



# The Pink Dolomite Saddle

Monthly Bulletin of the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society

April & May 2019

[www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/](http://www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/)

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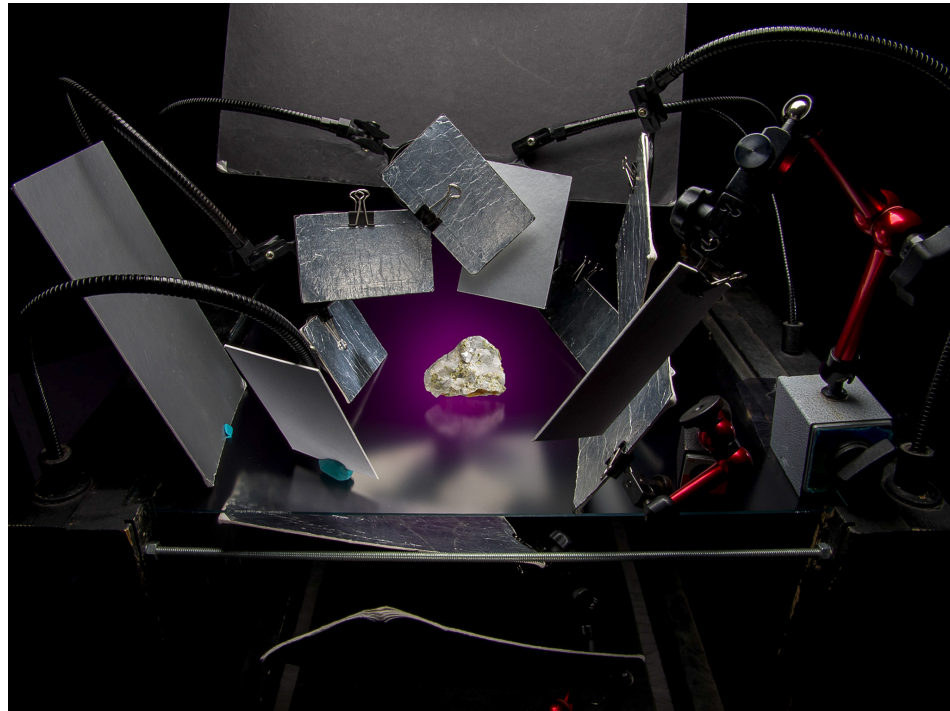
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Michael's set up for photographing minerals. Photo by Michael Bainbridge

## Next Meeting: *Friday April 26, 2019*

**Speaker :** Michael Bainbridge

**Topic:** Mineral Photography, Behind the Lens

**Location:** Brock University

Meetings are *usually* held every third Friday Sept-June at Brock University  
Department of Earth Sciences, Room D-309 at 7:30 PM.

Visit us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1392693367698780/> our Show page is:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/NPGS-Gem-Mineral-Fossil-Show-Sale/549387778513135>



**THE NIAGARA PENINSULA  
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

The **Niagara Peninsula Geological Society** (N.P.G.S.) was established as a non-profit organization in 1962 to promote the study of earth sciences, the hobbies of mineral and fossil collecting, and the lapidary arts.

Our focus is on collecting minerals, fossils, crystals and jewellery making. Collecting trips to quarries and other locations throughout Ontario and the U.S.A. are arranged several times during the year.

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month, September to June, Room D-309, Department of Earth Science, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. Regular meetings begin at 7:30 PM with workshops starting at 7:00 PM. Each meeting usually consists of a discussion on club business followed by a presentation from a guest speaker. Children's workshops are hands-on educational modules about some aspect of earth science and are geared toward junior members ranging in age from 3 to 12.

Each year the N.P.G.S. hosts GEO-VENTURE, our annual gem, mineral and fossil show. The show consists of several regional gem, mineral, or fossil vendors along with N.P.G.S. member displays and demonstrations. The general public is invited to attend GEO-VENTURE to purchase items of interest from the vendors and learn a little bit more about earth science and the hobbies of lapidary arts and mineral and fossil collecting.

