



FOUNDED 1937

THE WALKER MINERALOGICAL CLUB

100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2C6

www.walkermineralogicalclub.org

[@Walker Minerals](#)

Volume 115, No. 8, October, 2014

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NEXT MEETING

November 12, 2014, 8:00pm (PLEASE NOTE!)

Please arrive around 7:45 pm if possible

University of Toronto, Earth Sciences Centre

22 Russell Street, Room 2093

The ROM's Earth and Space Laboratory

Brendt C. Hyde, Research Technician

Royal Ontario Museum

The ROM has recently upgraded its laboratories in the Centre of Earth and Space through the help of donors, including the Walker Club. This talk will show the transition from "old" to "new", describing the new X-ray diffraction and Raman spectroscopy equipment

The ROM has made significant contributions to mineralogy and our knowledge of the Earth and our Solar System. This talk will also discuss some of the great discoveries of the past and current research occurring in the Centre of Earth and Space. The story of how our planet and the Solar System formed and evolved is written in the minerals we all love. This talk will show how the ROM is trying to help unravel this exciting story.

Brendt C. Hyde

Brendt has worked as a mineralogy research technician at the ROM since 2010. His primary role is to keep the laboratories in Earth and Space up and running and help Kim Tait (Research Chair) meet her research goals. Brendt has had a long time interest in space and has developed an appreciation for the instruments used to analyze minerals and rocks. His interests have taken him into the world of meteoritics where he has begun studying melting processes in the early Solar System. This type of research gives us a better understanding of how asteroids and planets formed.

Dinner with the Speaker

Please consider joining fellow club members and our featured speaker for “Dinner with the Speaker” before each club meeting. It is the custom of the Walker Club to treat our speakers to a nice supper, plus fun and interesting conversation with a smattering of our membership before they give their presentation. Normally we meet at the Duke of York pub, Bedford and Prince Arthur (across Bloor from the ROM) at 6:00pm. All are welcome!

Looking Back

By R. Hudyma

It was with some anticipation that I looked forward to the talk by David Palmer, CEO and Chief Geologist of Probe Resources, since I had spent several months in the same part of Ontario prospecting the nearby Swayze gold belt many years ago. I was intrigued with the nature of this deposit and how it differed from the other great deposits in Ontario. I was also surprised by the relatively high attendance at this meeting compared to meetings in the past in which a sense of apathy could be felt. Over 25 members attended and we were all presented with a fine talk punctuated with good backup slides and very enthusiastic speaker. More on that later!

Gold occurs in three types of deposits; the first is a placer deposit, to which we can “Damn the Glaciers” as the reason placers don’t occur in Ontario. The second is a primary deposit whereby gold is disseminated throughout larger mass of host rock and the third are secondary deposits, usually in quartz veins intruding into a geological facies which, in Ontario, is almost always a greenstone belt comprised of, generally, altered chloritic volcanics and sediments. The deposits of Timmins, Kirkland Lake and Red Lake are comprised of this type of host rock. Hemlo, the largest deposit discovered only some thirty five years ago, and by the way, one of the richest deposits in the Western Hemisphere to date, is of the former nature whereby the gold is found in a quartz seriticized shist as finely disseminated grains.

The Borden Lake deposit is anomalous in this regard as it occurs in a geological facies which was considered void of any mineralization as the host rock underwent a high degree of regional

metamorphism which supposedly “cooked” any metal concentration out of it. Mr Palmer explained that this was not the case and that their new deposit may represent a new approach of prospecting in Ontario and a new geological facies in which future exploration may uncover more deposits of this nature.

The deposit itself consists of a central south east striking and downward plunging core of Temiskaming- aged sediments in a, relatively, unexplored area of the Kapuskasing Structural Zone. Drilling in the zone has indicated a inferred reserve of over 70 million tonnes capable of producing over 2.2 million ounces of gold and is open at depth with a open strike of over 3 km. Partial extraction could be by open pit which would process the aura of the main ore body. It is thought that some gold had migrated to this region due to the regional metamorphism and it explains the low grade(>0.5gpt) albeit massive tonnage which, when you take into account an all-in cost approach, could make the mine quite profitable with a low cost per ounce extraction value.

