

minerals^{ed} connections

Mineral Resources Education Program of BC

Fall 2026

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Welcome Back to School!

Welcome back! Whether you're returning to a familiar classroom or starting somewhere new, MineralsEd is fired up for another year of hands-on Earth Science learning. Please join us in welcoming our new Partner-Teachers: *Allegra Whistler*, *Tanya Conley*, and *Shelly Jones*!

This year's programming is stacked with returning favourites and exciting new opportunities to explore. Mark your calendars for **October's Provincial Professional Development Day**! We're bringing back our **GeoTour Field Trip of Stanley Park**, and our **Natural Resources Harbour Cruise** is set to sail again. Be sure to take advantage of *early bird* pricing before **October 7**.

We're also excited to introduce a brand-new workshop led by our very own *Peter Bond*. Explore our new **Critical Minerals Resource Unit**! Lastly, after a short break, our popular **K-Grade 3: Kids & Rock** workshop is back, presented by our Partner-Teacher *Ann Brace and Kerry Lockwood*. We're thrilled to bring this hands-on, engaging workshop back for another year.

Dig into our Fall edition of **MineralsEd Connections** and stay connected by signing up to our *Newsletter* for monthly e-updates. Here's to a fantastic year of learning, exploring, and discovering!

Best wishes,

The MineralsEd Team

Junior Geologist Workshop

Our popular Junior Geologist Workshop is back - and so is early bird pricing! Available both virtually and in-person, this workshop brings hands-on learning to classrooms across BC and Canada.

Junior Geologist Workshop | 3 Hours

Students explore the rock cycle and discover how the physical properties of rocks reveal their origins. They'll also learn how rocks and minerals are used as non-renewable natural resources. All materials and tools are provided.

BOOK NOW - EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
FROM NOW UNTIL OCTOBER 7, 2026 BOOK OUR VIRTUAL/IN-PERSON
WORKSHOP AND GET 25% OFF!
<https://bit.ly/junior-geo>

By Teachers, For Teachers

MineralsEd Fall Pro-D Day Field Trips: October 23, 2026

MineralsEd is pleased to offer an array of in-person workshops and field trips for the **Provincial Pro-D Day** on **Friday, October 23, 2026** (page 2-3).

Natural Resources in Vancouver Harbour Cruise - Downtown Vancouver

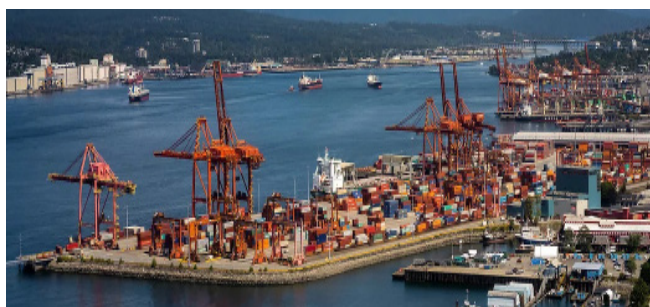
Join MineralsEd for a boat tour of **Vancouver Harbour** to see Canada's natural resources trade in action. The **Port of Vancouver** is Canada's largest and most diversified port, moving more cargo than the country's next five largest ports *combined*. Home to **29 major terminals**, the port is able to handle the a range of cargo - connecting Canadian businesses to over 170 global markets.

In 2025, the port handled a record 170.4 million tonnes of cargo, and approximately **\$305 billion in goods**. This half-day cruise loops around the Burrard Inlet for a close-up look at many of the terminal operations. Terminal representatives will be on board to share their knowledge and expertise about their operation and the natural resources they handle.

Register before **October 7th** to get the **Early Bird Discount!**

Registration (Early Bird: \$30 | Regular: \$60):

<https://HarbourCruise2026.eventbrite.ca>



GeoTour Field Trip - Stanley Park, Vancouver

Did you know? Stanley Park was once buried under nearly 2 km of glacial ice!

Join us on the seawall for a **guided 3-hour walk** of **Stanley Park**. Explore the geological history of Vancouver, uncovering evidence of *rock formation, surface processes, glaciation*, and the region's *tectonic history* along the way.

So get outside, get curious, and come with us to see Vancouver's geology from a whole new perspective! This **interactive** field experience is designed to provide teachers with practical resources and ideas they can bring back to their classrooms.

Participants will also receive a **field trip guide** and **support packet**, to help support their own GeoTour with their students.

Registration (\$20):

<https://StanleyParkGeotour2026.eventbrite.ca>



GEOSCIENTIST IN THE CLASSROOM

Ignite curiosity in the classroom with a direct link to real-world geoscience expertise! Register for our classroom sessions where passionate geoscientists virtually or in-person engage with students on a range of topics: Rocks and Minerals, the Rock Cycle, Geology of BC, Fossils, Volcanoes and Earthquakes, Geoscience Careers, and more!

Sign-up: <https://bit.ly/GeointheClassroom>

MineralsEd Fall Pro-D Day Events: October 23, 2026

MineralsEd will be offering a variety of in-person workshops and field trips for the **Provincial Pro-D Day**. Workshops will be taking place across the Lower Mainland. Check out our fall term offerings below!

