

Association of Earth Science Editors 52nd Annual Meeting

Niagara Falls, New York, September 26 to 29, 2018



(1st Meeting Circular)

The Association of Earth Science Editors' next annual meeting—its 52nd—will be held in Niagara Falls, New York, September 26 to 29, 2018. We hope you'll join us for what promises to be a great meeting, in a spectacular setting.

AESE meetings are a wonderful way to learn about earth science editing, publishing and communication. Meetings are generally small in size and provide unparalleled opportunities to network with other editors, publishers and educators working in the earth sciences.

This year's **Technical Program Chair** is **Phil Farquharson** (San Diego Miramar College), and **Host Chair** is **Marg Rutka** (Ontario Geological Survey). We're looking for volunteers, so if you would like to help out with planning the meeting or have ideas about talks, what we should see on the field trip, and speakers we could approach for the technical sessions or the Awards dinner, please get in touch with Phil or Marg (contact information at the bottom of this document).



The American Falls, viewed from just south of the Niagara Falls Observation Tower in Niagara Falls State Park. Photo credit: Destination Niagara USA.

This latest update contains information on (use links to facilitate navigation)

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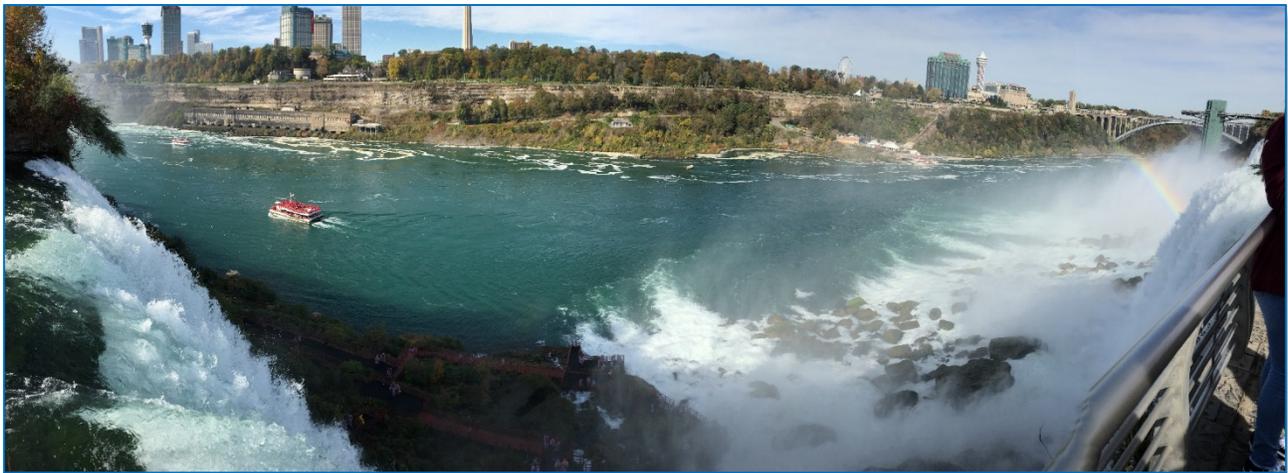
Any further updates will be distributed to AESE members via email and also posted on AESE's website (www.aese.org). Be sure to check the website regularly if, for some reason, you are not receiving communication otherwise.

Registration

Registration for the meeting will begin sometime mid to late spring. AESE members will be notified via email and information will be posted on AESE's website.

General Information about Niagara Falls and the City of Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Niagara Falls, the cascade, is situated on the border between Canada and the United States, specifically between the province of Ontario and the state of New York. It is actually a collective name for three waterfalls, from largest to smallest, the Horseshoe Falls, American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. Both the American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls lie on the U.S. side, while Horseshoe Falls lies almost entirely on the Canadian side. At a height ranging from 70 to 188 ft (21 to 57 m), Niagara Falls is not the tallest waterfall in the world, but it is the largest in North America in terms of width and sheer volume of water—6 million ft³/min (168,000 m³/min)—cascading over its crest line. It has been a prime tourist destination since the mid-19th century, with people coming from around the world to see just the falls, themselves. But there is so much more to explore on both the American and Canadian sides of the falls, from world class wineries, hiking trails (Niagara Glen, The Whirlpool, Devil's Hole and Discovery gorge trails), historical offerings (Old Fort Niagara, Old Fort Erie, Brock's Monument, Erie Canalway), quaint towns (Niagara-on-the-Lake, Lewiston), adventure activities (Niagara rapids jet boat tours, Maid of the Mist, Cave of the Winds, helicopter tours) to art and culture (Artpark, Shaw Festival, Castellani Art Museum), science museums (Niagara Power Vista and Aquarium of Niagara) and natural park settings (Niagara Falls State Park, Whirlpool State Park, Niagara Glen). Accessing the bottom of the Niagara Gorge is easy, either by hiking trails, Maid of the Mist, Cave of the Winds, or via the free elevator ride provided at the Schoellkopf Power Plant museum. So remember to bring your passports and plan to arrive early or stay a few extra days if you wish to take in all that the area has to offer!