Mr Palmer, whose enthusiasm reminded me of some of our great mining promoters of the past, combined an experienced background knowledge backed up by many pictures of both the topological features of the deposit including the discovery outcrop as well as plenty of charts and diagrams and mineralized samples as well as some actual hand samples from the deposit. It seems that that his enthusiasm was so contagious that some of the members have, to my knowledge, have bought shares in the company! For more information on this you can check out their website at –Probemines.com. Probe Mines also discovered the large Black Creek Chromite deposit in Ontario’s Ring of Fire mineralized belt in Northwestern region of the province.

It was, in my opinion, one of the better talks we have had recently and I hope that this is the beginning of a trend and that this trend and the resultant enthusiasm, continues to the election of a new council and more informative talks in 2015.

Miller Property Field Trip

By Jim Haase

On October 3, the field trip committee traveled to the Miller Property to assist Keith Miller in the work of further excavating the area available for collecting. Keith brought his excavator and drove south toward the “mica pits” located about 50 meters south of where we thought may have been the end of the vein dykes available to us on the property. We had previously obtained commitments from about 30 people from the Walker and Kawartha clubs to cover the cost of these explorations. We realized that we were taking a risk in this attempt and we hoped that masses of mica and amphibole would not be all we would find.



Ray McDougall with a large fluorapatite crystal

Keith worked his magic (if you’ve ever had to dig any amount of overburden by hand, the excavator WAS MAGIC!) for a good six hours on Friday clearing an area of about 1200 square metres before he blew a hydraulic hose and had

to go into Eganville for a replacement. On Saturday October 4 the thirty collectors arrived, signed the field trip waiver and entered the property to begin the process of exploring the newly revealed diggings. Keith also came and proceeded to drive his machine to dig a pit in the soft soil where several people including Ray McDougall and Bob Beckett opened a trench in a weathered dike that eventually produced many fluorapatite crystals of varying sizes and quality. Other folks attacked many other areas of the now open diggings finding titanite apatite, biotite and feldspar crystals.



Field trip diggers in action!

The folks from the Kawartha Club were particularly excited to explore the newly rediscovered pegmatite to the west of the new diggings and Keith drove a trail over there and opened more of the core of the pegmatite. Don Doell and Robert Montgomery among others proceeded to further clear the top soil from the quartz core to reveal several amazonite crystals embedded in the quartz. A micro-blaster was used, which resulted in amazonite for all! Someone even took home a lovely termination point several inches in width.

This trip made it obvious to all that the Miller Property will endure as an excellent collecting locality for years to come. Everyone seemed very pleased

and willing to further invest in the use of Keith's excavator in the coming years. I would like to thank all those who participated and, hopefully, we'll see you all again at the Miller Property in the seasons to come.

ROM Mineral Identification Night

Have minerals that you need help identifying? Why not consider visiting the ROM's monthly "Mineral Identification Night" that takes place on this last date in 2014:

Dec. 10

For more information on this activity, check out

<https://www.rom.on.ca/en/activities-programs/events-calendar/rock-gem-mineral-fossil-and-meteorite-identification-clinic-0>

Membership Fee Time!

Now is the time to renew your membership for 2015! So please go to the Walker Club website, www.walkermineralogicalclub.org and follow the links to membership. We are all members to pay dues online. The dues for 2015 are the same as 2014; \$30 single, \$40 family, and \$15 youth. Please remember that family memberships include children up to the age of 15 only. If you really must use snail mail and snail banking, a membership form is on the website and included with this newsletter.

2015 Council Nominations



Just a reminder that it is time to volunteer for a role on next year's Council. We have numerous roles available for members to fill. We are looking for members who are dedicated to the success of the club and work well with others, for the following roles:

**President - Vice President -
Corresponding Secretary -
Events Councillor - Field Trip
Councillors**

Last month's article raising questions about the future of the Walker Mineralogical Club has caused a number of members to reflect, and some members are currently considering an executive role on Council. Hooray!

Please note the following, from the Constitution:

"The List of nominees shall be submitted to all members of the Club in writing, before the regular November

meeting [November 12, 2014]. Additional nominations in writing or from the floor will be accepted up to the close of the November meeting. In all cases, the consent of the nominee must be obtained."

