
Donald McInnes, Chair, Clean Energy B.C.; Executive Vice-Chair, Alterra Power Corp.

David Jordan | Mar 4, 2013



Image by: Robert Kenney

From the 2013 Influencer Index: The head of Clean Energy B.C. has helped build or create around a dozen mineral exploration firms

In a sector renowned for its byzantine regulatory hurdles, Donald McInnes gets things done. When he set out to found a utility-scale energy provider in the early 2000s, he was looking at a blank slate; six years later he had navigated the environmental and regulatory permits and secured financing, negotiated a contract to supply the BC Hydro grid and built B.C.'s biggest run-of-river Hydro project, as well as other renewable-energy projects. The company he founded, Plutonic Power Corp., then merged with Magma Energy Corp. to become \$600-million powerhouse Alterra Power Corp.

By his own count, McInnes has had a hand in creating or building a dozen companies—most in mineral exploration, and one tech company. “What I bring is the bigger picture, a tremendous network and a good track record of leadership in terms of building a team that get projects through the Canadian and B.C. environmental process,” he says.

He advises many mining juniors and if he's on the board there's a good chance a deal is imminent; he sat on the board of Fronteer Gold Inc. (bought by Newmont Mining Corp. for \$2.3 billion in 2011), and Blue Gold Mining Inc. (acquired by Riverstone Resources Inc. in October 2012).

McInnes is currently chair of the Clean Energy Association of B.C., a governor of the B.C. Business Council and a director of Prostate Cancer Canada. He's also the former president of the Association for Mineral Exploration B.C.

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