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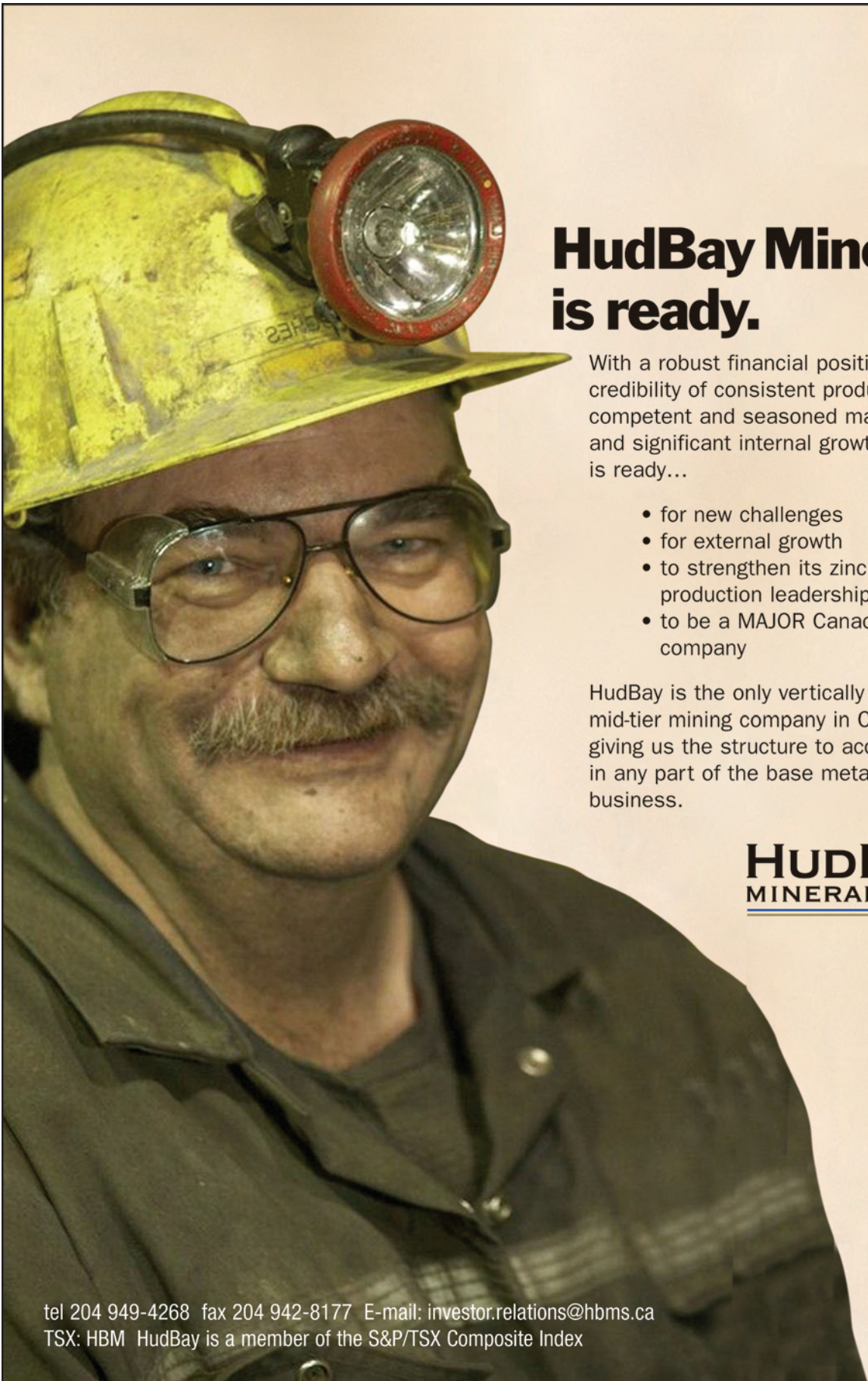
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Summer 2008

Published By:

Matrix Group Inc.

Publication Mail Agreement

Number 40609661

Return Undeliverable

Canadian Addresses to:

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Winnipeg, MB R3C 1L6

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ON THE COVER:

Workers gather at the shaft of the Errington Chelmsford Mine, Errington, Ontario. This photo was taken in 1928. Courtesy of the Canadian Science and Technology Museum/ Musée des sciences et de la technologie du Canada.

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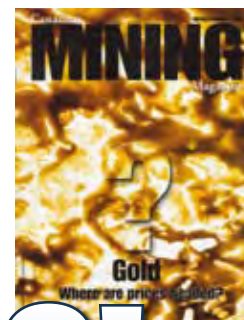
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Who Knows Mining? WE DO!

Think back to 2002. Do you remember what you were doing? You might not recall what was happening at your office six years ago but we know what was happening at ours.

Back then Matrix Group Inc. was a growing company with big ideas. While we published numerous industry magazines for various associations across North America (and still do!) the staff were eager to create something which could really be called our own. The result: Canadian Mining Magazine.

The first issue had a different look and was definitely not as big as the magazine you currently hold in your hands. But size didn't matter. What counted was that this magazine was one of the first publications devoted solely to mining in Canada.

Since the premier edition—which even back then featured an article on sustainable mining—we've published 14 different issues, we've increased our publication times from twice per year to four times per year, we've beefed up our distribution, and we've created a website (www.canadianminingmagazine.com)

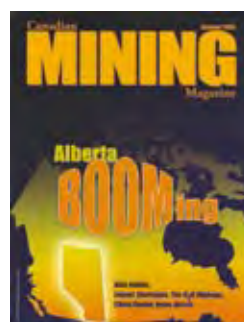
for readers like you to download past issues, post upcoming events and learn about mining in Canada.

Just like Canadian Mining Magazine, the mining industry in this country has evolved and has grown into something we can all be proud of: mining departments at the provincial and national levels of government, as well as companies, are all focused on mine site reclamation and closure; mining sites from coast-to-coast are recognized and applauded for their high safety standards and their treatment of workers; and mining companies are exploring, and are in fact using, some of the most sophisticated technologies available today.

There's no denying that Canada is a mining leader, past, present and future. Need proof? Just flip through the pages and you'll witness the unwavering support for mining from all the provincial mining ministries. Need further proof? Even Canada's Natural Resource Minister, The Honourable Gary Lunn, has written a message extolling the mining industry in this great country. Still not convinced? Check out the pages upon pages of mining news and success stories from all the different regions of Canada.

It's clear: mining in Canada is big business. And, while you've made it your business to keep it that way, we've made it our business to tell the industry's stories, to showcase the provinces, territories and companies that make it big, and to give you a forum of your very own to spotlight what makes this country's mining industry so successful.

Shannon Lutter
Editor-in-Chief
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A man wearing an orange hard hat and safety glasses is looking up at a pine tree branch. He is holding a small pine cone. The background is a lush green forest.

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A Message from Canada's Natural Resources Minister



Today's global market demand for minerals and metals is providing Canada with an excellent opportunity to build upon our stature as a global mining giant.

Global and domestic performance numbers tell the story. Canadian exploration, mining and allied industries now operate in more than 100 countries around the world. Canadian-headquartered mining companies account for more than 40 per cent of worldwide exploration expenditures by large companies. In 2007, more than one third of all equity raised on major international stock exchanges for mineral exploration and development globally was raised by Canadian-listed companies through Canadian financial institutions.

Mining and exploration provide jobs and bring economic and social benefits to Canadians in every province and territory, including many remote and Aboriginal communities. More than 360,000 people are employed in the mining and mineral processing industries; mineral production exceeds \$40 billion per year; and the mining industry is the backbone of more than 115 rural communities across the country.

Our government is committed to working with industry, provincial and territorial governments, and research and academic communities to build upon this success and create a sustainable resource advantage.

As part of this commitment, we've designed a fiscal and taxation regime that continues to provide incentives to invest in the mineral exploration and mining sector in Canada. By 2012, we will reduce the rate of federal corporate income tax to 15 per cent. As of

January of this year, we have eliminated the Large Corporation Tax and the mineral exploration credit will be extended for another year to encourage continued growth.

Earlier this year, we opened the Major Projects Management Office—an investment of \$150 million over five years to increase the efficiency, integrity and transparency of the regulatory review process. The office will do this through better coordination between departments, regular dialogue with proponents and a web access tracking system for major resource projects. The office will enable industry to work with the different regulatory agencies through a single point of entry with defined timelines.

Our Government continues to invest in the exploration that creates quality jobs and identifies new resource opportunities. We recently announced a \$100 million commitment over 5 years for geological mapping, primarily focused in Canada's north but with 25 per cent of the amount going toward cost-shared initiatives with the provinces.

We also recently announced \$40 million over the next four years to complete a comprehensive mapping of Canada's continental shelf in the Arctic and north Atlantic oceans. This research will help Canada gain international recognition for our sovereign rights over seabed resources, including minerals, oil and gas.

Partnerships are a key component in sustaining success. Our government is working with the Mining Industry Human Resources Council, Aboriginal organizations, mining associations and government departments to address the need for skilled workers in the industry. One of the results will be a Mining Industry Human Resources Guide for Aboriginal Communities.

Our Government is also leading initiatives that bring together researchers from the mining and forestry industries, academia and federal, provincial and municipal governments to explore and implement sustainable practices in the mining sector, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Provincial, territorial colleagues and I endorsed the creation of a Canadian Mining Innovation Council last fall. The mission of the Council is to enhance the competitiveness of a responsible Canadian mining industry through excellence in research, innovation and commercialization. This network of industry, academic and government leaders is mandated to develop a pan-Canadian mining research and innovation strategy.

Our mining industry contributes greatly to the well-being of Canadians and the Canadian economy, and our rich endowment of natural resources carries with it responsibilities for governments and industry alike. We are collectively challenged to strive for the highest possible levels of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. To go further will require even more innovation and multi-stakeholder collaboration. By working together, though, we will be recognized not just as a global mining giant but also as the world's leader in innovative, sustainable mining.

The Honourable Gary Lunn
Minister of Natural Resources



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News Watch: Federal



Mining industry payments to Canadian Governments soar

A report released in June 2008 by The Mining Association of Canada noted that the industry paid almost \$11 billion to Canadian governments in 2006, a significant increase from 2005.

The Canadian mining industry operates approximately 180 producing mines in Canada, which focus on metals such as gold, copper and nickel and non-metals such as coal, potash, diamonds and oil sands. In addition, the industry also comprises 38 non-ferrous smelters and refineries producing refined aluminium, copper, nickel, zinc and other metals. Together, these mines employ 180 thousand workers and, according to the study by ENTRANS Consultants, paid the following amounts to governments in 2006:

- Royalties and similar payments: \$2.33 billion;
- Corporate Income Tax: \$3.96 billion;
- Personal Income Tax: \$1.86 billion; and
- Total: \$8.15 billion.

The paper also highlights a significant year-on-year increase in these payments, which in 2006 increased by approximately 50 per cent over the \$5.5 billion payment total of 2005, reflecting the global price increases in natural resources during this period.

"The payments to governments from Canada's mining sector have grown significantly from 2005," stated Gordon Peeling, past President and CEO of The Mining Association of Canada. "Our industry benefits Canadians in multiple

ways—through jobs, investment and exports—and these latest results further emphasize the industry's critical contribution to Canada's economic and fiscal well-being."

In addition, the industry purchases a significant amount of goods and services from an estimated 2,400 supplier companies in Canada, ranging from engineering and environmental consultants to equipment companies and financial firms. According to Natural Resources Canada, the mining industry invested \$2.6 billion in Canadian mineral exploration and \$20.6 billion in capital spending in 2007.

New Chair for the Mining Association of Canada

In June 2008 The Mining Association of Canada (MAC) announced the election of Jim Gowans as Chair of the Association. Gowans is President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of De Beers Canada Inc.

Gowans has been an active member of the MAC Board and a key member of the MAC *Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM)* Governance Team. *TSM* is a stewardship initiative that aims to sustain the industry's role as a leading economic player by increasing public trust in its ability to manage the environmental and social issues important to Canadians. *TSM* encompasses environmental management and stakeholder inclusion practices that will help the industry earn its social license to operate.

With over thirty years of practical management experience, touching on most aspects of the mining industry, including exploration, major projects, operations and human resources, Gowans has held senior management positions with PT Inco Indonesia, Placer Dome, and Teck Cominco.

Federal Budget invests in mining

Budget 2008, tabled in February 2008 by the Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, outlines an investment of \$34 million over the next two years to improve geological mapping for resource development.

Positive measures in the budget include:

- Recognizing that, "the mining and resource sectors could provide new and historic possibilities for many Aboriginal Canadians." Budget 2008 dedicates \$70 million over two years to support a new framework to help Aboriginal Canadians benefit from viable economic opportunities. Budget 2008 also dedicates \$70 million over two years to support tripartite agreements to ultimately enhance education outcomes for First Nations students.
- Budget 2008 notes that changes will be made to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act to improve the immigration process so that the system can quickly process skilled immigrants who can make an immediate contribution to the economy.
- The temporary 15 per cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit was extended

an additional year, until March 31, 2009.

Budget 2008 also implements the government's vision for a new North with new measures that will protect and secure Canada's sovereignty and create more economic opportunities in the North. These include:


- Increasing the residency component of the Northern Residents Deduction by 10 per cent to further assist in drawing skilled labour to northern and isolated communities;
- Providing \$34 million over two years for geological mapping to support economic development; and
- Providing \$8 million over two years for a commercial harbour in Pangnirtung, Nunavut.

Canada/Peru Free Trade Agreement

On May 29, 2008, the Honourable Helena Guergis, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Trade, signed, on behalf of Canada, a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Canada and the Republic of Peru. This was the second FTA signed by Canada in 2008 and Canada's fourth FTA with countries of the Americas.

Peru is an established and growing commercial partner for Canada: trade in goods with Peru has expanded significantly in the past years and two-way trade totalled \$2.4 billion in 2007. The value of Canadian merchandise exports to Peru was \$330 million for 2007, while imports from Peru totalled \$2.1 billion for the same year.

Major imports from Peru consist of gold, zinc and copper ores, oil, animal feed and vegetables. Major Canadian merchandise exports to Peru are cereals, leguminous vegetables (pulses), paper, technical instruments and machinery.

"A free trade agreement between Canada and Peru will be very positive for both our countries," stated Gordon Peeling, past President and CEO of The Mining Association of Canada. "This agreement, when it comes into force, will result in a strengthening of our economic ties and further position Peru as a positive destination for investment by Canadian mining companies in resource development." 

FACTS:

- In 2007, Canadian mineral production reached \$40.4 billion, a 19.0 per cent increase from 2006.
- The overall value of metallic mineral production increased 25.1 per cent in 2007, up from \$21.1 billion in 2006. Nickel and uranium showed dramatic increases in value of 60.6 per cent and 76.3 per cent, respectively.
- Nonmetallic mineral production in 2007 reached \$11.3 billion, up from \$10.0 billion in 2006. Potash, diamonds, cement, and sand and gravel all contributed to the increase.
- In terms of Canadian mineral production, coal ranks fourth by value of output in Canada and, at \$2.8 billion, makes up 6.8 per cent of Canada's total mineral production. In 2007, coal saw an increase of 5.5 per cent in volume produced, but a drop of 4.3 per cent in value.

Source: Natural Resources Canada



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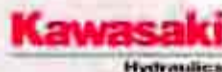
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www.toyopumps.com is bringing Sexy back

It is not often that you associate sexiness with pumps but Canadian slurry pump manufacturer, Toyo Pumps North America might just have found a way to make pumps sexy. If you haven't already seen Toyo Pumps North America's new website **www.toyopumps.com** then it is certainly worth a visit.