**New members and guests are welcome any time.**

Individual memberships are \$15

Family memberships are \$20.

More information about the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society is available at [www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/](http://www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/) Questions or comments are welcomed at [npgs@ccfms.ca](mailto:npgs@ccfms.ca).

**THE PINK DOLOMITE SADDLE BULLETIN**

The Pink Dolomite Saddle is the "official" newsletter of the N.P.G.S. The Saddle is geared toward keeping N.P.G.S. members informed of club

activities, regional events and other items of general interest to the N.P.G.S.

Members are requested to submit articles or reports of interest regarding earth science or the hobbies of lapidary arts and mineral and fossil collecting. **All articles should be submitted to The Editor no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month**

The Pink Dolomite Saddle is published ten times per year and is distributed to members of the N.P.G.S. as part of their annual membership dues. Non-members may receive the Pink Dolomite Saddle on a subscription basis of \$10.00 per year. There is a nominal charge for business advertisements.

Items from this bulletin may be reprinted, unless otherwise stated, providing proper credit is given to both the original author and this publication.



**NPGS Club President Dave Baker**

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

**April/May 2019**

.When will spring show itself? The weather is up and down but I hope it changes soon. The club has so many things on the horizon it would be nice if the weather co-operates.

Coming up we have field trips in April and May, our auction in May and the show and picnic in June. It needs to be spring asap.

I would like to congratulate **Kevin Strooband** on his leadership and innovated award from Humane Canada. This is a national award and it shows Kevin's love of animals. Again, congratulations.

I found the lost minutes from February so they have been included in this bulletin. Other news includes my attempts to get a second classroom for the Kids Club that we would like to have. Brock seems reluctant at the moment. I hope to convince them for the fall.

So, let us all think positive and let us try to get Spring to show itself.

Cheers,  
Dave

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## Michael Bainbridge

*Mineral Photography, Behind the Lens*  
Niagara Peninsula Geological Society – April 26, 2019

### Abstract:

What began as a passion and a hobby is now a full-time career (and then some). Join Michael Bainbridge on a behind-the-scenes tour as he discusses his approach to mineral photography, shares tips and tricks of the trade, and presents iconic favourites and unseen treasures from some of Canada's best public and private collections. Behind every specimen is a story...

### Bio:

Michael Bainbridge began collecting minerals in the Grenville Province at the age of five under the tutelage of Dr. George Robinson. He has co-authored and contributed to numerous mineralogical publications as a photographer, writer, and field-collector. As a consultant to the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization, he has written several interpretive guides on Grenville Province minerals and geology, and curated mineral displays for local museums. He is a freelance photographer, writer, and artist, part-time faculty at the Haliburton School of Art & Design, and frequent guest speaker on topics both geological and photographic. Michael currently has two books in production: The Pinch Collection at the Canadian Museum of Nature, as author and photographer; and The Minerals of Grenville Province, as co-author with Drs. Robinson & Cairenzelli. He is also working closely with authors Robert Gault and Laszlo Horvath as the major photographic contributor for

their upcoming book about the minerals of Mont Saint-Hilaire, and has recently started a jigsaw puzzle company with his wife Brigitte.

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## Beamsville Field Trip 2019

Hello Everyone,

Just a reminder to let you know of the upcoming Field Trip to Beamsville Nelson Aggregates on **Saturday May 4th, 2019** has been confirmed.

Please note **this is a week earlier the previous years** as the CMMA Symposium was moved a week later

Safety Vest (**fluorescent with strips**), Long pants, Safety Boots (steel toed) above the ankle (**preferred 6" + as they provide support when walking on the rock piles**), Safety Glasses and Hard Hat are required for admittance to the Quarry. Gloves are highly recommended Sunscreen and plenty of water as days could be hot and Sunny on the trip. Please do not bring **carpenters hammers** (claw) as they are not designed to break rock.

