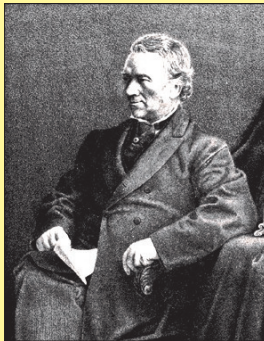


The Nova Scotian Institute of Science (NSIS) is one of the oldest learned societies in Canada. It was founded in 1862 and followed from the Halifax Literary and Scientific Society and the Halifax Mechanics Institute. It was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature in 1890. The Institute has since been a meeting place for those interested in science in Nova Scotia.

Early areas of enquiry included geology, minerals, botany, zoology, meteorology and physical geography. The Institute's founders included doctors, professors, lawyers, engineers, amateur naturalists and military men who were interested in the natural world and in the new areas of scientific study that were emerging in the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were also eager to find new ways to harness the economic potential of natural resources.

Early members include Rev. David Honeyman, geologist & first curator of the Provincial Museum (pictured at right); Edwin Gilpin, Commissioner of Mines for NS; and Dr. Henry How, Professor of Chemistry at Kings College, to name a few.



Since those early years, the Maritimes and Nova Scotia have produced a plethora of prominent scientists and key discoveries. These range from Abraham Gesner, inventor of kerosene, to Willard S. Boyle, who shared the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics for his work in developing the sensor widely used in digital cameras.

Like to learn more about the early years of the society? A brief history of the NSIS by Bruce Fergusson was published in the 1960s and is available online:

<http://hdl.handle.net/10222/13613>

The Nova Scotian Institute of Science will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2012. The Institute:

- Provides a forum to learn about and discuss scientific matters through public lectures and discussions, its peer-reviewed publication *The Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science* and its website
- Draws attention to issues of concern to the scientific community, such as education, government policies and ethical considerations
- Promotes research and education in science by running a Mentorship Program and an annual Science Writing Competition for university students, as well as by giving financial support to Regional Science Fairs
- Presents current and historical material on its website

### Celebrating Canadian Oceanography



The Nova Scotian Institute of Science congratulates the scientists and staff of Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography, a global leader in oceanographic research. The year 2012 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. To commemorate this milestone, a forthcoming book will showcase some of the Institute's achievements in a wide range of disciplines and environments from our coastal and oceanic waters to the high Arctic and many other parts of the world's oceans. Written by scientists, hydrographers, and other specialists, "Voyage of Discovery: Fifty Years of Marine Research at Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography" will be aimed at a large audience interested in our blue planet. Copies will be made available through the publisher, the BIO – Oceans Association ([www.bio-oa.ca](http://www.bio-oa.ca)).

## We invite you to:

- Attend the free NSIS public lecture held at 7:30pm on the first Monday of each month between October and April (see over)
- Read an issue of the *Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science* for current research on topics of relevance to Nova Scotia
- Browse articles in the historical online archive of the *Proceedings of the NSIS*: <http://tinyurl.com/dalspace-nsis-proc>
- Submit an article for peer-reviewed publication in the NSIS *Proceedings*
- Visit the NSIS Virtual Hall of Fame to learn more about influential Nova Scotia scientists: <http://tinyurl.com/nsis-fame>
- Submit an article to the annual NSIS Student Science Writing Competition
- Explore our mentorship program, a great opportunity for future science leaders to shape their careers
- Become a member of the Institute

For further information, visit the NSIS website:

[www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/NSIS/](http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/NSIS/)

or

contact the President of the NSIS:

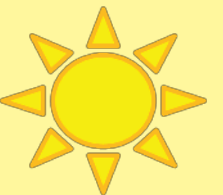
Dr. John Rutherford  
[john.rutherford@dal.ca](mailto:john.rutherford@dal.ca)



Scan this code with your smartphone to visit the NSIS website



## 150 Years of Promoting Science in Nova Scotia



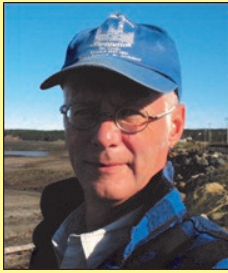
## Free Public Talks

Unless otherwise indicated, all lectures will take place at 7:30pm at the Museum of Natural History auditorium, 1747 Summer St., Halifax.

### Coal Age Galapagos

**October 3, 2011**

Dr. John Calder  
NS Dept. of Natural Resources



For 19th century researchers, the Joggins Fossil Cliffs offered a stunning variety of fossil discoveries, which led to a new understanding of geological and evolutionary principles. This lecture will complement Dr. Calder's new book, *Coal Age Galapagos*, to be published this fall.



### Food, Furs & Feathers: History of Human-induced Changes in Coastal Ecosystems

**November 7, 2011**

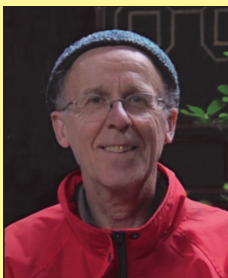
Dr. Heike Lotze  
Dalhousie University

When did people start having a marked impact on the abundance of marine animal populations and the structure of coastal ecosystems? Documented changes from the outer Bay of Fundy will be presented and compared to other regions of the world.

