



Mineral Exploration Opportunities in BC

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Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia

B.C. Miners & Educators Workshop
March 24, 2010





About AME BC

“On behalf of its members, AME BC advocates for a healthy, sustainable and environmentally sound mineral exploration and mining sector in British Columbia”

Key areas of focus:

- ✓ Facilitating Successful Exploration
- ✓ Responsible Exploration
- ✓ Government and Aboriginal Relations
- ✓ Stakeholder and Public Awareness
- ✓ Mineral Exploration Roundup

“Established in 1912”





- **January 18 to 21 at The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver**
- **World's premier technical mineral exploration conference**
- **6,000 attendees from over 40 countries (27 year history)**
- **Trade Show, Technical Sessions & Short Courses**

Keynote Speakers

- **Charles Jeannes**
Goldcorp
- **Robert Friedland**
Ivanhoe
- **Peter Barnes**
Silver Wheaton
- **Paul Wright**
Eldorado Gold
- **Gordon Campbell**
- **Jean Chrétien**



BC's Competitive Advantage - Major Fundamentals Have Not Changed

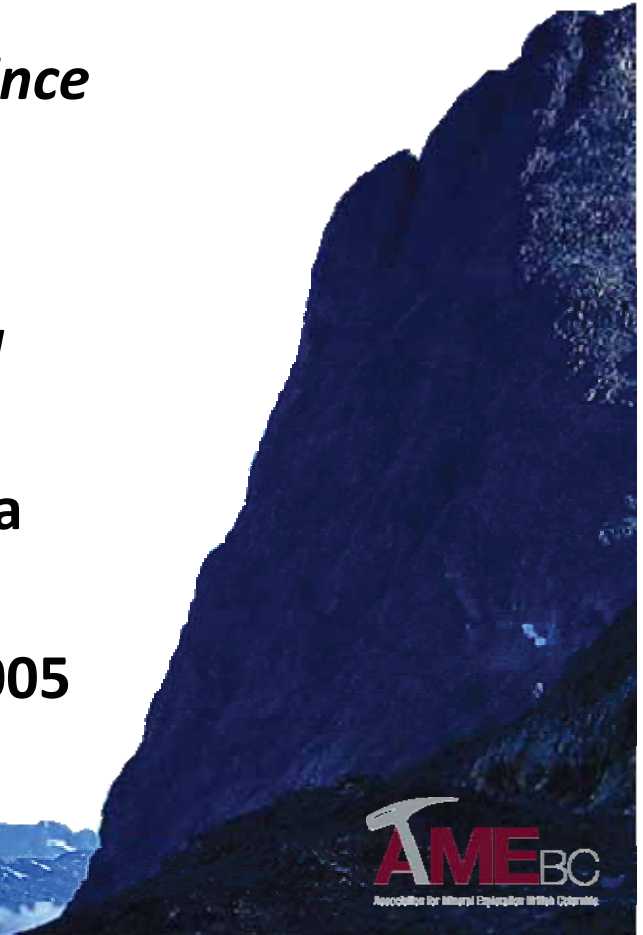
- **BC is a large area, geologically rich with high mineral potential**
 - **Copper, coal, gold, silver, zinc, molybdenum, lead, industrial minerals & rare earth minerals**
- **Proximity to Asia Pacific markets (80% mineral products are exported)**
 - **BC is top producer in Canada of copper, largest exporter of coal and only molybdenum producer**
- **World-Class Science / Geoscience / Engineering**
 - **Geoscience BC / B.C. Geological Survey**
 - **Geological Survey of Canada – Pacific Div.**
 - **UBC's MDRU / Institute of Mining**
 - **BCIT / UVic / SFU / UNBC / TRU**
 - **Regional Colleges / Schools**



