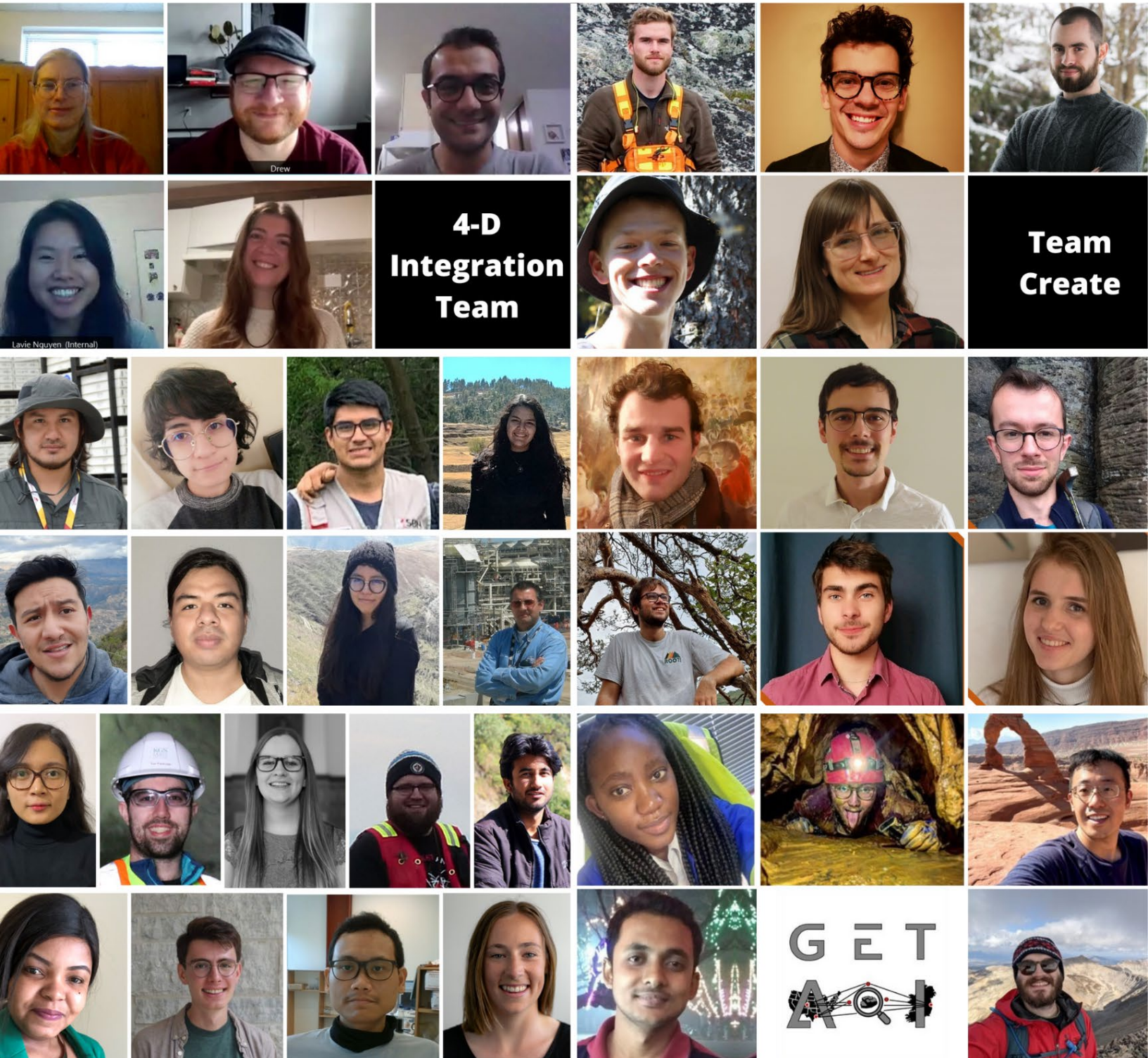




# NEXT GENERATION EXPLORERS AWARD



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2022

## The Frank Arnott – Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™)

The world future generations will inherit will be one highly dependent on meeting a growing demand for metals and minerals. With new deposits being more difficult to discover, innovative new exploration strategies are required to meet this demand. The mining exploration industry is facing its most significant skills shortage in decades and the global talent pool is having trouble keeping up. If mining exploration is to meet the challenges of tomorrow, it must be active in preparing and training the geoscientists of today. On behalf of the Next Generation Explorers Award Association, I would like to enlist your help in building a strong future for the mining exploration industry by requesting your sponsorship support for the NGEA™.

The NGEA™ is an international competition that provides a means for geoscience students to bridge the **real-world skills gap** by working collaboratively on an unstructured problem (i.e. one without a pre-ordained “right” answer). The participants are required to work with their peers using primarily high quality, government sponsored data over regional terrains with a proven mineral endowment and a high likelihood of additional resources. Following a series of preliminary judging cycles, the final contestants will present at the 2023 PDAC convention in front of international representatives of the mining, government and educational industries.

Our objective is to embed the NGEA™ as a permanent component of the global university curriculum in a similar way to the oil industry’s successful [Imperial Barrel Award](#). To accomplish this, we must align the education and mineral resource sectors to address key industry challenges:

**Readiness** - Studies show that the recruitment and retention of skilled geoscientists in the mineral resource sector continues to be problematic. It is becoming more difficult to find geoscientists with +5 years’ experience especially in hiring environments with 20 per cent turnover.

