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# Mining Matters Annual Newsletter

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2021



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## Message from the President



Last year in our annual newsletter, I referenced challenging times and noted the considerable creativity and innovation that manifested. For an organization that was almost entirely rooted in face-to-face delivery, we have most certainly risen to the challenge.

As we are all aware, this year has brought many of the same challenges. As such, I want to echo a similar sentiment. Author Gregory S. Williams once said, *“On the other side of a storm is the strength that comes from having navigated through it. Raise your sail and begin.”* On this poetic note, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to our Mining Matters staff. I am awed by your ability, creativity, and innovative approaches in adapting to virtual engagement programs.

These programs include our summer camps and school programs; *Deep Refuge* - our new, digital escape room experience; the WHERE Challenge; “DIY” activities; and GEMS Kits for youth. GEMS Kits provide hands-on resources about geology, engineering, mining, and sustainability to communities, ensuring our remote community partners who are sometimes unable to gain access to a stable high-speed internet connection, can continue to take part in our programs.

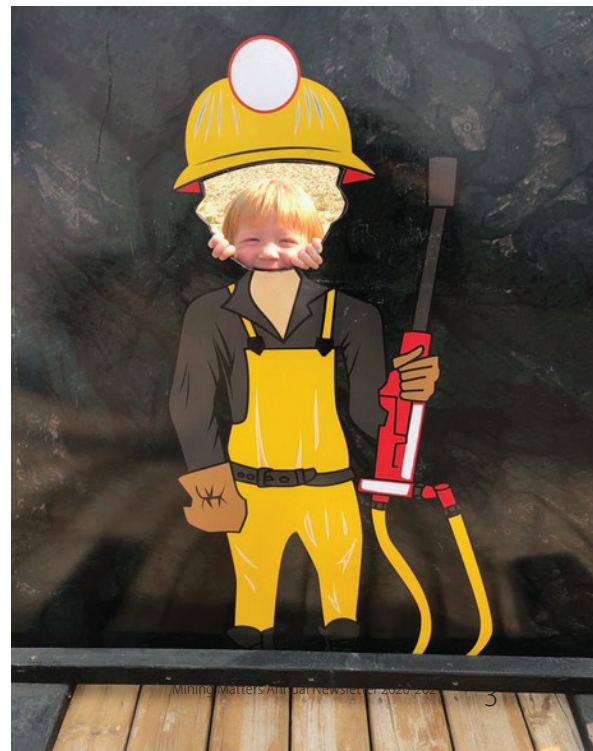
I owe a great debt of gratitude to our Board of Directors and to all our partners for providing a rudder in the storm while we charted a new course. A special thank you to all of our donors for your support and continued faith in our organization during this time of uncertainty.

To the many Indigenous communities with whom we partner — we look forward to hearing from you as to when we can resume in-person programming. In the interim, we will continue to work with you to deliver our online and kit-based programming.

I’m pleased to share all of the hard work, smiles, and successes that have emerged this past year, which are showcased on the following pages. We continue to innovate at Mining Matters while delivering our foundational science programs which are an ideal combination of education and motivation, culminating in an interest in Earth sciences for thousands of children, teachers, and others across Canada — and beyond!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Dillon".

Patricia Dillon  
President and CEO







## GEMS Kits Ignite a Spark for Virtual Learning

As part of our programming pivot this past year, educational kits designed to engage youth were packaged and distributed to Indigenous communities as well as to camps, schools, homes, and literacy centres across Canada. This move was made in collaboration with Indigenous partners in order to meet the needs of communities that are sometimes without the internet connectivity required to participate live online.

Available in English and French, each GEMS (**G**eology, **E**ngineering, **M**ining, and **S**ustainability) Kit includes all the equipment, necessary supplies, and video instructions needed to complete hands-on activities. Whenever possible, activities were translated into Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, Cree, Ojibway and Oji-Cree, reflecting the respective languages of our community partners. Unpacked, youth find a world of wonder literally at their fingertips! With these kits, youth can:

- Explore the Earth's structure
- Learn that minerals are the building blocks of rocks
- Crack open a geode
- Take part in engineering challenges to design a headframe and create a water filtration device
- Build an underground mine model
- Discover careers in the minerals industry
- Explore the water cycle
- Play a card game to find out what on Earth is in their stuff!

Each kit also contains Earth science-themed artistic activities—amethyst and copper wire to craft a pendant, and carving tools with a block of soapstone. Finally, a Mining Matters Activity Book filled with word searches, crosswords, and other puzzles extends the learning experience.



We are so thankful to the many organizations who supported the development and implementation of the GEMS Kits. You helped us provide access to information about Earth science and the minerals industry in safe, fun, and interactive ways to over 1,800 youth during a challenging time. Mining Matters extends a special thank you to the following organizations:

- Alamos Gold
- APGO Education Foundation
- Canadian Geological Foundation
- CIBC
- Glencore
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- Kakivak Association
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Kivalliq Science Educators' Community
- Mining Industry Human Resources Council
- Natural Resources Canada
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
- Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
- Teck Resources Limited

"Mining Matters [offers] a very well designed learning kit, which explores many of the different aspects of the mining industry in Canada. The activities provided can be done in the classroom, or the entire kit taken home for students to explore independently." *Teacher, Deer Lake First Nation*





## Coding and Robotics

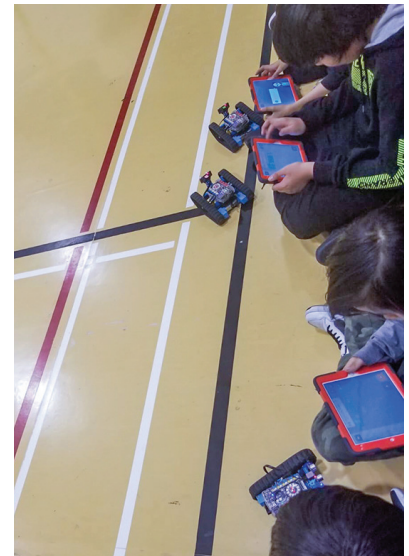
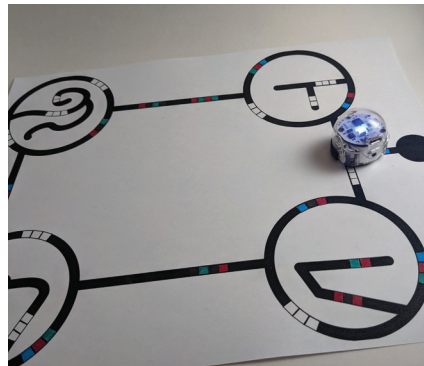
Our team continually aims to push the boundaries of what's possible in STEM education. This year we collaborated with Ontario Tech University and a Master's of Education student to develop a new workshop focused on robotics.

Thanks to an internship funded in part by MiHR's *Gearing Up Program* and the International Minerals Innovation Institute, we created a three-hour workshop which can be presented in-person or remotely.

Students program miniature robots and learn how robotics are used to survey potential mine sites, increase a mine's efficiency and improve safety during mine operations. Participants discover the evolving role that technology plays in the minerals sector and the industry's need for specific, specialized skills, while also learning about different career opportunities available to them.

"This creative and collaborative workshop is a catalyst for learning," said Laura Clinton, Executive Director. "We're pleased to note that, through this activity, youth can develop skills in many realms: coding, research, teamwork, problem solving, communication, data analysis, and critical thinking."

To enhance this learning experience, Mining Matters is seeking video footage of robots in mineral exploration and mining, as well as career role models to share a quick sound bite for students about their job and how it connects to robotics. To get involved, please contact [info@miningmatters.ca](mailto:info@miningmatters.ca).



## Virtual Camps

Our spring and summer camps offered many children an opportunity to be engaged, enriched, and immersed in the fascinating world of geoscience.

The growing value and necessity in online programming remains strong. Kelly McBride, Coordinator of Teacher Training and School Programs, presented our camps this year. When asked about how virtual programs work, Kelly explained the benefits: "With online programs, you can see the kids engaging, you can see them doing the experiments, and you can answer their questions in real time."

Ali lives in Richmond Hill, Ontario. He attended our virtual Earth science camp this spring and was keen to share his love of geology, science, and camp with us. "I definitely want to do more programs," explained Ali who enjoyed not just the live online sessions, but also the fun, interactive 'homework' added as supplemental programming. In fact, at the time of our interview, Ali had already been checking our website to see if new camps or programs had been added.