Geoscience

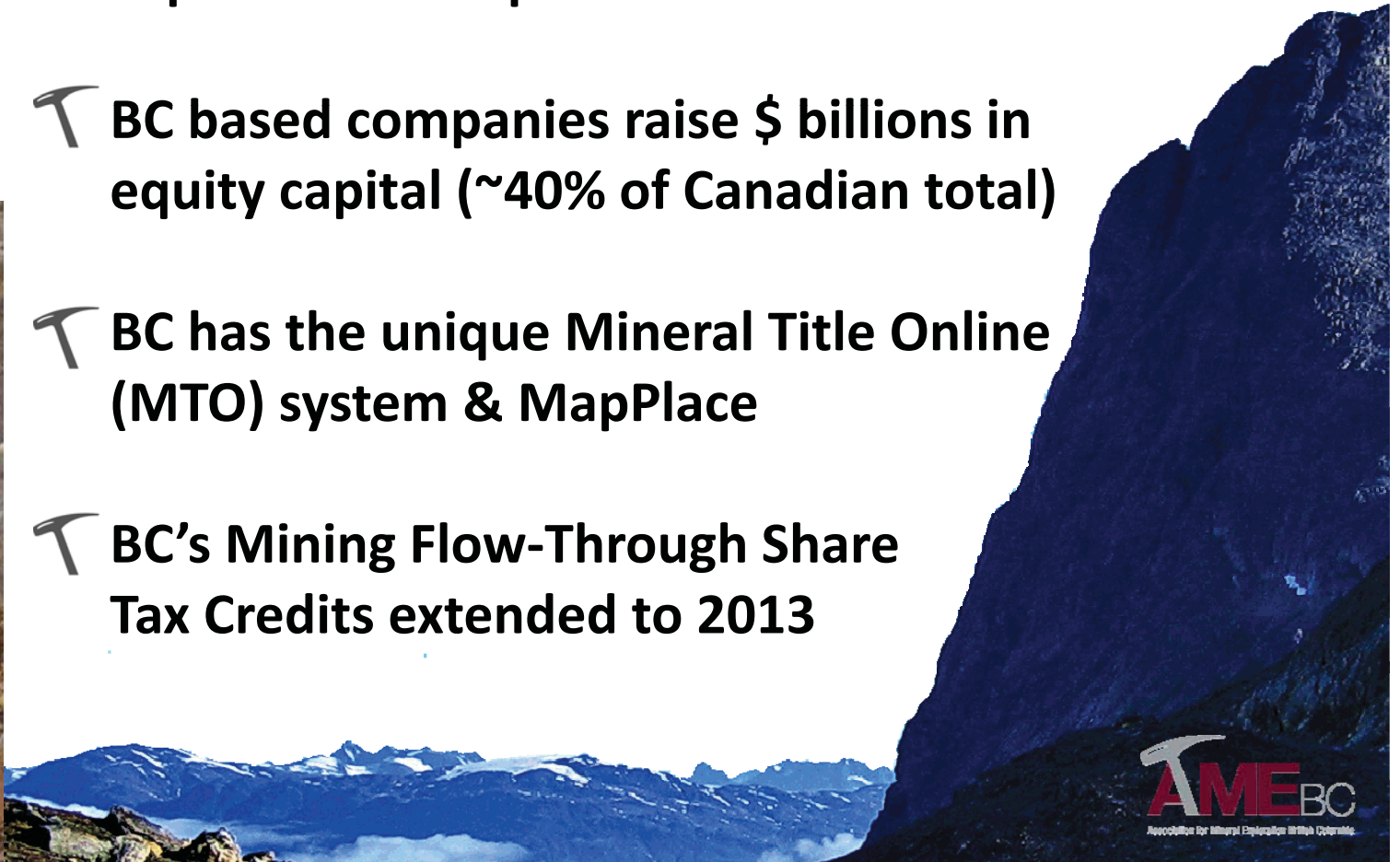


- Mineral exploration R&D
- B.C. Geological Survey
 - *“Creating staking rushes since 1894”*
- Geoscience BC
 - *QUEST Programs creating “Data for Discovery”*
- Geological Survey of Canada
- B.C. Mineral Database #1 in Fraser Institute survey in 2005



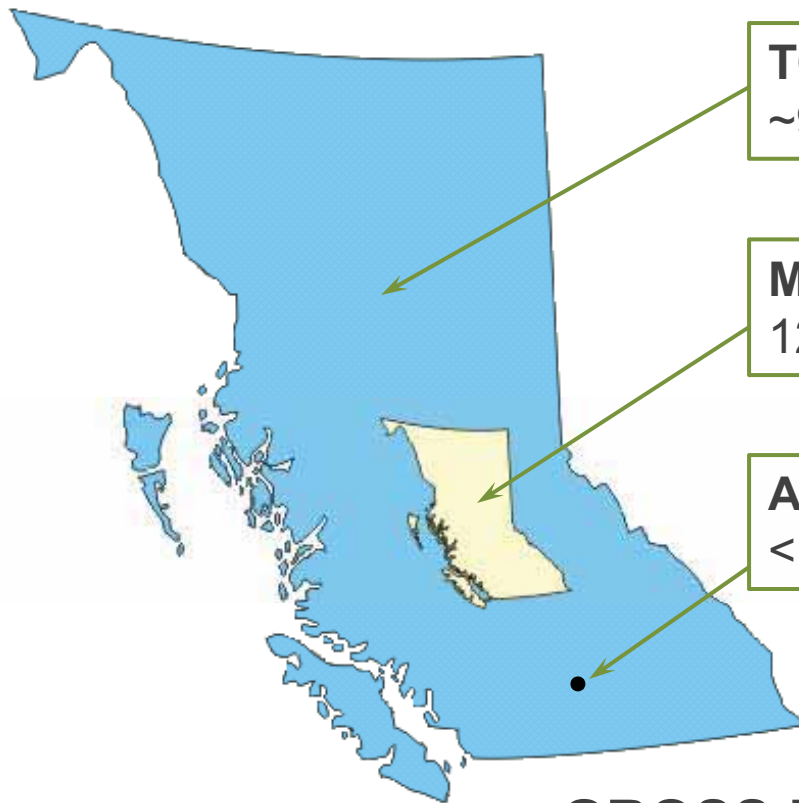
BC is a world renowned leader in mineral exploration and mining