Nominations confirmed by November 7th will be emailed to all members by David Joyce. Please send nomination requests to walkermineralogicalclub@gmail.com.

ANNUAL AUCTION

The Annual Auction was a success. Turnout was very good, bidding was a little slow but, in the end, the auctioneers had wrested many thousands of \$



120 items to auction!

from the bidders and potential bidders. After the sums are done, costs accounted for, etc., the final results will be made public, hopefully, in the next newsletter.

Here are a few other images from the auction:



Auctioneers Steve, David and Tony in action.

Most of those in attendance were members of the walker Club but there were other members of the general public that had heard about the auction and decided to attend.



Auctioneer David mesmerizing the gathering with his auctioneer banter. Actually looks like some are sleeping!



Len, Olena and Doug, the financial wizards behind the auction.

Possible New Meeting Venue?

There has been some discussion about the possibility of moving the location of our monthly meetings. The current

location at U. Of T. has served the Walker Mineralogical Club well for many years but it has been suggested that there may be other venues that should be explored that are: more convenient, possible free parking, more parking, less traffic, nicer, etc. Please consider this and offer your thoughts, one way or the other, to council members? That is, unless you volunteer for council duty and the YOU can bring your thoughts to council meetings! 😊

Like us on Facebook

Click here to get reminders of events, photos of past events and other news: <http://on.fb.me/19zzdTx>

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Sorry, don't have one this month! If you find an interesting website to share with other club members, please let D. Joyce know and he'll mention it here.

Newsletter Content

We are always in need of content for this newsletter. If you have news, pictures, upcoming events or short articles that you would like to contribute, please contact David K. Joyce, editor, at dkjoyce@bellnet.ca or 905-836-9073.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

2014 Meetings		
Date	Topic	Speaker
September 10	YTMC short presentations	Various Young People
October 8	Borden Gold deposit, Geology and Exploration of Ontario's Newest (and Most Surprising) Gold Discovery	David Palmer, President & CEO of Probe Mines
November 12	The ROM's Earth and Space Lab	Brendt Hyde
December 10	TBA	

NOTE: MEETING STARTS AT 8.00 PM; please arrive by 7.45 pm.

Nov 8, 2014 Canadian Micro-Minerals Association Fall Workshop
 Burlington Arts and Cultural Centre, 1333 Lakeshore Road, Burlington,
 Contact F. Ruehlicke for details: ruehlicke@rogers.com, 519-880-2716

Jan. 31- Feb14, 2015 Arizona Mineral and Fossil Showcase, Tucson
 City Center Hotel, Tucson, Arizona This is one of the premier Mineral
 Shows that happens at the phenomenon known as “Tucson” each winter.
 Check www.mzexpos.com for more details.

Feb. 12-15, 2015 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show This is the “main
 show” that started many years ago and spawned the phenomenon that is
 “Tucson”, each year. This show is held at the convention center and has the
 largest and most amazing displays, dealers and events. Look at
www.tgms.org for all details .

Apr. 23 -26, 2015 42nd Rochester Mineralogical Symposium The closest
 mineralogical event that happens to the Toronto area, in the USA. Three

days of excellent mineralogical presentations, dealers, an auction, banquet and museum-quality displays. A special area for micro-collectors, as well. Check out <http://www.rasny.org/minsymposium/mineralsymp.htm> for details.

Membership Application or Renewal Form



THE WALKER MINERALOGICAL CLUB Membership Form 2014-15

Please check one: New member Renewal

Name

Address:

Email

Telephone

Home

Cell

Work

Membership Fees

- \$30 Single
- \$40 Family (children up to 15 years old)
- \$15 Youth age 14-18

Amount paid:

\$

Cash

Cheque

Photo waiver: Pictures taken at meetings, field trips and other events may be placed in the newsletter, website, or used in public displays. Please initial here if you do **NOT** want your picture used.

Initial here to indicate no photos of you to be publicly displayed:

CHEQUE ENCLOSED? _____

Payment may be made at any member meeting in cash or by cheque, or by sending your cheque to:

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Toronto ON M4A 2E9