



**Association of the
Chemical Profession
of Alberta**

Alberta Chemist

The Newsletter of the ACPA

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This issue of *Alberta Chemist* is longer than usual because it reports on an extraordinarily busy year for the ACPA. A great deal has been accomplished, but much remains to be done. Included here are highlights of our recent Annual General Meeting as well as upcoming changes to fees, registration and renewal procedures, member benefits, and membership categories.

We are also announcing an encore performance of the highly successful ACPA Two-Day Short Course in Scaling Chemistry, which this time will be held in Edmonton on November 2 and 3.

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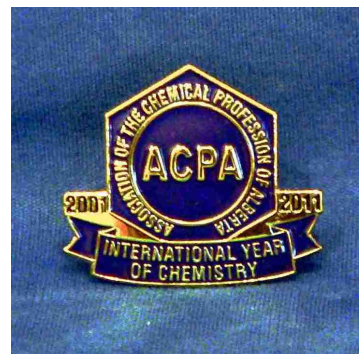
Pin Celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the ACPA and the International Year of Chemistry

The ACPA is celebrating our tenth anniversary as a regulated profession in this province. On December 19, 2001, the Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta gave royal assent to the Professional Chemists Regulation (A.R. 248/2001). After years of work by a long succession of volunteers, the ACPA had finally achieved registration as an association of professionals and exclusive use of the titles "Professional Chemist" and "Chemist in Training" in Alberta.

The United Nations General Assembly has also declared 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) in celebration of the achievements of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humankind.

The ACPA has designed a special lapel pin commemorating both our tenth anniversary and the IYC, and we have been pleased to provide one of these pins to every member of the ACPA. If you have not yet received yours, please contact the [ACPA office](#).

We hope that you like the new pin and that you will wear it with pride.



AGM guest speaker Adrian Pritchard, Director of Professions and Occupations at Alberta Employment and Immigration.

Message from Your President



It has been an exciting and busy year for the ACPA and for chemists in the neighboring provinces. Our fellow chemists in British Columbia were granted exclusive right to the title of Professional Chemist in April of this year. The ACPA is actively working with chemists in Saskatchewan to help them to develop a professional association as well.

For those of you that missed the ACPA AGM in Calgary, the following are some additional highlights. If you are interested in more details, the [minutes of the 2011 AGM](#) are posted on the ACPA website.

Membership

For the first time in the history of the ACPA, we have surpassed the 400-member mark! Although this is great news, the ACPA is still a relatively small professional group. Professional engineers, agrologists and biologists far outnumber professional chemists in Alberta. Furthermore, the provincial government is moving increasingly towards self-regulation for the professions and requiring professional sign-off for a growing list of tasks. Chemists need to stand up and claim their rightful place in the professional landscape in Alberta before others fill the spaces (and the jobs) that require chemical knowledge as well as professional qualifications.

Does your employer specify a preference for Professional Chemists in job ads?

Does your employer know that the P.Chem. title not only guarantees a specified level of education and work experience but also requires ethical and professional behaviour from those who have this title?

Do you know chemists who should really become members of the ACPA?

I challenge all of you to talk to your employers and your colleagues about the ACPA. Help to increase our membership to at least 500 by our Annual General Meeting in 2012.

Chemical Technologists

The ACPA took an important step in its growth as a professional organization by adding a new non-regulated category of membership, that of Chemical Technologist. Establishing this membership category will allow the formation of a core group of technologists who will work within the ACPA towards obtaining regulated status as Registered Chemical Technologists (RCTs). This step has been requested by the Alberta government and will progress in consultation with government officials.

Executive Director

The ACPA has long since grown past the point where it could function as a purely volunteer organization. ManageWise Inc. has been contracted to provide administrative services to ACPA for over six years. Now we are adding a part-time Executive Director as well. A competition for this Edmonton-area position will take place this fall. A former long-time board member, Stan Backs, has agreed to serve temporarily as Executive Director until the position is officially filled.

Website

We have hired a professional web developer to redesign the ACPA website. The new website will be launched later this summer and will allow you to pay your fees, register for courses and submit PDC information conveniently online. A members-only chat page will allow confidential discussions of common chemistry problems and may also be used to distribute confidential posts from the RCMP (e.g., regarding chemical used for illicit drug production).

A special thanks goes to Eugene Dakin for an outstanding job he has done designing and maintaining our current website for a number of years. The hard work he has done and the considerable volunteer time he has spent on behalf the ACPA are greatly appreciated.

