



NEWS RELEASE

Student Scholarships and Award-Winning Paper Celebrated at 2014 Mine Reclamation Symposium

Prince George, BC, Canada – September 25, 2014 – The British Columbia Technical and Research Committee on Reclamation (TRCR) celebrated the successes of students and best paper at the previous year’s symposium at its 38th annual banquet during Mine Reclamation Symposium at the Prince George Civic Centre on Wednesday.

The TRCR awarded the Jake McDonald Scholarship for Mine Reclamation to two Master of Science candidates at the University of Northern British Columbia. The TRCR offers a total of \$2,000 in scholarships to students registered at a university or college in the province of British Columbia.

Rachel Pugh is conducting research on creating granular structure in non-soils such as mine tailings using a co-pyrolysis process with organic matter and mine tailings. She completed an undergraduate degree at UNBC with a BSc in Environmental Science, and has also worked for both the federal and Yukon governments.

Sara Sparks’s research at Highland Valley Copper is focused on using mountain bluebirds and tree swallows as bio-indicators of self-sustaining reclaimed ecosystems. Her interest in reclamation was triggered when in the first year of university she worked as an environmental technician at Huckleberry mine and switched from outdoor tourism into the Environmental Science program at UNBC.

The Tony Milligan Book Award is presented to the author or authors of the best paper presented in the previous year that exemplifies the most practical aspects of reclamation. This year, the Tony Milligan Book Award was presented to Patrick Allard, Randy Baker and Cheryl Mackintosh of Azimuth Consulting Group Partnership in recognition of their paper from the 37th annual symposium in Vancouver in 2013, “Use of ecological risk assessment to guide remediation at the Teck Pinchi Lake mercury mine”. Teck Metals Limited had also previously been recognized for its work at the Pinchi Lake mine with the Jake McDonald Mine Reclamation Award at the 2013 symposium; Teck received a jade keeper trophy at Wednesday’s banquet.

About the BC TRCR

The TRCR originated in the early 1970s in response to a demonstrated need in the British Columbia mining sector for greater government-industry communication in the area of environmental protection and reclamation. Membership is drawn from industry, provincial and federal government agencies, exploration and mining associations, and universities and colleges. The Committee meets to discuss matters of joint concern and interest, exchange experiences, plan activities, and prioritize research needs. It sponsors the BC Mine Reclamation Symposium and studies on reclamation-related issues. www.trcr.bc.ca

A full agenda for the 2014 Mine Reclamation Symposium is available at <https://secure.iffreg.com/r/2014mrs?0>.

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