INTERMIN PROJECT AT THE PDAC 2021 VIRTUAL CONVENTION



Brussels, March 2021

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) has wrapped up its first-ever virtual convention that happened between March 8-11, 2021, receiving positive feedback and industry accolades. The annual PDAC Convention is the premier event of the world's mineral exploration and mining industry that brings together mining executives, geologists, government officials, investors, analysts, and students from around the globe. With over 7,200 members around the world, PDAC's mission is to promote a globally responsible, vibrant and sustainable mineral sector that encourages leading practices in technical, operational, environmental, safety and social performance.

At the <u>PDAC 2021 Virtual Convention</u>, attendees had access to a customized platform where they could visit exhibit halls, network with colleagues, and join. This new virtual format allows attendees to continue networking by sending direct messages to other participants, engaging through text lounges, and watching educational sessions and newly added content for three months post-convention, until June 1, 2021.

INTERMIN Project's virtual booth at the PDAC 2021:

INTERMIN Project was present at the EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) stand within the European Commission's virtual booth. The European Commission booth also hosted European Commission initiatives and representatives as the <u>European Raw Materials Alliance</u> and <u>EIT Raw Materials</u>, and projects from H2020 (the EU research programme for research and innovation), EU countries, and small and medium-sized enterprises.

The INTERMIN Project presented information in different formats such as the video, brochures, roll-ups, presentations about the global and international network of educational and training centres for professionals in the raw materials sector. Interested attendees could interact with the INTERMIN Project Coordinator (Mr. Manuel Regueiro of the Geological Survey of Spain, IGME) and EGS Secretariat representatives involved in the project through one-on-one meetings and live text-based chats to raise awareness about INTERMIN activities and to be engaged in discussions.

During the conference, INTERMIN representatives had spread the news about the project to potentially interested parties that had a stand in the convention. The parties include training centres, universities, students' chapter, mining journals and magazines.

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Background message from the EU:

Everyone has the right to quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning that develops key competences and basic skills. Key competences and basic skills are needed by all for personal fulfilment and development, employability, social inclusion and active citizenship. The European Council has adopted an updated Council Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning. The approach of the Recommendation is to promote the development of key competences and basic skills by:

- providing high-quality education, training and lifelong learning for all
- supporting educational staff in implementing competency-based teaching and learning approaches
- promoting a variety of learning approach and contexts from the perspective of lifelong learning
- exploring approaches to assessment and the validation of key competences

Education and training play a crucial role in enabling students and professionals to develop competencies and skills. A European initiative in this field is <u>The New Skills Agenda for Europe</u>. This initiative is a five-year plan to help individuals and businesses develop more and better skills and to put them to use, by strengthening sustainable competitiveness, as set out in the European Green Deal.

Access to resources is a key issue for Europe's ambition to deliver the <u>Green Deal</u>. The <u>new industrial strategy for Europe</u> proposes to reinforce Europe's open strategic autonomy and warn that Europe's transition to climate neutrality could replace today's reliance on fossil fuels with one on raw materials. Here, for many, we source from abroad and for which global competition is becoming fiercer.

For more information, visit:

INTERMIN Website - https://interminproject.org/
INTERMIN Portal - https://portal.interminproject.org/

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