Annual Fees

Annual fees for Professional Chemists have remained constant for many years, but we cannot manage our increased costs and provide increased member services without additional funding. Our P.Chem. membership fee for 2012 has therefore been increased to \$195. The new fee is still considerably lower than the fees of other professional associations in Alberta. While we are doing everything we can to keep costs down, the best way to avoid additional future increases will be to increase our membership base.

Membership Benefits - Insurance

We are processing the final paperwork that will provide ACPA members with group rates for home and auto insurance under TD Meloche Monnex. This new benefit will allow us to enjoy the same preferential insurance rates that are already available to members of APEGGA and other professional organizations in Alberta.

We are also working with our national counterparts to provide chemists with affordable group rates for errors and omissions insurance. Commercial general liability and pollution insurance will also be offered. Watch for further announcements on insurance developments this fall.

National Action Committee on the Profession of Chemistry in Canada

Nationwide standards for chemical professionals will benefit ACPA members who wish to practice elsewhere in Canada. The National Action Committee on the Profession of Chemistry in Canada (NACPCC) is working on a nation-wide definition of the scope of practice for chemists as well as standardized practices for professional chemist organizations, including membership criteria, codes of ethics and discipline procedures.

A course and an exam on ethics for chemists are being developed by ACPA together with members of the NACPCC for presentation at the 2012 CSC national conference in Calgary. After the ethics course and exam are in place, we will develop courses and exams in other areas of professional practice, including quality assurance, laws and regulations, and legal liability.

Courses and Seminars

Congratulations and a huge thank-you go out to our Technical Seminar Committee and the volunteer speakers for a very successful short course on Scaling Chemistry. The \$18,000 surplus generated by this course will help to pay many of our new expenses this year and has allowed us to keep the fee increase low. A repeat of this course is being offered in Edmonton in November.

The Committee is also working to organize a new ACPA course on flow assurance for pipelines and other industrial infrastructure.

PRO6

The PRO6 is a group of six professional associations in Alberta that have members working in the environmental services industry. The PRO6 comprises APEGGA (engineers and geoscientists), AIA (agrologists), CAPF (foresters), CAPFT (forestry technologists), ASPB (biologists) and ACPA (chemists). Executives and Directors of this group have been meeting and communicating regularly to foster cooperation and to deal with common issues, particularly with respect to environmental work and scopes of practice. The ACPA is the smallest of the six, but we have been greatly encouraged by the respect they have shown our association and by their generous offers of support.

Outreach to Academics

I have travelled to the U of L and the U of C and met with the Chemistry Department Chairs, faculty members and students. The reception in both cases was quite encouraging, and we hope to expand these links and begin to work as a team. A similar meeting is being planned for the U of A.

Outreach to Students

ACPA Student Liaison programs at the U of C and U of A were successfully extended to the University of Lethbridge this year. In addition, every student graduating from a CSC-accredited chemistry program at each of the three universities was presented with a gift of an attractive ACPA-branded flash drive loaded with [A Guide to the ACPA for Chemistry Students](#) and ACPA application forms.

Finally, I wish to personally thank all the volunteers and friends of the ACPA who continue to contribute so much to the progress of our organization. We will not succeed without you.

Kathy Janzen
President, ACPA

ACPA Directors and Officers for 2011-2012

President: Kathy Janzen (JAJB Innovations, St. Albert)
Vice-President: Tim Blackmore (Omnicon Consultants, Edmonton)
President-Elect: Chris Swyngedouw (Exova, Calgary)
Registrar: Trent Parks (City of Calgary)
Secretary: Eugene Dakin (M-I SWACO, Edmonton)
Treasurer: Darren Crichton (Exova, Edmonton)
Director: Sally Hanearin (WorleyParsons Canada, Calgary)
Director: Shane Harnish (EPCOR Water Services, Edmonton)
Director: Patrick Kalita (Pembina Area Landfill, Drayton Valley)
Director: Atosa Kavousian (Fekete Associates, Calgary)
Director: Julius Pretorius (Alberta Innovates, Edmonton)
Director: Maurice Shevalier (University of Calgary)
Director: Frances Sutherland (NAIT, Edmonton)
Public Member: Edith Cook (Syncrude Canada, Calgary)

The results of the 2011 election of four members to the ACPA Board of Directors were announced at the AGM. Shane Harnish, Patrick Kalita, Atosa Kavousian and Chris Swyngedouw will each serve three-year terms

as Directors. (The Board has since elected the officers of the ACPA as well.) Many thanks were expressed to retiring Director John Banks, who had served on the Board since 2005.

