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For Immediate Release

Alberta Geologist, Gordon Williams, P.Geol., first recipient of new Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award.

The Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (“CCPG”) is pleased to announce the initiation of its first ever award for professional merit - The Canadian Professional Geoscientists Award; and to announce its first recipient – Dr. Gordon Williams, P.Geol.

The Canadian Professional Geoscientists Award - the first award to be given at a national level in Canada that specifically recognizes the achievements of an individual in their capacity as a registered Professional Geoscientist, was established recently by CCPG to recognize outstanding contributions to the development and practice of professional geoscience by an individual who advances public recognition of the profession in Canada.

To be eligible for the award a nominee must meet a number of specified criteria, which include: a solid career as a professional geoscientist, and an outstanding record of voluntary service to the community, and service to one of the provincial or territorial professional associations which regulate geoscience in Canada or to CCPG.

The Award, which consists of a labradorite marble sculpture made by a Canadian artist, is given to a person in mid-to-late career.

CCPG’s 2006 Canadian Professional Geoscientists Award recipient – Gordon Williams P.Geol., has not only a long and outstanding career as a professional geoscientist, but he also has served as a tireless and dedicated volunteer to both the Association of Professional, Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (“APEGGA”) and CCPG

As the first student to receive a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Alberta in 1960, Gordon went on to a broad and varied career in both academia and in the energy sector, where his many geoscience community involvements included serving as President of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists.

At APEGGA, Gordon served on Council for two terms. He served 10 years on that Association’s Board of Examiners, 6 years on its Practice Review Board and 4 years on its Discipline Committee. For his contributions to APEGGA, Gordon received the L.C. Charlesworth Professional Award in 1997.

Not satisfied at the local level, he then went on the national stage. For the best part of 10 years Gordon was a key member of the pan-Canadian group of professional geoscientists who saw the formation of the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists in 1996. Gordon served as its President for 3 terms, 1997-1999 (as its first and founding President) and again in 2003-2004. During that time CCPG was a volunteer run entity and had no staff structure.

Speaking at the recent award presentation ceremony, President of CCPG Brenda Wright, P. Geol., said “Gordon contributed a huge amount of his time to CCPG, he provided leadership



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and above all he ensured continuity during those critical early years. In fact Gordon was so involved with so much at CCPG for so long that he *is* the corporate memory of CCPG. Our new CEO Oliver Bonham, P. Geo., who just recently came on board as CCPG's first ever staff officer, has been benefiting greatly from Gordon's solid foundation of work and his extensive historic knowledge of CCPG."

The citation on the 2006 award, which was presented to Gordon at a recent event in Calgary, reads as follows: - *Presented to Gordon Williams, P.Geol., in recognition of outstanding volunteerism and dedicated leadership during the formative years of CCPG.*

Nominations for this new award are considered annually, although the award will not necessarily be presented each year. Further details on the award criteria and nominations process can be obtained from the CCPG website at www.ccpq.ca.

The mission of CCPG is to develop consistent high standards for licensure and practice of geoscience, to facilitate national and international professional mobility, and to promote recognition of Canadian geoscientists.

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