

**Dan Shrubsole**  
**Award for Service to the Profession of Geography**

In the opinion of the nominators, there is no one in Canada who has done more for the Association over the past 10 years. Over this period, Professor Daniel (Dan) Shrubsole has been a champion for the discipline of Geography at all levels in Canada.

Dan served as Chair of Geography at The University of Western Ontario for two terms (2005 - 2016) and in this capacity was a tireless promotor of Geography at all levels within the University. During this time, he was able to lead significant growth in the Department's faculty complement, graduate program, research funding and endowments, enhanced its teaching and research facilities, reoriented the staff complement, and enhanced the Department's profile. He also significantly boosted the outreach of Geography, promoting the successes of the Department's faculty, staff and students. For part of this period, he also contributed to the Centre for Environment & Sustainability at Western as co-Director of their Academic Programs and Administration, helping to raise awareness of the role Geography could play in that forum.

Professor Shrubsole's research focus is in the area of integrated water management. The vast majority of his published works deal with integrated water management in a Canadian, and especially, an Ontario context. The scales of analysis range from individual municipalities, to conservation authorities or regions in Ontario, to the national level and appear largely in the Geographic literature. His research excellence earned him a Research Fellowship with Australia's national research agency (CSIRO) in 1995 - 1996, where he examined catchment management in the State of Queensland. He was also a Visiting Researcher at the University of Warsaw (2019). UNESCO, Environment Canada, Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Alberta Environment and the Beijing Water Technical and Research Institute are among the many public agencies that have sought Dan's advice on a wide range of water-related topics. His research training (6 PhD and 13 MA students) supports the Profession, not just through their training as Geographers, but often by providing highly qualified candidates for public, private and non-government organization sector positions that support geographical work. His contributions to Ontario Geography were recently acknowledged in the *CAGONT Service to Ontario Geography Award (2019)*.

At the national level, Professor Shrubsole's leadership and professional service contributions are extensive. He was a member of the Editorial Board of *The Canadian Geographer* 2009-2013 and served as a National Councillor from 2009 to 2012. During this time, he was a member of several important sub-committees, including the Awards Committee and the Publications Committee. Soon after his term as National Councillor ended, and as a reflection of his impressive contributions to the Association, Dan was elected as National Vice President in 2015 and then served as President of the CAG from 2016 to 2018.

As President, Dan was highly visible, travelling across the country visiting Departments, discipline-related organizations, and attending numerous regional conferences. First as a National Councillor representing Ontario, and then as both Vice-President and President of the CAG, Dan was committed to ensuring the voices and key concerns of his constituents (professors, students, professionals working outside academia) were heard.

During his time as President, Dan oversaw significant change in the administration of the CAG, including the transfer of the executive office of the CAG from Montreal to the nation's capital, thereby ensuring it

could better serve not only the executive, but the bulk of its membership. He also initiated many measures to promote the relevance and importance of Geography and Geographers to the public. These included a significant effort by Dan to advocate for Geography at the Tri-Council tables in Ottawa. In his efforts to build the strength of the CAG, he travelled to every part of the country, attending all of the regional meetings, with the goal of better understanding how Geographers differ in their needs and expectations from the CAG across the country. In 2018, he oversaw two major international Geography events at the Université Laval with over 2000 people participating in an International Geographic Olympiad and a combined meeting of the International Geographic Union, CAG, and National Council for Geographic Education. As President, Dan also emphasized the importance of teaching Geography at the K-12 levels, recognizing that we will not have enough undergraduate students in our programs if we do not teach Geography in the K-12 system. To encourage prospective young Geographers, he has built profiles of Geographers and their occupations as a way of promoting the discipline. For new geography course instructors, he championed the development of a searchable data base from the CAG webpage for those who wish to apply better pedagogy in their teaching across a wide range of post-secondary geography courses.

Dan also devoted significant effort to *The Canadian Geographer (TCG)*, the publication of the CAG. Dan served on a *ad hoc* Executive Committee that achieved a significantly better contract from the publisher to the benefit of both the journal and CAG. Five years later as President, Dan was able to repeat this earlier success with a similarly positive impact on the CAG budget and operations within the *TCG* editorial office. And to this day, Dan has continued to advocate for *TCG* with the publisher and strategized on how to raise the profile and maintain the relevance and readership of the journal, keeping in mind the needs and wants of Geographers from across the country. Dan's contributions to journals do not end with *TCG*. He has also served on the editorial board of regional, and international journals including the *East Lakes Geographer*, and *Miscellanea Geographica*.

Beyond Canada, Professor Shrubsole has also served as an engaged member of a number of committees within the American Association of Geographers as well as the International Geographic Union.

Professor Shrubsole's service contributions to the profession of geography are exemplary and have spanned the bulk of his career.