

**Index for 1999 Number 15**

- [Looking Towards MM2000](#)
  - [1999 Awards Winners](#)
  - [David Comba joins the PDAC Staff](#)
  - [NWT Park at Issue in Senate Hearing](#)
  - [Mining Matters Introduces Grade 4 Program](#)
  - [Five New Directors Elected to PDAC Board](#)
  - [Access to Land Continues to Challenge the Mineral Industry](#)
    - [British Columbia](#)
    - [Ontario](#)
    - [Yukon](#)
  - [Mining Standards Task Force](#)
  - [Nominations Welcomed for Canadian Mining Hall of Fame](#)
  - [New PDAC Publications](#)
  - [Letter to the Editor](#)
  - [North Atlantic Minerals Symposium](#)
  - [Congratulations!](#)
  - [Goal of Self-Regulatory Body for Ontario Geoscientists Gets Closer](#)
  - [Governments Review Their Activities](#)
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## Looking Towards MM2000

The next PDAC convention will be held jointly with the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum under the banner Mining Millennium 2000. The week-long event will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from March 5-10, 2000, and is being designed to mark the new millennium in an exciting and unprecedented way.

MM2000 Convention and Trade Exhibition will be the largest and most comprehensive of its kind ever held in Canada. The event will incorporate all of the elements of our regular conventions - high quality technical program and keynote presentations; trade show; core shack; investors exchange - and will incorporate many extra special features, including exhibits which show the high tech nature of mining today. A Global Mines Ministries Forum, a three-day international meeting of mines ministers, senior government officials responsible for mining, minerals and metals, and mining executives, will be an important addition to MM2000.

A brochure for the event is included with this newsletter. Please note that the deadline for the Call for Papers is June 15, 1999.



This year's annual convention lived up to its reputation as one of the leading events in the world for the exploration and development industry. Over 6,200 individuals, including delegates and their guests, and exhibitors, attended the convention, which was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and the Royal York Hotel from March 14-17. Many delegates came from overseas, from Latin America, Africa, Australia, and Asia. Delegations came from Australia, Brazil, China, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. In all, 69 countries were represented.

Convention organizers have remarked on an apparent trend for companies to organize corporate meetings around the convention. Outside the convention activities proper of PDAC Convention 99, private meetings were being held in various parts of the city. The PDAC appears to have become a gathering place for companies whose personnel are spread across the world. This is a growing trend which can be attributed to the international activities of the exploration and development sector and to the growing importance of the convention.

Attractions at PDAC Convention 99 included a technical program packed with presentations about projects in Canada and abroad. The keynote session on Monday morning led off with an examination of programs and trends in the Americas, Asia and Europe. In a special Sunday afternoon session, a group of experts looked at metals prices trends and gave their views on what the future has in store. In the open forum, papers on Darnley Bay, a project in the Northwest Territories of Canada, and on the Prairie Kimberlite Province in Canada drew a crowd of delegates. A session with papers about mining title and regulatory issues around the world also generated intense interest. A list of the papers available from the convention is available.



In the 400-booth Trade Show, delegates were given the opportunity to meet representatives of service companies, government organizations, and mining companies. Major exhibits included the Atlantic Rock Room; the Australian, Brazilian, Northwest Territories, Ontario, and Quebec pavilions; Team Canada; Boart Longyear; Christensen Products; Geoterrex-Dighem; and HighSense Geophysics Limited. A recent addition to the trade show is the international bookroom. This year, over a dozen countries exhibited their top mining publications in that location.

The Investors Exchange featured 170 booths. For the first time, senior mining companies joined their junior counterparts in exhibiting in this busy area. Many individuals took advantage of the free admission to this part of the convention to visit the booths and to listen to presentations given in the Exchange Forum. It was standing room only for a number of company presentations, most notably the paper given by Doug Hume, president of Nuinsco Resources. Presentations made by leading investment analysts also attracted

delegate attention.

Other highlights included keynote presentations by Ned Goodman of Dundee Bancorp Inc. and David Baker of Newmont Gold Corp.; a global core shack; and an Irish social evening to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and to end another successful convention.




