

TRCR Committee Members and Biographies - 2025

Alycia Aird – Aski Reclamation and Sauteau First Nation

Education – Natural Resource and Environmental Technician Diploma (NRET), College of New Caledonia (2015); Bachelor of Natural Resource Sciences (BNR.Sc.), Thompson Rivers University (2017).

Work Experience – Forestry Field Technician Summer Student – DWB Consultancy (May - September 2015). Junior Biologist- BC Hydro (May-September 2016). Forestry Technician -West Fraser Mills (May- December 2017), Biologist – Sauteau First Nations (2018-2019), General Manager / Project Ecologist- Aski Reclamation (2019-Current)

Activities and Accomplishments – Alycia is a member of Sauteau First Nations working for Sauteau First Nations owned and operated company, Aski ('uh-ski', Cree for 'earth') Reclamation. Majority of her career has focused Indigenous economic opportunity within the reclamation and restoration space, while creating local job and training opportunities. She has worked in various roles primarily in Aski as it grew from startup to now over 75 staff and has worked across a wide range of industries found in northeastern British Columbia / Treaty 8. Alycia is passionate about bringing the voice of her nation to the table when it comes to project planning and execution, while working closely with Sauteau's lands department. Since 2021, Alycia has also been sitting on the Treaty 8 - BC Energy Regulator Restoration Advisory Committee (BCER RAC) which leads development of the Ecologically Suitable Species Guideline for revegetation standards on Crown land, a recognized regulatory standard for BCER.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025, First Nations and Community Sub-Committee.

Tim Antill – Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals

Education – Bachelor of Natural Resources (BNR.Sc.), from University College of the Cariboo, now Thompson Rivers University (1999); MSc. in Land Reclamation from the University of Alberta (2010); Registered Professional Biologist (R.P.Bio.) and Professional Agrologist (P.Ag).

Work Experience – Natural Resource Specialist – EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc., Prince George BC, (2001–2005). Fisheries Biologist – Golder Associates Ltd., Edmonton AB, 2005–2010. Senior Biologist – EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc., Prince George BC (2010-2018). Reclamation Inspector – BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. Prince George BC (2018-2020). Manager of Major Mines Office Reclamation Team - Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, Prince George, BC (2020-Present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Tim is the Manager of the Technical Operations Reclamation Team, for the Major Mines Office within the Ministry. He has over 20 years of experience in the field of natural resource science, with much of his career in consulting before joining the Ministry in 2018. He has worked on several mining projects in western Canada, and across the Territories.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2019; Chair (2022) in Kimberley; Reclamation Awards (chair) Subcommittee (2019-Present) and Symposium Content Workshop and Mine Tour working groups.

Sue Baldwin - Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of BC (UBC)

Education – B.A.Sc. (Chem. Eng.) 1980; M.Sc. (Mech. Eng.) 1987, from University of Cape Town, South Africa; Ph.D. (Chem. Eng.) 1992, from University of Toronto.

Work Experience – Metallurgist, Anglo American, South Africa (1981 – 1983); Process Technologist, SAPREF (petroleum refinery), South Africa (1983 – 1984); Senior Scientist, Energy Research Centre, South Africa (1985 – 1987); Post Doctoral Fellow, Department of Mining and

Metallurgy, McGill University (1992 – 1994); Research Fellow, Department of Raw Material Technology, Delft Technical University, The Netherlands (1994 – 1995); Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of British Columbia, (1995 – present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Susan is a professional (P.Eng.) chemical engineer with practical experience working on gold and uranium mine metallurgical operations during and immediately after her undergraduate degree with her B.Sc. Baldwin invented new low-tech, low-energy combustion technologies and produced fuels from waste materials while at the Energy Research Centre. Sue's Ph.D. thesis was on mathematical modeling of biochemical systems using classical chemical engineering fundamentals. This training allowed her to pivot into investigating the incorporation of biological systems into process engineering and she worked on modeling and experimentation of pressure oxidation leach processes for the recovery of gold and zinc. Since joining UBC, Baldwin's research has been on bioremediation, which is the use of microorganisms to solve environmental challenges. These include inventing and testing passive and semi-passive treatment systems to remove metals from mine-influenced water, specializing in anaerobic processes based on sulfate and selenate reducing microorganisms. Her group introduced the use of metagenomics to identify microorganisms important for metal transformations. A recent focus is on the recovery of values from mine wastes (e.g. Cu, Zn, Se) using microbial processes, and stabilization of mine wastes using microorganisms that precipitate minerals or BIMP (bacterially induced mineral precipitation).