**All attendees must be a member of a CCFMS affiliated club** to participate at this event for insurance reasons. Membership cards should be available on request. **Also** this Quarry is a working quarry and admittance is restricted to persons **16** years of age and over.

Plan to arrive opposite the gate of the quarry at about 8:30 am for your sign in and your vehicle tag in. We will enter the quarry about 9:00 am after our safety talk. **Please no late arrivals unless requested in advance.**

### **Important Canadian Field Trip Information:**

Laws have changed recently in Canada for Safety vests and clothing. You will need to update to the appropriate styles to gain entry to Canadian quarries. Please see this link for information. I have added a Word document you may print out to take shopping with you.

[https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/gl\\_h\\_vsa.php](https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/gl_h_vsa.php)

Please note we should be wearing Class 2 apparel. Either a vest or T shirt will suffice. Your hard hats must also contain retro-reflective stripes and can be purchased as peel and stick tape at Safety Supply stores.

Beamsville map at following link:  
<http://www.ccfms.ca/Events/Beamsville.html>

Happy hunting.  
See you there,  
**Jim Glen**

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### Fossils of Arkona and Hungry Hollow

**What is a fossil:** A fossil is the preserved evidence of a once-living plant or animal.

During the late Devonian period, most of the land, between the Appalachian Mountains on the East and a stretch of the Rocky Mountains on the west, was covered by an immense, shallow, warm, salt water sea .

Yes, warm water! During this period of time the equator crossed very close to where Arkona Ontario is today.

This warm body of water called the Tiptecanoe Sea was rich in bottom dwelling marine life, various corals, sponges, brachiopods, crinoids, Bryozoan fans, and trilobites - to name a few.

One popular theory states a massive earthquake about 385 million years ago shifted millions of tons of silt and clay down onto the bottom of the sea. This blanketed the sea floor, entombing and preserving everything under hundreds of feet of sediment. Over the next 300 million plus years, this fossil bearing layer was buried even deeper underground.

Eventually the Auasble River cut its way through the clay, shale and limestone layers to once again expose an abundance of amazing fossils. At Hungry Hollow you can find some of the very best Devonian fossils in North America

You can experience and collect many of these fine specimens yourself on the NPGS Field Trip this Spring – **Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**.

While there be sure to stop at the scenic Rock Glen Conservation Area, and visit the Arkona Lions Museum and Information Center.

Over millions of years this salt water sea slowly evaporated leaving salt deposits 100's of feet thick below Lake Huron. The world's largest salt mine is the Sifto Salt Mine located in Goderich Ontario. Over 100 miles of roadways, 1800 feet under Lake Huron this Mine produces 26,000 tons of salt a day.

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### **SPECIAL FEATURE ARTICLE :** **Bigger then the rest:** **Canada's Ancient Giant**

Be wary the old Warrior King, he is old, for a reason.

Imagine a world where there is one rule that governs all, "Eat or be Eaten". Kings who ruled this hell, did so by their abilities. They were not found hiding behind the front lines or from hills of government. Kings were warriors. This is a world where your life expectancy is directly proportional to your ferocity; to your power to defend your territory against other monsters; and to your ability to make fodder of your rivals. Kings were masters of their realm, constantly being challenged, put to the test. So, be wary of the old king, he is old for a reason....and he also happens to be Canadian.

Bare this in mind as I bring you back to 1991. Paleontologists from the University of Alberta discovered the fossilized remains of a *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Discovered in an iron-stained, heavily cemented sandstone lens of the Frenchman Formation (Maastrichtian, Upper Cretaceous) near Eastend, Saskatchewan. Nicknamed "Scotty" in honor of a celebratory bottle of Scotch that was enjoyed when his skeleton was found. The 66 million year old king was discovered 28 years ago, it took until now to release the skeleton from the hard sandstone that entombed it. Once that was completed, the measurements began. It soon became evident that this specimen was far from typical.

