As we celebrate the 90th anniversary of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society, it is fitting to say that our organization has grown in leaps and bounds to become the leading voice in advancing geographic knowledge and exploration in Canada. The Society’s work has grown from a small group of enthusiasts into a global force, with members and supporters across the globe.

Research Grants

The Research Grants Committee received 31 grant proposals in 2019. Of these, 21 grants were awarded in support of travel to allow students and younger researchers to further their studies. The recipient of the James Maxwell Humanitarian Geographical Scholarship was Miranda Monosky, an undergraduate student at the University of Victoria.

Expeditions

Of the 21 expedition applications reviewed in May, the Committee decided to fund the following three expeditions:

- **Mephit Man** - This expedition to Antarctica will focus on investigating the impact of climate change on the Weddell Sea ecosystem. The team will conduct research on the distribution and abundance of marine mammals and seabirds, and collect data on the physical and biological environment.

- **Geography of the Arctic** - This expedition aims to explore the Arctic region and its surrounding areas, focusing on the impact of climate change on the environment and the local communities.

- **Humanitarian Geographical Scholarship** - This scholarship will support a student to conduct research on the geography of a humanitarian project, building on the Society’s commitment to promoting and raising awareness of the importance of geography in the context of humanitarian aid.

The expeditions program provides a unique opportunity for students and young researchers to develop their skills and knowledge, and to contribute to the advancement of geographic knowledge.

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee met on Oct. 9, 2019, to finalize the list of candidates to be presented to the Annual General Meeting of Governors for election. The committee considered the qualifications and contributions of each candidate and recommended for election:

- **Resolute Park, on an RCGS flagged expedition. And the first time in the history of the RCGS that a Canadian expedition has been in the Amazonian rainforest.**

- **The expeditions program provided assistance to no less than 14 major Canadian paddling, climbing, caving, and skiing expeditions.**

- **The expeditions program supported the following activities:**
  - **Adventures in the Amazon**
  - **Ellesmere Island**
  - **Resolute Park**

- **The expeditions program also supported the following activities:**
  - **A major scientific expedition to Antarctica**
  - **A major geological expedition to the Canadian Arctic**

- **The expeditions program also supported the following activities:**
  - **A major archaeological expedition to the Canadian Pacific**
  - **A major environmental expedition to the Canadian Rockies**

For more information on our expeditions program and the expeditions themselves, please visit our website at rcs.org/expeditions.

Other significant projects include the 10,863 km annual plastic pickup campaign, the ongoing 10,000 Changes plastic waste reduction campaign, and the ongoing 73 Criteria for Canada’s Physical and Human Geography. The Society is committed to promoting the importance of geographic literacy in Canada and the world, and to the fact that the Board of Governors has decided to endow the Bertram W. Rushton scholarship fund, which supports the publication of Canadian Geographical Journal.

In addition, the Society has launched the Bertram W. Rushton Scholarship Fund, which supports the publication of Canadian Geographical Journal. The fund is managed by the Society’s Board of Governors, and it is open to all Canadian residents.

The Board of Governors, under the leadership of John Geiger, President, and the support of the Policy and Planning Committee, has decided to endow the Bertram W. Rushton scholarship fund, which supports the publication of Canadian Geographical Journal. The fund is managed by the Society’s Board of Governors, and it is open to all Canadian residents.

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CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC ENTERPRISES

The Society continues to forge strategic partnerships with organizations that share similar values and work to build stronger Canadian ties to the North and to the world.

To that end, the RCGS worked closely with One Ocean Expeditions, the Royal Canadian Mint and the Canadian Mountain Hall of Fame, an organization dedicated to the recognition and promotion of excellence in Canadian mountain sports. The partnership with Can Geo Enterprises allowed them to expand their geographic knowledge and led to the development of new educational programs.

The RCGS also established a new partnership with the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) to offer educational programs, including the Canadian Space Museum. RCGS and WestJet are also working together to create an educational resource that will help students understand the importance of space exploration.

The RCGS worked with the Canadian Heritage (Canada 150) to develop an educational program that highlighted the work of IDRC (International Development Research Centre). The program produced a series of 12 blogs and accompanying learning activities. The partnership also included a special pull-out map accompanying the article and quiz in the September/October 2018 issue of the magazine.

In addition to these key partnerships, the RCGS continues to work collaboratively with a number of other organizations that share similar values and goals. This includes the Royal Canadian Mint, which recently launched a new product line featuring Canadian geography. The partnership with the Mint allowed the RCGS to expand its reach and offer new educational opportunities.

The RCGS also continues to work closely with the Canadian Heritage (Canada 150) to develop educational programs that highlight the important work the agency is doing to support learning in Canada. Through these partnerships, the RCGS is able to offer a wide range of educational resources and programs that are designed to help students better understand and appreciate the diversity of Canada's geography and culture.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

TRAVEL PARTNERSHIPS

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION

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