

# Friends of CRC

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# Les Amis du CRC

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## Feb 2013 Newsletter

### ***MONTHLY MEETING***

**It is regretted that there will be no meeting this month as it has not been possible to find a suitable speaker. Watch for our bumper event next month.**

### ***XMAS LUNCH PHOTO***

**I have been asked to identify the attendees at the Xmas lunch so here they are.**



**From left to right**

Neville Reed, Lynda Reed, Kate Booth, Rolf Mamen, Joyce Ross, Donald Ross, Gerry Moss, John Colbert, Hazel Moss, Jean Cunningham, Chun Loo, Gerry Sawtell, David McKerrow, Roy Cunningham, Jim Sawtell, Colette Cole, John Gilbert, Doris Jelly, Ross Fines, Denise Belrose, Stu McCormick, Hazel Baskin, Jack Belrose, Rosemary Jull, Hugh Reekie, Colin Franklin.

***And a note from our hard-working Social Secretary,  
Colette Cole***

I would like to inform the membership that the 2013 Spring Luncheon for the Friends of CRC will be held on Wednesday, 17 April at Bistro Fifty Four, Amberwood. Further details will be sent to you as they become available. Mark your calendars, come and enjoy good friends and good fun. Looking forward to seeing many of you there.

## ***EDITOR'S CORNER***

### **Professional and Learned Societies**

**Many of us throughout our careers have been members of professional and learned societies but one has to ask if their days are numbered. The PEO reported recently that only 25% of the graduating engineers in Ontario joined them. It is understood that the IEEE, while still attracting a large membership, and running many active programs, is worried about churn, or turn-over. The IET, formerly the IEE of UK, is concerned about the smaller number of younger people joining them and the consequent rising average age of the membership.**

**Clearly many factors affect these problems. There is no doubt in my mind that the concept of professionalism and learned societies is held in lower regard than in the past. Employers do not view the value of professional qualifications as high as they did in bygone days. The internet is providing an ever-increasing alternative source of technical information and a means of publishing. These factors seem to me to be the principal causes of the diminution of the importance and roles of the technical societies.**

**The question is then whether we should worry about this – would it matter if they faded away? Obviously there is much life left in many of the societies but there is no doubt they will have to evolve and adapt to survive and I know from my own work that it is not easy.**

**Professional and learned societies have served us well over the last century and a half and in my opinion we should work for their continuation because, I believe, that we needed the information they supply, the regulatory and disciplinary function they provide, as well as the many opportunities for personal development and interaction that they afford.**

**Colin Billowes**

### ***I need your help***

**I would be delighted to publish guest editorials as well as articles about your CRC experiences that have not yet got onto the record. One purpose of the Friends is to record our history and this is a convenient way to do it. So with all the spare time you all have!!! why not tell a few tales out of school?**

**CB**