

Andrew R Gordon CIC Medal

This is located in the Chemistry Department safe, in the care of the Administrator, currently Mike Dymarski, LM 154, 416-946-7216, mdymarsk@chem.utoronto.ca

This medal is awarded annually by the Chemical Institute of Canada as a mark of distinction and recognition to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the science of chemistry or chemical engineering in Canada. It is the CIC's top award.

The medal was originally sponsored by the International Nickel Company and commemorates the isolation of nickel by Frederik Cronstedt in 1751. For many years it was made of pure palladium. These palladium medals weighed 8 ounces (240g) and at the current (2014) palladium price of ~CAD700/ounce were thus worth CAD5600. Regrettably, the Inco sponsorship ended when the company was taken over in 2006 by the Brazilian company CVRD (now Vale) and, with the CIC now the sponsor, the medal is made of silver plated nickel.

The CIC Medal was first awarded in 1951, and up to 2014, has been awarded to 16 of Toronto's chemistry faculty. Andy Gordon's 1955 medal was the Department's first. He was a key department head from 1944-1960 (See *Historical Distillates* by A G Brook and W A E McBryde ISBN 978-1-55002-724-2 for a full account of the Department's history).