



“PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION FOR GEOSCIENTISTS IS NOT ONLY A NECESSITY THESE DAYS, IT IS RECOGNITION THAT WE ARE ALL PROFESSIONALS, IN THE SAME WAY AS ENGINEERS, LAWYERS OR DOCTORS. IT GOES WITH US WHEREVER WE GO, IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD AND IT IS BECOMING AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR PROFESSION. I ENCOURAGE ALL THOSE WHO AREN'T REGISTERED TO BECOME REGISTERED — YOU WILL BE HAPPY THAT YOU DID.”

— Peter Dimmell, P. Geo.  
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## Work With Professionals



competence + integrity  
compétence + intégrité

## WORK WITH PROFESSIONALS

Geoscience is now a regulated profession everywhere in Canada except P.E.I. and the Yukon and registration is mandatory for anyone practicing geoscience as defined by the Acts in each province and territory.

Licensure is required for anyone performing any activity that falls within the definition of professional geoscience. This applies to work in the development and discovery of natural resources or water or the investigation of surface or sub-surface geologic conditions.

## YOUR LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

An employer who hires an unlicensed geoscientist risks breaking the law, and assumes accountability for the quality and accuracy of the work.

In addition to the requirement for geoscientists to be registered, in most provinces and territories there is also a requirement for the employer, who is undertaking geoscience activity, to also hold a license. Corporate licenses have different names; they are commonly called Certificates of Authorization or Permits to Practice.

Practicing geoscientists must register in each jurisdiction in which they work, where licensing is required.

An employer may hire unlicensed geoscientists if their work is directly supervised by another employee who is a licensed geoscientist, who assumes responsibility for the quality and accuracy of the work of the entire team. An employer should check with each jurisdiction for requirements; for example, Quebec requires that all geology work related to resources must be completed and signed by a registered geologist.

Increasingly, new government reporting requirements and corporate hiring policies require a P.Geo license.

Experienced employees who are registered are in demand as they are individually accountable for the work they do and the services they provide.

## HIRE A PROFESSIONAL

Professionalism = Competence + Integrity

A standard of professionalism has been set by the provincial and territorial regulatory bodies to assure the public that practitioners are competent and must adhere to high expectations of practice, and are individually accountable.

All individuals practicing professional geoscience as defined by each provincial and territorial jurisdiction must be registered and licensed as a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo). In Alberta, the designations are Professional Geologist (P.Geol) and Professional Geophysicist (P.Geoph); in Quebec, it is géoscientifique professionnels (géo).

The definition of geoscience generally covers all activity that uses the principles of geoscience (including geology, geophysics, environmental science and geochemistry) and that impacts the public—including work leading toward the discovery and development of natural resources, or investigations of geologic conditions.

It is the duty of regulators to protect the public by actively enforcing against non-registered individuals who work or portray themselves as professional geoscientists. Regulators also have duty to enforce against employers who do not carry a corporate license, where required.

Licensure is not in place to serve geoscientists or their employers, it's to protect the public interest and the natural environment.

LICENSURE IS NOT IN PLACE TO SERVE GEOSCIENTISTS, IT'S TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.



PRACTICING GEOSCIENTISTS MUST REGISTER IN EACH JURISDICTION IN WHICH THEY WORK, WHERE LICENSING IS REQUIRED.