



**Mary MacDonald**  
**Secretary**  
**Women in Mining-Northwestern Ontario**

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As a second generation woman in mining in Northern Ontario, Mary's family ties to the mining and subsidiary industries are unmistakable. Third youngest of eight, exploration in the Sudbury region was a natural past time with a Grandfather in Red Rock and Family along the north shores of the great lakes to Thunder Bay. Northern Ontario has offered opportunities to explore some of the distinct wonders that continue to stimulate a passion for studies in Geology and Earth Sciences.

During the Oil & Gas exploration boom, many opportunities supported a career as a Geologist and the time spent with the Institute of Sedimentary and Petroleum Geology (Geological Survey of Canada) offered a firsthand opportunity to work with some extraordinary Geoscientists while studying at the University of Calgary.

Large industry opportunities led to a career within the Engineering design sector, experience within large construction mobilization, and the launch of a technical design company. Some contracts such as teaching CAD (Computer Aided Design) at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology were incredible experiences giving a direct awareness of inequities facing our new and young professionals without adequate support.

Returning home to Northern Ontario in 2014 has led to studies at Lakehead University where the integration of hard rock mining geology has intensified her passion for the Geosciences. The re-launch of her business, learning about local industries, and having the opportunity to be part of some excellent initiatives that may help others find their path has given her so much pleasure. She endeavours to be a reliable advocate for education, sponsor progress for women & new professionals in Geosciences, and be an environmental protection watchdog for our northern communities. She believes strongly in the famous quote; "With greatness comes great responsibility" – and honours our northern communities as pretty great.