

## *PDAC convention hits a new record*

The PDAC International Convention, Trade Show and Investors Exchange broke all previous records at its 74th meeting in March 2006 and lived up to its reputation as the leading venue for people involved in global mineral exploration. A record 14,500 people from across the world packed the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for the annual event that has become a high point in the mineral industry's calendar.

Prospectors and geologists rubbed shoulders with Canadian and foreign government officials. Investors clamoured to hear company presentations and lined up to talk to company representatives about investment opportunities. Bankers, brokers, and analysts were out in full force as were suppliers of equipment and services to the industry. Exploration managers, lawyers, accountants, students, and media were also there. Technical presentations proved a huge draw, and an over-flow audience heard speakers in the keynote session speak about the subject that was evident throughout the convention: Mining's Back!

In all, delegates came from an estimated 100 countries. Of these, 40 sent national delegations headed by a senior government official. The reason for their presence was nicely summed up by Argentina's mining secretary. When asked why his country had sent a delegation of close to 100 people, he said the convention "provides an unrivalled



*PDAC volunteers and directors rang the bell for the opening of the TSX on Tuesday, March 7, the third day of the PDAC International Convention.*

opportunity to meet, negotiate and compare notes with the who's who of mining."

Representatives of the 430 exhibiting companies in the Investors Exchange and the 280 companies in the Trade Show were kept busy throughout the four days of the convention talking about their prospects, projects, services and products. Traffic in the Investors Exchange, which offered free admission to the investing public, was heavy, with attendance of more than 3,400. Events, people, and companies were widely publicized by the 200 Canadian and foreign print, television, radio, and internet media representatives covering the show.

The PDAC welcomed Minister of Natural Resources Gary Lunn to his first PDAC convention. As he opened the convention, Trade Show and Investors Exchange, he expressed concern about the slowness of the regulatory process and said the federal government recognizes that

business needs timely and predictable outcomes.

Mr. Lunn added that the government would eliminate regulatory overlap to ensure the continued growth of the industry.

The deal-making and networking were not restricted to daytime hours. The many receptions, hospitality suites, and social events organized around the convention provided further opportunities to do business as well as have fun. Some 500 people

attended the "wrap" party which featured a '70s theme and the Women's Association of the Mining Industry of Canada celebrated its 85th birthday with an afternoon tea party at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel.

### **Thank you!**

**The PDAC thanks the corporate sponsors who helped to make the 74th PDAC International Convention a success.**

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It can be found at [www.pdac.ca](http://www.pdac.ca), under What's New.**

## Thayer Lindsley International Discovery Award

Canadian geologist Larry J. Buchanan of Apex Silver Mines Corporation is recognized for his discovery of the massive San Cristobal silver deposit in Bolivia. The deposit has the second largest silver resource in the world and one of the largest zinc resources.



*Larry J. Buchanan*

## Special Achievement Award

Ian Telfer, CEO of Goldcorp, receives this award for his extraordinary entrepreneurial and financing achievements since his first venture into the precious metals business in 1983.



*Ian Telfer*



*Michael Kenyon*

## Viola R. MacMillan Developer's Award

The 2006 award winners are Michael Kenyon and Roman Shklanka, geologists and co-founders of Canico Resource Corporation, a Vancouver-based junior and owner of the Onça-Puma, a large undeveloped nickel deposit in Brazil. The company and deposit were sold to Companhia Vale do Rio Doce in early 2006.



*Roman Shklanka*



*David Comba*

## Distinguished Service Award

C. David Comba, former PDAC director of regulatory affairs, is honoured for his contributions to the association and to this country's exploration industry. He was the driving force behind the PDAC's successful lobbying attempts that resulted in the Investment Tax Credit for Exploration or "super" flow-through program. Bill Mercer's award acknowledges his dedicated and enthusiastic service to the PDAC and his championing of many of its causes. Among his contributions to the association is his service as director, president and past-president.



*Bill Mercer*

## Bill Dennis Prospector of the Year Award

This award honours the Virginia Gold Mines Inc. team – André Gaumont, Paul Archer, Alain Cayer, and Jean-François Ouellette – for the discovery of several gold deposits on the company's Éléonore property in the James Bay area in Quebec.