This is a classy, functional and user friendly site that instantly engages users. You can watch video footage of Toyo's legendary DP submersible pumping some seriously thick slurries (up to 70%) or view numerous case studies full of pictures and commentary on Toyo pumps at work. Most pertinent might be Toyo's heavy-duty DBH horizontal pumps tackling some tough mine-dewatering applications.

For those who are less familiar with Toyo Pumps North America this is a great window into the products and services of this innovative, quality, local manufacturer doing some very interesting things in our industry. These guys have obviously been put to the test time and time again and seem have a solution for everything that requires heavy-duty submersible, vertical, horizontal and high pressure (positive displacement) pumps.

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A Message from Yukon's Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources

The Yukon is a land of opportunity for resource industries. Mineral and oil and gas exploration and development activity continues to increase. In 2007 Yukon saw well over \$100 million dollars in industry expenditures. With the current high global demand for minerals and rising commodity prices we have every reason to believe that this trend will continue.

The Yukon government gained control of the territory's natural resources from the Canadian government in 2003. We have the authority to make decisions about oil and gas, mining, lands, forests and water.

The transfer of responsibility has allowed the Yukon government to take action on streamlining regulatory and review processes. The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act is Canada's only single assessment regime with fixed timelines for industrial and government projects.

We have also implemented a Project

Management process that assists mining companies in their efforts to secure permits for development proposals and then assists companies to move into the development stage. This Yukon government program provides dedicated project coordinators to assist with the reviews and to ensure timely resolution of issues as they occur.

The government is supporting and encouraging recruitment and training programs geared to respond to the increased growth of Yukon's economy. The Yukon Mine Training Association, a partnership between the federal and territorial government, First Nations, community and industry, works to train Yukoners with the skills they need to access jobs in the mineral industry.

Yukon's composite policy and mineral potential was recently ranked 5th in the world by the Fraser Institute. This high ranking and the fact that projected 2008 exploration and development expenditures are at historically high levels, gives



the Government of Yukon confidence in the long term potential of Yukon's mining industry. With our stable regulatory regime and some of the world's largest mineral deposits it is no wonder that companies are continuing to explore Yukon's vast potential.

Visit www.yukonmining.com today to check out our world class database of geological information, up-to-date maps and regulatory information as well as key contact information. We invite you to explore Yukon and experience first hand this land of opportunity.

The Honourable Brad Cathers
Minister of Energy, Mines and
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Yukon: Going for the Gold...and Silver...and Bronze...**AND MORE!**

The Yukon has a long history of mining, going all the way back to the late 1800s when whispers of gold deposits began to attract miners from across North America. The rush to the territory was captured in popular culture by Robert W. Service, who wrote in *The Spell of the Yukon*:

“No! There’s the land. (Have you seen it?)

It’s the cussedest land that I know,
From the big, dizzy mountains
that screen it

To the deep, deathlike valleys
below. Some say God was tired
when He made it;

Some say it’s a fine land to shun;
Maybe; but there’s some as would
trade it

For no land on earth—and I’m
one.”

While Service may not have traded the Yukon for anything, other gold-seekers who arrived to Dawson City likely did not agree. Many found disappointment upon arrival as, “locals had

already claimed all of the gold-bearing creeks and claims of ‘gold for the taking’ were grossly exaggerated,” (according to www.questconnect.org).

Though the gold rush would cease, placer mining would continue through the 1900s, with peak activity including a run through the 1940s and 1960s. To date, the total yield of gold production from the Yukon stands at 12.5 million ounces, with a pro-rated current market value of US \$4.4 billion.

The Yukon has over 65 mining companies operating within its borders, extracting everything from gold, silver and beyond. According to the Yukon government’s publication *Discover Yukon’s Mineral Wealth*, the territory has numerous deposits that have been mined in the past, and the highly prospective geology continues to attract exploration interest. It lays claim to 2,700 known mineral occurrences and over 80 mineral deposits with established reserves, a number of which are world-class.

The report credits these reserves to the location of the territory, noting, “the Yukon is in the North American Cordillera. The high mineral potential of the territory is a

product of the complex geological history of the relatively young chain of mountain belts that make up the western margin of the continent, from Alaska to Mexico. The complex geology of the Yukon and the North American Cordillera has resulted in its well documented high mineral potential.”

As such, the Yukon boasts significant deposits of gold, copper, lead, zinc, silver, tungsten and coal. In addition, one of the world’s largest iron ore deposits can be found in the northeastern part of the territory. As well, the Selwyn basin is one of the world’s largest undeveloped lead-zinc districts.

While impressive, the potential for even more mining activity abounds. Exploration has uncovered over 80 mineral deposits with established reserves. In addition, 2,700 mineral occurrences are found in the Yukon and on mining claims that cover only 3.6 per cent of Yukon land. Mining companies have only just begun to tap the territory’s rich natural resources, positioning it to become even more of a major player in the industry.



FACTS:

- The first placer miners in the Yukon were First Nations Peoples who recovered native copper nuggets from the White River area in southwestern Yukon. After 1850, prospectors and explorers began to report fine gold on river bars and coarse gold in the Fortymile and Sixtymile rivers. On August 17, 1896, the discovery of nugget gold on Bonanza Creek set off the Klondike gold rush.
- Today, more than 100 years after the discovery of gold in the Yukon, placer mining is still an important sector in the Yukon's economy. Over 16.6 million crude ounces (518 tonnes) of placer gold have been produced to date in the Yukon—at today's prices that would be worth more than \$9 billion.
- The total Yukon placer gold production in 2007 was 63,929 crude ounces (1 988 400 g), compared to 58,294 crude ounces (1 813 100 g) in 2006. The value of this 2007 gold production was CDN\$38.13 million or US\$35.63 million.
- Approximately 88 per cent of the Yukon's placer gold was produced in the Dawson Mining District, which includes the unglaciated drainages of Klondike River, Indian River, west Yukon (Fortymile and Sixtymile rivers) and lower Stewart River.
- There were at least 24 exploratory operations in 2007, up from 9 the year before. Placer miners throughout the Yukon continue to explore for new deposits, using traditional methods such as excavator trenching and bulk sampling, as well as auger, reverse circulation and churn drilling.

Source: The Yukon Government

If you think that the Yukon is too isolated for this to happen, think again. The Yukon is connected to the global marketplace on a national and international level.

- **Air:** International airport with direct flights from Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Northwest Territories, Alaska and Germany, as well as 10 community airports and numerous small airstrips.
- **Ports:** Proximity to two commercial ice-free ports. Direct access to the Yukon and Asia through the Alaska ice-free ports, 160 km south of Whitehorse. Ports are closer to Asia than to Vancouver.
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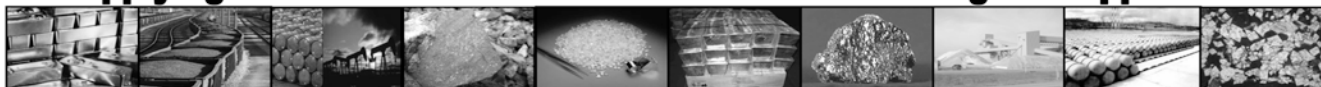
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Yukon

Underworld expands Yukon gold discovery

Underworld Resources Inc. announced in August 2008 that additional assay results have been received from the grass roots discovery at the

White Gold Project, Yukon Territory. Recent Assay results include: 4.2 g/t Au over 16.03m and 5.74 g/t Au over 21.58 meters. Underworld Resources has completed the initial round of core drilling program at the 100 per cent owned White Gold and Black Fox Gold Project. The press release reported the gold discovery at the Golden Saddle prospect of 4.03 g/t Au over 19.58 meters, from 12.99 meters in drill hole WD-004 and 4.58 g/t Au over 16.61 meters, from 14.74 meters in drill hole WD-005.

The discovery at Golden Saddle resulted from systematic soil sampling commencing in 2003 which indicated gold values exceeding 0.1 g/t Au over a 1.1 km strike length. A trench completed in 2007 by Underworld at Golden Saddle returned 1.12 g/t Au over 38 meters including 4.7 g/t Au over 5 meters and is the surface expression of the newly discovered north dipping zone. The best grades in the trench occur 20 meters south of the collar of drill holes WD-004 and 005.

Yukon-Nevada Gold Corp. intersects 14.5 meters of 8.95 g/t gold at the Keiza River Project

Yukon-Nevada Gold Corp. reported in July 2008 consistently favourable results from its on-going 2008 drilling program at Ketza River. The Ketza River property is wholly-owned by Yukon-Nevada Gold Corp. (YNG), and is a past gold producer located near the town of Ross River in the Yukon Territory.

Significant new intercepts were received from the Peel, Tarn, and Break Targets within the Manto Zone. Highlights include 14.47m of 8.95 g/t gold, including an interval of 2.4m at 15.16 g/t gold at a depth of just 32 meters in the Peel Target. In addition, one drill hole in the Tarn Target intercepted 3.05m of 13.25 g/t gold at a depth of just 11 meters.

Graham Dickson, President and CEO stated, "the continued success of the exploration program emphasizes the company's belief in the value of this most prospective project."

Band appeals to Yukon government after board recommends approving copper mine

According to a story by the Canadian Press in July 2008, an aboriginal band says it will appeal to the Yukon government now that a regulator has recommended approval of a copper mine that would use an untried process to clean up 13 million tonnes of acid-soaked ore on the banks of a creek flowing into the Yukon River.

Western Copper Corporation announced in June 2008 that its wholly-owned Casino copper-gold-molybdenum deposit in central Yukon Territory can be developed economically as an open pit mine. The independent pre-feasibility study, prepared by M3 Engineering & Technology Corporation of Tucson, Arizona, estimates an initial capital cost of \$2.1 billion. The project will produce 3.6 billion pounds of copper, 320 million pounds of molybdenum and 5.1 million ounces of gold over a 30 year mine life.

The mine would use a process called heap leaching to separate the metal from the ore. In heap leaching, ore is crushed, piled on an impermeable plastic liner and soaked with sulphuric acid. The acid dissolves the copper and is pumped out from the bottom of the heap.

Western's heap, located on a hillside adjacent to the creek, would eventually cover 31.5 hectares and use 25 kilograms of sulphuric acid for every tonne of ore. Company officials have said the method is cost effective, produces copper that is 99 per cent pure and is the only way to deal with the type of ore present near Carmacks.

They promise to clean up the mine by rinsing the ore pile and neutralizing the acidity. "We are extremely pleased and satisfied with the results of M3's pre-feasibility study on the Casino deposit and we believe this will be a great project for the Yukon," says Western Copper's Chairman and CEO,

"We have engaged Gartner Lee, who is a well regarded international environmental consulting firm, to assist us in the permitting of Casino. Over the last two years Western Copper has worked closely with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board and Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources in permitting our Carmacks project and have found them to be fair and professional. We look forward to working with them again on the Casino Project."

Dale Corman. "We have engaged Gartner Lee, who is a well regarded international environmental consulting firm, to assist us in the permitting of Casino. Over the last two years Western Copper has worked closely with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board and Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources in permitting our Carmacks project and have found them to be fair and professional. We look forward to working with them again on the Casino Project."

Consultation on Miners Lien Act Amendments

In July 2008 public consultation began on proposed amendments to the Miners Lien Act. Announced by Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers, he said, "the Government of Yukon is committed to reviewing and modernizing key elements of the Miners Lien Act to ensure it provides certainty to mining companies, trades people and other companies that work with the mining industry. Additional clarity in the act will support investment and development in Yukon's mining sector."

The act was first developed in 1902 and last amended in 1958. It provides the opportunity for contractors and suppliers to file legal claims against mine owners in situations where the mine owner has failed to pay companies or trades people who have furnished goods and services to the mine.

"Yukon's mining industry has asked that the lien legislation be simple and easy to interpret," Cathers said. "Potential claimants should be able to understand their rights based on the wording in the act."

The proposed changes include the following: who may hold a lien; the ability to know a lien exists; the type of assets that may be subject to a lien; time limits for filing a lien; potential for backdating a lien; lien holders' priority; the scope of liens; and waiving the opportunity to file a lien.

For additional information or to provide comments on the proposed changes to the Miners Lien Act, visit Energy Mines and Resources' website at www.emr.gov.yk.ca.

Funding for mining exploration

In March 2008 it was announced that the 2008-2009 budget included \$700,000 for the Yukon Mining Incentives Program (YMIP). YMIP is designed to promote and enhance mineral prospecting, exploration and development activities in Yukon. The program's function is to provide a portion of the risk capital required to locate and explore mineral deposits.

In 2007, 45 successful applicants received \$719,850 under the program. Ten option deals were signed on projects advanced with the assistance of YMIP funding. A number of new discoveries funded by the YMIP program in 2007 are generating significant interest from junior companies.


Mineral exploration spending in 2007 reached an estimated \$140 million, up from \$8 million in 2000. Projects previously discovered or advanced with the assistance of YMIP accounted for \$6.4 million of exploration work in 2007.


The Yukon Mining Incentives Program is administered by the Yukon Geological Survey. For more information on YMIP visit www.yukonmining.com.

Attend the Yukon Geoscience Forum

The 36th Annual Conference will be held November 23 to 26, 2008 in Whitehorse. It will feature updates on exploration development and mining

activities for Yukon Geosciences, and will present Yukon-based services and supplies, geologists, prospectors, oil and gas representatives, as well as quartz and placer mining companies, which will be present at this conference and trade show. There will also be ample opportunities to meet with delegates!

For more information check out www.ycmines.ca/forum.html. 



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Even before establishing Deakin Industries, Ross Deakin Sr. was known across Canada for being a pioneer in equipping the country's resource industries with everything they needed for work. From camping gear to safety equipment, Deakin ensured that our nation's scientific community were well equipped to handle any condition thrown at them when they ventured out into Canada's open landscape in search of minerals and precious metals.

The spirit that Deakin held so dear when he

began his supply store is held up today by his son, Evan, who is the current General Manager of Deakin Industries.

Though the company philosophy has remained the same, there have been some noticeable changes to the service Deakin Industries provides. To stay at the top of its industry, Deakin has made concentrated efforts to provide today's geologists and other mining workers with the latest technologies available, including GPS systems, and the best clothing available today.

"We've expanded our product line tenfold from the first few years," Evan Deakin says. "We started with a few hundred products, now we have thousands."

Additionally, Deakin Industries has made a major expansion to their services, by going beyond their present client base. Now, supplies are not only available for mining and other industries, but to the general public as well through retail outlets. At these locations, customers will find the same equipment that geologists have used and trusted for years for their own outdoor adventures.

As part of this growth, Deakin fully established two arms of its central business in the summer of 2007. Deakin Industries now services mining and other sectors, while Deakin Outdoors is the new retail wing. Though only in existence for a short time, both of the new entities have risen to the top of the supply industry.

While this expansion has taken place, Deakin has remained loyal to its current clientele, offering the same quality products, dedicated customer service and personal touch it has prided itself on for years.

To learn more about Deakin Industries, call (800) 663-3735, and to learn more about Deakin Outdoors, call (800) 634-8388. You can also visit Deakin online at www.deakin.com.