- ⚒ Over 1000 (or 60%) of Canadian exploration companies are based in BC
- ⚒ BC based companies raise \$ billions in equity capital (~40% of Canadian total)
- ⚒ BC has the unique Mineral Title Online (MTO) system & MapPlace
- ⚒ BC's Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credits extended to 2013



Tiny Area of BC Actually Disturbed by Mineral Exploration and Mining

BC is under-explored, yet has produced great wealth



TOTAL AREA OF BC
~95 million hectares

MINERAL TITLE AREA~ 13.2%
12.5 million hectares (Nov 2009)

AREA DISTURBED BY MINING
< 50,000 ha or 0.04%

GROSS REVENUE ~ \$400 B

Mineral Wealth - Gross Revenue C\$

Select B.C. Examples

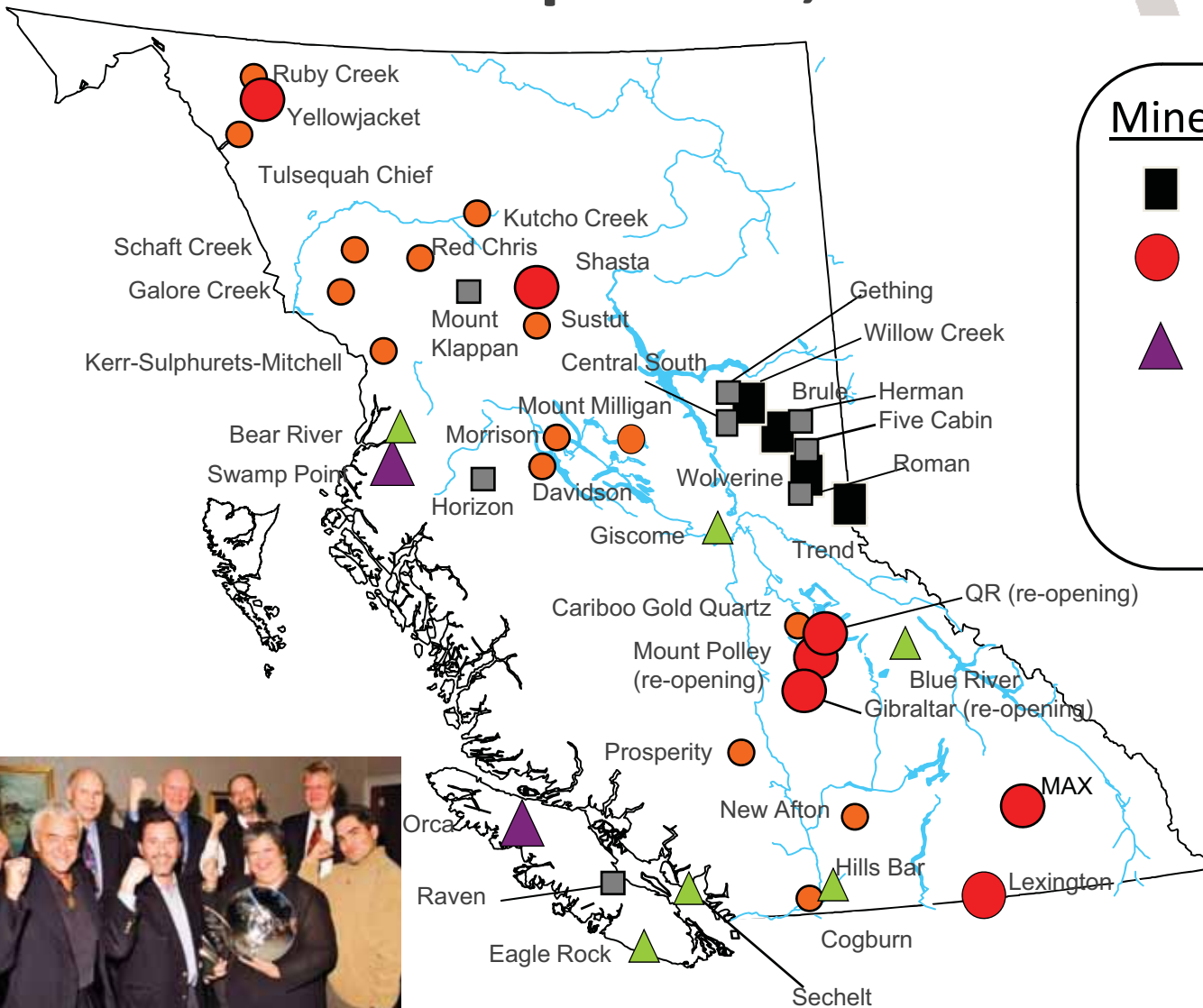
Total gross revenue, adjusted for inflation (2009)