The new positions of President-Elect and Past President have now been established by the Board. The position of Vice-President will be retired in 2012, and the position of Past President will remain vacant until then. Starting next year, the former President will become Past President and the President-Elect will advance to President after each Board election. The new President-Elect will benefit from a year of mentorship before becoming President, the busy post of President will become just a single-year commitment, and the Past President will be available to pass along institutional knowledge and to assist the President as needed. This system works well for many other professional organizations, particularly those that have an Executive Director and office staff to manage day-to-day operations.

The Public Member of the Board is non-member of the ACPA appointed by the Minister of Employment and Immigration (from a list provided by the ACPA). We may soon be required to increase the number of Public Members on our Board. If you know of a member of the public who would be interested in serving on our Board and who could bring useful skills and perspective to the ACPA, please let us know through the [ACPA office](#).

ACPA Frank W. Bachelor Award for 2011

The winner of the 2011 Frank W. Bachelor Award for Service to the Chemical Profession was Dr. Roger Cowles, who has served the ACPA and the CIC unstintingly in a great many volunteer capacities for decades, culminating in his four terms as ACPA President from 2006 to 2010.



Roger Cowles and Frank Bachelor.

The recipients of this award receive a plaque and complimentary membership for life, subject to the recipient's continued qualification for

Profession Chemist status. The award is named in honour of Frank Bachelor, Ph.D., P.Chem., who was a founding member of the ACPA, its first president, and a member of the Board of Directors for 12 years.

ACPA Scholarship Winners for 2011

The **ACPA Undergraduate Scholarship in Chemistry** was awarded to Breanne Kamenz (U. of Lethbridge). This scholarship requires both academic excellence in chemistry and dedicated service to the chemical profession.



Breanne Kamenz and ACPA Awards Committee member Sally Hanearin.

The **Arthur Bollo-Kamara Graduate Scholarship in Chemistry** went to Lydia Chen (U. of Alberta). The winners of this scholarship must display academic excellence in chemistry, service to the chemical profession, service to the community and achievement in the arts or cultural activities.



Lydia Chen and ACPA Awards Committee member Sally Hanearin.

The Awards Committee found both students to be exceptional candidates for their respective awards.

The graduate scholarship was named in memory of Dr. Arthur Bollo-Kamara, a former ACPA President who was instrumental in helping the ACPA become a full-fledged professional association. He was also a dedicated community volunteer and an accomplished musician.

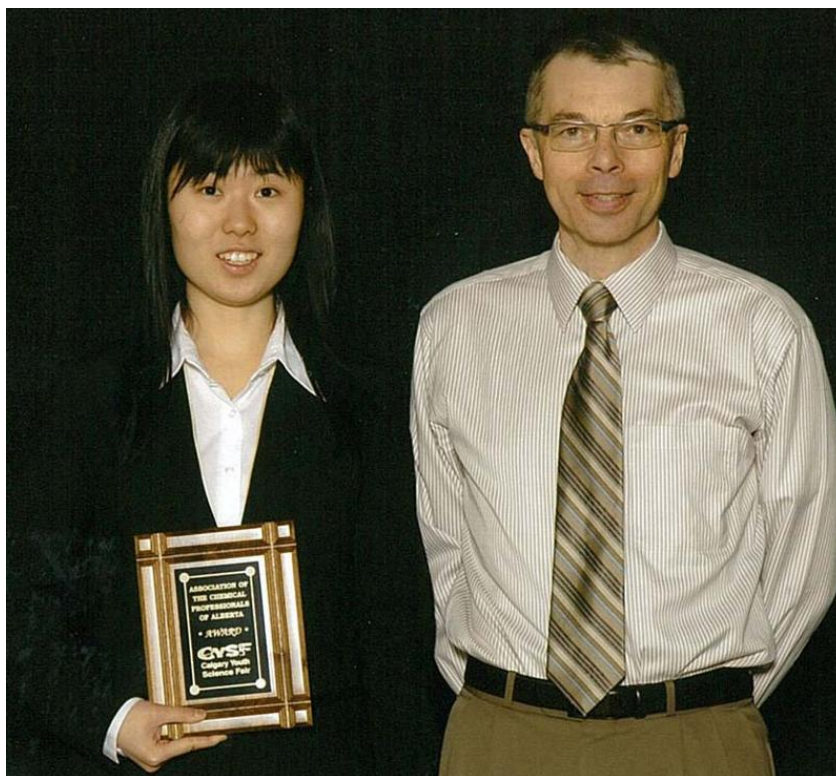
ACPA Science Fair Winners for 2011

Each year, the ACPA presents two awards in chemistry at both the Edmonton Regional Science Fair (ERSF) and the Calgary Youth Science Fair (CYSF).

