

## TRCR Committee Members and Bio's

### **Kim Bellefontaine – Ministry of Energy and Mines**

**Education** – B.Sc. Honours in Geology - St. Francis Xavier University (1987), M.Sc. in Geology from McGill University (1991)

**Work Experience** – 1997 to present, Manager of Environmental Geoscience and Permitting, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines; 1995-1997 Treaty Negotiation Officer, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines; 1989 to 1995, Mapping Geologist, BC Geological Survey

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Kim has worked as a senior regulator of the mining industry with the British Columbia Ministry of Energy and Mines for almost 20 years, focusing on the review of environmental assessment and permitting applications as well as the regulatory oversight of operating and closed metal and coal mines. She is a technical specialist in metal leaching and acid rock drainage (ML/ARD) geochemistry assessment, water quality evaluation, and is familiar with a wide range of mitigation and remediation strategies. Her experience has involved reviews of many aspects of mine planning including mine waste management, environmental protection, reclamation and closure, and financial security assessment. Kim is a member of the MEND Committee and co-organizer of the Annual BC MEND Workshops.

**TRCR Roles** – Chair of the Reclamation Awards committee since 2005.

### **Jonathan Buchanan – Association for Mineral Exploration**

**Education** – BA, University of British Columbia, 1997, major: geography

**Work Experience** – 1996-1998: Writing and editing consultant; 2005-present: Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia; Director, Communications & Public Affairs (since 2010)

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Jonathan has been involved with the BC mineral exploration industry for ten years, and was previously involved in editing and developing communications materials related to the closure of uranium mines in Elliot Lake, Ontario. Roles at AME include Editor of Mineral Exploration magazine (since 2008), national staff lead for the Canadian Mineral Exploration Health & Safety Survey since its inception in 2006 and media relations.

**TRCR Roles** – Has been a member since 2014. Chair (2015-2016) in Penticton, Past Vice Chair (2014-2015) in Vancouver, Media Subcommittee (since 2014; support since 2009).

### **Ben Chalmers – Mining Association of Canada**

**Education** – Bachelor's degree from Simon Fraser University in Geography and MA from Royal Roads University in Environmental Management

**Work Experience** – 2004 - Myra Falls Operations, zinc and copper mine in Western Canada as an Environmental Supervisor and currently Vice President, Sustainable Development at the Mining Association of Canada

**Activities and Accomplishments** – In his role at MAC, Ben is responsible for the implementation of Towards Sustainable Mining. He also works with members on issues related to corporate responsibility both within Canada and internationally. He also holds positions as the Industry Co-Chair of the Centre of Excellence on CSR and the Chair of the Canadian International Resources and Development Institute Advisory Council. Ben also sits as a board member for the Canadian Network for Aquatic Ecosystem Services. Ben is a Canadian Institute for Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum Distinguished Lecturer for his work on resource revenue transparency with the Publish What You Pay coalition.

**TRCR Roles** – Ben was the co-chair of the Mine Closure conference in Lake Louise in 2011; previously represented MABC and currently representing Mining Association of Canada on TRCR.

**Tania Demchuk – Ministry of Energy and Mines**

**Education** - MSc, University of Victoria, Quaternary Geology (2010); University of Victoria, BSc, Earth and Ocean Science and Geography (2005)

**Work Experience** – 2004 to 2007 Oil and Gas Division of Ministry of Energy and Mines, Senior Geological Assistant; 2007 to 2010 BC Geological Survey, Manager of Geoscience Marketing and Partnerships; 2010 to 2014 BC Ministry of Energy and Mines, Senior Environmental Geoscientist ; 2014 to 2015 Mount Polley Project Manager, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines.

**Activities and Accomplishments:** For the past 6 years Tania has worked as a regulator in the Health, Safety and Permitting branch at the Ministry of Energy and Mines, focusing on review of applications for new mines and amendments to existing mines.

**TRCR Role** – Treasurer (2011 to present); vice-Chair (2016) in Penticton.

**Jaimie Dickson – Highland Valley Copper**

**Education:** BSc University of British Columbia, 2002, major Forest Resource Management

**Work Experience:** Riverside Forest Products – Silviculture Assistant 2000-2002; UBC – Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability 2002-2004; Teck Highland Valley Copper – Environment Supervisor 2004 - present.

