

20 MINUTE MENTORING - PDAC 2025

Participating Mentor List

<p>Alex Christopher</p>	<p>Alex has over 40 years experience in the mineral exploration and mining industry. He is a member of EGBC, holds an Honours B.Sc. in Geology from McMaster University and an Environmental Biology Technology diploma from Canadore College.</p> <p>Now retired, he spent the majority of his career with Teck Resources Limited, a major Canadian diversified mining company, holding a number of management, commercial and technical positions in Teck's Exploration, Corporate Development and Project Groups.</p> <p>In addition to his work at Teck, Alex sat on the boards of AIM/TSXV listed Horizonte Minerals (2010-2020), the Association of Mineral Exploration BC (2003-2009) and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (2013-2023) where he served as President from 2021-2023.</p> <p>The first half of Alex's career focused on early to advanced stage exploration, evaluations, the junior mining sector, partnerships, and property transactions. Prior to moving into his senior leadership roles at Teck, he spent over a decade on commercial and corporate development activities, including major evaluations, acquisitions, divestitures, and strategic initiatives. Beginning in 2016, Alex was responsible for overseeing project studies and construction activities across Teck's global portfolio, including construction of Teck's flagship QB2 copper project in Chile.</p> <p>Alex has had significant exposure to the issues facing the industry both within Canada and globally. He has worked across a number of jurisdictions, commodities and project scales and understands the challenges facing the industry today, from access to land, to capital markets. His exploration, projects, and corporate experience allow him to bring a broad perspective to the table.</p>
<p>Alicia Moning Project Geologist New Found Gold Corp</p>	<p>I have worked for New Found Gold Corp on the Queensway project in Gander, NL since 2020 first as a Core-logging Geologist before being promoted to Project Geologist. As a Project Geologist I manage up to 14 drills at a time including if they are on the right trajectory, when they need to be shut down and where they will drill next. I use 3D modelling software and ArcGIS to assist with drill hole planning. I also supervise the drill support team and the geology team. Before joining New Found Gold Corp I worked as a core logger and as a field geologist in Hope Bay, NU, NWT, Red Lake and Kirkland Lake ON all on gold exploration and development. I have also spent time in Nova Scotia working on my M. Sc. at Acadia University where I mapped an area in the Cape Breton Highlands, specifically the plutonic rocks in that area.</p>
<p>Allison Blevings Director of Operations, AI Mineral Targeting VRIFY Technology</p>	<p>Allison is an experienced geologist and operational leader with almost 20 years of expertise in the mining and mineral exploration industry. She earned a B.Sc. (2006) and an M.Sc.(2008) from the University of British Columbia; both focused on applied mineralogy, ore deposit geology & geochemistry. Allison's technical expertise includes the application of advanced mineralogical techniques to projects targeting a wide range of critical minerals and metals, including copper, gold and precious metals, rare earth elements, tungsten and lithium. Her career has evolved from managing and executing field-based exploration and multi-phase drilling programs to leading advanced mineral targeting initiatives, integrating applied mineralogy and 3D geological modeling to refine deposit models, optimize exploration strategies, and drive data-informed decision-making in the sector. As Director of Operations, AI Mineral Targeting at VRIFY, she coordinates initiatives with the VRIFY AI Geoscience Team and VRIFY's clients to integrate AI-driven methodologies to enhance understanding of mineral systems and provide support to client's exploration strategies and targeting. Her focus lies in driving efficiency, fostering true innovation, and building resilient teams that deliver measurable impact to the mining industry.</p>

<p>Arndt Brettschneider VP Operations and Projects NGEx Minerals</p>	<p>Mr. Brettschneider has 30 years of international mining, project development and consulting experience. Prior to joining the Lundin Group of Companies in 2019, Mr. Brettschneider was Vice President of mining consulting businesses at two global engineering companies. His experience includes six years working on the development of the Vicuña district, 10 years leading large multinational teams delivering engineering studies and consulting services to clients worldwide, as well as 13 years on-site project development and operations roles in various gold and copper operations in Australia and in Peru. Mr. Brettschneider holds a Bachelor of Science with Honours from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia and an MBA from Queen's University in Ontario, Canada.</p>
<p>Ben Graham VP of HR & Safety Major Drilling</p>	<p>Mr. Graham joined Major Drilling in 2007 after 10 years of experience in the construction industry. He has worked in a variety of positions and was most recently the Global Human Resource & Environmental Health and Safety Director. He earned a bachelor's degree in business management from the Goddard School of Business and Economics at Weber State University and is certified as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR).</p>
<p>Brendan Moore Mining EIT Alamos Gold Inc.</p>	<p>I am a Mining EIT at Alamos Gold's Island Gold Mine, an underground mining operation with 1,250 tonnes/day production located in Dubreuilville, Ontario. The operation is fly-in, fly-out and I currently work a 7/7 rotation. I am in the process of completing a 16-month work rotation as an underground miner where I rotate through various labour jobs (service miner, truck driver, bolter, etc.) in order to learn the practical side of mining. I am a P. Eng. candidate and expect to receive official designation by the end of 2025.</p> <p>I have worked in the underground mining industry for a total of five years at three different operations; Trevali's Caribou Mine as a student, Vale's T-1 & T-3 Mines as part of the Global Trainee program, and Alamos' Island Gold Mine as an EIT. Throughout this time I have gained experience in a variety of underground mining aspects including; mine surveying, drill & blast design, mine development planning, short-term production scheduling, mine ventilation systems, and underground practical experience.</p> <p>I was born and raised in the town of Penetanguishene, Ontario, 1.5 hours north of Toronto. I graduated from Queen's University's Mining Engineering program in 2020 with a bachelor of applied science.</p> <p>I am looking forward to meeting the next generation of professionals within the mining industry!</p>
<p>Brian Buss President BWB Consulting Services Inc.</p>	<p>Mr. Buss is a Professional Mining Engineer and Project Manager with over 30 years of experience. After graduation from Queen's University, Mr. Buss gained operational experience as a miner and shiftboss in the Witwatersrand gold mining district of South Africa. He developed a technical specialization in rock mechanics and backfill. On his return to Canada he worked for Vale for 22 years expanding his technical experience in mine engineering and planning. He later specialized in project evaluation and development. Mr. Buss then took on an executive role in the junior gold mining sector as Vice President – Project Development with Lake Shore Gold in the historic Timmins Gold Camp.</p> <p>Mr. Buss is currently President of BWB Consulting Services Inc. where he provides strategic guidance to mining companies on operational efficiency, mineral deposit economics, and project evaluation. He provides expert advice and due diligence reviews in support of investment, mergers, and acquisitions. He acts as QP for mineral reserves under Reg 43-101. Mr. Buss actively volunteers with industry, academic, professional and community based organizations. He is a member of PEO, CIM, PDAC, and PMI. He holds a board position with CEMI and maintains close contacts with the mining departments at Queen's University, U of T, and McGill University.</p> <p>Mr. Buss married his university sweetheart in 1986. In his personal time, Mr. Buss enjoys golfing, fishing, and travel</p>