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## 1999 Awards Winners

The PDAC's Annual Awards Banquet on Monday, March 15, was an occasion for pride.

### *Bill Dennis Award for Prospector of the Year*

The Chilean exploration team of Rio Algom Limited is the recipient of the Bill Dennis Award for Prospector of the Year, an award which was established in 1977 to honour the memory of past president Bill Dennis. The Rio Algom team, consisting of John A. McClintock, Mike Thicke, Sigfried Weidner, and E. Angus Campbell, is honoured for its discovery of the Spence porphyry copper deposit in Chile in June 1996. Preliminary resource estimates for the deposit stand at 305 million tonnes of 1.1% copper.

### *Viola R. MacMillan Developers Award*

The Viola R. MacMillan Developers Award honours the memory of longtime PDAC president, Viola MacMillan, and is intended to recognize outstanding leadership in management and financing for exploration and development of mineral resources. This year the award is shared by Pierre Lassonde and Seymour Schulich, president and chief operating officer and chairman and chief executive officer respectively of Franco-Nevada and Euro-Nevada Mining Corporations Limited, for their key role in developing the two companies into world-class gold companies.

### *Distinguished Service Award*

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes significant contributions to the Canadian mineral industry or to the association itself. This year's recipient is former PDAC president Edward G. Thompson who is honoured for his long and exceptional service to the PDAC, serving as its president in 1977 and 1978. Mr. Thompson is also recognized for his service to the mineral exploration industry in general, including his chairmanship of the Ontario Advisory Committee on Junior Resource Financing and the Competitive Position of Ontario in 1986.



### *Special Achievement Awards*

- Roy A. Martin who is recognized for his lifelong achievements in prospecting and for his success in discovering, with Jack Kenty, the Dogpaw Lake property in Kenora, Ontario. Martin is also honoured for his involvement in the grubstake which led to the Granny Smith mine in Australia.

- Ross Toms, credited with finding 'more iron deposits in Canada than any other individual' is honoured for his prospecting successes during his long life. Chief among these was his discovery of billions of tons of iron in the Ungava district of northern Quebec, earning him the title 'the uncrowned king of the Ungava iron ores.'
- The geological consulting firm, Watts, Griffis & McOuat Limited, has excelled in consulting/advisory skills, in planning and mounting exploration programs, and in finding or participating in the finding of mines. From its origins in North America, the company has grown in scope and stature and today enjoys an international reputation for excellence.

### ***Environment Award***

- Timginn Prospecting Syndicate, headed by Robert M. Ginn, has been conducting a high profile exploration program within the City of Timmins, Ontario, for the past five years. During the drilling of 56 holes on lands managed by the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority, Timginn and its drilling contractor, Bradley Bros. Ltd., have been scrupulous in their attention to the local environment and to the local community. The project is an excellent example of how a responsibly conducted exploration program can have little or no longterm impact on its surroundings.
- Henry Brehaut, for his longstanding and strong commitment to the environment and for actively promoting high environmental standards within the Canadian and international mining industry. During his tenure as senior vice-president, environment for Placer Dome Inc. and in his work for the Mining Association of Canada and other organizations, Brehaut helped to move environmental and sustainable development issues into the Canadian and international mining arenas.



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## **David Comba Joins the PDAC Staff**

David Comba has been appointed director of issues management for the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. In this newly created position, Comba provides technical support for the implementation of strategies approved by the PDAC board of directors and executive committee.

His responsibilities include analyzing issues affecting the exploration sector, determining impacts and alternatives, and clarifying and summarizing complex issues for PDAC members and the media. He is currently working on issues involving access, title, financial regulation and legislation.

A senior executive and explorationist, David has had extensive experience across Canada, both working for major companies and running junior companies. During his career he has worked on exploration teams that have discovered 11 deposits. Among them are five past and present producers: GKP Zone, Yellowknife, NWT; Echo Bay 206 Vein, Port Radium, NWT; Corbet Mine, Noranda, Que.; Hoyle Lake Pond, Timmins, Ont.; and Lindsley,

Sudbury, Ont.

