

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Industry Recognized for Efforts to Clean Abandoned Mineral Exploration Sites**

*Recipient of Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Award*

*St. John's, NL - June 5, 2015*

The Restoration of Labrador Exploration Sites (ROLES) Inc. is pleased to receive the 2015 Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Award in the category of *Community Group or Organization*. The award ceremony took place this afternoon (June 5) at Admiral's Green Clubhouse in St. John's. The award was accepted by Kaylen Janes (Altius Minerals & Chair of the ROLES Board) and Ernie Ford (Nunatsiavut Government Environmental Enforcement Officer).

This recognition is awarded annually by the NL Department of Environment and Conservation, in partnership with the Multi-Materials Stewardship Board and the Newfoundland and Labrador Women's Institute. This award category recognizes "an organization, volunteer or service group which has taken action on a one-time or on-going basis through innovative initiatives to enhance the environment, while creating public education/awareness and involvement at the same time".

The ROLES Project is an industry-driven not for profit organization that was initiated by Altius Minerals in 2012. The ROLES Project aims to identify, inspect and restore abandoned mineral exploration sites throughout Labrador. The ROLES Project has removed hazardous material from 11 high priority sites; that includes more than 14,000 litres of diesel and gasoline, 260 fuel drums, and 24 large propane cylinders. Many of the aging drums were leaking contaminants into the pristine environment. The ROLES Project successfully contained and removed the hazardous materials. Much of this material was received by Vale at their Voisey's Bay Mine where it was incorporated into their waste management program for proper disposal.

The ROLES Project board is currently represented by: Kaylen Janes (Altius Minerals), Lela Evans, Brad King (Vale), Perry Trimper (Liberal Candidate), Ernie Ford (Nunatsiavut Government) and Brigitte Masella (New Millennium Iron Corp.).

The ROLES Project would like to thank our partners: Altius Minerals, the Nunatsiavut Government, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Vale, Aurora Energy, Universal Helicopters NL, Innu Mikun Airlines, Stantec Consulting Ltd., PricewaterhouseCoopers, Tata Steel Minerals Canada, Air Labrador, New Millennium Iron Corp, and Mining Petroleum Services. Recognition should also be given to the many community members throughout Labrador and Northern Québec that participated in interviews during the data collection stage

of this project. The ROLES Project continues to update these communities through the distribution of brochures in English, French, Inuktitut, two Innu-aimun dialects and Naskapi.

The ROLES Project is a great example of industry, Aboriginal governments and the Provincial Government working together to address a legacy environmental issue.

Many other abandoned mineral exploration sites have been identified by our organization in Labrador. In 2015, The ROLES Project aims to restore a large site on the shore of Okak Bay, Northern Labrador that contains 123 fuel drums. The ROLES Project hopes to attract additional funding to address remaining abandoned sites in the Central Mineral Belt (central Labrador) and Labrador West in coming years.

If you would like to learn more or become involved please visit [www.altiusminerals.com/environmental](http://www.altiusminerals.com/environmental) or email [kaylen@altiusminerals.com](mailto:kaylen@altiusminerals.com).