Mine	Commodity	Gross Revenue
Fording River	Metallurgical Coal	\$ 60 Billion
Highland Valley	Copper - Gold	\$ 45 Billion
Sullivan	Lead - Zinc	\$ 40 Billion
Endako	Molybdenum	\$ 15 Billion
Gibraltar	Copper - Moly	\$ 8 Billion
Eskay Creek	Gold	\$ 7 Billion

BC Mineral Exploration & Development Highlights

- ✓ One of the safest industries in BC
(1 injury vs. average 3 injuries /100 worker years)
- ✓ Over 12,000 mineral occurrences in BC, with activity in all regions of BC
- ✓ Exploration expenditures are set to rebound in 2010 from \$154 million in 2009
- ✓ 115 significant exploration projects
- ✓ Over 25 projects with over \$1 million in expenditures in 2009
- ✓ More than 18 mine projects in early stage environmental assessment or permitting
- ✓ 6-7 major new projects at the advanced stage development

New Mines and Mine Developments, since 2005



<u>Mine</u>	<u>Development</u>
■	Coal
●	Metal
▲	Aggregate / Industrial Minerals

March 2010



Taseko's Prosperity Project

Case Study of an Mining Opportunity

\$100 million invested in the mineral exploration, engineering and scientific examination required to prepare the environmental assessment

Building the Prosperity mine will engage 700 construction workers for two years

During operation the mine will generate about 500 direct jobs for 20 years and another 1,200 indirectly

When producing, the Prosperity mine will inject \$200 million into the economy every year (equivalent to the 2010 Olympic Games)



Opportunities in Mineral Exploration in BC

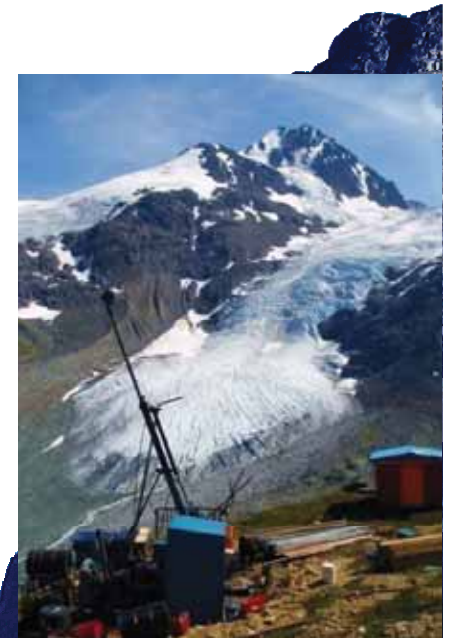
BC Mining & Mineral Exploration HR Task Force:

Geologist was the top occupation in demand identified by the industry, but exploration camps need many other critical people

Related occupations:

- Field Assistants / Geo-technicians / Prospectors
- Drillers and Drill Helpers
- Environmental / Health / Safety personnel
- Camp Managers / Expeditors
- Accountants, Lawyers, Engineers, Lab Technicians

Mining Industry Human Resources Council: Initiated first ever Canada-wide Mineral Exploration Sector Study Manager - Martha Roberts, Ph.D. , Chairman – Gavin C. Dirom



Exploration Geologist Profile



Name: Kendra Johnston
Employer: Silver Quest Resources Ltd.
Education: BSc in Earth Science and Geography

Kendra sees an exciting and challenging future for her in the mining industry. "My goal is to one day run my own company. I've said that since day one."