After obtaining his master of science degree in geology from Queen's University, Kingston, Ont. in 1975, Comba worked as project geologist, first for Falconbridge Copper, and later for Texasgulf/ Kidd Creek Mines. In 1986, he became exploration manager for Texasgulf/Kidd Creek Mines, Timmins, Ont. and from 1987 to 1990 held the same position with Falconbridge in Sudbury, Ont. In 1990, he became vice president of exploration for Falconbridge Gold Corporation and in 1994 was named president and chief executive officer of Pentland Firth Ventures Ltd. In 1998, he acted as director and consultant for NAR Resources, Dumont Nickel and Black Pearl Minerals.

David joined the PDAC as a consultant in April 1998 and was appointed director of issues management in September. He can be reached at (416) 362-1969 ext. 233 or by fax at (416) 362-0101.




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## **NWT Park at Issue in Senate Hearing**

The PDAC recently assisted the Inuvialuit of the Northwest Territories in their attempts to have the boundary of Canada's fifth largest national park amended slightly. The Inuvialuit want Tuktut Nogait National Park reduced slightly in size to accommodate some anomalies that had been staked, then surrendered to the Crown, by Darnley Bay Resources. The anomalies in question occur in areas that are sometimes used for a short period annually as a calving ground by the Bluenose Caribou herd.

Although the park was Canada's first co-management park and five of the six signatories want the boundary changed, the sixth, Parks Canada, has refused. Appearing at a Senate sub-committee hearing on Tuktut Nogait, executive director Tony Andrews and David Comba, director of issues management, gave assurances about the nature of exploration and the fact that it has little impact on caribou activities. In fact, PDAC representatives pointed out, caribou live around some of the operating mines in the Northwest Territories, and there is no evidence that operations have had a detrimental effect on the herds. If exploration activities were to be carried out on the Tuktut Nogait anomalies, the PDAC said, they could be scheduled to avoid interfering with the calving period.

Comba deplors the way in which the federal government has treated aboriginal communities that are in proximity to the park. "It was disturbing, reading through the sub-committee minutes and listening to the testimony, to see how blatantly the position of the Aboriginal Peoples has been ignored by Parks Canada and how they have been misled," he says. As an example, when the park was created, the nearest aboriginal community, Paulatuk, was promised 20 jobs. In fact, only two seasonal jobs have materialized. Three people visited the park in 1997; none stopped in Paulatuk.

Comba explains that a few years ago, when the Inuvialuit thought they were going to become wealthy from the oil and gas extracted from the Beaufort Sea, they gave more than one-third of their land base to Parks Canada. Now that those oil and gas expectations

have not been realized, the Inuvialuit are scrambling to improve upon a subsistence economy, and mining is one of the few avenues open to them.



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## Mining Matters Introduces Grade 4 Program

Deeper and Deeper is the new **MINING MATTERS** program written by **Claude Picard**, **Linda Lilge**, and **Nadia Generoso**, teachers in the York Region District School Board, for Grade 4 students. The program, which is being pilot tested this spring, follows on from the highly successful unit for Grade 7 students, which, since its inception in 1994, has been distributed to teachers in almost every school board in Ontario. Plans are to produce and distribute close to 2,000 of the new kits through teacher workshops during the first semester of the 1999-2000 school year. The model for the development of both the Grade 4 and Grade 7 units has been shared with many other jurisdictions across Canada and internationally at educator and industry conferences.

**Deeper and Deeper**, which is divided into three topics, comes in a kit which contains all of the materials needed to complete the activities, for example, rock and mineral samples, aerial photographs, magnifiers, and protractors. In the first topic, Talking Soil, students learn about the formation and composition of soil. This leads naturally to the second topic, **Slip Sliding Away**, in which students make a landscape model, simulate the different forms of erosion, and develop and test a solution to an erosion problem using their model. The final section, **Rocks and Minerals**, teaches students how to distinguish between rocks and minerals, how to test the physical properties of minerals, how to classify rocks, and why rocks and minerals are important to everyone.

**MINING MATTERS** kits are given to teachers free of charge but with certain conditions. Support for the program has come from individuals, mining and exploration companies, banks, brokerage firms, foundations, law firms, other associations, government departments, and consulting firms. Click [here](#) to see the **MINING MATTERS** website, and also take a look at the list of contributors.