When asked about his favourite part of camp, Ali, who is looking forward to a future career as a geologist or astronaut, most enjoyed "mining" a chocolate chip cookie,

checking his yard and neighbourhood for rocks and minerals (see the photo of Ali proudly showing off his find!), and the opportunity to build a replica of Earth's layers using Play-Doh! Kelly explains how this works, "We start with a small ball of Play-Doh to represent the inner core. Then, campers wrap the inner core in another layer of Play-Doh, in a different colour. We repeat this process for the mantle and crust, then we slice the model in half and voila—we have a cross-section of the Earth!"



## Virtual Workshops for Students

This past academic year, we initiated virtual delivery of our foundational Earth science programming, covering a wide array of topics and engaging with diverse audiences across the country. We are immensely proud of our staff, students, volunteers, and partners for continuing to develop innovative ways to showcase and improve our STEM programs. At the same time, we are very much looking forward to returning to in-person facilitation when it is safe to do so.

We received excellent feedback from students and teachers, including the following kind words:

"I want to thank you once again for taking the time to do not one, but two workshops for my class. They really enjoyed them! The amethyst and your coloured quartz demo was a big take-away for the kids. It was nice to get a chance to sit back and listen...You bring great energy, professionalism, and knowledge to your presentations. What a nice start to the unit! You have a standing invitation to visit my classroom any time." *Grade 4 teacher, York Region.*

Mining Matters offered curriculum-correlated workshops to junior-level students Canada-wide; workshops focusing on rocks, minerals, mining, or the importance of mineral resources in everyday life. We adapted programs for virtual delivery while also offering a hybrid model when possible. For our hybrid approach, we packaged and mailed equipment in advance for students to use during the workshop. We delivered 86 workshops, reaching just over 1,803 students and 92 teachers.

Virtual workshops run for an hour, are highly interactive, and include non-digital elements such as scavenger hunts, observations, and storytelling. Our educators facilitate dressed in PPE, use multiple cameras to show samples, conduct tests, and address student questions.

Our workshops are scalable to a variety of learners and tailored to provide each classroom with an experience as unique as the students in it. In the upcoming year we will be focused on expanding our virtual programming to intermediate and senior classrooms.



## Highlights

### **Rocks + Kids = Opportunities**

This program is available at no cost to schools located in socio-economically challenged neighbourhoods. Upon completion, teachers receive resources to ensure they can continue to deliver the Earth science curriculum with confidence. *Rocks + Kids = Opportunities* is generously funded by Kinross Gold.

### **CIM Northern Gateway**

In celebration of North Bay Mining Week, CIM Northern Gateway sponsored the delivery of hybrid workshops with four school boards in the North Bay region. North Bay is a major minerals industry service and supply sector hub and we are grateful for the opportunity to present information that is relevant to many of the region's residents.

When we asked if the virtual workshop met expectations, a participating teacher responded: "Absolutely. It was well planned and met many curriculum expectations. It was very informative and engaging for students. I had many parents tell me that [their kids] went home and showed their families the activities." *North Bay Mining Week Virtual Workshops - Grade 4 teacher*

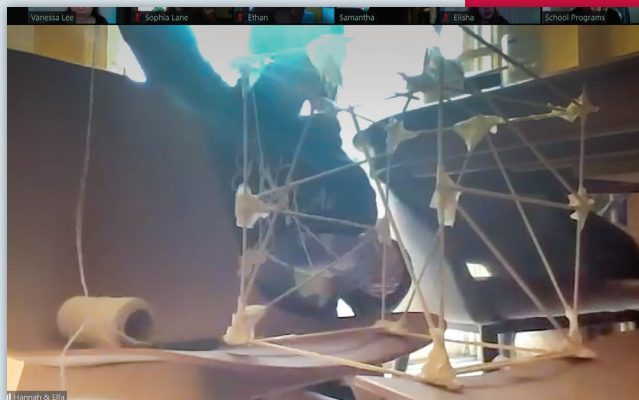
### **Lakehead Public Schools**

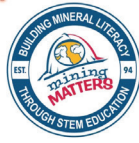
In the Thunder Bay region, we created a kit of Earth science learning activities for Armstrong Public School and a custom set of resources for Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute to help bolster the high school's new STEM lab and maker space. A dozen virtual workshops for elementary classes were also delivered.

Mining Matters would like to thank Impala Canada, Clean Air Metals, Lakehead University, City of Thunder Bay, and the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining and Exploration for their support.

### **Yellowknife Schools**

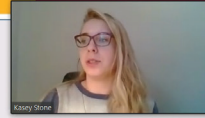
Our long-standing collaboration with the Government of the Northwest Territories and schools in Yellowknife remains strong despite restrictions imposed by the pandemic—virtual workshops were very well received by teachers and students. We also supported *NWT Virtual Mining Week*, providing content for the activity book published to promote awareness of the NWT's deep connection to exploration and the minerals industry. The activity book and associated contest reached over 300 youth.

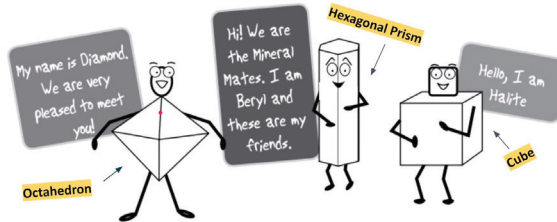




How many faces are there on:

1. An octahedron	1. Eight
2. A hexagonal prism	2. Eight
3. A cube	





## Collaborating with Indigenous Youth:

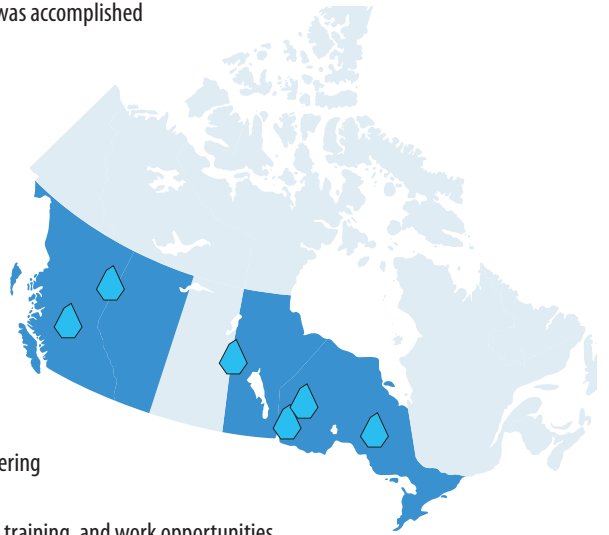
# OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Mining Matters educational mandate allows us the opportunity to collaborate with different audiences in a wide variety of locales. We work with teachers, campers, counsellors, corporate partners, and students in diverse environments—from densely populated urban centres to rural and remote fly-in communities.

In 2020-2021, Mining Matters was privileged to continue our partnership with the Outland Youth Employment Program (OYEP) by adapting our strategy for in-person program delivery. Instead of travelling to OYEP communities to facilitate our usual *Mining Rocks* programming, staff provided OYEP counsellors with the training and educational resources necessary to lead the same activities with camp participants. This was accomplished through customized group kits with video tutorials demonstrating the facilitation of various challenges and activities using materials provided in the kits. Our hybrid *Mining Rocks* programming was delivered to campers at six locations in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia.

Over 150 participants, representing 83 First Nations communities across Canada, explored career opportunities and gained foundational knowledge about Earth science and mineral resources through a variety of activities that focus on geoscience, engineering, the environment, mineral exploration, and mining. These educational activities provide a foundation for mineral literacy and an opportunity to explore viable prospects for youth entering the workforce.

OYEP offers a national network of land-based education, training, and work opportunities for Indigenous youth in high school. The program has provided hundreds of Indigenous youth with summer work and learning opportunities over the past two decades.







- Outreach Programs
- Annual Newsletter
- GEMS Do-it-Yourself Activities
- Mining Makes It Happen Poster Series
- Donate
- Teacher Resource Kits

## Inspired by Indspire

Indspire is a national Indigenous registered charity investing in the education of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people for the long-term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada.

The 2020 [Indspire Conference: National Gathering](#) took place as a virtual event. This event brings together Indigenous educators and those who work with Indigenous communities from across Canada to share ideas and resources. We “exhibited” a booth to promote our *Mining Rocks* Earth Science Program, DIY activities, GEMS Kits, and share teaching materials, all of which were extremely well received.