*Left to right: Alain Cayer, Jean-François Ouellette, Paul Archer, André Gaumont.*



## e3 Environmental Excellence in Exploration Award

Greystar Resources Ltd. is recognized for its achievements at the Angostura gold-silver project in Colombia. Greystar has won recognition from the local community by supporting mutually beneficial social projects and by establishing and maintaining good communications between the company and local citizens.

**PDAC in Brief** is a quarterly newsletter published by the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. The newsletter is designed to inform the association's members of the activities of the PDAC and also of current issues and events of interest to the Canadian exploration and development industry.

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# The future is bright, says speaker

The mining industry is facing a future brighter than it has ever been, according to a senior investment executive.

Donald Coxe told those attending the Mineral Outlook Luncheon that “this old economy industry, this sunset industry, is actually just entering the best period of its history.”

The chairman and chief strategist of Harris Investment Management in Chicago and chairman of John Heward Investments in

Toronto gave his audience a snapshot of the industry’s history and looked at the opportunities ahead.

He took his audience back to the mid-1950s, when copper was 50 cents a pound and there was a mining boom and a baby boom.

The two booms were intertwined, he said. Because of the baby boom, there was a large movement of people to middle-class dwellings and a corresponding demand for

metals. Mining, he pointed out, sustained the growth of the middle class.

Coxe compared the prospects of the industry today to those in the mid-1950s. In China and India, he said, 25 million people a year are being added to the middle class and that will change the cyclical nature of the industry. The best asset to hold today is commodities, he added, and the worst is technology – and that will be true until the end of the decade.

## Randgold head looks at new world of gold mining

New gold is in short supply and it appears that it will stay that way. Also in short supply are the skills and resources needed to find and build profitable world-class operations.

That was the outlook that Mark Bristow, chief executive officer of Randgold Resources, offered during his speech on the new gold supply at the PDAC-CIM luncheon.

However, he added, if a government, explorer or miner has good assets, qualified people, and is willing to build authentic partnerships, it is more likely to be on the winning team throughout this mining cycle and beyond.

Bristow described the emerging themes at the PDAC convention: new and good gold projects are scarce and to find them, companies need to look at riskier investment destinations. They also need to take notice of the social environment in which they operate.

The new gold supply, which Bristow described as the industry’s life blood, has been decreasing since the late 1990s, and the trend is likely to continue.

One of the reasons for this, he explained, is the decline in gold exploration expenditures since 1997. This same period of decline has been marked by a rush of mergers and acquisitions that has not just consolidated the industry, but shrunk it.

Not only is less gold being mined by fewer producers, Bristow said, there has been a major shift in the source of the metal, away from first world countries and South Africa toward West and East Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Although it is shrinking, a substantial proportion of current production still comes from mature gold fields and more and more

is coming from emerging markets, Bristow said.

“In both instances, we need new technology and thinking and, most importantly, smart people to find more in the mature terrains and new projects in the new and risky areas,” he said.

Despite the rise in the price of gold, the industry’s profit margins remain modest, and Bristow questioned whether the industry currently is even profitable.

“An improvement in the dollar price of gold is by no means a rising tide that lifts all ships,” he said.

“Its effect is very much dependent on the currency zone in which you’re operating.”

He added, “In spite of the high dollar price of gold, the industry is not making money from its operations. In fact, it is barely in balance.”

## Dalhousie student wins geoscience award

Tony Barresi, a doctoral student specializing in earth sciences at Dalhousie University, is this year’s winner of the \$3,000 Mary-Claire Ward Geoscience Award.

Created in 2004 in memory of geoscientist and PDAC director Mary-Claire Ward, the award encourages and supports a graduate student in Canada whose thesis is likely to increase our knowledge of Canada’s geological history through mapping.



*When John Fleming of Cornerstone Capital Resources Inc. won a 1.1 carat Ekati diamond in the convention’s Great Diamond Giveaway, he knew exactly what to do with it. He and his wife Roxanne are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year. So, in front of astonished crowds at the booth of BHP Billiton, donors of the gem, Fleming went down on one knee and proposed to his wife for the next 40 years. She said yes.*

## Convention snapshots

During the convention, the PDAC presented a cheque for \$50,000 to the Geological Association of Canada for the Logan Student Trust Fund. The fund establishes and maintains Logan Student Chapters at Canadian universities. Chapter membership comprises campus geoscience clubs.