Panoramic photo of the Niagara Gorge taken from the viewing platform on Luna Island, Niagara Falls State Park. Bridal Veil Falls is on the left, the American Falls on the right. Down below, the Maid of the Mist cruises by the Cave of the Winds platforms on her way to the base of the Canadian Falls. Interest fact: the Cave of the Winds platforms are taken down before winter sets in, then reinstalled each spring.

The city of Niagara Falls, N.Y., is adjacent to the Niagara River and the falls, and lies across from the city of Niagara Falls, Ontario. Its population is estimated to be around 49,000 people and continues to be a prime tourist destination because of its close proximity to the falls. The city is home to Seneca Niagara Casino and Hotel and also to Niagara Falls State Park, the oldest state park in the U.S. (thanks to Frederick Law Olmsted and other early environmentalists), which itself has several attractions: Cave of the Winds, Maid of the Mist, Prospect Point and its Observation Tower, Niagara Discovery Center, Niagara Gorge hiking trails and

the Aquarium of Niagara, all easily accessed by a convenient shuttle system. Niagara Falls State Park, with its bridges to Goat Island, Three Sisters Islands and Luna Island, provides unparalleled access to the Niagara upper rapids and all three of the falls. Niagara Falls, Ontario, is just minutes away, by walking or car, via Rainbow Bridge, an arch bridge, that spans across the international border.

Getting to Niagara Falls, N.Y.

The city of Niagara Falls, N.Y., is within the Buffalo–Niagara Falls metropolitan area and is approximately 20 miles (32 km) from downtown Buffalo. The city can be easily accessed by air, car and train. Information provided below has been obtained from various websites and is current as of time of writing. We cannot guarantee accuracy. Please follow links provided and do your own research to ensure you have the latest and most accurate information prior to making travel plans.

By Air:

Niagara Falls does have an international airport, but it is small and offers limited flight options. Buffalo Niagara International Airport, located 25 miles (30 minute drive) from the city of Niagara Falls, is likely your better choice if flying to the meeting. Once there, several agencies provide [car rental services](#), or you can arrange to take a [shuttle, taxi](#) or [ride-sharing](#) service (Uber or Lyft) to the meeting hotel. Prices vary widely, with some offering pricing per person and/or per group of people (1-4) in a sedan or SUV. If travelling alone, Uber or Lyft might be the cheapest options, along with [Buffalo Super Shuttle](#) (which has teamed up with our meeting hotel to offer rides for \$30 per person one way) or the on-site [Airport Taxi Service shuttle](#) (\$24 per person one way), but [shop around](#) for pricing and times that best suit your needs.

By Uber or Lyft:

Buffalo Niagara International Airport is [ridesharing friendly](#). If you have arranged to be picked up by either Uber or Lyft, exit terminal doors closest to carousel 1 in the baggage claim area and follow signs to the designated pick up spots in the hotel shuttle bus lane.

Alternatively, if you're travelling light, you could take [public transportation](#) to Niagara Falls from Buffalo Niagara Airport, for a total of about \$4.50, but it might take about 2 hours to get there depending on traffic.

By Car:

By car, if travelling from within the U.S., Niagara Falls is conveniently located just minutes from Interstate 190. If arriving from Canada, take the Queen Elizabeth Way to Highway 420, then to Rainbow Bridge. From Buffalo Niagara International Airport, it's a 30 minute drive, taking Highway 290 West to I-190 North.

By Amtrak:

For the train enthusiast, travelling to Niagara Falls by Amtrak has just gotten easier with the opening of the new [Niagara Falls International Train Station](#) and Intermodal Transportation Center in January of 2017. The station is located about 6 minutes by car from the meeting hotel. [Amtrak](#) offers connecting service from all over the northeastern US to Niagara Falls. From New York City the trip is especially memorable, zipping along the Hudson River all the way north to Albany. From Albany you change trains only once all the way to the city of Niagara Falls. That portion of the trip is very scenic as it traces the majority of the route of the New York State Erie Barge Canal.