We had the pleasure of introducing 225 teachers to our programs and resources through events and demos. Our staff also attended several workshops to learn how to better integrate Indigenous worldviews in STEM education. We strive for continued collaboration with our Indigenous partners, integrating best practices, and improving our activities so that our content may better resonate with Indigenous participants.

## Canada-Wide Science Fair

In May, we participated in the virtual STEM Expo during the Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF). Our virtual booth saw 648 active engagements with student, teacher, and public visitors, with whom we shared links to resources, DIY activities, and information about our virtual program offerings.

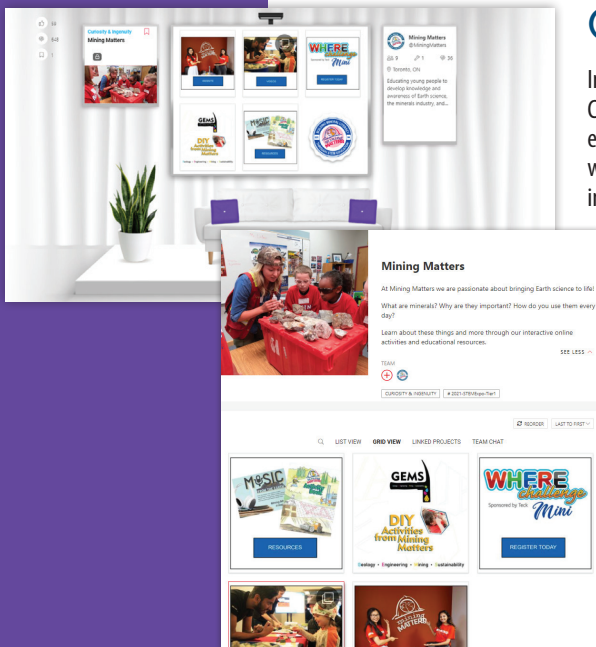
We were extremely pleased with the quantity and quality of engagement. Visitors were curious about industry careers, how 3D printing and robotics are used in mining, and the connection between genomics and the mining sector. “Mining Matters has been participating in CWSF since 2018,” said Bilingual Programs Coordinator, Kasey Stone. “We absolutely love speaking with youth from all over the country and responding to their questions and comments. We can’t wait to do it again next year.”

**ONLINE STEM FAIR**   **EXPO STIM EN LIGNE**

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Participant | Participante

Mining Matters



# WHERE challenge

Sponsored by Teck

## Contest Details for 2022

The 2021-2022 is now underway! All entries must be submitted online by **March 4, 2022**. Please visit [WHEREChallenge.ca](http://WHEREChallenge.ca) for a list of 2021 winners and to see their winning entries.



This contest continues to be successful with the enthusiastic and continuous support of teachers, students, principals, volunteers and the mining industry at large.

There are many ways you can be involved and support the WHERE Challenge:

- Become a judge
- Share information about the contest with colleagues, family, friends, and your social media network
- Help a local educator or youth leader with the Challenge in their classroom or club
- Encourage youth to participate

To learn how you can participate in the current WHERE Challenge or to request a WHERE workshop, please email [WHEREChallenge@miningmatters.ca](mailto:WHEREChallenge@miningmatters.ca).

## WHERE Challenge and New WHERE Mini

Each September, Mining Matters launches a new edition of the WHERE Challenge. This contest provides an opportunity for students aged 9 to 14 to discover the role that mineral resources play in their daily lives. Through the contest, students learn about non-renewable resources, including where they are sourced and how they're used. Entries are received annually from students across Canada and a volunteer judging panel, made up of industry and Earth science partners, selects winners and awards thousands of dollars in cash prizes for each of the three project categories:

1. Multimedia
2. Graphic Art
3. Literary

In 2021 we added a new "mini challenge" with a unique theme each month to complement the annual contest. Participants have a chance to explore "what on Earth is in their stuff" and win prizes, including colouring books, personal protective equipment, and more!

"WHERE" stands for the places where Earth scientists work:

**Water • Hazards • Energy • Resources • Environment**



We would like to offer a very special thanks to Teck Resources Limited and our volunteer judges for their continued support of this important national initiative.

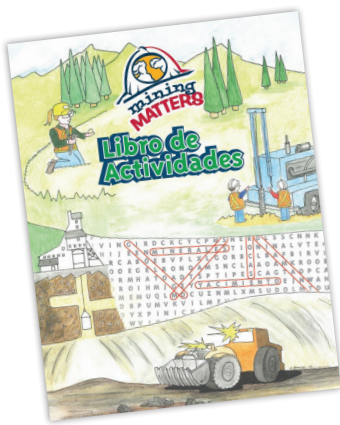
## Our Latest groundWORK Newsletter for Teachers

Our 2021-2022 edition of the **groundWORK** newsletter features dynamic content with full-colour images, fun activities, and relevant resources for educators. The issue opens with an article about the many uses and importance of critical minerals. Other content includes:

- Information about MiHR's new innovative mining industry career website "Mining Needs You"
- Program offerings, such as our new virtual escape room and workshops
- Useful resources for educators including podcasts, videos, and ideas for field trips
- Detailed instructions for elementary and secondary classroom activities
- An array of Earth science publications
- The inaugural edition of our new "Career Spotlight" feature.







## Resources in Spanish

In 2014, Mining Matters developed an activity book as an extension to our classroom resources. In 2019, we introduced a Spanish version of this book in response to many requests by attendees at the PDAC Convention. The translated publication has been extremely well received by our Spanish-speaking stakeholders.

### Spreading Knowledge – Deeper and Deeper

In 2020, we began a project to translate and adapt our popular resource kit for teachers, *Deeper and Deeper: Discovering Rocks and Minerals* into Spanish. Aimed at elementary grade levels, this kit comes with 38 lesson plans on topics related to rocks, minerals, responsible mining, soil, and erosion.

“It is a tremendous resource, developed by teachers for teachers,” said Kelly McBride, Coordinator of Teacher Training and School Programs.

Bluestone Resources generously provided a talented translator with a passion for mineral resources education to work with us on the adaptation. Ilianne Robredo, Executive Team Administrator for Bluestone, poured herself into every detail of this project, making outstanding suggestions on content revisions necessary to ensure suitability for Latin America.

The kit is packaged in a bin and contains student visuals, rock and mineral samples, and equipment. A great deal of effort goes into making these resource kits, with our team collecting, breaking, and bagging all the samples. There are over a hundred components with all the lesson plans, posters, books, fact sheets, games, samples and equipment provided!

Kit production and the creation of video tutorials will be completed this fall.

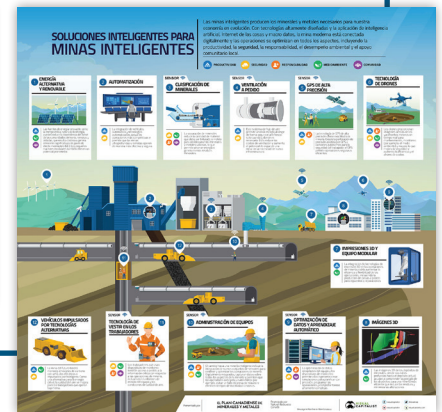
The first phase of this project has been made possible thanks to our partners:

- Bluestone Resources Inc.
- Consulate General of Argentina
- Lundin Gold
- Mining Awareness Program of Ideas de Meseta (IDM) Foundation
- Newmont

We look forward to working with Women in Mining Central America and Core Foundation as we move closer to piloting the program in schools. Thank you to the Canadian Museum of Nature, Natural Resources Canada and the Mining Association of Canada for providing Spanish publications in support of this project.

### Sponsors Needed

We are currently seeking financial support to introduce *Deeper and Deeper* into 30 Spanish-speaking schools as a pilot project, targeted for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please contact: [info@miningmatters.ca](mailto:info@miningmatters.ca) for information on sponsorship.