Scotty belongs to the Kingdom of *Animalia*, (Animal); Phylum of *Chordata* (having a nerve

cord with a brain at one end); Class of *Archosauria* (hollow teeth, special ankles distinct cranium); Order of *Saurischia* ( lizard hipped) ; Sub-order of *Theropoda* (walks on two feet, a meat-a-saurus); Family of *Tyrannosuroidea* ( predator with small forelimbs); Genus of *Tyrannosaurus* (tyrant lizard); Species of *rex* ( ~~Elvis~~...king). There are about 30 specimens of T-rex in known existence. The biggest, and baddest was a famous one known as "Sue" ...until now!

Scotty is 13(+) meters long. Sue came in at just under 12. Scotty weighed in at almost 8800 kilograms. Sue came in at a dainty 6400 kg. Pound for pound, [sorry kilogram for kilogram just doesn't cut it!], you can begin to see a defining attribute. That's only about 8% longer but 27% heavier. This king, was a brute specimen, well deserving of his moniker. His thigh bone is an amazing 199 mm thick at its narrowest! A human thigh bone is about 23 mm at its thickest. Scotty did not start out this way. At one year old, he would have been cute and cuddly, long legged, covered in feathers and fuzz. Just as a human's anatomical size proportions change as it matures, so does a T-rex. The arms (often made fun of but not if you were in Jurassic Park) do not seem so useless as in the adult version. They are proportionally long, but with development of attitude, do not grow in step with the rest of T-rex. Little Scotty would gain about 65 kilograms per month until maturity. At four years of age the feathers are gone and the arms look relatively short. Oh, and his vision, excellent. A certain movie would have had a different outcome if the latest information would have been used. Probably would have been a shorter movie too....

Scotty became mature at about 20 years of age. Sue was about 28 when she died, which was old and impressive in and of itself. Now we have Scotty, who lived into his early to mid 30's. 66 million years ago this would be a feat unprecedented. For a top shelf predator to survive everything from the environment to rivals for this length of time was something to be proud of [did I mention he is Canadian.]. His skeleton shows signs of these battles, in which healing was/did take place. Scotty did not get old by accident. Truly he earned the epitome "King of the Dinosaurs."

By **Brian Pihack**

*Editor's Note: Scotty is now Saskatchewan's official provincial fossil*



**Scotty the T.Rex**

*Scotty was found on August 16, 1991 when an Eastend High School teacher Robert Gebhardt joined paleontologists from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum*

**Source:** [Tourism Saskatchewan](https://globalnews.ca/news/2711849/scotty-the-t-rex-named)  
[https://globalnews.ca/news/2711849/scotty-the-t-rex-named.](https://globalnews.ca/news/2711849/scotty-the-t-rex-named)

## **Minutes of our March General Meeting, March 15, 2019**

Dave welcomed all to the March meeting  
We welcomed a number of visitors.

Reports from the board:

**VP-** Gabi N/A

**Secretary** – Dave will do the recording tonight.

**Treasurer** - Ashley gave her report. Details available from her

**Director-** Darlene she reminded all if you want name tags they are \$15. Also she may do a t-shirt this spring so contact her if you are interested. The club will buy soapstone for the show from Bill Greenfield. He is having a large lawn sale of rocks and minerals. Will will have details at the next meeting.

**Director** –Roman Roman and Dave will give a talk at Jean Sauve French Emersion School on the April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Director-** Glenn N/A

**Show Chair-** Hannah was not available but we have 20 dealers signed up

**Bulletin** – John indicated that he would like more articles for the bulletin

**Trip Director** – Ashley. The Buffalo show is next weekend. See bulletin for more shows

**Pres** -Dave – I have registered the club as a charter member (non-financial) of a proposed UNESCO geo-park for Niagara.

Motion to accept the previous reports, Moved by Ashley and seconded by Hannah, and carried by the membership.

New business – N/A

50/50 draw won by Chris

We then had our break and remember the auction is still on.

I was planning to have some videos as our talk tonight but Ashley came through with a very interesting take on Star Trek and geology. Very, very interesting.