<p>Caelen Burand Project Engineer Lundin Group</p>	<p>Caelen Burand is a projects engineer and geomet at Lundin Gold's Fruta Del Norte Mine in Ecuador as well as, the founder of Young Mining Professionals Arizona, and Interim Executive Director of Young Mining Professionals. Starting in mining at 16 as an underground mucker, he now holds dual bachelor's degrees in mining engineering and geology, and a master's degree in mineral processing. Caelen's global experience spans geology, engineering, and leadership, including designing mineral processing systems, improving operational workflows, and developing mining software. His dream is to move the industry forward by leading a mining company with excellent financial returns while advancing sustainable mining practices.</p>
<p>Catherine Macguire Director, Exploration Lundin Mining</p>	<p>Catherine Maguire, Cpg, PGeo EurGeol is a registered professional geoscientist with extensive strategic leadership and project management experience. Catherine has International experience on exploration, mining, geophysical and geotechnical engineering projects across Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, North and South America. She has successfully managed and developed large multi cultural and multi disciplinary geoscience teams and projects.</p>
<p>Catherine Tegelberg Director, Community Economic Development Lundin Foundation</p>	<p>Catherine (Kiki) Tegelberg leads the community development practice with the Lundin Foundation, a Canadian non-profit that supports ESG and development practices across Lundin companies. Catherine has worked in site and corporate roles in the mining industry for fifteen years, developing social performance policy and practice in projects and operations in North and South America and Africa. She has expertise in community investment, local procurement, stakeholder and Indigenous engagement and cultural heritage management. In addition, she has worked in rural economic development in Latin America. Catherine holds a master's degree in international studies from Simon Fraser University. She has lived in Bolivia, Guatemala, Madagascar and Nicaragua and calls Vancouver, Canada home. Catherine was named one of Goldcorp's Future Leaders in the inaugural cohort.</p>
<p>Christine Petch VP & Project Director Kinross</p>	<p>Christine is currently VP & Project Director for Kinross Gold's Great Bear Project. Previously, she was Deputy Project Manager for the \$1.5B, 3-year construction of Equinox Gold's Greenstone Mine, leading a team of 120 project personnel and, at times, over 1,000 contractors with a strong focus on health & safety. Earlier in her career, Christine spent 20 years with Falconbridge/Xstrata/Glencore where she worked on many exploration projects and is credited with the discovery of the Kikialik nickel deposit (Raglan Mine, Québec). Christine received her B.Sc. in Geology and Geophysics from McGill University and M.Sc. in Geology from Queen's University. She is a professional geologist in the Province of Ontario.</p>
<p>Claude Bisailon Senior Geotechnical Engineer DRA Global</p>	<p>Senior Geotechnical Engineer with DRA Global in Montreal office.</p> <p>I have worked on various mining and geotechnical projects for OP mines in Canada, Mongolia, DRC, PNG, North and South America. In multiple roles from geotechnical logging to database manager to project manager to Project Engineer and more. Not afraid to try new things to get my hands dirty to get the job done. I have executed a wide variety of projects from drill site visit, designing exploration program, initial resource estimations, economic evaluations of deposits, and audits of resources and reserves internationally, Due Diligences, preparation of various technical reports (POM, MRE, PEA, PFS, FS, DD) in English and French on a wide range of commodities, and is considered a QP as per NI 43-101 rules. FR, EN, SP w/ little Mongolian language skills.</p> <p>Currently, DRA employs over 4,500 people in over 16 offices around the world, a growth achieved organically and acquisitively, to cover most sectors, commodities and geographies. DRA's global reach and dedication to collaboration make them an invaluable partner in advancing geology and mining.</p> <p>DRA is a proud sponsor of the 35th annual Canadian Mining Games, taking place from Mar 6-9, 2025, in Québec City, hosted by the Université Laval (UL). DRA was recently a Gold sponsor of the annual Geology Games, which took place from Jan 9-11, 2025, in Quebec City, also hosted by Université Laval (UL).</p>

