



PROSPECTORS &
DEVELOPERS
ASSOCIATION
OF CANADA

A SOURCE OF CANADIAN PRIDE

2012 ANNUAL REPORT





The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is a national association representing the mineral exploration and development industry. The PDAC has more than 10,000 individual and corporate members, and encourages the highest standards of technical, environmental, safety and social practices in Canada and around the world.

Areas covered by the association's wide range of advocacy work include land access, Aboriginal affairs, access to capital, corporate social responsibility (CSR), finance and taxation, geosciences, human resources, education, business insurance, and securities regulations.

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada also hosts the mineral industry's largest annual convention in downtown Toronto. The PDAC 2012 Convention attracted more than 30,000 attendees, including 7,500 international delegates from 125 countries.



The background of the page is a composite image. On the left, there is an aerial photograph of a mining site in a lush green valley, featuring a helicopter on a landing pad and several buildings. On the right, there is a close-up of a grey rock face with several wooden beams attached. Green graffiti, including arrows and numbers like '950604' and '95', is visible on the rock surface. A solid orange horizontal bar is positioned across the middle of the page, containing the word 'CONTENTS' in white, uppercase letters.

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THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT FOR THE PDAC

WITH AN 80-YEAR HISTORY of supporting and advocating on behalf of the mineral exploration and development industry, the PDAC's reputation continues to grow both domestically and abroad. Our association is recognized by members and governments in Canada and around the world for the work we do to benefit our members and their projects—wherever those projects are located—in addition to holding the industry's pre-eminent event through our annual convention.

The PDAC Convention—the largest mineral industry convention in the world—attracted over 30,000 delegates from 125 countries in 2012. Through the event's numerous technical sessions, short courses, panels and workshops, delegates continue to gain valuable insights into the best practices shaping the industry, the investment opportunities available, and the latest technologies being used on the ground.

The technical sessions at the convention are topical and very well attended, so much so that Aboriginal sessions and corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs have been standing room only the past few years. In the years ahead, the PDAC will expand our convention offerings to provide members and delegates with the most current industry information and resources delivered by leading experts

Yet the convention is only one week out of 52. The rest of the year, PDAC staff, committee members, and our board of directors are engaged in developing action strategies that enhance and promote the mineral exploration industry. From advocating on behalf of our member on issues related to land access and capital, to supporting educational outreach programs like Mining Matters and S-IMEW, along with promoting materials such as *e3 Plus: A Framework for Social Responsible Exploration* that our members can use in the field to heighten safety and environmental stewardship, the PDAC is an industry leader in providing knowledge and tools that assist our members in succeeding in their everyday activities.

As we embark on the start of a new strategic plan and the unveiling of a new visual identity this upcoming year, the future for the PDAC looks very bright. As more companies and governments look for meaningful information related to mineral exploration and its importance for local, national and global economies, the PDAC will continue to be recognized as the leader in the promotion of responsible mineral exploration and development.



GLENN NOLAN
President



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD

WHEN OUR ASSOCIATION was formed in 1932, it was born out of a response to a proposed government regulation that threatened the livelihood of prospectors in Ontario. Under the guidance of Walter Segsworth, a mining engineer, a meeting was held at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto to brainstorm ways of stopping the proposed *Engineers Bill*. At the meeting they collected \$168.45 to start the association, went on to lobby government, and succeeded in defeating the bill.

That essence of preservation and fighting for the survival of our members has been woven into the fabric of the PDAC over its 80-year history as it has grown from a provincial association to the world's leading voice for the mineral exploration and development community. And today, there are a number of formidable challenges facing our sector—challenges we see as opportunities.

To assist companies in their current activities, and to get new projects off the ground, the PDAC continues to advocate for the yearly renewal of the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC) that was created 13 years ago to help companies raise capital. Our goal is to make the METC a permanent fixture because we see the continual extension of the METC as a way of keeping exploration dollars in Canada—dollars that greatly benefit northern and rural communities where the majority of mineral exploration and mining takes place.

To properly understand the various land issues confronting members across Canada, the PDAC is also working with government on regulatory efficiency at the regional, provincial and federal level, and we have partnered with such organizations as the Ontario Prospectors Association, Mining Association of Canada, Northwest Territories Chamber of Mines, and Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum to find new ways of improving regulatory systems. Furthermore, the PDAC is working with government to obtain a science-based approach to regulation, and to create legislation for species at risk.

And while the PDAC has a tradition of improving regulatory systems, we are now a leading advocate for good practices. From our *e3 Plus* toolkits, to our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), along with our new MOU with civil society to improve transparency, we continue to work proactively on a variety of issues. Going forward, the PDAC will take greater steps to identify and document good business practices in an effort to enhance our program areas and resources in order to better educate the industry about the benefits of environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and health and safety.

All of these goals, along with continuing to deliver the best industry convention in the world, are part of the PDAC's long-term vision of ensuring that Canada's mineral exploration and development industry remains a global leader, and a source of pride that benefits the cultural, social and economic fabric of this great country.



ROSS GALLINGER
Executive Director
PDAC



This past year marked the 80th anniversary of the PDAC. To celebrate the milestone, we searched our archives to showcase the association's remarkable evolution, along with the people who have shaped it into one of the world's largest and most respected industry associations.

A TIMELINE OF THE PDAC 1932 TO 2012



1932 Early on in the Great Depression, Walter Segsworth, a mining engineer, calls a meeting at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto to fight a proposed *Engineers Bill* put forth by the Ontario government that would require prospectors filing a work assessment to have the report signed by a mining engineer. They raise \$168.45 and go on to lobby government. The bill is never passed.

1933 The name of the association is changed to the Ontario Prospectors & Developers Association (OPDA). Membership swells to 900. No fee is required and throughout the 1930s annual meetings are held in the Oak Room at the King Edward Hotel. The meetings are followed by dinner (\$1.25 per person) and dancing.

1938 The association fights and defeats Section 32-B of the *Income Tax Act* that would treat all prospectors' equity in a property as income and taxable immediately along with any shares the person might receive.

1941 Walter Segsworth and a few members gather at the house of George and Viola MacMillan to discuss the upcoming general meeting. George is nominated President. Viola notes at the time that "George will make a very good President. I'll see that he does." Viola is elected Secretary-Treasurer.

1942 Through the efforts of Viola, the annual meeting is expanded to a full-day convention that includes speakers, a four-course banquet and dancing. A \$1 membership administration fee is introduced.

1943 The OPDA Convention is expanded to a two-day affair in February and the first edition of the association's bulletin comes out. The motto: "We Lead."

1944 With 1,700 members, the convention outgrows the King Edward Hotel and is moved to the Royal York Hotel. Viola takes over as President.



1948 For the first time at the convention, government geological and geophysical maps are displayed.

1954 The association's office moves from 67 Yonge Street to a new building at 25 Adelaide St. West.

1957 The association changes its name to the Prospectors & Developers Association (PDA). Geophysics is all the rage at the convention, especially when it comes to presentations and discussions on the Bathurst Area of New Brunswick.



1959 The convention is held jointly with the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) and the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC), two organizations the OPDA helped to form in 1947 and 1955 respectively.

1964 Viola steps down as President and is convicted for wash trading in connection with one of her companies in what became known as the Windfall scandal. She would later receive a full pardon and made a member of the Order of Canada.

1965 No convention is held and the association almost disappears as the Ontario Securities Commission pushes forward to eliminate junior mine financing. The association survives thanks to Alex Mosher, Bill Dennis and a few others.

1966 The first annual hockey game is held at Maple Leaf Gardens between the Prospectors No-Stars and the Keevil team, the Teck Terrifics. Funds raised go toward bursaries.



1969 Claude Taylor is hired as full-time General Manager. *PDA Digest* is published for the first time.



30s

40s

50s

60s

1972 A record 2,830 registered delegates attend the convention, along with 350 students.



1975 Under the leadership of President James Walker and Vice-President Ed Thompson, regular director meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of every month.

1977 The PDA's campaign to get a 100% flow-through share write-off is passed into law and remains effective for the next two years.

1978 The annual awards are introduced with the first being the Bill Dennis Prospector of the Year Award.



1983 PDA President John Hansuld and his company Canamax Resources Inc. organize the first issuing of flow-through shares. Between 1984 and 1990, \$3.75 billion would be raised through flow-through share financing.



1987 Tony Andrews is hired as Managing Director and the association's name is once again changed, this time to the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada.



1992 For the first time ever, the convention is opened to the world and attracts a total 2,300 delegates, 37 of which are from other countries.



1994 The association's first strategic plan is undertaken.

1997 The convention moves from the Royal York Hotel to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.



Mining Matters, a charity affiliated with the PDAC that educates students about rocks, metals, minerals and mining is established.



1998 The PDAC takes part in the Mining Standards Task Force and the subsequent revision of National Instrument 43-101.

2000 The convention is transformed for one year into the 2000 Mining Millennium—a joint venture between the PDAC and CIM.

2003 The PDAC introduces *e3 Environmental Excellence in Exploration*, a field-proven guide of methods for exploration activities, community engagement and environmental practices.



2006 The convention attracts 14,500 attendees from 100 countries and is now without question the largest international showcase for exploration and mining in the world. The Aboriginal Program is launched at convention. The PDAC Convention moves to the South Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

2007 The PDAC celebrates its 75th anniversary, the Student Industry Mineral Workshop (S-IMEW) is launched in Sudbury, Ontario, and the Skookum Jim Award for Aboriginal achievement in the mineral industry is introduced.

2008 PDAC President Patricia Dillon and Assembly of First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that lays the foundation for cooperation between the two organizations. The PDAC also moves its office to 135 King Street East.

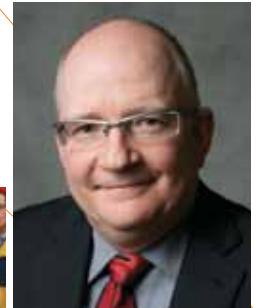


2009 The PDAC expands *e3* to *e3 Plus*, a set of eight principles and three toolkits that exploration and mining companies can use to heighten their social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and health and safety.

2010 PDAC plays a major role in defeating Bill C-300.



2011 Ross Gallinger is hired as Executive Director.



2012 A record-breaking number of attendees (30,369) attend the convention from 125 countries. The association develops a new strategic plan, and embarks on a rebranding process, which includes the creation of a new logo.