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025; Student Scholarship and Awards Subcommittee

Kendra Bennett – Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals

Education – BSc, University of Victoria

Work Experience – Kendra Bennett is a vegetation ecologist, reclamation and species at risk specialist, who has spent 20+ enjoyable years in natural resource management. She began her career in forestry, working in the Nass Valley and on the North Coast of BC, traipsing alone through the wilderness as a silviculture technician. From forestry she shifted to environmental assessment and permitting for mining & energy projects with a focus on terrestrial ecological management and reclamation. In 2017 Kendra began working with the Provincial Government; first as Section Head and then Director of the Species at Risk Recovery branch at Forest, Land and Natural Resources, and, since 2022, is a Mines Reclamation Inspector at MCM.

Activities and Accomplishments – Kendra has been involved in land reclamation projects and initiatives in BC, Alberta, Yukon, NWT, Washington State and Idaho.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025; Student Scholarship and Awards Subcommittee.

Landon Benson – Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals

Education – BSc., Biology, University of Victoria (2016); MSc., Ecological Restoration, Simon Fraser University | British Columbia Institute of Technology (2018)

Work Experience – Park Naturalist – RLC Park Services (May 2013 – October 2014), Environmental Co-op Student - Taseko | Gibraltar Mines Ltd (May 2014 – December 2014), Health, Safety, and Permitting Advisor - BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (September 2015 – April 2016), Environmental Technician - Taseko | Gibraltar Mines Ltd (May 2016 – September 2016), Environmental Research Technician - Taseko | Gibraltar Mines Ltd (May 2017 – May 2018), Environmental Coordinator (Reclamation and Research) - Taseko | Gibraltar Mines Ltd (May 2018 – August 2019), Senior Project Management Advisor - BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (August 2019 – May 2020),

Reclamation Inspector - BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (2020 – 2022), Senior Reclamation Inspector - BC Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (2022 – Present)

Activities and Accomplishments – More than 8 years of mining and environment related experience with comprehensive exposure to mine closure, permitting, and compliance. Skilled in research, project management, team leadership, risk management, and problem solving. Professional designations within British Columbia (Registered Professional Biologist and Professional Agrologist). Top Academic Environmental Innovator (2018) - Environmental Managers Association of British Columbia

TRCR Roles – Member since 2019; Chair (2025) in Penticton; Executive – 2025 Chair and TRCR Treasurer, Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Sean Beswick – Elk Valley Resources

Education – BSc, Wildlife Biology, University of North Dakota (1996); BSc., Fisheries Biology, University of North Dakota (1996).

Work Experience – Owner/Operator Kootenay Natural Resource Consulting & Height of the Rockies Guide Outfitters (1999 to November 2012), Senior Environmental Officer Teck Coal, Fording River Operations (November 2012 to February 2016), Senior Environmental Coordinator Teck Coal, Greenhills Operations (February 2016 to February 2018), Acting Manager Biodiversity & Closure / Senior Lead Biodiversity Teck Coal Business Unit (February 2018 to March 2019), Superintendent Care & Maintenance Teck Coal, Coal Mountain Mine (March 2019 to December 2022), Manager, Lands and Conservation Teck Coal Business Unit (December 2022 to present)

Activities and Accomplishments – Mr. Beswick has over 24 years of business, environment, project and people management experience and has been a member of the College of Applied Biology (BC) since 2001. He has over 10 years of direct work experience in the mining industry building, leading and motivating highly skilled and productive teams throughout the Teck Coal Business Unit. Before his career with Teck, he was the owner/operator of Kootenay Natural Resource Consulting and Height of the Rockies Guide Outfitters where he provided multidisciplinary services to the government and the forestry and mining industries. He also provided world class outdoor adventures for people worldwide.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2018; Chair (2019) in Kimberley; Sponsorship Sub-Committee.

