

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sudbury's Sean Israelson represents Sudbury at the CIM Conference and Exhibition in Toronto

The EXTREME VR EXPO runner-up was awarded an all expense paid trip to showcase his project

Toronto, ON, May 12, 2009—Sudbury's Sean Israelson is in Toronto this week to present his EXTREME VR EXPO project to an international audience at The Canadian Institute of Mining Metallurgy and Petroleum's (CIM) National Conference and Exhibition. Sean's project—"Using Google SketchUp to model and predict the economics of ore mining"—won him second place at the finals in Sudbury and the prize is an all expense paid trip to Toronto to make the presentation to a wider audience.

"Sean impressed the judges in Sudbury with his firm understanding of the mining process and the intricate 3D model he created himself," said Wijdan Malik, Education and Outreach Coordinator at MIRARCO. "Presenting at the CIM conference and Exhibition is a great learning experience for Sean and an opportunity to network with mining industry professionals."

Israelson consulted with MIRARCO staff before travelling to Toronto in order to supplement his knowledge about the various aspects of mine design. The 11th grade student of Lockerby Composite School is part of the Specialist High Skills Major —Mining Program (SHSM-Mining). The new partnership between SHSM-Mining and EXTREME VR gave those students the opportunity to earn credits toward their high school diploma while participating in the expo and learning to create 3D models.

At the CIM Conference and Exhibition, Sean presented the mine model he created in Google SketchUp as well as an actual mine model provided by MIRARCO. The actual mine model was created and shown in MIRARCO's ParaViewGeo.

The first place winners of the EXTREME VR EXPO will travel to Vancouver in June to present at the Canadian E-Learning Conference.

MIRARCO— Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation, founded in 1998, is a not-for-profit applied research and technical service company formed through collaboration between Laurentian University and the private and public sectors. MIRARCO is located in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, and serves as an innovation bridge between researchers and industry. Visit www.mirarco.org for more information.

Youth Science and Technology Outreach Program (YSTOP) — EXTREME VR is supported by the Ministry of Research and Innovation's YSTOP program. The program is designed to inspire young people—particularly high school age youth—to choose careers in science and technology. The program accomplishes this by providing youth with face-to-face interactions with Ontario's leading-edge researchers and technologists in meaningful hands-on science and technology experiences beyond the classroom and curriculum.

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