



## **Avenue for integrating geoethics into the working world.**

Jan Boon

FaciliTech International, Ottawa, Canada (facilitech@sympatico.ca)

GeoEthics is a young field and is taking shape through events such as the International Declaration on GeoEthics (2011) and conference sessions held since 2013 (<http://www.geoethics.org/events>). Many of these focused on the geoscience community and had an academic or educational focus. While interest in the subject is growing, the number of participants is still low as compared to that of other geoscience disciplines. The author has found it difficult to generate interest in the formal inclusion of geoethics and the related fields of social and environmental responsibility into university geoscience curricula. This paper proposes to link geoethics to the huge effort that has been under way over the past decade and a half in the extractive industries to develop industry-wide codes that facilitate and structure the introduction of social and environmental responsibility into company operations. All of these codes contain specific references to ethics. The paper builds on two well-developed codes: “e3 Plus – A Framework or Responsible Exploration” (Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada) and “Towards Sustainable Mining” (Mining Association of Canada) to propose an overall practical reference frame for geoethics that may facilitate the transfer of geoethicists’ work into daily practice in the extractive industries.