

## **CASCA Awards Committee Report**

### **Luc Simard, 13 December 2016**

The CASCA Awards committee has just started its work for the 2016-2017 awards cycle. The awards that will be evaluated by the committee this year are the J. S. Plaskett Medal, the Qilak Award, the Martin Award, the Petrie Prize Lecture and the newly-established Richer Gold Medal. The CASCA Awards committee is comprised of Luc Simard (NRC; Chair), Renée Hložek (Dunlap/U. Toronto), Greg Sivakoff (U. Alberta), Catherine Lovekin (Mount Allison U.), Christian Marois (NRC) and Sarah Gallagher (U. Western Ontario).

The deadline for awards nominations was 21 November 2016 except for the Richer Medal. The Richer Medal was first announced through a CASCA press release on 17 November 2016, and the nomination deadline for this medal was set to 15 January 2017 to account for this “out-of-phase” announcement. An email soliciting nominations was circulated to the CASCA email exploder four (4) weeks before the deadline, and a reminder was sent one (1) week before it. The following nominations were received:

- 6 Plaskett nominations
- 4 Qilak nominations
- 4 Martin nominations
- 5 Petrie nominations

The Awards committee chair and CASCA admin assistant are finalizing the list of nominees for the committee to evaluate. An eligibility check has turned up two issues:

- Three Plaskett nominees are currently members *not* in good standing. The plan is to provide them with a short window to bring their CASCA membership up-to-date.
- Two Qilak nominations were received for the same nominee. One of these nominations was made by a non-member and will therefore be rejected.

The nomination packages will be circulated to all committee members before 21 December. The deadline for panel members to provide rank-ordered lists of nominees for each award to the Awards Committee chair is 3 February 2017.