



Exploration Geological Consulting

Resume

Cherie Leeden

Corporate Advisor (Financing)

Cherie is a proven mining executive in the global resources sector with 18 years' experience, including 10 years at ASX listed board level, she has led businesses in senior positions at publicly traded companies as well as developed and built several successful resource focused start-ups.

Cherie has spent her career discovering mineral resources that translate to a cleaner world. She has built successful companies and teams around developing mine projects, adding significant value to stakeholders along the way. Cherie has experience negotiating and executing win-win business transactions with a multitude of companies ranging from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies.

General Summary of Career Experience

- Held operational and leadership positions across a range of commodities (gold, base metals, battery minerals).
- Experienced in executive responsibilities in challenging business sectors and multiple jurisdictions involving deal negotiations/executive with Fortune 500 companies.
- Proven ability to identify and implement transformational corporate actions and innovations.
- Skilled at forum presentations, public speaking and stakeholder communication.
- Experienced in capital raisings, project financing and feasibility studies.
- Proven performance of raising capital and listing new public companies on favourable terms during the challenging commodity market conditions.
- Became one of Australia's youngest female directors appointed to the board of a public listed company (ASX).
- Developed non-profit water-bore charities.
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- **2018- Present - Project Generation Mine Advisory – Self employed**
 - Project generation and advisory company which sources and acquires robust mineral resource assets to clients and also provides advice to boards regarding investments in exploration and development mining projects.
 - Engaged to source, appraise and secure mineral projects on specific mandates by publicly listed companies. Provide technical and strategic advice to mineral resource focussed funds as follows;
 - Precision Fund Management (precisionfm.com.au)
 - Hexagon Resourced Ltd (hexagonresources.com)
 - TNT Mines Ltd (tntmines.com.au)
 - Provided merger and acquisition advice and direction to the board of several publicly listed companies.
 - Volunteer member of Women in Mining and ran a weekend leadership program.
- **2012-2018 – Battery Minerals Limited – Managing Director/CEO/Co-Founder, Mozambique and USA**
 - ASX listed company Metals of Africa (ASX: MTA) later changed to Battery Minerals (ASX:BAT)



- Changed company direction from zinc explorer (due to declining zinc price) to graphite developer (graphite boom).
- Grew company market capitalisation from AUD\$5M to \$76M
- Identified graphite opportunity and developed asset to Feasibility stage. Moved to Mozambique to manage projects.
- Hands on management style including company growth, discovery, feasibility, project management, corporate governance, equity funding, off-take agreements, project financing and permitting.
- Developed several business opportunities and commercial ventures including Balama asset acquisition and divestment of non-core assets (zinc in Gabon and rubies in Mozambique).
- Secured off take agreements with Japanese, Chinese and USA end-users.
- Secured R&D funding from US Department of Defence and US Department of Energy to enable battery anode test work facility to be constructed in USA.
- Worked closely with major electric vehicle manufacturers and technology companies such as Tesla, Panasonic, Toyota, Hitachi to ensure product met technical specification and within budget requirements.
- Created consortium of international experts to determine price transparency for industrial minerals.
- Conducted direct negotiations with the Prime Minister and President of Mozambique resulting in lower tax and royalty rates which increased the profitability/NPV of the projects.
- Successfully negotiated joint venture partnership and research and development agreements with several Fortune 500 vehicle manufacturing and electronic companies.
- **2010-2014 – Select Exploration Ltd, Tanzania and Australia, Non-Executive Director**
 - Select Exploration was a coal and uranium focussed exploration company listed on the ASX, the company was closed when the commodity price crashed in 2014.
- **2010-2012 – Founding Managing Director – Rocha’s Resources, Mozambique, Tanzania, Chile and USA**
 - Private mineral project generation/incubator company that was sold to four unrelated ASX listed companies generating significant shareholder value over a short period of time during the mining boom.
 - Founded four separate companies with lead-zinc in Mozambique, gold in Tanzania, Gold in USA and copper in Chile.
 - Increased shareholder value from USD\$2M to \$30M in 18 months. Arranged sale of companies to unrelated publicly listed companies (including Battery Minerals IPO).
 - Provided technical and strategic advice to Advaita Power Resources (coal, wind, tidal and solar investments).
- **2007- 2010 – Exploration Manager – Senior Geologist – Strike Resources – Peru, Indonesia, Australia**
 - Appraised and assessed over 100 mineral opportunities during this period and involved with spin out of ASX listed Alara Resources Limited.
 - Discovered Berau coal mining project which is still in operation today and one of the largest indigenous employers in East Kalimantan Province which supplies energy to Indonesia.



- Team member of iron ore discovery and resource definition in Peru and established companies' presence in Indonesia resulting in share price appreciation.
- Planned and Supervised drilling programs with 200 onsite personnel.

- **2005-2007 – Project Geologist, Rio Tinto, Australia**
 - Conducted exploration at North Parkes copper-molybdenum mine in NSW, part of discovery team for 314 copper deposit located in mine corridor.
 - Iron ore project generation and resource definition including Caliwinjina iron ore project.

Qualifications

- 2003-2006 Bachelor of Science in Applied Geology (Honours), Curtin University of Western Australian School of Mines, Australia

Professional Membership

- The Women's Leadership Forum, Harvard Business School
- Member of Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Australia Institute of Geoscientists (AIG)
- Member of the Geological Society of Nevada (GSN)

Languages

- English (written and spoken)
- Spanish (conversational)
- Portuguese (conversational)