**Risk Reduction** - Recognising that effective integration and visualisation of data remains a key aspect of exploration risk reduction particularly as we explore deeper and under cover.

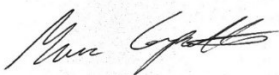
**Successful Collaborative Explorers** - It is imperative that we develop a sustainable source of enthusiastic and skilled geoscientists with the ability to collaborate and integrate multidisciplinary knowledge and approaches with the soft skills necessary to foster positive community and stakeholder engagement.

**Diversity** - We must do more to tap into the “buried talent pool” in the mineral resource industry. Diversity has many facets of which gender, capacity-building (in particular students from outside of Australia and North America) and thinking (i.e., machine-learning) are key focuses of the Award.

With your support, the NGEA™ will be integral in exposing young geoscientists to the collaborative challenges needed to find the next generation of mineral deposits. We look forward to working with you to meet these challenges and ensure the global mining industry remains strong for decades to come.

To learn more about NGEA™, please visit [www.frankarnottaward.com](http://www.frankarnottaward.com) or email us at [NextGenerationExplorersAward@gmail.com](mailto:NextGenerationExplorersAward@gmail.com).

Yours truly,



Marc Gasparotto  
Vice-President, Next Generation Explorers Award Association

## Sponsorship Opportunities & Benefits

The Frank Arnott - Next Generation Explorers Award (NGEA™) seeks sponsorship in support of the challenge. Financial contributions will not only help underwrite the costs associated with running the challenge and supporting the participants, they are key in shaping the readiness of future geoscientists to face the growing opportunities and challenges of mineral exploration.

There are three sponsorship tiers: Gold, Silver and Bronze. Sponsorship benefits vary according to tier and accrue as the tiers ascend. A Platinum sponsorship will be considered for exceptional contributions to the program from a company, foundation or philanthropist.

With your sponsorship, you will be recognised as a progressive leader in the geoscience community. The NGEA™ organising committee will actively promote your organisation/company as a preferred employer. To ensure a successful series of challenges, we are seeking a three-year sponsorship commitment where possible.

| Tier          | Amount<br>(\$CDN per year) | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bronze</b> | \$5,000                    | - Organisation/Company Logo on NGEA™ website and on digital and printed promotional materials.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Silver</b> | \$10,000                   | - The challenge promotes your organization as a preferred employer and provides you with early access to outstanding entrants.<br>- The NGEA™ committee will engage with HR teams to compliment your internal recruitment programs.<br>- The sponsors will be promoted leading up to the conference along with acknowledgement during the final presentations.                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Gold</b>   | \$25,000                   | - As a gold sponsor, you will have the opportunity to volunteer a NGEA™ judge. The judges will also be actively promoted throughout the challenge timeframe.<br>- Gold sponsors will be consulted on the choices of countries that will provide the challenge datasets. This provides sponsors the opportunity to support their internal exploration programmes.<br>- The NGEA™ committee will organise access to the competing students in recognition of your stature as a preferred employer. |

## Encouraging Words from Previous Winners

### **Victor Torres Pacheco and Sylvie Littledale, Inca Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Place - NGEA 2021**

*"Our team found the NGEA to be an amazing and realistic exploration experience as we were able to work with a complete geo-database and a multidisciplinary team with different levels of expertise and backgrounds. This allowed us to generate viable and robust exploration targets that considered ESG (environmental, social, governance) factors while striving for scientific excellence for the next discovery on the Yukon Plateau.*

*Taking part in this competition during the Covid-19 pandemic, despite its challenges, allowed us to work closely as a team with members in multiple countries. The NGEA also gave us the opportunity to build connections with others based on collaboration and foster friendships which we will always have going forward."*

### **Rebecca Montsion, PhD Candidate, Laurentian University and the University of Western Australia**

*"The 2017 Frank Arnott Award (FAA) Challenge provided me with the opportunity to explore new techniques that greatly benefit my current research. As a result of my participation, I was exposed to many aspects of mineral exploration that are often not part of academic research. I have become a much more rounded and informed geoscientist thanks to the FAA Challenge."*

### **Dr. Graham Heinson, Professor, University of Adelaide**

*"As a teacher, the project has changed my philosophy in how I engage with students, from 'what students learn' to 'how they learn'. Decoupling learning from summative assessment provided a sense of freedom to experiment with no penalty for failure. I am changing my approach in working with students from being a teacher to a mentor and team member."*

## About Frank

Frank Arnott (1951–2009) was an exceptional exploration industry leader. He championed innovative techniques that maximise the value of the multidisciplinary data that underpin modern exploration campaigns. Frank always looked for new and innovative ways to improve data processing methodologies and integrate multidisciplinary exploration datasets.

Frank was never constrained by convention and he was just as happy working on global datasets as he was working at the prospect scale. He was equally comfortable engaging with academia as he was with industry and often sought innovation in unfamiliar areas such as biomedical imaging, bringing back ideas to help solve exploration problems. His enthusiasm was infectious, and he was a wonderful mentor, a talented scientist, always passionate and committed to geophysical exploration.





**NEXT  
GENERATION  
EXPLORERS  
AWARD**

## A Special Thanks to Our Current Sponsors

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