications portfolio, in conjunction with the CSEG, would like to examine our current communications and activities for inclusion and accessibility
- **Canadian Distinguished Lecture Tour** - The Canadian Distinguished Lecturer this year is Dr. Don White, a senior geophysicist at the Geological Survey of Canada where he works in the field of applied seismology. Dr. White's presentation is entitled "Geological storage of carbon and the role of geophysics". This is a timely subject, one that has attracted a lot of interest in the public in general and his presentations have been well received. Due to travel and gathering restrictions and guidelines, all the presentations to date and planned, going forward, are virtual. Without travel, the expenses for this program have been practically nothing. While that is nice from a budget perspective, one of the goals of the CDL is outreach, and in-person events are almost irreplaceable from a networking and connection perspective. Don is hoping that with the easing of restrictions possible in the foreseeable future, that some of the later dates will be on site. As of February 1, Don had completed seven virtual presentations with attendance averaging around 30 people each. He has confirmed dates for 16 more in February and March. The up-to-date schedule is on the CSEG website: <https://cseg.ca/education/view/geological-storage-of-carbon-and-the-role-of-geophysics>

School Shake Initiative- A School-based seismometer network and earthquake hazard outreach program for Vancouver Island

In 2021 the CSEG foundation provided a \$5000 grant to the University of Victoria in support of the SchoolShake project. SchoolShake is an outreach program led by Dr. Edwin Nissen at the University of Victoria. As Dr. Nissen notes: "SchoolShake will place a network of seismometers in Vancouver Island schools, giving students and teachers the chance to learn about earthquakes through participation in a large-scale community science experiment on the Cascadia subduction zone." University of Victoria faculty and graduate students will be involved in providing appropriate instructional resources to schools so that students can get the most out of the project. SchoolShake has received significant in-kind support from the University of Victoria and the makers of the Raspberry Seismometer system. SchoolShake continues to seek additional funding from government and private sources. The boards of the CSEG and the CSEG Foundation supported this \$5000 grant as part of the CSEG Foundation mandate of supporting geophysical outreach to the public. There is an ongoing opportunity to provide

additional support for SchoolShake as the program is extended to more schools and into other provinces.

While the past two years have presented major challenges, there have also been notable benefits that have evolved from the overall situation. We have moved forward to maximize opportunities for educational and informational presentations using innovative technical tools that have facilitated excellent learning opportunities. In doing so, we have concurrently been able to realize a degree of cost savings. Going forward we will build on these successes to enhance both online and in person communications.

RON NEWMAN

CSEG FOUNDATION, CHAIR (2021 - 2022), BOARD OF DIRECTORS