
# MEET MACKENZIE

## Earth Science Intern

## PEMBROKE

Bachelor of Science (Earth Science, minor Environmental Science)

### Tell us about your journey

In Year 9 science, I studied a unit on geology and that kickstarted my interest in studying earth science. From here I took as many science subjects as I could to be best positioned for university. One of my family friends worked with someone at Pembroke Resources and gave me a number to call. So, I reached out and was given the opportunity to apply for an internship. I now have the amazing experience of interning one day a week and during my university holidays.

### What drives you to do this work?

As an intern, I help collect and analyse data to support the technical services team in mine planning - helping identify the best quality coal. Getting on-site experience while I study is amazing. It's exciting to take what I'm learning in class and apply it in the real world.

### What's the best thing about your team and workplace?

There are so many passionate and skilled people at Pembroke – committed to achieving the best performance outcomes for the mine, environment and community. I'm still a student and I'm part of a world class mining operation at the beginning of its life cycle. Mines have a lifespan of decades and not many people get the opportunity to be at the starting phase of a new mine.

### What has this career made possible for you?

I always knew I wanted to travel as part of work, and being on site is exciting. As an intern I am gaining real industry experience while I'm still studying. I'm learning off my mentor and industry leaders, which is giving me an edge. It's given me a chance to take what I'm learning and apply it in a real world scenario – rather than looking at a selection of hand-picked rocks and data in a classroom – I get to look at it on a bigger scale and it's real. It's helped reaffirm for me that this is what I want to do and I'm doing the right degree.

### What excites you about the future?

We're using drones in mining studies to better understand the landscape. That kind of innovation really inspires me. I remember standing at the lookout on my first day onsite, just taking it all in – and thinking, this is where I'm meant to be.

### How do you define a future-shaping career?

It's about making a difference today and tomorrow. I'm proud to be a part of an industry that's contributing to the global economy. The world is still dependent on steel making coal and I feel inspired to know I have a part to play in it.

### What does 'Shape Our Future' mean to you?

When I hear shape our future, I think about how I can contribute to the future. I think ultimately everyone benefits from what we're doing here – steel making coal is critical to the economy. And without earth sciences and the geology team at Pembroke we wouldn't be able to identify the different coal seams available to us.

### Your message to future students

There's so much more to geology than looking at rocks. We look at landscapes, history, and help the business understand its resources - it's a mix of science, discovery and real impact. If you want to contribute to the world, work with passionate people, and be constantly learning, this is the career for you. Getting to visit a mine site so early in my studies has been incredible. I encourage all students to seek internship opportunities – be brave and pick up the phone – you just might find the career affirming work experience you're seeking.

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