



The Voice of Mineral Exploration Summer 2016







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 $Convention\ photos: envision digital photo.com$





Key capital raising prospectus exemptions in Ontario

Several new exemptions were introduced by the Ontario Securities Commission that could provide more efficient ways of raising capital for mineral exploration companies. These exemptions allow a wider range of Canadians to invest in the mineral exploration industry, and allow issuers to connect with new pools of capital. PDAC has advocated strongly for these objectives, which support the flow of capital to companies looking for, or developing, mineral deposits.

Recommendations on Northern Infrastructure and Aboriginal Economic Development

The National Aboriginal Economic Development Board (NAEDB) released its Recommendations on Northern Infrastructure to Support Economic Development. The recommendations address the significant infrastructure deficit in Canada's North, and call for changes to the way infrastructure money is spread across the country.



BROADER STRATEGY TO REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Government of Canada announced five principles that will guide its decision-making on major natural resource projects while they undertake a review of Canada's environmental assessment processes. This follows the Government's Speech from the Throne commitment to introduce new environmental assessment processes as part of their efforts to restore public trust. The five principles are:

- 1. No project proponent will be asked to return to the starting line—project reviews will continue within the current legislative framework and in accordance with treaty provisions, under the auspices of relevant responsible authorities and northern regulatory boards.
- 2. Decisions will be based on science, traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples and other relevant evidence.
- The views of the public and affected communities will be sought and considered.
- 4. Indigenous peoples will be meaningfully consulted, and where appropriate, impacts on their rights and interests will be accommodated.
- Direct and upstream greenhouse gas emissions linked to the projects under review will be assessed.





Quebec to support a competitive and responsible minerals industry

The Government of Quebec announced its strategic vision for the minerals industry in the province. If implemented effectively, it will help sustain the competitiveness of Quebec and ensure it aligns with the principles of sustainable development. Supported by Quebec's 2016-2017 Budget, the vision includes enhanced fiscal support for exploration in remote areas and commitments to significant infrastructure investments.

Report: Business Ecosystems in Exploration

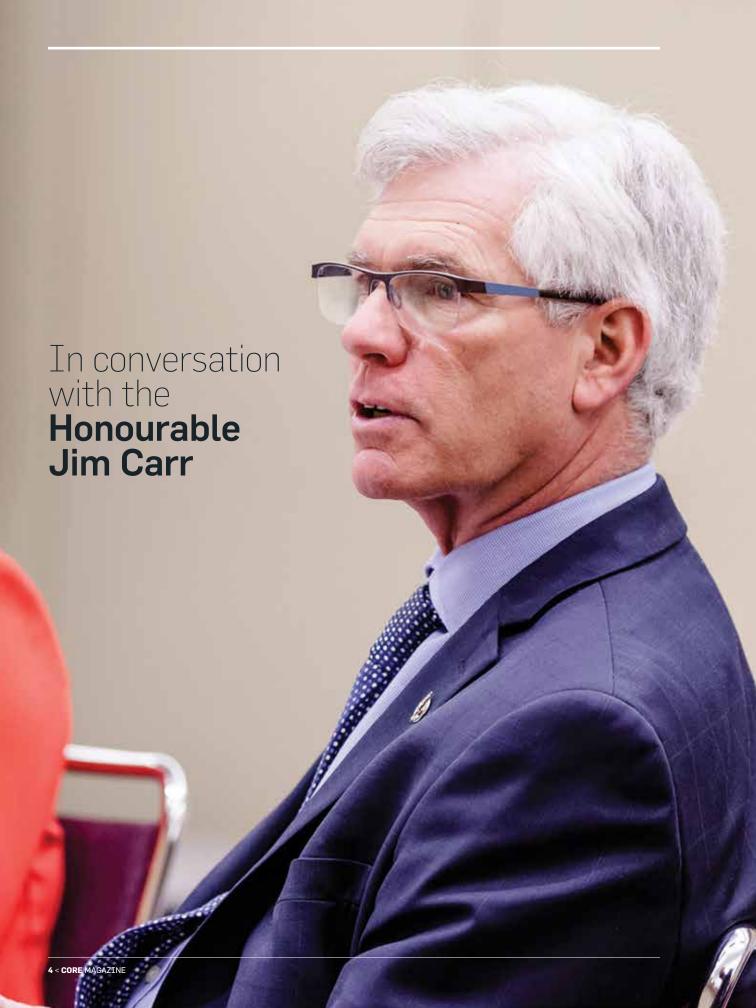
According to a report released by the PDAC, Deloitte and the Canada Mining Innovation Council, the most effective way to drive innovation in the mining industry today is to create high-performing business ecosystems to address industry challenges. The report, Business Ecosystems in Exploration, builds on a previous study that looked at collaboration as a key way to foster new ways of thinking and working.

ESTMA payment reporting tool takes effect

Natural Resources Canada has finalized the tools required for reporting payments made to governments and government officials under the Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act (ESTMA). ESTMA came into force on June 1, 2015 to deliver on Canada's international commitments to increase transparency and deter corruption of Canadian companies operating nationally and abroad.