The Investors Exchange held a contest entitled *Go for the Gold* contest. Congratulations to Adrian Van Rythoven from Burlington, Ontario, the winner of a five-ounce gold bar valued at approx. \$3,300.

Toronto Mayor David Miller welcomed guests to the city during the Mineral Outlook Luncheon. He remarked that the more than 12,000 delegates at the 2005 convention had brought \$16.5 million in revenue to Toronto. He highlighted Toronto's importance to the industry, noting that more than half the world's publicly traded mining companies are listed on the TSX Group's exchanges.

For the first time, the convention featured a full technical session on aboriginal participation in the mineral industry. More than 200 people crowded into a meeting room to hear about *La Paix des Braves*, a historic resource agreement between the Cree Nation and the government of Quebec that offers opportunities for partnership between communities and companies.

The Russian Geological Institute, in partnership with the PDAC, presented a five-hour session that looked at developing investment interest by the junior exploration sector in Russia. Topics included the requirements for acquisition of land, the taxation system, the Russian investment climate and other aspects of exploration.

# Industry calls for one-year extension to NWT land use plan

The PDAC is objecting to the manner in which mineral exploration and mining have been treated in a proposed land use plan for the Dehcho region in the Northwest Territories. The issue has potential ramifications for the industry elsewhere in Canada.

In raising the objection, the PDAC is supporting its members who are active in the Northwest Territories. It is joined in this initiative by the Mining Association of Canada and the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines.

In 2001, the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee was established and mandated to develop a land use plan for the Dehcho territory for lands outside the existing community boundaries and the Nahanni National Park Reserve.

The most recent draft of the plan has been submitted to the Dehcho First Nations, the Government of the Northwest Territories and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

The industry has requested that acceptance of the land use plan be delayed for a year. This would allow for further consideration of the objections to the plan and for additional mineral resource assessment to be conducted. Also, the industry plans to undertake community information sessions so that aboriginal communities can be properly informed about the potential benefits of mineral resources within their area.

The industry's objection to the draft land use plan is rooted in the stated purpose, which is "to promote the social cultural and economic wellbeing of residents and communities in the Dehcho territory, having regard to the interests of all

Canadians."

The PDAC says that the plan does not adequately fulfill that purpose. It is also concerned that, once approved, the plan will be legally binding, changes will be difficult to make and any mineral licence that does not conform to the plan would be rejected.

In a January 2006 letter to the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee, PDAC president Peter Dimmell wrote, "It is the view of our organizations that the existing plan would significantly discourage mineral exploration activity in the region, closing off important economic opportunities for the Dehcho and other northerners."

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The industry plans to undertake community information sessions so that aboriginal communities can be properly informed about the potential benefits of mineral resources within their area.

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Dimmell further noted that, according to the committee's own figures, one-fifth of the Dehcho are unemployed.

He points out that mineral exploration and mining are playing an increasingly important role

in the economies of aboriginal communities. The sector is also the largest industrial employer of aboriginals in Canada. However, the proposed land use plan ignores these trends and proposes to isolate areas of high mining potential that could offer the Dehcho opportunities for long-term employment, skills training, business ownership and equity sharing.

Mike Vaydik, general manager of the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines, says the region is rated High, or Very High in mineral potential.

In March 2006, the PDAC, the Mining Association of Canada and the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines addressed these concerns in a jointly signed letter to Jim Prentice, federal minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

# *PDAC investigates group insurance*

The PDAC is examining the feasibility of setting up a professional liability group insurance plan for the industry that would provide better rates than currently exist.

There have been concerns in the industry about the disparities that exist in professional liability insurance rates among provinces, and the rising costs for professionals who have to maintain such insurance. There has also been unhappiness about the inconsistency of Workers Safety and Insurance premiums.

The PDAC board set up an ad hoc insurance committee to investigate these two areas and received its report in December.

The report looked at other geoscience groups whose members are active in the same or similar insurance markets. It also examined some of the insurance structures available to geoscientists in other parts of the world.

The report found that Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) premiums vary widely among provinces and there is inconsistency in assigning the premiums geoscientists should pay. In some cases, the assessed premiums have been deemed to be too low, and the WSIB

has asked for arrears to be paid.

Part of the problem is that the exploration industry does not have enough injuries to form its own WSIB category for premiums, and therefore is included with mining which statistically is a high injury group.

