



NEWS RELEASE

47th Annual BC Mine Reclamation Award and Scholarship Recipients Announced

Burnaby, BC/Territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh) Nations– October 3, 2024 – The British Columbia Technical and Research Committee on Reclamation (TRCR) presented its annual awards at the TRCR’s 47th annual Mine Reclamation Symposium in Burnaby on September 25.

Glencore Canada received the Jake McDonald Mine Reclamation Award for the reclamation of the Central South bulk sample project and exploration area in north-central BC. Reclamation work involved moving and recontouring more than 300,000 cubic metres of material and reclaiming 56 kilometres of exploration trails and roads along with 96 drill pads. Reclamation activities included mounding to promote lichen survival and establishment in alpine areas as well in forested areas to create microsites for tree seedlings. To promote caribou habitat, conifer seedlings were chosen over shrubs in establishing cover to reduce attractants for other species. Glencore is recognized for their quality of work, extent of land reclaimed and completion of work of a high standard.

R.E. Postill and Sons were presented with the Sand and Gravel Category Award for their Rosebush Land Improvement Project at Coldstream Ranch in the North Okanagan. Following gravel extraction from a 68-hectare site on the ranch, the area was reclaimed with clean fill and topsoil and planted with a grass-legume mixture to provide forage for the ranch’s beef cattle operations. Reclamation of the area improved the agricultural capability to Class 2, or better across the site. Additionally, a reduced slope on part of the site has resulted in 9.5 hectares of new farmland that can now be cultivated.

Elk Valley Resources received the Coal Mine Category Award for the company’s approach to designing the reclamation of the West Line Creek rock spoil at their Line Creek Operations. The project employed an innovative geomorphic design approach using natural analogues for inspiration. The reclamation project, which is underway and to be completed in 2025, includes varying slope aspects and surfaces, a meandering gully and a steep original ground ridge to both improve visual quality and to provide connectivity to natural landscapes allowing wildlife such as bighorn sheep to use the area.

Dean Mackenzie was presented with the Tony Milligan Book Award for his paper, “[Forest surface soil management from textbook to operations](#)” presented at the 46th BC Mine Reclamation Symposium in Prince George, BC in 2023.

The TRCR is also pleased to announce its 2024 Jake McDonald Memorial Scholarship recipient. **Samantha Gidora**, a professional biologist, is pursuing a Master of Science degree in the Environmental Science program at Thompson Rivers University. Additionally, Ms. Gidora receives the poster award on her work in detecting bats via environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling.

More than 270 people attended the symposium including more than 210 people in person at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Burnaby Conference Centre; attendees ranged from biologists and engineers to students and representatives of Indigenous nations.

Next year’s 48th Mine Reclamation Symposium will be held in Penticton from September 22 to 25, 2025.

About the BC TRCR

The TRCR originated in the early 1970s in response to a demonstrated need in the British Columbia mining sector for greater government-industry communication in the area of environmental protection and reclamation. Membership is drawn from industry, provincial and federal government agencies, exploration and mining associations, and universities and colleges. The TRCR sponsors the BC Mine Reclamation Symposium. trcr.bc.ca.

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