Standard for Responsible Mining

The Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) released version 2.0 of its Standard for Responsible Mining. A public-review period is open for 60 days, which started on April 5. The IRMA Standard includes health and safety for workers, human rights, community engagement, pollution control, mining in conflict-affected areas, rights of Indigenous peoples, transparency in revenue payments from companies to governments, and land reclamation once mining is complete.





Canada's new Minister of Natural Resources shares his views on attending the PDAC 2016 Convention, and the importance of enhancements to innovation, infrastructure and clean technologies to further advance the mineral exploration and development sector.

O. On behalf of the mineral exploration and development industry, PDAC would like to thank you and your government for taking measures in Budget 2016 to support the sector, including the renewal of the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC), and a commitment to proceed with measures to ensure that costs associated with environmental studies and community consultations will be considered Canadian Exploration Expenses (CEE). PDAC is a strong advocate of these measures, which help maintain the global competitiveness of Canada's junior exploration sector. How important is the mineral sector, and specifically the junior exploration sector, to Canada's current and future prosperity?

A. In my first few months as Minister, I've seen first-hand that Canada's exploration, mining and mineral processing industry is tremendously important to our economy and to communities across the country. It has been a challenging time for the industry and we recognize that the Federal Government has a role to play to lessen the impact.

That's why we included measures in our budget such as the extension of the 15% METC. We've also made sure that environmental studies and community consultation costs are eligible as CEE. These measures will help junior mining companies seeking the capital they need to make the next great discovery, while also encouraging innovation, regional economic development and the growth of Canadian businesses.

Q. The economic recovery of the junior exploration sector and the mining sector has been slower than expected. What are some of the initiatives government is working on to enhance the sector?

A. From an economic perspective, it is an ideal time to invest in innovation and the development of clean technology. In addition to METC and CEE, we also plan to invest \$87.2 million over two years to support research in forestry, mining and minerals, earth sciences and mapping, and innovation in energy technology. That's in addition to the \$1 billion over four years to support clean technology and innovation in the forestry, fisheries, mining, energy and agriculture sectors, as part of the Government of Canada's Innovation Agenda.

We are also committed to restoring public confidence in the way major resource projects are assessed and reviewed, ensuring that regulatory decisions are based on science and evidence, and that Indigenous peoples are part of every conversation that matters as we move forward together.

These measures are about helping to ensure that we have the mines of tomorrow to sustain the social and economic contributions of the exploration and mining industry. We're focusing our efforts on developing innovative and clean technologies, increasing funding for infrastructure, and providing regulatory certainty. In doing so, we can make sure that natural resource development and environmental stewardship go hand in hand for the benefit of Canadians from all regions of the country.

Minister Jim Carr speaking at the International Mines Ministers' Summit at PDAC 2016.

Q&A





BIOGRAPHY

Minister Jim Carr has been a dedicated business and community leader in Winnipeg for more than 30 years. He began his career as a musician, as an oboist and trustee with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. He then moved on to journalism, working as an editorial writer and columnist with the Winnipeg Free Press as well as for CBC Radio.

Jim entered public life in 1988, when he was elected to represent Fort Rouge in the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. He was also the deputy leader of his party. Jim later went on to become the founding CEO of the Business Council of Manitoba, where he worked alongside business leaders to address issues critical to Manitobans and Canadians.

In particular, Jim was one of the architects of the 'Winnipeg Consensus' process, which brought together Canadian think tanks and energy leaders, and informed the Canadian Energy Strategy released in 2015 by Canada's provinces and territories.

Jim has been an active volunteer with a number of local, provincial, and national organizations. He was the founding co-chair of the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Council, member of the board of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, member of the board of the Canada West Foundation, and member of the board of the Arthur V. Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice at the University of Manitoba.

Jim's community leadership has earned him numerous awards, including the Canada 125 Medal, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and the Order of Manitoba.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:

At PDAC 2016: Minister Carr speaking at the Opening Ceremonies; PDAC President Rod Thomas, Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day from Chiefs of Ontario and Minister Carr; representatives from around the world gathering at the International Mines Minister's Summit.



Q. Our association was pleased to welcome you at the PDAC 2016 Convention this past March. As a firsttime attendee, what were your impressions of the event?

A. First of all I'd like to thank you for the invitation. I was pleased to be a part of such a great event, and it allowed me to gain valuable insight into your industry's important role in our resource economy.

One thing that struck me at this year's PDAC Convention—and it only served to reinforce Canada's brand of sustainable resource development—was that everywhere I went on the convention floor, at roundtables and in meetings with my international counterparts, the message was clear: the mining world is looking to Canada for leadership. And I believe that the world is finding it.

Q. PDAC appreciated the important role you played in the inaugural International Mines Ministers' Summit at the convention. As you know, Canadians are leaders in the mineral exploration and development sector globally. What more can the industry do to ensure our place as leaders going forward?

A. Our miners have earned a reputation for innovation, environmental stewardship, Indigenous engagement and corporate social responsibility—it's a reputation that we can be proud of. To remain a global leader, we need to keep this identity. Canadian companies must continue to operate abroad with the highest ethical standards while strengthening their corporate social responsibility practices. They also play an important economic role in their host countries, and it's important that we assure that the benefits of these investments are maximized.

