H. H. "SPUD" HUESTIS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROSPECTING & MINERAL EXPLORATION

Geological Consultant **Peter Fischl,** presently Exploration Manager for Westhaven Ventures Inc., is the winner of the 2019 H.H. "Spud" Huestis Award for significant contributions to enhancing the mineral resources of BC and/or Yukon Territory. He is being recognized particularly for his instrumental role in the recent discovery and ongoing definition of the South Zone high-grade epithermal gold-silver deposit at Westhaven's Shovelnose Project in the newly emergent Spences Bridge Gold Belt (SBGB) of southern BC.

The 15,542-hectare Shovelnose property, located adjacent to the Coquihalla Highway 30 kilometres south of Merritt, was initially acquired by Strongbow Exploration Inc. in late 2005 and subsequently optioned to Westhaven in 2011. Intermittent limited-budget exploration programs by Strongbow from 2006 to 2010 and by Westhaven from 2011 through 2017 comprised geological mapping and prospecting, stream sediment and soil geochemical surveys, airborne and ground geophysical surveys, 640 linear metres of trenching and 9,493 metres of diamond drilling in 47 holes. This work identified some widespread but overall low-grade gold values in four mineralized zones (Line 6, Mik, Tower, Alpine).

Peter joined Westhaven in 2016. By reassessing all of the geological, geophysical and geochemical data in the Tower and Alpine target areas, he selected a linear magnetic low anomaly in a recessive overburden covered area to the southeast of the Alpine Zone for drill testing in late 2017. Then during 2018 systematic drilling through 50m to >100m of glacial overburden determined critical factors in zeroing in on higher grade sections. The prior interpretation of northeast-striking veins, based on limited drill intersections, was incorrect so the orientation of the drill holes was changed to more appropriately trace northwest-striking veins. Also a time stratigraphic horizon of adularia altered rhyolite was recognized, and when this vertical range was tested the first impressive bonanza-grade results were returned from three of the 2018 drill holes: SN18-12, 1.65m @175 g/t Au, 249 g/t Ag; SN18-14, 17.77m @24.50 g/t Au, 107.92 g/t Ag; SN18-15, 46.90m @ 8.95 g/t Au, 65.47 g/t Ag.

A substantial (20,000+m) 2019-2020 drill program, currently ongoing and focused on this South Zone, has yielded multiple additional high-grade intercepts and has thus far outlined the deposit as containing two subparallel principal veins plus a third splay vein over strike lengths of 500 to >800 metres and vertical extents of 250-320 metres. Several other recently identified alteration zones with vein occurrences outside of the South Zone area remain to be tested. While still early stage, the implication of the Shovelnose South Zone discovery bodes well for considerable resource potential on the property and elsewhere in the SBGB.

Peter earned a B.Sc. degree in Geological Sciences from University of British Columbia in 1986 and is a member in good standing with the Engineers and Geoscientists BC, Society of Economic Geologists and Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits. Prior to joining Westhaven, his career includes major contributions to the advancement of several other significant epithermal as well as porphyry copper-gold deposits in BC, Yukon and internationally.

MURRAY PEZIM AWARD FOR PERSEVERANCE & SUCCESS IN FINANCING MINERAL EXPLORATION

The 2019 Murray Pezim Award for significant contributions to the mineral exploration and mining community by a financier is presented to **Steve Todoruk.** Steve is recognized for his perseverance and commitment to high quality early stage exploration projects that have led to numerous significant metal discoveries. Steve has participated in or arranged financings that have raised hundreds of millions of dollars that have allowed many exploration companies to advance their projects to the next phase.

Steve has a unique background as a financier that allows him to identify quality early stage projects in advance of most other prominent financiers. His career spans some 40 years which saw him progress from a field geologist to public company executive to investment advisor and financier. Steve's career started as a field assistant exploring for tungsten in the Yukon Territory for Archer Cathro and as a line cutter for Bema industries. This early career experience led him to alter his academic path by pursuing a degree in geology, with which he graduated in 1985 from the University of British Columbia. After his graduation Steve took on a consulting geologist role with Vancouver-based Pamicon Developments working throughout the western Cordillera. In 1993, Steve moved into public company management as CEO with Abacus Mining & Metals and Redstar Gold Corp. This work saw Steve responsible for the acquisition and subsequent exploration across a diverse variety of commodity types and across multiple jurisdictions spanning three continents. Steve then changed career paths and switched to the securities industry as an investment executive with Global Securities (now Sprott Global Resources Investments Ltd.).