70s

80s

90s

00s

10s

A NEW VISION FOR THE FUTURE



AT THE START OF 2011, the PDAC’s board of directors embarked on a process to develop a strategic plan for the association that would further enhance our ability to protect and promote the interests of our members for the next decade and beyond. The goal wasn’t to simply deliver a new strategy going forward, but to create a new imperative for the organization that emphasizes our position as the leading voice for the mineral exploration community—both in Canada and around the world.

With that in mind, the board of directors, under the leadership of President Glenn Nolan, took part in two facilitated planning sessions that generated a holistic dialogue on the major themes and issues facing our members. “As part of these sessions, it was very important that we put all of the issues on the table,” says Nolan. “This is a highly dynamic and complex industry that covers a lot of areas—from permitting and land access issues, to capital access and taxation matters, to environmental and social responsibility, and of course building stronger partnerships with Aboriginal communities.”

Through a well-designed process that included several workshops, interviews with stakeholders and in-person gatherings, board and staff members worked in unison to prioritize issues based on the broadest impact on the sector. “We know that our association can only effectively manage so many things, so we had to carefully pick those which had the most significant impact,” adds Nolan. To cover every issue impacting the industry, both currently and going forward, numerous hours were spent discussing and evaluating each issue, then prioritizing and examining the breadth of each issue and its implications.

The PDAC board of directors also relied on member feedback to gather as many perspectives as possible to feed the dialogue. “We distributed a member survey in 2012 that examined a range of views about who we are and what is expected from us as an association,” says PDAC Executive Director, Ross Gallinger. “In the end, 1,000 respondents participated in the survey, each offering rich insights that were an invaluable resource in helping the board during their deliberations.”

“This is a highly dynamic and complex industry that covers a lot of areas—from permitting and land access issues, to capital access and taxation matters, to environmental and social responsibility, and of course building stronger partnerships with Aboriginal communities.”

— Glenn Nolan, PDAC President



Working with facilitators and staff, the board narrowed in on three major business imperatives—access to capital, access to land, and Aboriginal affairs—that were deemed paramount to the success of our members and the sector. “Access to capital is without question a very timely issue these days, one that includes the securities regime and tax measures that go a long way in providing stability for the sector in the long term” says Nolan. “Access to land goes without saying. Without that access, our members simply can’t work. We’ve done a lot of work in this area and we feel we need to strengthen our efforts here. And building stronger relationships with Aboriginal communities and helping to provide the necessary tools and support they need to benefit from projects remains a top priority.”

While the sessions with the board determined three primary focus areas for the organization, significant resources will also be allocated to building and expanding other key areas, such as the CSR program, student initiatives, communications and public affairs, and of course heightening our ability to host the world-renowned PDAC Convention. With the direction set by the board, staff and our volunteers, the PDAC is now in the process of developing specific roadmaps that will highlight the short, medium and long term goals over the life of the strategic plan.

“This is a very exciting time for the PDAC. We’re in a period of renewal; almost a rebirth in a lot of ways,” says Nolan. “I’m very proud of this new strategy and I am confident it will honour the good work done previously while providing the basis for a series of new initiatives that will support and benefit the membership of the PDAC well into the 21st century.” ◀

— By *Steve Virtue*

HOW DO YOU CHANGE THE BRAND OF AN 80-YEAR-OLD ORGANIZATION WITH A STERLING INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION? CAREFULLY, AND WITH RESPECT.





THERE HAVE BEEN, and will continue to be, significant technological, social, financial and environmental changes within the mineral exploration and development industry. From a communications perspective, this means that the PDAC must be very clear and compelling about what we do, who we do it for, and what value we bring to all of our audiences.

Our brand, expressed through the many ways we communicate—our convention, our programs, our print and online materials, our public and government relations initiatives, our visual identity—is how we tell our story and bring it to life.

In 2011, the leadership of the PDAC decided that in light of changes in our environment it was an opportune time to review our brand. They knew that such a review, and any subsequent changes that came from it, had to be done thoughtfully and with input from a variety of stakeholders.

We used an array of different methodologies to reach out to stakeholders in a research process that spanned four months. We talked to industry leaders, representatives of NGOs and government, as well as members of the media. We conducted an online survey that gathered input from over 1,000 members, and hosted two workshops in which participants had the opportunity to creatively set the direction for our brand. A key input to the brand review was the board of directors' strategic planning initiative. It was decided that the PDAC brand must align with our strategic direction for it was a necessary way of achieving the opportunities and objectives outlined in the plan.

We found that perceptions about the role and importance of the PDAC are changing. Although many people associate the PDAC with our world-famous convention, the growth and success of our programs and advocacy work has solidified the PDAC's status as the face of the mineral exploration industry in Canada.

PDAC relied on brand strategist Lee Jacobson, who led the research and investigation phases of the process. "The research highlighted the critical importance of providing fact-based information about the mineral exploration industry," says Jacobson. "Interviews quickly drew conclusions about the sector's economic impact on the countries and communities where we operate, along with its response to challenges, government officials and politicians, the media, as well as the general public."

When the feedback from the research activities was compiled and the information distilled and studied, five main characteristics emerged about what we do and who we are as an association:

- We are **passionate** about what we do;
- We are **professionals** in a science and technology-based industry;
- We are **stewards** of resources and communities;
- We are **bold and optimistic**;
- We embrace **challenges and change**.

In having a clear understanding of who we are, the designers at Hambly & Woolley, a Toronto-based design firm that was involved in all stages of the process, were given the task of fusing together our findings with their creative insights. "A successful logo requires two important ingredients: it needs to be simple and meaningful," says Bob Hambly, Creative Director at Hambly & Woolley. "From the research it became very clear that this organization is bold and embraces change, and we wanted that optimism to be reflected in this new logo."

After producing a wide selection of various logos, they submitted 10 to the PDAC for a review. That list was then trimmed to two, and a final mark was chosen internally by the PDAC leadership team. The final logo reflected the following attributes:

- **MULTI-FACETED:** Like our association it represents the breadth and depth of our programs, initiatives and membership;
- **DIMENSIONAL:** It references the topography, geology and geography of what we do and where we do it;
- **FLEXIBLE:** Its application and components can be used separately or as a whole (i.e., individuals and communities);
- **MODERN:** Focused, bold and forward in its expression.

With the last colour changes made to the logo once the design was in place, it was brought to the board of directors meeting on December 14, 2012, to receive approval. The logo was the last agenda item on the list and introduced via a video presentation that showcased the strengths of the industry, our role as an association, and the branding process itself. When the video was completed and the logo unveiled, the room broke into a loud applause. The various past Presidents and board members asked insightful questions, probed about the design's meaning, and lauded its relevance. Shortly after, a motion was passed to approve the new logo, and the PDAC's new identity came into existence—an identity that will proudly reflect the association's status as the premier voice of Canada's mineral exploration community for many years to come. ▶



WHERE THE WORLD'S MINERAL INDUSTRY MEETS PDAC CONVENTION

PDAC 2012 CONVENTION STATISTICS

General Information

TOTAL NUMBER OF
CONVENTION ATTENDEES: **30,369**

PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL
ATTENDEES: **25**

OUTSIDE CANADA THE LARGEST
NUMBER OF ATTENDEES CAME
FROM: **UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, AUSTRALIA, ENGLAND
PERU, CHINA**

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED: **125**

NUMBER OF STUDENT
DELEGATES: **1,694**

NUMBER OF ACCREDITED
MEDIA: **363**

NUMBER OF SPONSORS: **68**

Trade Show

TOTAL NUMBER OF BOOTHS: **668**

TOTAL NUMBER OF
EXHIBITING
ORGANIZATIONS: **412**

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS
EXHIBITING (PROVINCIAL,
FEDERAL, INTERNATIONAL): **63**

Core Shack

TOTAL NUMBER OF
EXHIBITING COMPANIES: **60**

Investors Exchange

TOTAL NUMBER OF BOOTHS: **613**

TOTAL NUMBER OF
EXHIBITING
ORGANIZATIONS: **582**

Presentations and Workshops

TOTAL NUMBER OF
TECHNICAL SESSIONS: **16**

TOTAL NUMBER OF SHORT
COURSES AND WORKSHOPS: **12**

TOTAL NUMBER OF
PRESENTATION ROOMS: **19**

TOTAL NUMBER OF CORPORATE
PRESENTATION FORUM FOR
INVESTORS PRESENTATIONS: **132**

TOTAL NUMBER OF INNOVATION
FORUM PRESENTATIONS
ORGANIZED BY CAMESE : **23**

Mobi Stats

TOTAL VISITS TO
THE SITE: **10,030**

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
VISITORS WERE FROM: **45**

TOTAL PAGEVIEWS: **67,253**

PAGES VIEWED PER VISIT: **6.71**

AVERAGE TIME SPENT ON
THE SITE: **4 MIN 36 S**



ASK ANY DELEGATE why they attend the PDAC International Convention, Trade Show & Investors Exchange and chances are they will point to the numerous opportunities available to network with global leaders from the mineral exploration industry. It's also one of the main reasons why overall attendance at the convention has steadily increased with each passing year.

In 2012, more than 30,000 delegates attended the four-day event (compared to 27,700 in 2011), making it the largest PDAC Convention ever. And of that total number, approximately 7,000 were international representatives from 125 countries. An impressive statistic when you consider that the convention attracted a grand total of 2,300 delegates in 1992—the first year it was opened to the world—with a mere 37 delegates on hand from 10 countries.

Nicole Sampson, PDAC's Convention Director, says that growth in the convention's international presence—especially from Latin America, China and India—has resulted in a greater number of global-minded programs and services being offered during the event. Evidence of this can be found in the record number of presentations given by various governments at PDAC 2012 on topics ranging from global investment opportunities, to new discoveries and development, and insights on communication strategies.

And to assist international delegations in getting the most out of their convention experience, Sampson and her team of organizers continue to keep track of international groups in order to invite key members to private events where they can network with global counterparts.

"Because it can also be difficult for some international delegates to obtain visas to attend the convention, the PDAC offers an online form to request an international invitation letter," says Sampson. She adds that the mobile application *Mobi*, which was launched last year at convention, is furthering the convention experience by enabling participants to download everything from program schedules to exhibits and technical sessions.

"Delegates are constantly on their smartphones, so we figured such an app would improve their experience by making it more convenient than searching through the printed convention program," she adds. And if someone needs help using the app, *Mobi Masters* are on site at the convention to lend a hand.