Kim Bittman – Honorary Member and Webmaster

Education – BA., Geography/Environmental Studies, University of British Columbia (1984); ISO 14001 EMS Lead Auditor certificate (2002) and Canadian Institute of Mining (CIM) Fellowship (FCIM) in 2021.

Work Experience –Senior Environmental Coordinator, Quintette Coal Operating Corporation (1984-2000); Manager, Environmental Programs, Teck Resources (2000-2009); Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Taseko Mines Limited (2009-2016); President, Kim Bittman Consulting (2016 to Present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Kim has worked in the BC mining industry for more than thirty years and is currently the President of Kim Bittman Consulting, providing regulatory and permitting services to the mining industry. She was awarded the Canadian Institute of Mining (CIM) Community Service Award (2020) for her volunteer work and the Canadian Institute of Mining (CIM) Fellowship Award in 2021.

TRCR Roles – Member since 1986; Chair (1995) in Dawson Creek and (2005) in Abbotsford; TRCR webmaster (2011 to present); Media and Public Relations Sub-committee (chair), and Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Jonathan Buchanan – Association for Mineral Exploration (AME)

Education – BA., Geography, University of British Columbia, (1997)

Work Experience – Writing and editing consultant (1996-1998); Association for Mineral Exploration (AME) British Columbia (2005-Present); Director, Communications & Public Affairs, AME (2010-2018); Director, Policy & Regulatory Affairs (2018-2022); VP, Policy and Advocacy (2022-2024); Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (2024-Present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Jonathan has been involved with the BC mineral exploration industry for seventeen years and was previously involved in editing and developing communications materials related to the closure of uranium mines in Elliot Lake, Ontario. Jonathan serves on the Advisory Council of the BC Centre of Training Excellence in Mining and is on the Health & Safety Committee of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada. Jonathan is currently chair of the AME Health & Safety Committee.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2014; Chair (2015) in Vancouver and Chair (2016) in Penticton; Reclamation Awards, Media and Public Relations and Membership Sub-Committees and the Venue Organization Sub-Committee (chair) and Conference Logistics Working Group.

Alison Burton – Elk Valley Resources, Elkview Operations

Education – BSc., Biology, University of Victoria (2004); MSc., Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan (2007).

Work Experience – Plant Scientist & Senior Operations Manager, Keefer Ecological Services (2010-2015); Coal Regulatory Coordinator, Quikin ?amak?is Stewardship Coordinator, Ktunaxa Nation Council (2015-2019); Biodiversity Lead, Teck Coal Ltd. (2019-2021); Senior Coordinator, Elkview Operations, Teck Coal Ltd. (2021-2022); Superintendent, Environment, Elkview Operations, Teck Coal Ltd. (2022-present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Ali has been working in the mining sector for the last 13 years. Her work has spanned reclamation research on native plants and ecosystems, operational reclamation and greenhouse production of native plants, helping build and implement a biodiversity program for a large mining company, and working on behalf of an Indigenous Nation focusing on coal mines in their territory. Ali is currently responsible for environmental management at a large coal mining operation of Elkview Operations at Elk Valley Resources.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2019; Chair (2021) for full virtual COVID event; First Nations and Communities Sub-committee.

Jayne Czarnocki – Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC)

Education – B.A. Honours in International Business & Modern Languages from Strathclyde Business School in Glasgow, U.K. and chartered with the Chartered Institute of Public Relations.

Work Experience – Jayne is a corporate affairs and communications professional with over 15 years' international experience in Canada and the U.K. She has worked for global PR agencies as well as providing in-house public relations counsel for organizations in the natural resource, energy and financial sectors. She is a strategic communications leader, a team player and problem solver specializing in content strategy, media relations, proactive and reactive messaging, public affairs, issues management, crisis communications and digital media.

