

**Highlight:****"ERC Goes Global": Canada, first stop of the ERC's new worldwide awareness raising campaign**

16 February 2012

The Secretary General of the European Research Council, Prof. Donald B. Dingwell will visit various organisations and universities in Canada at the occasion of the AAAS conference held in Vancouver (16-20) February.

His visits, which include the cities of Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and Vancouver, are in line with the ERC's stepped-up efforts to reach more top talent overseas (i.e. including Europeans) and to inform them of ERC's funding opportunities. This trip is part of the new "ERC goes Global" campaign which will run for two years, and will include visits to more than 15 countries.

After Canada, Prof. Donald Dingwell will visit South Africa in March, Latin America in May, Russia and Ukraine in September, and later in the year, various countries in Asia as well as the West Coast of the US and Mexico. This new awareness raising campaign is part of ERC's internationalisation strategy that the ERC is currently developing.

Prof. Dingwell will stop first in Ottawa where he will meet with key representatives from various Canadian funding bodies, the Ambassador of the EU to Canada, the Canada Foundation for Innovation as well as the Director of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and representatives from the EU Delegation office to Canada. During his stay in Ottawa, he will also visit the University of Carleton.

He will then continue to Montreal and Toronto, to meet researchers and key people from the University of McGill, the University of Montreal and the University of Toronto, respectively.

The next stop will be in Vancouver, where the [Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, \(AAAS\)](#), will be held this year. Like in previous years, the ERC has organised several activities on-site, which will allow ERC representatives to explain to the media and to attendees what the ERC has done during its first five years of existence and what it offers to researchers from around the world.

On Friday 17th February, a joint career workshop, entitled ["Funding Opportunities in Europe for Creative Minds from Anywhere in the World"](#), has been organised. The panel is composed of the ERC's Head of the Scientific Department, the Euraxess Links US officer, and a Canadian researcher who received an ERC grant in 2007.

<http://aaas.confex.com/aaas/2012/webprogram/Session5151.html>

The ERC presence at this major annual conference also includes a **topical lecture** given by **Prof. Dingwell on "Explosive Volcanism in the Earth System" (Sunday 19th February, 12:00 – 12:45 pm)**.

<http://www.aaas.org/meetings/2012/program/topicals/#dingwell>

Later on the same day, a Press Briefing will be held with both Prof. Dingwell and ERC grantee, Dr Nicole Boivin,



Whilst in Vancouver, Prof. Dingwell will also meet with representatives of the University of British Columbia and of the University of Victoria. He will then continue north to the University of Alberta, in Edmonton.

Finally, the ERC Secretary General will travel to the East coast to visit the Memorial University of Newfoundland where he received both his B.Sc. (1980) in Geology/Geophysics and his Ph.D.

Up till now, thirteen top researchers from Canada have been awarded an ERC grant.