Because he views it as the premier world convention for the industry, Ian Sutherland, Coordinator of the Australia Pavilion, hasn't missed the event since 1998. In fact, Australia's national and state governments have been promoting the country as a prospective and reliable site for exploration and mining investment for more than a decade.

"There are deals being made constantly at the convention," says Sampson. "I frequently see people rolling maps out on the floor and squatting around them to have an impromptu meeting in a hallway. It's fun to watch and we've added more venues for people to actually sit and meet. These meetings can happen in a comfortable lounge setting or in a private meeting space that can be booked for one-hour blocks."

The extra meeting space may prove useful for the Finnish delegation. Dr. Pekka A. Nurmi, who has headed the Finnish entourage for nearly two decades, believes that in addition to the convention being a great venue for forging and strengthening international contacts, it also serves as a practical way for the management heads of Finnish companies to meet annually.

"There is currently a mining boom in Finland. In the past, many of the companies with exploration or mining projects [in Finland] have met at PDAC Convention for the first time," says Nurmi. "Personally, I think the event provides the best way to update myself on global developments, new expertise and techniques."

For David Corrigan, Sales Manager at Australia-based *Intrepid Geophysics*, a company that provides software and related services to potential field geophysics applications, showcasing the company's latest advanced software for specialized, quantitative geology and geophysics applications is why the convention is so important to his business.

"As the conference is held in North America it enables us to provide a face-to-face interaction with our international customer base as well," says Corrigan. "In conjunction with the conference, IG runs targeted workshops tailored to meet specific customer requirements."

Delegates wanting to participate in knowledge seminars crafted by industry experts have always found the *Commodities and Market Outlook* presentations (25-minute talks on the global outlook of major metals and minerals) of interest.

At PDAC 2013 there will also be a session on land access challenges and solutions, another on large igneous provinces and metallogeny, as well as a keynote session that will explore the risks and rewards in mining exploration and development.

Whether it's new food services or expanding the frequency of shuttle bus routes between hotels and the venue, Sampson says her team tries to add something new every year to enhance the overall experience for each delegate.

"All in all I hope delegates enjoy their time and can take something away from the program," says Sampson. "And of course want to come back again next year." ▶

— By Susan Mohammad

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PDAC CONVENTION



WORDS LIKE “MAMMOTH” and “monster” have been used to describe the size of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada’s (PDAC) Convention, the mineral industry’s most popular networking and educational event.

The convention’s size is impressive. Held in the south building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC), the convention attracted 30,000 delegates in 2012—a record number. No other annual convention for mineral exploration and mining draws a crowd of this size.

The convention’s attendance figures are remarkable, but it’s the story of the convention’s impact that hasn’t been told. The impact of the convention on the local economy is one chapter of the story.

A 2011 study conducted by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism estimated that the event contributed nearly \$72 million to the local economy. Some 27,700 people attended the convention that year. A rough extrapolation for 2012 puts the figure close to \$78 million.

That this is no small sum is reflected in what tourism officials like David Whitaker, President and CEO of Tourism Toronto, have to say about the convention. “Having the PDAC choose Toronto year after year for its annual convention is a real honour for us,” Whitaker says. “When more than 30,000 people from mining and related industries all over the world come here to enjoy our hotels, restaurants, nightlife, entertainment and taxis, it’s a great shot in the arm for the city and the 227,000 people employed in tourism and hospitality here.”

The convention, now in its 81st year, attracts individuals, companies and governments involved in the mineral exploration sector from all over the globe. What the four-day event does for the industry is probably the biggest chapter in the story of the convention’s impact.

“The convention really is a ‘must-attend event’ for large numbers of mineral industry and service sector companies. Over the years it’s grown into the industry’s premier event, as evidence by the fact that last year we had more than 30,000 participants from 125 different countries” says PDAC President Glenn Nolan. “No other industry event in the world comes close to the PDAC Convention in terms of programs offered, companies and countries present, and overall the number of delegates attending.”

In the early 1990s, the mineral exploration sector was booming, which provided an opportunity to take the convention international. Since

“When more than 30,000 people from mining and related industries all over the world come here to enjoy our hotels, restaurants, nightlife, entertainment and taxis, it’s a great shot in the arm for the city.”

— David Whitaker, President and CEO, Tourism Toronto



then, the PDAC Convention has become the global networking opportunity for the industry.

The PDAC’s Executive Director Ross Gallinger, who came on board in August 2011, experienced the convention from the inside for the first time in 2012. Having been part of the mineral exploration industry for years and a regular convention delegate, Gallinger says the convention has become “a massive focal point for the junior exploration sector.”

“The convention fosters information-sharing and relationship-building that impacts the industry throughout the rest of the year,” he says. “The networking that goes on during those four days results in countless new relationships and ideas, reinforces current partnerships and sets the stage for a great many deals.”

The PDAC 2011 Convention was the springboard for a deal signed later in the year between Strait Gold and Teck Resources. Strait Gold President Jim Borland says his company’s signed option agreement with Teck Resources for its Alicia copper-gold property in Peru “originated at the annual PDAC Convention.”

At the 2011 convention, Strait Gold had core on display from Alicia that attracted a lot of attention. Borland says Strait Gold signed several confidentiality agreements after the convention. Offers for Alicia followed, of which Teck’s was the superior.

For years the convention took place at the Fairmont Royal York, moving to the MTCC in

1997 as the convention continued to grow. Much of its history though is tied in with the Fairmont Royal York, and evening events like the Awards Evening and the Gala Party still take place at the hotel.

Irene Butterworth, Senior Conference Services and Catering Manager at the Fairmont Royal York, says the convention is a big part of the hotel’s history. “Legendary deals have been secured and notable business partnerships have been launched within our walls—it’s just as much a part of our history as we are of its history.”

Members of the industry are also clear on how they feel about the convention. “PDAC brings together explorers, developers and producers for what is arguably the global mining industry’s most important event of the year,” says Rob Krcmarov, Barrick Gold’s Senior Vice President of Global Exploration. “Our team is always on the hunt for promising projects, and PDAC offers up a universe of opportunities under one roof. There’s no other forum like it.” ◀

— By Carolyn Fusina



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Mining Matters workshop; Joe Oliver, Minister of Natural Resources, and PDAC Executive Director Ross Gallinger; ICMM President Tony Hodge speaking at the CEO Panel; Skookum Jim Award presentation to Nuna Group Companies; core samples on display at the Core Shack; Gala Party entertainment; Canadian Government officials at the e3 Plus booth; a packed house at the Student-Industry Forum; examining rock samples at the Core Shack; above the Investors Exchange floor.





HIGHLIGHTS FROM
THE PDAC 2012
CONVENTION



From growing our international profile and hosting another record-breaking convention, the PDAC celebrated its 80th anniversary by demonstrating once again why the association is regarded as the leading voice for the mineral exploration and development community. Below are some of the key highlights from each of our active committees and program areas from the past year.

PDAC HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2012



ICMM
International Council
on Mining & Metals



CONVENTION

- The **PDAC 2012 Convention was another record-breaking** event that attracted more than 30,000 attendees from 125 countries, including more than 1,000 exhibitors that were part of the Trade Show expansion.
- The convention saw the successful launch of the Mobile Convention Guide (MOBI), with 10,030 visits to the site. MOBI, an eco-friendly, interactive app took the convention experience to a whole new level by enabling delegates to navigate everything from exhibits to technical sessions.

INTERNATIONAL

- PDAC's international profile was again strengthened in 2012 with attendance and participation at key conferences in China, South America, Australia and South Africa.
- The PDAC brand is now well recognized internationally, and through our various promotional efforts the **PDAC Convention remains the "must-attend" event on the international circuit.**
- Promoting Canada as an excellent place to invest in mining exploration and as a centre of excellence in mining standards, knowledge and finance continued to be one of the priorities of the PDAC in 2012.
- **PDAC maintains a vibrant presence** as a member and participant at International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) meetings in London, UK, where vital policy and trends affecting the mining industry are discussed.
- PDAC Executive Director **Ross Gallinger was named in Embassy's "Top 80 Influencing Canada's Foreign Policy."**

MEMBERSHIP

- The PDAC continued to see significant growth in its membership. **Corporate membership increased 15% to 1,270 in 2012, while individual membership increased 17% to 9,021.**
- **Student membership increased by more than 47%**, the largest annual increase to date. This can be attributed to the nation-wide campus and conference outreach events, social media networking, and S-IMEW alumni presentations.
- The Core membership program, an initiative that rewards loyal members with significant discounts on membership and convention registration fees, continued to maintain steady growth. To date, **the PDAC has more than 2,400 Core members in the association.**



2,400
Core members
in the
association.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The PDAC developed, produced and delivered the **PDAC Field Safety Pocket Guide** on water resistant/tear-proof paper in French, Spanish and English. The guide features a variety of fieldwork practices to increase awareness and prevention around the risks, hazards and dangers inherent in exploration work.
- The association successfully held **PDAC First Aid Wilderness Training** sessions at six locations across Canada (Toronto, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Val d'Or, Winnipeg and Yellowknife).
- We continued to collaborate with the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia (AME BC) in producing the joint Canadian Mineral Exploration Health & Safety Annual Report for 2011/2012.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

- The CSR committee undertook a comprehensive **update of the Principles and Guidance Notes of e3 Plus: A Framework for Responsible Exploration**. As a free information resource available on the PDAC website, *e3 Plus* was designed to help exploration companies continuously improve their social, environmental, and health and safety practices. The Principles and Guidance Notes are available online and in a handy pocket-size booklet in English, French and Spanish.
- **Participation in the CSR Event Series at the 2012 PDAC Convention was at an all-time high.** Attendance at all six sessions was at maximum capacity, with between 100 and 250 people from industry, government, academia, and civil society participating in sessions on topics ranging from business and human rights to bribery and corruption.
- Through the CSR Program, the PDAC **partnered with World Vision Canada and CDA Collaborative Learning Projects to develop a toolkit on preventing conflict in exploration.** This project brought together key industry and development stakeholders to create a practical tool supporting exploration companies in building constructive relationships with stakeholders at the community level. The toolkit is available on the PDAC website in English, French and Spanish.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Student attendance at the PDAC 2012 Convention was at its peak with more than 1,600 students. The PDAC provided travel funding support to more than 500 students to attend the convention, which included 24 Canadian student groups and four American student groups. For the first time ever, the **Student-Industry Networking Luncheon was sold out** (capped at 1,000 tickets) and the **Student-Industry Forum, a new event this year, was standing-room only.**
- The sixth annual Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW) in Sudbury, Ont., was yet another success. The workshop would not be possible without the outstanding support of our loyal volunteers who return year after year to share their wisdom and experience with the future generation of our industry, as well as the financial support that we receive from industry that allows us to put on this workshop at no cost to students. Sponsorship has increased over the last couple years, which speaks to the increasing profile of the workshop and recognition of the value conferred to students.
- For the first time ever, the PDAC partnered with the Mining Industry Human Resource Council (MiHR) to host a **Virtual Mineral Exploration and Mining career fair.** The fair went live on February 8 and 9, 2012, and was a huge success, with over 1,200 careers seekers visiting the fair over the course of the two days. The fair remained open for a week and career seekers had the opportunity to chat with representatives from companies that exhibited, and with other job seekers as well. Over 1,000 jobs were applied for and 70% of the companies said they would hire a candidate based on resumes received. The career fair was sponsored by Barrick Gold Corporation, IAMGOLD, SGS Canada Inc., Teck Resources Ltd. and Vale, and featured 23 exhibitors—95% of which said they would participate again.

ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

- Aboriginal affairs provided a comprehensive **review and revision of the Exploration and Mining Guide for Aboriginal Communities** with industry, government and Aboriginal partners.
- Drafted an Engagement Protocol for First Nations Communities, which is now in the pilot-testing phase.
- Engaged in further dialogue with the Assembly of First Nations on updating and refreshing the workplan from the PDAC-AFN Memorandum of Understanding.
- Participated in information sharing, networking and ensuring a PDAC presence at national and regional conferences of Aboriginal leaders, communities and organizations
- **Expanded the Aboriginal Program at the PDAC 2012 Convention**, which hosted more than 500 self-identified Aboriginal delegates.



GEOSCIENCE

- The Geoscience committee continued to conduct research and collaborate with numerous national and provincial geosciences organization, including the development of a research study entitled “Digital Capture of Exploration Assessment Data” on the data reporting requirements in Canada and other jurisdictions.
- Committee chair Richard Moore gave a **presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Natural Resources on the importance of government investment in geosciences.**
- Members of the committee participated in meetings with various geoscience organizations, including the Canadian Mining Innovation Council, Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences and Geoscientists Canada.

PDAC Executive Director Ross Gallinger named in Embassy's "Top 80 Influencing Canada's Foreign Policy."

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS

- The **Media Reception at PDAC 2012** was an enormously successful premier event that brought together more than 200 international and domestic media, industry leaders, and some of Canada's political elite.
- The PDAC gained a positive and influential position this past year in both domestic and international media outlets, including *Canadian Business*, the *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *Bloomberg* and the CBC. Our social media influence grew substantially, generating nearly 2,500 Twitter followers and 600 Facebook fans, and more than **5,000 views of PDAC-related videos**.
- During the year there was an intense focus on improving the association's published content. Through digital and print publications, the PDAC leveraged a more sophisticated, strategic approach to developing content to ensure improved messaging and higher calibre content. In the upcoming year, the PDAC will release its first comprehensive Annual Report (which you are currently reading) and will be redeveloping publications such as *e-News* and *In Brief* to further enhance our ability to deliver news about the association's activities, and to underscore the PDAC's position as an industry leader.

AUDIT

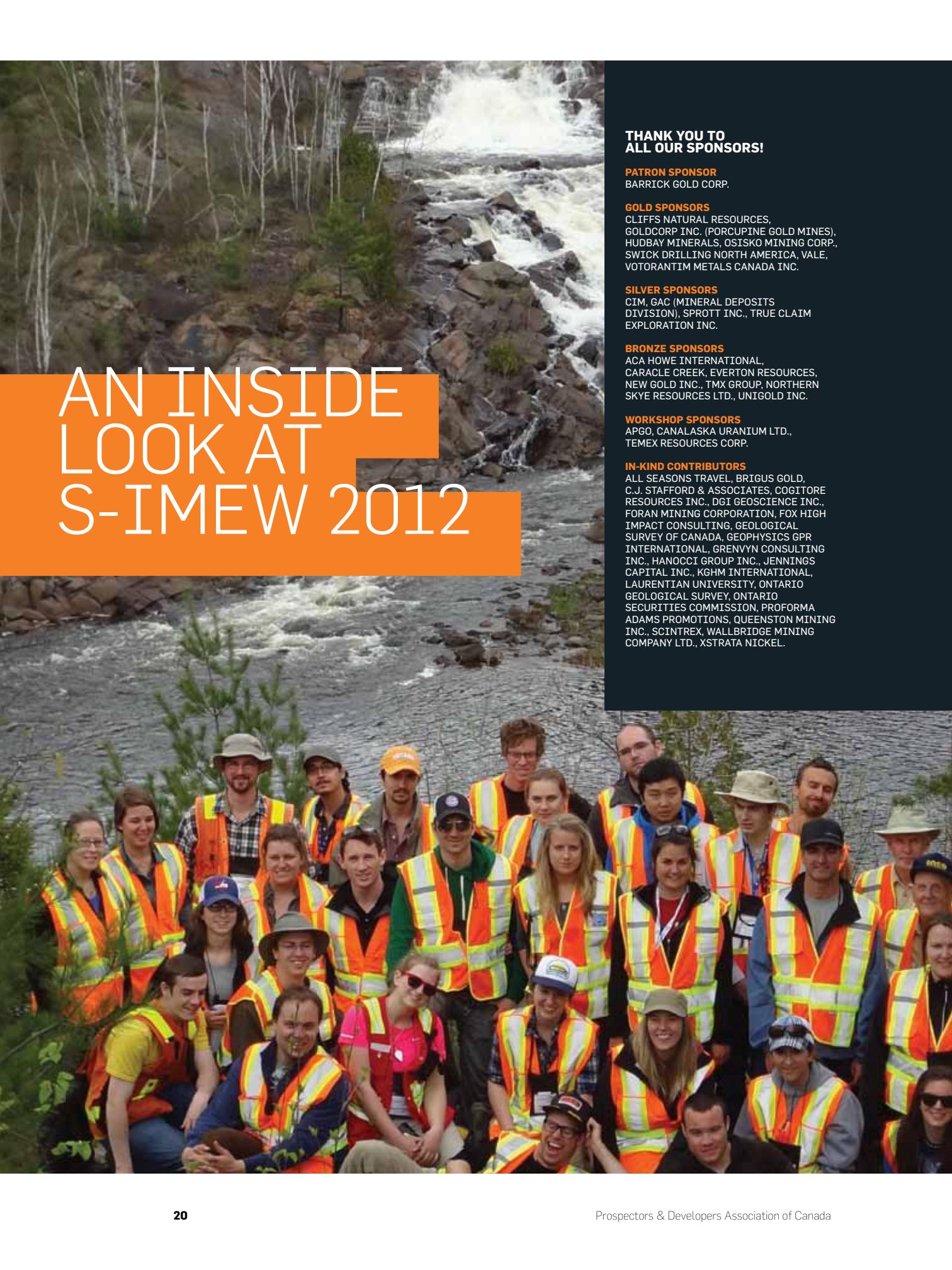
- The Audit committee reviewed and approved the quarterly unaudited financial statements for issuance to the board of directors.
- The committee reviewed and recommended to the board of directors that they approve the annual audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon for issuance to the PDAC membership.
- In addition, they reviewed and approved the calculation of the internally restricted net asset reserves, as well as the the auditor's audit plan for the fiscal year-end financial statements, and provided **guidance to management with respect to financial issues** as needed.

FINANCE AND TAXATION

- The focus of the Finance and Taxation committee was advocacy for the **extension of the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC)**. The committee was successful in seeing the METC extended to March 31, 2013, and the goal continues to be to advocate for the extension of the METC in an effort to make it a permanent fixture. The committee submitted briefs and research to support the extension of the METC.
- The committee **continued to work with Canada Revenue Agency to clarify the rules of Eligibility of the Canadian Exploration Expense**, particularly around community consultation and baseline environmental expenses. This work will continue throughout 2013.
- The committee also examined and provided comment on the potential impacts of the Foreign Affiliate Dumping (FAD) measures, as tabled in the second Budget Implementation Bill, and provided suggestions on how they might be amended to avoid inadvertently catching junior exploration companies.

LANDS AND REGULATIONS

- The **PDAC 2012 Convention featured its first land management program in over a decade**, offering both a technical session on land access and a full-day short course. "A Practical Guide to Land Management in Canada" brought provincial and territorial regulators together to provide detailed presentations on their respective jurisdictions to participants. The PDAC developed a comprehensive reference guide to early exploration regulations across Canada, now used as a resource document by the Library of Parliament, Foreign Affairs Department and others.
- The association **provided collaborative leadership** on an unprecedented number of regulatory changes across the country during the past year through written submissions and advocacy on federal, provincial and territorial issues of concern to the mineral exploration industry. Examples include the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board Engagement Policy, the Nunavut Waters Regulations, Bill 14 in Quebec, and the Ontario Mining Act Regulations.
- The PDAC has also deepened its land use planning and land access position statement through written submissions and advocacy on federal land use planning initiatives, such as the **National Conservation Strategy, and the Proposed National Woodland Caribou Recovery Strategy**. ▶



AN INSIDE LOOK AT S-IMEW 2012

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THIS PAST MAY, 26 senior geoscience students from across Canada converged on the Greater Sudbury area for the PDAC's annual Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW). The two-week gathering gave the students, who were handpicked from post-secondary institutions across the country, an opportunity to experience the many facets of the mineral exploration industry.

"The event is designed to attract students to the mineral exploration industry and to give them a practical and business perspective of mineral exploration not generally available in the classroom," says Scott Jobin-Bevans, PDAC past President and co-founder of the workshop. "This country is a world leader in mineral exploration. If we are to retain this predominant position, we must do everything we can to encourage highly qualified young people to enter the industry. The students attending this workshop are our future leaders."

Word from Sudbury is that this year's workshop was the best one yet. Eira Thomas, PDAC Director and co-founder of Stornoway Diamonds, kicked off the workshop with an opening keynote presentation at Dynamic Earth that left the students in awe of her accomplishments and motivated to pursue a career in geology. One student commented that "it was inspiring to hear from a female geologist who accomplished so much and she serves as a very powerful role model for the women in the group."

During the first week of S-IMEW, students spent a day grid mapping at True Claim's Scadding Gold Mine site, toured the Xstrata Nickel smelter, spent a day learning government mapping with the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS), toured the Sudbury Basin, and listened to a rich lineup of speakers. During Geochemistry Day, a highlight of the two-week workshop, students set out by boat to take sediment samples from the bottom of Ramsey Lake and participated in a series of lab and outdoor geochemistry demonstrations.