Activities and Accomplishments - Prior to joining MABC, Jayne managed corporate affairs and communications for a major infrastructure natural resource project in British Columbia. During her time on the project, she managed government relations, where she developed and executed strategic programming to engage with key stakeholders as well as media relations, advertising, sponsorships and provided strategic communications counsel to the executive leadership team.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025; Media and Public Relations Sub-Committee.

Anayansi Cohen-Fernandez – British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)

Education – MSc., Management and Conservation of Tropical Renewable Resources, Universidad de Yucatan, Mexico (2003); PhD., Land Reclamation and Remediation, University of Alberta (2012); BSc., Biology, Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana Mexico (1997).

Work Experience- Faculty, Program Head of MSc in Ecological Restoration BCIT (2018-Present); Director, Coastal Raintree Consulting (2015-Present); Senior Land Reclamation Specialist, AMEC Foster Wheeler/Wood (2013-2018); Biologist, Project Director Sylvatica, S.C. Mexico (2000-2005)

Activities and Accomplishments Anayansi is a faculty member of the Ecological Restoration MSc Program at the BCIT. She has over 20 years of experience in environmental consulting and resource management in Mexico and Canada. Her experience revolves around assessment of effects of projects on landscape ecology and biodiversity and in the planning and implementation of restoration and reclamation projects following mining, oil and gas, urban and agricultural disturbances. At BCIT, Anayansi has supervised over 12 master students to completion on a variety of Applied Research Projects, which have included the evaluation of prairie tallgrass restoration success, plant facilitation effects in a riparian ecosystem, enhancement of soil biocrust establishment to assist reclamation of mine tailings and the potential of biochar to improve the functionality of rain gardens, among others. Anayansi has published in peer-reviewed journals and has received several awards including four Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS) Accelerate grants in conjunction with industry partners such as Stantec, Taseko, Gibraltar mine, Ducks Unlimited and NATS Nursery.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2020; Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Jaimie Dickson – Teck Resources, Highland Valley Copper

Education: BSc., Forest Resource Management, University of British Columbia (2002) and a Professional BC Agrologist (P. Ag).

Work Experience: Silviculture Assistant, Riverside Forest Products (2000-2002); Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, UBC (2002-2004); Environmental Supervisor, Teck Highland Valley Copper (2004–2022); Social, Environment and Regulatory Approvals (SERA) Manager for HVC 2040 (2022-2024); Environment Superintendent (2024- present).

Activities and Accomplishments: Jaimie has been involved in the research, operational and monitoring aspects of the reclamation program at Highland Valley Copper for eighteen years.

TRCR Roles: Member since 2004; Chair (2013) in Vancouver; First Nations and Community and Student Activities and Scholarships Sub-committees and Symposium Content; Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Kelly Dubé, Elk Valley Resources, Greenhills Operation

Education – BSc., Biology (2007); BSc., Environmental and Conservation Science (Land Reclamation) (2009); MSc., Soil Science (2012) from University of Alberta.

Work Experience – Over ten years' experience working as an environmental professional and soil scientist in the oil and gas industry in Western Canada. Vast experience in soil survey for predevelopment as well as soil and groundwater remediation on contaminated sites. Four years' experience in the mining industry - currently fulfilling the role of Senior Lead, Environment, overseeing projects and development for EVR's Greenhills Operation.

Activities and Accomplishments – Professional Agrologist (Alberta and British Columbia), Professional Biologist (Alberta), and Registered Professional Biologist (British Columbia).

TRCR Roles Member since 2021; Chair (2024) in Burnaby; Sponsorship Sub-Committee (chair), Sponsorship Distribution list Working Group, Symposium Content Video/Visual Working Group and Media and Public Relations Sub-committee.

Lauchlan Fraser – Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

Education – BSc., Biology, UBC (1990); MSc., Botany, UBC (1993); PhD., Plant Ecology, University of Sheffield (1996).

Work Experience – Post-Doctoral Scientist, University of Ottawa (1996-1999); Assistant/Associate Professor, University of Akron (1999-2004); Professor and NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Ecosystem Reclamation, Thompson Rivers University (2004-present).