<p>Claudia Dominguez Talent Acquisition Specialist Agnico Eagle Mines</p>	<p>I am a professional in Human Resources with more than 10 years of working experience. Originally from Peru and came to Canada in 2016. I am a top linkedin user and helped many people fixing resumes and preparing for interviews. I know the mining industry very well as I've been working in mining for several years and I also grew up in a mining town. Besides from my work at Agnico Eagle, I also proactively collaborate with HIsperoMine, helping Latin American people in Canada to connect and understand the local market.</p>
<p>David Leng President & CEO RGCI</p>	<p>David is a professional geoscientist with more than 25 years of industry experience. Prior to founding RGCI in 2014, he worked at an investment firm as an associate mining analyst focused on gold in West Africa. He has been a QP for reporting issuers exploring for a variety of commodities (gold, platinum group metals, uranium and base metals) and held technical roles involving geochemical exploration, QA-QC, due diligence and project financing. David worked as a geochemist at Actlabs providing technical guidance to clients (analytical methods, sampling, QA-QC, interpretation, etc), was involved in CAMIRO research method development projects and published numerous articles. He graduated from McMaster University in 1997 with an honours bachelor's degree in Geology, involved in instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA) research. He gained his P.Ge. designation from Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (PGO) in 2006, served on PGO Council (2015-2023) and is a member of the Association of Applied Geochemists. As a lifelong volunteer, he is active within the mining industry providing public education via outreach and mentoring numerous geoscience students.</p>
<p>David Murray Principal Consultant Resourceful Geoscience Solutions</p>	<p>David is an accomplished Economic Geologist with more than a decade of experience gathered across the Americas and Europe. He specializes in project evaluations, 3D geomodelling, and mineral resource estimation. He has overseen projects across the full spectrum of the exploration value chain from first exploration efforts to an established mine with a 30-year production history. David's commodity experience is diverse specializing in orogenic gold systems and including porphyry deposits, magmatic Ni + Cu + PGE, carbonate hosted Zn, Pb + Ag, HREE and LREE as well as LCT Li pegmatites. Now a full time entrepreneur David is the founder and Principal Consultant of resourceful Geoscience Solutions. A boutique exploration consulting company supporting clients through the full exploration value chain.</p>
<p>Dawn Garcia Senior Associate, Hydrogeology Stantec</p>	<p>Dawn is a hydrogeologist and a licensed professional geologist with over 35 years of experience in environmental permitting and compliance, mine life cycle planning, and hydrologic projects. Her work includes preliminary water management plans, water supply studies, characterization of surface water and groundwater quality and hydrogeologic formations, the construction of aquifer recharge facilities, and the development of environmental monitoring plans. She has worked in characterization, remediation, and reclamation projects at sites ranging from mineral development to operations to closure. She has strong experience in high-level reviews, due diligence and preparation of documents associated with investor disclosure. She has visited hundreds of mineral development projects and mining operations. In addition to her extensive project experience, she has been an invited speaker at closure workshops, has been a presenter of technical papers at numerous technical conferences, and has taught a short course on mine closure at the University of Guanajuato (Mexico). She has served as the Geologist Member of the Arizona Board of Technical Registration by appointment of the Governor. The American Institute of Professional Geologists named her as the 2021 recipient of the Martin Van Couvering Memorial Award for distinguished service to the profession of geology. She served as 2023 President of the organization. She currently services on the boards of the American Geosciences Institute and the University of Arizona Center for Environmentally Sustainable Mining. She works for Stantec and is based in Tucson, Arizona+C19</p>

<p>Dennis Woods Director & Board Chair Dias Geophysical Ltd</p>	<p>Dennis Woods, PhD, PEng, was a co-founder and owner of Discovery International Geophysics Inc, a 26-year full-service geophysical contractor and consultancy, specializing in electromagnetic and induced polarization/resistivity, ground and borehole geophysics. Discovery was particularly focused on innovative techniques to improve the application of geophysics to the discovery of ore deposits. Discovery became part of Dias Geophysical Ltd in February 2023. Dennis now consults under Woods Geophysical Consulting Inc and is a founder, part-owner, director and the board chair of Dias Geophysical Ltd. Dr. Woods has a long career in mineral exploration geophysics, which has included a tenured position as Assistant Professor of Applied Geophysics at the Department of Geological Sciences, Queen’s University in the 80’s, and Chief Geophysicist of Granges Inc (later Vista Gold Corp) in the 90’s. He has been a geophysical consultant throughout most of his career, and has founded a variety of geophysics companies in Canada, USA and China.</p>
<p>Doris Hiam-Galvez Senior Advisor Hatch</p>	<p>Dr. Doris is a pioneer in system-wide solutions, enabling resource investment to be catalysts for sustainable regional prosperity. With three decades of global senior leadership experience in the resource sector, she has driven innovative strategies to de-risk investments, unlock resources responsibly, and foster collaboration. As the author of DSP, she introduced a groundbreaking method that redefines resource investors’ roles, turning them from being distrusted entities to enablers or thriving, resilient communities and forces for good.</p>
<p>Erika Knee Exploration Geologist Lundin Mining</p>	<p>I’m a geologist with +15 years experience covering both exploration and production settings. I started my career working for junior exploration companies on various greenfields projects before moving to a production geologist role in an open pit mine. Currently I work in the corporate offices of a mid-tier mining company where my focus is on brownfields exploration. I have a strong interest in understanding depositional models and controls, along with a love of data! In my spare time I can be found outdoors, exploring all that mother nature has to offer.</p>
<p>Erin Johnston Managing Director Lundin Foundation</p>	<p>Ms. Johnston serves as Managing Director of the Lundin Foundation, a corporate foundation that supports Lundin companies to improve their sustainability performance and maximize benefits to communities surrounding mining operations. Ms. Johnston draws on over 20 years experience advising companies on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues to reduce non-technical risks of resource development projects in Latin America, Asia and Africa. She has been a Corporate Director of two public companies. Prior to joining the Lundin Foundation, Ms. Johnston oversaw British Columbia’s investment in skills training helping to ensure apprenticeship and skills training matched the needs of key industries, including mining. Ms. Johnston has a Master of Arts in International Leadership from Simon Fraser University and the Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D) from ICD-Rotman.</p>