### From Picnic Parks to Systematic Protection of Biodiversity: A Review of the Development of Protected Areas in Nova Scotia

**December 5, 2011**

Dr. Martin Willison  
Dalhousie University

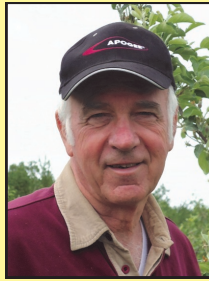


Nova Scotia has taken a variety of approaches to protecting habitat diversity. This lecture will trace the evolution of these approaches and will indicate possible future paths towards comprehensive protection.

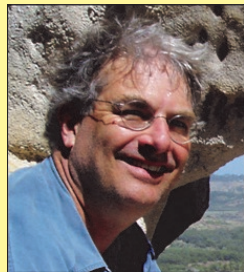
### 100 Years of Research in the Orchard

**January 9, 2012**

Dr. Charlie Embree  
Atlantic Food and Horticulture  
Research Centre, Kentville, NS



Since its peak of export production in the 1930s, the Nova Scotia apple industry has experienced considerable challenges, which has resulted in fluctuating production during the last three decades. This lecture will describe research conducted at the Kentville Centre which solved problems for the local industry as well as for apple-producing areas around the world.



### Burning Rocks: The History of the Petroleum Industry in Canada & the Maritimes

**February 6, 2012**

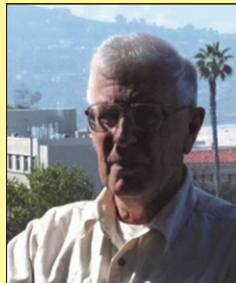
Dr. Grant Wach  
Dalhousie University

From Abram Gesner's discovery of kerosene to Encana's Deep Panuke field, Canada and the Maritimes have led the world in oil and gas exploration and its technology. This lecture will trace its development and the people that have led us along the way.

### Canadian Marine Science from Titanic to BIO

**March 5, 2012**

Dr. Eric Mills  
Dalhousie University



Canadian marine sciences developed most rapidly after the Second World War. These developments included increased research in the Arctic, initiation of graduate studies in oceanography, expanded study of marine geology & geophysics, and the founding of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography.



### A Noble Legacy: The History, Geology, and Future of Gold Mining and Exploration in Nova Scotia

**April 2, 2012**

Dr. Jacob Hanley  
Saint Mary's University

*Note: This event will take place in the Windsor Lecture Theatre, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia*

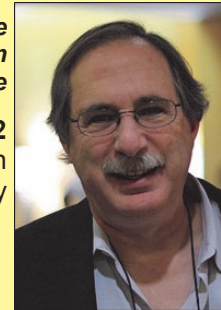
In anticipation of the Gallery's 2012-2013 exhibit on gold in Nova Scotia, this lecture will explore the ways in which this precious metal captured the imagination of prospectors and scientists throughout the province's history.

### Communicating Knowledge to New Audiences: Victorian Popularizers of Science

**May 7, 2012**

Dr. Bernard Lightman  
York University

*Note: This event will take place in Alumni Hall, Univ. of King's College*



During the second half of the nineteenth century, science permeated Victorian Britain's culture and society. The impact of the explosion of books on science for a general audience, of the creation of new science museums and exhibitions, and of non-professional popularizers of science in establishing a "cult of science" will be explored in this lecture.

### Special Events

**Shubenacadie Canal Lecture** - Nov. 2011 TBA  
A talk by Cameron Ells will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first round trip on the canal.

**Reception hosted by Dalhousie Libraries to launch the online *Proceedings of the NSIS***  
January 19, 2012 @ 5:30pm  
Killam Library, 6225 University Ave., Halifax

### NSIS 150th Anniversary Banquet

May 8, 2012

NSIS members and guests will celebrate the society's founding and induct new honourees into the NSIS Hall of Fame.

## Benefits of NSIS Membership

Membership in the Institute is open to anyone with an interest in science. As a member of NSIS you will:

- Receive a copy of the *Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science*, a publication featuring a range of articles of relevance to Nova Scotia.
- Be informed about forthcoming meetings and special events through e-mail bulletins and mailings.
- Enjoy the opportunity of meeting scientists, educators and others whose interests cover a wide range of scientific topics.
- Receive a waiver of page charges, if your scholarly work is published in the *Proceedings*

Membership fees:

Regular member:	\$25/yr
Student member:	\$10/yr
Life member:	\$300

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fees enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish, you can make a voluntary donation to promote the activities of NSIS (tax receipt will be issued): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form with your cheque to:

Elaine McCulloch, Treasurer, NSIS,  
12 Lexington Avenue,  
Fall River, NS B2T 1E7