## Geological Society of America Online Conference

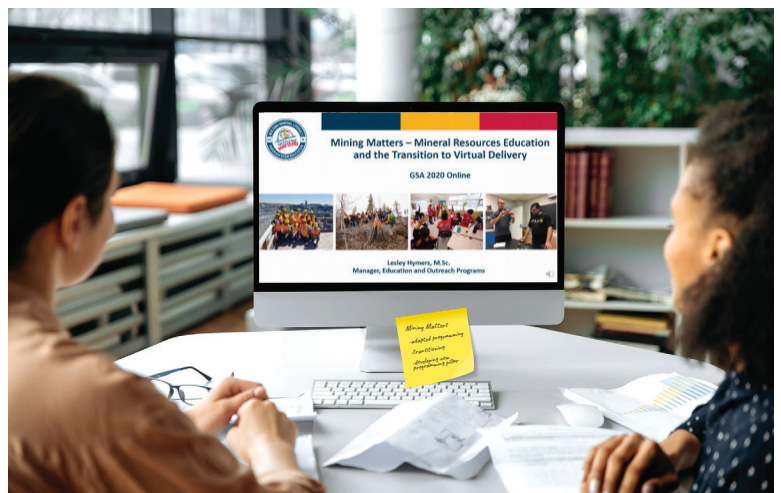
Mining Matters participated in the GSA Connects Online 2020 Conference, contributing a talk to the *Supporting and Advancing Geoscience Education Beyond 2020: Individual, Department, Program, and Institutional-Level Approaches to Student Success* Technical Session.

The presentation “Mineral Resources Education and the Transition to Virtual Delivery” outlined the ways in which Mining Matters adapted programming to the pandemic, transitioning from hands-on to virtual delivery, ultimately developing a new programming pillar. Examples of new practices, including redeveloping activities, rethinking approaches to program delivery, and identifying new partners in STEM education were discussed.

New initiatives were also described, including:

- DIY GEMS activities
- Synchronous and asynchronous student and teacher workshops
- Participation in virtual outreach events
- The creation of instructional videos to accompany hands-on resource kits shipped to communities across Canada

The talk was well attended with an audience of 147 delegates.



# International Minerals Innovation Institute Project



On January 20, 2021, the International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII) announced that Mining Matters was selected as one of four winners in the *2020 Diversity and Inclusion Challenge*.

The Challenge sought innovative project ideas to increase the numbers of Indigenous peoples and women in information, communications, and technology programs and occupations in Saskatchewan's minerals industry. Our two-year initiative, *Building Minerals Literacy with STEM – Teacher Training Project*, involves key partners from the Saskatchewan Mining Association, Ontario Tech University's STEAM 3-D Maker, and Simon Fraser University.

Our project will provide valuable training and resources for on and off-reserve teachers and students in Saskatchewan by implementing 40 classroom resource kits through in-service training workshops. Each kit will contain rock and mineral samples, testing equipment, visuals, videos, books, posters, games, maps, and over 30 lesson plans. Regional content will include existing educational content from the Saskatchewan Mining Association. In addition, a selection of the lesson plans was adapted in consultation with a Saskatchewan-based Indigenous education expert.

"We are delighted to be involved in this unique challenge," said Patricia Dillon. "Collaborating with an Indigenous education consultant, in addition to regional partners in education and industry, will ensure our resources are ideally suited for the classroom, address provincial curriculum expectations, and support teachers' professional development."

When it is safe to travel, Mining Matters will deliver three *Mining Rocks* Earth Science Programs for high school students and their teachers with the support of IMII. These in-person programs provide a hands-on educational experience in a classroom setting, tailored to the audience and unique needs of the community.

To learn more about the winning projects, please visit: [imii.ca/communications/imii/news/news-details/news/imii-launches-new-projects-aimed-at-increasing-indigenous-people-s-representation-in-the-mining-and/](https://imii.ca/communications/imii/news/news-details/news/imii-launches-new-projects-aimed-at-increasing-indigenous-people-s-representation-in-the-mining-and/)

## Engaging with Educators

This past year was especially challenging for educators tasked with teaching virtually—some for the very first time. As such, we were thrilled to have 255 teachers participate in our 2020-2021 virtual programs. These teachers could potentially reach an estimated 6,000+ students with the information and resources provided by Mining Matters.

### New Brunswick Educator Professional Learning Workshops

In August 2020, we contributed to two online educator professional development workshops led by the Quartermain Earth Sciences Museum at the University of New Brunswick. A comprehensive workshop about our junior resource unit, *Deeper and Deeper*, was delivered to 26 educators from across the province. The second workshop discussed incorporating inquiry-based learning into online science classrooms, with a significant focus on virtual Earth science instructional development.

### Ontario Association of Geographic and Environmental Educators (OAGEE)

A bilingual webinar highlighting classroom activities focused on mining and the environment was delivered to teachers attending OAGEE. Attendees investigated the importance of mining in our daily lives, the effects of resource extraction on the land, and the process of reclamation through hands-on activities focusing on methods of mining and the mineral resource development cycle.

### Sciematics

We collaborated with the Saskatchewan Mining Association to deliver a workshop during *Sciematics*, the Saskatchewan Science Teachers' Society's annual conference. Together, we shared curriculum-relevant information and resources available to teachers focused on rocks, minerals, metals, mining, and careers in the minerals industry.

### North Bay Mining Week Celebrations

Nearly all elementary schools in the region's four school boards received our *Deeper and Deeper* classroom resource kit. We received excellent feedback from teachers, including comments that the resource kit was "practical" and can be used "for years", and praise for the hands-on, easy to use material elements in the workshop.

Thank you to CIM Northern Gateway for their sponsorship of this extensive virtual workshop series. Thanks as well to Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord, Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario, Near North District School Board, and Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board for their collaboration.







# Mining Futures... for the Next Generation in the Mining Industry

## Encouraging Career Awareness in Youth

Following a two-year study on the context, challenges, and solutions for attracting youth to the mining industry, MiHR released the [Canada's National Youth Mining Career Awareness Strategy 2021-2026: Transformation, Innovation and Diversity](#) in May.

MiHR engaged Mining Matters to develop an inventory of mining-related career awareness products available in Canada, summarize curriculum connections by province and territory, and highlight links to mineral exploration, mining, and general career awareness in support of the strategy.

MiHR also launched a mining career awareness campaign and several useful tools to help Canadian youth see mining as an innovative, challenging, and rewarding career choice with the overarching theme: "We need mining. Mining needs you." A new [career website](#) showcases what modern-day mining looks like and includes:

- Job profiles
- A pathway tool to search entry positions
- Exploration examples as to where these careers may lead
- A short quiz to learn more about the history and necessity of mining

We look forward to using these resources and tools in our programs going forward.

## Indigenous Awareness Training

MiHR recently launched an Indigenous Awareness e-learning module that provides an introduction to the history and experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada while exploring topics related to Indigenous peoples in mining. This training provides examples of how the minerals industry respects Indigenous rights and reflects on how the sector can establish and sustain positive and effective working opportunities and relationships with Indigenous peoples.

Mining Matters is committed to enhancing Indigenous Cultural Awareness and relationships with Indigenous peoples. MiHR's e-learning module together with regionally specific training is mandatory for all employees and interns.

The module takes approximately one hour to complete and can be accessed free of charge on the MiHR website: [mihr.ca/inclusion-diversity/indigenous-awareness-training/](https://mihr.ca/inclusion-diversity/indigenous-awareness-training/)



**Indigenous Awareness Training**  
Supporting Canada's mining sector in enhancing awareness of and relationships with Indigenous peoples.

### Overview

MiHR's Indigenous Awareness Training provides an introduction to Indigenous values, histories, peoples and experiences. Learners reflect on their understanding of Indigenous histories, peoples and the vital roles we may all play to advance reconciliation in Canada. They will also gain enhanced awareness and the ability to build respectful relationships with Indigenous peoples in communities as well as in the mining workplace and supply chain.

# Mining Matters Far and Wide

The following map showcases our reach across Canada, in-person and virtually, over the past five years. Our virtual programs commenced in 2020.

## 2020-2021 Highlights

**1,800+**

Youth in Indigenous communities were engaged by our new GEMS Kits about geology, engineering, mining and sustainability.

