



Association of the  
Chemical Profession  
of Alberta

# Alberta Chemist

The Newsletter of the ACPA

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## The 2009 AGM



Board members Roger Cowles, Kathy Janzen and Shane Harnish prepare AGM name tags.



Guest speaker Bruce Peachey, FCIC, P.Eng.

The *Alberta Chemist* newsletter of the ACPA will be produced only a few times each year, whenever a suitable collection of articles is ready for distribution. However, time-sensitive announcements of workshops, courses, lectures, job opportunities and ACPA activities will be sent out as needed in special issues called *Alberta Chemist Bulletins*. Dividing the ACPA newsletter into two publications is intended to provide you not only with the critical information you need about the association but also with timely announcements about events that help you to advance your career as a professional chemist.

-- [Stan Backs](#), P.Chem.

## ACPA 2009 Annual General Meeting

The 2009 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the ACPA was held in Calgary on May 9. Several [photos](#) are available on the ACPA website.

A light lunch was served, and then guest speaker Bruce Peachey (FCIC, P.Eng.) gave an eye-opening talk entitled "A Different Look at Climate Change: Human-Enhanced Water Evaporation". For the speaker's biography and a summary of this presentation, see page 2 of [the AGM flyer](#).

The business meeting portion of the AGM was attended by 49 members and 8 guests. ACPA President Roger Cowles reported on the successful activities of the past year, including our part in staging an Oilfield Chemicals Workshop and in obtaining environmental sign-off rights for qualified ACPA members. Treasurer Paul Kucharczyk reported that our financial situation is healthy, which will enable the ACPA to consider new initiatives in the coming year. Registrar Trent Parks reported that ACPA membership has increased to 345 members in good standing as of May 6, 2009.

The results of the Board election were announced: Tim Blackmore, Maurice Chevalier, Darren Crichton and Eugene Dakin were all



Frank Bachelor presents the Frank Bachelor Award for 2009 to Ken Schmidt.

### Quick Links...

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elected to the ACPA Board of Directors for three-year terms.

Bob Taylor reported on the progress made by the ACPA Legislative Committee in drafting new legislation to govern chemistry professionals in Alberta. Ken Schmidt then discussed the activities of the [National Advisory Committee on the Profession of Chemistry in Canada](#) (NACPCC), which is working towards establishing "right to practice" authority for chemists across Canada in the context of the national [Agreement on Internal Trade](#) (AIT). Their first step in this direction will be to establish a course in ethics, scope of practice, safety, intellectual property and other related topics for use by Canadian professional chemist organizations. [See also "NACPCC Memorandum of Understanding" later in this issue. -Ed.]

The 2009 Frank Bachelor Award for Service to the Chemistry Profession was presented to [Ken Schmidt](#), a long-time volunteer and board member for both the ACPA and the CIC in Alberta.

The winner of the \$1000 Arthur Bollo-Kamara Scholarship for 2009 was [David Grewer](#), a fourth-year undergraduate at the University of Alberta.

The AGM concluded with the Chemist's Ring Ceremony, presided over by Roger Cowles. Receiving their rings in person were Bob Taylor, Atosa Kavousian and Adina LaPerle.

The draft minutes of the 2009 AGM are available for viewing [here](#). A vote to approve these minutes will be held at the next AGM.

### ACPA Officers and Board of Directors for 2009-2010

At the AGM in May, Tim Blackmore, Eugene Dakin and Maurice Shevalier were re-elected for three-year terms. Darren Crichton was elected as a new Board member, also for a three-year term. Congratulations to all of you, and Darren, welcome to the board!

At the May 27th board meeting, the following officers were elected for 2009-2010:

- Roger Cowles as President
- Tim Blackmore as Vice President
- Darren Crichton as Treasurer
- Eugene Dakin as Secretary

In July, Paul Kucharczyk informed us that he was moving with his employer to the States, and he has stepped down from the Board.

Paul, we wish you well and thank you for your work as treasurer for the association over the last three years. Following our by-laws, the Board has appointed Atosa Kavousian to fill the remainder of Paul's term (until June 2011). Welcome Atosa!

-- Roger Cowles, P.Chem.

[The full list of ACPA officers and Board members for 2009-2011 is posted on the [Board of Directors](#) page on the ACPA website. The members of the various ACPA committees are listed on the [Committees](#) page. -Ed.]