Activities and Accomplishments – In Lauchlan's research over the past thirty years he has worked across disciplines to address fundamental basic and applied questions to understand environmental processes and improve management policy and regulatory guidelines. His research in grasslands, wetlands and forests has focused on biodiversity, global climate change, restoration, grazing management, conservation, non-native species invasion, and treatment wetlands. He has supervised 40 graduate students to completion and continues to support graduate students in a range of research topics. He has a publication record of 100+ peer-reviewed articles, with papers in the top journals in the world including Science, Nature Communications, Bioscience, Global Change Biology. Lauch serves as Associate Editor on four international journals (Plant Ecology, Applied Vegetation Science, Acta Agrestia Sinica, and Frontiers in Plant Science). He was awarded the President's Distinguished Scholar Award for 2022, and the 2022 Life Science BC, Genome BC award for Scientific Excellence.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2018; Technical Sessions and Papers Chair (2018-2024); Student Activities and Scholarships Sub-Committee and Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Wendy Gardner – Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

Education – BSc., Agricultural Sciences (Honours), UBC (1990); MSc., Agricultural Sciences, UBC (1994); PhD., Renewable Resources, University of Alberta (2004);

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

Activities and Accomplishments – Wendy has been actively engaged in disturbance ecology and reclamation research since 1998. With a wealth of experience in various reclamation studies, she has contributed numerous publications to peer-reviewed journals and remains dedicated to mentoring and supporting graduate students pursuing research in disturbance ecology. She has been a Professional Agrologist since 1994 and has received several prestigious awards, including

the Range Science Education Council Undergraduate Teaching Award in 2022, the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award in Research and Academia in 2017, the Dr. Bert Brink Endowed Professorship at Thompson Rivers University from 2005 to 2007, and the SRM Outstanding Young Professional Award in 2005.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2002; Chair (2008) in Kamloops; Student Scholarship and Awards Subcommittee (chair).

Derek Holmes – BC Stone, Sand and Gravel Association

Education – BSc., Chemistry, University of Victoria (1999); MBA, Simon Fraser University (2018); and a P.Chem., from the Association of the Chemical Profession (ACPBC).

Work Experience – Executive Director, BCSSGA; Senior Environmental Professional at Holmes Mining Consultants Ltd.

Activities and Accomplishments - Derek has worked primarily in British Columbia developing, operating, and managing mining operations for clients and businesses over the years and currently works as an independent mining industry consultant. Derek's work for businesses and individuals focuses primarily on permitting, compliance, remote sensing, and business advice, working closely with the various natural resource ministries and Indigenous governments.

TRCR Roles – Member Since 2020; Reclamation Awards and Venue Organization Sub-Committees and Symposium Content Mine Tour Working Group.

Colleen Hughes – Hudbay Minerals, Copper Mountain Mine

Education – Selkirk College, Integrated Environmental Planning Technology Program Diploma

Work Experience – Colleen joined the mining industry in 2005 as an environmental technician at the Wolverine Coal Mine in Tumbler Ridge. Combining her previous experience in management with Sony of Canada and London Drugs, Colleen moved through several levels within the Mining Environment field, landing as the Environment Manager at Copper Mountain Mine in 2020 to present.

Activities and Accomplishments - Colleen has a passion for mine reclamation and is proud to have been part of the remediation response at Mount Polley from 2014 to 2019.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025, Symposium Content Mine Tour Working Group (2025)

Jennifer McConnachie – Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals

Education – BSc., Environmental Science/Geomorphology, UNBC (1999); MSc., Environmental Science, UNBC (2004).

Work Experience – Field Intern, BC Ministry of Transportation (2003); Geomorphologist, P. Beaudry and Associates (2004-2006); Kemess Mine (Northgate Mineral/Aurico Gold), Environmental Scientist (2006- 2012); Reclamation Inspector (2012-2014), Sr. Reclamation Inspector (2014-2017), Manager, Reclamation (2017-2019) BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; Senior Supervisor, Reclamation and Closure, Teck/EVR (2019-2024); Senior Inspector of Mines, Permitting, Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (2024 – Present).

