



FOR RELEASE
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Award winners showcase environmental stewardship and excellence in mining

WHITEHORSE—The winners of the 2015 Robert E. Leckie awards were announced yesterday evening at the 43rd Annual Geoscience Forum and Trade Show banquet.

This year's recipients are Minto Exploration Ltd, Kaminak Gold Corporation and Caw Mining Ltd.

"The exceptional work of these companies provides a model for how our mining and exploration sectors can operate with environmental responsibility and with the support of our communities," Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Scott Kent said.

Minto Exploration demonstrated innovative and responsible management of its mine site, and continuously takes steps to protect the environment. The company's camp was constructed on disturbed ground to reduce the footprint of the project, and their original land treatment facility has already been reclaimed and replaced with a new facility to increase environmental protection.

The Kaminak Gold Corporation takes a proactive approach to incorporating environmental and social responsibility principles with adaptive planning and innovative responses at its Coffee property. The company repeatedly demonstrated exemplary practices and innovation in their ongoing efforts towards progressive reclamation while building capacity and advancing cooperative relationships with local communities and First Nations.

Placer mining company Caw Mining showed a commitment to environmental stewardship beyond the permitted requirements, and demonstrated a clear desire to leave the ground fully reclaimed for current and future generations. The company has conducted extensive reclamation work including cleaning up previous activity that had taken place at the site.

"I continue to be impressed by the nominations for the awards each year, which show how these innovative concepts have become ingrained in the normal operating practices of mining operations throughout Yukon," Kent added.

The awards are given in honour of Robert (Bob) E. Leckie, a Mayo mining inspector and innovator who was dedicated to the development of progressive land use practices for mining. The awards acknowledge companies who have demonstrated excellence in environmental stewardship, outstanding social responsibility, leadership and innovation in mining practices.

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Contact:

Dan Macdonald
Cabinet Communications
867-393-6470
dan.macdonald@gov.yk.ca

Sue Thomas
Communications, Energy, Mines and Resources
867-667-5809
sue.thomas@gov.yk.ca

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