

Mining in British Columbia: Towards a New Era of Exploration



The main points of interest at this year's Roundup are short courses, keynote addresses and technical sessions.

By Cecilia Jamasmie

Presented by the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia ([AME BC](#)), the [26th Annual Mineral Exploration Roundup](#), to be held from January 26 to 29 2009 at [The Westin Bayshore Hotel](#), will bring together organizations and people representing all components of the [global mineral exploration and mining sector in Vancouver](#), Canada. The theme of [this year's annual conference](#) is "The New Era of Exploration."

Although it now garners outstanding national and international interest and attendance, Roundup still maintains its focus on topics that are at the heart of exploration in Western Canada, bringing all aspects of the exploration community together under one roof.

Members and volunteers who organized the first conference in 1983 probably did not suspect that they were launching what would unequivocally become the "go to" technical conference for the global exploration community in Western Canada. The chosen timing of the conference could not be better. Traditionally held in the last week of January, Roundup coincides with the annual release of vital field data from the [Geological Survey Branch](#) and provides excellent preparation for the Western Canadian field exploration season.

Groundbreaking Workshops

Inclusiveness is an adjective that can be applied to this conference and could have been since its beginning. One aspect that is increasingly apparent is the involvement of First Nations. This year, for example,

the calendar of events includes a short course on "Aboriginal Engagement, Consultation and Sustainability in Mineral Exploration." Other sessions of interest include "Commodity Review: New Demands, Old Products" and "Exploration Targeting in a Business Context."

In addition to the presentations, Roundup attendees can visit the [Trade Show](#), the [Poster Session](#), the [Core Shack](#), the [Prospectors' Tent](#) and the [Map Tent](#).

The Trade Show presents an unparalleled opportunity to visit a wide cross-section of companies working in the mineral exploration and mining sectors.

The Poster Session highlights the activity and results of public geosciences and geoscience research activities, with a particular focus on BC and the Western



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Cordillera. It features the results of geological mapping, economic geology studies, new ideas, new technologies and access to geoscience databases. [Government](#) and university-related database systems and information, such as those found on [MapPlace](#) and other geoscience sites, are available live.

A cornerstone of Roundup, Core Shack showcases new discoveries, leading prospects, advanced projects and operating mines from around the world. Core Shack provides an excellent cross-section of new developments in the exploration and mining sectors. A new suite of the sector's most compelling projects will be displayed each day, with maps, cross-sections and the project's technical representative on hand to answer questions. Located in the Core Shack, the Prospectors' Tent provides an opportunity for BC and Yukon based prospectors to present their diverse mineral properties to the delegates attending Mineral Exploration Roundup 2009.

Running for the third consecutive year, the Map Tent has become, along with Core Shack, an ongoing and integral part of the technical foundation of Roundup. In this venue, participants will have a first-hand opportunity to review working maps and sections from generative exploration projects to mine development projects, which will provide an opportunity for discussion amongst explorationists.

Students Welcome

In cooperation with AME BC, the [Mineral Resources Education Program of BC](#) will once again be involving elementary and secondary students and their teachers in Roundup 2009. Roundup organizers are expecting more than 120 "Roundup Rockhounds" to attend this year after working on mineral resources educational units with their teachers in the fall.

While attending Roundup, these students will participate in a full day of learning opportunities, including a Trade

Show treasure hunt, gold panning with [Yukon Dan](#), listening to exploration geologists speak about their exciting work and talking with delegates and exhibitors to learn about the variety of careers and opportunities available in the mineral exploration and mining sector.

In addition to the students attending the conference, the Mineral Resources Education Program of BC will also showcase student artwork as the table centerpiece of the [AME BC Awards Dinner](#). There will also be a silent auction during the reception and dinner to raise funds for the program, which is a charitable organization.

The [Mineral Resources Education Program of BC](#) is a partnership program between teachers and the minerals industry in BC, created to assist teachers in their development of educational materials. ■

Mineral Exploration Roundup 2009
January 26 to 29, 2009
Westin Bayshore Vancouver
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Links and References

- [Annual Mineral Exploration Roundup](#)
- [AME BC Awards Dinner](#)
- [Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia](#)
- [BC Geological Survey](#)
- [MapPlace](#)
- [Mining in Vancouver: Industry Snapshot](#)
- [Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources](#)
- [Mineral Resources Education Program of BC](#)
- [Roundup 2009 Brochure](#)
- [Roundup Core Shack](#)
- [Roundup Map Tent](#)
- [Roundup Poster Session](#)
- [Roundup Prospectors' Tent](#)
- [Roundup Trade Show](#)
- [The Westin Bayshore Hotel](#)
- [Yukon Dan](#)

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