S-IMEW participant Rachel Chouinard from

Brock University says the workshop helped to crystallize her career goals. "The experience has definitely showed me this is the career I want to be in for the rest of my life," says Rachel. "The workshop talks are extremely interesting, but to get outside and apply what we're learning is invaluable experience."

Students also had the opportunity to engage with industry partners and academics almost every evening with the larger events being the Welcome Reception, Grillin' n Drillin' BBQ and the grand finale, the Closing Dinner.

During the second week of S-IMEW, students took part in a four-day field trip to the Abitibi Greenstone Belt. It included a tour of the Timmins geology, a visit to Queenston Mining, Brigus Gold's Black Fox open pit gold mine, a tour of the Noranda camp in Quebec, and a mapping exercise with Dr. Harold Gibson of Laurentian University.

The workshop ended with a Closing dinner that featured Dr. Patrick Moore, Greenpeace co-founder and author of *Confessions of a Greenpeace Dropout: the Making of a Sensible Environmentalist*.

It is difficult to truly measure the value of this experience as the benefits can be reaped for the duration of their career, but perhaps it can be summed up in one student's words. "Overall, one of the best experiences of my life. This trip has been a great inspiration to pursue a career in the mineral exploration industry and has exposed me to so many facets of it that I never knew about. The content was great and taught me about things people have taken their whole lives to discover and would never have learned in school. Thanks you so much for this opportunity and all the hard work put into making this trip possible".

— By Krishana Michaud



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS





WITH EACH PASSING YEAR the demand for Mining Matters' Aboriginal Education and Outreach programming continues to grow, and 2012 was no exception. In April, Barbara Green Parker, Mining Matters' Manager of Aboriginal Education and Outreach Programs, teamed up once again with Amanda McCallum, Outreach Geologist for the Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, to deliver a series of student-oriented workshops in schools on the coast of Labrador in the remote areas as Sheshatshiu, Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville and Rigolet. As one of several key elements of the Geological Survey's Minerals and Geoscience Outreach program, this educational initiative complements the rocks and minerals component of Newfoundland and Labrador's Grade 4 and 7 curriculums.

The Aboriginal Education and Outreach program's signature event, the Mining Rocks Earth Science Camp, was in high demand this year with more than 20 requests for camps during the summer season. As time and available resources would allow, 12 camps were delivered to 384 participants in 11 different communities—Tadoule Lake, Manitoba, Baker Lake, Nunavut, and throughout Ontario in Attawapiskat, Wunnumin Lake, Round Lake, Red Lake, Lac Seul, Upsala, Cochrane, Fort Frances, Timmins and Massey.

Through field visits, classroom activities and lessons, community members were given the chance to learn about a range of topics, from Earth processes and structure, to GPS compass work, health and safety, as well as mining operations, geochemistry and biodiversity. In addition, they learned about various career opportunities in the minerals and aggregates industries. Mining Matters' commitment to broader community engagement and outreach also allowed us to reach an additional 440 members of First Nations communities through Community Night events that provided engaging, informative activities related to what was being taught at the camps.

While the camps are often sponsored by companies that operate near First Nations, the communities themselves are increasingly taking

advantage of the unique programs and opportunities that Mining Matters delivers. This year, the Sagamok First Nation community, located on the north shore Lake Huron, sponsored a Mining Matters first: a specialized week-long school program held in September that was similar to the summer camp programs, and that received a highly enthusiastic response from youth and teachers alike. Our supporters, as well as the communities we serve, are taking great pride in knowing that when they contribute to and engage in the programs delivered by Mining Matters they are investing in a sustainable and prosperous future for one of Canada's most important economic drivers.

The Aboriginal Education and Outreach program moved straight from its summer programming to planning and delivering 10 Mineral Exploration and Development workshops between September and November. The six-hour workshops, funded by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM), looked at the mining cycle, the importance of mining, and its significance to Aboriginal communities. The workshops were delivered in the northern Ontario First Nation communities of Mishkeegogamang, Cat Lake, Slate Falls, Wunnumin Lake, Nibinamik, Constance Lake, Marten Falls, Webequie, Neskantaga and Attawapiskat. The program was complemented by an additional three-hour presentation by MNDM representatives who oversee legislation and regulations within the industry, and answer inquiries regarding specifics to the region.

As Mining Matters further expands into other diverse communities across Canada, we are continually searching for ways to make our materials and resources as relevant and accessible as possible. One area where this is happening is through the translation of our popular Mining Makes It Happen education posters into Cree, Ojibwe and Oji-Cree, making them more useful to the populations we serve in communities across the north whose first language or working languages aren't English or French.

Mining Matters is excited about the opportunities this expanded reach will bring in 2013. The Aboriginal Education and Outreach programs' top priority now is to ensure that we have the capacity to meet the growing demand for our programming. Continue to look for us across the country as we engage Canadians in their communities, and spread the message that *Mining Matters to us all!* ▶

— By Amanda Horn

MINING MATTERS TAKES OFF IN QUÉBEC



MINING MATTERS HAS MADE GREAT INROADS across the country by tailoring their earth science educational resources to meet the needs of different provincial and territorial curriculum, conducting dozens of Aboriginal camps, and participating in countless public outreach events. Now, they are expanding into Quebec and striving to meet the needs of teachers in the province.

Over the last 10 years, the Ministry of Education in Québec has been reforming its educational system by moving toward a student-centred model of learning that allows educators to integrate a variety of approaches. The province's new education model spreads earth science objectives throughout the elementary program into the secondary school years rather than compartmentalizing them into a single grade level. This means that earth science is taught at every grade level in Québec!

In June 2010, Mining Matters was invited to attend the Science-Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference as an observer for secondary school teachers from the nine Anglophone school boards and associations. There, they learned that little was available to Québec teachers in the way of hands-on earth science student-centred learning resources—a gap Mining Matters could potentially fill. To do so, they planned three focus groups to assess the relevance of our resources to the Québec curriculum.

Over the last 10 years, the Ministry of Education in Québec has been reforming its educational system by moving toward a student-centred model of learning that allows educators to integrate a variety of approaches.



In partnership with Minalliance, the first curriculum focus group was held in Montreal in June 2010 to determine the suitability of Mining Matters resources for the Québec Education Plan curriculum. Minalliance, created in 2010, brings together the Québec Mineral Exploration Association and the Québec Mining Association, as well as companies involved in mineral exploration, operation and services, equipment suppliers, and financial institutions. Under the direction of Claudine Renaud, Minalliance’s Executive Director, whose mandate is to distribute clear, consistent and coordinated information to all Québécois about activities in the mineral industry while promoting the industry’s positive contribution to the social, economic and environmental development of Québec, Mining Matters is now supporting teachers in their effort to educate students about rocks, minerals and mining in Québec.

Considerable progress has so far been made in implementing educational programs from Mining Matters for schools in Québec. Presently, the elementary resource kit “Deeper and Deeper” [Aller au fond des choses] has been translated into French and will be ready for distribution in 2013. Through direct solicitations and Québec Mines [Des mines et des hommes] events related to science and education, the Mining Matters team is currently working to promote educational programs in English and French to Québec school boards and provide teacher workshop opportunities, especially in those areas close to mining operations such as Drummondville, Rouyn Noranda, and Val d’Or. As of the end October, using the configuration of a new virtual voicemail, all teachers from Québec are now able to communicate with the Mining Matters team by calling the phone number of Minalliance.

In looking forward, and in anticipation of the elementary school students moving on to high school, revisions and updates of the secondary earth science teacher resource, “Mining Matters II: The Earth’s Crust” [Une mine de renseignements: L’écorce terrestre] will also be incorporated for release for the fall of 2014. ▶

— By Victoria Stratton and Janice Williams

CANADIAN INNOVATION KEEPS THE OREBODIES COMING



EVER SINCE THE FIRST COMMERCIAL USE of airborne electromagnetics (EM) revolutionized Canada's mineral industry in the early 1950s, Canadian innovation has played a significant role in advancing geoscience and finding new ore deposits worldwide. And while the tendency might be to rest on these laurels, the urgency of declining discovery rates is spurring further innovation.

The airborne EM breakthrough was a natural progression from the conclusion of World War II, when airplanes were available at a fraction of their cost and several technical and aviation experts joined the civilian workforce. The first discovery credited to this technique was New Brunswick's Bathurst zinc-lead camp in 1953, followed by the Thompson nickel camp in Manitoba some three years after. Later, airborne EM played a significant role in the unveiling of the Athabasca uranium camp in Saskatchewan, the copper porphyry deposits of Canada's west coast, the massive Kidd Creek copper-zinc deposit in Ontario, as well as others too numerous to mention.

"Airborne EM really made it possible to explore large areas of the trackless wilderness," says Richard Moore, chair of the PDAC's Geoscience committee. "It made a huge impact in the last half of the 20th century and even continues to this day with discoveries in the Flin Flon-Snow Lake mining camp in Manitoba."

Along the way, Canadian researchers remained at the forefront of new technology and innovation, designing the UTEM deep penetrating system that helped discover buried deposits in the Sudbury nickel camp, for example, or creating ore deposit models that would guide global exploration for volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) and magmatic nickel deposits.

A unique willingness on the part of industry, government and academia to work together, perhaps best exemplified by the formation of The Mining Industry Technology Council of Canada (MITEC, now CAMIRO) in 1991 to address diminishing base metal reserves in Canada, has helped fast-track some of these innovations.

Now, as mineral discovery rates begin to nose-dive worldwide, Canadian innovators are once again rising to the challenge. Under what may be the largest ever collaboration between the exploration industry, academics and government, the Canada Mining Innovation Council (CMIC) is launching a new initiative to explore ways to reverse this worrying discovery trend.

"Our exploration research projects in the past have been narrowly focused, and the larger aspect of our declining exploration discoveries in a broader sense hasn't really been looked at," says Moore. The PDAC provided \$50,000 in seed capital for the CMIC initiative that was matched by the federal government (NRCAN) and bolstered by donations from several private sector companies.

“We’ve been asking so long for the government to provide us with more data through mapping and so on, but maybe it’s time for industry to look at itself and not be so reluctant about providing digital data.”