If you would like to contribute to the success of the program, please contact the project coordinator, [Linda Lilge](#); fax 416 978 4820; tel 416 946 4095.



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## Five New Directors Elected to PDAC Board

At the PDAC's annual general meeting in March, the following new directors were elected to the board:

**James Boyle**,  
Founding Partner, Boyle & Company

**Hans Matthews,**  
President, Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association

**Anthony J. Naldrett,**  
Emeritus Professor, University of Toronto

**Jamie Robertson,**  
Regional Exploration Manager for Western North America, Falconbridge Ltd.

**Eira Thomas,**  
Vice President, Exploration,  
Aber Resources Ltd.



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## **Access to Land Continues to Challenge the Mineral Industry**

Residents of British Columbia, Ontario and the Yukon are fast coming to the point where a simple decision will have to be made: do they want mining in their province or territory? "If they don't want mining, let us know," says PDAC president Gerald Harper. "There are other places in Canada and the world where they are welcome to go." His comments were triggered by the latest developments in land-use planning in the three provinces.

In British Columbia, the provincial mining association has walked away from that province's land-use planning process, declaring it inimical to mining. In Ontario, the process made an end-run around the mining industry. And in the Yukon, the government is being put to the test over claims staked in the heart of a proposed park.

"The mining industry is being seriously negatively impacted by the endless creation of more and more parks," says Harper. "And where those parks impact on mining there's really no attempt to adequately compensate the title-holders." If people want to retain mining as a Canadian industry, they will have to realize that it is possible to allow development while protecting values, he adds. Ecotourism will not compensate for the damage being done and the consequences will be seen in an endlessly declining Canadian dollar.



### ***British Columbia***

The Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC) has withdrawn from the provincial land use planning process. At the same time, the industry is calling for a two-year moratorium on the process and an independent analysis of its social and economic effects. Speaking on behalf of the industry, Walter Segsworth, president and CEO of Homestake Canada, called the province's planning approach unbalanced. "Changes need to be made," he told the B.C. Business Summit late last year. "One of the most pressing is that current land use planning policies appear to function more as a process by which to withdraw working land from the land base rather than use it."

In a statement issued in late January, the MABC says that after 10 years of trying to make various land use initiatives work, it has concluded the process is hostile to the industry. The association cites several reasons for its withdrawal. Although the original intent of the process was to increase park land to 12 per cent, parks or park study areas now cover 18 per cent of the province. The MABC contends that continuation of the planning process would result in protection for an even greater percentage of the province, further damaging resource industries.

The association also points out that land designations and initiatives, such as the Yukon to Yellowstone corridor and the Trans Canada Trail, are taking place while the provincial process is underway, and without reference to it.

The MABC charges that the planning process has created zones that, in effect, prohibit mining. The promised "certainty" for the mining industry has not materialized, it adds. Calling the planning process "totally inappropriate" for sub-surface resources, the association explains, "Minerals...cannot be seen and we don't know where they are. We cannot plan for the discovery of mineral resources on a regional planning basis."

Finally, says the MABC, contrary to initial understandings, economic and social implications have not been part of the planning process, "and we believe strongly that this is wrong." The association points out that since it is opposed to the process, it can no longer be a part of it.

Segsworth painted a grim picture for BC Business Summit delegates, saying that the province was over-taxed, top-heavy with government interference, no longer competitive and "in a hell of a mess." The land planning process is a significant contributor to British Columbia's poor economic condition, he said. "The serious economic decline we are experiencing is not just the result of external events, the Asian flu or commodity price fluctuations.

Blaming only those things for our economic dilemma is ignorance of the facts or just plain not telling the truth."



## ***Ontario***

The PDAC has serious concerns about the Ontario government's recently unveiled Living Legacy strategy. Developed from the Lands for Life land use planning process, the strategy creates 378 new parks and protected areas across mid-northern Ontario. It also sets aside 2.5 million hectares of additional protected land. The PDAC says that according to the government's mathematics, 12 per cent of the entire province will be protected and a process set in place to go beyond 12 per cent.