In the area of professional liability insurance, the report describes an uneven playing field across Canada due to inconsistent requirements. This lack of uniformity deters geoscientists from working in different jurisdictions, the report says, and thus affects their ability to compete for work.

In some jurisdictions, geoscientists may be working at a disadvantage compared to registered professional engineers. In Ontario, for example, engineers have the option of giving clients notice that they have no coverage and asking for a waiver. If they need the insurance for a specific client, they can obtain it on a case-by-case basis. Geoscientists, however, do not have that option.

The report also found that because of high insurance costs, many geoscientists working independently choose not to carry professional liability insurance and turn down clients who may require this.

The committee is recommending that the PDAC take the lead in solving the WSIB and professional liability insurance problems of geoscientists, consulting groups and junior exploration companies and is working on two initiatives toward that end.

PDAC director Scott Jobin-Bevans, a member of the PDAC ad hoc insurance committee, has been asked by the Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC) to represent the PDAC on its recently formed insurance and liabilities committee. Other committee members represent the Canadian Institute of Mining Metallurgy and Petroleum and the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists.

“The goal of the committee is to see if we can collaborate together to develop a group insurance plan for all geoscientists, junior companies and people who are in the business of mineral exploration,” says Jobin-Bevans.

The PDAC ad hoc insurance committee is also looking at the way in which the WSIB sets categories for the industry. Its first step is to determine exactly what statistics the WSIB requires in order to establish a group rate for the mineral exploration industry, distinct from that of the mining sector.

## **Dillon becomes new president**



The PDAC board of directors has elected Patricia Dillon president of the PDAC for a two-year term. She has been a director of the PDAC since 1993, and is president and CEO of PDAC Mining Matters. Dillon is a member of the e3 committee and

chairs the Mary-Claire Ward Geoscience Award Oversight Committee. She most recently worked with the Mining Industry Training and Adjustment Council as chair of its national sector study steering committee.

Jon Baird, managing director of the Canadian Association of Mining Equipment and Services for Export is first vice president. He has served as chair of the membership committee and introduced the Core member program in 2002 as a way to enhance membership and maintain a cash flow for the PDAC's advocacy work.

A new slate of directors was elected or re-elected at the association's annual meeting in March.

The directors are:

**Michael Bourassa**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Patricia Dillon**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Michael Doggett**, Kingston, Ont.;  
**Ron Gagel**, Toronto, Ont.; **Brian Groves**, Toronto, Ont.; **Joe Hinzer**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Greg Ho Yuen**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Scott Jobin-Bevans**, Sudbury/Toronto, Ont.; **Leni Keough**, Hinton, Alta.;  
**Mike Leahy**, Swastika, Ont.;  
**Richard Moore**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Glenn Nolan**, Garden River, Ont.;  
**Patricia Sheahan**, Toronto, Ont.;  
**Keith Spence**, Toronto, Ont.; **Mike Taylor**, Miramichi, N.B.; and **Trevor Teed**, Yellowknife, NWT.

**Jim Excell**, Toronto, Ont., has been appointed to the board.

# Industry networking events popular with students

Two networking gatherings held for students this year have proved to be extremely successful. The events, held in Vancouver and Toronto, were designed to inform students about career and employment opportunities in the mining and minerals industry.

In Vancouver, the PDAC and the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia co-sponsored a student network-

ing evening during the January Mineral Exploration Roundup. Between 130 and 150 attended the beer and pizza gathering where students and industry representatives mingled freely.

"I made a conscious decision that it not be a job fair," says Lyn Anglin, a member of the PDAC's student affairs committee. "We thought students needed to have an opportunity, in a very informal environment,

to talk to people in the industry."

The more than 80 representatives from industry, associations, government and academia were carefully chosen.

"We invited people who we knew would be particularly good mentor types, who would interact with the students," Anglin says.

In Toronto, during the PDAC International Convention, the association's student affairs committee hosted a networking buffet luncheon that was attended by some 250 students and industry and government representatives.

The students came primarily from Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. Among those attending was a young couple from Turkey, both students working in that country who were delegates at the convention. Hearing of the networking event, and wanting to work in Canada, they attended the lunch to find out more about job opportunities in this country.

The PDAC hosted other student networking activities at the convention, including special tours of the Investors Exchange and Trade Show in cooperation with the CIM Toronto Branch.