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Ultrasonic Peening: An Efficient Alternative Treatment of Materials, Parts and Welded Elements in Mining Industry

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Integrity Testing Laboratory (ITL) Inc., a Canadian company located in Toronto developed in collaboration with Ukrainian scientists an Ultrasonic Peening (UP) System (UltraPeen™) that found numerous applications in a variety of industries. The UP technology, explained Prof. Jacob Kleiman, the President and CEO of ITL Inc., is designed to suit the heavy duty requirements of the Mining industry. The robust design of the UP systems allows them to be easily adapted to the rough environment of mines and processing plants and to the potentially large volumes and the oversized parts used in industry. The UP equipment effectively treats different parts including excavating and drilling machines used to mine ores, minerals and bedded materials; concentrators, grinding mills, feeders, mining processing equipment, etc., using a replaceable set of differently shaped working heads with pins as illustrated in Fig.1.

Among the beneficial effects UP produces in metals and alloys are the increase in resistance of materials to surface-related failures, such as fatigue and stress corrosion cracking, elimination of distortions caused by welding and other technological processes, residual stress relief and increasing of the surface hardness of materials. In the fatigue improvement the beneficial effect is achieved mainly by relieving of harmful tensile residual stresses and introducing compressive residual stresses into surface layers of metals and alloys, decrease in stress concentration of weld toe zones and the enhancement of the mechanical properties of the surface layer of the material.

The fatigue testing of welded specimens showed that the UP is the most efficient and economical improvement treatment compared with traditional techniques such as grinding, TIG-dressing, heat treatment, hammer and shot peening. The developed technology is being used in repair and maintenance in Mining, Railway and Highway Bridges, Construction and other industries.

For more information please contact ITL at www.info@itlinc.com or call 905-415-2207.



Figure 1. Use of a UP system for fatigue life improvement of tubular welded joint. The Ultrasonic Generator (blue box) and the UP instrument are shown.



Figure 2. Ore mill treated with UP during the maintenance to increase the fatigue life.

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A Message from the Northwest Territory's Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

The discovery of diamonds in 1991 resulted in the largest staking rush in Canadian history and marked the dawning of a new economic era for the NWT. Since then, an explosion of resource investment and mining has been the driving force behind a decade of record setting economic statistics for the NWT.

The region's overall GDP has increased almost 80 per cent since 1999 and today remains above \$4 billion. Residents boast the highest average incomes in Canada and, at approximately \$100,000.00, the nation's highest per-capita GDP.

The official opening of the NWT's third commercially producing diamond mine (De Beers' Snap Lake) has positioned the Northwest Territories as the third largest producer of rough diamonds, by value, in the world. Record high commodity prices are also rejuvenating exploration—and opportunities in proven commodity

reserves such as gold, silver copper, lead and zinc.

However, the absence of royalty revenues and any direct influence in the management of its resources has forced the Government of the Northwest Territories to find other means to maximize employment, business opportunities and benefits for its residents—most notably, downstream industries such as diamond cutting and polishing.

Many northern partnerships and joint ventures have evolved to service the NWT's rapidly expanding diamond mining sector and on going resource development—now the primary source of growth in the region's small business and service sectors.

As a result, these resource developments are doing much more than just stimulating the NWT economy. They are changing the way Canada's emerging economic engine is doing business.

As North American markets look North for new energy resources, attention is being

increasingly drawn to the NWT's vast quantities of natural gas and the means to connect these reserves to southern markets.

Governments, Aboriginal organizations and residents, preparing for the construction of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline, are now looking to the NWT's diamond mining industry as a proven and balanced model that has enabled economic growth, safeguarded the environment and is providing beneficial and sustainable development for the betterment of all NWT residents.

It is with this experience and foundation that the Northwest Territories is expected to lead the country in economic growth for the next ten years.

The Honourable Robert R. McLeod
Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment



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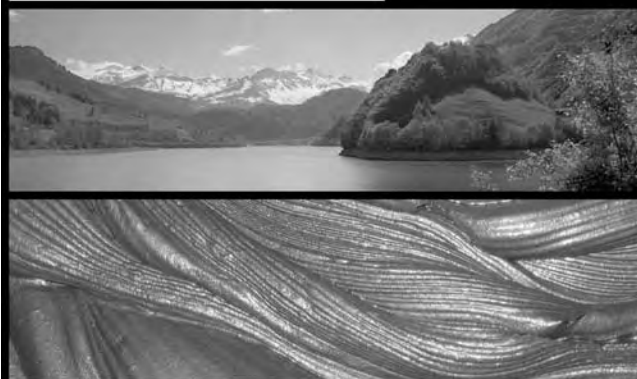
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 **YASKAWA**

Northwest Territories: Dizzy for Diamonds

Diamonds are the worldwide symbol of eternal love and are the most common jewel found on an engagement ring. Thanks to diamond mining in the Northwest Territories (NWT), this sparkly jewel no longer has to be imported from afar. In fact, diamond mining has become a key component of the economy in several regions of the territory.

The Diavik Diamond Mine is a perfect example of success in the NWT. Located 300 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife, this mine is an unincorporated joint venture between Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. (60 per cent) and Harry Winston Diamond Mines Ltd. (40 per cent). Diavik's mine plan includes the mining of three diamond-bearing ore bodies using a combination of open pit and underground mining methods. Ore processing is expected to be approximately 2 million tonnes annually.

The effect on the NWT economy is remarkable. At mid-year 2008 there were 798 operations workers. Two thirds were northern and of these, half were Aboriginal. In addition, Diavik hired 22 northern summer students and 11 University Co-op students. Diavik continued its commitment to community partnerships during the quarter with the launch of construction

of the Territorial Dementia Centre in Yellowknife, and support of the City of Yellowknife clean-up campaign.

In addition, work is continuing at a significant pace to prepare the mine site for underground mining and construction is progressing as planned on the new crusher and paste backfill plant, on expansions to the water treatment and power plants, and on foundations for mine change rooms and additional permanent accommodation facilities.

Underground mining is projected to begin in 2009 and to replace open pit mining by 2012. In other capital work, a \$50 million project was approved to make additions and modifications to the ore processing plant to recover very small diamonds, reflecting good market demand for that product. The first recovery of small diamonds is expected towards the end of 2009.

Diavik isn't the only producer who is active in diamond mining in the Northwest Territories though. Others include:

- The Ekati Diamond Mine—Co-owned by BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. and geologists Stu Blusson and Chuck Fipke, Ekati has the distinction of being Canada's first diamond mine. Located 200 kilometres south of the Arctic Circle in the NWT, annual sales from EKATI represent approximately three per cent of current world rough diamond supply by weight and six per cent by value.
- Snap Lake Mine—The Snap Lake Diamond Project is wholly owned by De Beers and is the first entirely

underground diamond mine in Canada. The Snap Lake Diamond Project was granted a Class A Water License by the Federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs on May 31, 2004 and this paved the way for the project to proceed. Construction began with the opening of the winter road in February 2005, took close to three years to complete, and opened officially in July 2008.

The Northwest Territories' emerging secondary diamond industry, which includes cutting and polishing facilities and internationally-recognized training programs, is also receiving acclaim worldwide for its groundbreaking leadership, craftsmanship and high-quality polished diamonds. And, thanks to the world's first government-sponsored diamond certification program, Northwest Territories diamonds can be tracked from the mine to the retailer and are guaranteed to be mined, cut and polished in the Northwest Territories.

According to a report by the government of the NWT, "Mining and Exploration: Northwest Territories, a 2007 Review", diamond shipments accounted for 95.9 per cent of the total value of metal and non-metal production in the NWT in 2006 and the NWT accounted for 100 per cent of Canadian diamond production and 8 per cent of the world total diamond production by weight. In addition, the "2006 Diamond Industry Report—Diamond Facts", a study also published by the NWT Government, found that \$70 million was spent in exploration for this gemstone alone in the NWT.

Diamonds certainly are big business in the Northwest Territories.



FACTS:

- The oldest rock in the world is located just north of Yellowknife and is over 3.962 billion years old.
 - B.A. Blakeney, a prospector on his way to the Klondike, staked the first claim in the Yellowknife area in 1898.
 - An incredible 613.4 million dollars was committed to oil and gas exploration in the NWT in 2007 including a record-setting \$585 million commitment for an offshore area 120 km northwest of the Mackenzie Delta.
 - The Norman Wells oil field has been in production since 1943. The facility at Norman Wells is Imperial Oil's (Esso) largest single conventional oil field. It produces between 6 and 7 million barrels per year, valued between \$450 and \$500 million dollars per year.
 - Crude oil shipments were valued at \$482 million and natural gas at \$98 million in 2006.
 - The Mackenzie Gas Project will cost a total of \$16.2 billion. For NWT residents, the construction of this pipeline represents over 30 thousand years of total employment and \$5 billion in earnings.
 - It is projected that the Mackenzie Gas Project will contribute \$86.3 billion to the Canadian economy—including \$9.9 billion to Alberta's economy and \$5.1 billion to Ontario's economy.
- Source: Government of the Northwest Territories*

In fact:

- The diamond is the official gem of the Northwest Territories.
- The discovery of diamonds in 1991, at Lac De Gras resulted in the largest staking rush in Canadian history.
- BHP's Ekati mine in the NWT was Canada's first diamond mine. Construction began in 1997 and it opened officially on October 14, 1998.
- Since 1998, about 78,947,507 carats worth of gem quality diamonds have been mined in the NWT—with an estimated value of \$11.368 billion/CAD.
- The collective operations of the Ekati, Diavik and Snap Lake diamond mines are producing 15 per cent of the world's rough diamonds. Diamond production for 2007 reached 16.6 million carats worth \$1.4 billion.
- Canada is the third largest diamond producer by value in the world after Botswana and Russia.
- Since 1996, the NWT's diamond mines have provided over 16,000 person years of employment—over 4,400 to Aboriginal residents and have surpassed \$5 billion in investment with northern and Aboriginal businesses.

It's easy to see that the Northwest Territories' mining industry is flourishing because of diamonds and due to the mining of other minerals as well. **M**

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Northwest Territories

Fortune Minerals closes \$3.08-million FT financing

Fortune Minerals Ltd. closed a non-brokered private placement financing of 1.1 million common shares in August 2008, issued on a flow-through basis, at a price of \$2.80 per share for total gross proceeds of \$3.08-million. The company has paid a cash finder's fee of 4 per cent of the total gross proceeds raised pursuant to the financing.

The gross proceeds of this financing will be used to finance continuing exploration activities at the company's two main projects, namely the NICO cobalt-gold-bismuth deposit in Northwest Territories and Mount Klappan anthracite coal project in northwest British Columbia. Both projects are owned 100 per cent by Fortune, have been assessed in positive definitive feasibility studies, subjected to test mining and pilot plant processing, and both projects are in permitting to develop the mines (see Fortune news releases in Stockwatch, dated March 25, 2008, August 31, 2006, and October 17, 2005).

Fortune recently retained CIBC World Markets Inc. to act as its financial adviser in pursuing strategic alternatives and identifying potential partners for the advancement of its Mount Klappan coal project (see Fortune news release in Stockwatch, dated July 2, 2008). The company has also commenced preliminary discussions with various banks regarding debt facilities to finance construction of the NICO project.

De Beers officially opens two mines in Canada

De Beers officially opened its first two mines in Canada in July 2008. On July 25, the Snap Lake Mine, located approximately 220 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories, was the first De Beers mine outside of southern Africa. The next day on July 26, the Victor Mine, located in northeastern Ontario, officially opened and is the first diamond mine in Ontario.

"Everyone has worked very hard to bring the Snap Lake and Victor Mines

"We believe that meaningful consultation is required to develop mutual trust and long-term cooperative relationships with Aboriginal communities."

into production," says Jim Gowans, President of De Beers Canada. "It has taken us several years and over \$1 billion to build each mine, and along the way, we have built strong relationships with local communities and upheld the highest environmental standards. I'm very proud of what we have accomplished."

From exploration through production, the diamond industry is bringing employment and economic growth, training and education, and business opportunities for remote Aboriginal communities in Canada. Between Snap Lake and Victor Mines, over \$650 million dollars has been spent with aboriginal business. "De Beers contributes to sustainable communities and economies wherever we operate and we are proud of the relationships we have developed," says Jim. "We believe that meaningful consultation is required to develop mutual trust and long-term cooperative relationships with Aboriginal communities."

De Beers has signed a four Impact Benefit Agreements (IBA) for the Snap Lake Mine including the Yellowknife Dene First Nation (November 2005), the Tlicho Government (March 2006), the North Slave Metis Alliance (August

2006) and Lutsel K'e and Kache Dene First Nation (April 2007). The Victor Mine has signed three community agreements for the Victor Mine including an IBA with the Attawapiskat First Nation (November 2005), a Working Relationship Agreement with the Taykwa Tagamou Nation (May 2005), and an IBA with Moose Cree First Nation (September 2008).

De Beers is also committed to supporting the secondary diamond industry in Canada. As such, agreements have been reached with the Governments of the Northwest Territories and Ontario for De Beers to make available for sale ten per cent (10 per cent) of diamonds from the Snap Lake Mine and Victor Mines, by value, to provincially approved manufacturers who have successfully fulfilled the Diamond Trading Company's client selection criteria.

Premier presents safety award to Diavik Workforce

At a ceremony held at the Diavik mine on July 9, 2008 the Premier of the Northwest Territories presented Diavik with the John T. Ryan Safety Trophy. The awarding of this prestigious safety trophy followed the announcement earlier this year that Diavik had been selected as a Regional John T. Ryan Safety Trophy winner based on its excellent 2007 safety performance. On behalf of Diavik's workforce, Diavik's Occupational Health and Safety Committee co-chairs Marc Cameron and Martial Papineau accepted the trophy from the Premier.

This is the third time that Diavik has won this award in its 5 short years of operations. "Safety is a core value at Diavik. The true rewards of our safety program is that every worker, their spouse, their children, and their extended family and friends know that when they go to work at Diavik, they will return in as good a condition as when they left," said Diavik President and Chief Operating Officer Kim Truter.

Northwest Territories

Dignitaries attending the ceremony included Premier Roland, Deputy Premier Michael Miltenberger, and Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission President and Chief Executive Officer Anne Clark.

Along with the trophy presentation, which was held at lunch in the mine's dining area, guests toured Diavik's fully equipped emergency response and medical facilities, as well as the mine's diamond processing plant, surface works, open pit mining operations, and the underground mine works which are currently under construction.

The John T. Ryan awards commemorate the founder of Mine Safety Appliances, and were inaugurated in 1941 as an effort to promote safety in mineral production. Awards are made on a national and regional basis to metalliferous, select, and coal mines with the lowest reportable injury frequency rate.

The Diavik Diamond Mine is located 300 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and is an unincorporated joint venture between DDMI (60 per cent) and Harry Winston Diamond Mines Ltd. (40 per cent). Both companies are headquartered in Yellowknife, Canada. DDMI is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto plc of London, England, and Harry Winston Diamond Mines Ltd. is wholly owned by Harry Winston Diamond Corporation of Toronto, Canada. DDMI is the operator of the project.

Arctic politicians travel to Washington

Arctic politicians went to Washington in June 2008 to argue that northerners can be trusted to look after environmental issues such as polar bears and oil and gas exploration. A delegation from the Northwest Territories led by Energy Minister Bob McLeod was trying to persuade U.S. legislators that laws and lobbyists south of the border are

hurting aboriginal economies and slowing energy projects.

McLeod said he's hopeful that a way can be found to circumvent a recent U.S. designation of polar bears as a threatened species. McLeod also criticized U.S.-based environmentalists, whom he accuses of standing in

the way of natural gas development in the Arctic.

He suggested that substituting natural gas for coal would reduce American greenhouse gas emissions. He also said southern environmentalists should look to problems in their own backyards before concerning themselves with the North. **M**



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Our abundant resources and unique geographic position provide extraordinary investment opportunities in resource development, infrastructure development, research and development, value-added processing of food products and tourism.

to providing an environment for economic growth that is sensitive to industry's needs.