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. Jen has extensive practical industry and regulatory experience in mine reclamation and closure in BC. Jen was part of the Kemess Mine team that was awarded two citations for excellence in Metal

Mine reclamation (2009, 2010) and the Jake McDonald Award (2011), as well as the MABC Mining and Sustainability Award (2010). Professional Agrologist (2009-Present).

TRCR Roles – Member since 2015; Chair (2020) in Kimberley; Executive - TRCR Secretary; Sponsorship Sub-Committee and Symposium Content Technical Session and Papers Working Group.

Sonia Meili – Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals

Education – BSc. Physical Geography, UBC (2006)

Work Experience – Geoscientist in Training, Madrone Environmental Services (2007 – 2009); Environmental Coordinator, Taseko Mines (2009 – 2012); Sr. Environmental Coordinator, Taseko Mines (2012 – 2015); Reclamation Inspector, Ministry of Energy and Mines (2015 – 2020); Sr. Reclamation Inspector, Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (2020 – present).

Activities and Accomplishments – Sonia has been involved in the natural resource industry since 2007, having held roles in consulting, industry and government. Previous service roles have included membership/vice chair Environment Committee MABC (2011 – 2013) and BCIA South CCI Branch (2012 – 2013).

TRCR Roles –Member since 2019; Reclamation Awards Sub-Committee; Symposium Content Workshop and Mine Tour Working Groups.

Elizabeth Miller – Seabridge Gold

Education – BSc., UNBC (2020); MSc., University of Windsor (2002), and is a Registered Professional Biologist in BC (P. Ag).

Work Experience – Elizabeth has over 20 years' experience managing and implementing projects in British Columbia and Canada's north. This range of experience has included working as a Senior Biologist with the Government of BC, Environmental Specialist with BHP Billiton at the EKATI Diamond Mine, as well as consulting for environmental programs on a variety of development projects. She is currently Vice President of Environment and Social Responsibility (ESR) for Seabridge Gold and for the last 12 years was responsible for the environmental, reclamation and community programs for Seabridge Gold, including liaising with contractors, Federal and Provincial governments, indigenous communities, and public interest.

Activities and Accomplishments - Originally from Newfoundland and a member of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation, she grew up in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. She was the 2017 co-recipient of the Robert R. Hedley Award for Excellence in Social and Environmental Responsibility from AME and in 2021 was a member of the Seabridge Gold team that received the Jake McDonald award for reclamation work at the Johnny Mountain Mine in Northwest BC.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2020; Executive - Vice Chair (2025) in Penticton; First Nations and Communities (chair) and Sponsorship Sub-Committees.

Steve O'Hara – Taseko Mines Limited, Gibraltar Mine

Education – Forest Technologist, Sir Sandford Fleming College, Ont. (1994); Certified Inspector of Sediment and Erosion Control (CISEC).

Work Experience – Forestry Consulting (1996-2004), Environmental Coordinator – Reclamation and Projects – Gibraltar Mine (2004 – present)

Activities and Accomplishments - Steve specializes in silviculture, obtaining his certification and understanding for both soil characteristics and biogeoclimatic zones and classification for BC. (1996 – 2004). Steve then joined the environmental department at Gibraltar, involved in all aspects

of environmental sampling and monitoring, supervising and over this time pursued his passion for revegetation within the reclamation program at Gibraltar. Steve initiated tree and shrub planting and native seed collection into the program and assisted with creating the XDC program with our local Xat'sull First Nations. Steve was vital for his work in mine reclamation and collaborative indigenous programs which garnered the Jake MacDonald Mine Reclamation Award for Gibraltar Mine in 2020.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2020; Chair (2023) in Prince George; Membership Sub-Committee (chair) and Symposium Theme and Content Workshop and Mine Tour Working Groups.

Michael Preston – University of Northern BC (UNBC)

Education – BSc., (Hons) Applied Ecology, Liverpool John Moores University, UK, (2007); MSc., Trent University (2009), Ph.D., Microbial Ecology, University of Toronto (2013).

Work Experience - Environmental Scientist – Dillon Consulting Limited (2014-2019). Post-doctoral researcher – Laurentian University (2019-2020), Assistant Professor – UNBC (2020 - Present).

