



**Canadian Geotechnical Society**  
**Société canadienne de géotechnique**

**Section Report** (when completing report, please use 'Arial Narrow 12 size font')  
2015 Annual Report

**July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015**

**Section 1: General**

Name of CGS Section: St. John's  
Date of report: June 22, 2015  
Prepared by: Sylvia Bryson  
Section Director: Sylvia Bryson  
End of Term: December 31, 2017  
CGS website address: [http://www.cgs.ca/section\\_newfoundland.php](http://www.cgs.ca/section_newfoundland.php)  
Last time your Section's CGS website was updated: March 2014  
If the Section has a separate website please provide address: n/a  
Is there a link to the CGS website?: n/a

**Section 2: Current Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or universities) – what should be published on the CGS website**

Chair: Sylvia Bryson, P.Eng.  
Past Chair: Janet Williams, P.Eng.  
Vice Chair:  
Secretary:  
Add others (as necessary): Ken Chi (Treasurer)

**Section 3: Number of Section Members**

Executive members: Sylvia Bryson (Chair) Ken Chi (Treasurer)  
Total members (if possible, student and non-student members): ~70  
Total CGS members (if possible student and non-student members): unknown  
Comments (point form)

- Inherited email list from former Chair – difficulty to date to elicit response/participation from majority of those contacts
-

**Section 4. Finances**

Balance (as of June 30, 2015): \$ 250.00  
Does your Section charge its members an annual fee? no  
If so, how much? n/a  
Is your Section aware that CGS financial assistance is available to Sections (Admin Manual App 4)? yes  
Is your Section aware of the CGS Lecture Supplement Program (Awards Manual Section C-4)? yes  
Is your Section sponsoring a Student/MIT to attend GéoQuébec 2015 (Admin Manual App 12)? yes

**Section 5. Annual Conference / Board of Directors Meeting**

Are you planning to attend the GéoQuébec 2015? yes  
Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to suggest for the BOD meeting agenda?

- 
-

| <b>Section 6. Activities</b> |                                      |   |                   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Date</b>                  | <b>Speaker/Other</b>                 | <b>Topic/Subject</b>  | <b>Attendance</b> |
| Oct 31, 2014                 | Dr. Stig Bernander                   | Dr. Bernander is an international expert on landslides in quick clay. Discussion of potential issues related to quick clay in engineering design and dam safety at Muskrat Falls project. | 36                |
| Nov 14, 2014                 | Dr. Ryan Phillips                    | CCLT – Offshore Foundation Systems  | 21                |
| Feb 2, 2015                  | ISSMGE Webinar (Dr. Peter Robertson) | CPT Testing   | 15                |
| May 14, 2015                 | MUN graduate students                | Various - student paper competition for selection of sponsorship for GéoQuébec 2015   | 12                |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |
|                              |                                      |   |                   |

**Section 7. Additional general information or comments**

In April local geotechnical consultants were contacted seeking sponsorship for our local section. Only 1 response was received, for an amount of \$200. There appears to be reasonable interest in the upcoming CCLT, I plan to use this as a “carrot” to dangle when I follow up with the requests for sponsorship. I believe that in past years the participation has dropped off because of a lack of relevance to their specific work. At this time due to limited funds it’s very challenging to bring in or attract higher profile speakers.

In June I spoke to Sean MacEoin to gather information about the types of events that are successful, how to increase Section revenue, and to increase local participation. I have some ideas to move forward with, will revisit in a few months to evaluate progress.