

INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION (IGEO)

NEWSLETTER 02-1 March 2002

FROM THE EDITORS:

You will note that we have a very short newsletter for this addition, but that is by design. The GeoSciEd IV conference team is working hard to prepare for the next international meeting in Calgary, Canada. We wanted to use this newsletter to connect you to their website so that you can begin planning for Calgary in 2003. The Calgary conveners have asked if potential participants can provide input on the meeting. They would particularly like to stress that they need your help with the following topics:

- New ideas for sessions.
- Offers to help "chair" themes
- National correspondents to disseminate notices that arise as the
- publicity for the meeting.

Thanks for your help to the conference committee.

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NOTICE

GEOSCIED IV February 2002 update!

August 10 – 14, 2003
GeosciEd IV: Earth Science for the Global Community
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

This fourth GeoSciEd meeting is for Earth science teachers from elementary to university level and for Earth scientists who deliver educational outreach programs through their communities, museums or science centres. The purpose is to share ideas and concepts in Earth science education and in the development of programs that lead to an integrated understanding of the Earth. The innovative technical program will include keynote addresses, workshops, oral and poster sessions. Field trips will visit many world-renowned sites of interest including the Rocky Mountains, the Burgess Shale, the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, the Frank Slide and the Athabasca Glacier.

The Calgary Committee has established a new web site at <http://www.geoscied.org> with a reduced download time redesigned logo and header bars. The old web site <http://www.science.uwaterloo.ca/earth/geoscience/home.html> is still active, but it now has a redirect on it, and it will be phased out later this month. The only reason that it is still active is to provide supplementary information not yet available on the new site.

Godfrey Nowlan, Local Committee Chair, has requested that potential participants visit this site and provide feedback to Jon Greggs, the webmaster for the Calgary site. Is there any critical information missing that might be desirable for persons interested in coming to Calgary next year?

The Program Committee has been busy putting together the preliminary description of the program and this text is now available on the web site. The wording and listing is intended as a "teaser" for potential registrants and the Publicity Committee will be using this session list to try and solicit conveners for some of the topics and also attract suggestions for additional topics. If you wish to participate it is really important that you contact Godfrey Nowlan (Chair, LOC, Calgary) at: gnowlan@NRCan.gc.ca as soon as possible.

The Field Trips Committee has assembled a full list and costing of the field trips and most of this information is also now available on the website. You will have to look under "details" for pricing. All the trips are day-trips (albeit long days in many cases). The costs of the field trips are usually around \$150, one is cheaper (\$125) and one (Burgess Shale) is more expensive at \$200. All prices are in Canadian dollars (currently about \$1.46CDN to \$1.00 US). Costs have been kept down by returning participants to Calgary each day. In practically all cases the costs will include a field lunch. Note that an excursion to the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology is included as part of the conference registration cost. Also note that this is a different location (at Drumheller) than the other "dinosaur" field trip which is to the badlands much further east, near the Saskatchewan border.

The Publicity Committee is preparing its first round of contacts with the national and international community. Jon Dudley has assembled an electronic "brochure" to beam around the world to get some feedback from the international community. It is appended. If you want to make sure that you are specifically contacted for all e-mail and web announcements send your current E-Mail address to Jon Dudley (see website).

Space for posters is now allocated to the first two days of the meeting(August 11th and 12th) because the cost of keeping the space for all four days (especially since we will all be in Drumheller on the 13th) was deemed to be too high. The result of this decision is that all posters will be up for the first two days of the meeting only. The third day we spend in Drumheller, and we have a provisional idea that the equivalent time on the fourth day could be devoted to workshops. This might be subject to some modification.

Some critical elements are:

1. Attraction of teachers from around the world and across Canada.
2. Getting the word out to all interested parties. PLEASE send the web site address <http://www.geoscied.org> to as many of their interested (oh heck, and disinterested) colleagues as possible.
3. Assistance with development of the program and volunteering to convene sessions. Please note that there is a finite time involved here. If YOU are interested in organising a session or a theme NOW is the time to let the Programme Chair of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) know. Please do not leave it much longer or you, your theme (session or workshop) will be out of luck!
4. Integration of fund raising efforts are a concern. I would like to be made aware of any potential sources of funds to support foreign delegates. (All international readers to especially note this concern).

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