<p>Felix Lee President Strata Minerals</p>	<p>Felix Lee is a retired economic geologist with over 30 years of experience in the mineral exploration industry. He was the President and CEO of Willeson Metals Corp., a junior exploration company focused on gold properties in the Lynn Lake area of northern Manitoba. Before leading Willeson Metals, Felix was a Director and Principal Consultant at CSA Global Canada (2016–2020) and the President and owner of A.C.A. Howe International Limited, a Toronto-based mining and geological consultancy (2003–2016). As a consultant with both firms, he authored numerous geological technical reports and mineral property valuation opinions for client projects at all stages of development, from early exploration to advanced-stage development. His work covered a wide range of commodities, deposit types, and geological settings across North and South America, Europe, Central Asia, Asia, and Africa. From 2007 to 2021, Felix served as a director of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), where he was the association’s 37th President (2019–2021). He contributed to several PDAC committees, including Executive, Governance and Nominating, Human Resources Development, Membership, and Awards. He also co-chaired the organizing committee of the PDAC Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW) for nearly 15 years. Felix currently serves as an independent director of BWR Exploration Inc. He is a registered Professional Geoscientist (P.Ge.) in Ontario and holds a B.Sc. in Geology from McMaster University (1986) as well as a Kellogg-Schulich MBA (2005).</p>
<p>Finlay Heppenstall VP, Corporate Development & Investor Relations NGEx Minerals</p>	<p>Mr. Heppenstall joined NGEx Minerals as Vice President, Corporate Development & Investor Relations in October 2024. Prior to joining NGEx, he held the position of Director, Investor Relations & Corporate Development at Lundin Gold Inc. Mr. Heppenstall has over 10 years of experience in capital markets and the natural resource industry. He began his career working across various roles within the mining sector in Chile and Australia, later transitioning into finance where he specialized in equity research and institutional equity sales at an international securities firm. Mr. Heppenstall holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Newcastle University and a Master of Science degree in Metals and Energy Finance from Imperial College London.</p>
<p>Genevieve Krasowski Manager, Mine Geology Allied Gold</p>	<p>Geneviève is a seasoned geologist with over a decade of experience in production geology. She briefly stepped away from geology to broaden her expertise in operations, spending a year as a scheduler focused on development and production. She has since transitioned to a corporate role and now serves as a Corporate Resource Geologist for Allied Gold, a Canadian mining company operating in West Africa.</p>
<p>Glen Mullan President & CEO Val-D’Or Mining Corporation</p>	<p>40+ year career prospector, from self-employed to public company CEO; founder/director/shareholder/President of multiple junior mining companies including several having evolved into active mining projects (Ni-Cu-PGE's and also Au, both in Quebec).</p>

<p>Greg Romain Consultant - Project Development DRA Global</p>	<p>Mr. Romain is currently a Mining Industry Consultant, providing expertise on project development for a global mining and metals engineering company and offering strategic guidance for an iron and steel foundry. He has also consulted for a global OEM and served as CEO for two junior exploration companies.</p> <p>Mr. Romain was the President & CEO, and Director of Gowest Gold Ltd. from May 2008 to June 2021, a publicly traded junior exploration company. During his tenure, he advanced its flagship Bradshaw Gold Project in Timmins, Ontario, from pure exploration to a fully permitted 1,500 TPD Mine Site.</p> <p>Prior to this, Mr. Romain served as President & CEO of Norcast Castings Company Limited, a company he joined in 1989 as a Technical Sales Representative. Over his tenure at Norcast, he held several positions, including International Sales Manager in 1993 and Vice President of Sales & Marketing in 1999. In 2001, he became President of the company and was appointed Chief Executive Officer in May 2005. Mr. Romain successfully led Norcast to go public as an Income Trust (Norcast Income Fund) in June 2005. He later oversaw the sale of the company to a private equity group in March 2007, following the Canadian Government's taxation of Income Trusts.</p> <p>Mr. Romain graduated with a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering Technology (1986) from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute and completed the Executive Program at the Smith School of Business at Queen's University in 2001.</p>
<p>Guido Merino Exploartion Geologist University of Arizona</p>	<p>I am a geologist with more than six years of experience in mineral exploration, specializing myself in porphyry and high-sulfidation epithermal deposits.</p> <p>I obtained my Honors Bachelor's degree in Geological Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires in 2017. Since then, I have had the opportunity of working at different parts of an exploration project, from being a technician at the drilling rig to being in charge of the Geology team, all of this at different projects in the high Andes. I have had the honor of being part of the Filo team that lead to the successful acquisition of the project earlier this year.</p> <p>I am currently pursuing my Master's Degree at the University of Arizona, where I am studying the mineralogy and geochemistry of ore associations in order to better understand the interaction between porphyry and epithermal environments.</p>