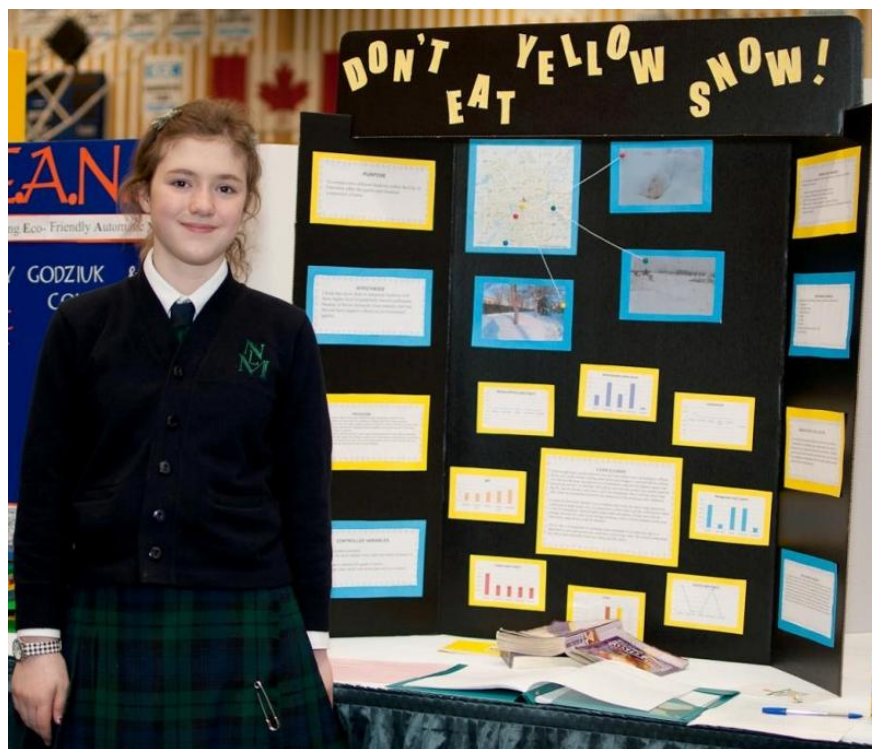
The Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta Award went to Eric Xu and Ashlee Yang (Old Scona School, "Design of Carbon Nanotubes for Gene Delivery") in Edmonton and to Chang Su and Rose Sun (Western Canada High School, "Effect of pH on P75NTR") in Calgary. In Edmonton, an Honorable Mention went to Zoe Quinn (Oliver School, "Don't Eat Yellow Snow").



Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta Award winners
Ashlee Yang and Eric Xu with presenter Kathy Janzen.