— Richard Moore, PDAC Geoscience committee chair

CIMC’s first priority will be to make the search for buried targets more effective by building footprint models of mineral deposits and vectoring from their most distal margins to their economic cores. The research will focus on defining features in rocks and derivative materials that characterize the footprint, then using these features to devise practical exploration models and vectors.

The five-year, \$10.5 million footprints project proposal has been submitted to NSERC for approval for commencement after March 2013. It will involve 16 Canadian universities, 22 university researchers, more than 34 graduate students and post-doctoral fellows and, so far, funding commitments from 24 mining and service provider companies, according to Alan Galley, CIMC’s Exploration Research Director. One of the program’s goals will be to train the next generation of exploration geoscientists.

Without an initial push from the PDAC, the program may never have launched. “We’ve had a lot of input from industry geoscientists, academics and support from NRCAN, but the PDAC was the driving force behind this exploration initiative,” Moore says.

The CMIC initiative is just one of several geoscience projects the PDAC has been involved in over the past number of decades. Years of lobbying by the late Geoscience committee chair Mary-Claire Ward resulted in federal programs such as the Targeted Geoscience Initiative (TGI), an ongoing program with the goal of developing new ways of exploring for deep mineral deposits and the Geomapping for Energy and Mineral (GEM) program that provides \$100 million for mapping over five years to encourage economic development in Canada’s north.

Although the effects of government geoscience programs are difficult to quantify, studies sponsored by the PDAC estimate that every dollar that government spends results in five dollars of private sector exploration spending.

Meanwhile, the association continues to champion mobility for Canadian geoscientists. The situation is improving between certain provinces, but there is still a need for mechanisms to spare

geoscientists the expense and paperwork involved in having to register in every province where they work.

“If you’re professionally registered in one province, you should not have to go through the registration process in another province. You should just be able to show up, show your accreditation and that should be good enough,” says Moore.

Ontario and Quebec, for instance, have an agreement whereby their geologists can move back and forth between provinces for a number of days using a simple internet application process. B.C. and Alberta have expressed an interest in joining with Ontario in a similar agreement.

Last fall, Moore spoke to government geologists at the Mines Ministers’ Conference in Charlottetown about another kind of standardization: consistent presentation and access to exploration data across provincial and federal websites, and better digitizing of that data.

“They’ve done a fabulous job of scanning all their old exploration files and data right back to the beginning,” says Moore of the provincial and federal geological surveys. But a lot of the data is delivered as a paper report when it would be so much more useful to explorers if it were in the original digital format that could be manipulated immediately without having to be re-entered.

“This would open things up for entrepreneurs to develop new ideas with all the data we have,” says Moore. “We’ve been asking so long for the government to provide us with more data through mapping and so on, but maybe it’s time for industry to look at itself and not be so reluctant about providing digital data.”

Moore says he has had guarded support from various prospectors associations and junior companies for this initiative, but suspects the senior companies may take more convincing.

The move to make digital data more accessible is just one example of how the PDAC—often working behind the scenes—helps foster geoscience knowledge and keep those orebodies coming. ▶

— By Virginia Heffernan



PDAC'S GROWING LEADERSHIP IN ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS



WHEN THE PDAC'S ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS committee formed in 2004, there was a growing desire within the association to enhance the natural partnership that existed between Aboriginal communities and the mineral exploration and mining industry. Yet at the time, Aboriginal participation at the PDAC Convention was not very high and there were no Aboriginal executives on the PDAC's board of directors.

How times have changed. Today, the PDAC has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to promote greater participation by First Nations in the mineral industry in Canada, and more than 500 self-identified Aboriginal delegates attended the PDAC Convention in 2012. Furthermore, this past year the association welcomed its first Aboriginal President in Glenn Nolan.

"I'm always amazed about where we've come in the last decade as an industry," says Nolan, who hails from the Missanabie Cree First Nation in northern Ontario and who in addition to his duties with the PDAC serves as Vice-President of Aboriginal Affairs for Noront Resources. "The growth in awareness by industry members about what needs to be done to engage communities in a proactive and respectful way is encouraging."

It was former President Peter Dimmell who first recognized in 2004 that the PDAC needed to take a greater leadership role in fostering a positive relationship with Aboriginal communities. The B.C. Supreme Court had just ruled on the "duty to consult" and issues were arising between some junior companies and Aboriginal communities in Ontario.

"The Platinex-Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) dispute was not in the news yet, but there were a couple of other less high profile situations where companies and communities were starting to clash around the duty to consult," says Don Bubar, who joined the PDAC board of directors in 2004 and has worked with Aboriginal groups in the Northwest Territories and in northwestern Ontario. "Peter approached me to chair the new



PDAC Aboriginal Affairs committee because I had spoken up on Aboriginal issues during a couple of board meetings and was one of the few on the board at the time who had relevant experience working with communities.”

Bubar immediately turned to Chuck Willms, a lawyer specializing in Aboriginal law at Fasken Martineau, to join the committee and speak at a PDAC event on the implications of the Supreme Court decision on the duty to consult. Nolan attended the event as a representative of his own community and introduced himself to Bubar, who recognized in Nolan a valuable potential committee and PDAC board member.

When elected at the AGM in March 2005, Nolan was the only Aboriginal person on the PDAC board of directors at the time. He was followed by Jack Blacksmith, Michael Fox and Annita McPhee. Fox and McPhee still serve on the board with Nolan, who became President in 2012.

“My role as the President is being seen as a game-changer,” says Nolan. “Aboriginal people are now looking at the association as a way of embracing something that, in the past, they might not have considered.”

Both Nolan and Bubar identify the PDAC’s MOU with the Assembly of First Nations as the committee’s most significant accomplishment. Signed in 2008, the agreement establishes a relationship between the two organizations with a commitment to opportunities for regular dialogue between the mineral sector and communities, collaboration on human resource initiatives that promote greater participation of First Nations people in Canada’s exploration and mining industry, and cooperation on public policy issues of mutual interest.

As of February 2012, more than 180 agreements have been signed between mining companies and Aboriginal communities or governments in Canada, according to Natural Resources Canada. Projects range from grassroots exploration plays to producing mines across the country.

Another significant milestone was the PDAC’s establishment of the Skookum Jim Award. First presented in March 2008, the award recognizes exceptional achievement and/or service from an Aboriginal-run business, or an individual who has made a significant contribution to the industry. The 2013 winner is Windigo Catering Limited Partnership, a catering company in northwestern Ontario that specializes in a variety of on-site management and light maintenance services.

“Having the board recognize the importance of Aboriginal entrepreneurs and movers and shakers that have exemplified a strong commitment to the industry was significant,” says Nolan.

Since the Aboriginal Program was launched at the PDAC Convention in 2006, it has grown exponentially in quality and quantity. With two days of sessions (increased from one half-day session at its inception) devoted to Aboriginal programming, the convention is a unique opportunity for companies and communities to network, create partnerships, and share knowledge.

Aboriginal participation at the convention is expected to continue to grow in 2013, says Lesley Williams, the PDAC’s Manager of Aboriginal Affairs and Resource Development. Programming in four separate sessions will focus on building capacity, promoting excellence in engagement, and addressing subjects such as consultation and community-company agreements. Meanwhile, throughout the rest of the year the PDAC will continue to develop tools to build awareness around the mineral development sequence and opportunities that exist, and encourage increased and meaningful Aboriginal participation in the industry, adds Williams.

Apart from the Aboriginal Program at the convention, PDAC Aboriginal Affairs undertakes initiatives and activities to promote greater understanding and cooperation between Aboriginal communities and the mineral industry in Canada. While advocating for policy, such as government resource revenue sharing and the resolution of land claims, the PDAC participates in conferences and meetings central to Aboriginal issues in Canada. The development of research and tools such as the *Exploration and Mining Guide for Aboriginal Communities* is also an integral element of the department.

The opportunity for constructive engagement and Aboriginal participation in the sector is not lost on government representatives at the provincial and federal level. “We talk a lot in public policy about jobs without people and people without jobs and I think that is the key to this obvious marriage of Aboriginal people, particularly their youth, and the mining industry,” says Liberal MP Carolyn Bennett, who attended PDAC 2102 and is Vice-Chair of the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development committee at the federal level.

Nolan agrees with such a sentiment and envisions a future in which communities take ownership of exploration programs, hire their own people, and secure licences to develop projects. When such a vision becomes a reality, the PDAC Aboriginal Affairs committee will have fulfilled its mandate. Until then, there is more work to be done. ▶

— By Virginia Heffernan

THREE COMPANIES THAT ARE MAKING *e3 PLUS* WORK



CARTIER RESOURCES



CALLINEX MINES

WHEN THE PDAC LAUNCHED *e3 Plus—A Framework for Responsible Exploration*—in March 2009, the goal of the program was that it serve as a benchmark of principles and guidelines that exploration and mining companies could use in their everyday activities. Although presented as a voluntary tool, it challenged companies to strive for excellence in three distinct areas: social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and health and safety.

In an effort to see first-hand how companies have been using *e3 Plus* since its inception, the PDAC visited three projects over the past few years—two in Canada and one in South America—to gain valuable insight into the benefits of the program, along with areas that need improvement.

The first visit was to Val d’Or, Quebec, in June 2011 to a gold exploration site owned by **Cartier Resources**. The company’s CEO, Philippe Cloutier, had previously expressed a keen interest in responsible exploration and wanted to ensure that his company was complying with local regulations, even going beyond the necessary compliance standards when possible. He had presented the best practices outlined in *e3 Plus* to the company’s board of directors who were particularly intrigued by the principles related to the environment, as well as health and safety.

To achieve his goal, Cloutier hired a consultant who specializes in sustainable development to create a good practice checklist and to oversee the proper application of certain principles. From there, the company started holding staff meetings to verify the application of certain recommendations that were identified in *e3 Plus*, and during the PDAC’s visit they were in the process of putting together a bulletin board to help infuse key principles into the company’s operating culture. They have even introduced a grant for College of General and Vocational Education (CEGEP) students who, in an essay, can successfully discuss a topic mentioned in *e3 Plus*, regardless of their specialization.

And what’s the payoff to Cartier Resources for implementing *e3 Plus*? “Applying best practices through *e3 Plus* will make us more competitive in the long run,” says Cloutier.

The second visit the PDAC team undertook was in September of 2011 to a base and precious metals property outside of Smithers, British Columbia, operated by **Callinex Mines**. Although the company strictly abides by the laws that regulate the provincial activities of the mineral exploration industry, they have also created their own internal health and safety regulations that use *e3 Plus* principles because as their CEO Mike Muzlyowski put it: “We leave nothing to chance; we can’t take the risk.”