Continuing to do this will support Canada's brand of sustainable mineral resource development abroad and ensure that Canada remains a leader in mineral exploration and development.

Q. Returning to Budget 2016, the minerals industry was pleased to see commitments to invest significantly in infrastructure development.

Northern and remote regions of Canada pose significant hurdles to mineral exploration and development. Will there be opportunity, particularly in Phase 2 of the plan, for industry to work together with your government to overcome the infrastructure deficit in these regions?

A. We certainly recognize the unique infrastructure needs, challenges and opportunities of Canada's northern and remote communities, and the critical role they play in the country's economic, social and environmental well-being.

As we outlined in Budget 2016, we plan to invest more than \$120 billion in infrastructure over 10 years, including \$60 billion in new funding for public transit, green infrastructure, and social infrastructure, to better meet the needs of Canadians and better position Canada's economy for the future.

Q. Mineral development in Canada offers economic opportunities for Aboriginal people to become involved in the sector and benefit from projects in and around their communities. PDAC is a strong advocate for increased participation by Aboriginal people in the mineral exploration and development industry, and undertakes efforts to support positive relationships between the sector and Aboriginal communities. What initiatives can your government undertake that can help support increased participation by Indigenous peoples in the mineral industry?

A. I believe that in every industry, it is important to strengthen relations with Indigenous groups. Just as economic growth and environmental stewardship must go hand-in-hand, so must the participation of Indigenous peoples go hand-in-hand with the sustainable development of our resources. That's one of the cornerstones of our new interim approach for reviewing and assessing major resource projects.

As well, our budget invests \$8.4 billion over five years in infrastructure, training, and other programs to expand opportunities for Indigenous peoples. Investments in these fundamental areas will help accelerate the participation of Indigenous Canadians in the mineral industry, and are necessary building blocks for economic development. For instance, we've included an investment of \$15 million over two years to renew the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy. The Strategy will help Indigenous peoples in all regions of the country to develop employment skills and pursue training opportunities. •





PDAC 2016: ANAIR OF OPTIMISM

BY KRISTY KENNY



A wave of positive energy was felt throughout PDAC's 2016 International Convention, Trade Show & Investors Exchange, indicating a welcome shift of optimism that was encouraged further by rising gold prices.

It also marked the 84th year of the PDAC Convention, which has cemented itself as a permanent fixture on the events calendar and the premier event for the world's mineral and mining industry.

"There was an obvious sense of confidence among key players who attended the PDAC 2016 Convention, which proved to be another highly successful event through the eyes of the industry," says PDAC President Bob Schafer. "It is no secret the mineral exploration and mining industry has been facing an array of economic challenges the past several years. Regardless, the sector continues to demonstrate its resiliency and adaptability. This was reflected in the subject matter, and ultimately the mood, throughout the event."

WHO WAS THERE?

In 2016, more than 22,000 investors, analysts, mining executives, geologists, prospectors, government officials and students, including more than 500 self-identified Aboriginal people, from 125 countries attended the four-day convention. A further 25 Federal Parliamentarians, six Provincial and Territorial Ministers, and two Premiers were also present. Isadore Day, Regional Chief, Chiefs of Ontario launched the convention at the Opening Ceremonies. The lineup featured Gianni Kovacevic, author of *My Electrician Drives a Porsche?*, Don Coxe who discussed the status of the industry at the Mineral Outlook Luncheon, and independent analyst Raymond Goldie who moderated the Panel Luncheon, What will fuel the next bull market in mined commodities?

SAVE THE DATE PDAC 2017 MARCH 5-8

WHAT WAS ON OFFER FOR ATTENDEES?

An outstanding lineup of carefully-selected programs, short courses, presentations, panel discussions and luncheons were available, including the highly popular Keynote Session: 2026 – The Future of Exploration and Development, as well as the Mineral Outlook Luncheon and Panel Luncheon. Likewise, the famous networking and social events proved as popular as ever among the diverse crowd, highlighted by the Media Reception, Opening Ceremonies, Mining Night, Awards Evening and Closing Party.

NEW TO THE LINEUP

For the first time, the PDAC 2016 Convention welcomed 16 Mines Ministers from around the world to the inaugural International Mines Ministers' Summit (IMMS). Led by Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Jim Carr—who spoke at a series of PDAC functions including the Board of Directors Luncheon and the Opening Ceremonies—the IMMS provided an important setting for the international mining community to meet and collaborate, and was co-hosted with the World Economic Forum (WEF).

"It is imperative not only for PDAC to build strong working relationships with provincial and federal governments in Canada, but also with international governments to ensure the mineral industry continues to succeed and grow," says PDAC Executive Director Andrew Cheatle. "The PDAC Convention was an excellent opportunity to showcase the importance and scale of our industry to the new Government of Canada and for the international mining ministers to come together and work to resolve the issues affecting them in their respective countries."

The IMMS is slated to become a permanent fixture on the convention schedule.