Nunavut has an emerging economy with tremendous potential for growth. Our abundant resources and unique geographic position provide extraordinary investment opportunities in resource development, infrastructure development, research and development, value-added processing of food products and tourism.

It's our time, and Canada's opportunity. We welcome you to Nunavut.

The Honourable Patterk Nester
Minister of Economic Development & Transportation

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Nunavut: "Our Land" Provides Mining Opportunities

The territory of Nunavut (which means *our land*) stretches some 1.9 million square kilometres and is nearly one-fifth the size of Canada. Nunavut is the largest and newest territory of Canada; it separated officially from the Northwest Territories on April 1, 1999 via the Nunavut Act and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act, though the actual boundaries had been established in 1993. The creation of Nunavut resulted in the first major change to Canada's map since the incorporation of the new province of Newfoundland in 1949.

While relatively young in terms of being an official territory, Nunavut's mining industry has been well established for decades and continues to flourish today. In 2007 junior mining companies were the driving force behind much of the exploration activity in Nunavut. In addition though, there was a significantly increased presence of major international mining companies working in the territory, doing both exploration work and strategically aligning themselves with juniors.

Specifically in the Kitikmeot region, Zinifex, an Australian base metal miner and one of the world's largest zinc and lead mining companies, and their Canadian branch Zinifex Canada Inc., acquired Wolfden Resources Inc. for \$388 million. With this acquisition, Zinifex took over Wolfden's numerous zinc and copper development and exploration projects. A second example, Newmont Mining Corporation—the world's second largest gold producer—entered into an agreement with Miramar Mining Corporation that provided for the all-cash \$1.5 billion offer of acquisition by Newmont of all the outstanding common shares of Miramar. Another example that dates back a bit further, from June 2006, involves Cameco Corporation, the world's largest uranium producer.

Today's mining landscape in Nunavut continues to be prosperous. This is especially evident with the launch of a new mining strategy that was announced in




2007. The Honourable David Simailak, Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, launched the new Government of Nunavut mineral exploration and mining strategy during the 75th Annual Meeting of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada. The strategy provides a comprehensive framework to support mineral exploration and mining development in Nunavut.

"The goal of the strategy is to create the conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut," said Simailak.

Parnautit: The Nunavut Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy, outlines a modern policy direction and specific actions to address improvements in four thematic areas, or "pillars": Jurisdictional Framework; Community

Benefits; Infrastructure Development; and Environmental Stewardship. The strategy establishes guidelines for good environmental practices for mineral exploration, mining, and reclamation in Nunavut, and ensures a sustainable approach to development. The Government of Nunavut is committed to working with the federal government and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) to ensure the proper rules are in place to allow the mining industry to prosper, to ensure the maximum participation of Nunavummiut in the socio-economic benefits of mining, and to protect the environment. You can view the strategy online at www.edt.gov.nu.ca/parnautit.

With both industry and government working together, mining in Nunavut is destined to continue to grow stronger year after year. 

FACTS:

One of the potential targets for activity are uranium deposits. Seeing both the potential economic boost that the product can bring to the territory, as well as the environmental impact, Nunavut's government released an outline of principles as a guide for mining on June 4, 2007:

- That uranium (and mining as an overall industry) as a strong potential source of employment and revenue for the territory's growing population.
- That development of uranium would place, "special responsibilities on government," due to its by-product usage, which includes risks to human and environmental health.
- That uranium development must have approval from Nunavummiut (Inuits living in Nunavut), particularly of those communities living close to deposits.
- That government-established conditions be met in areas including health and safety environmental standards, as well as that Nunavummiut must be the major beneficiaries of development activities.
- That nuclear power generation will be an important part of world strategies for, "ensuring energy supplies while reducing reliance on greenhouse gas-emitting fossil fuels.
- That Canadian and international laws and agreements will ensure that Nunavut-produced uranium will be used strictly for peaceful measures.



Nunavut

Peregrine discovers kimberlite at Chidliak, Baffin Island

Brooke Clements, President and Eric Friedland, Chief Executive Officer of Peregrine Diamonds Ltd. reported in July 2008 the discovery of a new kimberlite on the Chidliak property, Baffin Island, Nunavut. A kimberlite outcrop was discovered within a circular magnetic anomaly selected from an airborne geophysical survey that commenced on July 17, 2008.

The anomaly has an estimated surface expression of six hectares. The outcrop was discovered in an area with high concentrations of kimberlite indicator minerals (KIMs). As reported in a news release on February 19, 2008, many of these indicator minerals have geochemical compositions that imply their kimberlite source contains diamonds. Chidliak is situated approximately 150 kilometres northeast of Iqaluit, capital of Nunavut. The proximity to the capital provides the Chidliak project with better infrastructure support than is available in other more remote regions of Nunavut.

A sample of approximately 200 kilograms collected from the kimberlite outcrop has been shipped to Saskatchewan Research Council Geoanalytical Laboratories for microdiamond recovery by caustic fusion. Results of the analyses are expected in August.

Peter Holmes, Peregrine's Vice President, Exploration stated, "this is a significant discovery in a brand new area; the nearest known kimberlites are approximately 700 kilometres to the east in Greenland. The fact that the discovery was made after only the fourth day of the airborne geophysical survey provides optimism that this is the first of many kimberlite discoveries to be made. We have now proven that there is good tonnage potential in this new district and the encouraging mineral chemistry on the property suggests that some of the kimberlites could be significantly diamondiferous."

Training for Inuit workers

Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) are pleased to announce a new

"A lot of the jobs at the Baffinland mine will call for Inuit to get training. QIA is glad to have Baffinland committed to working with us on training programs to help Inuit succeed in getting these jobs."

and collaborative relationship between Baffinland and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and Kakivak Association to support a variety of training initiatives associated with the proposed Mary River Project.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed May 31, 2008 the parties have agreed to develop and promote the delivery of mine-related training, training related to economic and community development, labour market research, curriculum development, career development and other related activities for the benefit of Inuit in the communities associated with the project. A key goal of the agreement is to facilitate Inuit participation in the construction of the project, which is anticipated to commence in 2010.

The activities developed under the MOU will build on training initiatives already underway at the project, including heavy equipment operator training, job-shadowing programs and cultural orientation seminars.


Encouraging education and training programs for students, coordinating of work placements, and reducing barriers to Inuit participation will be critical to the success of the program. Funding is anticipated to involve both private and public sector sources. The initial term of the MOU is three years.

Thomasie Alikatuktuk, President of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, stated, "a lot of the jobs at the Baffinland mine will call for Inuit to get training. QIA is glad to have Baffinland committed to working with us on training programs to help Inuit succeed in getting these jobs."

Explorers and miners raise over \$30,000 for Nunavut literacy

A Gala Banquet held in Yellowknife during the 35th annual Geoscience Forum on November 21, 2007 raised more than \$30,000 for the Nunavut Literacy Council.

De Beers Canada sponsored the Gala Banquet which saw donated items from mining, exploration and service companies and organizations auctioned off to support literacy in Nunavut. Chantal Lavoie, Vice President of NWT Projects with De Beers said, "De Beers is very pleased to contribute to an event to promote literacy. Literacy and education development are key elements of De Beers' commitment to communities."

The animated auctioneer, Mike Olson of First Air, made sure that donated items went for great prices but also sweetened the deals with several trips, courtesy of the airline. This is the second year that De Beers has sponsored the event. Last year's proceeds totalled \$20,000 and went to the NWT Mine Heritage Society. 

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A Message from British Columbia's Minister for the State of Mining



Since being appointed as Minister of State for Mining in British Columbia, I have enjoyed meeting with First Nations, industry, investors, both international and domestic, and a broad spectrum of interested British Columbians to encourage exploration, mine development and job creation in B.C.

Since the province began working to revitalize the mining industry in 2001, tremendous gains have been made. We are seeing new mines opening and old mines finding new life. In the last year, this translated into more

than 20 new mine development proposals and 4 new mine openings. This brings the total to eight new mines in the last three years.

There are a number of government-wide initiatives that we are putting in place to help with permitting, First Nations' consultation and overall process for project approvals. We are also continuing the mining flow-through share program which provides a 20 per cent tax credit to lower the after-tax cost of qualifying grassroots exploration expenditures in British Columbia. This tax credit is harmonized with the federal exploration investment tax credit.

As one of the richest mineral regions

in the world, B.C. has a world-class reputation as a favourable jurisdiction for mining investment. The province is enjoying record levels of exploration and development with mineral exploration investment reaching \$416 million in 2007, a staggering increase of more than 1,300 per cent since 2001. Despite 12,000 occurrences already mapped, only 0.04 per cent of the land base has been disturbed. There is a lot of opportunity for growth in mining in B.C.

Building a mining sector that encourages exploration, investment and job creation requires the partnership of government, mining companies, First Nations, communities, industry associations and educational institutions across the province. We are building these relationships, and are seeing a tremendous resurgence of mining in B.C. as a result.

The industry's resurgence reflects our ability to work together and I am hopeful that we will see more mines open over the coming year. I am proud to be a part of the mining industry, and will continue to work to increase investment in exploration and mining, creating jobs and economic benefits for all British Columbians in the year to come.

The Honourable Kevin Krueger
Minister for the State of Mining

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British Columbia: The True Beauty Lies Beneath the Soil

When someone says the words “beautiful British Columbia” the immediate thought that comes to mind is of the view of the Pacific Ocean or the majestic landscape that spreads across both the mainland and Vancouver Island.

For someone in the mining industry however, that tagline means something completely different. To those in the sector, the true beauty of B.C. is in the abundance of minerals and precious metals that lie beneath the province’s surface, including gold and silver.

The rich heritage of the industry in B.C. dates back to the mid-1800s, when coal and placer gold mining were the chief activities in exploration and production. Both minerals are still strong to this day, along with copper, lead, zinc, molybdenum and a host of others, which combined accounted for 17 per cent of all Canadian mineral exploration expenditures in 2007, a vast increase from the 7 per cent rate in 2000.

Throughout the years, mining in B.C. has been a strong contributor to the province’s economy. Across the reported 472 projects that were active in 2007 (according to the provincial Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources), exploration expenditures reached \$416 million, an incredible 1,300 per cent increase from the \$29 million spent in 2001.

To ensure that this growth continues at such a strong pace, a number of organizations have taken steps to ensure that the workforce, which, as stated by

The Mining Association of British Columbia on its website, currently sits at over 100,000 direct or indirect individuals (equalling to 1 in 20 B.C. residents) maintains its high employment rate. Among these organizations is the B.C. Mineral Exploration and Mining Labour Market Task Force, who on May 14, 2008, released a new human resources strategy aimed at bringing more skilled workers into the industry to supplement current employees who will be retiring in the near future.

Part of the reason for this strategy, according to David Bazowski, Chair of the task force, is to encourage skilled workers, either within the province or outside it, to consider B.C. over other provinces and territories.

“There is enormous competition in attracting employees both within British Columbia and in other jurisdictions, and we need a strong human resources strategy for our industry to reach its potential,” he stated on May 14, 2008.

The strategy aims to accomplish the following goals, as outlined in the brochure “Labour Market Task Force Reports”, released in 2008:

- Filling the vacancies that the study identified—almost an estimated 7,500 jobs over five years, and includes displaced forestry workers in some communities;
- More economic and social benefits for women, immigrants, and other

under-represented individuals in the labour force;

- Economic and employment partnerships with First Nations and Aboriginal peoples;
- Direct and indirect economic development including infrastructure development for communities in B.C.; and
- Tax revenues from increased employment and business activity.

Even before the task force began developing its strategy, B.C. had been proactive in its attempts to grow its workforce by reaching out to non-traditional demographics for employment such as Aboriginal communities. In 2005, the provincial government produced a guidebook entitled “Mineral Exploration, Mining and Aboriginal Community Engagement” (written by Dan Jepsen, Bob Joseph, Bill McIntosh and Bruce McKnight), which encouraged companies whose activity would be in or near First Nations territories to examine employment from these regions. Among the topics discussed are youth education initiatives, pre-employment training programs, employment enhancement options and community relations.

With a community that is extremely driven to succeed and replenish its workforce, there’s no doubt that the B.C. mining sector will continue to grow for years to come. ■

FACTS:

- The B.C. mining industry reported phenomenal net income of \$1.2 billion in 2007. *Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers 2007 Mining Report.*
- The mining industry in B.C. generated gross revenues of \$6.9 billion in 2007. *Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers 2007 Mining Report.*
- The B.C. mining industry directly employed 7,415 people in 2007 compared to 7,345 during 2006. *Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers 2007 Mining Report.*
- Mining is the safest heavy industry in B.C.. In 2005 the worker injury rate was 1.9 injuries per 100 worker years. *Source: WorkSafe B.C..*
- For 2007 the government of B.C. estimated a 57 per cent increase in provincial exploration expenditure of \$416 million up from \$220 million in 2006. *Source: Government of British Columbia.*
- Mine reclamation is a fundamental part of the mining life cycle in British Columbia. The Technical & Research Committee on Reclamation (TRCR) has been dedicated to excellence in mine reclamation in B.C. since 1977. *Source: www.trcr.bc.ca.* The actual land usage for a mine is extremely small relative to the area explored—less than 28,000 hectares are currently being used by mining which is less than 0.03 per cent of B.C.'s total land base. *Source: Government of British Columbia.*



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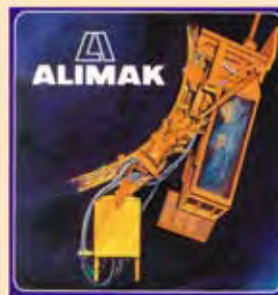
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Junior developer strikes deal

Takara Resources Inc., a Toronto-based junior mineral developer, said in August 2008 that it has struck a deal to acquire the Big Bar, Baez, Ospika projects and five other properties in the central interior of British Columbia, according to the Canadian Press. Under the agreement Takara will pay \$1.6 million in cash and exploration spending over four years and issue up to 1.2 million shares to the seller, an unnamed B.C. prospector. The Big Bar and Baez Projects are believed to contain gold and silver deposits. The Ospika property could hold zinc and other base metal deposits. The five other properties northwest of Williams Lake could contain gold and copper.

Earnings up

Imperial Metals Corp. announced on August 8, 2008 that it earned \$44.2 million, up sharply from a year ago, as revenue improved more than 30 per cent. The metals producer said the profit amounted to \$1.35 per share for the three months ended June 30 compared with a profit of \$3.2 million or 10 cents per share a year ago. Revenue was \$124.9 million, up from \$93.2 million. Imperial has two key mines in British Columbia as well as a development project in the province and an exploration project in Nevada.

Government of Canada funds Natural Resources that use location-based information

In July 2007 the Government of Canada announced \$674,911 in funding for a variety of projects in B.C. that rely on location-based, or geospatial, information. The nine projects, totaling \$2.1 million, are supported through GeoConnections, a national partnership program led by NRCan.

Among the different projects, the McGregor Model Forest in Prince George, managed in partnership with the University of Northern British Columbia, has received \$27,000 to improve online access to forestry data and other land-use planning

Under the agreement Takara will pay \$1.6 million in cash and exploration spending over four years and issue up to 1.2 million shares to the seller, an unnamed B.C. prospector.

information. This project will initially focus on forests in the interior of B.C. to support decision making by community leaders to address the socio-economic impacts of the mountain pine beetle infestation.