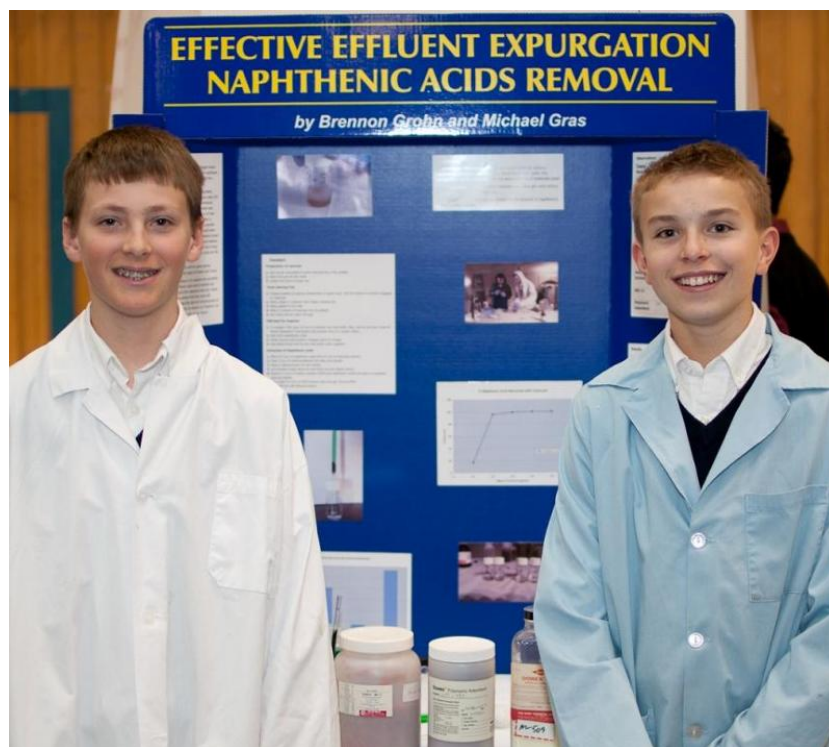


Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta Award winner
(Chang Su or Rose Sun) with presenter Chris Swyngedouw.



Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta Award
Honourable Mention: Zoe Quinn.

The ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award in Chemistry went to Michael Gras and Brennon Grohn (Aurora Charter School, "Effective Effluent Expurgation - Naphthenic Acids") in Edmonton and to Anna Svikhnushin and Madeline Blondal (Branton Junior High, "Que «savons» - nous à propos le pH?") in Calgary. In Edmonton, an Honorable Mention went to Helena Mills and Kathleen Keohane (Oliver School, "What's Really in your Watershed?").



ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award in Chemistry winners
Brennon Grohn and Michael Gras.



ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award in Chemistry winners Anna Svikhnushin and Madeline Blondal (with unknown presenter).



ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award in Chemistry Honourable Mention: Kathleen Keohane and Helena Mills with presenter Kathy Janzen.

The Rick Dillen award is administered by the ACPA but is sponsored by the [Canadian Crude Quality Technical Association](#) in memory of an exemplary member of their Board.

ACPA Short Course on the Chemistry of Scaling

Last March, the ACPA ran a highly successful two-day short course in Calgary on the chemistry of scaling (the formation of mineral deposits on the interior surfaces of pipes, boilers and similar industrial equipment). At least one participant thought it was the best short course he had ever attended.



A session in the ACPA Short Course on Scaling in Calgary.

By popular demand, this course is being repeated in Edmonton on November 2 and 3, 2011.

As before, the course will provide the following:

- In-depth coverage of the chemistry of scale formation, including the relevant kinetics and thermodynamics;
- Introductions to software programs used for calculating scaling indices;
- Presentations on the chemical analysis of scales, the dissolution of scales, and the chemistry of scale inhibitors.

[A brochure on this course](#) is posted on the ACPA website. This brochure contains details of the location, the schedule, the speakers, the content and the fees. [The registration form](#) is also posted. If your company wishes to increase its visibility among the participants of this course, [sponsorship opportunities](#) are also available.

Alberta Government Websites about Chemists

The Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) provides information for career planning, post-secondary education and training, educational funding, job search, labour market trends, and workplace issues in Alberta.

Two of the ALIS web pages deal with chemists and the chemistry profession: one presents an extensive [occupational profile of chemists](#) and the other provides [certification and registration requirements for employment in Alberta](#), which involve the ACPA and the P.Chem. title.

Job Postings

Job postings are listed in the [Careers page](#) on the [ACPA website](#). Please check this web page regularly for new postings that may have tight application deadlines. Current job postings include the following:

- (1) [Senior Lab Technician](#) - Canadian Energy Services (Calgary). Application dates: 25 July 2011 to 25 October 2011.
- (2) [Certified Industrial Hygienist / Registered Occupational Hygienist](#) - Golder Associates (Edmonton). Application dates: 25 July 2011 to 25 October 2011.
- (3) [Manager of Analytical Chemistry Services](#) - University of Northern British Columbia (Prince George, B.C.). Application dates: until position is filled.

Job advertisements are posted on the ACPA website for a three-month period. A \$100 fee is charged for this service, but this fee will be waived for 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](#).

This issue of *Alberta Chemist* was edited by Stan J. Backs, P.Chem. (www.synchrocomm.ca). The content of this newsletter is provided only as an information service to members. Inclusion of any information does not represent official positions, opinions or support of the editor, the Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta (ACPA), or its Officers, Directors, or staff members. The information is collected from a variety of sources and is circulated to the membership as information only. The editor and the ACPA do not guarantee that all submissions will be circulated and are not responsible for the accuracy of any information provided.

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