



## Next Generation Explorers Award

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## BHP to be a Gold Sponsor for the Frank Arnott – Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™)

The Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™) Association is pleased to announce BHP as a Gold Sponsor for a three-year period. This award is focused exclusively on bringing together the education and mineral resource sectors to address key industry challenges around the use and interpretation of exploration-relevant data. The NGEA™ will provide a means for geoscience students to **“bridge the real-world skills gap”** by working collaboratively on an unstructured problem that will hone both their university-acquired and collaborative group skillsets on relevant applications used in the mineral exploration industry.

*“We are greatly honoured by BHP’s three-year Gold sponsorship of the NGEA™ and excited that their partnership with the NGEA™ will help support the next generation of geoscientists to grow, learn, develop their skills and reach their potential.”, says Marc Gasparotto, Vice-President of the Next Generation Explorers Award Association. “We see the NGEA™ as a valued contributor to develop both the innovative and soft skills required to support the breath of communities within the mining industry.”*

The NGEA™ is open to students who are currently enrolled in either an undergraduate or post-graduate Earth Science degree. Students will have the opportunity to collaborate within multi-disciplinary groups, gain hands-on experience working with modern data sets encountered in real-world employment scenarios and improve their leadership and team-based skills. Participants will have the chance to grow their professional networks, meet with potential employers and receive feedback and recognition by those in the mineral exploration industry. The finalist presentations and awards ceremony for the Frank Arnott - Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™) will take place during the PDAC convention in March 2021.

*Cam McCuaig, Head of Geoscience Excellence in BHP’s Technical Centre of Excellence, emphasizes that “BHP is proud to be a sponsor of the Frank Arnott – Next Generation Explorer’s Award. The goals of the award are aligned with BHP’s aims of building geoscientists who can effectively work in teams to integrate and interpret multiple geoscience datasets to address industry challenges. This capability is essential to enhance the industry’s ability to predict, detect and characterize future resources under cover.”*

**BHP** is a world-leading resources company that extracts and processes minerals, oil and gas products that are sold worldwide. Its purpose is to bring people and resources together to build a better world, through the safe and sustainable production of essential materials that support global prosperity. BHP’s support of initiatives such as the NGEA™ is one way in which the company can help to achieve this purpose.

The Next Generation Explorers Award Association is a volunteer-led, non-profit organisation committed to supporting the future generation of explorers through collaborative and industry-specific events like the Frank Arnott - Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™). For further information on sponsorship or participating, please visit our website at [www.frankarnottaward.com](http://www.frankarnottaward.com).