

# Mining Matters

Congratulations to Harvey Tremblay, of Hy-Tech Drilling! Mr. Tremblay will be presented with the David Barr Award for excellence in leadership and innovation in mineral exploration health and safety at the upcoming AME BC Roundup.

Mr. Tremblay founded Hy-Tech Drilling in Smithers, BC, in 1991, and has grown the operation from a single drill to a fleet of 25 drills operating throughout western Canada and Europe. Hy-Tech has developed safe, innovative drilling programs in the challenging terrain of British Columbia and has been a partner with Northwest Community College in the Surface Diamond Driller's Helper program since 2005.

Hy-Tech is ISO 9002 and ISO 9001-2000 Quality System certified, and runs programs that include dry camps, weekly safety meetings, and a work safe training program. However, Mr. Tremblay's success with Hy-Tech is also attributable to the knowledge that drill contracting is not just about the tools, but the people. Hy-Tech trains and hires personnel who view drilling as a career, recognize the physical and emotional requirements of the profession, and are resourceful in contending with the variables that occur on the job. Hy-Tech's innovations and philosophy have enabled several mineral exploration companies to have incident-free seasons to ensure that the mineral exploration sector is safe. In 2004, Redfern Resources Ltd., for example, received AME BC's Annual Safety Award (now the Safe Day Everyday Gold Award) for a record made possible with Hy-Tech's lost-time-incident-free record as drilling contractor.

Mr. Tremblay has been a director of AME BC since 2007 as the representative for northwestern BC. He also chairs the Western Safety Group of the Canadian Diamond Drilling Association, is on the steering committee for the NWCC School of Exploration & Mining and is on the board for the BV Economic Development Association.

You've probably seen many events around Smithers sponsored by Hy-Tech Drilling – their commitment to giving back to the community is not just admirable, but really wonderful.

**Note:** This year's Roundup will take place at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in Vancouver, BC, from January 24–27. Early bird registration ends January 14<sup>th</sup>! It's the world's largest geological technical conference, with over 6500 attendees, on average. ■

*"Mining Matters" is a bi-monthly column written by Anastasia Ledwon, P.Geo., and welcomes your feedback and questions at [general@smithers.ca](mailto:general@smithers.ca).*

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