



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

*Cristina Amon, Dean*

**MEMORANDUM**

**2009/10-06**

**To:** Members of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering

**From:** Cristina Amon, Dean

**Date:** October 28, 2009

**Re:** **Appointment of Director of the Lassonde Institute, University of Toronto**

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I am pleased to announce the appointment of Prof. John Hadjigeorgiou as the Director of the Lassonde Institute at the University of Toronto, effective October 1, 2009.

Prof. Hadjigeorgiou joined the Department of Civil Engineering on April 1, 2009 after a distinguished career at Laval University. Professor Hadjigeorgiou also holds the Claudette Mackay-Lassonde Chair in Mineral Engineering and is the Director of the Lassonde Mineral Engineering Program. His teaching and research activities are in the areas of rock characterization, slope stability, tunnelling, reinforcement and support, and mine design. John has over 20 years of experience in North America, Australia and Europe working in mining and geotechnical engineering. Prof. Hadjigeorgiou is a past recipient of the John Franklin Award in Rock Mechanics from the Canadian Geotechnical Society and the Rock Mechanics Award from the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

I also would like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to Professor Paul Young who served as the inaugural Director of Lassonde Institute since 2002. His vision for the Institute and his many contributions during this time led to its international recognition as a centre of excellence, an increase in collaborations with the mining industry and the strengthening of its foundations for future growth. Under his leadership a \$21 M campaign was launched that has resulted in the creation of the new physical collaboration space for researchers and graduate students within the Mining Building, new research laboratories; and the establishment of a notable advisory board for the Lassonde Institute.

The Lassonde Institute is an interdisciplinary research and graduate studies institute within the University of Toronto created to be at the forefront of leading edge research in Engineering Geoscience. It is an international center of excellence in Engineering Geoscience encompassing engineers, geophysicists, geologists, geochemists, materials scientists and environmental scientists who are interested in research that crosses disciplines and traditional boundaries. The institute was created with the help of Dr. Pierre Lassonde and the Canadian Mineral industry.