**5,800+**

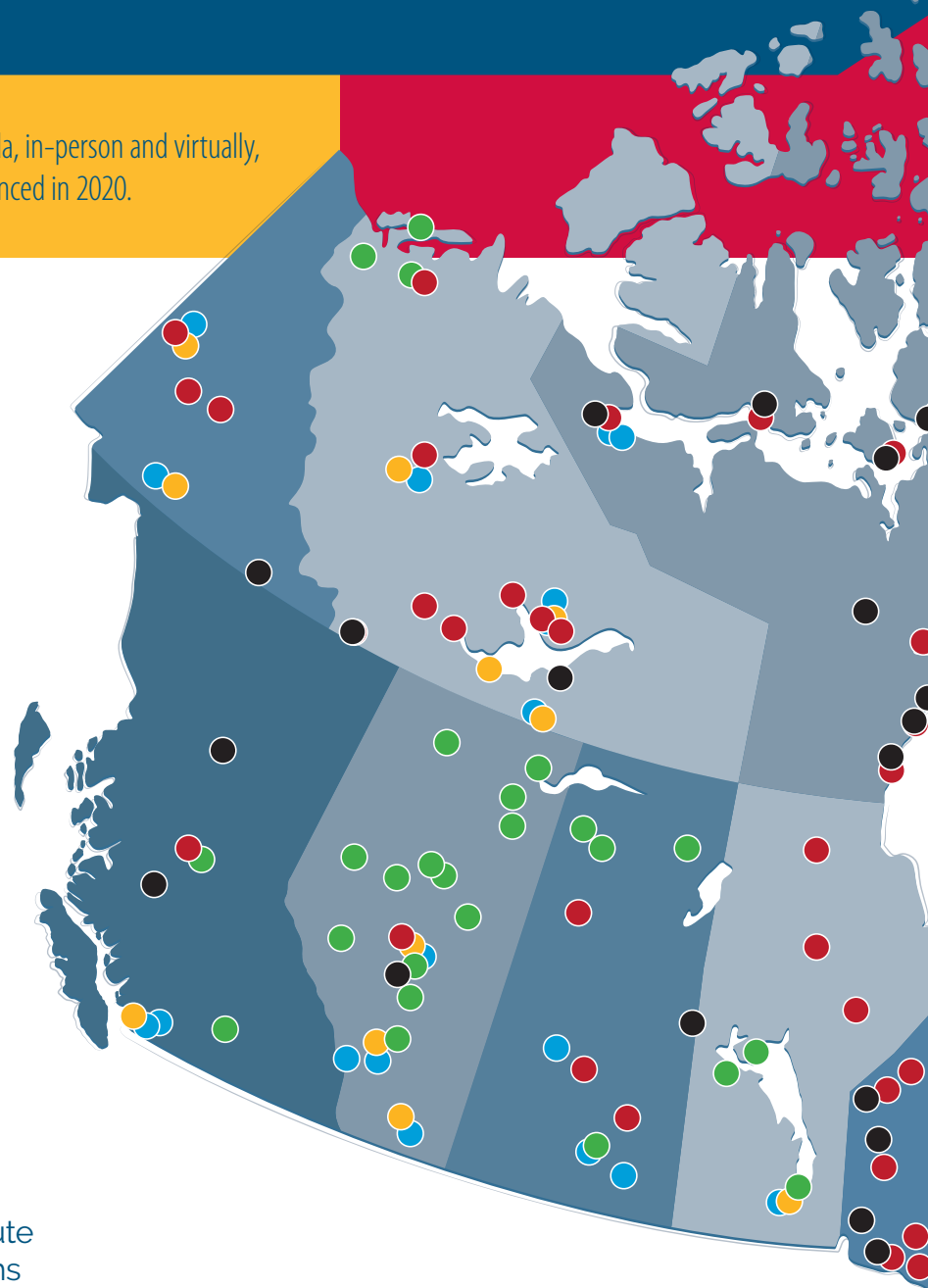
Participants engaged through our Outreach and Partnership Programs.

Partnered with over a dozen **STEM organizations** to contribute resources and support programs across Canada.

**8,000+**

Students benefited from virtual school workshops, partnership workshops and GEMS Kits.

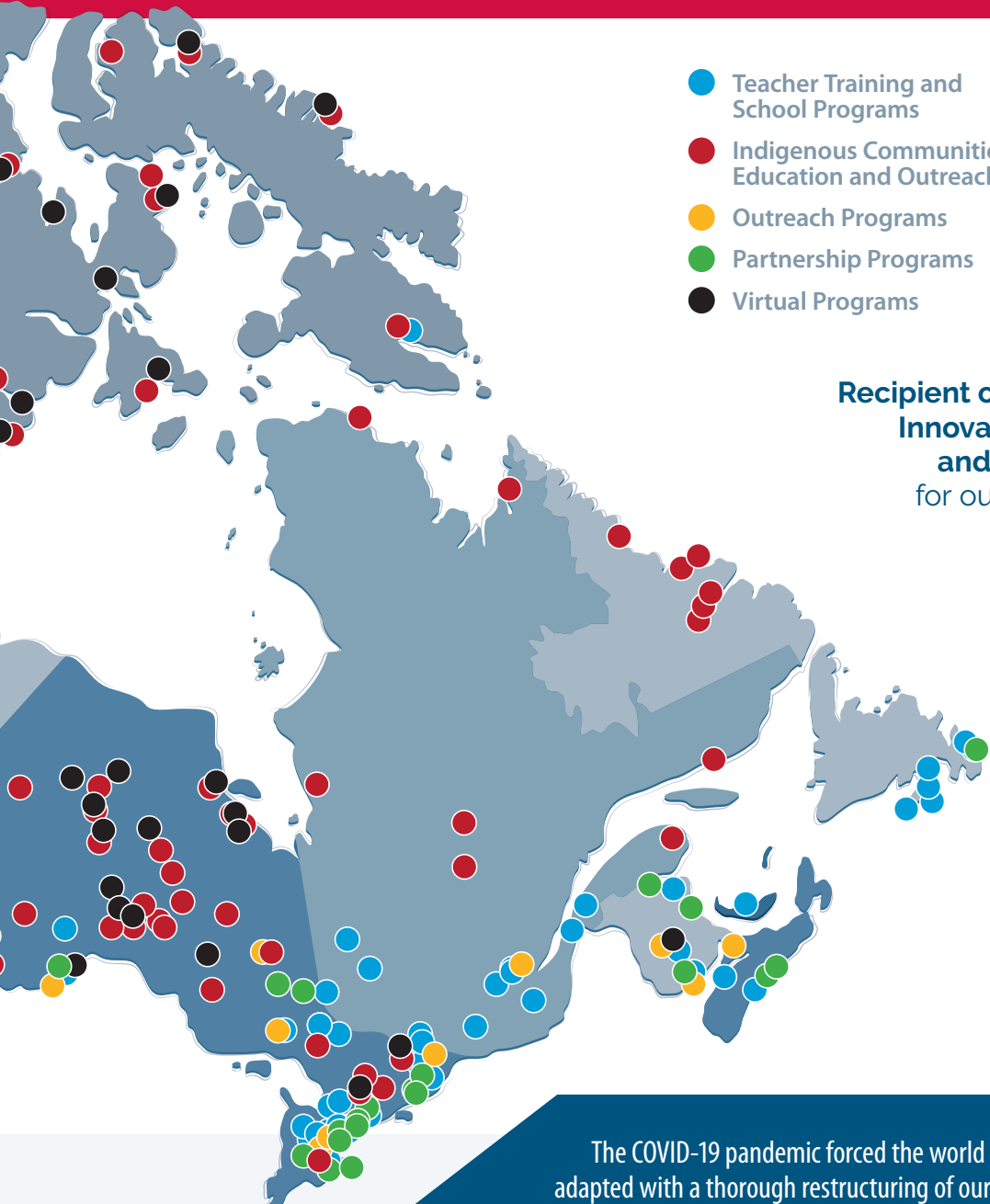
Developed new initiatives including the **WHERE Challenge Mini**, a **Coding and Robotics** workshop, and **Refuge Station**—our virtual escape room experience!





Online delivery and virtual conferences allowed us to expand our geographic reach to include members of the public across Canada, North America, and the world. In 2020-2021, Mining Matters had the privilege of participating in:

- Canada-Wide Science Fair: STEM Expo (Canada)
- Indspire: National Gathering (Canada)
- Science Rendezvous (Canada)
- WIM Central America (Central America)
- Geological Society of America Conference (International)
- PDAC Conference (International)



- Teacher Training and School Programs
- Indigenous Communities Education and Outreach Programs
- Outreach Programs
- Partnership Programs
- Virtual Programs

**Recipient of the International Minerals Innovation Institute 2020 Diversity and Inclusion Challenge Award** for our two-year initiative, Building Minerals Literacy with STEM Teacher Training Project.