<p>Hrayr Agnerian Principal Agnerian Consulting</p>	<p>Hrayr Agnerian is Principal of Agnerian Consulting, offering geological consulting services to the mining industry. Since 1987, he has been practicing as a Consulting Geologist, first as an employee and an Associate of Roscoe Postle Associates Inc. (RPA, 1987-2012, now SLR Consulting), and since 2012, as an Independent Geological Consultant. Previously, he was with the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation (SMDC, now CAMECO Corp.), where he was responsible for the monitoring of numerous partner-operated uranium exploration projects within the Key Lake District and other parts of the Athabasca Basin, Saskatchewan. Prior to that, he was with SEREM LTÉE and BRINEX LTD. in Montréal, and other junior mining companies based in western Canada. Mr. Agnerian is Past Chairman of the Board of the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM).</p> <p>Mr. Agnerian has more than 50 years' experience in the mineral industry, with expertise in exploring for precious metals (including platinum group elements), base metals, industrial minerals, rare earth elements, and uranium. His specialties include estimation of Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves as well as valuation of mineral exploration properties. As a Consulting Geologist, Mr. Agnerian has worked in a variety of geological environments across Canada as well as in USA, Latin America (Mexico, Nicaragua, Cuba, Brazil, Ecuador, Guyana, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay & Brazil), Europe (Spain & Portugal), Middle East (Lebanon, Turkey & Armenia), Africa (South Africa & Kenya), Russia (Siberia) and Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan).</p> <p>Mr. Agnerian has a B.Sc. degree in Geology from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, a Diploma in Mining Exploration, ITC, Delft, The Netherlands, and a M.Sc. (Applied) degree in Geological Sciences, McGill University, Montréal. He has published on estimation of Mineral Resources, on lithologic guide to unconformity related uranium mineralization, and on valuation of exploration properties. Mr. Agnerian is a member of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (PGO) and the Association of Professional Geoscientists and Engineers of Saskatchewan (APEGS).</p>
<p>Jake Cain Strategy & Investor Relations Manager Montage Gold</p>	<p>Jake has over 10 years' experience in corporate development, capital markets, corporate finance and operations and is currently Strategy & Investor Relations Manager at Montage Gold. Jake most recently held positions as Business Development Manager at Sibanye-Stillwater and helped grow the company's portfolio to an international, multi-billion dollar diversified mining company. Prior to Sibanye-Stillwater, he has also held financial advisory roles with Deloitte LLP and operational roles on mines in East and Central Africa. Jake holds an MSc in Metals and Energy Finance from Imperial College London Business School/ Royal School of Mines, and a BSc Geology from the University of St Andrews.</p>
<p>James Siddorn President SRK Consulting</p>	<p>James is a recognized expert in the structural geological analysis of mineral deposits with over 25 years' experience. He is President of SRK Consulting (Canada) and Executive Chair of SRK Consulting (North America), overseeing a team of 400 staff.</p> <p>James' technical strength is focused on defining the geological controls on precious and base metal mineralization and the application of this to greenfields and brownfields exploration. In addition, he conducts reviews and provides support to operating mines, to understand the geological influences on underground mine stability and mining induced seismicity. James is adept at working at multiple scales, integrating mine-scale with district- and regional-scale results, key for evaluating geological risk and potential. James has undertaken projects in Europe; North, South and Central America; Asia; and Africa.</p> <p>He has an extensive knowledge of orogenic gold, VMS, magmatic sulphide, epithermal, and porphyry deposits. He has taught more than 50 Applied Structural Geology courses to over 2000 geologists and engineers worldwide.</p>