His unique background as a seasoned metals exploration industry participant has allowed Steve to set himself apart from the more well-known names in the finance/securities industry. He has a unique ability to pick high yield potential projects and exploration companies at an earlier stage than most others. This ability allows him to consistently pick winners and not only provide finance support but also market support at an early stage in the discovery process where most others would not consider investment. It is these attributes in Steve that make him one of the most sought-after supporters for an exploration company, not only because of the support he provides at critical phases, but also as an assurance as leading indicator that your company and projects are on the right path. Steve is therefore particularly recognized for providing support to the minerals industry at early stages of discovery when most others would not be able to recognize value or dare to accept the risk.

COLIN SPENCE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GLOBAL MINERAL EXPLORATION

Dr. Moira Smith is the 2019 winner of the Colin Spence Award for discovery of a significant mineral deposit outside British Columbia and Yukon through original application of geoscience techniques. She is being honoured for her development of a new geological model for the Long Canyon prospect in Nevada and the resulting definition of a multi-million ounce gold resource there. The value of this work was realized when her employer Fronteer Gold Inc., whose main asset was the Long Canyon deposit, was purchased for $2.3 billion in 2011 by Newmont Mining Corporation, which subsequently constructed a 100,000-150,000 ounce/year gold mine at Long Canyon.

Encouraging gold mineralization had been encountered in road cuts and several dozen drill holes on the Long Canyon property prior to Fronteer's initial involvement there in 2007, but conventional wisdom held that it had low potential for hosting a significant "Carlin-style" gold deposit. Extensively developed understanding of Carlin-style deposits in Nevada emphasized the importance of being along mineralized trends (Carlin, Battle Mountain – Eureka, Getchell, etc.) and within the slope facies of Great Basin Paleozoic stratigraphy. Long Canyon was neither, covering shelf (not slope) stratigraphy conspicuously peripheral to any established gold trend. Moira took an open-minded and curiosity-driven approach to Long Canyon, based on field-based observations and geological first principles. The resulting "boudinage model", which held that ore was strongly controlled by the rheologic contrast between brittlely deformed Cambrian dolomite and overlying ductilely deformed Ordovician limestone, served to predict and model gold mineralization and ultimately led to the definition of a significant Carlin-style gold resource at Long Canyon.

Moira earned her M.Sc. at Western Washington University (1986) and her Ph.D. at the University of Arizona (1990). Following graduation, Moira carried out four years of regional mapping for the British Columbia Geological Survey prior to joining Teck in 1995. With Teck, she managed large drill programs at the Petaquilla (now Cobre Panama) copper porphyry project in Panama and the high-grade Pogo intrusion-related gold deposit in Alaska, among others; both are currently being mined. She joined Fronteer in 2008 and led the exploration team which made sense of Long Canyon and defined a multi-million ounce gold resource there. She is currently Vice-President, Exploration and Geoscience, for Liberty Gold Corp., managing teams at the Goldstrike and Black Pine Carlin-style oxide gold deposits in Utah and Idaho, as well as contributing to other companies in the Oxygen Capital Corporation group.

For her role in developing an innovative geological model for the Long Canyon deposit in Nevada and using it to define a multi-million ounce gold deposit there, Dr. Moira Smith is the worthy recipient of the Colin Spence Award for 2019.

ROBERT R. HEDLEY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Chief John French, Chief Donny Van Somer, Dennis Izony and **Chris Rockingham** are the 2019 recipients of the Robert R. Hedley Award for Excellence in Social and Environmental Responsibility. Their collective hard work to further the Kemess Underground gold-copper mine project has set the standard for achieving mutual benefits through understanding, respect and trust. Successful mineral exploration and development projects require more than favourable geology and addressing technical challenges. They require the kind of leadership demonstrated by these four gentlemen through their commitment to work together and resolve differences. Such work is never easy.

