

# Mining Matters

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Smithers is home to over one hundred people working in the mining and exploration fields and hosts numerous related businesses based in and around the Bulkley Valley? Not including seasonal workers?
- Smithers is the Provincial government's hub for Ministry Offices in the northwest, offering industry a one-stop shop for permit applications, reports and information?
  - That Doug Flynn (Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources in Smithers) was presented the David Barr Award for his leadership and tireless commitment as Senior Mines Inspector for the Northwest region of British Columbia? This is the first time this prestigious health and safety award has gone to a B.C. government staff member.
- The Smithers Exploration Group (SEG), a community organization with members from all areas of the mining, exploration, and related service industries:
  - Is a partner in the Northwest Community College School of Exploration and Mining (SEM)?
  - Is dedicated to serving and promoting the mineral industry in Northwest British Columbia?
  - Produces the yearly Exploration and Mining Directory for Northern BC?
  - Used ad revenue from the Directory to donate \$750 each to Muheim Elementary and John Field Elementary for their trips to Barkerville and \$150 to Walnut Park Elementary for their trip to Huckleberry last year?
  - Contributed \$1000 to the 2008 Tahltan Summer Science Camp, a 5-day camp for Tahltan children ages of 8-14 that highlighted wilderness experience and science study?
  - Has scholarships available for high school grads?
- The School of Exploration and Mining:
  - Was awarded a 2010 Global Best Award in the partnership category Developing Skills of the Future Workforce? SEM competed against entries from across North and South America to take top place for the partnership that founded and operates the school, a partnership between NWCC and SEG.
- In January 2010, Judi L'Orsa, a geologist from SEG, won the Association for Mineral Exploration in British Columbia's Robert R. Hedley Award for her many contributions to SEM? The award acknowledges excellence in social and environmental responsibility.
- Hy-Tech Drilling of Smithers won a 2009 award for being one of the best companies to work for in Canada?

*"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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