The PDAC charges that Living Legacy reflects a back-door deal struck between some forest product companies and the environmental movement that sacrificed the exploration and mining sectors. It also says the government did not provide the open consultative process that it promised when it launched Lands for Life.

Lands for Life was established in 1997 to establish future land use in the province. A key initial part of this public consultation process focused on three regional round tables which invited input from the general public and brought together key stakeholders, such as environmentalists, tourist outfitters, foresters, explorationists and mine operators.

"As one of the participants, the PDAC has always been concerned about a lack of adequate maps (1:20,000) which would illustrate existing mine tenure with proposed parks, and has had serious misgivings since last October when the round table reports included items that had never previously been discussed," says PDAC president Gerald Harper. "It seems incredible, but the government forced the round tables to make decisions on the location of proposed new parks without essential maps that would reveal their relationship to existing mineral tenure. The situation to date hasn't changed. The maps still don't exist, and the Ontario government is making decisions on where to put the new parks!"

Late in the year, when the government invited the PDAC to participate in closed-door sessions with representatives of the environmental movement, the association declined. "We strongly believe that it was important to maintain an open, fair process which included all key stakeholders and which respected the integrity of the round tables and the public consultation," Harper says.

Some stakeholders, however, did participate. These included some major forest product companies who, with their own 1:20,000 scale Forest Management Plan maps, then negotiated a series of land withdrawals with the environmental movement. In exchange for losing access to the new protected areas, loggers will be able to harvest their own lands more intensively.

"The government has ignored the impact of what it's done to other stakeholders in order to appease the environmental movement and paint itself green for the coming election," Harper charges.

To mollify the mining industry, the government has announced new grants for mineral exploration and says prospectors will be given "controlled" access to the protected lands and, in the event of major find, boundaries could be renegotiated. The government is also asking all claim holders to sign a contract confirming the rights of current mining property holders who are affected by the new parks.

The PDAC received a draft of the contract, which it found legally flawed, but by the time the association responded 24 hours later, the government had already mailed it to claim holders. "The government's concept of participation and consultation is very different from what one would normally understand those words to mean," Harper concludes. The PDAC immediately recommended that claim holders withhold their signatures, since signing the contract could prejudice future compensation.

The government now says that existing rights and interests in new parks will be grandfathered, whether or not the contracts are signed. Harper says that by going behind closed doors, the forestry companies received major concessions from the government, not only in financial compensation but in ways in which they will do business in the future - for example, by exemptions from various acts. "That is all going to be guaranteed in

legislation," says Harper. "And what the government gave us was a flawed contract."

The PDAC now hopes to work with the government to ensure the mining industry receives equivalent legislative protection through an equivalent mining accord. The government's unofficial response, says Harper, has been, "It's not impossible." The PDAC is also preparing the association's response to the Living Legacy strategy and is receiving advice on a possible legal challenge.

The PDAC is asking all members who have been effectively "parked" by Ontario's Living Legacy, or who are in close proximity to a park, to call its hotline at 1-888-585-5507.



## ***Yukon***

The government of the Yukon is caught in the middle in a struggle between the mining industry on the one hand, and environmentalists and aboriginals on the other. At issue is the territory's best-known landmark, Tombstone Mountain.

About 720 square kilometres in the Ogilvie Range in northern Yukon have been withdrawn from staking in order to create a new park, with the 2,460-metre-high Tombstone Mountain as its centrepiece. The park is to be co-managed with the Trondek Hwech'in First Nation as part of their land claim agreement with the territorial and federal governments.

However, Canadian United Minerals has staked 24 mineral claims in the centre of the park. Environmentalists and the First Nation are furious, and the government is on the horns of a political dilemma. In order to revitalize the territory's economy and lower its 15.4 per cent unemployment rate, the government has been wooing the mining industry. For example, it recently announced a 22 per cent tax rebate to exploration companies.

If the economic development minister supports the mineral claims, the industry will be confident that it has tenure in the territory. A decision not to honour the claims, however, will tell the industry it is not welcome.