PDAC 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- A display of the visually stunning Kirwin Collection of minerals on loan from the Royal Ontario Museum.
- The Toronto Stock Exchange opening and closing the markets from the convention floor.
- De Beers Canada displaying rough, cut and polished Canadian diamonds.
- The Royal Canadian Mint celebrated 100 years of history in Trade Show North.
- Gianni Kovacevic showcasing his Tesla, which he then drove to Tesla headquarters in California as part of his Realistic Environmentalist North America Tour.
- Diversity: Bridging the inevitable talent gap CEO panel moderated by Patrice Merrin, Director or Glencore, followed by 100 Plus Reasons to Celebrate Women in Mining reception.

PROGRAMS

The Capital Markets Open Program featured a panel led by heads of global mining investment from several major Canadian banks who shared their views on the state of the industry. The program included sessions on new prospectus exemptions that came into effect in 2016 that will allow a wider pool of Canadians to invest in the mineral exploration industry.

The CSR Event Series served as a platform for examining and discussing issues related to sustainable development. Topics included artisanal mining, climate change, and sustainability due diligence during mergers and acquisitions. For the first time, representatives from the Government of China and the Chinese mining industry took part and introduced newly developed CSR Guidelines for Chinese multinationals operating outside of China. The Schulich School of Business International Case Competition was another first-time highlight.

The Aboriginal Program once again brought the mineral industry together with Aboriginal communities and companies to exchange ideas, share information and network. Four sessions and 40 speakers discussed topics related to the two primary goals of PDAC Aboriginal Affairs. The goals are: improving the relationship between companies and communities and increasing Aboriginal participation in the economic opportunities created by the industry. More than 700 people attended the Aboriginal Program.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The PDAC Convention is where the PDAC Presidency commences and ends. Rod Thomas, whose legacy is featured in this issue of *Core* (page 22), handed over the reins to the 35th President, Bob Schafer.

Bob has worked in more than 70 countries, largely in North America, but with important efforts in Russia, Australia, China, Afghanistan and India, as well as across Africa and South America. He is a Registered Professional Geologist in the states of Utah and Wyoming in the USA.

"I have been a volunteer with PDAC since the mid-1990s and am looking forward to taking on the role of President and bringing the experience of my 35-year career to members of the association for the overall betterment of Canada's mineral exploration and development industry," says Mr. Schafer. •

Kristy Kenny is the PDAC's Coordinator of Communications.



TRADE SHOW & TRADE SHOW NORTH

844

491 Exhibiting Organizations62 Exhibiting Governments40,141 Mobile Website Visits







CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION

- Provincial and Territorial Ministers
 - Premiers



PDAC 2016 CONVENTION STATISTICS

INVESTORS EXCHANGE

373 Exhibiting Organizations17 Prospectors Tent Booths

CORE SHACK 47 Exhibiting Companies

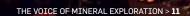


PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

- 21 Technical Sessions
- 8 Short Courses
- **32** Presentation & Reception Rooms
- 118 Corporate Presentation

Forum for Investors presentations





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On March 22, the Honourable Bill Morneau, Canada's Minister of Finance, tabled Budget 2016, *Growing the Middle Class*, which outlines the Government's plan for governing the country in the year ahead. Budget 2016 provided funding details for many of the Liberal campaign promises, and offered support for Canada's mineral exploration and development sector.

"PDAC is pleased with a number of initiatives included in Budget 2016 that will support Canada's mineral exploration and development sector," says PDAC President Bob Schafer. "The budget adopts a holistic approach to resource development, with support for innovation, financing, Aboriginal and community consultation and northern economic development."

RENEWAL OF THE MINERAL EXPLORATION TAX CREDIT (METC)

The 15 per cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC) for flow-through share investors was extended until March 2017. The METC has played an important role in ensuring that Canada remains a global hub for mining finance. Canadian stock exchanges have raised almost half of all global mine equity finance over the last decade, in large part due to the importance of flow-through shares and the METC.

"Renewal of the METC sends a positive signal to investors that the government understands the importance of Canada's junior mining sector," says PDAC Executive Director Andrew Cheatle. "The METC helps to fund exploration activities that lead to the discoveries that could become the mines of the future."

Renewal and expansion of the METC was a key recommendation of PDAC's pre-budget submission and PDAC will continue to advocate for this important program.

CANADIAN EXPLORATION EXPENSES (CEE)

Budget 2016 committed to tabling the necessary legislation to ensure that costs associated with environmental studies and community consultations will be considered Canadian Exploration Expenses (CEE). With CEE treatment, the costs of environmental studies and community consultations will be immediately deductible—eligible to be renounced to investors using flow-through shares, and eligible for projects that could qualify for the 15 per cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit.

This legislation was originally introduced in 2015 but did not pass due to the election call. PDAC is pleased to see the commitment to tabling this legislation and looks forward to working together with the government on its implementation.



INNOVATION

The Federal Government provided over \$1 billion over four years to support clean technology in resource sectors, including mining. Further details regarding the allocation of this funding will be provided in the coming months as part of the implementation of the Government's Innovation Agenda. Budget 2016 also provided \$87.2 million for Natural Resources Canada projects that support research in mining and minerals, earth sciences and mapping.