In the context of the Kemess Underground project, they took the time to build and re-build positive and constructive relationships between industry and communities so that differing viewpoints, expectations and concerns could be meaningfully heard, understood and addressed. In many practical ways, these nominees are exemplars to others on how to work constructively together and create a pathway to potential shared prosperity associated with responsible mineral exploration and development in British Columbia.

The originally proposed Kemess North open pit project was rejected by a federal Environmental Assessment Panel in 2007 over concerns about planned tailings disposal in Amazay Lake. In 2010, in a rising metals price environment, the then project owner AuRico Metals Inc. re-evaluated the mine plan and decided there was a possibility that the project could be mined by underground block-caving and proposed the use of the old Kemess South open pit as the tailing storage facility. Chris Rockingham became involved in community outreach on behalf of AuRico and began connecting with First Nations leaders. By 2012, the First Nations communities agreed to work together collectively as Tse Keh Nay, where each nation was entitled to one-third of all benefits, jobs, training, etc. The result was issuance of an Environmental Assessment Certificate, followed by an Impacts and Benefits Agreement in 2017.

The Kemess story is multi-faceted, complex and decades long, but as evidenced by the government approvals and successful negotiation and support of an overarching agreement with the communities, a significant and positive shift occurred between 2010 and 2018. There is no doubt that there are many reasons why this shift occurred, but central to them were the personal commitment and tireless effort of Chief John French, Chief Donny Van Somer, Dennis Izony and Mr. Chris Rockingham. Their story will be a lasting and inspiring example to others for years to come.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE: THE HIGHWAY 37 ELECTRIFICATION COALITION

The Highway 37 Electrification Coalition are recipients of a 2019 Special Tribute for their contribution to British Columbia. Their leadership over a six year period directly led to the creation of the $775 million, 344 kilometre Northwest Transmission Line (NTL) and an additional 95 kilometre extension to Tatogga, just south of the village of Iskut. This major transmission line is the only major public infrastructure, other than Highway 37 itself, in a largely undeveloped area covering almost a quarter of the province. So far, the development of the Red Chris Mine by Imperial Metals Corporation, three run-of-river hydro projects by AltaGas and the connection of the village of Iskut to the provincial grid have all occurred solely because of the NTL development. Currently, roughly 15% of the capacity of the NTL has been tapped, leaving tremendous potential for additional future development opportunities.

In 2003 the concept of a grassroots organization came to life, to support the extension of the provincial power grid into the area. The argument was that grid-based power would foster mine development and further mineral exploration activity, open greenfield opportunities for independent green hydro power projects and expand tourism opportunities. The result has been hundreds of new, long-term, sustainable, high-paying jobs in an area populated predominantly by Indigenous communities. In addition, this project enhanced revenue for the BC Government through business tax and personal income tax, and it also improved working relationships with Indigenous communities.

Over a six-year period, support for Coalition and the powerline project grew. Forty-two communities from across British Columbia passed civic resolutions in support of a taxpayer investment in the project. Over 40 companies and hundreds of individuals signed petitions in support of the project and the Tahltan Nation, Nisga'a Nation, and Gitxsan Nation put their support behind the Coalition.

The powerline was completed in 2014 at a cost of $725 million. The initial investment decision by BC Hydro coincided with two concurrent investment decisions by the private sector; a $1.5 billion investment in hydroelectric power assets by Altagas and a $700 million initial investment to build the Red Chris Copper-Gold Mine by Imperial Metals.

Today, the annual payroll and goods and services impacts of the Red Chris Mine alone is approximately $260 million. The mine employs approximately 370 people, with 35% or 130 people from the Tahltan Nation. The village of Iskut now has clean reliable grid-based power and the region as a whole has many potential development projects that could only be possible with the support of grid power. The vision of the Coalition has resulted in a true nation building investment that will continue to pay dividends to British Columbians for many decades to come.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE: JULIA LANE

Julia Lane was an exceptional geologist, widely admired for her ability to manage large and logistically difficult exploration projects in remote areas of Canada's Yukon Territory. She tragically passed away at the age of 33 on August 6th, 2019 in an aircraft accident during a routine flight from the field.