Motion to adjourn John and seconded by Dave.

Our next meeting will be April 26th at Brock university.

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### **Minutes of our Annual General Meeting, Executive Elections and Potluck Dinner**

February 15, 2019

All were welcomed to the annual general meeting.

We welcomed **Ronald Powell** who was visiting us for the first time.

Motion to accept minutes as written from the January meeting was moved by Gabi and seconded by John Tordiff and carried by the membership

We then enjoyed a great pot luck dinner and desserts.

The election of officers for the board was held. **Glenn Sloggett** was elected as a director and the rest of the board was acclaimed. Welcome aboard Glenn.

Reports from the board:

**VP-** Gabi N/A

**Secretary** – Dave will do the recording tonight.

**Treasurer** - Ashley gave her report. Details available from her

**Director-** Darlene Monday, Feb 18 is family day and the club will be at Heartland Forest 11-5, promoting the club. If you want to join us you are welcome

And bring some specimens to give away.

**Director** –Roman There are some books for sale from the library

**Director-** Glenn N/A

**Show Chair-** Hannah was not available but she has contacted dealers and the show is progressing.

**Bulletin** – John indicated that he would like more articles for the bulletin

**Trip Director** – Ashley. It was announced that the Brantford club will be opening up their work shop to other clubs.

**Pres** -Dave – don't forget to sign the attendance book. Parking is free Friday nights in Zone 1 of the parking lot east of the complex where we meet.

**Bill Plavic**, a retired member of the club has passed away.

Motion to accept the previous reports, Moved by Jim Glen and seconded by Darlene, and carried by the membership

New business – N/A

We then had our break and remember the auction is still on.

Our speaker tonight is Gabi and she is speaking her fabulous trip to Japan. The pictures really shows the difference in culture between east and west.

Motion to adjourn John and seconded by Dave.

Our next meeting will be back at Brock university

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### **Annual Club Mineral Auction to be held at our May 2019 Meeting**

#### **Auction information for Sellers and Buyers:**

**Sellers:** Please bring any items you have for the May NPGS club auction to the meeting room by 7:00 pm so that your lots can be organized and properly displayed. The lots should be related to geology or lapidary. Each lot will be assigned an auction lot slip with a unique number (“Lot Number”) and placed on the front counter. The auction slip will have a place for the seller's name, specimen name or description, locality, notes and minimum bid. Any items that sellers wish to donate to the NPGS for the auction should be kept separate so that a special lot number can be assigned.

There are several ways to obtain auction lot slips: by email from me (see my address and phone number below), in person at a meeting or from our

website. Please copy as required. I can assign the bid lot numbers when you ask for the slips. Please do not write Lot Numbers on the slips. If there is an original label it should be included with the specimen.

Small items that are each low in price should be grouped together into a single lot. Please note that should the overall number of lots submitted be too large for the time available the NPGS auction organizers may limit the number of lots each seller may submit.

The seller's fee on sold items is 20% of realized price. This includes items that are for sale but not included in the auction. These fees go to the NPGS.

**Buyers** should obtain, from the auction clerk, a card with a number on it which they will show when making a bid.

All lots should be claimed, paid for and taken home by successful bidders at the conclusion of the auction.

If you have any questions please contact me at 905-734-9574 or [roman.otfa@cogeco.ca](mailto:roman.otfa@cogeco.ca)

**Roman Olszewski**

Bring a salad or desert to add to our bbq.  
Hiking, playground, mini golf, parking, free... new building for public washrooms.



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## Annual NPGS Picnic – June 15<sup>th</sup> 2019

I have booked the park for our annual picnic. June 15th, 2019 noon till 4 p.m.  
Please rsvp to me [289-407-6393} or e-mail [dsloggett@cogeco.ca](mailto:dsloggett@cogeco.ca) ,so I can buy the necessary items.