Activities and Accomplishments: Michael's research focuses on the rehabilitation of disturbed landscapes. He is particularly interested in developing restoration strategies as a natural climate solution to remove carbon from the atmosphere by storing in the biomass and soils. As an environmental consultant, Michael has worked on restoration projects across Canada and has published peer-reviewed studies on the restoration and rehabilitation of the smelter impacted landscape in Sudbury, Ontario.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2021; Student Activities and Scholarships Sub-Committee and Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers Working Group.

Bill Price – Natural Resources Canada

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

Work Experience – Reclamation planning for Kitsault and Cantung mines (1980s); Environmental Consultant (1989-1991); Senior Reviewer, Reclamation Section, BC Ministry of Mines (1991-2003); Scientist, Canmet MINING, Natural Resources Canada (2003 to Present)

Activities and Accomplishments – Present activities include organizing the Annual BC MEND ML/ARD Workshops and past presentations on website, member of MEND creating, coordinating and reviewing ML/ARD studies; teach courses on ML/ARD including annual field school, professional ML/ARD practice advisory, and member of a public advisory committee and facilitate security review for local mine. Past accomplishments include author of BC and MEND ML/ARD Guidelines, editor of Proceedings of 9th International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage, organizes Northern Latitudes Mine Reclamation Conferences, keynote speaker in 2021 and 2024 International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage and winner of 2010 Noranda Land Reclamation Award.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2002; Organized Symposium Technical Program – Papers, AV and Workshops (2002-2010); TRCR Chair (2006) in Smithers; Symposium Accommodation and Venue (2006); Chair of Molybdenum and Selenium subcommittees (1996-2002); First Nations and Community Subcommittee (chair 2011-2022); Milligan Book Award and First Nations and Community and Workshop subcommittees.

Justin Straker – Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA)

Education – BA., (1992); MSc., Soil Science (1998) from McGill University.

Work Experience – BC Ministry of Forests (1995); Environmental Consultant (1998-present)

Activities and Accomplishments – Justin has worked primarily in the field of mine reclamation since 1998, with experience in hard-rock, soft-rock, and oil-sands surface mines in western and northern Canada. His reclamation work over the last decade has concentrated on ecological (soils and vegetation) aspects of landform and cover design, on developing improved methods for estimating hydrological regimes on reclamation sites, and on understanding the ecohydrological interactions of soils/vegetation reclamation treatments with larger hydrological cycles in mine-waste landforms. He has been a contributing or lead author on a book chapter on restoration of forest soils, and on several international and regional mine-reclamation guidance documents.

TRCR Roles Member since 2021; Executive for CLRA Liaison to TRCR; First Nations and Communities Sub-Committee and Community Presentations Working Group, Symposium Content Technical Sessions and Papers (chair) and Workshop Working Groups.

Amanda Wamsteeker, Conuma Resources Ltd.

Education – BSc., Biology [Ecology], University of Fraser Valley (2012) and Registered Professional Biologist in BC (P. Ag).

Work Experience – Environmental Technician (Walter Energy; 2012-2016), Environmental Technician through Director (Conuma Resources; 2016-2023), Principal, Environment (Conuma Resources; 2023-current)

Activities and Accomplishments – Amanda has over 12 years of experience in mining, regulatory compliance, and environmental site management. In her current role as Principal, Environment at Conuma Resources, Amanda oversees critical environmental management systems, ensures operational implementation of mitigation strategies and monitoring of environmental programs, contributing to innovative environmental solutions and adaptive management, and is key in developing robust Closure and Reclamation Plans. She has been instrumental in providing guidance and operational knowledge in major Environmental Assessment and permit amendments under the BC Environmental Assessment Act, Mines Act and Environmental Management Act. Amanda is also deeply engaged in building relationships with local Indigenous Nations to discuss environmental processes and was elected industry co-chair on the kinosew sîpîyu / whutone gah saghé / Murray River Watershed Cumulative Aquatic Effects steering committee since 2019.

TRCR Roles – Member since 2025; Symposium Content Mine Tour Working Group.