<p>Jonathan Fowler CEO Jonathan Fowler & Associates</p>	<p>B.Sc. (Special) Honours in Geology, University of London 1968, M.Phil. Geology, University of London, 1976, Ph.D. Geology, University of London 1982. Joined Anglo American September 1968, seconded to De Beers immediately. Retired from De Beers November 2014. Consultant from December 2014 to date (J.A. Fowler & Associates). Experience in exploration and management for diamonds, alluvial and marine placer mining for diamonds. Experience in Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Canada and Kallaalit Nunaat. Experienced in community engagement with Indigenous peoples, sustainability and social responsibility. Experience as Board member for PDAC 2019-21, member PDAC Indigenous Affairs Committee since 2007, and member of PDAC sustainability committee since 2008</p>
<p>Justin Daley VR Resources CEO</p>	<p>Professional Geologist and mineral exploration executive with a career spanning technical leadership, corporate strategy, and innovation. As CEO of a greenfields copper and gold exploration company, I lead exploration strategy, oversee multi-million-dollar budgets, and engage with investors and communities to position projects for long-term growth. I am equally passionate about mentorship and industry engagement, recognizing both as essential as industry expectations change and a new generation of leaders emerges. With a strong foundation in exploration geology and corporate development, I am committed to shaping the next generation of geoscientists while driving responsible and innovative mineral exploration.</p>
<p>Karen Rees Geologist & Corporate Director Karen Rees, P.Ge</p>	<p>Karen Rees is a graduate of University of Saskatchewan (B.Sc. Geology, 1984) and a practicing registrant of Professional Geoscientists Ontario (PGO, 2002). Karen began her career in 1987 exploring for gold and base metals in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. From 1996 to 2002, as General Manager, Exploration of Avalon Ventures, Karen managed teams exploring gold, platinum group elements and rare metals projects in northwestern Ontario. In 2003 Karen joined Temex Resources and was promoted to Vice President, Exploration and Corporate Secretary where she assisted in development of the property portfolio and growth through establishment of best practices for corporate governance, communications and management. In 2015 Temex was acquired by Lake Shore Gold, in turn acquired by Tahoe Resources in 2016, and Pan American Silver in 2019. With Lake Shore Gold, a producer with operations in Timmins, Ontario, Karen's role included aspects of exploration, operations and corporate functions. Karen is a director of Harfang Exploration, Cleghorn Minerals, and Willeston Metals. An enthusiastic volunteer with PDAC since 2011, and first elected to the Board in 2018, Karen serves on several committees: Executive, Governance and Nominating, Human Resource Development, and Student Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop "S-IMEW" (Co-Chair).</p>
<p>Laura Clinton Executive Director Mining Matters</p>	<p>Since earning her degree from the Specialist Environmental Science Program at the University of Toronto, Laura has dedicated her career to Earth science education. She has authored award-winning outreach publications, developed innovative educational resources, and led hundreds of instructional workshops for students and educators nationwide. Passionate about fostering Earth science literacy, she has collaborated with organizations such as the Ontario Mining Association, Royal Ontario Museum, Ontario Science Centre, and EdGEO. Laura joined Mining Matters in 2002, first as Project Coordinator, then as Manager of Financial Affairs and Fund Development, and now as Executive Director. In this role, she ensures the organization's mineral resources education programs continue to expand and inspire future generations.</p>

<p>Lisa Gibson Principal Geologist Vale Base Metals</p>	<p>Lisa has 29 years of experience in the Exploration industry. After graduating from Carleton University in 1996, she worked in Vancouver for a group of junior companies exploring for a wide variety of commodities on 3 continents. In 2001, she moved to Sudbury and worked at Creighton on a structural study in the deepest part of the mine at 2.3km underground. In 2002, she moved over to Exploration, where she spent the next 22 years learning many aspects of the business and specializing in Ni sulphide systems. She started with a concentration on 3D modeling, creating Vale's (Inco's) first Common Earth Model of Sudbury, then moved on to project work including core logging and mapping, managing and leading programs, liaising and supporting research projects and completing specialized technical work for early to advanced projects. From 2022 to 2024, Lisa was the Exploration Manager for Sudbury regional projects, managing a team of 30+ people and up to 14 drill rigs at a time. This past December, Lisa moved back into the technical role of Principal Geologist and now enjoys providing guidance and mentorship to the geological team.</p>
<p>Lorne Burden Consulting Geologist Burden and Company</p>	<p>I am one of seven family members who are practicing professional geologists working with government surveys, academia, major and junior mining companies, developers, and junior exploration.</p> <p>I have been a member of the PDAC for over 40 years and served as a Director of the Association, have been a member of the Association's Governance, Aboriginal Affairs, and Health and Safety Committees. Although I have worked with major and junior mining companies, and developers, the bulk of my experience has been with junior exploration. My LinkedIn profile tells me that I am a practicing professional with extensive managerial, supervisory, and infield experience. A skilled facilitator, communicator and negotiator, with advanced knowledge and experience in geological and environmental studies, operational logistics, mineral processing, and with community, FN, and government engagement and relationship building. Skilled in the development, advancement and delivery of health, safety and environmental practices throughout operations. Has demonstrated effectiveness in financial management, leadership, cross-cultural consultation and negotiated agreements. A positive, patient, competent professional with broad communication skills and the exceptional ability to ensure big picture objectives are met without compromising detail. It all sounds true to me.</p> <p>I have enjoyed mentoring several young geoscientists who have gone on to having very successful careers. I look forward to continuing mentoring aspiring professionals.</p> <p>Engaging with a friendly, knowledgeable and helpful PDAC veteran will surely make your experience at this year's convention memorable.</p>
<p>Maggie Layman Manager, Exploration (CAN & USA) Teck Resources Ltd.</p>	<p>Ms. Maggie Layman is a professional geologist with 20 years mineral exploration experience across diverse ore deposits in North America. She is currently Manager of Exploration for Canada and the USA at Teck Resources Limited.</p>

