

# The Challenge of Strengthening Social and Environmental Performance in the Mining Industry

Cross Campus Seminar Series: Mining and Minerals Extraction in a New Global Landscape

Even though some improvements to social and environmental performance are evident amongst leadership mining companies, needed change is not forthcoming, too short term, and not industry wide – a concern that has been re-enforced by the recent tailings tragedies. In this seminar, Dr. Tony Hodge, former president of the International Council of Mining and Metals, will discuss the current social and environmental state of the mining industry and suggest steps that can be taken by companies to strengthen their performance in those areas. Willingness to change is highly variable within the various players in the “mining ecosystem” and different incentives for strengthening performance targeted at different parts of the industry are essential. The creation of a synchronized industry-wide change strategy is essential otherwise business-as-usual will continue: change and improvement will continue at a rate that is too little and too slow, leading companies will continue to be dragged down by the laggards, and respect from society for the industry will not be forthcoming.



**R. Anthony Hodge Ph.D., P.Eng.**  
Former President, International Council of Mining and Metals

Dr. R. Anthony Hodge received his B.A.Sc (1972) and M.A.Sc. (1976) from the University of British Columbia in Geological Engineering and in 1995 was awarded an interdisciplinary Ph.D. from McGill University for his work on Assessing Progress Toward Sustainability. His 40-year career has spanned a rich array of assignments - in the private sector, with government, in quasi-judicial processes, in civil society organizations, in communities, and with Indigenous peoples. Throughout, he has explored both technical and social dimensions of achieving human and ecosystem well-being over the long term, seeking common ground between actors and integrating multiple values into the solutions to some of the most difficult socio-technical-environmental-financial challenges facing today's society.

The Centre for Business Law is co-hosting this event with:

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