**Activities and Accomplishments:** Jaimie has been involved in the research, operational and monitoring aspects of the reclamation program at Highland Valley Copper for ten years. She is currently pursuing her BC Agrology professional designation.

**TRCR Roles:** Member since 2004; Past Chair (2013) in Vancouver; First Nations and Community Subcommittee; Student and Scholarship Subcommittee.

**Warn Franklin – Teck Coal**

**Education** – Royal Roads University, M.Sc. in Environmental Practice (2014), Selkirk College, Diploma in Forestry Technology (1996)

**Work Experience** – 1997 – 2007 Maple Leaf Forestry Consulting, Operations Supervisor. 2007 to present Teck Coal Limited, Manager Biodiversity and Closure.

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Warn has worked in the mining sector for 8 years and in the forest industry for the previous 10 years. He began his career in mining in environmental management at an open pit mine and from there progressed into a centralized role leading environmental assessments. Currently managing biodiversity, closure and fish habitat management for 7 coal mines in British Columbia and Alberta.

**TRCR Roles** – member since 2014.

**Wendy Gardner – Thompson Rivers University**

**Education** – Ph.D. in Renewable Resources University of Alberta, 2004; M.Sc. in Agricultural Sciences UBC, 1994; B.Sc. Agriculture (Honours) in Agricultural Sciences UBC, 1990

**Work Experience** – Kamloops Research Centre Research Technician and Assistant (1992-2001); Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Thompson Rivers University, Associate Professor (2000-present).

**Activities and Accomplishments** – active in disturbance ecology and reclamation research since 1998. She has been involved in a variety of different reclamation studies and has publications in various peer reviewed journals. She continues to support graduate students conducting research on different aspects of disturbance ecology. Professional Agrologist (1994 to present), Exceptional Service Award Pacific Northwest Section, Society of Range Management (2014), Dr. Bert Brink Endowed Professorship at TRU (2005-2007), Outstanding Young Professional Award, Society of Range Management US/Canada (2005).

**TRCR Roles** – Has been a member since 2002. Chair of Student Scholarship Committee (2005-present); member of Reclamation Awards Committee (2010 to present), Past vice Chair (2006-2007) and Past Chair in Kamloops (2008).

#### **Alan Gibson – Ministry of Environment**

**Education** – BSc. University of Regina Regional Environmental Systems Engineering, P.Eng

**Work Experience** – 1995 to 1998 Environmental Consultant working on oil and gas sites; 1998 to 2001 Sahtu Land and Water Board in charge of the Water Licencing Program; 2001 to 2004 Government of the Northwest Territories, worked on oil and gas and mine permitting and Environmental Assessments; 2004 to 2005 BC Ministry of Energy and Mines worked on oil and gas policy work; 2005 to 2005 Capital Regional District worked on storm water policy, 2005 to present BC Ministry of Environment working on industrial policy, regulations, mine permitting and Environmental Assessments.

**TRCR Role** – Member since 2015.

#### **Jennifer McConnachie – Ministry of Energy and Mines**

**Education** - MSc in Environmental Science (2004), University of Northern British Columbia, BSc University of Northern British Columbia (1999), major: Environmental Science, specialization: Physical Processes, minor: Geomorphology

**Work Experience** – Ministry of Energy and Mines, Reclamation Specialist (2012 to present), Kemess Mine (Northgate Mineral Corp/Aurico Gold Inc), Environmental Scientist (2006 to 2012), P. Beaudry and Associates, Geomorphologist (2004 to 2006)

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Jen has been involved in natural science research since 1997, including soil ecology, physical/aquatic ecology, water quality, and riverine sediment dynamics, with work published in peer reviewed journals and conference proceedings. She was a sessional instructor at UNBC in 2003 and 2005 for courses in environmental science and geomorphology. Her work experience has focused on water quality, erosion and sediment control, environmental compliance and permitting, and mine reclamation. Professional Agrologist (2009 to present).

