



MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

By: David Clyde, Foundation Chairman

Welcome to the season where a good many charities begin their fundraising for the year. You may know WHAT the CSPG Foundation does year in and year out and HOW it does it, but do you know WHY our charitable organization has done this for the last 40 years?

The CSPG Foundation was created in 1978 under the name of the CSPG Fiftieth Anniversary Trust Fund. It was established to fund the two-week Student Industry Field Trip, commonly known as SIFT.

While conducting a recruiting trip to Maritime universities in 1976, CSPG member Bill Ayrton gained first-hand experience on the lack of knowledge about western Canadian geology and the oil industry. The top students he encountered were very knowledgeable about their area, but when asked what they knew about the Precambrian Shield the answer was very often "Well, not very much, I know it's very old and it's got minerals in it." "So, we put together a committee," Ayrton says, "we raised about half a million dollars from industry and donations and we put on the first Student Industry Field Trip. It's gone every year since with one student from every university across Canada." The first SIFT began with a desire to expose young geoscientists to the oil patch for a week. It ran in May of 1977 and it has grown into a two-week trip that introduces thirty-two top students to a range of activities including lectures, field trips, core workshops and an exploration game.¹

From its initial funding support of SIFT, the CSPG Foundation has expanded its funding of other educational related programs to comply with charity guidelines. Currently we are funding 13 unique programs (both CSPG and non-CSPG) that meet and exceed the

Foundation's charitable mandate. This year the Trustees have approved a \$200,000 budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The approval process requires the programs and/or committees who requested funding to provide the trustees of the Foundation with a thought-out budget and business case. This approval process provides the board with clear and concise information to be able to commit to and support the approved funding.

The Foundation is currently comprised of a board of six trustees. Why we do we volunteer as trustees for the CSPG Foundation? One could chalk it up to several different reasons. Among them are passion, experience gained from working on a board or pride in being a CSPG member.

We, as a board have had to make several key decisions over the past year. Some of these were done to provide the Foundation with tools for future board members to ensure continuity and a process to make consistent decisions within the rules for operating a registered charity. However, we need your help to raise the profile of the Foundation now and into the future. I am sure that we as members of the CSPG have a certain amount of "Pride of Membership" and would be willing to assist. As the year draws to a close, please remember to make your donation before December 31 in order to receive a tax receipt for 2018. I would also like you to consider and explore reasons for volunteering - put your name forward to be considered for a position as a Trustee with the CSPG Foundation.

Many members have shown a willingness to ensure the future of the CSPG Foundation with a bequest upon their passing of one or two percent of the net residual of their estate. We encourage

members to contemplate this and please contact the CSPG office should you wish to leave your legacy.

After over ten years of volunteerism to various CSPG committees, I have a confidence that the Foundation will continue to be an important source of funding for geoscience energy-related educational programs into the future because of your pride in your membership. Thank you for supporting the CSPG Foundation.

Reference:

1. Paragraph pulled from pg. 32
 - a. Field Notes, the story of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, 1927-2002" by D Finch, Can Soc Petrol Geol Diamond Jubilee Convention June 3-7, 2002, 60 pages 🍁