



## KEGS Canadian Exploration Geophysical Society

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### 2010 KEGS PDAC Breakfast

Regular reservation / registration deadline: Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. (Midnight EST).

For reservation / registration forms visit <http://www.kegsonline.org/?dir=home&sub=downloads>



***Dr. David Strangway, Ph.D., F.R.S.C.***

***“Environment and Innovation in  
China”***

**Tuesday, March 9th, 2010 at 7:30 am,  
Imperial Room, Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front  
Street W., Toronto**

#### **Abstract:**

In today's knowledge economy, innovation has assumed major importance around the world. A recent study on innovation and environment in China identified some of the conditions needed for innovation to play its necessary role. The pollution problems of China are profound as the economy has been developing at a very fast rate. The effect of pollution on human health and on land, water and air is a topic of serious concern to the leadership of China. Continued growth and expansion of the industrial base is planned for China over the next 20 years. Targets for pollution reduction on an intensity basis (per GDP) have been set and are largely being met. But it is now necessary to introduce absolute targets for pollution to reduce the level in spite of dramatic growth in the economy.

The drivers of innovation in the environmental field are several: 1. perhaps most important is a regime of high standards and regulations openly, fairly and rigorously enforced. 2a. Adoption of existing technologies- things we know 2b. Improvements to known science and technologies – things we can do better and 2c. New science and technologies – things we have not thought of yet and 3. Public participation and awareness based on an informed public. China is making major investments in innovation and they are not only adapting existing technology, but they are world leaders in many new technologies such as wind energy, solar thermal energy, solar cell energy and they are building the world's first zero-emission coal- fired power plant using high intensity systems and carbon capture and sequestration. Many other innovations are being developed, including electric cars and battery technology.

Universities have a key role to play in each of these areas. They can be credible sources of new ideas. China is developing a series of outstanding and competitive research universities and affiliated research parks. They are the anchor players in cluster formation which is taking place in China. They are the arbiters of sound public policy on standards and regulations and they provide the education and public information needed by the population.

#### **Dr. Strangway:**

David is a graduate of the University of Toronto, and earned his Ph.D. there in 1960. He worked for a number of mining companies while a student and after graduation. He was a faculty member at the University of Colorado and MIT before returning to the University of Toronto. In 1970, he became Chief of the Geophysics branch at NASA, contributing to the geophysical elements of the Apollo missions. From 1973 to 1983, he was Chairman of the University of Toronto Geology Department, then became U of T president in 1983. From 1985 to 1997, he was president of the University of British Columbia, and during this time was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. In 1998, he became president and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation. In 2002, he founded Quest University Canada.

His other honours include many honorary degrees, the Logan Medal from the GAC, the J. Tuzo Wilson Medal from the CGU, and the 2009 Maurice Ewing Medal, the highest honour given by the SEG. He has been a member of KEGS since the 1950's.