

# Whistler 2013: Geoscience for Discovery

September 24-27, 2013

Whistler, BC



## Press Release

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September 26th, 2013

For immediate release

The Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) and SEG Canada Foundation Whistler 2013 Meeting – Geoscience for Discovery – opened yesterday with 838 registrants. The meeting opened with Alex Christopher, Vice President, Exploration, Teck Resources Limited, accepting the Geoscience Community Award from the Organizing Committee. The award was given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the local geoscience community made by Teck to the mineral exploration community, the geoscience research community and British Columbians in general over many decades. Mr Christopher commented, [“We are honoured to receive this recognition from SEG and remain committed to continuing to support the geoscience community.”](#)

The meeting is benefiting from participation by students in Economic Geology who are making both oral and poster technical presentations. Thanks to the generous support of the meeting sponsors, 62 students from 14 different countries and 38 different universities were provided with financial support to attend the meeting, including transportation costs and accommodation, as well as reduced registration fees.

[“It is great pleasure to be able to enjoy the hospitality at Whistler and I am delighted to see that the conference is delivering beautifully in bringing excitement around the “Geoscience for Discovery” theme,”](#) said SEG President Antonio Arribas.

Scientific sessions during the day focused on global tectonics and metallogeny. A keynote presentation by JoAnne Nelson of the BC Geological Survey framed the current understanding of the distribution of metals and mineral deposits in the Cordillera (BC, Yukon and Alaska), summarizing decades of research. An insightful and inspiring keynote presentation by Tom Albanese, Rio Tinto Exploration, discussed the changing global environments for exploration and focused on the characteristics of successful exploration teams. He suggested that although the financial markets are volatile, [“cyclicality creates opportunity for team leaders with a long term perspective.”](#) Afternoon sessions focused on the Asian continent, with a keynote presentation by Gregory Collins of Eldorado Gold on gold in northeastern China, and a session on copper-molybdenum-gold mineralization. A keynote presentation by Jeremy Richards of the University of Alberta put forward a new theory on the similar genesis of certain iron-copper-gold deposits and copper-molybdenum porphyry deposits; the idea is an exciting suggestion that helps to understand the global distribution of these mineral deposits.

The SEG Awards Dinner was a highlight of the evening, where several members of the geological community were honoured. **Robert O. Rye** of the US Geological Survey was awarded the Penrose Gold Medal in recognition of a full career in the performance of “unusually original work in the earth sciences”. The SEG Silver Medal, which recognizes a scientist’s “excellence in original work in the geology of mineral deposits” was awarded to **José Perelló** of Chile. The Ralph W. Marsden Award for “outstanding service to the Society of Economic geologists” was accepted by **Allan P. Juhas**. The Waldemar Lindgren Award, which is given to an individual under the age of 37 in recognition of published research that represents an outstanding contribution to economic geology, was awarded to **Martin M. Reich**, also of **Chile**. The Brian J. Skinner award went to **Julie V. Rowland** from Australia, in recognition of her outstanding paper in Economic Geology.

The conference continues until Friday in Whistler.