<p>Marie-Helene Turgeon Director, Water & Tailings IAMGOLD</p>	<p>Ms. Turgeon is a professional geoscientist with over 20 years of experience in environmental management, legal compliance and stakeholder engagement. As a sustainability advisor, she has been supporting mining companies designing sustainable projects, assessing, and managing environmental and social impacts, as well as obtaining and maintaining social licenses to operate. She is currently the Director, Water and Tailings at IAMGOLD where she focuses on risk management and implementation of governance frameworks. Previous roles include consulting as an independent ESG advisor during which she leveraged her diverse experience as part of operation leadership teams in mining operations around the globe, including the construction, commissioning and operation of Detour Lake Mine in Ontario and Cobre Panama mine. Volunteer roles include serving as chair of the Ontario Mining Association Environment Committee, and as a Director on the board of Women in Mining Canada (WIMC). Ms. Turgeon also serves as a Director for Torq Resources and Coppernico Metals Inc, two junior exploration companies. She holds a BSc in Geology from McGill University, a Masters of Environment from Sherbrooke University and a ICD.D designation from the Institute of Corporate Directors.</p>
<p>Mary-Carmen Vera Mining Sector Leader Blumetic</p>	<p>Born and raised in Peru, I have lived in Canada since 2001. I'm a geologist by trade. In my early years I worked in field exploration in Peru, Chile and Australia. Upon my arrival in Canada, I joined Wemindji Exploration Inc. as the company's CEO. In 2010, I started my consulting practice in ESG, Business Development and Indigenous Relations in the Mineral sector. Since 2011 to present, I have served as Senior Advisor to the Cree Mineral Exploration Board, having conducted Community awareness sessions and Mining 101 workshops delivered to Indigenous Communities and to the industry on how to optimize their relations with the communities.</p> <p>I joined SGS Canada as Senior Account Executive in Geochemistry in 2022. Currently I serve as Board Member for the Quebec Mineral Exploration Association and as an Executive Board Member of CIM – Val d'Or.</p>
<p>Mike Samuels Principal Process Consultant DRA Global</p>	<p>Mike Samuels is a Principal Consultant in Process and Metallurgy at DRA Global in Toronto, bringing over 25 years of leadership and technical experience to the global mining and mineral processing industry. A graduate in chemical engineering from McGill University, Mike has refined his expertise through hands-on roles at mining operations across North and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Africa. Mike specialises in comminution, flotation, and hydrometallurgy for gold/silver flowsheets, as well as base metals such as copper, lead, zinc, nickel, cobalt, and bismuth. He is particularly focused on innovative process design related to comminution and intensive flotation technologies, aiming to drive energy savings and reduce environmental impacts—often leveraging geometallurgical approaches. In addition to his professional work, Mike is committed to advancing his field through education and research. He serves as President of the Board of the SAG Conference Award Foundation, which annually distributes approximately \$250,000 in awards to graduate research in comminution, along with scholarships for undergraduate and polytechnical students in mineral processing.</p>
<p>Nadia Carotenuto President, Namdo Management Services Lundin Mining</p>	<p>Experienced People, Culture and Corporate Services leader with a demonstrated history of working in the mining & metals industry for over 25 years. Skilled in Talent Acquisition, Total Rewards, Workforce Development, HR Policies, and Organizational Design. Strong human resources and corporate services professional with a Commerce degree focused in Industrial Relations Management from The University of British Columbia.</p>

<p>Nathan Monash VP, Sustainability Lundin Mining</p>	<p>Mr. Monash is Vice President, Sustainability for Lundin Mining and has more than 20 years of experience in the mining sector. Prior to joining Lundin Mining, Mr. Monash led Lundin Gold's sustainability activities during the construction and operation of the Fruta del Norte mine in Ecuador.</p> <p>Prior to his work with Lundin Gold, Mr. Monash spent several years leading AngloGold Ashanti's sustainability efforts in the Americas, where he developed sustainability strategy and governance structures and advised operations on community relations, local government relations, human rights and communications. In addition, Mr. Monash worked with Rio Tinto Alcan where he integrated sustainable development principles across the company's business development practice. He has worked with International Finance Corporation guiding extractive industry clients on the structure and implementation of sustainable development strategies. As well, Mr. Monash spent several years with the World Economic Forum where he worked closely with leaders from business, academia, and government to identify and address key economic, social, and environmental issues facing the mining and metals industry and significantly advanced the industry's understanding of The Equator Principles, anti-corruption strategies, and emerging mining policy in key jurisdictions.</p> <p>Nathan holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from McGill University and a Master of Arts from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.</p>
<p>Niels Hendrikx Geological Superintendent Alamos Gold Inc.</p>	<p>Born in the Netherlands and grew up in Southern Ontario. Graduated from University of Toronto in 1995 with a degree in Geology. Currently completing an applied Masters degree in Geology at Laurentian University. Began career working in the Coal Industry in Northeastern British Columbia. Also spent time doing Nickel and base metal exploration in the Abitibi. Left Geology for several years to work in the Engineered Wood Industry. Returned to the Mining Industry and have spent the last 12 years at Alamos Gold's Young Davison Mine starting as a Beat Geologist and am now the Geological Superintendent at the mine.</p>
<p>Nigel Fung Principal Mining Engineer DRA Global</p>	<p>Nigel is dedicated to safe and sustainable mining. He has worked in the mining industry for over 25 years and has worked as a licensed mining engineer since 2012. Nigel has operational expertise in open pit and underground mining (in North, South and Central America) as well as experience as a corporate mine planner and a commercial manager/ technical sales for a major mining equipment manufacturer.</p> <p>Nigel studied Botany at UofT after highschool and eventually went back to School for Mining Engineering at McGill after working for one year as a lab technician at UofT and then three years as a bike messenger in downtown Toronto.</p>
<p>Quinton Willms Project Geologist Fireweed Metals Corp.</p>	<p>Quinton Willms is a Project Geologist with Fireweed Metals advancing their critical mineral projects at Macpass (Zn-Pb-Ag + Ga-Ge) , Mactung (W-Cu) and Gayna (Zn-Pb-Ag + Ga-Ge) within the Yukon and Northwest Territories. With over 9 years of experience in mineral exploration, working with various geologic consulting companies and independently on projects across BC, NWT and the Yukon. Quinton graduated with a BSc. Majoring in Geology from the University of British Columbi, he joined Fireweed Metals in 2018 and is currently undertaking his MSc. in Geological Sciences at UBC, working on his field-based study at Macpass focusing on Devonian structures related to mineralization. With a passion for field-based geology, he has expertise in grass-roots and advanced staged projects focusing on field mapping, structural geology, prospecting, project generation, and resource definition.</p>