"Innovation is central to strengthening the environmental performance of the industry," says Mr. Schafer. "The PDAC looks forward to the details of this funding and to working together with the government on innovation in mineral exploration."

INFRASTRUCTURE

With Budget 2016, the Government announced details of its anticipated infrastructure plan. Investment in infrastructure will total \$120 billion over 10 years and will be rolled out in two phases. Phase 1 involves an investment of \$11.9 billion over five years and will begin immediately. This phase will focus primarily on maintenance and improvements to existing infrastructure, including modernizing and rehabilitating public transit, water and wastewater systems, affordable housing, and protecting existing infrastructure from the effects of climate change. Phase 2 will focus on infrastructure investments that support a modern, cleaner economy and capitalize on global trade. Details of Phase 2 will be announced next year after consultation with stakeholders and industry.

"PDAC will consult with government on Phase 2 of the infrastructure investment strategy with a focus on how infrastructure investment in northern and remote regions of the country can unlock the mineral potential in these areas," says Mr. Cheatle. c

Deanna Pagnan is the PDAC's Senior Manager of Public Affairs

In addition to the welcome news about the METC renewal, CEE changes and investments in innovation and infrastructure, Budget 2016 included other interesting initiatives that are aligned with PDAC program areas.

ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

- \$16.5 million over three years to support public and Indigenous participation in projects undergoing review by the National Energy Board and support Crown consultation with Indigenous peoples.
- \$96 million over five years and \$10 million ongoing to support the capacity of Aboriginal Representative Organizations to engage with the Government.
- \$15 million over two years will be provided to the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy to launch a pilot program designed to align training with community needs.

NORTHERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- \$40 million over two years to renew the Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development Program (SINED) delivered by the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor).
 - > SINED focuses on strengthening the driver sectors of the economy in the territories, so the minerals industry may have an important role to play.
- \$10.1 million over four years to CanNor to continue the Agency's leadership role in the Northern Projects Management Office in improving the timeliness, predictability and transparency of northern regulatory review processes.

LANDS & REGULATIONS

 \$14.2 million over four years to support the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in activities such as increasing capacity to undertake consultations with the public and Indigenous groups and support compliance and enforcement.

Sustainable Development Goals and the minerals industry

BY ANDREW CHEATLE

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs) are the world's new agenda for equitable, sociallyinclusive and environmentally-sustainable economic development. Adopted last September by 193 countries, including Canada, the 17 goals were formally introduced by the UN General Assembly under the banner: Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Since then, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), along with the World Economic Forum (WEF), Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment and numerous other entities, have worked to 'map' and tailor the SDGs for the mining industry. PDAC has been an active participant during this process, both as a reviewer and convener alongside the World Economic Forum and the Intergovernmental Forum, of industry, civil society and government participants at the PDAC 2016 Convention.

United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals



Some might ask: Why do the Sustainable Development Goals matter to the minerals industry, including exploration and development? Simply put, the minerals and mining sector has the ability to substantially build communities and develop nations, which offers an exceptional opportunity at all stages of the exploration and development process to advance the SDGs. Managed well, our industry can provide well-paying jobs, enhance innovation, improve safety, and bring muchneeded investment and infrastructure to communities where exploration and mining activities take place.

Conversely, if managed poorly, mineral exploration and development can bring environmental degradation, forced displacement, conflict and economic disappointment to local communities and shareholders. With over 6.000 companies employing some 2.5 million people globally who produce products that are essential to all aspects of life, contributing to the health and well-being of communities around the world makes sense from both business and societal perspectives.

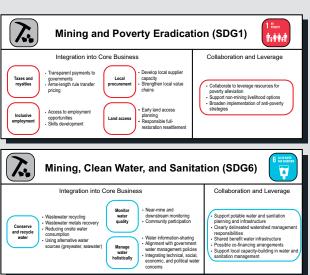
The PDAC's involvement with SDGs aims to broaden awareness among our base membership, many of whom work globally in remote, less-developed areas and with Indigenous peoples. Furthermore, it seeks to advance the conversation about how companies work with governments, communities, civil society and stakeholders. When the UNDP and WEF launched the SDGs last September, they noted that meeting every goal by 2030 will require "unprecedented cooperation" and collaboration among governments, NGOs, business and communities." Indeed it will, and the PDAC is committed to leading the charge on behalf of the minerals industry.

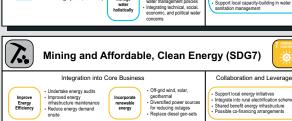
In total there are 17 distinct Sustainable Development Goals. While mining has the potential to contribute to all of them, preliminary conclusions are that our industry can contribute directly to the following eight as identified in the UNDP's Mapping Mining to the Sustainable Development Goals: A Preliminary Atlas.

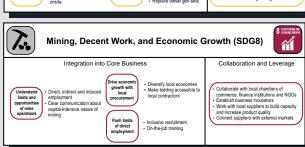
SDG 1 End Poverty: Mining generates significant revenues through taxes, royalties and dividends for governments to invest in economic and social development.

SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG15 Life on

Land: Mine development requires access to land and water presenting significant and broad landscape impacts that must be responsibly managed.





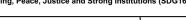














Avoiding impacts to critical habitat



Collaboration and Leverage Transparent country-by-country and project-by-project financial reporting

• Arms-length transfer pricing of intra-company transactions

• Facilitating peaceful working environr and good community relationships

• Promoting the rule of law od community relat ting the rule of law

Historic habitat restoration and/or reforestation, and anti-poaching efforts Collaborate in research initiatives

SDG 7 Energy Access and Sustainability and SDG13 Climate Action: Mining activities are energy and emissions intensive in both the production and downstream uses of its products.

SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth: Mining can change the lives of local communities, offering opportunities for jobs and training, and also contributes to economic and social inequities if not appropriately managed.

SDG9 Infrastructure, Innovation and Industrialization:

Mining can help drive economic development and diversification through direct and indirect economic benefits, the development of new technologies and by spurring the construction of new infrastructure for transport, communications, water and energy.

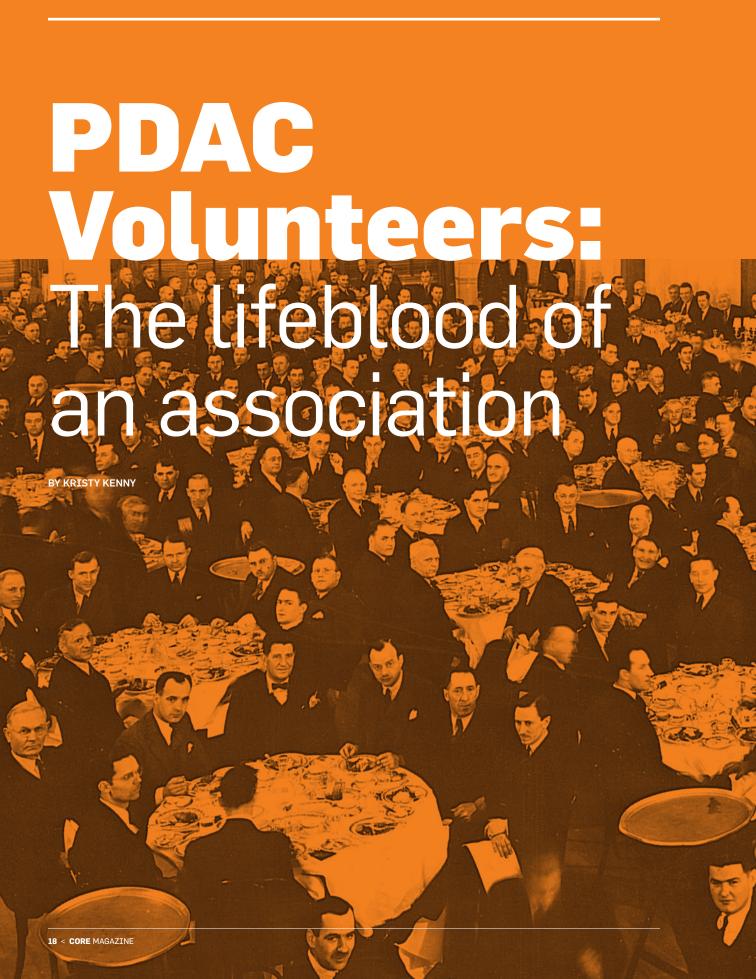
SDG16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions:

Mining can contribute to peaceful societies by avoiding and remedying company-community conflict, respecting human rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples, and by supporting the representative decision-making of citizens and communities in extractives development.

Many exploration and mining companies are already undertaking activities and have established work practices that support the SDGs. It is important for our industry to show stakeholders, governments and society how we contribute and lead on sustainable development, how we lead on decent work and economic growth, particularly in remote areas and with indigenous populations, and how we lead on innovation and green technology in exploring, finding, developing and mining metals of the future. c

Andrew Cheatle is the PDAC's Executive Director.

To read the Mapping Mining to the Sustainable Development Goals: A Preliminary Atlas, go to: http://unsdsn.org/ wp-content/uploads/2016/01/160115-Atlas_full.pdf







The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada

(PDAC) would not exist without volunteers. That's a fact. The generous time and efforts donated by industry professionals are as important today as they were 84 years ago when the association was founded.

The PDAC was originally formed in 1932 by a group of industry professionals who banded together to oppose an Engineers Bill proposed by the Ontario government that would require prospectors filing a work assessment to have the report signed by a mining engineer. They won, and the changes were never implemented.

From these humble beginnings, the association quickly grew and became involved in other issues involving prospecting and the mineral exploration industry in Ontario. All the while, the efforts were being carried out on a volunteer basis.

The first membership fees—\$1 per year—were introduced in 1942. However, for the most part the association had no source of revenue. Even the convention, which began as a one-day event in 1942, didn't generate significant funds until the 1980s.