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## PDAC continues to lobby for vital programs

The PDAC is continuing to lobby the federal government for three programs that are vital to the industry: re-instatement of the Investment Tax Credit for Exploration (ITCE); modernization of Canadian Exploration Expenditures; and funding for the Cooperative Geological Mapping Strategy.

Although the ITCE, or "super" flow-through program, ended on Dec. 31, 2005, the PDAC hopes that with a change of government, it will be brought back.

The association has communicated with

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, drawing his attention to the demonstrated benefits of the ITCE program. It noted that last September, the mines ministers of all provinces and territories wrote to the then finance minister in support of an extension.

In two recent meetings with the new federal minister of natural resources, Gary Lunn, the PDAC emphasized the importance of ITCE, CEE, and the Cooperative Geological Mapping Strategy to the positioning of Canada to take full advantage of the global commodity boom.

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## Companies surveyed about safety practices

The PDAC and the Association for Mineral Exploration BC (formerly the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines) have joined forces to conduct a Canada-wide survey of health and safety issues.

The survey was formerly conducted annually by the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines to collect and tabulate regional data on accidents in mineral exploration and classify them as to cause.

The survey serves a number of purposes. It raises awareness of specific exploration hazards and fosters a culture of safe practice

in exploration. It also tracks changes in accident patterns over a period of time. Further, it is important that the exploration industry gather statistics about its own practices that show it differs from mining and is not a high-risk activity. (See PDAC investigates group insurance, page 5.)

The questionnaire has been sent to 700 companies with exploration projects in Canada. Results will be summarized in a report that will be available free in electronic format and hard copy.

### e3 translation underway

Translation of e3 Environmental Excellence in Exploration into French, Spanish and Portuguese is underway and should be completed by the end of this year. Quebec-based and international companies have committed funding toward the French translation, and the Peruvian Ministry of Mines and the Canadian International Development Agency are sponsoring the Spanish translation. Meanwhile, the PDAC and the e3 committee are working with an association in Brazil to initiate the Portuguese translation. Registration for e3 is free. Access to the site is at [www.e3mining.com](http://www.e3mining.com).

# VOLUNTEER PROFILE

## Deborah McCombe: an educator at heart

One of the things that Deborah McCombe has sought out in her personal and professional life is the opportunity to educate people about mining in all its aspects. As a longtime PDAC director, as a heavily involved industry volunteer, and in her own burgeoning career, she has become an effective and knowledgeable advocate for the industry.

Born and raised in Toronto, McCombe studied geology at the University of Western Ontario. It seemed a natural choice of subject, she says, because not only did she enjoy science and the outdoors, she had been exposed to the mining industry all her life. Her grandfather was the youngest brother of the family that founded the *Northern Miner*, and her father was a printing salesman for the Northern Miner Press. "I saw the paper on a weekly basis," she says.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1975, McCombe was hired by Price Company, a Quebec pulp and paper company that was shortly taken over by Abitibi. She began working as an exploration field geologist in Buchans, Nfld., later moving on to the Maritimes and northern and northwest Ontario.

In 1981, she and her husband, geological engineer John McCombe, started their own consulting firm and in the late 1980s, McCombe became a geological consultant with Watts, Griffis and McOuat. She soon became manager of business development for the firm, traveling internationally as well as across Canada and United States, and as the century drew to a close, she was named president of this renowned international consulting firm. Her career took a sudden turn in 2000 when one of her clients, the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC), asked her to join the commission as its chief mining consultant.

At the OSC, a major part of McCombe's job has been working on the development of Canadian standards of disclosure for mineral projects. The incorporation of these



*Both her job and her volunteer activities with the PDAC have taken Deborah McCombe to overseas locales such as China.*

standards into National Instrument 43-101 has added a significant educational component to her responsibilities.

"Recently, much of my role has been presentations and workshops across Canada and internationally on our Canadian disclosure standards," she says, adding that she has enjoyed promoting Canadian standards in such diverse countries as Sweden, Chile, China and Australia.

McCombe joined the PDAC around the same time as she and her husband had their consulting business. Initially, she was involved in planning the annual PDAC convention, developing the technical program and also chairing the convention committee.

