

COMMISSION ON NEW MINERALS AND MINERAL NAMES (CNMMN)

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM IMA COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS ACTIVITIES YEAR 2003

OFFICERS - Chairman: E. BURKE
Vice-Chairman: G. FERRARIS
Secretary: WD. BIRCH

(attached document 9/12/03)

The CNMMN has received 62 new mineral proposals until the end of November. This is approximately the same rate as over the past 2 years. There is a very high approval rate, with only one proposal rejected and two suspended. A number of older proposals have been resubmitted following revisions.

The CNMMN has also received three proposals that involve changes to mineralogical nomenclature. One of these, a proposal to abandon Schaller modifiers, has been approved, while proposals involving polytypism in wagnerite-triplite-zwieselite and a discreditation of spodiosite are under discussion.

The CNMMN also established two subcommittees to discuss and report on nomenclature of the tourmaline and epidote groups. These are under the chairmanships of Dr Milan Novak and Dr Thomas Armbruster, respectively. Reports are anticipated early in 2003. Additions and revisions to amphibole nomenclature were approved following proposals put forward by the amphibole subcommittee. The report of the eudialyte subcommittee was published in *Canadian Mineralogist* this year.

The establishment of an active CNMMN website by the incoming Chairman, Dr Ernst Burke, has been a major advance. The website provides general information on the history, working procedures and membership of the Commission. It also enables members to logon to view monthly updates of activities. All members are now using the website to download proposals.

Amongst other achievements this year, the Commission has now published on its website the IMA list of 3500 minerals approved, discredited and redefined since 1959. Lists of minerals approved over the past few years have also been added to the website.

Bill Birch, Secretary, 4 December 2003