The PDAC Convention, which had expanded to a three-day affair by 1945, was organized by industry professionals who went entirely unpaid for their efforts. This commitment to bring the mineral exploration and mining community together each year to discuss their issues, to collaborate and share new ideas and information, and to educate each other about evolving trends and technologies, essentially built the foundations of the four-day International Convention, Trade Show & Investors Exchange that is known around the world today.

PDAC has established itself as an iconic brand and has earned a highly-respected reputation in Canada and internationally. It represents more than 8,000 individual and corporate members, acting as the voice of Canada's mineral exploration and development industry to ensure a responsible, vibrant and sustainable sector.

Throughout the years PDAC has come a long way, evolving with the demands of the industry. Most modern developments, such as membership growth, events and reaching financial stability became more prominent from the 1980s onward. From here, the association needed to expand beyond volunteers to be able to seize new opportunities.

Today, 23 permanent staff are employed at PDAC, a conservative number that surprises many given the incredible reach of the association. Even now, with a solid body of staff, the successes of the association could not be achieved without the guidance and commitment of volunteers.

PDAC's Board of Directors (the Board) currently consists of 42 members, all of whom are volunteers.

It is not uncommon to see the same Board members sitting on—or even chairing—one or more of PDAC's 16 active committees. Committees are categorized into specific areas of focus, including: Aboriginal Affairs, Audit, Awards, Convention Planning, Corporate Social Responsibility, Executive, Finance & Taxation, Geosciences, Health & Safety, Human Resources Development, International, Lands & Regulations, Membership, Nominating & Governance, Public Affairs, and Securities.

Through these committees, around 200 volunteer members bring their intricate, industry-specific knowledge and understanding of Canada's mineral exploration and development industry to the centre of the association.

At least one permanent staff member supports the committees, which are considered the backbone of the PDAC. It is this behind-the-scenes strategizing that ultimately guides the direction of the association on behalf of its members, much like it did 84 years ago, but now with more manpower, preparation and influence. c

Kristy Kenny is the PDAC's Coordinator of Communications.

When did you first get involved with the PDAC and why?

I got involved in 1965 on behalf of some prospecting colleagues who had issues with the Ontario Securities Commission.

What positions have you held during your time as a PDAC volunteer?

I served on the Convention Planning, Finance & Taxation, Securities, Executive, Nominating & Governance, and Lands & Regulations committees. I started the PDAC Awards Committee in 1978 and continue as its Chairman to date. In my role as a PDAC representative, I was a founding member of the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame and have volunteered for Mining Matters.

You are one of PDAC's longest-standing volunteers. What are some of the biggest changes you have seen?

In the 1960s we were essentially an association focussed in Ontario with around 1,500 convention attendees. We gradually evolved into a Canada-wide meeting and then expanded to North America and now the world.

Would you recommend others to get involved as a volunteer?

For me, PDAC was a big part of my life and many of its Directors became lifelong friends. I urge anyone working in the mineral industry to spend time volunteering as we always need people "in the trenches."

What are some of your best memories through your volunteering?

Successes improving tax legislation, such as flow-through shares, mining regulations and financings. I am particularly proud of the PDAC Awards, which I started in 1978, and the worldwide convention. But best of all, it's the lifelong friendships.

Do you feel like your involvement has had an impact?

With the help of past President James Walker, I increased the PDAC Board of Directors to 48 members. I also arranged monthly meetings and volunteer working committees that made an enormous impact on improving some of the conditions in our business. These positive developments did help steer the PDAC and the industry in the right direction.

How important is PDAC to the health of Canada's mineral exploration and development sector?

The PDAC is the voice of the industry and is more important today than ever before as we face new challenges such as the right to explore and mine, as well as environmental and social responsibilities.



LEFT: Ed Thompson presenting the Distinguished Service Award to Bill Pearson at PDAC 2015.

ED THOMPSON

PDAC Volunteer

A volunteer for more than

50 years and current Chair

of the Awards Committee.

Ed also served as Vice

President in 1975 and as

his time with the PDAC.

President from 1977 to 1979.

He shares some insight into

Long-Standing



How did you become involved with the PDAC as a volunteer?

I became interested in helping with the convention after organizing and teaching three very successful structural geology Short Courses between 2010 and 2013, each of which attracted more than 100 attendees.

What did you hope to achieve by being a volunteer?

I have always thought fondly of the PDAC as an organization that is unique in both its national and international focus. Its convention was the first event I attended after immigrating to Canada in 1996, and I've managed to attend each convention since. Being involved with PDAC seemed fitting as it allowed me to give back to the industry that has been so good to me since moving to this country.

What volunteer roles do you hold/have you held at PDAC?

I joined the Convention Planning Committee in 2012 and was grateful to be elected to the Board of Directors in 2014. I co-Chaired the Convention Planning Committee in 2015 and took over as Chair for the 2016 and 2017 conventions. Given my geology background, I have also been able to provide minor assistance to the Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW) and Geology Committee initiatives.

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JAMES SIDDORN
Principal
Structural
Geologist

SRK Consulting

One of the more recent volunteers, James is Chair of the Convention Planning Committee and sits on the Board of Directors. He shares why he became a volunteer and what he gets out of it.