In 1996, she was elected to the PDAC board as a director and has since worked on both the securities and the governance committees. Late last year, she became chair of the international affairs committee, whose mandate is to increase the PDAC's international profile and effectiveness (see story, page 8).

McCombe's volunteer work has not been limited to the PDAC, however. The opportunity to educate about the industry led her to become involved in other professional organizations.

"One of the challenges for the mining

industry overall is to educate the public, raising awareness of the mining industry and the benefits (of mining) to our everyday lives," she says. "We have to talk, not only to ourselves as the industry, but to a wider group of people."

She has put her beliefs into practice in a number of arenas. In the 1990s, she was an ambassador for the Mining Works for Canada program, talking about the benefits of mining to community groups and to federal politicians. She worked with the Toronto branch of the Canadian Institute for Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM), becoming chair in 2003 and focusing on attracting university students to the organization and opening up networking opportunities for them.

She has also worked with the national CIM, chairing the annual conference and exhibition in Toronto in 2005 and developing the innovative and highly successful Mining in Society show. Staged simultaneously with the CIM conference, the show is designed to engage the public, encouraging them to find out more about the industry.

For McCombe, communication is one of the key challenges facing the PDAC and its board.

"Everybody's working so hard and at such a fast pace, it's important to be on top of the issues and be able to respond to them on a timely basis," she says.

By its very nature, she explains, the board is large and its members represent a large number of people. Therefore, the organization has to be constantly in touch with its individual members across the country so it is able to understand their issues and deal with them effectively.

This responsibility falls largely on the shoulders of the president, staff and the committee chairs, she adds. "They need to be visible and accessible to the membership so they know what the issues are in Canada and internationally."

With her heavy workload and  
*See McCombe, page 8*

## Committee's focus lies overseas

With the PDAC's growing international profile and the fact that many of our members are active overseas, the PDAC board has established a committee to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the association's activities outside Canada, including its advocacy role.

The international affairs committee is also working to enhance the association's reputation and credibility worldwide and to help its members who are working internationally to deal with a variety of issues.

One of the committee's objectives is to build networks with other organizations and associations internationally so it can decide on which issues and areas of the world the PDAC should focus its attention.

It also reviews key conferences and events overseas; selects those at which the PDAC should be represented; and seeks a PDAC member who will attend, and ideally speak at, the gathering. Often, the member has already planned to attend the event so this is cost-effective for PDAC.

Explains committee chair Deborah McCombe, "We're looking at conferences where we can explain what the PDAC does, where we can attract new members, where we can promote Canada as a place to explore and where we can encourage people to come to the PDAC International Convention to network and do business."

For example, last summer PDAC president Peter Dimmell attended an economic forum in St. Petersburg. He

outlined how Russia can attract investors by describing how Canadian junior companies carry out their business, and the importance of certainty of tenure and transparency in government dealings. He also promoted the convention. That meeting led to a Russian-sponsored event that took place at the PDAC convention last month.

The international affairs committee also wants to monitor and evaluate issues that affect exploration so it can develop proactive responses as the need arises.

One area that concerns the committee is human rights abuse allegations.

A federal government standing committee on foreign affairs and international development has been examining allegations of human rights abuses by Canadian mining companies working abroad and has called for five multi-stakeholder roundtables to be held this year.

A sub-committee of the international committee, comprising past president Bill Mercer, director Ian Thomson and executive director Tony Andrews, will participate on behalf of the PDAC.

## Information kits foster community relations

Release of the Mining Information Kit for Aboriginal Communities, a guide intended to help aboriginal communities understand the mining industry, is expected to take place this summer.

Covering all aspects of the mining cycle, the information kit was produced jointly by the PDAC, Natural Resources Canada, the Mining Association of Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association.

In addition, the International Council on Mining and Metals and the World Bank have produced a community development toolkit designed to foster closer relations between mining companies, communities and governments.

To download the toolkit free of charge, visit [www.icmm.com](http://www.icmm.com).

For a hard copy, e-mail [info@icmm.com](mailto:info@icmm.com).

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## McCombe enjoys outdoor activities

*Continued from page 7*

significant volunteer commitments, McCombe laughs when she is asked about spare time activities. But she admits that with her sons now grown (one works in the mining industry; the other is studying sports administration at Laurentian University), she manages to find time to enjoy cross-country skiing and hiking. "That's my way of relaxing," she says.