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### **Memorandum of Understanding Between Canada's Professional Chemist Organizations**

A meeting of the provincial and national chemistry associations took place at the CSC2009 conference in Hamilton (May 2009). A [Memorandum of Understanding](#) was signed by representatives of the [ACPA](#), [ACPBC](#), [ACPO](#), [CSC](#), Saskatchewan chemists, Manitoba chemists, [NACPCC](#), [NSCS](#) and [OCQ](#). This MOU outlined the intent of the provincial associations to work together to meet the requirements for the interprovincial transfer of professional qualifications outlined in the [Agreement on Internal Trade \(AIT\) endorsed by the First Ministers in January 2009](#).

The MOU was ratified by the ACPA board of directors during the Board meeting of July 8, 2009.

-- Kathy Janzen, P.Chem.

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### **ACPA Student Liaisons at the U of A and the U of C**

Last fall, the ACPA introduced a new student liaison program. The Chemistry Students Association of the University of Alberta and the Chemistry Student's Chapter of the University of Calgary were contacted, and each group was asked to identify an individual to act as a liaison between the chemistry students and the ACPA Board of Directors. These student liaisons have direct access to the members of the Board, attend the in-person Board meetings, and receive copies of the minutes of teleconferenced Board meetings and other announcements.

The purpose of this initiative was to increase student awareness of the ACPA and to provide convenient points of access to the Board for student questions. The liaisons also allow students to provide input to the ACPA on issues such as qualifications, ethics exams, Right to Title, and Right to Practice. These issues may significantly affect the future careers of students in chemistry.

We were happy to welcome David Grewer of the U of A and Suzanne Black of the U of C as our first student liaisons last year, and we are pleased to be working with them again this coming winter.

-- Kathy Janzen, P.Chem.

### **ACPA Professional Chemists Award Winner at the Calgary Youth Science Fair**

The winner of the 2009 ACPA Professional Chemists Award at the Calgary Youth Science Fair was Reed Demofsky of the Calgary Science School. His project was entitled "Fuel for the Future." Presenting the award was past ACPA Board member Chris Swyngedouw, P.Chem.



If you are involved in a science fair in your region and if you think an ACPA chemistry award should be presented there as well, please contact the ACPA Awards Committee via [Stan Backs](#), P.Chem.

### **Notices and Acknowledgements**

#### **Environmental Site Assessment Repository**

Alberta Environment has recently released the [Environmental Site Assessment Repository \(ESAR\) web application](#). ESAR is an online, searchable database that provides scientific and technical information about the quality of soil and groundwater on assessed sites throughout Alberta. Land developers, realtors, environmental consultants, municipalities and other stakeholders can now access files freely that were formerly available only through a Freedom of Information request. This system will provide more information and decision-making capability in the hands of the individuals and companies involved in land transactions and land development. Questions or comments on the system can be directed to [ESAR-Support@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ESAR-Support@gov.ab.ca).

#### **2011: The International Year of Chemistry**

The International Year of Chemistry (IYC) 2011 will celebrate the achievements of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humankind. The IYC 2011 will be a year-long celebration in which

anyone can participate. You can coordinate an activity, engage in a project, or simply share an idea. Join in now and become part of something special. Further details are available at [the IYC 2011 website](#). [Submitted by Frances Sutherland, P.Chem.]

#### **Renewing Your P.Chem. Status**

ACPA membership renewal packages will be sent out in November. If you have recently changed your mailing address, please contact [Shauna Prokopchuk](#) immediately to ensure that your renewal package is sent to the correct location. [Submitted by Shauna Prokopchuk, Membership and Communications Coordinator, ACPA.]

#### **Many Thanks...**

The ACPA Board of Directors held an in-person meeting at Red Deer College on October 17. This meeting allowed Board members to get to know one another and to put faces to the voices that we hear in our regular teleconference meetings. We would like to thank Alan Racey for making the arrangements and Red Deer College for allowing us the use of a meeting room.

-- Roger Cowles, P.Chem.

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#### **Job Postings**

Job advertisements are posted on the ACPA website for a three-month period and are e-mailed to the membership. There is a \$100 fee for this service, but this fee will be waived for job advertisements submitted by ACPA members in good standing (Professional Chemists or Chemists-in-Training) on behalf of their organizations. Ads may be e-mailed directly to the [ACPA office](#). Current job postings are listed in the [Careers page](#) on the [ACPA website](#).

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