

Association for Mineral Exploration BC Announces Award Winners

Vancouver, BC – November 24, 2006 – The Association for Mineral Exploration BC (AME BC) is pleased to announce the 2006 recipients of the prestigious H.H. “Spud” Huestis, E.A. Scholz, Murray Pezim, Hugo Dummett Diamond, and Colin Spence awards.

J. C. (Cam) Stephen, President, J. C. Stephen Explorations Ltd., is this year’s recipient of the **H. H. “Spud” Huestis Award** for excellence in prospecting and mineral exploration. Mr. Stephen was nominated for this award by a number of industry professionals who all attested to his unwavering ethics, forward thinking approach to geological targets that culminated in discoveries such as the Mount Polley mine, and diligence in pursuing goals. He is perhaps equally respected for his renowned patience in instructing and infusing students with a lasting reverence for “the discovery” of the unknown and the understanding the science of geology. There is a whole crop of “Cam’s kids” who are successful professional explorers today.

“Cam Stephen has shown a lifelong dedication to mineral exploration through his strong ethics, professionalism, and guidance in mentoring hundreds of students – men and women alike – in the development of their careers,” said Rob Pease, Chairman, AME BC.

The **E.A. Scholz Award** for excellence in mine development goes to **Brian Kynoch** for his contribution to the development and sustainability of mines in BC. Mr. Kynoch has been an integral part of the engineering teams that brought the Nickel Plate Mine, the Goldstream Mine, and the Mount Polley Mine into production. He is a natural leader and a remarkable engineer, whose practical and innovative approaches to mine development and operation have been studied and emulated by other developers. He has a unique ability to manage all of the important social, legal, environmental and administrative factors into the fabric of a project plan and to successfully integrate these without compromising the effective and efficient application of engineering principles.

“In presenting this award to Brian, we recognize his entrepreneurial vision and involvement in evaluating, advancing and developing mining projects in BC. Through his analytical approach to mine development and tireless dedication, Mount Polley Mine is a sustainable operation that generates wealth for the local economy and British Columbia,” said Pease.

The **Murray Pezim Award** for perseverance and success in financing mineral exploration is awarded posthumously to **Adolf Lundin** (1932-2006). Mr. Lundin was considered by his peers to be a prolific and adventurous resource entrepreneur who held an unparalleled global vision. He founded and funded innumerable mineral, gas and oil projects and companies, many of which are today renowned, significantly economic producers. His projects are on every continent of the world and most of them have ties to the Vancouver mining community.

“Adolf Lundin demonstrated great vision, integrity, and leadership in financing and investing in exploration projects in BC. His perseverance and dedication in raising funds for Vancouver-based mineral exploration and mining companies, and subsequent establishment of the Lundin Group of Companies here have clearly contributed to Vancouver’s role as a global centre for mineral exploration,” said Dan Jepsen, President & CEO, AME BC.

The **Hugo Dummett Diamond Award** for excellence in diamond exploration and development goes to **John Stephenson, Grenville Thomas, Buddy Doyle, and Robert (Bob) Hindson** for their contributions to the discovery and development of the Diavik diamond mine, thereby triggering the Great Canadian Diamond Rush. These four individuals were pioneers in the exploration and development of Canada's now burgeoning diamond industry. With their technical knowledge, creativity, and dogged determination, the geophysical and geochemical exploration programs were designed and advanced in a period when diamond exploration in Canada had only just begun. Traditional programs and techniques had to be adjusted, adapted and implemented in order to be effectively applied to define and evaluate potential diamond targets. Their combined professionalism and integrity laid the foundation for the reputation and demand for Canadian diamonds.

"In presenting John Stephenson, Grenville Thomas, Buddy Doyle, and Robert Hindson with the award, AME BC Board of Directors recognizes their critical involvement in the acquisition, discovery and development of the Diavik diamond mine during the formative years of the Canadian diamond exploration and mining industry," said Pease.

The **Colin Spence Award** for excellence in global mineral exploration goes to **Ross J. Beaty**. Mr. Beaty has not only been a noteworthy explorer locally but has taken his trade internationally, with significant exploration and mine development in western United States, Mexico, South America, and Russia. He applies basic, fundamental geological concepts that allow him to assess the geological and economic potential of a project, while ensuring that it comes with an agreement that is legally sound. He is also well known and respected for his generous charitable donations and his contributions to, and support of, the mineral exploration community.

"Ross Beaty has demonstrated great tenacity and success in developing projects throughout the world and remarkable philanthropy at home," said Jepsen.

Special Tribute

"**Dr. Doug Oldenburg**, Professor in the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences and Senior Keevil Chair in Mineral Exploration at the University of British Columbia, is recognized for his contributions to significant advances in mineral exploration through the development of innovative new approaches to the modeling and interpretation of geophysical data at the Geophysical Inversion Facility at UBC," said Pease.

The award recipients will be honoured by their peers at AME BC's Annual Awards Dinner on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, at The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver during Mineral Exploration Roundup 2007. Mineral Exploration Roundup is the world's largest annual technical mineral exploration conference. The conference program includes high profile international speakers on exploration activities, deposit geology, First Nations and community issues, financing trends, and the outlook for 2007 and beyond. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased for \$132.50 each (\$125 plus GST) by using the registration form for Mineral Exploration Roundup (available at www.amebc.ca/rdupregistration.htm).

About AME BC:

AME BC represents over 3,800 members including individual geoscientists, prospectors, engineers, entrepreneurs, exploration companies, suppliers, mineral producers, and associations who are directly or indirectly engaged in mineral exploration in British Columbia and throughout the world. Through leadership, partnerships, and advocacy, AME BC promotes a healthy environment and business climate for the mineral exploration industry on behalf of its members. AME BC is regarded as the predominant voice of mineral exploration and related issues in the province.

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