BELOW: James Siddorn presenting the Skookum Jim Award to Darrell Beaulieu at PDAC 2016.

Do you feel that your involvement has had an impact on the greater good of Canada's mineral exploration and development industry?

My focus up until now has been almost entirely on the convention, and I am dedicated to continuing its ongoing development. I hope that my involvement will help to enhance the convention's reputation as a world-leading mineral and mining event and that this will, in turn, benefit mining and exploration in Canada.

As a volunteer, are there any achievements or successes that you are proud of?

I was very proud to be a part of the PDAC Awards this year and to see such excellent and deserving recipients from such diverse backgrounds. I felt particularly privileged to be asked to present the Skookum Jim Award to Darrell Beaulieu from the Northwest Territories, given that I used to live in Yellowknife.

In your own words, how important are the committees to the greater minerals industry?

Volunteer committees are the lifeblood of the PDAC and other industry organizations. Without the diligence and hard work of volunteers, it would be impossible to achieve goals not only for the PDAC, but also for the industry as a whole. For example, sharing knowledge through technical meetings and improving industry standards.

Would you recommend others in the industry get involved as PDAC volunteers?

Definitely; the PDAC provides great opportunities for meeting people beyond your own network while giving back to the industry. The committees are focused and efficiently run, enabling efforts to have the greatest impact possible. Given the PDAC's national and international focus, it offers benefits that you will not find in other organizations. c







A LOOK BACK:

Former PDAC President Rod Thomas reflects on his two-year term at the helm of the association

Since stepping down as President in early March following the PDAC 2016 Convention, I have been asked on several occasions if I will miss being the President of the world's leading mineral exploration association.

The role of President was at times demanding and offered an array of challenges that I had never before encountered in my career. I found that out right away during our PDAC 2014 Convention. At this time the roles of the incoming President and the outgoing President (Glenn Nolan) blur somewhat, for obvious reasons, and I ended up interviewing Canada's Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, on stage at the MTCC in front of 600 PDAC delegates and almost as many media. The interview lasted nearly an hour, although it felt like just minutes. This was the first time in the PDAC's 83-year history that a sitting Prime Minister had attended our convention. I felt very proud to be standing there on behalf of the association and the 8,000 members that we represent across this country and around the world. That was my first, and last, gig in my very short career of interviewing national leaders on stage, and something I will remember for the rest of my life.

Travelling on behalf of PDAC and representing the industry abroad is a big part of being PDAC President. I had the honour of accompanying Canada's Governor General, the Right Honourable David Johnson, and his wife Sharon Johnson on two state visits—one to Ghana. Botswana and South Africa, and another to Chile and Colombia. Travelling with the Governor General has its advantages in terms of who you meet, and of course the manner in which you get there, and we were able to see an extensive amount of each of the countries in the short time allocated during the visits. This included meeting with a broad cross-section of society, including representatives and members of disadvantaged groups, as well as Presidents, elected officials, representatives of civil society, and educational innovators of many types. Along the way I acquired a tremendous amount of respect for the Governor General and his wife, who are an incredibly hard-working couple who are tireless and selfless in their devotion to our country and all it represents. I was proud to be a member of their Canadian delegation.

I also had the privilege of accompanying the Honourable Ed Fast, Canada's Minister of Trade at the time, on a trade mission to South Africa and Tanzania. Trade missions are much more focused on developing business connections and opportunities. Mission representatives are made up of MPs from all three political parties, along with business leaders and association representatives. Not as exhausting as accompanying the Governor General, but again I was delighted to represent the PDAC in both South Africa and Tanzania, two countries with rich mineral endowment and areas of interest for many PDAC members.

Visiting Finland as the PDAC representative to the biennial FEM conference was another highlight. Prior to the conference my wife, Peggy, and I took a side trip to St. Petersburg and then spent a couple of days in Helsinki before heading north to the town of Levi, which hosted the conference in early November 2015. Our Finnish hosts were particularly gracious and hospitable, and Finland, despite being at a much higher latitude, reminded me very much of parts of northern Ontario and northwestern Quebec. The winters are much milder and there is a high level of infrastructure. Additionally, there are lots of reindeer in northern Finland and, unlike caribou in northern Canada, the reindeer are all owned by someone. They are culled on a regular basis and are an important food source in Finland. They are also quite tasty, very much like eating caribou, except you have to keep Rudolph out of your mind while doing so. I can see why Canadians gravitate towards Finland as an exploration destination—it is just like working at home.

Being PDAC President is not all just about international travel. Although a good part of the President's responsibilities are to represent the PDAC on official delegations, there are also talks to be given at various conferences both in Canada and abroad, as well as meetings with politicians and their staff in Ottawa. There are Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings to chair, and there is the overarching need to keep the membership's best interests at heart in everything you do. So to answer the very question that I began with, and that has been posed to me numerous times since my last day as PDAC President, I will most certainly miss being President of the PDAC. I will miss the leadership role that the President has and I will also miss working closely with the dedicated staff and volunteers that make the PDAC the great organization it is today. It was a privilege and a highlight of my career, and something I will always fondly remember. c





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