**2,000+**  
Students and over 90 teachers from across Canada participated in virtual workshops.

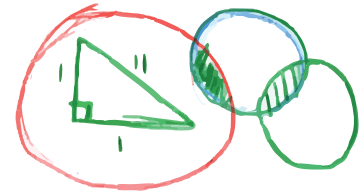
The COVID-19 pandemic forced the world online. The team at Mining Matters adapted with a thorough restructuring of our in-person delivery model to one centered around virtual offerings and pre-packaged activity kits. We consider this a successful transition, one that allowed us to continue providing quality geoscience education to diverse groups of students, teachers, and the public across Canada, in Indigenous communities and schools located in underserved communities, while cultivating and maintaining valuable STEM partnerships. We foresee our virtual offerings as a cornerstone of our core programming in the future.

# Partnering to Further STEM Education

Mining Matters regularly collaborates with partners in order to accomplish shared objectives.

“We rise by lifting each other,” says Lesley Hymers, Manager of Education and Outreach Programs. “In keeping with this positive approach to collaboration, we endeavor to partner with a variety of STEM-related organizations. These partnerships allow us to achieve a greater impact than we could accomplish on our own.”

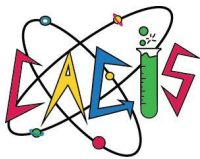
Below you will find an overview of our 2020 partnerships. Mining Matters would like to thank CIBC for their support of STEM Partnerships.



## APGO education foundation

### APGO Education Foundation

This foundation provides financial and other backing to promote a greater public understanding of geoscience. Their website [GeoscienceINFO.com](http://GeoscienceINFO.com) provides reliable information about the geology of Ontario and the processes that formed the province. Content from the site was included in GEMS Kits distributed to 450 youth in the “Ring of Fire” region of Ontario.



### Canadian Association of Girls in Science

We were invited by the [Canadian Association of Girls in Science](http://Canadian Association of Girls in Science) (CAGIS) to participate in one of their virtual workshops called “Minerals and Mining.” Our staff provided information to 72 participants about the roles minerals play in toothpaste and showed them how to make their own. CAGIS is Canada’s largest and longest running STEM club for girls and gender non-conforming youth aged 7-16.



### Central American Youth Mineralogical Club

Mining Matters contributed activity books, testing equipment, and rock and mineral samples to the recently launched [Central American Youth Mineralogical Club](http://Central American Youth Mineralogical Club). This initiative focuses on families with children ages 8 to 13 who want to learn about rocks, minerals, fossils, and geology.



### Frontier College

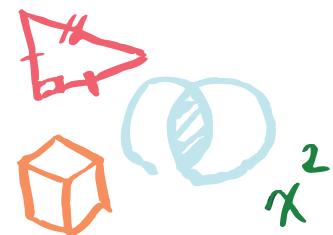
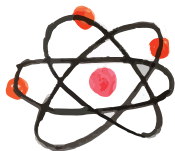
[Frontier College](http://Frontier College) is a national charitable literacy organization, founded on the belief that literacy is a human right. In addition to one-on-one support and literacy groups, the organization works in partnership with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit communities to deliver summer literacy camps.

Mining Matters provided comprehensive resource kits enriching the camp’s STEM component, for locations in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Manitoba, and Ontario. In 2020, 450 youth in 15 First Nation communities across three provinces benefited from our kits, which helped youth practice reading and writing skills while learning about rocks, minerals, metals, mining, and the environment.

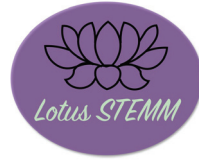
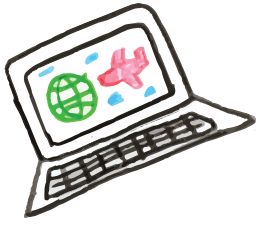


### Let's Talk Science

Six volunteer instructors from [Let's Talk Science](http://Let's Talk Science) participated in a training workshop called “What on Earth is in Your Stuff?” preparing them to promote the [WHERE Challenge](http://WHERE Challenge) to students and teachers. This opportunity followed another successful collaboration from spring 2020 wherein Mining Matters contributed an Earth science activity to the Let's Talk Science STEM kits through the Horizon Project. These kits were distributed to 75,000 participants, including 8,000 Indigenous youth!







### Lotus STEM

Our partnership with [Lotus STEM](#) provided an engaging synchronous learning workshop and engineering challenge for girls ages 10-15 and their parents. The mission of Lotus STEM is to provide a networking and leadership platform for South Asian women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Medicine.



### Relay Education

This spring, we collaborated with [Relay Education](#). Relay, a Canadian charity delivering programming about renewable energy, conservation, climate change, and green careers, contributed a wind turbine activity for kits sent to Nunavut. This activity included lesson plans, materials to build a wind turbine model with different blades, and LED light bulbs that students used to learn how electricity is generated from renewable resources.

Thanks to this partnership, more than 400 students learned about the importance of wind energy and the mineral resources that make it possible. In total, 141 kits were sent to five communities in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut.



### Royal Ontario Museum

Mining Matters produced a video providing an overview of the mineral resource development cycle for a new virtual workshop developed by the [Royal Ontario Museum](#) that incorporates coding while building mineral literacy.



### Snow Lake Mining Museum

The [Snow Lake Mining Museum's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock Doctor Day](#) was held on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at the museum. For those unfamiliar with the term, a "Rock Doctor" is what Snow Lake locals call geologists. We contributed activity books, colouring books, *Mining Makes it Happen* posters, and a card game called "What on Earth is in your Stuff?" to this event, which saw 75 people, including 31 children, attend.



### Superior Science at Lakehead University

We partnered with [Superior Science](#) at Lakehead University to deliver two three-hour workshops to their *Girls in Science Club*. The workshops focused on understanding the three rock groups, connecting minerals to everyday life, and creating a pendant with polished amethyst and copper wire. Superior Science strives to provide opportunities for youth in Thunder Bay and surrounding communities to engage in STEM activities.



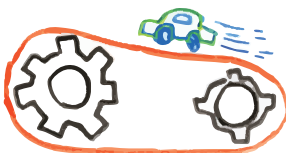
### Young Toronto Mineralogists Club

In January 2021, Mining Matters delivered a virtual workshop to a young group of enthusiastic rock hounds. Activities and experiments focused on fractional crystallization and crystal structure. [The Young Toronto Mineralogists Club](#) is for youth 8 to 15 years old with a scientific interest in rocks, minerals, fossils, and geology.



### Youth Moving Mountains at Yukon University

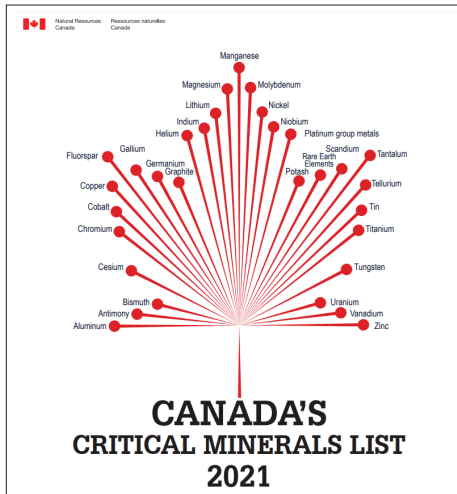
We were pleased to provide activities focused on the water cycle, geological mapping, and engineering, as well as samples for campers attending summer [STEM programs at YukonU](#). Youth Moving Mountains offers programming designed to inspire children and youth across the Yukon in STEM disciplines and the trades through creative hands-on activities.



# Future Initiatives

## Earth Science and the Sustainable Development Goals

Mining Matters initiated the development of a do-it-yourself educational kit to explore the essential role of Earth science in achieving the [United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#). The kits connect geoscience and sustainability through activities exploring the flow, use, and contamination of groundwater, the use of mineral resources in wind turbines, geological hazards, and water management in the minerals industry. The culminating activity sought to reinforce sustainability concepts and challenge students to assess their learning by connecting each activity to the relevant SDG. This coming year, we will enhance the kits and adapt them for virtual delivery.