Julia started her career as a geology student working in 2007 at a variety of locations for Archer, Cathro and Associates (1981) Limited. She began working full time with Archer Cathro at the ATAC Resources Ltd. central Yukon Rackla Gold Project in 2009 as a senior project geologist. Her exemplary management skills led to more responsibility the following year as Project Manager.

She was instrumental in ATAC's 2010 discovery and delineation of the Osiris Carlin-Type gold deposits. Julia guided her colleagues and ATAC through the steep learning curve of understanding an unfamiliar deposit model in a rugged, remote area that had never previously been explored for gold and had only seen rudimentary geological mapping. In peak exploration years, Julia effortlessly budgeted for and managed up to five helicopters, six diamond drills, 20 project geologists, a support staff of over 50, as well as ongoing academic research projects while providing a safe working environment and culture.

Julia was a strong advocate for women in geoscience, standing out as a role model - not by any specific intention, but by embodying what it means to be professional, accomplished, passionate and dedicated to your work. While known and respected as a rising star in Canada's mining exploration industry, she will also be remembered for her kindness, positivity and enthusiasm and, above all, her ability to keep things fun.

Julia graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree in geology and was a registered Professional Geoscientist. She became a partner in Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited in 2012 and was appointed ATAC's Vice President of Exploration in 2015. She was an active volunteer with AME as a participant in the mentorship program and as co-chair of the Roundup 2019 BC/Yukon/Alaska Technical Session. She will be remembered as a skilled communicator with an uncanny ability to simplify even the most complex geological concepts. She was a frequent speaker at conferences, short courses and authored or co-authored a number of technical papers on the subject of Yukon exploration and Carlin-type deposits.

DAVID BARR AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION IN MINERAL EXPLORATION HEALTH AND SAFETY

Diamonds in the Rough Emergency Rescue Organization Inc. is nominated for the David Barr Award. It is nominated for showing by example dedication to increasing diversity and inclusion in the mineral exploration and mining industry and by providing an invaluable emergency response resource to Canada's mineral exploration industry. The Diamonds in the Rough team is composed of women in various backgrounds in the industry including mineral exploration and development, mineral production, safety suppliers and government.

The 2016 International Mines Rescue Competition in Sudbury inspired a group of women led by Kari Lentowicz, the first certified female mine rescue trainer in Saskatchewan, to come together and make a change in the mining industry. Known as Diamonds in the Rough, this group of passionate women from across Canada is the only all-female mining competition team.

Taking part in mining rescue competitions all over the world including the 2018 International Mines Rescue Competition in Russia – where women are prohibited from working underground – is only part of what makes this group so important. The group believes strongly in using their platform to not only speak about safety but to also spread awareness about women in mining. Through speaking engagements across Canada and at international competitions, Diamonds in the Rough have made it their mission to get more women to seek mining as a career choice. Speaking to groups at schools, conferences, and conventions this team of leaders and their inspiring message regularly brings audiences to standing ovations.

Their demonstration of leadership through educating the public and raising the profile of emergency response preparedness in the mineral exploration and mining industry serves to encourage innovation by showing just what can be accomplished when people work together and think about safety.

GOLD PAN AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL MERITORIOUS SERVICE TO THE MINERAL EXPLORATION COMMUNITY THROUGH AME

Ed Balon is honoured with the Gold Pan Award for his significant and selfless contributions as a volunteer for AME. Ed is known throughout the industry as an accomplished prospector, having previously received AME's H. H. "Spud" Huestis Award in 2005 for discoveries that he has made in BC and Yukon. Among his peers, Ed is known for volunteering and his dedication to the mineral exploration community. He has been a key contributor to AME's successes for nearly twenty years, having served on the Association's Geoscience Consultative Group from 2002 to 2005 and on the Awards Committee since 2007, on which he has had the role of Chair since 2015. He also contributed as one of the editors to AME's Mineral Exploration Life Cycle brochure as his attention to detail and passion for the industry are well known at AME. Ed's numerous contributions have been a tremendous benefit to AME members. The AME Board of Directors is honoured to present Ed with the Gold Pan Award.