GeoConnections has also provided \$145,000 to Environment Canada for a project that will see the creation of a multi-agency partnership and the development of a Web portal to share information pertaining to the Okanagan River Basin. This project will improve access to comprehensive monitoring and research results that can be used to support a sustainable future for the watershed.

In addition, GeoConnections has provided \$60,000 to support species at risk by enabling access to aggregated data on the Internet for more than 5,000 aquatic plant and animal species. This project involves NatureServe Canada and its partners.

All of the B.C. projects support the planning and management of forests, water and wildlife in the province by improving access to relevant geospatial information online, regardless of where and in what database the information is housed and what organization collected it.

Additional information about GeoConnections and the CGDI is available at www.geoconnections.org.

B.C. celebrates 150 years of mining history

This year's theme for Sam Steele Days 2008, held in Cranbrook in June 2008, is "A Salute to Mining." Mining-related displays included a Journey Map to highlight 150 years of energy and mining milestones in British Columbia.

"Most people don't realize just how prominent a role mining plays in our everyday lives," said Diana J. Scott, Mining Association of B.C. Community relations director, Kootenay Region. "We'd be delighted if visitors left the mining expo with a better appreciation of the contributions made by the mining industry and a bit more perspective about how the items produced by local mining companies—such as copper—are used to manufacture everything from cars and solar panels to computers."

For more information, please visit www.bc150.ca.

Northwest Power Line would attract billions in investment and create thousands of jobs, preliminary findings of study show

The Northwest Power Line Coalition released preliminary findings in April 2008 on the potential benefits of a power line along Highway 37 in northwest British Columbia. It found:

- The northwest power line could attract an estimated \$3.5 billion in mining investment, excluding the Galore Creek project;
- It has the potential to create 2,000 jobs;
- It would generate more than \$300 million in economic activity; and
- Governments would benefit from more than \$75 million in annual tax revenues.

"Even without the Galore Creek project, the benefits of a power line along Highway 37 are significant," said Pierre Lebel, spokesperson for the Northwest Power Line Coalition. "There is a potential to realize \$3.5 billion in capital investment in northwest B.C., but this is unlikely to happen without the power line."



News Watch:

British Columbia

The preliminary findings of the study also highlight the economic challenges facing the northwest region of the province. The unemployment rate for the northwest is much higher than the B.C. average. And, between 2001 and 2006, the population in the northwest declined by seven per cent, compared to a five per cent increase across the province.

"Northern communities believe that construction of the power line would provide an economic benefit to

the region," said Janine North, Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Development Initiative Trust. "The preliminary findings of the Macquarie study suggest that electrification of Highway 37 will attract needed investment and jobs for the region, including additional opportunities for joint ventures with First Nations."

More information is available online at www.highway37.com.

Potential mineral resources in British Columbia's mountain pine beetle affected areas

British Columbia is now closer to identifying new mineral and energy deposits in areas of mountain pine beetle infestations as a result of new data collected during a recent helicopter survey west of Williams Lake, Quesnel and Prince George. Funding for this survey was announced by the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources, in September 2007, as part of Canada's Mountain Pine Beetle Program.


"Our government has committed \$1 billion over 10 years to help commun-

ities that have suffered from this infestation, including \$6 million for mapping areas for potential mineral prospecting," said Minister Lunn. "Mineral exploration will help to diversify the resource economies of beetle-infested areas and is an important part of the overall strategy to help affected communities."

Since 2006, the Government of Canada has announced several mountain pine beetle initiatives, including:

- \$26 million to control the spread of the beetle;
- \$6.5 million in fire protection;
- \$1.1 million on new opportunities for mountain pine beetle wood; and
- \$6 million in mineral exploration.

"Over the long term, new mine and energy projects will provide excellent jobs and economic growth opportunities to communities affected by the mountain pine beetle and to those working in the rapidly changing forest sector," said Minister Lunn.

The new data is part of Canada's Geoscience for Mountain Pine Beetle Program (MPB) and is available free at <http://gdr.nrcan.gc.ca/gravity>. 




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
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A Message from Alberta's Minister of Energy



Alberta is home to an abundance of natural resources. For more than a century, Alberta's mining industry has worked to tap into these resources, from excavating for non-energy commodities to mining coal and oil sands—driving forces behind Alberta's vibrant economy.

While the oil sands continue to be the centrepiece of our economy, it's estimated that Alberta's remaining established reserves of all types of coal is 33.5 billion tonnes—an amount that will meet today's level of demand for several centuries to come. With coal on track to retain its position as a secure, reliable source of energy, and with a wealth of non-energy minerals excavated and mined in our province, the Alberta government recognizes

the critical role the mining industry plays in our future. Not only is growing demand putting pressure on the mining industry to increase production, a commitment to responsible development challenges the mining industry to reduce its environmental footprint.

The Alberta government continues to work with industry to reduce negative environmental impacts from mining. For example, we are undertaking considerable research on tailings handlings and reclamation techniques for both oil sands and coal mining. In March 2008, the Alberta government awarded Titanium Corporation a C\$3.5 million grant to research the value-added opportunities and environmental benefits of stripping out hydrocarbons and heavy minerals from oil sands tailing streams.

Mining will play an important role in Alberta's economy for decades to come, and we will continue to work with industry to improve coal and oil sands mining technologies and to explore other non-energy commodities such as diamonds, gold, platinum group metals, zinc, lead and other minerals.

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I would like to recognize those who work in the mining industry and thank you for your contribution to Alberta's economy. By working together, we will continue to tap into a vast wealth of resources while setting new standards for environmentally responsible development.

The Honourable Mel Knight
Minister of Energy



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Alberta: Black Gold...

When mining is discussed in relation to Alberta, virtually the only topic that comes up is oil; in limiting conversation to this fuel source, however, one only tells part of the story of Alberta's rich heritage in the industry.

In fact, throughout its history, Alberta has been home to an estimated 1,800 mines, beginning, ironically, with the production of coal in the late 1800s, including the first project in the capital city of Edmonton commencing in 1883. One year prior, the city of Lethbridge opened its first coal mine, and would eventually add more than a dozen more in its vicinity before the last one closed in the mid-1960s. Additional coal mines were also situated in Banff and Canmore, along with other locations across the province.

Even before this formalized approach to coal mining, black stripes across the province's badlands were cited as sources for the fuel source. As recounted by the Atlas Coal Mine National History Site on its web site (located at www.atlascoalmine.ab.ca): The Blackfoot and Cree knew about the black rock that burned, but they didn't like to use it. Later, three white explorers reported coal in the area: Peter Fidler in 1792, Dr. James Hector of the Palliser Expedition in 1857, and Joseph Tyrrell in 1884.

While coal mining would dominate the mining landscape in Alberta for years, the possibility of harvesting from the oil sands proved to be too tempting, and oil country would soon be born.

The first step to production began in 1964, when Suncor Energy Inc.'s predecessor, Great Canadian Oil Sands, started construction of a plant in Fort McMurray. At the time, President and Chairman J. Howard Pew saw that this project, while being one that was moving into uncharted territory, had the potential to be an incredible financial program.

"This is a great challenge to the imagination, skill and technological know-how of our scientists and engineers," Pew said. "I am convinced this venture will succeed, and that it will be the means of opening up reserves that will meet the needs of the North American continent for generations to come."

Pew's foresight proved to be accurate. Three years later, the Fort McMurray plant, which was constructed to produce 45,000 barrels per day, was complete. Just under 30 years later, in 1996, Suncor produced its 500 millionth barrel of oil.

Suncor's reign as the sole company operating a production facility in the Alberta oil sands would not last. In 1973, Syncrude Canada Ltd. began construction of its own production facility, and five years later the company would ship its first barrel of crude oil. Today, the company ranks not only as the largest operating in the oil sands, which according to Alberta Energy and Utilities Board estimates, contain 1.7 trillion barrels of crude, but also the largest mine anywhere in the world.

As the population of workers in the oil sands vicinity has grown, so to have those of the towns around it. In particular, Fort McMurray has undergone a population



explosion, currently reaching a size of 50,000 citizens.

Today, these two fuel sources are responsible for 11 of the 15 mines currently operating in the province. Also a part of the mining scene in Alberta are deposits of limestone, shale, ammonite shell and sandstone. Another mineral, salt, is also in heavy production from Alberta. The substance, as noted by the Alberta Energy and utilities Board, is unearthed using solution mining methods.

As exploration and production of these minerals continue, the reputation that Alberta has of being focused solely on crude will dissipate, and the province will soon be known as being more than just the oil capital of Canada. **M**



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FACTS:

- Commodities mined in Alberta include: oil sands; coal; limestone; salt; shale; dimension stone; ammonite shell; sandstone; sand and gravel.
- Coal and oil sands mining contributes approximately 3.1 per cent or \$3.3 billion dollars to the provincial economy.
- The minerals industry (excluding oil and gas) is estimated to directly employ about 10,000 people in Alberta.
- There are 173 billion barrels of oil in the oil sands proven to be recoverable with today's technology.
- Oil sands are contained in three major areas of northeastern Alberta beneath about 140,000 square kilometres, with approximately 500 square kilometres of land disturbed by oil sands surface mining activity. That's roughly the size of Florida, with the amount of land disturbed for oil sands mining roughly equivalent to the size of the Kennedy Space Centre.
- Approximately 80 per cent of recoverable oil sands is through in-situ production, with less than 20 per cent recoverable by mining.
- In March 2008, the Alberta government issued its first reclamation certificate to Syncrude Canada Ltd. for the 104-hectare parcel of land known as Gateway Hill approximately 35 kilometres north of Fort McMurray.
- In 2006, Alberta exported about 1.35 million barrels per day of crude oil to the U.S., supplying 13 per cent of their crude oil import and accounting for almost three-quarters of Canada's oil exports to the U.S.
- Oil sands make up about five per cent of Canada's overall greenhouse gas emissions and less than one-tenth of one per cent of the world's emissions.
- In 2007, Alberta became the first in North America to legislate greenhouse gas reductions on large industrial facilities such as those found in the oil sands. In the first year, companies made 2.6 million tonnes of actual reductions, the equivalent to taking 550,000 cars off the road.
- The Government of Alberta and private industry have each invested more than \$1 billion in oil sands research. Combined efforts and investments of both the public and private sectors will continue to improve the efficiency and environmental footprint of oil sands recovery and upgrading.
- Every dollar invested in the oil sands creates about \$9 worth of economic activity globally, and \$6 in direct and indirect activity in the Alberta economy.

News Watch:

Alberta

Province begins development of two new communities in Fort McMurray

The province of Alberta has started the process of developing two new communities for Fort McMurray, complete with new homes and community facilities. The Alberta government is working with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and various local groups to develop serviced lots for residential, commercial and community uses in the northwest community of Parsons Creek and southeast Saline Creek Plateau.

Once completed, the developments are intended to house approximately 40,000 people in thousands of new homes on 4000 acres of land. The communities will be complemented by schools, health clinics, recreational facilities, parks and other community services. "This is a world-scale project that

will benefit from the continued cooperation and participation of many stakeholders," said Treasury Board President Lloyd Snelgrove. "A project of this magnitude is a significant undertaking with the end result creating neighbourhoods where people will have homes to raise their families and opportunities to contribute to their community and the province."

The development of these communities responds to the Radke Report, Investing In Our Future: Responding to the Rapid Growth of Oil Sands Development and will form part of the long-term strategic plan for the oil sands being developed by the province.

Additional information about the community development board and project details will be available as the work unfolds. Construction is currently

anticipated to be completed in phases with the first housing expected to be available in 2010.

Significant extension to Shirotnaia gold anomalies discovered

In mid-July 2008 Calgary-based Alhambra Resources Ltd. announced that the results of a 2008 bedrock geochemical sampling exploration program completed at Alhambra's Shirotnaia zone resulted in the discovery of a significant extension to the known gold anomalies.

In 2007, Alhambra announced a gold discovery at the Shirotnaia zone due to a successful diamond drilling program whereby 17 of 18 holes drilled intersected significant intervals of gold mineralization (see news releases dated March 21 and April 26, 2007). The Shirotnaia zone is one of Alhambra's advanced drilling targets



Alberta

within the Corporation's 100 per cent owned, 2.7 million acre, Uzboy Project located in north central Kazakhstan. The 2008 bedrock geochemical sampling program resulted in the discovery of three new gold anomalies.

John J. Komarnicki, Alhambra's Chairman and CEO stated, "the results of the exploration program at Shirotnaia are significantly better than we expected. These anomalies cover a significant portion of a major fault system immediately northeast of the Aksu gold deposit. These new exploration results support our interpretation that Shirotnaia has the potential to become a very significant gold bearing area."

Alberta industries comply with pivotal climate change legislation

Alberta has reached a significant landmark in its efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions from large industry. For the first time in North America, oil sands facilities, coal-fired power plants and others met a requirement to reduce the intensity of their greenhouse gas emissions by 12 per cent. Companies had until March 31, 2008 to comply with the Alberta law, which came into effect July 1, 2007.

Alberta gave companies three options for meeting the reduction: improve the energy efficiency of their operations, buy carbon credits in the Alberta-based offset system or pay \$15 into the Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund for every tonne over their reduction target. Facilities could also choose a combination of the options.

Preliminary results indicate companies made 2.6 million tonnes of actual reductions through operational changes and practices—including better use and re-use of energy—and investing in verified offsets created by other Alberta projects. The reduction is equivalent to taking 550,000 vehicles off the road in a year.

Companies also chose to pay approximately \$40 million into the Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund, which will invest in projects and

"To confirm the success of reclamation takes time. Both operators and government want to ensure that the reclamation is successful before a certificate is granted."

technology to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Alberta

For more details on Alberta's 2008 climate change strategy, please visit www.environment.alberta.ca.

Alberta issues first-ever oil sands land reclamation certificate

Alberta designated a rolling forested area with hiking trails and lookout points as the first piece of oil sands land to be reclaimed, in March 2008. The Alberta government issued a reclamation certificate to Syncrude Canada Ltd. for the 104-hectare parcel of land known as Gateway Hill approximately 35 kilometres north of Fort McMurray.

"To confirm the success of reclamation takes time," said Environment Minister Rob Renner. "Both operators and government want to ensure that the reclamation is successful before a certificate is granted."

Under Alberta's reclamation standards, companies must remediate and reclaim Alberta's land so it can be productive again. Alberta requires reclaimed land to be able to support a range of activities similar to its previous use.


The site was used for placement of overburden material removed during oil sands mining. By the early 1980s, the area was no longer needed and Syncrude began to replace topsoil and plant trees and shrubs.

Typically oil sands mining requires the use of land for several decades. The reclamation process occurs throughout the life of the project, and the final reclamation certification occurs when the land is no longer in use and has been fully reclaimed.

Energy Minister showcases Alberta's commitment to responsible energy development at World Petroleum Congress in Spain

In June 2008 Alberta Energy Minister Mel Knight highlighted Alberta's work to ensure the sustainable development of resources at the World Petroleum Congress, June 29 - July 3 in Madrid, Spain. Knight spoke on the final day of the congress, sharing with delegates Alberta's commitment to environmentally responsible resource development and showcasing the province as an excellent location for investors and a secure supplier of energy. While in Europe, Minister Knight also addressed the Canada-U.K. Chamber of Commerce in London, England. He spoke to the business community about opportunities and challenges in Alberta's oil sands.

"Alberta has a reputation as a major reliable energy supplier—and this reputation is growing around the world," said Knight. "This trip is a great opportunity to let foreign investors know that Alberta's business climate is stable and that we're committed to the sustainable, environmentally responsible development of our resources."