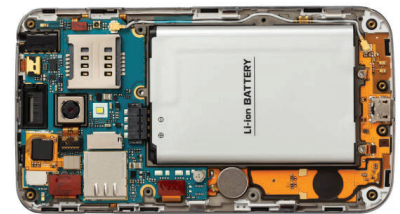


## Critical Minerals Matter

Since the Government of Canada released Canada's [Critical Minerals List](#) in March 2021, there has been a growing understanding of the importance of critical minerals and the potential they have for contributing to Canada's prosperity and security. We plan to play a role in raising awareness of critical minerals among teachers, students, and the general public through the development and delivery of workshops for high school students, and a new poster publication.

Student workshops will investigate the properties of select critical minerals and showcase why they are compelling from an engineering perspective. Students will deconstruct technology to explore what goes into smartphones and electric vehicles, connecting personal technology and green infrastructure to critical minerals. Workshops will also consider complex questions surrounding the role of critical minerals as we move towards a low carbon future – Where do the minerals come from? Who benefits? Does their extraction have an impact on communities or environments? Are there substitutes? What role could recycling play?

Our *Critical Minerals* poster will reveal minerals needed for aerospace, the auto industry, telecommunications, renewable power generation, and batteries. This poster will also showcase critical mineral exports essential to Canadian trading partners and highlight where they are found in Canada.



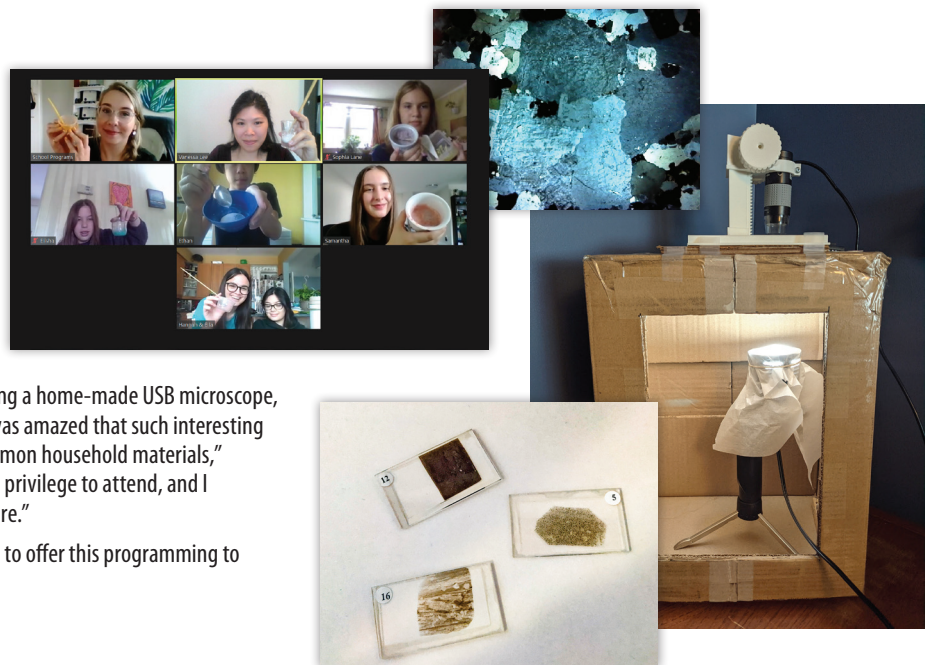
## High School Enrichment Program

During the summer of 2021, Mining Matters piloted a week-long virtual enrichment program for youth. In exchange for their participation and feedback, students received a certificate of participation and 12 community hours towards their high school graduation requirement.

Our objective for the pilot was to create a new program geared toward high school students that would complement and enhance their interest in geoscience, engineering, and the environment.

Activities ranged from hands-on engineering activities, such as creating a headframe from straws and tape, to exploring minerals and their crystallographic properties using a home-made USB microscope, examining them under cross-and plane-polarized light. "I was amazed that such interesting concepts could be presented with so much depth using common household materials," commented one of our Grade 12 participants. "It was truly a privilege to attend, and I sincerely hope it can be offered to more students in the future."

With the knowledge, testing, and feedback gained, we plan to offer this programming to high school students in the near future.





# Mining Matters Alumnae



## Cindy Li

Cindy interned with Mining Matters as part of her Co-op Program at the University of Waterloo in 2019. We asked Cindy to reflect on her time with us and how it has influenced her experiences since — here's how she responded:

“During my eight-month internship, I was able to combine my love for science and education by bringing Earth science programs to countless children across Canada. I was given the opportunity to see parts of Canada that not many people get to see. In remote First Nation and Inuit communities, I learned about issues and was exposed to stories that I would have otherwise never known. Those opportunities sparked my advocacy for Indigenous rights, and I continue to pursue an understanding of the ongoing conflicts and issues in working towards reconciliation. Mining Matters showed me how true passion can bring happiness in work.

“Mining Matters has never stopped providing me with exposure to the mining industry where I hope to pursue a career. Throughout my work term, I interacted and worked with industry partners, which prepared me for future work terms in the industry. Since my internship, I have worked with the *Groundwater Geochemistry and Remediation Research Group* at the University of Waterloo and this past summer, I worked with *Baffinland Iron Mines* as an Environmental Technician at their Mary River Mine in the Qikiqtani Region of Baffin Island, Nunavut. I will always be thankful for the experiences Mining Matters has provided to me as I continue my education in Earth and environmental sciences.”



## Jane Wilson

Jane worked with Mining Matters from 2017 to 2018 as an Instructor. Bursting with energy and enthusiasm for geology, she delivered multiple *Mining Rocks* Earth Science Programs in Ring of Fire communities and in other remote parts of Canada, as well as a number of *Rocks + Kids* workshops in the GTA. She now works as a geologist at a Canadian gold mining company.

“Working with Mining Matters gave me the opportunity to work directly with Indigenous people. I learned about their cultures and languages as well as just how diverse their peoples are. I am currently working for a gold mine in Nunavut where a significant portion of the staff are Indigenous. I have continued to learn about the Inuit culture and their survival techniques in the far north.



“Mining Matters helped to bridge the gap between those of us living in southern Canada and people who live in northern Canada, and gave me the confidence to speak with them candidly about our differences. I value the time I spent working at Mining Matters not only for the diverse work environment, but also for the unmatched opportunities to travel to remote communities and the eye-opening experiences it gave me working with and meeting people from all over the country.”



# Thanks to our Contributors!

We could not achieve our goals without you! We are deeply grateful to the corporations, organizations, government bodies and individuals listed on the following pages for their generous support.

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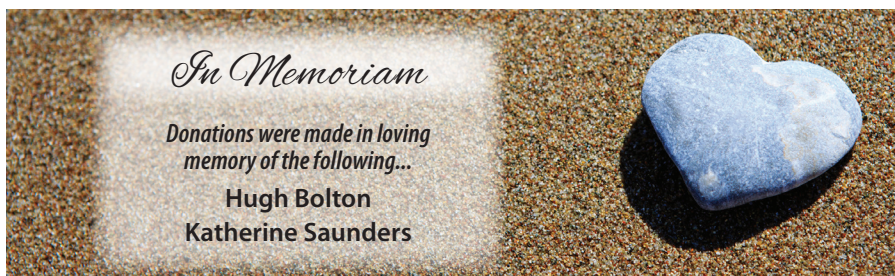
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# 2021 Silent Auction

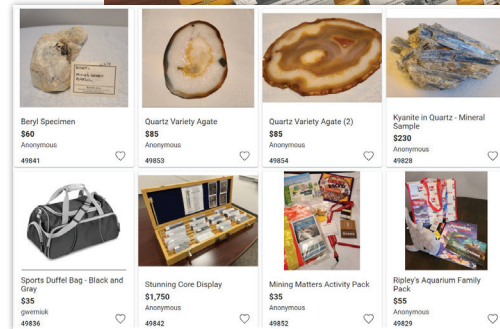
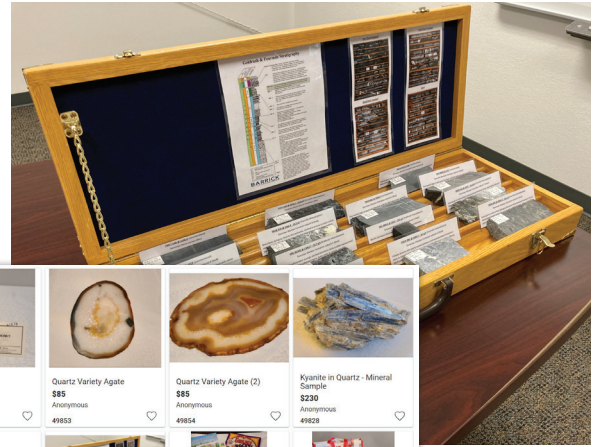
Mining Matters hosted an online auction during the 2021 PDAC Convention raising over \$7,500 for mineral resources education.

