



PROSPECTORS &  
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ASSOCIATION  
OF CANADA



## Call for Nominations: PDAC 2026 Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW)

On behalf of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) and its Human Resource Development Committee, we are pleased to announce that the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW) will take place April 29 – May 14, 2026, in Sudbury, Ontario.

This exclusive workshop will host 24 selected senior geoscience students from Canadian post-secondary institutions for two weeks of hands-on learning and interaction with representatives from the Canadian mineral exploration community. S-IMEW provides students with a technical and a business perspective of mineral exploration that is not the usual focus in an academic environment.

S-IMEW is focused on the Canadian mineral industry, introducing and affirming many of the applied aspects of the industry through practical mineral exploration techniques, field skills development, familiarization with a variety of mineral deposit models and related economic geology. In addition, S-IMEW provides students with opportunities to practise their networking skills and make valuable contacts with key industry representatives, potential future employers and mentors.

The workshop content includes:

- Development of networking skills
- Alumni perspectives and career paths
- Professional registration
- Mineral economics and valuations
- Field trips to world-class mining camps
- Geological mapping and interpretation; geophysics and geochemistry
- Health and safety, environmental and social governance
- Capital markets, financing alternatives and business arrangements

**PDAC invites you to nominate one or two senior students from your Geoscience Department or College program who are planning to pursue a career in the mineral exploration industry. We value equity, diversity and inclusion and encourage applications from traditionally underrepresented groups.**

The number of institutions that apply to the selection committee regularly exceeds the allotted number of students that are accepted to attend S-IMEW. Institutions may nominate up to two candidates, however representation from any given institution is limited to one student. The *S-IMEW Nomination Checklist*, attached, has instructions for submitting a nomination package. Visit the [S-IMEW Media Gallery](#) and [S-IMEW 2025 Itinerary](#) learn more about the S-IMEW experience.

Should you have any questions regarding S-IMEW, or PDAC student activities, please contact Krishana Michaud, Manager, Student & Early Career Program, at [kmichaud@pdac.ca](mailto:kmichaud@pdac.ca).

Sincerely,

Karen Rees  
Co-Chair  
S-IMEW Planning Committee

David Murray  
Co-Chair  
S-IMEW Planning Committee



## S-IMEW NOMINATION CHECKLIST

The nomination package includes the *Student Application* and a *letter of recommendation*. The package must be submitted by either the Department Head or a designated Professor.

- The *Student Application* comprises the following:
  - Signed Nomination Form (attached)
  - Cover letter that outlines the student's long-term career objectives, how they would benefit from attending S-IMEW, and why they believe they are the best candidate for the workshop
  - Resume that includes work experience, accomplishments, field skills, association memberships, volunteer and extra-curricular experience, interests and hobbies, and travel experience
  - Academic transcript (official is preferred but not mandatory)
  - Completed Liability Waiver Form (attached)
- Letter of recommendation that speaks to the student's character, passion for mineral exploration, and conduct in a team environment
- Complete the [\*\*NOMINATION FORM\*\*](#) on our website and upload pdf files of the Nomination Form, Cover Letter, Resume, Academic Transcript, Liability Waiver and Letter of Recommendation

*When the nomination package is submitted you will be redirected to a confirmation of submission page. Additionally, an email will be sent to the Faculty email entered in the form to confirm receipt of the nomination. It is the responsibility of the Department Head or designated Professor to ensure they receive this confirmation.*

**Nominations must be received by Monday, December 15, 2025.**

All nominees will be informed of the status of their nomination by late January 2026.

Selected participants will be recognized on the PDAC's student website with their name, school and headshot. They will also be recognized at the Student-Industry Mixer on Tuesday, March 3, at the annual PDAC Convention in Toronto.

We encourage all workshop participants to attend the PDAC Convention, March 1-4, 2026.