Held every three years, the World Petroleum Congress is the largest international gathering in the oil and gas industry, with 3,500 delegates expected to attend this year's event. The conference theme is "A World in Transition: Delivering Energy for Sustainable Growth." 

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Products summaries

ToothMetrics: A broken tooth detection system for mining shovels

ToothMetrics is the flagship product of Motion Metrics International (MMI). It reduces production downtime and significantly improves the operation safety of the mining shovels as an open software by immediately detecting broken teeth and adapting on their systems. Made of rugged and high grade components, ToothMetrics system could be installed on P&H, Bucyrus, Terex, O&H, Komatsu & Hitachi. It is easy to install & calibrate, it is easy to maintain & service. It can be combined with other products such as ViewMetrics and FragMetrics.

ViewMetrics: A camera-based surveillance system for mining machines

ViewMetrics improves safety in the area around & busy mining machines by providing the operators with a wide view of the blind spots. It employs extremely robust cameras covering 125 degrees of horizontal viewing area (available in HDW in color) and carries a five years' manufacturing warranty.

VMHT: A camera based digital surveillance system for Haul Trucks

ViewMetrics for Haul Trucks (VMHT) is a new product of MMI Corp. It is a camera based digital vision tool which enlarges the driver's field of view by displaying with large wide views of the truck conveniently inside the cabin on high resolution LCD monitors. The wide angle camera views (wide view camera options up to 160 degrees) provide a greater visibility for the driver to prevent accidents and tire damage. The brightness and contrast could be set for different lighting conditions. Like other MMI's products, VMHT is extremely rugged and employs durable non-ferrous components. It is easy to install, access and adjust.

FragMetrics: A real-time fragmentation analysis system for mining shovels and loaders

The system employs a high resolution camera mounted on the shovel where it has a clear view of the material inside the bucket. It automatically identifies objects of all sizes and optimizes efficiency in the mine by allowing more detailed barrel analysis. Its vibration report analyzer makes it easier to review the data. It is designed for harsh working environments of surface mines. Rugged cables, Shock/vibration resistant camera & RS-485 connectors. The embedded computer has no moving parts. The low profile compact side touch screen fits comfortably into the seat. The CPU accepts a variety of input voltages. The software is versatile and can be easily customized for different machines after installation. Easy to install VMHT can be combined with other products such as ViewMetrics & ToothMetrics.

LoadMetrics: A real-time bucket weigh system for mining shovels

Shovel payload weight, the payload weight inside the shovel bucket is displayed numerically. This payload weight, the total load inside the bucket is presented both numerically and graphically. Shovel cutting force: An arrow displays the direction of the force applied by the shovel to the mine graphically and a vertical color bar monitor displays the magnitude of the force. Shovel arm geometry: the geometry of the arm is composed in real-time and displayed to the machine operator graphically. Cylinder limit indicator: In the arm geometry graphics, the color of each cylinder goes full transparent or full red when changes in red to inform the operator to avoid using the cylinders near their limits and extend their useful life.

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A Message from Saskatchewan's Minister of Energy and Resources



Saskatchewan's mining industry is red-hot these days and is, in fact, on its biggest roll ever. The total value of Saskatchewan mineral sales hit an all-time record of \$4.6 billion in 2007 and mineral exploration in our province is expected to exceed \$360 million in 2008—a fifteen fold increase over the figure for 2001.

These numbers are unprecedented and the incredible momentum we are seeing is expected to continue. At a time when commodity prices are high and the investment climate is attractive, Saskatchewan is showing the world its rich and abundant natural resources and making a name for itself in Canada's New West.

We produce 95 per cent of the country's potash and about a third of the

potash produced globally. Last year, production increased 30.7 per cent over 2006. In April this year, the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan became the first company in the province ever to be ranked number one on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Our province is the world's largest producer of uranium, boasting ore grades 100 times the world average. New mines and expansions of existing operations could result in Saskatchewan doubling its uranium production in the next few years.

Saskatchewan's excellent potential in many minerals extends to coal, base metals, gold and rare earth elements. Drilling for diamonds continues at an encouraging pace amid the world's largest diamond-kimberlite field. We are

very hopeful that we will have our first diamond mine in Saskatchewan's Fort a la Corne area in the near future.

Companies large and small are exploring and discovering our mineral resources, and countries around the globe such as China, Japan and Korea are investing in Saskatchewan minerals. As this boom in exploration continues, we can look forward to new mines being developed, exciting new discoveries, and many more opportunities in a province that is energy-rich and resource-full.

The Honourable Bill Boyd
Minister of Energy and Resources

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Saskatchewan: Mining Takes *Flight* Across the Province

In a province that is dominated by wheat farms, livestock and biotechnology, Saskatchewan may not seem to some to be a major mining zone. Those who ignore the potential that the province has and has already realized, though, are missing the opportunity to make a major strike in a marketplace that is already ranking as one of the best regions in Canada for mining opportunities.

For evidence of this, look no further than statistics gathered by the Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA). As reported on the organization's website, the province has ranked number one for the past two years in greenfield exploration expenditures in Canada, while overall exploration reached \$244 million in 2006. Much of this, according to the SMA, was in test drilling for one substance in particular.

"Our dramatic increase in exploration activity is being driven by renewed interest in uranium," the SMA stated on their website. "The spot price for uranium increased from US \$7/lb in 2001 to over US \$120/lb in 2007, fuelled by increasing demand by the nuclear fuel industry."

This controversial mineral, though, is not the only hot commodity in Saskatchewan; a number of other materials have also been an integral part of the province's mining economy, which ranks only behind oil and gas and agriculture in value of sales.

Potash, for example, continues to be the most in-demand mineral for the region. Primarily used for fertilizer, potash deposits emanate from the Prairie Formation, accounting for 25 per cent of production across the globe. The substance, which was originally discovered in the 1940s during exploration for petroleum, has been continuously been

extracted since the 1960s, with annual sales totalling approximately \$1 billion.

Another mineral, which is now becoming an emerging commodity is metakaolin which, based on provincial estimates, have deposits in Saskatchewan that reach 15,000 to 200,000 tonnes. Primarily used as a cement supplement, the substance, as noted by Whitemud Resources Inc., has a number of environmental benefits over other additives.

"The manufacturing of metakaolin generates 55 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions," the company states on their website.

Production of all of these minerals, however, would not be possible

if it weren't for the dedication of the provincial government and other organizations to ensuring that Saskatchewan's workforce continues to be one of the best in the country. According to the SMA, roughly 21,000 people are employed by the industry, earning an average salary that exceeds \$60,000.

This large employee base comes from a number of initiatives that have been instituted over the years, including a strong focus on worker safety that has been in place since the SMA first came into existence just over 40 years ago. Through continual worker education and training, Saskatchewan



has maintained a rate of one Lost Time Accident per 200,000 hours of worker service.

Also helping further industry development has been the provincial government, which has worked in a number of areas, including the creation of a Mining

Initiative to regulate competitiveness within the industry (in August 2006), engaging Aboriginal communities in the industry and watching environmental impacts.

As bodies like the SMA and the provincial government continue

to work on developing strategies and industry resources, companies will continue to both grow inside Saskatchewan and external ones will continue to arrive in the prairies, set to explore and produce from one of Canada's best mining regions. ■

FACTS:

- Saskatchewan ranks fourth in Canada (after Ontario, British Columbia and Québec) in terms of the total value of mineral production, accounting for 11.4 per cent of the total value of Canadian mineral production in 2006.
- Saskatchewan's mining industry spends more than \$2.5 billion annually on wages, goods, services and many other taxes and fees which all go to support government programs and services.
- Saskatchewan's mining industry pays in excess of \$500 million in royalties and many other taxes and fees which all go to support government programs and services such as education and health care.
- Canada supplies about one third of the world's potash. Most of this production comes from Saskatchewan with the remaining portion coming from a PCS mine in New Brunswick.
- Saskatchewan has the largest high grade reserves in the world for both these commodities.
- Saskatchewan coal, burned in thermal plants at Estevan and Coronach, accounts for over 60 per cent the province's electrical power generation, some coal is still exported to Ontario for power generation.
- Saskatchewan's mining industry has a very small footprint utilizing only 0.1 per cent of available land in the province (less than the size of the city of Saskatoon).
- All new mining projects are required to incorporate reclamation and decommissioning plans as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Statement that is submitted to Saskatchewan Environment when applying for a Mine Operating License.
- The provincial mining industry is recognized as one of the most technologically advanced in the world.
- One of the fastest growing career areas in the mining industry is information technology. Eighty-five per cent of the mining work force presently uses advanced technology.

Source: The Saskatchewan Mining Association.



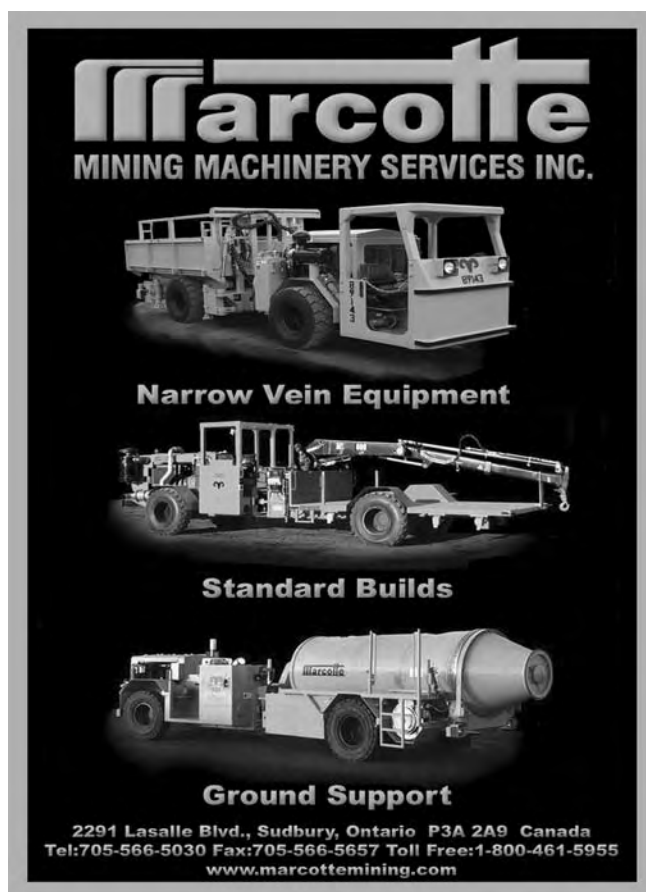
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Grand opening for Whitemud Resources Inc.

Whitemud Resources Inc., a leading manufacturer and supplier of metakaolin, will be celebrating the grand opening of its new facilities this summer. Whitemud was founded in 2002 and has since secured leases for one of the largest deposits of kaolin in North America, near Wood Mountain in southern Saskatchewan, 165 kilometres southwest of Regina. Construction of a 175,000-tonne-per-year metakaolin processing plant began in the fall of 2006 and commissioning of the plant began in January 2008. Its grand-opening is slated for late August 21, 2008.

Metakaolin enhances the strength and durability of concrete while at the same time, reduces costs. In fact, metakaolin—which is sold under the name Whitemud—is increasingly in demand because when 20 per cent of cement is replaced with it, the resulting product is stronger and resistant to chemical attack.

The new facilities will do much to increase production of Whitemud which is especially important when considering that the cement supply in North America has been under considerable pressure over the past few years. This is driven primarily by increased consumption from the housing and construction industry, but also by economic growth overseas, particularly in Asia. The industry has had to become more reliant on imported cements, which now represent more than one-quarter of supply.

Province's potash industry shines

Saskatchewan's potash industry is a symbol of the province's red-hot economy as its companies and mines continue to help meet the growing demands in global food production. In April 2008 Canpotex Limited, the offshore marketing company of Saskatchewan's potash producers, reached a new agreement with

Sinofert Holdings Limited of China to sell its potash to China at \$576 US per tonne, a \$400 per tonne increase over the price for 2007.

The agreement secures supply with one of the provincial industry's largest customers in a time of tight markets for potash and increasing demand for Saskatchewan product from other markets.

"The Canpotex announcement is great news for an industry that is already working flat-out," Energy and Resources Minister Bill Boyd said. "It is great news for the shareholders of PotashCorp, Mosaic and Agrium, great news for the 3,500 people who work in our potash industry and great news for our economy overall."

Saskatchewan is coming off a record year for value of potash sales—\$3 billion in 2007, a 12 per cent increase over the previous record set in 2005. Total sales of 17.4 million tonnes last year were also a record, up six per cent from the previous mark set in 2004.

Interest in potash dispositions is at unprecedented levels, with a record level of 5.5 million hectares in permits issued or applied for. The industry has announced potential expansions in productive capacity at its existing mines, totalling an additional 11.3 million tonnes of potassium chloride at a capital cost of \$6.5 billion.

New industry standard helps protect mine workers

The Government of Saskatchewan is strengthening the safety of mine workers with an increased industry standard that will require physical barriers in areas that may contain hidden hazards. Previously, warning signs were the accepted industry standard to prevent entrance into hazardous areas. The change comes after an investigation into the 2007 fatality of a worker at the Seabee Gold Mine.

"Occupational Health and Safety Division is working hard every day to create a culture of health and safety in

workplaces throughout this province," Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) executive director Glennis Bihun said. "As a consequence of this, investigation areas of improvement in OHS standards for the industry were identified."

OHS has also repealed this item in the Notice of Contravention against Seabee Gold Mine because it involved a change in industry standard from what had been acceptable immediately prior to the accident. A letter has been sent to all members of the mining industry to notify them of this change of standard.

"It is critical that all workers and especially those working in areas of mines where hidden hazards may exist receive the information, training and supervision necessary to do their jobs safely," Bihun said.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division inspects approximately 4,000 workplaces annually and provides training to more than 4,000 employer and worker representatives each year on their safety responsibilities.

National conference coming to Saskatchewan

The Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association (CAMA) 16th Annual Conference is coming to Saskatoon November 2, 2008. Attendees will learn about youth education, skills and capacity building (company, community and multiparty initiatives), environmental management, gold, diamonds, Treaty Land Entitlement, and more. For more information go to www.saskmining.ca/pdf/CAMABrochure.pdf.

Government turns down bids

The Saskatchewan government turned down several bids for oilsands exploratory permits in the province in August 2008, including one from Access Energy Inc., saying none were acceptable. The government, which is seeing increased interest in oil and gas exploration—a



News Watch:

Saskatchewan

sector more often associated with its energy juggernaut neighbour, Alberta—said there were no successful bidders for all five exploratory permits posted for sale on May 29. The permits covered approximately 324,000 hectares.

Reported by The Canadian Press, Blacksands Petroleum, Inc., which lists its shares on the over-the-counter market, had announced plans to submit bids for all of the properties. The potential acquisition of the permits, “fits within the company’s mission to acquire, explore and develop unconventional oil in Western Canada, and therefore we intend to ask the province to repost these permits for bidding,” said the company’s President and Chief Executive Paul Parisotto.

In May, Access Energy signed a joint-venture agreement with the Buffalo River Dene Nation for access to about 1.2 million hectares of land.

But the provincial government determined that the mineral rights were Crown resource lands, and under the jurisdiction of Saskatchewan’s Ministry of Environment. Access Energy said its agreement with Buffalo River lasts until May 2027.

Saskatchewan is home to the Bakken trend, a geological formation that has the largest conventional oil pool

discovered in Canada in more than 50 years.

Unlike the heavy oilsands crude produced in Northern Alberta, Bakken oil is light and sweet, meaning it is easier and cheaper to refine and can be sold for a better price.