A highlight was the collection of core samples donated by Barrick Gold Corporation. The winning bidder, Laurie Curtis, donated the collection to the University of Toronto, Department of Earth Sciences.

"Other than field trips, one of the best learning tools we can offer geoscience students is drill core, which in itself is a rarity in most teaching collections. The opportunity to support Mining Matters by bidding on a set of two of Barrick Gold's recent discoveries in Nevada was too good to give up, especially since it will be donated to Geoscience at U of T where I arrived as a student 50 years ago," said Curtis.

Thanks to all those who donated items, our bidders, and to the PDAC for their continued support.

If you would like to donate an item or service to our 2022 auction, please contact [info@miningmatters.ca](mailto:info@miningmatters.ca).



**Building Mineral Literacy through STEM**

#GivingTuesday

Give the gift of mineral resources education.

Donate at [MiningMatters.ca](http://MiningMatters.ca)

## A Season of Giving

During the Fall of 2020, we participated in [Giving Tuesday](#), a global movement for giving and volunteering. We created a #GivingTuesday campaign in an effort to raise \$5,000 for our organization.

Our campaign began on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and ended on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. It consisted of a series of social media posts published weekly on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts. Each post focused on a different theme (health, livelihood, energy, safety) and demonstrated the ways in which mineral resources and the minerals industry contribute to our lives.

We exceeded our campaign goal, raising just over \$6,000. Thank you to everyone who donated! We are extremely grateful for your generosity and look forward to #GivingTuesday 2021. Follow us on social media to learn how you can join the movement this winter.

Instagram: @miningmatters

Twitter: @MiningMattersCA

Facebook: Mining Matters

LinkedIn: Mining Matters

## Congratulations Patricia! Hall of Fame Inductee and CIM Distinguished Lecturer

This has been an exciting year for our President and CEO, Patricia Dillon, who was named as a 2021 Canadian Mining Hall of Fame inductee in recognition of her many outstanding achievements in the minerals industry.

Patricia's dedication to our industry and its future has shone through her numerous leadership roles and initiatives, and her remarkable commitment to inspiring future generations in mining is a lasting legacy. She was inducted into the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the Aga Khan Museum in August of this year.

Patricia has been named one of the 2021-2022 Distinguished Lecturers by CIM. Her presentation explores the importance of supporting communities with mineral resources education.

Since earning a B.Sc. in Geology and a B.Ed. from the University of Toronto, Patricia's organizational and communication skills made her a force for change in the mining industry. Patricia's Canadian Mining Hall of Fame [tribute video](#) highlights her incredible achievements. Her most enduring legacy is Mining Matters, which celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019.





## How to Donate

Mining Matters is grateful for the contributions of many loyal supporters that have made our goals a reality. Your donation does make a difference! It provides the foundation for our important work and is critical to our ongoing vision of bringing Earth science to life.

As a charitable organization, Mining Matters is able to develop and deliver its programs due to generous financial sponsorship, donations and in-kind contributions from the mineral and aggregate industries, individuals, foundations, corporations, and government.

We invite new supporters to take up our cause and current supporters to continue so that we may carry on providing information about the importance of rocks, minerals, metals, and mining in everyday life, and about the diverse career opportunities available in the minerals industry to students, educators, and the public.

A charitable receipt will be issued for contributions of \$25 and greater. For more information or to donate, please contact [mfraser@miningmatters.ca](mailto:mfraser@miningmatters.ca).

### Donating Cash

Cash donations to Mining Matters are always welcome and are eligible for the Charitable Donation Tax Credit (CDTC). In addition, for individuals who have not donated previously to charities, there is the First Time Donor's Super Credit (FDSC). This applies to cash donations only. There are also provincial tax credits, which vary across the provinces.

Donate online today at [MiningMatters.ca](https://MiningMatters.ca).

### Donating Shares

Donating shares to Mining Matters may be of interest due to the considerable tax benefits that can be realized. The elimination of capital gains on stocks, bonds, and mutual funds means that a contribution results in a tax receipt equal to the fair market value of your gift. Rather than being subject to tax on 50 per cent of the gains for shares sold during your lifetime, accrued capital gains on donated shares are exempt from taxes.

To learn more, please contact Durham Sims, Mining Matters Investment Advisor at RBC Dominion Securities at 416-842-3086, 800-561-4468 or [durham.sims@rbc.com](mailto:durham.sims@rbc.com). Mr. Sims serves in a volunteer capacity with Mining Matters.

### Planned Giving

Mining Matters accepts planned gifts. These gifts enable individuals to make larger donations than they could make from traditional methods.

- **Bequests and Wills:** leave a piece of property, securities, cash or percentage of your estate.
- **Charitable Remainder Trust:** irrevocably make a gift through a trust agreement.
- **Endowment Fund:** provides long-term support. The principal remains invested; only the income is spent.
- **Life Insurance:** designate Mining Matters as the beneficiary on a new or existing policy or transfer the ownership of your policy to Mining Matters directly with a pledge to pay the premiums each year.
- **RRSPs/RRIFs:** name Mining Matters as the direct beneficiary of your RRSP/RRIF assets.
- **Securities:** donate bonds, mutual funds, stocks or other types of securities.

When considering a Planned Gift, Mining Matters recommends that you contact your professional advisor so that your legacy gift is tailored to your circumstances.

## 'The Spark' Custom Jewellery in Support of Mining Matters

In 2020, we were pleased to work with Delane Cooper, a Toronto-based jeweller, to design a unique custom pendant for Mining Matters.

The piece represents our mission to spark curiosity about Earth sciences in youth. \$15 of each purchase of a solid sterling silver or solid 14K gold necklace will be donated back to Mining Matters.

To learn more about the story behind this piece, visit [delane.ca/the-spark](https://delane.ca/the-spark).



# Who We Are

Mining Matters is a national charitable organization dedicated to educating young people to develop knowledge and awareness of Earth sciences, the minerals industry and their roles in society. We provide current information about rocks, minerals, metals, mining, and the diverse career opportunities available in the minerals industry. Mining Matters offers exceptional educational resources that meet provincial curriculum expectations, created by educators and Earth science experts.

Mining Matters has reached an estimated 800,000 teachers, students, and members of the public since inception in 1994.

## Our core educational programs are:

### Teacher Training and School Programs

*Bringing Earth science to life for students and teachers in classrooms and online across Canada*

### Indigenous Communities Education and Outreach Programs

*Opening a world of opportunities to youth in Indigenous communities*

### Outreach Programs

*Developing an awareness of the mining industry and sparking interest in Earth science learning in people of all ages*

### Partnership Programs

*Building partnerships with museums, schools, STEM organizations, and industry professionals to reach people in all regions of the country*

## Board of Directors and Officers

**Patricia Dillon**, President, CEO and Director

**John Heslop**, Chair and Director

**Lee Hodgkinson**, Treasurer and Director, KPMG

**Carol Burns**, Secretary, Aird & Berlis LLP

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**Don Bubar**, Avalon Advanced Materials Inc.

**Normand Champigny**, Québec Precious Metals

**MaryAnn Crichton**, Hatch

**Steven Reid**, CIBC Mining Investment Banking Group

## Our Team

**Laura Clinton**  
Executive Director

**Marg Fraser**  
Strategic Advisor

**Sarah Hahn**  
Coordinator, Operations, Communications and Events

**Lesley Hymers**  
Manager, Education and Outreach Programs

**Samantha Kobak**  
Coordinator, Operations

**Vanessa Lee**  
Coordinator, Education and Outreach Programs

**Kelly McBride**  
Coordinator, Teacher Training and School Programs

**Kasey Stone**  
Coordinator, Bilingual Programs

## Contact Us

### Mining Matters

1102 – 150 Ferrand Drive  
Toronto, ON M3C 3E5

T: 416-863-6463 | F: 416-863-9900

E: [info@miningmatters.ca](mailto:info@miningmatters.ca)

[MiningMatters.ca](http://MiningMatters.ca)

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