And what's the payoff to Cartier Resources for implementing e3 Plus? "Applying best practices through e3 Plus will make us more competitive in the long run."

— Philippe Cloutier, CEO, Cartier Resources



Furthermore, Callinex is working hard to reduce its environmental footprint. Reclamation of drill sites and ATV tracks is ongoing, and new methods of transportation are being used to minimize damage to surface areas. The company has also implemented successful strategies to reduce and manage waste materials in all sectors of its projects.

The last field trip the PDAC undertook was in October 2011 to Provincia de Jujuy, in the far north of Argentina, to a lithium exploration site owned by **Lithium Americas**. The company had received an overwhelming amount of support from the local communities since its arrival and wanted to nurture those existing relationships by offering their assistance in local development projects. "The company has the potential to change the local communities' life and to make sure that those changes are positive, and that the negative risks are mitigated," noted Lithium Americas' CEO, Waldo Perez.

To accomplish this, Perez frequently engages with local community members and stakeholders to discuss their concerns, and the Community Relations staff reports directly to him so decisions are made immediately. The company also arranges monthly assemblies or "assembleas"—regular community meetings where all matters of importance to the community are discussed—in each community located near the exploration site. From these meetings they sign agreements called "convenios" in which Lithium Americas

establishes its role and responsibilities to keep the communities informed and to mitigate any potential environmental, health and safety, or social issues.

In terms of contributing to the development of local communities, the company has created a number of unique initiatives, from knitting and cooking lessons, to programs for local employment and economic development, as well as access to medical services. To educate the community about its activities, they organize guided visits to the site during the various stages of the project.

These are just three examples of how e3 Plus is making a difference in the exploration activities of three domestic and international companies. Going forward, as the association implements the objectives of its strategic plan, new areas for CSR development will be created to further enhance and promote the guiding principles of e3 Plus. ▶

— By Cameron Ainsworth-Vincze

The PDAC Board of Directors was pleased to announce the following awards for outstanding contributions to the mining and mineral exploration industry. The awards were presented during the Awards Evening Dinner at the PDAC 2012 Convention.

PDAC AWARDS FOR 2012



BILL DENNIS AWARD FOR A CANADIAN DISCOVERY OR PROSPECTING SUCCESS

Gerald Panneton, President and CEO of Detour Gold Corp., received this award for his leadership role on the team that advanced the Detour Lake property in northern Ontario into a world-class, low-grade, high tonnage gold deposit. Panneton spearheaded the initial acquisition and subsequent evaluation of what is now considered to be Canada's largest undeveloped gold deposit. Recognizing the potential of Detour Lake in 2006, Panneton commissioned a large-scale drilling and resampling program. By the end of 2011, the project had proven and probable open pit reserves of 14.9 million ounces of gold. Detour Gold Corp. is now moving ahead with the development of the project.



ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AWARD

This award recognized **Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM)**, a stewardship program developed by the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) that aims to improve the mining industry's overall performance by aligning its actions with the priorities and values of Canadians. The program was created in 2004 to help mining companies evaluate the quality, comprehensiveness and robustness of their management systems under several performance elements—tailings management, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions management, Aboriginal and community outreach, crisis management planning, biodiversity conservation management, and safety and health. Participation in TSM is a condition of membership in MAC. It requires members to subscribe to a set of guiding principles that are backed by specific performance indicators against which member companies must report annually. These reported results are externally verified every three years. A community of interest advisory panel provides feedback to MAC on the implementation, reception and use of TSM performance indicators. TSM has been recognized as one of the best industry association sustainability initiatives in the world, receiving the Globe Award for Environmental Excellence in 2005. Since that time, independent studies by Five Winds (2008) and the Canadian Business for Social Responsibility (2009) have both ranked TSM as "best in class."

AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Deborah McCombe was the recipient of this year's award for her many contributions and distinguished service to the mineral industry and its supporting organizations. Mrs. McCombe served as a PDAC Director from 1996 to 2011. For much of that period, she chaired the association's International Affairs committee. She was also a member of the Convention Planning committee, and served on the Governance and Strategic Planning committees. Mrs. McCombe has also been an active supporter of the CIM, serving on the Mining Millennium 2000 Convention Organizing committee and chairing the CIM Toronto branch in 2003. She is a member of the CIM Standing committee on mineral resource and mineral reserves and is a Canadian representative of the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO).

Deborah received the CIM Fellowship Award in 2005 and a 2001-2002 Distinguished Lecturer Award for her presentations on National Instrument 43-101 across the country. She is a past Director of Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation (MIRARCO). Mrs. McCombe served as a member of the APGO Council as Councillor at Large from 2007-2009, subsequently becoming Vice President and then President. Deborah was President of Watts, Griffis and McQuat before joining the OSC as Chief Mining Consultant in 2000. Currently, she is the President and CEO of Roscoe Postle & Associates.



A workforce in excess of 600 people on various projects in northern Canada and sources 66% to 81% of the goods and services it uses from the North.



SKOOKUM JIM AWARD FOR ABORIGINAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

This year's award was presented to the **Nuna Group of Companies** for providing mining and construction services to mining companies in northern Canada, and training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people in the North. Nuna was formed in 1993 and is 51% Inuit-owned [Nunasi Corporation (25.5%); Kitikmeot Corporation (25.5%); and Nuna Management (49%)]. Services the Nuna Group provides, through a group of seven subsidiary companies and 14 joint ventures and partnerships, include construction services, logistics, contract mining, infrastructure planning, earthworks, large diameter drilling, and mining support services and mining products. Sharing the economic benefits of the business with Inuit, Aboriginals and northerners has resulted in the company having, among owners and subcontractors, a very high proportion of northern content on projects.

The company, which is dedicated to ongoing employee training, has a workforce in excess of 600 people on various projects in northern Canada, and sources 66% to 81% of the goods and services it uses from the North. Nuna was contracted to build the 567 km ice road from Yellowknife to Lupin, Nunavut, and since 1998 the company has operated and maintained this roadway, which provides access to northern mining sites each winter.



VIOLA R. MACMILLAN AWARD FOR COMPANY OR MINE DEVELOPMENT

The PDAC selected **Osisko Mining Corp.** for this award after successfully developing and bringing into production the company's Canadian Malartic gold property in Quebec's Abitibi gold belt. In November 2004, Osisko acquired the property, which had produced some 5 million ounces of gold from 1935 to 1983 from four mines (Canadian Malartic, Barnat, Sladen and East Malartic). A detailed compilation of the extensive historical database was followed by the start of a major drilling program in March 2005. The mine began commercial production on May 19, 2011, and currently has an estimated 10.71 million ounces in proven and probable reserves.

The company has been exemplary in its attention to community concerns and involvement throughout the development of the open pit mine, which included the resettlement of more than 150 homes and the construction of five institutional buildings, and acknowledges that the collaboration of residents and the town council has been crucial to the success of the project.

The company has been exemplary in its attention to community concerns and involvement throughout the development of the open pit mine.

THAYER LINDSLEY AWARD FOR AN INTERNATIONAL MINERAL DISCOVERY

David A. Giles was the recipient of this year's award for heading Peñoles and Fresnillo Plc exploration teams that have seen considerable success in the number of their new economic gold and silver deposit finds in Mexico and Latin America. Most notable of these was the discovery of a new vein system in the Fresnillo district, leading to the opening of the Saucito mine in 2011 and consolidating Fresnillo as the largest silver district in the world.

Other principal finds included the San Julian silver-gold and Orisyvo gold deposits in Mexico, both now under development, and the discovery and geological reinterpretation of the Francisco I. Madero SEDEX deposit that led to the opening of an important new mine in 2002.



AWARDS

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

From time to time, the PDAC presents a Special Achievement Award that recognizes exceptional contributions to the mineral industry. This year, the association chose to honour the **Mine Training Society (MTS)** for providing Aboriginal people in northern Canada with the opportunity to develop usable job skills for the mining industry, and for developing a pool of skilled workers for the industry. MTS is a non-profit organization comprised of Aboriginal, industry, and government partners. Its objectives are to: 1) screen, select, train, and place northerners in all areas of mining; and 2) in cooperation with the NWT's education system and communities, build a legacy of education and awareness about the employee and skill requirements of the mining industry. MTS works with mining companies and industry service providers to bring training and jobs together, funding up to 50% of eligible costs for training programs. Priority for funding is given to training proposals that are skills based and lead directly to employment.

The MTS is a pioneer in this area and serves as a model for the other training societies across the North. Since 2004, the MTS and its partners have trained 854 individuals out of a total 1,095 applications, and 600 people have been employed in the mine and mine services sector. Courses offered include general trades training, environmental monitoring, first aid first responder, driller helper, underground mining (heavy equipment operator, etc.), and mineral process operation.



Mine Training Society
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Since 2004, the MTS and its partners have trained 854 individuals out of a total 1,095 applications, and 600 people have been employed in the mine and mine services sector.



MARY-CLAIRE WARD GEOSCIENCE AWARD

Deanne van Rooyen was chosen as this year's Mary-Claire Ward Geoscience Award recipient for her research project "Origin and geological history of Proterozoic, Paleozoic and Mesozoic rocks in the southern Thor-Odin area, B.C., based on mapping, structural, geochemical, geochronological and thermochronological constraints: Implications for accretionary tectonics and orogenesis in the southern Canadian Cordillera." Deanne recently completed her PhD in the Department of Earth Sciences at Carleton University.

The award, comprising \$5,000 and a certificate, is given annually to honour the memory of Mary-Claire Ward who died in 2004. At the time of her death, Mrs. Ward was the chair of the PDAC's Geoscience committee, Chairman of Watts Griffis McOuat Ltd., and a past President of the Geological Association of Canada. She was a passionate advocate for the geosciences in Canada. The intent of the award is to encourage and support a graduate student in Canada whose thesis will contribute to our knowledge about the geological history of Canada. ◀



RON GAGEL TACKLES THE INTRICACIES OF MINING UNDER THE IFRS



ACCOUNTING FIRMS MAY POSSESS the expertise required to interpret the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by Canadian public companies in 2011, but it's people like Ron Gagel who have the real life experience to deal with the unusual accounting issues facing the mining industry—especially the junior sector that is so prolific in Canada.