Attend the Clean Coal Symposium 2008

With the price of oil and gas continuing to climb, coal is on the global radar. The Canadian Institute’s 5th Annual Clean Coal Symposium will tackle many of the issues surrounding the responsible and environmental use of burning and treating clean coal. This important program will explore many pressing issues including an examination of how coal will compete in the energy portfolio mix, case studies and details of the latest technologies. Mark October 21-22, 2008 on your calendar and plan to be where the experts are gathering in Regina. Learn more at www.canadianinstitute.com.

Comfort letter received for Coal Permit Applications

In May 2008 Swift Resources Inc. announced that a “Letter of Comfort”

was received from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources in regard to coal permit applications submitted on behalf of the companies.

Between April 28 and May 2, the companies submitted 165 coal permit applications totalling 1,259.52 square kilometres. The location of the coal permit applications are adjacent to, partially surrounding, and in proximity to the coal discovery made by Goldsource Mines Inc. The area of Saturn and Swift’s applications were selected to coincide with mapped subcrop of the Mannville Group sediments at shallow depth, relatively thin overburden of Quaternary deposits, structurally-controlled potentially sub-basin forming geological features, and road and/or railroad access.

Government of Canada partners with Saskatchewan to improve Aboriginal training and job opportunities

In March 2008 funding for an Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP) project was announced, which will provide training and skills development opportunities for 1,500 Aboriginal people in northern Saskatchewan, leading to long-term jobs in the resource sector, including mining, oil sands recovery, mineral exploration and oil and gas exploration.

Under the Northern Career Quest Partnership, the Government of Canada, the Government of Saskatchewan and other stakeholders, including Aboriginal and industry partners, will provide \$15 million, \$6.3 million, and \$11.8 million respectively, for a total of \$33.1 million, to help approximately 1,500 Aboriginal people gain the skills and experience they need.

“This is a good news story about co-operation between government, First Nations and Métis people, the training sector and industry,” said Honourable Rob Norris, Saskatchewan Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour. “It will enable First Nations and Métis people to participate in greater numbers and at higher skill levels in northern Saskatchewan’s resource industries.”



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A Message from Manitoba's Minister of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines

Manitoba is one of the top five places on earth for mineral exploration and mining. Our natural advantage is the land itself. While it's common to refer to our province as a Prairie province, it is lesser known that about 60 per cent of Manitoba's surface is Precambrian Shield. In Manitoba, Precambrian rocks are host to internationally renowned deposits of nickel, copper, zinc, tantalum and cesium.

The mineral sector continues to be one of Manitoba's largest primary resource industries and a significant contributor to our provincial economy. We have a long history as a major world supplier of base and precious metals that continue to account for 90 per cent of our mineral production. We have untapped potential for production of a diversity of other commodities, including diamonds, uranium, platinum, palladium and rare earth elements. Manitoba also has minerals like potash, untapped oil potential and the capacity for quarries that produce materials like sandstone, limestone, and dimension stone.

Our strategic location in the geographical centre of North America makes Manitoba an ideal distribution hub for destinations throughout the northern hemisphere and beyond. Our skilled, multicultural, multilingual workforce can compete with any in the world. Abundant hydroelectric power, excellent health care and affordable housing are among our many other advantages.

Our advantages, combined with recent record-setting metal prices, have stimulated record-breaking mineral production activity in our province. In 2007, Manitoba's mineral industry was valued at more than \$3 billion annually, triple what it was in 2003.

Accelerating exploration activity has resulted in significant new copper-zinc

The mineral sector continues to be one of Manitoba's largest primary resource industries and a significant contributor to our provincial economy.

discoveries by HudBay Minerals at Lalor Lake and by VMS Ventures at Reed Lake. The Lalor Lake deposit is considered to be Canada's most significant zinc discovery in recent years. Near Wawbowden, Manitoba, Crowflight Minerals has announced plans to start full commercial production at the Bucko Lake Nickel Project in 2009, directly employing up to 200 people in Manitoba's newest mine.


Manitoba continues to support growth in our mining sector through incentives such as the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit that provides tax advantages to

Manitobans who invest in exploration projects in the province. As well, earlier this year, the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program and the Prospectors Assistance Program were renewed for another three years. These programs offer more than \$2.5 million annually to support mineral exploration in Manitoba.

We invite you explore the potential to make your future part of ours.

Jim Rondeau
Minister of Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines

LYNN LAKE GREENSTONE BELT



The Lynn Lake Greenstone Belt

The Belt located in Mine-friendly Manitoba is experiencing a surge of mineral exploration focusing on previously producing mines and on virgin ground inside and outside the municipal boundary. Council welcomes interested persons to review exploration efforts or stake claims. Local business services and necessary infrastructure to support local and regional exploration programs. Dependable and affordable transportation corridor into Nunavut's exploration camps.

For further information, visit <http://www.lynnlake.ca/mining.htm> or call (204) 356-2418



Manitoba: Made for Mega Mining

At first glance, Manitoba may not seem like a region that has a lot of mining activity. After all, the landscape of flatlands interspersed with lakes and rivers has given the prairie province the reputation for rich farming and hydroelectricity.

This first glance, however, is a major oversight, as mining is one of Manitoba's most important industries. Statistics from the provincial government show that the \$2.5 billion in production from mining gives the industry a ranking as the second largest primary resource sector.

Currently, eight mines are in operation in the province, including:

- Thompson mine T1 and T3 (Vale Inco Limited);
- Birchtree Mine (Vale Inco);
- Trout Lake Mine (HudBay Minerals Inc.);
- 777 Mine (HudBay);
- Chisel North Mine (HudBay);
- Rice Lake Gold Mine (San Gold Corporation); and
- Tanco Mine (Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada, Ltd).

Throughout these mines, you will find a sampling of the minerals that have put Manitoba on the mining map. Nickel, copper, zinc, gold, spodumene, tantalum and pollucite have all been yielded from these locations, while

other substances such as dolomite, spodumene, silver, gypsum, salt, granite, limestone, peat, lime, sand and gravel have been unearthed in the past.

Some of these minerals, in fact, were essential to the start up of Manitoba's economy. As described in "Manitoba mining: a rich history" (prepared by the Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines ministry), the industry took shape with salt mining that emanated from brine springs that were found on the west side of Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipegosis. Gypsum, which was discovered in the 1850s in the province's Interlake region, became a full-out sector in the early 1900s.

While these regions continue to be hotspots in the province for mining today, it is the northwest portion of Manitoba that is arguably experiencing the biggest buzz today. Towns across this region are gaining interest at paces that match their most productive years.

Among these is Lynn Lake. This small community of 700-plus citizens has a rich heritage of mining, with 8 mines having operated in its vicinity in the past. Now, as activity looks like it could start up again, a variety of companies have begun exploring for nickel and gold in the area. Included are the Independent Nickel Corp., who are in the midst of a program at their fully

owned Lynn Lake Nickel Mine, and Carlisle Goldfields Limited, who has 125 claims and 187 leases along the mineral rich Lynn Lake Greenstone Belt. Recent activity from Carlisle includes a \$1 million budget for exploration, which is currently in phase II.

It is this Belt, in fact, which helped the town's founding. As outlined on Lynn Lake web site, a number of buildings, ranging from houses to churches, were moved from nearby Sherridon to the new location by teams of sleighs attached to tractors, all with the sole purpose of serving as a community around a mine starting up along the Belt.

Along with a rich heritage in mining, the future of Manitoba's industry looks to be very positive. Current production isn't set to slow down any time soon for the aforementioned substances and, meanwhile, the province has identified diamonds, platinum-group metals (PGM), rare earth elements (REE), titanium, vanadium, chromite, silica and potash for potential future development.

With these future possibilities, mixing with present work and possibilities of past areas being explored again, Manitoba's industry looks to continue growing, and with that will come increased recognition of the mining sector. **M**



FACTS:

- Over the last 100 years, Manitoba's mining industry has spawned over 70 mines—leading railways, roads and airports into the northern reaches of the province, and giving rise to mining centres at Flin Flon, Snow Lake, Thompson, Leaf Rapids and Lynn Lake.
- Spin-offs in tourism, forestry and hydroelectricity have further strengthened the provincial economy. While the mining industry's primary focus remains the north, significant developments continue to take place in southern Manitoba, particularly at the mining community of Bissett.
- Mining makes a significant contribution to the economy. Manitoba's mining industry employs over 3,500 people directly—most of whom reside in the north—and another 14,000 in indirect spin-off business.
- Research, innovation and advanced technology ensure that Manitoba's exploration and mining industry remains competitive. Projects like the following illustrate this point:
- HudBay Minerals' use of 3-D seismic surveys to discover new orebodies and their ultramodern hydro-metallurgical zinc plant in Flin Flon;
- Vale Inco's ongoing modernization and upgrading of their smelting and refining facilities in Thompson;
- Tanco's cesium formate plant at Bernic Lake as well as new and innovative processes for more efficient recovery of tantalum; and
- ERCO Worldwide's state-of-the-art sodium chlorate manufacturing facility near Virden make Manitoba a world contender in mineral production.
- The Flin Flon–Snow Lake greenstone belt in the Paleoproterozoic Trans-Hudson Orogen of Manitoba represents one of the most important districts worldwide for copper- and zinc-rich volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposits. The recent discovery of the Lalor Lake VMS deposit at Snow Lake by HudBay Minerals Inc., which is estimated to contain at least 20 million tonnes of zinc-rich sulphide mineralization, further confirms the exploration potential of the region.
- Manitoba continues to work in collaboration with industry towards the development of an Integrated Mining Registry System. The new system will offer a comprehensive e-business service allowing clients to securely, quickly and easily deal with regulatory requirements online. Implementation of the new system is scheduled for 2010 and will provide web-based e-business capabilities for:
 - Selection of dispositions;
 - Applications and management of dispositions; and
 - Activity reporting.
- Since 1995, the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program (MEAP) has offered over \$31.5 million in direct financial incentives for exploration projects in Manitoba. MEAP was renewed in 2007 and will offer \$7.5 million in funding over the next three years starting April 2008.

Source: Manitoba's Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines.

News Watch:

Manitoba

Independent Nickel identifies new geophysical targets in proximity to Disco Zone at Lynn Lake

Independent Nickel Corp. received results from an induced polarization ("IP") geophysical survey in and around its recently discovered Disco Zone on the Lynn Lake nickel mine property. In addition to characterizing the Disco Zone mineralization, the geophysical survey has highlighted 10 similar targets in August 2008.

The company has also completed 3D modeling of the Disco Zone, to aid in interpretation of the controls and potential volume of the mineralization. This modeling has confirmed "open" areas in proximity to the Disco zone both at depth and to the southeast of the zone as defined to date.

The 3D modeling has also confirmed the presence of a previously unknown structure that controls the mineralization and trends to the south-southwest. Historically, Lynn

Lake ore bodies were associated with a different, south-southeast trending structure. It is believed that this new structure is related to the historic structure and offers similar exploration potential along its main trend. This main trend of the newly discovered controlling structure represents some of the highest potential for future discovery of near-surface mineralization.

The combined results of the 3D modeling and IP survey demonstrate the excellent exploration potential at Lynn Lake, as well as the potential for the Disco Zone to become an important new resource. The current phase of diamond drilling will test all of the newly defined targets, as well as further defining the extents of the Disco Zone.

Images of the IP survey results, and 3D model images, can be viewed at the company's website at www.independentnickel.com.

\$19 Million to rehabilitate orphaned mines

In May 2008 the provincial government committed \$19 million in funding to continue the cleanup of orphaned or abandoned mines during the next two years. The \$19 million will go to rehabilitating projects in Lynn Lake, Sherridon, Snow Lake, Gods Lake and 12 other sites.

"Establishing an environmental liability account in 2006 was the critical step to addressing the safety and environmental health concerns associated with these sites," said Science, Technology, Energy and Mines Minister Jim Rondeau. "The account, which currently holds \$80 million, supports our commitment by providing the fiscal framework needed to deliver major, long-term funding. Today's funding continues our aggressive strategy to fully rehabilitate Manitoba's former mine sites."

Orphaned or abandoned mines are mines for which the owner either cannot be found or is financially unable or unwilling to carry out site rehabilitation. Many



Manitoba

of these sites were developed over half a century ago before environmental impacts were fully understood and modern operating standards were developed. Some of the sites pose environmental, health, safety and economic risks. Orphaned and abandoned mines exist in all mining jurisdictions in Canada.

In 1999, the Manitoba government introduced mine closure regulations that require environmental liabilities incurred during mining operations to be financially secured to cover future remediation costs. Now, all mine closure plans and financial security must be filed and approved prior to a permit being granted for a new mine operation.

More information about orphaned and abandoned mines is available at www.gov.mb.ca/iedm/mrd/mines/oa_rehabilitation.html.

National Aboriginal mining conference wraps up in Winnipeg

Mining opportunities and best practices for Aboriginal communities were among the outcomes of the April 2008 *Learning Together—An Aboriginal Approach to Mining Relationships Conference* in Winnipeg.

The two-day conference, supported by Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines, involved more than 180 registrants from across Canada including the Osoyoos First Nation in British Columbia and the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach, Québec, who spoke to their economic development experiences related to mining. Representatives from 12 Manitoba First Nations as well as

25 Métis youth also actively participated in the gathering.

In related initiatives, the provincial government also announced the creation of the Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Unit.

The mandate and role of the Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Unit is to facilitate Crown-Aboriginal consultations for the provincial government on proposed large-scale projects, as well as developing an overall government strategy on Crown-Aboriginal consultations and providing education and training on consultation policy and guidelines to government departments and First Nations and Métis communities. The unit is contained in the Department of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and works with other departments on Crown consultation issues.

Mining industry in province thrives

A total of 48 new mineral exploration projects generating an estimated \$39.3 million in exploration expenditures are underway as a result of more than \$1.4 million in funding from the province's Mineral Exploration Assistance Program (MEAP). The Fraser Institute's annual survey asks mining company executives to provide opinions about the investment attractiveness of 65 jurisdictions around the world on every continent except Antarctica.

Since 1999, MEAP has paid \$15.6 million in assistance returning more than \$121 million in reported exploration expenditures. For every \$1 million paid through MEAP, it's estimated that \$7.8 million is generated in exploration expenditures. A total of 90 companies have participated in MEAP representing 433 completed exploration projects. Of these

companies, approximately two-thirds are new to Manitoba.


Exploration activity remains strong for base metals and gold which represent 87.5 per cent of proposed MEAP projects. Of that percentage, 41.7 per cent (20 projects) of exploration activity is for nickel, 25 per cent (12 projects) is for copper/zinc and 21 per cent (10 projects) is for gold.

Of the 48 projects announced, 16 are in the Lynn Lake/Leaf Rapids, Snow Lake and Northern areas including the Far North, Northern Superior and the Hudson Bay Lowland.

MEAP provides up to 35 per cent of approved eligible expenses to a maximum of \$300,000 and up to \$400,000 to companies undertaking mineral exploration in under-explored frontier regions in the northern areas of the province or near communities impacted by mine closures. That is a strong incentive for mining companies to come exploring in Manitoba.

In addition to MEAP, other financial initiatives to boost exploration in the province include:

- The Manitoba Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (MMETC) which was renewed for another year in 2007. It provides a tax credit for Manitobans who invest in exploration in the province.
- The Manitoba Prospectors Assistance Program (MPAP) which offers \$123,000 annually to encourage mineral prospecting in the province.

To view a map showing the location of the MEAP projects visit www.manitoba.ca/iedm/mrd/busdev/incentives/index.html. 