Train station address:

825 Depot Avenue West
Niagara Falls, NY 14305
Phone (716) 285-4224 / 1 (800) 872-7245

Sheraton at the Falls—Meeting Hotel

The meeting hotel will be the **Sheraton at the Falls**, located on Third St., directly across the street from The Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls, where our technical sessions will be held. The hotel is centrally located: Niagara Falls State Park (Maid of the Mist, Cave of the Winds, Observation Tower, Goat Island and the American Falls, Aquarium of Niagara and the Discovery Center) and the Red Coach Inn, the tentative venue for our opening reception, are just 2 to 3 blocks from the hotel; Rainbow Bridge, providing access to Canada, is a 10 minute walk away, and from there the Falls on the Canadian side (spectacular views), is just another 25 minute walk; and Seneca Niagara Casino is across the street.

Hotel Contact Information

Sheraton at the Falls
300 Third Street
Niagara Falls, NY, USA, 14303

Hotel check-in: 4pm
Hotel check-out: 11am

Tel: 1.716.285.3361 | Toll Free: 1.866.961.3780
Fax: 1.716.285.3900
Main website: <https://www.sheratonatthefalls.com/>
AESE reservations website: see below

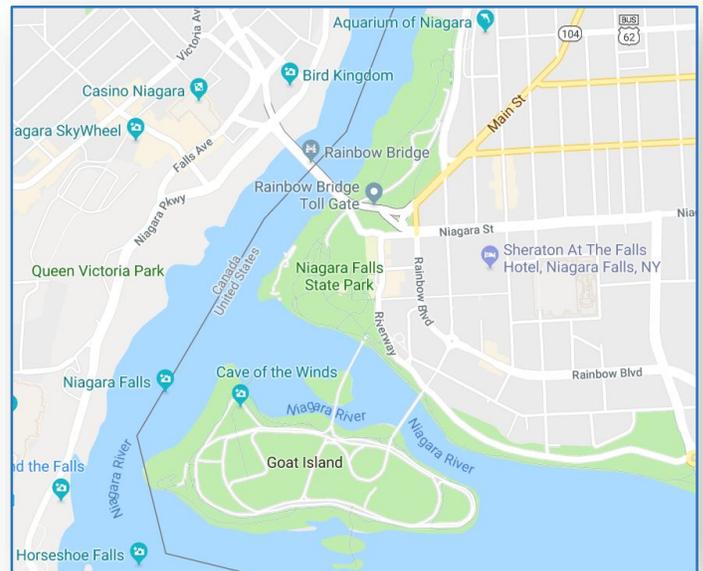


On-site Restaurants and Amenities

The hotel has two restaurants on-site, Rainforest Café and TGI Fridays, as well as Starbucks and has a number of [amenities](#), including The Hydrospa, The Reef Beach Club and Pool, a fitness room, business center and on-site parking.

Rooms and Rates

A block of rooms has been set aside for attendees of the meeting, at a rate of **US\$129.00 per night** (run of the house = Double Queen or King guestrooms, but check if other options are available at this rate) for single or double occupancy. The group rate will be available until **August 19, 2018**, so remember to book early. There is an additional fee of \$10 per person per night for triple or quadruple occupancy. For those wishing to arrive early or stay a little later after the meeting, this rate will be honoured for 2 days before the official start and end of the meeting (Sept. 26-29), subject to availability. (A complimentary breakfast is not included in this rate; however, please note that a complimentary continental breakfast will be provided, as part of our program, outside the meeting room (currently the Olmsted Room) in the Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls, from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. each day of the technical sessions (Thursday and Friday). Saturday's breakfast before the field trip will be on your own (TGI Fridays, on the hotel premises, is one option).)



Note: the above rate does not include applicable state and local (occupancy) **taxes** (which together are currently 13%). Because this hotel is a destination location, the hotel charges a **Destination Marketing Fee**, which will be 5% per night. Additionally, there will be a US\$9.95 **Facility Fee** assessed to each guestroom per night. This fee, normally US\$19.95, has been discounted for attendees of the AESE meeting. This fee includes the following (subject to change):

- complimentary parking with in and out privileges
- complimentary Wi-Fi
- two in-room bottled waters per day
- complimentary business services including printing, faxing, notary services
- complimentary access to the 2nd floor laundry facility
- complimentary USA Today, Buffalo News and Niagara Gazette
- Adventure Passport discount book with savings worth \$700
- and exclusive casino offers for the connected Seneca Niagara Resort and Casino

Making Room Reservations

A **special website** has been set up for AESE meeting attendees to make room reservations online <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/AssocEarthScienceEditors> . It will provide details of the total cost and a breakdown of the various fees once you enter in required information. Please note that the site cannot be configured to apply the Facility Fee discount we'll be given, but it will most definitely be applied at the front desk when you check in. Those using the online reservation method will automatically be given a Double Queen room.

