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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **British Columbia Geoscientist, Doug VanDine, P. Geo, FGC., receives 2015 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award.**

Vancouver — Geoscientists Canada is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2015 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award – Doug VanDine, P. Geo, FGC, P. Eng, FEC, FEIC, of Victoria, BC.

The Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award is given to recognize the achievements of an individual, who has made an outstanding contribution to the development and practice of professional geoscience and who has advanced public recognition of the profession in Canada in his/her capacity as a registered professional geoscientist.

To be eligible for the award a nominee must meet a number of specified criteria, which include: a solid career as a professional geoscientist, an outstanding record of voluntary service to the community, and service to Geoscientists Canada or to one of the provincial or territorial professional associations that regulate geoscience in Canada.

The award, which consists of a labradorite and marble sculpture made by a Canadian geoscientist artist, is given to a person in mid-to-late career.

This year's recipient, Doug VanDine, P. Geo, P. Eng, is Principal of VanDine Geological Engineering Limited of Victoria, BC. Doug's career as a Professional Geoscientist spans over 40 years specializing in geological and geotechnical engineering for civil engineering projects and the forestry industry, typically associated with natural hazards and landslide risks.

Announcing the award the President of Geoscientists Canada, George Eynon, P. Geo, FGC, FEC [Hon], commented: "It is most fitting to have one of Canada's leading experts on natural hazards and landslide risks as this year's recipient. Doug VanDine's work has played a significant role in reducing risk, preventing loss of life and reducing damage to homes and infrastructure in BC and elsewhere. His pioneering work on landslide recognition, analysis and prevention is a credit to our profession. Doug is a most worthy recipient!"

Doug has a Bachelor of Science (Engineering) in Geological Engineering and Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Geotechnical) from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Upon graduation he joined the Geological Survey of Canada and worked in BC and in the Northwest Territories. After working with Thurber Engineering and Gartner Lee Associates, and teaching at Queen's University, Mr. VanDine formed VanDine Geological Engineering Limited in Victoria, where he continues to practice today.

Many of Doug's professional contributions have made a significant improvement to the life and safety of the people of BC. As just one example, he assisted the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) in the development of its *Guidelines for Legislated Landslide Assessments for Proposed Residential Development in British Columbia*, which has reduced landslide risk associated with residential development in the province by improving



professional practice.

Mr. VanDine is the author, or co-author, of over 75 technical papers, conference papers and presentations and major reports; he was recently Scientific Editor of, and a major contributor to, the Geological Survey of Canada's *Canadian Technical Guidelines and Best Practices related to Landslides*; he is past President of the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique and is currently President of the Canadian Geotechnical Society.

In addition to his professional interests, Doug is actively involved in his community through his passion for music - both playing and volunteering in Victoria's local jazz and bluegrass scenes. He has also volunteered at the Royal BC Museum.

The citation for the 2015 award, which will be presented at APEGBC annual conference in Kelowna in October, will read as follows: *"In recognition for enhancing public safety by advancing standards of safety and professional practice in engineering and geoscience in the field of natural hazards."*

Nominations for this award are considered annually, although the award is not necessarily presented each year. Further details on the award criteria and nominations process can be obtained from the Geoscientists Canada website at [www.geoscientistscanada.ca](http://www.geoscientistscanada.ca)

Geoscientists Canada's Mission is to support its constituent associations in their efforts to improve effectiveness of regulation in Canada and achieve excellence in the geoscience profession.

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Contact:

Oliver Bonham, P.Geol.

CEO - Geoscientists Canada

200-4010 Regent Street,

Burnaby, BC V5C 6N2

Tel : 604.412.4888

[obonham@geoscientistscanada.ca](mailto:obonham@geoscientistscanada.ca)

[www.geoscientistscanada.ca](http://www.geoscientistscanada.ca)