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## S-IMEW NOMINATION FORM

**Students must meet the following criteria to be considered:**

- Full-time student enrolled in their 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of an undergraduate program with a major in an Earth Sciences discipline and be in good academic standing or currently enrolled in the final year of a Canadian college program with a strong background in Earth Sciences;
- Demonstrate an interest in some or all aspects of economic geology, structural geology, petrology, volcanology, geophysics and their relation to mineral deposits
- Demonstrate a strong interest in pursuing a career in the mineral exploration industry
- Demonstrate good communication skills and strong problem-solving abilities in their academic and non-academic work to date
- Be eager to learn and willing to participate in and take full advantage of this exceptional and exclusive opportunity. Please review the [S-IMEW 2025 Itinerary](#)
- Possess the maturity, self-discipline, and the ability to gain from, and contribute to, team-based activities
- Be a good representative of the academic institution
- Available from April 29 – May 14, 2026, inclusive.

I acknowledge and understand that the submission of this application is for the purpose of evaluation and determination of candidates to participate in S-IMEW. The awarding of a spot in the Workshop is competitive and subject to the sole discretion of the Selection committee and its members.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



## PDAC Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW)

### Application Grading Rubric

Score	Advocacy	Transcript: Academics and Scholarship	Work Experience	Extra-Curricular and Volunteer
8-10	<p>Well thought out resume and cover letter, exceptionally written, and demonstrates a good understanding of S-IMEW</p> <p>Indicates strong passion for exploration</p> <p>Applicant's academic and professional goals clearly articulated. High-level use of vocabulary and word choice with no spelling or grammatical errors</p> <p>Faculty strongly supports the candidate's application</p>	<p>Applicant excels academically and demonstrates consistent progress toward completion of the program</p> <p>Applicant excels in earth science courses applicable to mineral exploration (igneous &amp; metamorphic petrology, geochemistry, mineralogy, structural geology, economic geology)</p> <p>Recipient of merit scholarship(s)</p>	<p>Student has two or more summers/terms of geoscience work experience</p> <p>Student has taken on a diverse range of roles and responsibilities</p> <p>Student has shown growth in roles and responsibilities taken on from one year to the next</p>	<p>Student has a leadership role in one or more extra-curricular and/or volunteer activities</p> <p>Student demonstrates initiative and industry involvement via association membership or other</p>
5-7	<p>Well written resume and cover letter demonstrates an understanding of S-IMEW</p> <p>Has academic and professional goals related to exploration. Few spelling and grammatical errors, with a good use of vocabulary</p> <p>Faculty supports the candidate's application</p>	<p>Applicant has done well in earth science courses applicable to mineral exploration (igneous &amp; metamorphic petrology, geochemistry, mineralogy, structural geology, economic geology)</p>	<p>Student has one summer/term of geoscience work experience</p> <p>Student has taken on a diverse range of roles and responsibilities</p>	<p>Student is involved in extra-curricular and/or volunteer activity</p> <p>Student industry involvement via association membership or other</p>
2-4	<p>Good resume and cover letter with career goals stated but unclear</p> <p>Minimal spelling and grammatical errors, low-level use of vocabulary</p> <p>Faculty weakly supports the candidate's application</p>	<p>Steady academic progress</p> <p>Applicant has some earth science courses applicable to mineral exploration (igneous &amp; metamorphic petrology, geochemistry, mineralogy, structural geology, economic geology)</p>	<p>Student has work experience</p>	<p>Student has participated in extra-curricular and/or volunteer activities</p>
0-1	<p>Resume and cover letter is poorly written, student provides no clear career goals</p> <p>Many grammatical, or punctuation errors with a poor use of vocabulary</p> <p>Faculty weakly supports the candidate's application and provides no insight into candidate's merit</p>	<p>Slow academic progress</p> <p>Weak background in earth sciences courses applicable to mineral exploration</p>	<p>No work experience</p>	<p>No extra-curricular or volunteer activities mentioned in application</p>