For those preferring to speak to someone in person, you may also reserve by calling 1.866.961.3780; mention "Association of Earth Science Editors" to ensure you get the group rate and discounted facility fee.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be received at least 3 days (72 hours) prior to check-in (4pm) or one night's fee will be charged. Note: this cancellation policy is for groups and differs from the cancellation policy listed on the website for individual bookings.

Conference Center Information

The technical sessions, business luncheon and the awards banquet will be held in the [Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls](#), 101 Old Falls Street, located directly across from the Sheraton at the Falls. This new, state-of-the-art facility was built by the State of New York in 2004, from 3 existing buildings on the site, after the former convention center was given to the Seneca Nation to become Seneca Niagara Casino. Our various functions during the meeting will be held in the following rooms at the conference center:

Technical Sessions – Olmsted Room*
Business Luncheon – Castellani Room*
Awards Banquet – Castellani Room*

*see [Recommended Reading](#) below.

Parking

For those not staying at the Sheraton at the Falls, and who may require parking facilities during the day while attending the meeting, there is plenty of parking in the area. Most city parking lots and ramps are \$20 per day; street parking is \$3 per hour; and parking at Niagara Falls State Park is \$10 per day. More information and parking maps can be found on the [Conference Center](#) and [Destination Niagara USA](#) websites.



Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls, where the technical sessions, business lunch and awards dinner will take place.

Opening Reception

The opening reception will be held in the evening on Wednesday, September 26. Plans haven't been finalized yet, but we're considering the [Red Coach Inn](#) as a possible venue. The Inn overlooks Niagara's Upper Rapids, just 500 m from the brink of the American Falls, and is a perfect location for those wishing to see the falls before or after the reception.

Technical Program

The technical program will take place September 27 and 28 (Thursday and Friday) and will be held in the conference center. Planning for the technical program is beginning to take shape. The *Call for Abstracts* will be announced in mid spring but don't let that stop you from submitting an abstract now. If you have an idea for a talk or know someone we can approach to participate in the program, please contact Technical Program Chair, Phil Farquharson at philfarq@gmail.com.

Awards Dinner

The annual Awards Dinner will take place after the technical sessions end, on Friday, September 28, and will be held in the Castellani Room of the conference center.

Field Trip

The meeting's field trip will take place on Saturday, September 29. The Niagara area has no shortage of potential field trip stops and excursions. More information about the field trip will be provided in future meeting updates. If you have any suggestions on what the field trip should include, feel free to contact Phil and Marg.

Meals

Your meeting registration covers meals provided at the Opening Reception, Business Lunch and Awards Dinner, as well as lunch provided on the field trip on Saturday, and continental breakfast at the beginning of each day of technical sessions. If you have dietary restrictions or have special dietary needs, please contact Marg at your earliest convenience.

Websites and Recommended Reading

[Frederick Law Olmsted](#) – father of American landscape architecture, co-designer of New York City’s Central Park, leader of conservation movement in the U.S. in 1880s, and designer of [Niagara Falls State Park](#), the oldest state park in the U.S.

[Castellani Museum](#) – the artwork found in the Castellani Room of the Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls, where we’re having our Business Lunch and Awards Dinner, is from this museum, on the grounds of Niagara University in Lewiston.

[Red Coach Inn](#) – potential venue for our opening reception

[Niagara Falls USA](#) – official site for Niagara Falls Tourism USA

[Niagara Falls Info](#) – lots of information on the history of Niagara Falls, Ontario, and Niagara Falls, New York

[Niagara Falls State Park](#) – information on Niagara Falls State Park, the oldest state park in the US, and it’s

various attractions—Cave of the Winds, Aquarium of Niagara, Discovery Center and Hiking Trails, Maid of

the Mist, Adventure Theatre, Observation Tower—and transportation information (Park Trolley and

[Discover Niagara Shuttle](#), which provides free parking and transportation to various [sites](#) in the Niagara USA region, from Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, in the north, to Niagara Falls USA Visitors Center, in the south).