Kendra's role is different from the typical exploration field geologist. "Working for a junior company has allowed me to combine my technical background with my drive to learn the business side of the industry". Kendra is involved in all aspects of the company's exploration programs including planning, permitting, fieldwork and writing the assessment reports. In addition, Kendra is involved in the company's Corporate Development, Investor Relations, Marketing and Financing activities. On any given day, she might examine a technical report, plot drill holes for a new exploration program, create marketing materials, meet with financiers or brokers, or edit a news release or legal document.

Someone who can combine geology and business skills would do well in Kendra's position. She says, "They need a sense of adventure and an inquisitive mind. They'll get to see amazing places off the beaten track. But they also need to fit into a business suit – they have to like networking, attending meetings and conferences and being in the office." Making the right contacts is crucial. "The most important thing is to get out there and make connections, ask a lot of questions and be willing to learn."

Kendra loves working in BC because it has a supportive community of people who love what they do - there are over 850 mining companies in downtown Vancouver. "BC is also a great place to explore... "Hiking some of those mountains is the best trip to the gym one could ever ask for!"

CAREER PROFILE
EXPLORATION GEOLOGIST

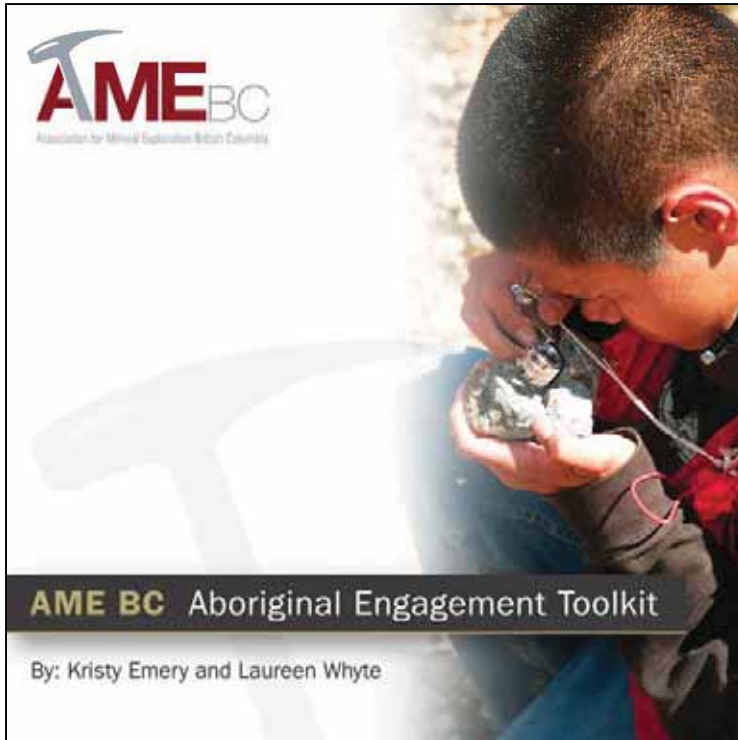
Human Resources

- **Baby boomer bust – demographic shift**
 - Even in a no-growth industry scenario:
7,500 workers needed in next 10 years
- **Youth, Women and Aboriginal training and employment opportunities will be key to the industry’s success**

“Mining is the largest private employer of aboriginals in Canada”



Aboriginal Engagement



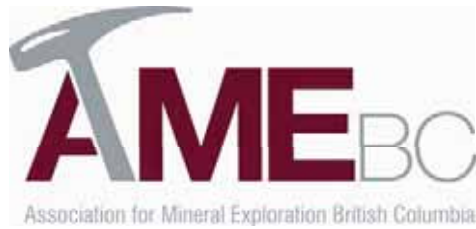
- **Aboriginal Engagement Toolkit**
- **Industry Working Group**
- **Working with First Nations Leadership Council**
- **BC Aboriginal Mine Training Association opportunities**



2010 – A Year of Opportunity to Explore for More British Columbia

- T Industry is on a strong uptick – BC can capitalize on this opportunity and create thousands of exciting jobs**
- T There are numerous projects throughout BC at all stages in the exploration and mine development process**
- T Multigenerational opportunity to make BC a world leader in mineral production, so let's not allow a lack of human resource training be a limiting factor**





Creating Partnerships



Boundary Mining Association



PEG – Prince George Exploration Group

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF
EXPLORATION & MINING



East Kootenay Chamber of Mines



MINING AND
MINERAL EXPLORATION

VIX – Vancouver Island
Exploration Group

Thank you, for further information



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