Co-Chairs

Representative David Talerico
Representative
Alaska State Legislature

David M. Talerico (b. February 23, 1956) is a Republican member of the Alaska House of Representatives, representing District 6. He was first elected to the legislature in 2014, and currently serves on the Community & Regional Affairs, Education, and Resources Committees. David was born in Ellensburg, Washington and moved to Suntrana, Alaska, a mining community next to Healy, when he was 13 years old. He served on the Upper Railbelt School Board from 1976 to 1977 followed by the Denali Borough Assembly from 2001 to 2002. From 2002 to 2012 he was also the longest serving mayor of Denali Borough. He has worked in the mining industry for approximately 25 years, holding a variety of positions such as warehouseman, heavy equipment operator, production supervisor, human resource director, and safety director to name a few. In addition to serving in the Alaska State Legislature, Dave is the northern advisor for Horizon North Logistics.

David Ramsay
Director
Fortune Minerals

David Ramsay has extensive elected public office experience in the Northwest Territories, which has included prominent cabinet positions in the Legislative Assembly. Prior to November 2015, he was Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment that includes the preeminent mining portfolio, accounting for about 50% of private sector GDP in this jurisdiction. Mr. Ramsay has also served as Minister of Justice, Attorney General, Minister of Transportation and the Minister Responsible for the Public Utilities Board for the Government of the Northwest Territories.
Infrastructure Development Panel

Hon. Wally Schumann  
Minister of Industry, Tourism, & Investment and Minister of Infrastructure  
Government of Northwest Territories

Wally Schumann was first elected to the 18th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories in November 2015 representing the constituency of Hay River South. Mr. Schumann was born in Fort Smith and has lived in Hay River for the past 30 years. Trained as a Red Seal Certified Auto body Journeyperson, Mr. Schumann founded Poison Graphics, an auto body repair facility, which has become the largest sign manufacturing business in the NWT. Prior to entering territorial politics, Mr. Schumann previously served as President and Vice-president of the Hay River Métis Government Council. During his time on Council, Mr. Schumann led a large-scale consultation to develop a community wellness contribution funding agreement with the GNWT. Mr. Schumann was the director for the Hay River Chamber of Commerce, a member of the NWT Chamber of Mines Aboriginal Participation Committee and a Director for the NWT Manufacturer’s Association. Mr. Schumann also volunteered at Diamond Jenness High School dedicating time to mentor our future leaders by participating in cultural activities and attending weekly student council meetings. In his spare time, Mr. Schumann likes to go jet boating and spend time at the family cottage with his wife.

Jill Tsolinas

Executive Director

Centre of Training Excellence in Mining (CTEM)

Jill Tsolinas is Executive Director for the B.C. Center of Training Excellence in Mining (CTEM), an organization that facilitates collaborative, innovative training opportunities for the BC mineral exploration, development and operating mines (mining industry), job seekers and communities. Jill desires to see the continual development and incorporation of innovative, best-fit practices to sustain the mining industry. She is a Director of the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia (AME) and past Vice-Chair of Roundup - the world’s preeminent exploration conference. She has provided subject-matter expertise for organizations such as United Nations and Government of British Columbia in addition to sector specific companies.
Michael Catsi  
Director of Business Development & Communications  
Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority (AIDEA)  

Appointed to this position in 2010, Mr. Catsi pursues business development opportunities, oversees the Authority’s communications, and assists clients through the Authority’s intake process in partnership with AIDEA’s finance and development staff. Michael serves as the Chair of AIDEA’s Project Suitability Committee, and as a member of AIDEA’s project review committees. Prior to joining the Authority, Michael led economic development organizations as executive director of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference and the Skagway Development Corporation. Michael currently serves as President of the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and as a member of the Advisory Board for the Launch:Alaska business accelerator. Michael has served as president of the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development, was elected to the Skagway City Council, and served on the board of the Alaska Municipal League. Michael graduated from the University of New South Wales, Australia with a Bachelor of Science in Geography, and he is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD).

