



Richard Tanabe Ellis B. Cowling Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to Richard Tanabe for his dedicated service to National Atmospheric Deposition Program.

Richard Tanabe joined the NADP Program Office staff in 2018 in the role of Site Liaison and Site Support Specialist after spending 16 years at the Canadian Air and Precipitation Monitoring Network (CAPMoN) for Environment and Climate Change Canada. Through the years his role at NADP has expanded to what we would now call Assistant Coordinator – as site liaison, webmaster and directing the day to day operation of the Program Office.

Richard has served in operational roles at the Program Office, as part of the Management Team, as Site Liaison communicating directly the each and every site, solving problems inside and outside of the operational networks, as well as serving in the committee structure of NADP as a whole.

As the site liaison, Richard has provided excellent site support across all of the networks. He knows the site operators and the equipment and he assures that, when equipment fails, sites are back up and running with as little downtime as possible. He also developed and updated all of the site operator training materials so that site operators have the resources they need to collect quality data across the NADP networks.

Richard has mentored new employees at the Program Office, provided expert knowledge of NADP by-laws to an ever-changing Executive Committee and assured that NADP networks have run smoothly and provided high-quality data that are used across North America and beyond.

Richard has shown leadership at NADP throughout his tenure, he completed two back-to-back rotations through the Network Operations Sub-committee serving as NOS Chair in 2016 and 2019. Richard is someone who leads from behind, shaping NADP through suggestions, hard work, follow through, and attention to detail. He has been involved in many NADP modernization initiatives: helping to redesign the precipitation sensors for the Aerochem collectors, innumerable website redesigns and updates, as well as implementing data workflow, data management, and database improvements. Richard has also developed tools that allow stakeholders to monitor the status of samples and sites in near real time, a benefit to all site supervisors, managers, and agency representatives.

Richard has been instrumental in the execution of the business meetings and Science Symposiums; through the years he has accommodated in-person and virtual participation in the meetings, he pulled off completely virtual meetings twice during COVID-19, he is the backbone of the meeting organization and he is essential in making sure everything comes together on the technical side of the meetings.

Finally, he was instrumental in the change of universities that NADP experienced in 2018 and intimately involved in the integration of NADP into the University of Wisconsin.

Richard's entire career has been spent in support of high-quality atmospheric deposition data that have been used for research and policy decisions across North America.