You’ll free WiFi, too!

[Niagara: A History of the Falls](#) – by Pierre Burton. A good read.

Facts about Niagara Falls

[Wiki Niagara Falls, NY](#) – everything you might want to know about the city of Niagara Falls, NY

[11 Things about Niagara Falls](#) – some facts you might not know about Niagara Falls

[21 Facts about Niagara Falls](#) – even more facts they think we don’t know about Niagara Falls

[Fun Facts about Niagara Falls USA](#) – you be the judge

[Great Gorge Route](#) – believe it or not, there used to be a railroad operating at the bottom of the Niagara

Gorge, on the US side, from 1895 to 1935. No longer in operation, the former rail beds are now hiking trails for all to enjoy.

Things to Do

[Travel Guide](#) – 2017 Official Travel Guide for Niagara Falls USA

[Niagara Wine Trail, USA](#) – a fun excursion for the day, just minutes from Niagara Falls. Have a look at the [brochure](#) and the [wineries](#) listed on the hotel site. Those with passports and wheels might wish to hop the border and visit the world class wineries on the [Canadian side](#), of which there are [many](#)!

[Niagara Gorge hiking trails](#) – If you like hiking, you’ll want this *Exploring the Niagara Gorge* brochure and map

[Old Fort Niagara](#) – this [state park](#) is worth a visit we hear (it might end up being on our field trip). Get there for free by hopping on the [Discovery Niagara Shuttle](#).

[Schoellkopf Power Plant site](#) – hop on the [Schoellkopf elevator](#) for a free ride to the bottom of the gorge to access hiking trails and see where the Maid of the Mist rests during the winter months.

[Buffalo](#) – The city of Buffalo is now a happening spot. Check it out.

[18 Free things to do in Niagara Falls, NY](#) – can’t beat that!

[Niagara Falls from the air](#) – great aerial images of the falls

[Ultimate guide to Niagara Falls](#) – good overview of the falls and it’s attractions, what to see and do on both sides, the best side for each, what to do and where to eat on both sides. Prepared by a former Buffalo resident.

Geology of Niagara Falls

[Niagara Geology](#) – Niagara Falls geology: facts and figures

[Colossal Cataract: the Geologic History of Niagara Falls](#) – by I.H. Tesmer. Out of print, but likely in a library near you

[Origins of Niagara](#) – lots of information here

[Geology of Niagara Falls](#) – from the New York State Geological Survey

[Niagara Rocks, Building Stone, History and Wine](#) – AGU–GAC joint assembly 2009, field trip on Canadian side

[USGS Bulletin 2086](#) – Revised Stratigraphy of the Niagaran Provincial Series (Medina, Clinton, and Lockport Groups) in the Type Area of Western New York

Stay Connected for Up-to-Date Meeting Information

AESE Web site – <http://www.aese.org/shell.html>

AESE on Twitter – <https://twitter.com/AESErocks> (@AESErocks)

AESE on Facebook –

NEW *AESE Niagara Falls NY 2018* group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123266368358780>
(closed group for discussing travel plans, the program, things to see and do in Niagara Falls, etc.)

Regular AESE Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Earth-Science-Editors/105615002834833>

AESE Blog – <https://geoeditors.wordpress.com/>

AESE on LinkedIn – <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3885431>

AESE on Pinterest – <http://www.pinterest.com/associationeart/>

The annual meeting is open to AESE members and non-members, anyone interested in earth science or science editing and communication. If you have any questions, would like more information, or have an idea for a talk, session or workshop, please contact the technical program chair, Phil Farquharson at philfarg@gmail.com. Contact host chair, Marg Rutka marg.rutka@ontario.ca, for more information on Niagara Falls and the meeting hotel and conference center. Program updates will be posted regularly on AESE's website at www.aese.org. Follow us, also, on Facebook, Twitter (@AESErocks), LinkedIn, or Pinterest for meeting updates as they happen.

About AESE

The Association of Earth Science Editors is an organization of editors, journal managers, and others concerned with publication in the earth sciences. The goals of the organization are to strengthen the profession of earth science editing; to foster education and improve communication in the earth sciences that will lead to more effective dissemination of earth science information to the scientific community, educators and students, and the public. Our members include editors of most of the North American earth-science journals, editing and publishing personnel with state/provincial and federal geological surveys and with commercial firms, editors of reports prepared for geological consultants and others interested in earth-science publishing.