

PDAC President Raymond Goldie Bolsters Toronto's Status as Global Mining Investment Capital in Lead-Up to PDAC 2024

written by InvestorNews | February 29, 2024

In an enlightening conversation with InvestorNews host Tracy Weslosky, Raymond Goldie, President of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), unveiled details about the highly anticipated PDAC 2024 Convention. Scheduled for March 3-6, 2024, in Toronto, this event marks a continuation of PDAC's legacy, now entering its 92nd year, as the premier global gathering for leaders, executives, government representatives, students, scientists, and enthusiasts in the mineral exploration and development sector. Goldie emphasized the convention's significance, highlighting its role as the industry's event-of-choice, reflecting PDAC's longstanding influence and reach.

Jeff Killeen on PDAC 2024: Shaping the Future of Critical Minerals and Mining

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In a recent Investor.Coffee interview, Jeff Killeen, Director of

Policy and Programs at the [Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada \(PDAC\)](#), highlighted the association's role beyond organizing its annual convention. Scheduled for March 3 – 6 in Toronto, the [PDAC 2024](#) Convention is a significant event, but PDAC's involvement in the industry extends further. They engage in continuous advocacy, working closely with provincial and federal governments to shape policies and strategies that address the challenges and opportunities within the mineral exploration and mining sector such as the critical minerals flow through programs.

Jeff outlined PDAC's strategic plans, focusing on enhancing public understanding and demonstrating the industry's importance in modern living. This strategy aims to shape public perception, acknowledging its significant impact on the industry's future. Jeff's ambition for PDAC is to be recognized as a thought leader, with the organization's extensive programming covering various topics from commodity performance to community relations and indigenous-industry interactions. This positions PDAC as a pivotal source of knowledge and innovation in the field. Additionally, Jeff when asked about market trends noted a recent increase in uranium exploration and investment, especially in Saskatchewan, highlighting nuclear power's role in a low-emission future.

Established in 1932, PDAC represents the Canadian mineral exploration and development industry's interests. Based in Toronto, Ontario, the association boasts approximately 7,200 members and is staffed by 25 full-time employees. Its annual convention in Toronto is a globally recognized event, attracting up to 25,000 attendees from over 130 countries. The convention is renowned for networking, deal-making, and discussions on current industry issues, trends, and technologies. PDAC's advocacy work is crucial, focusing on government policy issues relevant to the mineral exploration industry, including land

access, Indigenous affairs, international affairs, responsible exploration, finance, taxation, geosciences, and health and safety, thereby enhancing Canada's position as a prime destination for mineral investment.

To access the rest of this interview, [click here](#)

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About Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC)

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community, an industry that supports 719,000 people in direct and indirect employment, and contributes \$106 billion to Canada's GDP every year. Representing over 6,000 members around the world, PDAC's work centers on supporting a competitive, responsible, and sustainable mineral sector.

To learn more about PDAC, [click here](#)

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Fresh From Toronto: Three Mexican Beauties

written by InvestorNews | February 29, 2024

Don't know the reason, stayed here all season

Nothing to show but this brand new tattoo

But it's a real beauty, a Mexican cutie

How it got here, I haven't a clue..." – Jimmy Buffet, Margaritaville

No, I wasn't down on the beach in Mexico with Jimmy Buffet, nor did I get a new tattoo. But I did spend four days in Toronto at PDAC – the largest mining conference in the world, sponsored by the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada.

This was the first PDAC conference in over two years, since March 2020. After that (I'm sure you recall!), much of the world shut down for Covid. But now it's all getting back on track and this year's event was one for the record books. For example, there were lots of people – so many that the Toronto Police were outside for crowd control.

Much happened in Toronto this past week, but I'll skip the vignettes and nail down on the main point.

After a period of not being able to travel, visit sites, keep up to date with things, etc., at PDAC I reconnected with three great Mexican mining plays, and each one is a "real beauty" per

the Buffet approach.

One is an up-and-running producer that mines ore and makes money. One is a prospect generator that's doing quite well in the search for copper, silver and gold. And the third is a promising silver explorer, working in classic silver country.

Here's a summary:

The producer is [Avino Silver & Gold Mines Ltd.](#) (NYSE American: **ASM** | TSX: **ASM**) (**Avino**). The company works near Durango, in a silver district that dates back to the mid-1500s (yes, almost 500 years!). Spanish conquistadores found silver, and successors mined the area for several centuries. The silver made Durango quite a wealthy venue for a time.

Since 1968, Avino has been taking the old Spanish and Mexican mines even deeper, into richer and richer ore bodies. I visited the site a while back, and in one excursion to the 800-foot level, I saw a massive face of near-pure sphalerite (ZnS) – zinc sulfide. This is just some of what comes out of the lifts, other ores bearing lead, silver and gold.

Like many companies, Avino was forced to slow down during Covid, but it's now firing back up to a hot pace. It sells high-quality metal concentrates into a strong market – one key buyer is Korean giant Samsung. Now, Avino is on a growth track, and whatever happens with the rest of the stock market – crashing lately, you may have noticed – this “beauty” is positioned to move ahead and do well through the turmoil and out into the other side.

The next “beauty” is [Riverside Resources Inc.](#) (TSXV: **RRI** | OTCQB: **RVSDF**), a company that has been working in the northern state of Sonora for 20 and more years. Over time, Riverside has accumulated a large portfolio of mineral claims. Its business

model is to team up with third parties to spend what management likes to call “other people’s money” on exploration and early-stage development.

Right now, the strong suit for Riverside is its relationship with mining giant BHP. That is, BHP is funding a major effort by Riverside to identify large-scale copper plays in Mexico. In this regard, BHP pays the overhead while Riverside works through its list of exploration prospects to match geologic potential to what BHP wants to see.

There’s serious upside from the fact that Riverside has already identified a good number of copper deposits that may suit BHP, as well as other deposits that are not exactly a BHP-match, yet still hold great upside for other development by other companies down the line.

In a world of future high demand and fading supply for critical minerals, Riverside is positioned to shine.

The final “beauty” on the list is a silver exploration play called [Minaurum Gold, Inc.](#) (TSXV: MGG | OTCQX: MMRGF). And yes, the name says gold but the exploration focus is definitely silver.

Minaurum works around the town of Alamos, in southern Sonora. This too is an old silver district from Spanish days, when miners pulled native silver – elemental “wire silver” – out of massive veins near the surface. In fact, there was a Spanish mint there for quite a while, which coined silver currency for use across old Mexico and the Spanish empire.

Old-style mining could only go so deep, though. And today we know that there’s a massive complex of mineralized rock remaining to be explored. It all lies beneath a vast, ancient, caldera-collapse volcano, with extensive “ring dikes” spreading

outwards in all directions.

I've visited the site, and while it's quite rugged it is also a promising exploration locale. Minaurum has released strong drilling results to date, with more to come. And again, in a world of monetary turmoil and looming shortages of critical metals – silver among them – this “beauty” deserves a good, hard look.

That's all for now. Best wishes to everyone as we all navigate the [current market and monetary rough seas](#).

Byron W. King