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## **Mining Standards Task Force**

The final report of the Toronto Stock Exchange/Ontario Securities Commission Mining Standards Task Force, issued early this year, has addressed many of the concerns the PDAC initially expressed about the interim report. Some concerns, however, still remain to be worked out. The PDAC hopes to address these as it works with the Toronto Stock Exchange and the Ontario Securities Commission in preparing guidelines for mineral exploration companies.

The guidelines, which were recommended in the task force report, will address issues such as disclosure and best practices. [Click here](#) to see a summary of the report.



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## Nominations Welcomed for Canadian Mining Hall of Fame

The Canadian Mining Hall of Fame (CMHF) was established in 1988 to recognize and honour those legendary mine finders and builders who contributed to the growth and development of the Canadian industry. As one of the four sponsors of the CMHF, the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada is entitled to put forward three nominations to the CMHF board of directors (all nominations must be submitted through a sponsor or associate). For more information about the nominating procedure, contact:

[Saley Lawton](#); fax 416 362 0101;  
telephone 416 362 1969, ext. 225.

The next CMHF banquet and induction ceremony will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2000, at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.



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## New PDAC Publications

***The role of the economic geologist in financing exploration and mining projects*** (267 pages)  
(\$28.00 for PDAC members; \$35.00 for non-members)

The responsibilities of the economic geologist go far beyond investigating and assessing rocks and rock formations. Today this professional plays a key role in many aspects of an exploration company's decision-making and business operations, including its ability to raise financing for projects.

These proceedings, from a seminar organized by the PDAC in 1998, cover the responsibilities of the economic geologist. Topics include: Legal aspects of due diligence; Communicating with investors; Practical applications of ore deposit models; Sampling in mineral exploration; Assaying; Resource & reserve estimation and terminology; and Valuation of mineral assets.

Order Form

***New developments in the geological understanding of some major ore types and environments, with implications for exploration*** (267 pages)  
(\$28.00 for PDAC members; \$35.00 for non-members)

Order Form

These proceedings of a PDAC short course, held in March 1999, examine new ideas about and geological developments on priority exploration target types, linking the new thinking to exploration. The ten papers in the volume include:

- *Fe-oxide-Cu-Au deposits of the Olympic Dam/Ernest Henry-type*, Patrick J.

## Williams

- *Magmatic processes that generate porphyry and associated ore deposits*, Jeffery D. Keith, Tamalyn Pulsipher, Daniel T. Maughan, Kimberly A. Waite, Eric H. Christiansen and David G. Tingey
- *Controls on alteration and mineralization in high-temperature, carbonate-replacement Zn-Pb-Ag+Cu+Au deposits in Mexico and Southern Arizona: implications for development of effective exploration models*, James R. Lang and Tim Baker
- *Auriferous polymetallic massive sulfides and the VMS-epithermal transition: a new exploration target*, M.D. Hannington
- *Carlin-type gold deposits in the Great Basin, Western USA*, Richard M. Tosdal
- *Geological environments for Carlin-type gold deposits in Canada*, K. Howard Poulsen
- *Recent ideas on the origin of Witwatersrand-type gold deposits*, Laurence J. Robb
- *Heavy mineral placer deposits as sources of past and present metal output-important exploration guides for discovery of lode deposits in Alaska, Yukon, and the Russian Far East*, T.K. Bundtzen, Steve Morison, W.J. Nokleberg and Eugene Sidorov
- *Mississippi Valley-type lead-zinc deposits through geologic time*, David L. Leach
- *New developments in extractive metallurgy and mineral processing and what these may mean for the definition of 'ore' and 'ore reserves.'*, John Wells

To order these publications, contact [Michelle Toffoli](#);  
fax 416 362 0101; telephone 416 362 1969.



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## Letter to the Editor

The following is an excerpt from a letter to the editor of the *Mining Journal* and is reprinted with permission. We thought PDAC members would be interested in its contents.

Dear sir,

You report figures showing that global spending on nonferrous minerals exploration has dropped by about 30% this year (1998). Such a large drop does not make sense as the response of a long-term business to short-term developments such as metal-prices movements. Falling commodity prices reduce the stock of known mineral resources that could be mined at a profit but have little or no effect on the fundamental drives behind resource depletion. Logically, they should encourage exploration for 'premium' deposits that can take the strain in times like these and are in places where mining is environmentally and socially acceptable.