FRANK WOODSIDE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO AME AND/OR THE MINERAL EXPLORATION INDUSTRY

The Past Presidents and Past Chairs of AME have recognized two individuals for their long and distinguished service to the mineral exploration industry.

Jim Oliver is a consummate field geologist – having worked on approximately 400 mineral occurrences in 25 countries across the globe for 40 companies. For nearly 40 years, he has helped companies advance mineral projects in BC and around the world through his extraordinary ability to meld academic understanding with exploration instinct. He has applied this vast experience and talent in many ways that have benefited the mineral exploration industry. Jim has mentored geological professionals to gain the skills that are critical to their long-term successes. He has contributed his personal time to assist prospectors in analyzing and interpreting geological information and in presenting their properties. Jim is a prolific author, and an exceptional presenter. Notably, he has tirelessly supported the outreach efforts of the Kamloops Exploration Group as an industry ambassador through activities and public lectures. Through relating his respect and appreciation of the places where he has worked and the people whom he has worked with, Jim is able to demonstrate to the public the personal and responsible facets of the mineral exploration industry.

Anne Thompson has been active in the mineral exploration industry for more than 35 years and is a leading expert in alteration mineralogy and analyses of alteration for mineral exploration. She has used her own technical expertise to deliver presentations and short courses internationally and has facilitated sharing by others. She was chair of Short Courses and Field Trips for the Pathways to Discovery: Exploration Methods ’98 Conference co-sponsored by the BC & Yukon Chamber of Mines (now AME) and the Society of Economic Geologists and played a key role in organizing other conferences including Resources for Generations 2018 in Vancouver and the upcoming SEG 2020 conference in Whistler. Anne has been a mentor and vocal supporter for the inclusion of women in the industry, and she has devoted hundreds of volunteer hours to organizing and speaking at events designed to educate and empower young people, particularly women, to succeed in mineral exploration, mining and academia. Finally, as a Councillor for the Society of Economic Geologists, Anne has spearheaded the creation of a Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Society.

OUTREACH EDUCATION FUND

Britannia Mine Museum is granted $10,000 to support the 2020 continuation of their well-established Education Program.

The program annually reaches more than 10,000 Kindergarten to Grade 12 students through earth science focused exhibits and events. The goals are to inspire students to learn more about minerals, local geology and tectonic history and, in particular, the geological origins of the Britannia copper deposit, and to raise awareness of earth science career opportunities. Support is also given to teachers in the appreciation and education of Earth Science where it appears in the BC Curriculum.

Program focus and additions for 2020 include completion of the Terra Lab capital project, which is a conversion of the historic Assay Building on the Museum site to accommodate public programming about modern mining; Terra Lab is due to open in the summer of 2020. The Museum will evaluate a new school program structure, which allows greater flexibility for teachers. Earth Science and modern mining techniques remain central topics being covered. The Museum staff will continue with Geoscience (DIG) Day as well as Family Fun Day offering a variety of extra earth science related activities. Additionally, they plan on implementing a new program, entitled "Enter the Anthropocene" which explores climate change in the context of geological time scales.

MineralsEd (formerly Mineral Resources Education Program of BC) is granted $10,000 to support delivery of the Kids & Rocks Classroom Workshop in 2020.

This half-day classroom program introduces BC Lower Mainland students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 to the basic properties of natural materials. They are provided with a bag of about 25 rocks and minerals, a hand lens, hardness kit, streak plate, magnet, flashlight and a set of colour-coded information cards with information on minerals to allow them to experience and learn the basic physical properties of their specimens. This provides a hands-on learning experience for the students and is valuable support for the teachers and parents.

During the course of the workshop, the students are also introduced to the importance of non-renewable resources in our daily lives. Early introduction and understanding of rocks and minerals establish a foundation for young peoples' appreciation of our dependence on non-renewable resources. The Kids & Rocks project is an important stepping stone in public awareness of the value of our mineral exploration industry.