That's why the PDAC chose Gagel, a chartered accountant who has worked in the industry for more than a quarter of a century and been a PDAC board member since 1997, to assist the more than 1,000 juniors that make up the bulk of the PDAC membership as they transition to the IFRS accounting standards that took effect on January 1, 2011. The standards, which were initially implemented in Europe to harmonize accounting practises across the European Union, are designed to make company accounts understandable and comparable across international boundaries.

Gagel chairs a mining task force established by the PDAC and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) to respond to mining specific issues where the IFRS provides little guidance around such topics as how to account for flow-through, a financing vehicle unique to Canada. The task force does not publish pronouncements—only the International Accounting Standards board can do that—but does produce “Viewpoints” that juniors lacking accounting depth can use to determine how to proceed when they hit a snag under the new rules.

“Being the only chartered accountant on the board of the PDAC at the time, it was felt that I was the person who was most technically qualified from a financial perspective,” says Gagel, the former CFO of FNX Mining, which merged with Quadra Mining in 2010. “I’ve been with juniors that have gone from nothing to producing, so I’ve seen almost everything that’s involved from an accounting perspective when it comes to the junior side of the business.”

PHOTO BY MICHELLE SIU

“The IFRSs do not contemplate the nuances of the extractive industries. Even mining and oil and gas, though both are extractive industries, are very different.”

— Ron Gagel

Another added bonus is that throughout the initial set-up of the task force, and until he recently joined TMAC Resources as their Executive Vice President and CFO, Gagel was not affiliated with one mining company or accounting firm, although he did sit on the boards of Adriana Resources, Dalradian Resources and Stonegate Agricom.

The rest of the task force is made up of representatives from the largest Canadian public accounting firms, including KPMG, Deloitte & Touche, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and BDO Canada.

Given several years to prepare before the January 2011 conversion date, the majority of Canada’s public mining companies have made the switch to IFRS, a set of accounting principles used in most countries, the United States being the most significant exception. But that doesn’t mean that all the wrinkles have been ironed out.

“Mining has a lot of unique issues associated with it. For example, going underground and digging shafts and tunnels makes for an unusual business,” says Gagel. “The IFRSs do not contemplate the nuances of the extractive industries. Even mining and oil and gas, though both are extractive industries, are very different.”

As a result, the PDAC-CICA mining task force has developed nine “Viewpoints” on various issues that range from how to define the beginning of commercial production, to determining functional currency, to guidance on farm out arrangements for exploration properties. And they are working on more.

“This is a value-added service to the PDAC membership,” says Gagel. “The PDAC is trying to do something for its members by providing the guidance they and their auditors need to account for certain unusual aspects of mining accounting.”

Some issues have been contentious, while others, such as mining royalties, have been shelved because they are “too complex and varied,” says Gagel. The IFRS is already investigating the principles for royalties from a broader, multi-industry perspective.

But although adopting IFRSs has not been without its challenges, Gagel says the new accounting system gives Canadian companies globally comparable metrics that should help them attract capital.

“Capital flows to where it has the best return,” says Gagel. “But if you have country-specific accounting, there is an element of risk and confusion that reduces the efficiency of the capital markets.”

The mining task force is important to the transition process because of the lack of guidance from the IFRS about an industry that most of the financial world sees as a “rounding error in size” and not the economic powerhouse that it represents in Canada.

Even though, after all is said and done, a junior mining company’s balance sheet may look the same under IFRS (where it is referred to as a “Statement of Financial Position”) as it did under Canada’s Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), there is a great deal of training and documentation required for companies to make the switch.

At least GAAP and IFRS are both principles-based, which means that they both begin with standards that can be interpreted according to the situation. This is different from the more rules-based type of system that the United States clings to, which resembles a Napoleonic code.

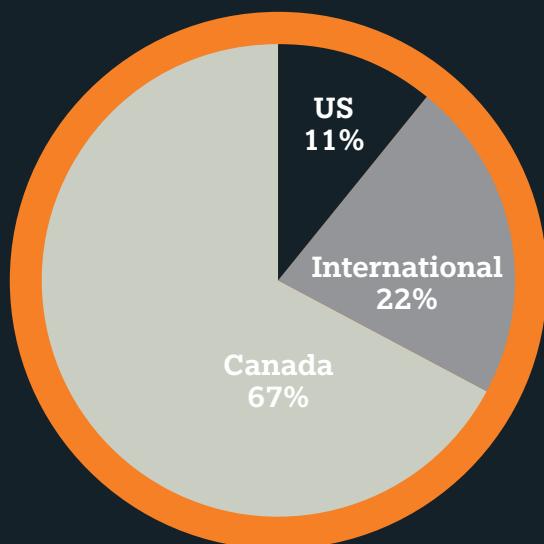
“Principles-based accounting permits some flexibility in interpreting rules, so the IFRSs are written at a high level and don’t necessarily get into minutia, especially industry-specific minutia,” says Gagel. “We’re always asking which principle are we talking about, and that’s where you get interpretations of accounting.”

Gagel says IFRS issues continue to arise in the mining sector, such as how to account for gold-linked financing, resource depletion and the reopening of a previously closed mine.

“There are still a lot of issues out there that need to be addressed. Accounting is continuously evolving so I don’t see an end to the mining industry IFRS task force in the foreseeable future.”

— By Virginia Heffernan

2012 PDAC MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

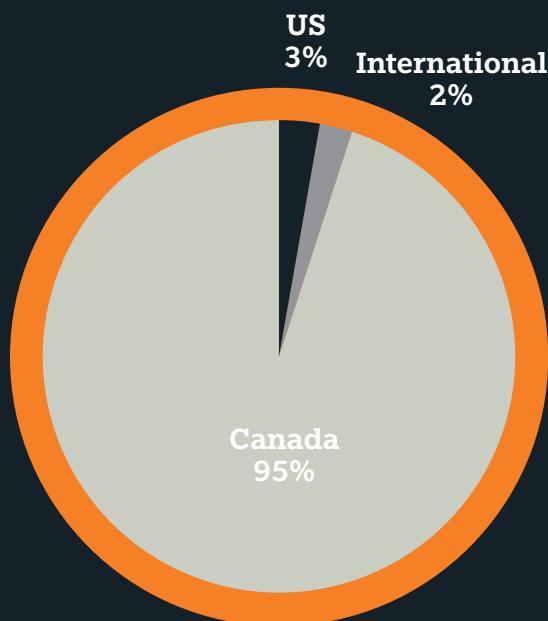


INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (EXCLUDING STUDENTS) 7,477

US	839	11%
International	1,651	22%
Latin America / Caribbean	573	
Europe	434	
Australia	276	
Asia	261	
Africa	107	
Canada	4,987	67%
NT	33	
NU	30	
YT	34	
BC	1,376	
AB	170	
SK	83	
MB	90	
ON	2,496	
QC	448	
PE	2	
NB	44	
NS	83	
NL	98	

PDAC MEMBERSHIP TREND

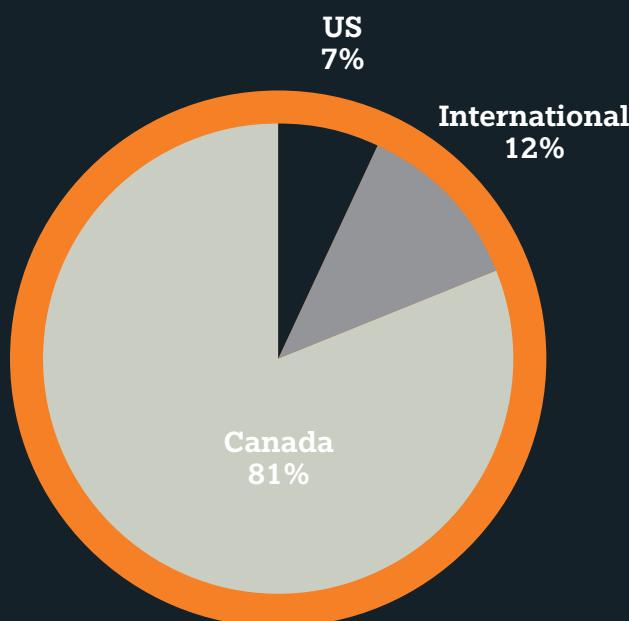
Individual members	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Core (paid)	0	1,605	1,782	1,890	1,898	1,940	2,217	1,956	2,091	2,335	2,417
Regular	2,932	1,420	1,709	1,819	2,271	2,683	2,755	1,976	2,408	3,283	3,895
Senior	411	360	406	418	456	462	484	509	501	644	768
Student	311	236	251	332	407	487	637	606	933	1,048	1,544
Sub-total	3,654	3,621	4,148	4,459	5,032	5,572	6,093	5,047	5,933	7,310	8,624
Life	14	157	168	170	169	175	197	208	273	288	291
Complimentary Core	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	53	113	83	105	94	97	106
Total	3,668	3,778	4,316	4,651	5,254	5,860	6,373	5,360	6,300	7,695	9,021
Increases (%):		3%	14%	8%	13%	12%	9%	-16%	18%	22%	17%



STUDENT MEMBERS

1,544

Region	Count	Percentage
US	43	3%
International	28	2%
Latin America / Caribbean	15	
Europe	11	
Australia	2	
Asia	0	
Africa	0	
Canada	1,473	95%
NT	1	
NU	0	
YT	0	
BC	48	
AB	23	
SK	25	
MB	35	
ON	1,025	
QC	162	
PE	0	
NB	33	
NS	57	
NL	64	



CORPORATE MEMBERS

1,270

Region	Count	Percentage
US	91	7%
International	155	12%
Latin America / Caribbean	64	
Europe	48	
Australia	17	
Asia	16	
Africa	10	
Canada	1,024	81%
NT	5	
NU	4	
YT	4	
BC	375	
AB	39	
SK	12	
MB	10	
ON	451	
QC	94	
PE	0	
NB	6	
NS	12	
NL	12	

Corporate members	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Class A	5	9	12	11	10	13	18	17	19	26	24
Class B	3	7	8	6	6	7	7	4	5	10	8
Class C	1	0	0	7	8	11	15	15	16	20	23
Class D	2	3	5	8	9	9	7	16	19	22	24
Class E	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	8	18	17	15
Class F	4	4	6	10	15	17	15	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sub-Total	15	23	31	43	49	58	64	60	77	95	94
Junior Exploration	146	174	266	357	410	445	547	561	545	577	651
Non-Mining	32	39	43	190	249	277	349	374	402	430	525
Total	193	236	340	590	708	780	960	995	1024	1102	1270
Increases (%):		22%	44%	74%	20%	10%	23%	4%	3%	8%	15%

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