<p>Ron Hochstein President & CEO Lundin Gold Inc.</p>	<p>Ron Hochstein, P.Eng., is currently President and Chief Executive Officer of Lundin Gold Inc. Mr. Hochstein served as Executive Chairman of Denison Mines Corp. in 2015 and as President and Chief Executive Officer from 2009 to 2015. Prior to that, Mr. Hochstein served as President and Chief Operating Officer when International Uranium Corporation ("IUC") and Denison Mines Inc. combined to form Denison Mines Corp. in 2006, before which he had served as President and Chief Executive Officer of IUC. Earlier in his career, Mr. Hochstein was a Project Manager with Simons Mining Group and was with Noranda Minerals as a metallurgical engineer. Mr. Hochstein is a Professional Engineer and holds an M.B.A. from the University of British Columbia and a B.Sc. from the University of Alberta.</p>
<p>Ryan Clarke General Manager, Young-Davidson Mine Alamos Gold Inc.</p>	<p>Ryan Clarke is the General Manager of the Young-Davidson Mine operated by Alamos Gold Inc. As a mining engineer, Ryan's career has spanned six countries and multiple commodities. A strong focus on operations management and continuous improvement has seen Ryan form and direct multi-disciplinary teams intent on extracting the most value for all stakeholders.</p>
<p>Ryan Wilson Geological Mining Specialist DRA Global Ltd.</p>	<p>Professional geologist with over 15 years of experience in exploration, mining and metals split between industry and specialized research. Focused on projects spanning from greenfield exploration through to discovery, advanced definition and commercial production of new mineral occurrences. Experience spanning a variety of commodity sectors, including precious and base metals, iron ore and lithium projects. Ryan has also gained invaluable expertise in the areas of quantitative methods, geometallurgy and mining system dynamics that allowed for the development of novel control strategies along the mine-to-plant profile via effective and flexible decision-making simulation tools. He is also an experienced leader in health, safety and environmental risk assessment and mitigation for employees and contractors alike. Other key areas of expertise also include exploration project generation/advancement and related management, geological mentoring and supervision, as well as 3D geological modelling, geostatistical analysis and Mineral Resource Estimation. Dr. Wilson is registered as a Professional Geologist in both Ontario (PGO) and Quebec (OGQ), and has acted as a Qualified Person (QP) according to NI43-101 standards.</p>
<p>Siri Genik Principal & Founder BRIDGE</p>	<p>Siri has spent over 25 years working on major capital projects around the world. Her expertise is in Sustainability, Strategy & Risk and Stakeholder Engagement, with a strong focus on Project Management and Strategic Supply Chain.</p> <p>Siri currently runs BRIDGE®, a boutique advisory firm, providing support to Boards and Leadership, focusing on how to best integrate Sustainability Strategy and best-in class with an organization's business model.</p> <p>Siri supports leadership in de-risking various aspects of the business and aligning responsible mining strategies with business value.</p> <p>Prior to running her own business Siri worked with BHP Canada as Head of Project Services, as well as with Glencore (Xstrata) in Australia, Malaysia and New Caledonia, and other major companies in the industry.</p> <p>Siri currently sits on the board of Exploits Discovery Corp, is chair of the Sustainability and Governance Committee and a member of the Nominating & Governance Committee. Most recently Siri joined the board of the Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd, and is also the Chair of the Sustainability Committee.</p> <p>Siri is a director of the PDAC, and a member of the Sustainability and Lands and Regulations Committees, as well as the EDI sub-committee. She was a member of Council of the Professional Geoscientists Association of Ontario and is the out-going Vice-Chair of Women in Mining Canada.</p> <p>Siri is a lawyer, a qualified mediator. She is fluent in English, French and Spanish. Siri recently received the 2019 "Distinguished Lecturer Award for CSR" from the Canadian Institute of Mining.</p>

<p>Syed Saad Senior Metallurgist & Financial Analyst DRA Global</p>	<p>Syed is a Metallurgist and Financial Analyst with over eleven (11) years of experience across the mineral processing value chain. His key capabilities include process plant design, metallurgical testwork program design and analysis, process equipment design/sizing, technical due diligence, financial modelling, business development, and project management. Syed's extensive experience includes working with a diverse range of commodities including lithium, copper, gold, nickel, niobium, vanadium, and iron ore, and on projects based in North America, South America, Europe, and Africa. Syed holds a Bachelors degree in Chemical Engineering from McGill University and an MBA from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.</p>
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