

CITATION

Dr. Fran Hein

2013 Provincial Geologists Medal

Forty years after getting her first degree in geology, Dr. Fran Hein can look back on a successful career in academia, as a geological consultant for government and industry, and, since 1997, as a senior geologist with the Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB). Dr. Hein is an internationally recognized sedimentologist with expertise in both ancient and modern sedimentary systems and a specific focus on the geology of Alberta's nonconventional energy resources, such as the Alberta oil sands and, more recently, tight oil, gas and shale gas resources. Her work and expertise on the geology of the Athabasca Oil Sands deposit continues to be invaluable for the ERCB, other government departments and industry. Her long-standing active participation in international technical organizations has helped put Alberta geology and expertise on the map.

Dr. Hein is also widely recognized and valued as an outstanding educator and mentor, having supervised more than 30 PhD, M.Sc. and B.Sc. students at three universities (U of A, U of C, Dalhousie), and having led countless successful field trips and courses for students, technical organizations, industry and Alberta Government staff. As ERCB Chief Geologist, she continues to dedicate much of her time to mentoring staff, organizing, developing and teaching courses to communicate the geological foundation of ERCB's regulatory systems and processes.

Her outstanding work at the Alberta Geological Survey and the ERCB, her passion for mentoring and teaching, and her dedication to public service, make Dr. Hein a worthy recipient for the CPTG Medal.