The downturn makes more sense as a sharp correction for errors of judgement that had been distorting the global exploration effort for many years. The main examples, I suggest, are: over-optimism on gold exploration; over-optimism about attractiveness of 'new' countries; and over-reliance on computing, especially as a substitute for field observations.

Gold exploration routinely accounts for more than 50% of the global exploration spending and with many junior companies it is 'the only game in town'. It is wildly out of balance in relation to the proportional value of gold production and the need to discover new gold resources, which in human terms only exists in countries that have to rely on gold for economic development and employment. It does no harm, especially to countries such as South Africa, if the downturn throttles a lot of gold exploration.

On the second point, I believe the downturn reflects a reckless failure by many companies to make a proper assessment of the risks that confront exploration in many 'new' countries. From gangsterism to hopelessly deficient infrastructure, the risks are as numerous as the countries that have soaked up exploration money in the 1990s without any real possibility of delivering commercial mineral discoveries. If the current shakeout promotes greater diligence and expertise in risk assessment, it will strengthen the exploration industry.

The Digital Revolution has had a big impact on many aspects of exploration but relatively little on one of the more important - the quality of fieldwork. It has encouraged exploration companies to spend more on amassing digital data than on checking the value of the data in the field, devalued information that cannot easily be digitised, and bred on-screen explorers who are dysfunctional in the field.

C.J. Morrissey  
Bath, UK



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## North Atlantic Minerals Symposium

The first in a series of biannual North Atlantic minerals symposia, sponsored by the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Geological Survey of Ireland, will be held in Dublin, Ireland, from September 19-22, 1999. The meeting will focus on mineral resources, their development and marketing around the North Atlantic and will include technical sessions on metallic and industrial minerals, exhibits, posters, industry demonstrations, and a core shack. Field trips in Newfoundland and Ireland are being organized around the symposium. Contact:

[Baxter Kean](#);

tel 709 729 5946; fax 709 729 4491, or

[Gerry Stanley](#);

tel 353-1-604-1425; fax 353-1-668-1782.



## Congratulations!

PDAC board member, **Patricia Dillon**, who became president elect of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum, at the association's recent annual meeting in Calgary.

Past president **John Hansuld**, who received the Past President's Medal for Dedicated Service to the Association of Exploration Geochemists at the 19th International Geochemical Exploration Symposium in Vancouver, April 15.



## Goal of Self-Regulatory Body for Ontario Geoscientists Gets Closer

The Association of Geoscientists of Ontario (AGO) is moving quickly toward becoming a self-regulatory professional association. In early February, Minister of Northern Development and Mines Chris Hodgson announced that the government will work with the geoscience community in creating the necessary enabling legislation. The AGO, which was formed three years ago and now has more than 1,000 members, expects the legislation to pass within two years. The PDAC has agreed to provide office space and services during the startup phase.

Ontario geoscientists have been seeking professional registration in order to raise the standards of the profession, to improve national and international mobility and transferability, and to protect the public interest from unskilled persons and unethical actions. Registration has been given impetus by the Toronto Stock Exchange/Ontario Securities Commission Mining Standards Task Force, which has developed a "Qualified Person" concept for resource reporting. The concept is based on licensure of geoscientists in all Canadian jurisdictions.

The AGO has established an independent advisory committee that will work with its board of directors and government officials in providing advice on the preparation of legislation.

The committee will also develop a business plan for the self-regulatory association, currently known as the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (APGO), and ensure that its professional requirements will meet the requirements of the Qualified Person concept.

Members of the committee are: **Neil Westoll**, president and CEO of EXP Resources Ltd.; **Michael Bourassa**, partner, Aird and Berlis; **John Gartner**, senior principal, Gartner Lee Limited; **Gerald Harper**, president of the PDAC and of Gamah International; **Bernie Haystead**, managing director, CIBC Wood Gundy Global Mining Group; **Maureen Jensen**, director, mining services, Toronto Stock Exchange; **Paul Severin**, vice president, exploration, Falconbridge Limited; and **Howard Stockford**, executive vice president, Aur Resources.