## N.P.G.S. Schedule 2018 -2019

(some re-scheduling may take place to accommodate speakers)

### Apr 26 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Michael Bainbridge  
Topic: Dazzling Mineral Photography (theme)  
Location: Brock University

### May 17 N.P.G.S. Annual Club Auction

Auctioneer: Brian Pihack  
Topic: Adoption Clinic for New and Needy Specimens  
Location: Brock University

**Jun 8 N.P.G.S. 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gem & Mineral Show**

Time: 10am to 5 pm  
Cost: \$3 (children's under 12 free)  
Location: Fireman's Park, Niagara Falls  
*Volunteers needed. Show Director Hannah Lamanes*

**Jun 15 N.P.G.S. Annual Picnic Barbecue**

Menu: Always Yummy  
Time: Noon to 4 pm  
Location: Heartland Forest (see map in this issue)

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**Regional Events 2018 - 2019**

**May 3-5 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Toronto Gem & Mineral Show**, Fri. 4pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-7pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Don Mills Civitan Arena, 1030 Don Mills Road, Toronto, ON. Adults \$8.00, 15 and under free Go to: [www.torontogemshow.com](http://www.torontogemshow.com)

**May 4 Kitchener-Waterloo Gem and Mineral Show**, Saturday only, 10am-4pm Button Factory Arts, 25 Regina St. S., Waterloo ON. Free admission

**May 25 CCFMS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AGM**, , Saturday starting at 11:30am, Qssis Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough  
1pm main presentation "Bringing Clarity to Rock Hounding Insurance"  
If you wish to attend the CCFMS AGM, please confirm with Ashley Pollock by Wed. May 15<sup>th</sup>. There is a limit of 50 people.

**Jun 8 N.P.G.S. 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem & Mineral Show**, 10am to 5pm. Cost \$3.00 (children under 12 free). Fireman's Park, 2275 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls *Show Director Hannah Lamanes*

**July 19-21 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Sudbury Gem and Mineral Show**, Fri. 5pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Carmichael Arena, Bancroft Drive, Sudbury, ON. Adults \$5.00, Seniors (60+) \$3.00, Children 6-12 \$1.00 Contact 705-522-5140 or go to: <http://ccfms.ca/clubs/Sudbury/Show.php>

**Aug. 1-4 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Rockhound Gemboree**, Bancroft, Ontario. Details at [rockhoundgemboree.ca](http://rockhoundgemboree.ca)

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**The NPGS/CCFMS Combined 2018 Field Trip Schedule**



May 4 *CCFMS Beamsville Field Trip*, 8:30am arrive, trip 9am to 4pm. Details provided in Jim Glen's article earlier in this bulletin.

May TBA *Bowmanville Field Trip*,

## Other Club Field Trips

Updates will be posted here

Please note that all CCFMS club members throughout Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec are welcome on any of our NPGS field trips and, as can be seen, many more of our Ontario clubs are letting us know their field trip schedules as well.

You will be asked that you show proof of current membership on all field trips.

You will be asked to sign a Liability Waiver (+sign-in/sign-out) on all field trips.

You will need to contact to register and confirm with the various Trip Leaders.

Please don't forget to look at our **Field Trips webpage** for all kinds of info about field trips in general + specific info about the sites that the NPGS visits.

<http://www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/trips.htm>

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### NIAGARA PENINSULA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2018 - AUGUST 2019 DUES

Bring to a meeting or mail along with cheque payable to:

Please check one:

Family Membership \$20.00

Individual Membership \$15.00

Do you wish to receive the newsletter via email?

Niagara Peninsula Geological Society

c/o John Tordiff,

120 South Drive

St. Catharines, ON , L2R 4V9

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

(Work): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Interests and/or Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

NPGS email: [npgsgeo@gmail.com](mailto:npgsgeo@gmail.com)

NPGS website: <http://www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/>

NPGS Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1392693367698780/>

NPGS Show Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/NPGS-Gem-Mineral-Fossil-Show-Sale/549387778513135>

*Membership term is from September 1st until August 31st. Membership fees are due in September.*