

Mining Matters

NWCC'S SCHOOL OF EXPLORATION AND MINING (SEM) WELCOMES ROBIN CURRY

A respected member of the northwest BC minerals industry, Robin Curry is SEM's new Director, beginning October 1, 2010. She brings 20 years of experience in BC's mining industry to the position and will be guiding the School through growth of existing programs and introduction of new curriculum.

"When I left full-time employment in the minerals industry, it was with the hope that I would be able to share my knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the industry at a community level. Now I have that opportunity," says Curry.

She adds, "I know first hand the opportunities sustainable mining and exploration activities can offer individuals and communities. I look forward to working with the School's staff, students and partners as we develop curriculum and programs to serve the needs of the minerals sector and Northwest BC residents."

Since its inception in 2004, the Smithers-based School has won several regional, provincial, national and international awards, helping to put our town on the map.

NWCC's Expanded Smithers Campus Attracts the Kids

The School of Exploration & Mining plays an important role in Smithers largest downtown renovation. The updated NWCC campus will provide SEM with expanded classroom opportunities to complement its Ganokwa bush camp training facility 20 km from Smithers.

The campus is still under construction but has attracted attention from the Smithers students. Last fall, Taryn Lowe's Grade 3 class from St. Joseph's Elementary School came to visit the construction site as a field trip on the subject of foundations. The class's visit allowed College staff and faculty to build relationships in their neighbourhood and community, says NWCC Smithers campus principal Regina Saimoto.

"Having school-age children come to the campus builds familiarity with the College," said Saimoto, adding the field trip integrated college activities with the elementary school's curriculum, such as "structures."

As a partner in the School of Exploration & Mining, Smithers Exploration Group recognizes the important role the bigger campus will play in the growth of the minerals industry in northwest BC.

"Mining Matters" is a bi-monthly column written by Anastasia Ledwon, P.Geo., and welcomes your feedback and questions at general@smithers.ca.

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