Glen Wonders  
Vice President  
Association for Mineral Exploration BC  

Glen joined the AME BC team in July 2014 as Vice President - Technical & Government Affairs. Glen’s previous position was the General Manager - Mining for Allnorth Consultants Limited, prior to this he was the Division Manager of the Prince George Division of Allnorth. Glen was employed by Terrane Metals Corporation as Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability; his focus was achieving regulatory approvals for the Mt Milligan Gold and Copper Mine Project including First Nations consultation and agreements, plus managing Community and Government affairs for the Mt Milligan project.
Carbon Pricing Panel

Carl Fink
Founder and Principal
Blue Planet Energy Law

Carl Fink is the founder and Managing Counsel, West Region for Blue Planet Energy Law, a law firm dedicated to providing innovative legal advice on transactional and regulatory matters for the energy industry. Mr. Fink concentrates his practice on natural gas, renewable power development, environmental commodities and emissions trading, gas and electric transmission and smart grid. In the regulatory arena he has represented interstate pipeline and storage companies and their customers; independent and renewable power projects; smart-grid companies; electric utilities; energy trading companies; and major industrial end-users and in regulatory matters before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the California Air Resources Board (ARB), and various state public service commissions and appellate courts. Prior to joining K&L Gates, Mr. Fink was Associate General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer-FERC for TransCanada’s west region pipelines and transmission facilities in the United States, as well as associate general counsel for the PG&E’s National Energy Group, where he was responsible for legal matters related to natural gas for the company’s power generation facilities and interstate pipeline assets. Mr. Fink started his legal career as an attorney with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Senator Mike Dembrow
Senator
Oregon State Legislature

Michael Dembrow is the state senator for District 23, covering portions of NE and SE Portland and the city of Maywood Park. First elected by voters in 2008 to the state house, he is serving his second term in the senate after being appointed to the seat in November 2013. Voters re-elected Michael to the senate in November 2014 and 2016. Michael currently serves as Chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee. He also sits on the Judiciary Committee and the Human Services and Housing Committee. No stranger to public service, Michael is a retired English instructor at Portland Community College’s Cascade campus in North Portland. He has taught writing and film studies at the college beginning in 1981, and served as the President of the PCC faculty union for 16 years. Michael’s passion for film drives his involvement in the Cascade Festival of African Films, which he helped create in 1991. The Festival, which Michael is co-director of, has grown in size each year since its founding. Michael earned his undergraduate degree in English from the University of Connecticut and his Master’s degree in Comparative Literature from Indiana University. Michael and his wife Kiki have lived in District 23 for over 30 years. They have a son, Nikolai and a daughter, Tatyana and two grandchildren. Michael is an avid runner and has completed the Portland Marathon multiple times. He and Kiki are proud parents of two whippets.
Gael began her career as a senior defense intelligence analyst for the Pentagon, working on security issues affecting ports across the country and other critical facilities. In 1989, she was the youngest person ever to receive in public the Director of Central Intelligence’s “National Intelligence Medal of Achievement” for recognition of her exceptional contributions to protecting vital national interests. After a decade working at the Pentagon, Gael ran two international subsidiaries of a Fortune 500 company in Russia. She was responsible for creating disaster preparedness and emergency response plans for ports nationwide. Her work helped rebuild the country after the Cold War collapse, employing new technologies in an effort to clean up nuclear waste and prevent environmental disasters. Gael most recently worked as a strategic advisor for the Institute for National Security Education and Research at the University of Washington. First elected to serve the people of King County as a Port of Seattle Commissioner in 2007, Gael was re-elected in 2011 and served as Commission President in 2012. Gael was first elected to represent the 36th legislative district in 2012. She will focus on creating jobs, safeguarding our environment, ensuring government accountability, adequately funding higher education, and funding healthcare. Gael and her husband, Bob, have lived in the 36th District’s Ballard neighborhood for nearly two decades. The Olympic Peninsula has been their favorite spot to fish for salmon and steelhead and go hiking for 25 years.

Jonathan Moser is a senior leader with extensive experience in communications and external relations who has facilitated success working for a diversity of clients in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. He currently serves as Head, Environment and Public Affairs, Canada for LafargeHolcim, the world’s largest building materials company. Prior to joining LafargeHolcim, Jonathan was the Manager of Government Affairs and Public Policy for Dow Chemical Canada ULC. He has also had significant public-sector experience working as an advisor to Prime Minister Martin and several federal Ministers. When not busy with his two children at baseball or ballet, Jonathan is actively supporting various community organizations.
Cameron McNaughton
Environmental Engineer
Golder Associates Ltd.

Cameron S. McNaughton holds a B.A.Sc. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada; an M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta; and, is currently employed as an Environmental Engineer in the Golder Associates Ltd. office in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Dr. McNaughton provides detailed technical expertise on air quality, greenhouse gases and climate change for Golder’s North American clients in the mining, energy and oil and gas sectors. Cameron is married, has four boys, is a former NASA Earth System Science Fellow, and is a Fellow International (FI ‘09) of the prestigious Explorers Club.