**TRCR Role** – Technical Session Chair in 2014.

#### **Nicole Pesonen – Nyrstar Mining and Metals**

**Education** - BSc in Environmental Science, Simon Fraser University (2004)

**Work Experience** – Ashton Mining of Canada 2004 -2007; Stornoway Diamonds for 1 year, Western Canadian Coal/Walter Energy; 2008-2013; presently, Nyrstar Mining and Metals as Environmental Manager.

**Activities and Accomplishments** –

**TRCR Role** – Vice chair 2014 in Prince George, BC and 2015 Mine Closure conference co-chair with InfoMine in Vancouver.

### **Bill Price – Natural Resources Canada**

**Education** – BSc McGill University, 1980; MSc (incomplete) Forestry, University of British Columbia; Ph.D., Soil Science, University of British Columbia, 1990

**Work Experience** - 1989-1991: Environmental Consultant; 1991-2003: Senior Reviewer, Reclamation Section, BC Ministry of Mines; 2003 to Present: Scientist, CanmetMINING, Natural Resources Canada

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Organized Annual BC MEND Workshops and Biennial Northern Latitudes Conference, authored Price & Errington 1997 BC MEM ML/ARD Guidelines; Price 1997 BC MEM Guidelines and Recommended Methods for Prediction; Price 2009 MEND Prediction Manual of Drainage Chemistry from Sulphidic Geologic Materials; Price, C. Hogan and G. Tremblay (editor) 2012 Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage and winner of the Noranda Land Reclamation Award in 2010

**TRCR Roles** – Organized Technical Program and Edited Proceedings (2002-2010); Vice Chair (2004/2005); Past Chair in Smithers (2005/2006); First Nations and Community Subcommittee (2011-present).

### **Ryan Todd – New Gold**

**Education** - BSc, Simon Fraser University, 2003, majoring in environmental science; MEng, University of British Columbia, 2006, ISO 14001 EMS Lead Auditor certificate, 2010

**Work Experience** – 2006-2009: Environmental Consultant; 2009-2012: Manager of Environment, Western Coal/Walter Energy; 2012 to Present: Manager of Environment, New Gold Limited.

**Activities and Accomplishments** – Ryan has worked in the mining sector for 10 years. He began his career in environmental consulting with focus on environmental assessment and mine permitting. Ryan left consulting in 2009 to take a role with Western Coal, first in the project development group with responsibility for permitting of two major mine expansions and then a corporate environmental management role. Ryan currently works with New Gold's project development group where he recently led the permitting for New Gold's Rainy River Project in Ontario. Ryan is now responsible for the Blackwater Gold Project environmental assessment.

**TRCR Roles** – Member since 2011. Vice Chair (2013); Past Chair in Prince George (2014).

### **Dirk van Zyl – University of British Columbia**

**Education:** B.Sc., Civil Engineering, University of Pretoria, South Africa; B.Sc. (Hons.) Civil Engineering, University of Pretoria, South Africa; M.S., Geotechnical Engineering, Purdue University, Indiana, USA; Ph.D., Geotechnical Engineering, Purdue University, Indiana, USA; Executive MBA, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

**Work Experience:** Dirk has more than 40 years of experience in research, teaching and consulting in tailings and mined earth structures. During that period he was a faculty member for about 20 years at four Universities in the US and Canada. For the last 15 years much of his attention has been focused on mining and sustainable development and recently in 2014 with the Mt. Polley Independent Expert Engineering Investigation and Review Panel. He has been involved internationally in many mining projects. These projects covered the whole mining life cycle, from exploration to closure and post-closure, in a large range of climatic and geographic environments. His present research is in the area of the contributions that mining makes to sustainable development as well as tailings sedimentation and consolidation.

**Activities and Accomplishments:** In 2016, Dirk was nominated and approved by the CIM Council for the Distinguished Lecturer series through the Environment and Social Responsibility Society. His topic is Tailings Risk Management.

**TRCR Roles:** Dirk was Vice Chair of the 2015 Mine Closure Conference in Vancouver, BC jointly held with the TRCR and has been the Technical Papers Chair since 2012.