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## **CIRI Announces the 2019 Recipients for the Award for Excellence and the Belle Mulligan Award for Leadership in Investor Relations**

**Toronto, Canada** – The Canadian Investor Relations Institute (CIRI), Canada’s national association representing investor relations professionals, is pleased to announce that Meghan Brown has been chosen as the 31<sup>st</sup> recipient of the Award for Excellence in Investor Relations and Laurie Gaborit has been chosen as the 10<sup>th</sup> recipient of the Belle Mulligan Award for Leadership in Investor Relations. These individuals were honoured at CIRI’s 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Investor Relations Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

### **Award for Excellence in Investor Relations**

The Award for Excellence in Investor Relations is given by CIRI to honour individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the investor relations profession and to the Institute.

Meghan Brown is highly regarded in the investor relations profession and has been a significant contributor to CIRI and the issuer community as Past Chair of the CIRI Board and the CIRI BC Chapter Executive. She has been instrumental in the creation of the CIRI Fellowship Program, chairing the Selection Committee since its formation; and the introduction of the retiree membership. Ms. Brown co-chaired the 2017 Annual Conference and openly shares her knowledge and expertise by speaking at numerous conferences and events.

“Meghan is a valued and well-respected member of the IR community in Canada. She is passionate about the profession and committed to its success,” said Pat Marshall, retired Vice President, Communications & Investor Relations for Cineplex Inc. and recipient of the 2018 Award of Excellence. “Her support of CIRI and mentorship to others in the industry has made a tremendous impact.”

Ms. Brown is the Vice President of Investor Relations for Leagold Mining Corporation. She has 25 years of experience in communications and investor relations in the resource sector. Ms. Brown started her career with Suncor Energy and has worked for a number of resource and mining companies including TransCanada, Placer Dome, and Endeavour Silver. She holds a BA from UBC, an MBA from Queen's University and is a graduate of the Institute of Corporate Directors Not-for-Profit Directors Education Program. Ms. Brown is Past Chair of the CIRI Board, Past Chair of the CIRI BC Chapter Executive and Vice Chair of the Canadian Cancer Society BC/Yukon division.

"It is an honour and a privilege to be recognized by my peers with this award," said Meghan Brown. "My sincere gratitude goes out to CIRI and its membership for many years of support and encouragement. CIRI has provided me with many mentors and numerous opportunities for both personal and professional growth. I am humbled to be in the company of the previous award winners."

“Meg’s commitment to CIRI and the IR community is unfaltering. Over her many years of involvement, she has selflessly given of her time and expertise to advance the practice of investor relations both regionally and nationally,” said Yvette Lokker, President and CEO, CIRI. “Her passion for investor relations and demonstrated leadership have earned her the respect and admiration of IROs across Canada.”

### **Belle Mulligan Award for Leadership in Investor Relations**

The Belle Mulligan Award for Leadership in Investor Relations is given by CIRI in honour of the late Belle Mulligan to recognize individuals who have shown singular leadership in one or more aspects of the practice of investor relations.

Belle Mulligan (1940-2009) will long be remembered as a leader and standard setter in the IR profession and as a founder of CIRI. Her passion for IR began through her association with NIRI in the early 1970s and in 1981, she joined a small cadre of IR leaders to help develop NIRI Canada, now CIRI. She served on both the CIRI and NIRI Boards and was cited by one analyst as “adding 10% to the valuation” of the senior gold mining company she represented. Her professionalism won her many admirers, and her engaging personality and generous heart won her a wide circle of friends. She was a mentor to many IROs, urging them to set their sights high within their organizations.

Laurie Gaborit faced a professional challenge starting in 2018, when Detour Gold became the target of shareholder activism. Throughout the very public proxy battle, Ms. Gaborit remained calm and professional. She was incredibly articulate and composed, responding to sell- and buy-side requests promptly. One analyst commented that “Laurie's demeanour and professionalism never changed during the proxy battle. She gave full disclosure and access to management while being very efficient and timely.”

Ms. Gaborit is the Vice President of Investor Relations for Detour Gold Corporation. She has over 20 years of investor relations and corporate communications experience in the mining industry. Ms. Gaborit joined Detour Gold in 2006 as Director, Investor Relations. Prior to this role, she provided strategic investor relations and corporate communications services for a number of junior mining companies, holding roles such as Vice President, Investor Relations and Corporate Secretary for High River Gold Mines and Manager, Investor Relations for Rio Narcea Gold Mines. Ms. Gaborit started her career in the mineral exploration industry for Aur Resources Inc., Cambior Inc., and Romarco Minerals Inc. She holds a Bachelor of Science in geology (Hons.) and is a member of the CIRI Board.

“To receive the Belle Mulligan Award for Leadership is an honour and I am grateful to the members of the selection committee for recognizing my work during a very challenging and lengthy activist campaign,” said Laurie Gaborit. “This was not about success, but about integrity and a commitment to high standards in IR. The proxy contest is yet another example where IR proves to be a strategic function that deserves a seat at the executive table.”

“Shareholder activism is a reality for today’s issuers and IROs; however, very few are as public as Detour Gold’s. I commend Laurie for her steadiness throughout the entire process. She demonstrated exceptional leadership and composure through her interactions with management, the Board, analysts and shareholders,” said Yvette Lokker.

### **About CIRI**

[CIRI](http://CIRI.org) is a professional, not-for-profit association of executives responsible for communication between public corporations, investors and the financial community. CIRI contributes to the transparency and integrity of the Canadian capital markets by advancing the practice of investor relations, the professional competency of its members and the stature of the profession. With close to 500 members and four Chapters across the country, CIRI is the voice of IR in Canada. For further information, please visit [CIRI.org](http://CIRI.org).

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