Each workshop includes a teacher's binder with background information and classroom activities, support materials (USB, posters, activity books, bookmarks, and more), and rock and mineral samples. You can browse the MineralsEd workshops here: <https://bit.ly/MEResourceUnits>

Intermediate Integrated Resource Unit on Mining

This Resource Unit takes a thematic approach to mining and Earth Science, designed for the Grade 4 - 6 curriculum with strong cross-curricular integration. The **Rock Star 101** presentation introduces participants to **mining and geology in B.C., rocks and minerals**, and the **rock cycle**. Teachers then get hands-on by exploring their **MineralsEd Rocks and Minerals Kit**, practicing their rock identification firsthand. From there, participants dive into ready-to-use lesson plans and activities, covering: the **history and future of mining, mining and the environment, uses of rocks and minerals, mining careers**, and more!

Presented by **MineralsEd** Partner-Teacher Andi Eisler and MineralsEd Staff.

Location: Maple Ridge Secondary, Maple Ridge

Registration (\$50): <https://IIRM-Pro-D-2026.eventbrite.ca>

K-Grade 3: Kids & Rock Resource Unit

Kids & Rocks is back! Designed for the **K-3 curriculum**, this hands-on unit explores **earthquakes, volcanoes, mining communities**, and **careers** - connecting **geology** to **language arts, math, music, art, social studies**, and **drama**.

The workshop provides practical, **ready-to-use activities** that bring Earth science into the classroom and encourage younger students to learn through **exploration** and **discovery**.

Presented by **MineralsEd** Partner-Teacher Ann Brace and Kerry Lockwood.

Location: Maple Ridge Secondary, Maple Ridge

Registration(\$50):<https://kidsnrocks-2026.eventbrite.ca>

EARLY INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S USE OF ROCKS & MINERALS WORKSHOP

This Resource Unit is composed of six stations that explore different methods of how early indigenous people utilized rocks and minerals. Educators can practice flaking their own stone tools, painting with mineral pigments, and carve soap!

Developed as an inquiry-based student challenge to accompany the B.C. Intermediate level curriculum, this resource is multi-disciplinary, enabling teachers to incorporate core and curricular competencies from Science, Social Studies, English Language Arts, Arts Education, and Applied Design, Skills and Technologies (ADST).

Presented by **MineralsEd** Partner-Teacher Dale Maingot.

Location: Maple Ridge Secondary, Maple Ridge

Registration (\$50): <https://EIURM2026.eventbrite.ca>

CRITICAL MINERALS RESOURCE UNIT NEW WORKSHOP!

MineralsEd is offering its **first** Critical Minerals Resource Unit this fall! This unit is designed for Grade 11-12 to explore what critical minerals are, why they are important, and the *environmental, economic, social, and Indigenous impacts* of mining.

Through hands-on activities, research, and discussion, students will develop a deeper understanding of the benefits and challenges associated with critical mineral development. This unit connects Earth science concepts to real-world issues in British Columbia and around the world.

Presented by **MineralsEd** Partner-Teacher Peter Bond.

Location: Carson Graham Secondary, North Vancouver.

Registration (\$25): <https://CriticalMinerals2026.eventbrite.ca>

AME Roundup 2027: Minerals For Tomorrow (January 25 -28)

In partnership with the [Association for Mineral Exploration \(AME\)](#) and [Teck Resources Ltd.](#), and [Wheaton Precious Metals](#), [MineralsEd](#) is thrilled to announce we'll once again be attending **AME Roundup in 2027** - the largest annual mineral exploration conference in western Canada, **AME Roundup** is a must-attend event for anyone passionate about the industry.

Last year, our programs sold out in record time as we increased capacity. Don't miss out this year - sign up early to secure your spot. **Registrations for both programs open early October!**

We're also excited to bring back our **Rockhounds program** at Roundup, with students from Beaconsfield Elementary (Grade 6/7) and Elsie Roy Elementary (Grade 4/5) joining us this year. Interested in bringing Rockhounds to your classroom for **2028**? Email us at info@MineralsEd.ca to find out how to get involved!

Secondary Student Career Exploration Day - Monday, January 25

This exceptional program gives high school students an insider's view of the exciting and diverse career paths in the mining and mineral exploration industry.

Students connect directly with a panel of early-career professionals from the geosciences to trades, who will share their personal stories and expert advice to help guide their next steps.

Tailored for students passionate about Science, Geology, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Geography, and Trades or anyone curious about exploring new career horizons.

Teachers' Professional Development Day - Tuesday, January 26

This one-of-a-kind event offers BC educators a golden opportunity to dive deep into the captivating world of the mineral exploration industry, uncovering the vital role it plays in Canada's economy and the exciting career possibilities within this essential industry.

Next year, we're exploring how mineral exploration helps secure the resources needed for tomorrow, with industry leaders showcasing the geology, expertise, innovation, and partnerships shaping Canada's future. Discover how educators can bring the story of exploration into the classroom and inspire the next generation to help build a strong and sustainable future.

FREE MineralsEd Resources

Visit the [MineralsEd](#) website to view all the free resources available!

- Order a **FREE MineralsEd Sample Pack** with posters, activity books, bookmarks, and more by sending us an email at info@mineralsed.ca!
- Request one of our free online quizzes for your classroom: [Junior Geologist Quiz](#), or [Rocks and Dirt Video & Quiz](#).
- Discover the wonder of mineral exploration and mining throughout the province by visiting the [MineralsEd](#) interactive [B.C. Mines Map](#) or try out our [Virtual Mining Scavenger Hunts](#).
- View our [YouTube](#) channel for a collection of our geoscience videos.

Looking for something else? Try searching our [Virtual Library](#) with hundreds of resources for your Earth Science units.