The AGO is currently holding a series of consultations across the province with the geoscience community and other stakeholders, such as prospectors. Discussions focus on the major issues of licensure, the Qualified Person concept and the AGO action plan.

The new self-regulatory body will set professional standards for geological work in exploration and mining. It will maintain admission requirements for the entry of qualified individuals to registration, set standards of professional practice, and discipline members for unprofessional conduct or unethical practice. Suggested guidelines for admission to AGPO include, as a minimum, a four-year honours degree in a recognized geoscience program and four years of relevant work experience.

The AGO notes that there will be a transition period during which there will be greater emphasis on the experience requirement, so that existing experienced practitioners may obtain AGPO registration. After acceptance for registration, applicants will be required to complete successfully a professional practice and ethics examination, to agree to adhere to the profession's Code of Ethics, and to comply with requirements for continuing competency. The AGO proposes that registered professional geoscientists carry the title "Professional Geoscientist," with the designation "P.Geo."

A copy of the guidelines is available on the [AGO web site](#).



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## **Governments Review Their Activities**

### **Yukon**

27th Annual Geoscience Forum  
Westmark Whitehorse & the Best Western Gold Rush Inn  
November 20-23, 1999  
Contact Dave Austin, (867) 667-2090, Fax (867) 668-7127  
[www.gov.yk.ca](http://www.gov.yk.ca)

### **Northwest Territories**

27th Anniversary NWT GeoScience Forum  
Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife  
November 24-26, 1999  
Contact [Dawn Bangs](#) (867) 873-5281, Fax (867) 920-2145  
[www.gov.nt.ca](http://www.gov.nt.ca)

### **British Columbia**

Cordilleran Roundup  
Hyatt Regency Hotel & Hotel Vancouver  
January 25-28, 2000  
Contact [Sally Howson](#), (604) 689-5271, ext. 104, Fax (604) 681-2363  
[www.bc-mining-house.com](http://www.bc-mining-house.com)

### **Saskatchewan**

### 30th Geological Open House

Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon

November 29-Dec 1, 1999

Contact [Marg McQuinn](#), (306) 787-2567, Fax (306) 787-2488

[www.gov.sk.ca/enermine](http://www.gov.sk.ca/enermine)

### Manitoba

Mining & Minerals Convention

Winnipeg Convention Centre

November 18-20, 1999

Contact [Shirley Henry](#) (204) 945-2691,

Fax (204) 945-8427, 1-800-223-5215

[www.gov.mb.ca/em/minerals/convention/index.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/em/minerals/convention/index.html)

### ONTARIO

Mining Millennium 2000

Ontario Pavillion, Metro Toronto Convention Centre

Toronto, Ontario, March 5-8, 2000

Contact: [Liliane Pellerin](#)

Tel: (705) 670-5620 Fax (705) 670-5807

[www.gov.on.ca/MNDM](http://www.gov.on.ca/MNDM)

### Quebec

20th Séminaire d'information sur la recherche géologique

Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City

November 24-25, 1999

Contact [M. Luc Charbonneau](#), (418) 627-6269, ext. 5220

[www.gouv.qc.ca/4/46/462/intro.asp](http://www.gouv.qc.ca/4/46/462/intro.asp)

### New Brunswick

Mining Week & 24th Annual Review of Activities -

Minerals & Energy Division (DNRE)

Sheraton Hotel, Fredericton

November 1-3, 1999

Contact [Carol McNeill-Dobbelsteyn](#), (506) 453-2206,

Fax: (506) 453-3671

[www.gov.nb.ca/dnre/minerals](http://www.gov.nb.ca/dnre/minerals)

### Newfoundland & Labrador

23rd Annual Mines Branch

Delta St. John's Hotel & Convention Centre

November 4, 1999

Norm Mercer, (709) 729-6193, Fax: (709) 729-4491

46th Annual Meeting of Newfoundland Branch of CIM in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of APEGN Delta St. John's Hotel & Convention Centre

November 4-6, 1999

[Lawson Dickson](#), (709) 729-2453, Fax: (709) 729-4270

[www.geosurv.gov.nf.ca/conference/index.html](http://www.geosurv.gov.nf.ca/conference/index.html)