



AGS Laing Ferguson Distinguished Service Award 2016
Dr. Chris White

I would like to nominate Dr. Chris White for the 2016 AGS Laing Ferguson Distinguished Service Award. Chris has been a force in the geological scene in the Maritime Provinces for over 27 years and is truly worthy of this honour. Almost everyone in the Atlantic Canada geological community knows Chris, he attends all AGS colloquia and has served as a key member of many national and international conference committees including GAC-MAC 2005 in Halifax. He has been a councilor of the AGS for most of the past 17 years, the exception being the three years he spent as vice-president, president and past president. Upon reviewing the criteria for the Laing Ferguson Award, I noted the requirement is exceptional and altruistic contributions to the Atlantic Geoscience Society and/or to foster public appreciation of Atlantic Geoscience over a long period of time. Chris exemplifies these criteria. Though Chris has served the community in many ways I feel that one of his most important contributions has been his service with the journal *Atlantic Geology*. He has served the Society not only in office, but also behind the scenes as the Production Manager for the journal, *Atlantic Geology* since 2006, where he handles every submission and also does copy-editing etc. He was also the driver behind the most recent edition of the Nova Scotia Highway Map, and was the chair of the Technical Program Committee at the Halifax GAC-MAC conference where he was also co-leader of a field trip. He has led or co-led numerous other field trips throughout the region. This very wide portfolio of service has benefited many researchers at all levels in Atlantic Canada and beyond.

Chris has quietly developed and promoted the advancement of geoscience in the Atlantic region for many years. As senior provincial geologist at the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, he has directed and personally completed the mapping of an immense area of Nova Scotia. His field research and contribution to the understanding of geology in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick has been described as exceptional. This work has provided a diverse group of stakeholders (researchers, companies, students, the public) with an invaluable resource and has done much to expose those outside of the Maritimes to our complex geology. Chris was also recently appointed as the AGS representative on Canadian Federation of Earth Science (CFES). The CFES is a conduit for the dissemination of the contributions of Earth Science to Canadian society and economy. It makes perfect sense that Chris is the AGS representative; this is the kind of

service work that he does so very well. Chris is also a selfless promoter of the high quality students studying at our universities, and has personally employed many of them summer by summer in his field work. His legacy as student mentor alone is probably worthy of his nomination for an award.

For almost two decades, Chris has maintained a remarkable level of activity behind the scenes in the promotion of the science and benefits of this area. He very much deserves this award.

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