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A Message from Ontario's Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

Not only does Ontario stand out globally for its rich mineral endowment, but also for its knowledge and expertise in all areas of mining. Much of the talent and innovation that is redefining the global mining industry today resides in our province.

There are good grounds for why 25 mining companies produce metals and industrial minerals in Ontario and another 400 are involved in mineral exploration throughout the province.

Ontario stands out globally for its rich mineral endowment. We lead Canada in the production of nickel, gold, cobalt and platinum group metals as well as salt, cement and stone. Ontario is Canada's only producer of phosphate, nepheline syenite and indium. Ontario's mining industry produced a record value of production with \$10.7 billion worth of minerals in 2007, an increase of more than \$1 billion from t \$9.5 billion in 2006.

Unprecedented global demand for our province's mineral products is fuelling unparalleled activity in the mineral exploration sector. In 2007, for example, the number of claim units filed with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines reached a new record of over 100,000 claim units. Our Provincial Recording Office reported record levels of more than 300,000 active claim units in Ontario at the end of last year. There are more than 800 concurrently active mining exploration projects, another unprecedented number. Ontario led the country in 2007 with a projected \$519 million in exploration expenditures, up from \$347 million in 2006. This total is expected to be over \$620 million in 2008.

Not only does Ontario stand out globally for its rich mineral endowment, but also for its knowledge and expertise in all areas of mining. Much of the talent and innovation that is redefining the global mining industry today resides in our province. We are one of the pre-eminent mining jurisdictions on the globe and home to a vibrant mineral industry cluster capable of creating sustainable growth.

Guided by Ontario's Mineral Development Strategy, we are building on these considerable strengths to ensure that our industry remains economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. To that end, we continue working with all mineral sector stakeholders to implement the strategy and all its elements for the benefit of all Ontarians. Our government remains committed to supporting mineral sector excellence by

producing high-quality geoscience information, maintaining favourable taxation policies, and providing a stable and effective regulatory environment.

Minerals will continue playing a vital role as economies around the world expand. We are confident that Ontario's mineral industry cluster will be a leader in this growth. We are committed to ensuring that it continues to flourish as a pillar of our economy.

The Honourable Michael Gravelle
Minister of Northern Development and Mines

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Ontario: Mining Beyond the Concrete Jungle

For many Canadians, the words Ontario and mining uttered in the same sentence are usually combined with a thought that the majority of activity that occurs in Ontario is the share trading that goes on at the Toronto Stock Exchange. The reality, though, is far from the scene on Bay Street.

One of Canada's largest provinces is also one of the biggest players in the mining industry, as with a total estimated production value of \$10.6 billion in 2007, Ontario ranked at the top of the country in revenue generated from the sector. In fact, activity in the eastern province represented 28 per cent of the country's non-fuel mineral production, a startling number to some who may consider that the provinces mining experts to work in the towering financial buildings that dot the concrete jungle.

Instead, the hard working men and women who know the field best are outside of the Greater Toronto Area, tirelessly working to explore and produce the many minerals that can be found across the province's landscape. According to the "Ontario mineral production facts" document published in March 2008 by the provincial Ministry of Northern Development and

FACTS:

- Spending intentions for 2008 indicate that Ontario will lead all Canadian provinces and territories in exploration and deposit appraisal expenditures, accounting for 23 per cent of Canada's total expenditures.
- Expenditures by activity in 2007 were \$407 million (81 per cent) for Off Minesite exploration and \$95 million (19 per cent) for On Minesite exploration. Spending intentions for 2008 indicate that \$529 million (81 per cent) will be spent on Off Minesite and \$100 million (19 per cent) will be spent on On Minesite exploration activity.
- Junior companies are playing a more prominent role in exploration in Ontario. In 2008, spending by Ontario's junior mining companies is expected to climb to \$329 million, up significantly from \$225 million in 2007 and more than double the \$160 million spent in 2006. The percentage of exploration spending by junior companies is expected to climb to over 50 per cent of total expenditures in 2008 from 45 per cent in 2007.
- Senior companies are expected to spend almost \$300 million in 2008 as exploration activity continues at record levels and gold producers are conducting extensive exploration and development work in the vicinity of their gold mines. Spending by Ontario's senior companies reached \$277 million in 2007, up from \$186 million in 2006.
- Gold continues to be the most sought-after commodity in Ontario as it is in Canada and globally. Work on uranium projects across Ontario has led to a rise in exploration spending to \$9 million in 2007. Diamond exploration continues across the province in areas such as Wawa and Cobalt and spending has climbed to \$29 million in 2007.
- The number of active mining claim units in good standing in Ontario climbed to a record high of 308,000 in 2007, an increase of 35 per cent from 229,000 in 2006. This increase was attained by a record level of 114,000 claim units recorded during 2007.
- Ontario was Canada's leading jurisdiction in the value of non-fuel mineral production in 2007. A \$1.0 billion increase in the value of metal production, attributable to higher prices for base metals such as nickel, copper and zinc, helped send the value of mineral production to more than \$10 billion. Ontario accounted for 28 per cent of Canadian non-fuel mineral production in 2007.
- The five highest value metallic minerals produced in Ontario during 2007 were nickel (\$4606 million), copper (\$1403 million), gold (\$1259 million), platinum group metals (\$455 million), and zinc (\$300 million). Combined, these represent 98 per cent of the total value of Ontario's metallic mineral production in 2007.

Source: The Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.

Mines, a number of commodities make up the impressive market in Ontario, including, copper, gold, zinc, salt and various platinum group metals. The most produced mineral, however, is nickel, which has seen a production value increase from \$1.3 billion in 2002 to \$4.6 billion in 2007.

At the centre of Ontario's mining industry is the city of Sudbury, which, as noted by Ontario Economic Development, has produced more than \$300 billion worth of minerals ranging from platinum to copper, has 15 active mines (along with more than 35 exploration projects underway), 2 smelters and 2 refineries. Also located within the city limits is Laurentian University, whose campus is home to researchers and institutes, dedicated to the mining industry.

Part of this incredible run of activity is a workforce that rivals any jurisdiction across the world. In the northern portion of the province alone, as reported by Ontario Economic Development, the employee base is roughly 13,500 workers, all of whom enjoy the benefits of a high level of payment and additional support. As reported by the Ontario Mining Association in "Ontario Mining: A High-Tech Productivity Powerhouse" (published in December 2006), financial compensation for miners and other associated positions in the sector are 50 per cent higher than the average industry. Additionally, the OMA found that more than \$2,280 is invested in worker safety training.

Also helping drive the industry are a number of initiatives from the Ontario provincial government, in the form of tax incentives, including:

- Full deductions on exploration and development expenses;
- Five per cent flow-through tax incentive;
- Prospectors Financial Assistance grants of \$6,000;
- 100 per cent deduction of research and development expenses
- Up to 100 per cent of new mine income for depreciation of mining assets
- 15 per cent depreciation of processing assets;
- Incentive for processing in Ontario in the form of annual graduated processing allowances;
- \$500,000 in tax exemption from aggregated mining profits;

One of Canada's largest provinces is also one of the biggest players in the mining industry, as with a total estimated production value of \$10.6 billion in 2007, Ontario ranked at the top of the country in revenue generated from the sector.

- Two levels of mining tax rates profits (10 per cent for non-remote mines over \$500,000, 5 per cent for remote mines);
- A 12 per cent corporate income tax rate; and
- Carry-back opportunities on expenditures for reclamation.

With these incentives in place, and a workforce that rivals any in North America, Ontario's position as a major Canadian mining province looks to be intact for years to come. **M**

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Ontario

Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation

By Shannon Katary

The Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation (CEMI) is a mining industry research initiative, funded by the private sector and the Ontario Government. Formally established in 2007 as a not-for-profit corporation, CEMI is well-positioned to become one of the world's leading mining research centres. CEMI is situated on the Laurentian University campus in Sudbury, in the heart of one of the world's largest mining camps. Capitalizing on the vast mining related infrastructure in Northern Ontario (both physical and knowledge-based), CEMI is mandated to develop research excellence in five key priority areas: exploration, deep mining, integrated mine process engineering, automation and mining informatics, and materials and environmental research. Recognizing that achieving research excellence depends on tapping into the best and brightest engineers and scientists, CEMI plans to reach out far beyond provincial and national boundaries to assemble world-class solutions teams.

To date, CEMI has funded \$1.25 million in a series of start-up research projects to accelerate the development of highly qualified personnel through Laurentian University's (LU) graduate programs at the Master's and PhD level. CEMI has also committed \$1 million to fund an Industrial Research Chair in Exploration Geophysics at LU. CEMI plans to focus its offerings and solicit new partners from industry, consultants, and contractors. Dr. Peter K. Kaiser, President and CEO of CEMI, explains that "CEMI will then identify research partners with matching expertise and create networked solutions teams. CEMI will utilize its funding to design effective research plans, support research partnerships,

To date, CEMI has funded \$1.25 million in a series of start-up research projects to accelerate the development of highly qualified personnel through Laurentian University's (LU) graduate programs at the Master's and PhD level.

and manage the industry-focused projects."

With a number of local SMEs from both the service and supply sectors we have explored opportunities with high innovation potential. The main focus is to establish linkages between innovators and entrepreneurs and CEMI to focus research and development on industry-relevant projects. Several possible projects of interest were identified and CEMI is now working with the associated SMEs to assist in advancing innovative research and development projects.

CEMI is committed to building excellence, to increase R&D capacity to innovate, and to reach out to high quality innovative research and development service providers. At the same time, it remains committed to build on strengths, leveraging existing knowledge and expertise available here in the North for the benefit and development of Canada. For more information of currently funded projects and on how to join the CEMI research team, visit our website at www.miningexcellence.ca.

Ontario launches Mining Act Consultations

The Ontario government is holding a series of public and stakeholder

meetings about modernizing the Mining Act. Facilitated public and stakeholder sessions will be held in Timmins (August 11), Sudbury (August 13), Thunder Bay (August 18), Kingston (August 28) and Toronto (September 8).

These sessions are the first step in a consultation approach that will also include focused discussions with the minerals industry, municipalities and other stakeholders, First Nations and Métis leaders, as well as input from First Nations communities across Ontario. On August 11, a discussion paper will be posted for comment on the Environmental Registry and the ministry's web site (<http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca>).

This process will help ensure that the proposed legislation promotes fair, balanced and sustainable development that benefits all Ontarians. It supports Premier Dalton McGuinty's July 14 announcement (www.premier.gov.on.ca/news/Product.asp?ProductID=2353%2020) that Ontario is going to modernize the way mining companies stake and explore their claims to be more respectful of Aboriginal communities and private land holders.

Ontario takes the next step to expand its new diamond industry

As a result of an agreement in principle between the McGuinty government and De Beers Canada, operator of Ontario's first diamond mine, activities such as cutting and polishing will be expanded in Ontario. The province and De Beers Canada have agreed that 10 per cent of the Victor Mine's production, by value, will be made available for activities such as cutting and polishing in Ontario.

De Beers' Diamond Trading Company will be offering an estimated \$25-million worth of rough stones a year to a designated buyer or

buyers, known as Sightholders. The Sightholder(s) will be chosen through an international competition, and will be expected to set up processing operations in Ontario.

- The Victor Mine is expected to generate more than 400 full-time production jobs and approximately 600,000 carats of diamonds a year during its 12-year lifespan.
- James Bay Aboriginal communities have already benefited from construction jobs, direct payments, training programs, infrastructure and more than \$175 million in joint ventures.

Mining industry safety performance update

For the first half of 2008, the Ontario mining industry's safety performance was holding steady keeping the sector among the three safest industries in Ontario. For the first six months of 2008, the mining industry had a lost time injury rate of 0.6 per 200,000 hours worked, which is the same as the first six months of 2007.

The total medical injury frequency for the first six months of 2008, at 7.4 per 200,000 hours worked, is up slightly from the rate of 6.7 for the January to June 2007 period. The severity of injuries remains virtually the same at 16 days for the first half of 2008, compared with 15 days for the first half of 2007. According to numbers from the Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association (MASHA), the mining sector's safety prevention organization, and similar organizations representing other industries, mining's safety record would not quite match, but be in line with, the top performing electrical and education sectors. Mining's safety performance, however, would rank ahead of sectors such as manufacturing, services, forestry, construction, health care, municipal workers, farming and transportation.

The Ontario mining industry's lost

Ontario's mining industry invests more than \$2,200 per employee annually in safety training. Mine workers in Ontario are trained better, both before they start working and throughout their careers than those employed in many other sectors of the economy.

time injury rate for 2007 was 0.8 per 200,000 hours worked. The industry has been steadily improving over the decades on this incident frequency, which stood at 4.7 in 1985. Credit for these stronger safety performances resides on the shoulders of every individual who works in the industry. These statistics are moving in the right direction because of the personal diligence on the safety front and concern for oneself and his and her colleagues. There are a number of initiatives and institutions supporting these gains.

The Ontario Mining Association started a serious incident program in 1999 and a program of Internal Responsible System (IRS) audits

began in 2000. Inspections and programs from the Ministry of Labour, regulatory changes and improvements to the Common Core skills training program have enhanced working environments. Contributions from the industry's sectoral safety group, MASHA, along with suggestions from unions have also played a strong role in these gains. Another major factor in the continued movement in the right direction of safety records is investment.

Ontario's mining industry invests more than \$2,200 per employee annually in safety training. Mine workers in Ontario are trained better, both before they start working and throughout their careers than those employed in many other sectors of the economy. Overall, employees in the Ontario mining industry are safe, highly skilled, highly paid and highly productive. They all mesh together. While the safety performance of

Ontario's mining industry day-in and day-out is certainly worthy of recognition, no one in the industry would consider resting on their laurels. Collective efforts on many fronts to get these various incident statistics to zero are ongoing throughout the industry.

Source: The Ontario Mining Association



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A Message from Québec's Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife

Québec is currently experiencing a real mining boom! In only four years, exploration spending has jumped from \$134 million to \$430 million. Moreover, in 2007, and for the seventh consecutive year, the Fraser Institute ranked Québec the best place in the world to invest in mining, mainly due to its mining policies and mineral potential.

The numbers speak for themselves. In 2007, the total value of mineral shipments in Québec was \$4.5 billion, of which 32.6 per cent were non-metallic minerals (industrial minerals and construction materials). In addition, the world-class industry—including primary processing—employs 50,000 people in more than 30 municipalities.

Québec is one of the top ten mining producers in the world. Québec's 24 active mines produce iron, copper, zinc and nickel, as well as precious metals such as gold and silver, and industrial minerals like chrysotile, ilmenite, mica, and salt. With promising exploration projects underway, diamonds may soon be added to this list.

Exploration, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship: Driving Economic Development

The mining industry continues to develop with every new discovery. The government of Québec promotes industry diversification through new discoveries and the exploration of lesser-known regions while pursuing efforts to understand the geology of traditional mining areas whose potential (gold and base metals) remains largely untapped.

The future of the mining industry also hinges on investment in technological solutions tailored to Québec's exploration and mining situation. And to continue prospering, the industry must be able to count on strong entrepreneurship.

For these reasons, the government of Québec has announced the creation of the mining heritage fund. Financed by mining duties, the fund will provide up to \$10 million per year. This fund is

dedicated to the acquisition of geoscientific knowledge and support for innovation and entrepreneurial development.

Environmental Protection

Québec is clearly moving to promote sustainable development. The government has implemented a plan to rehabilitate abandoned mining sites. This project estimated at \$203 million will take 10 years to complete. The same environmental concerns apply to exploration, for which the industry itself has developed a guide to good practices.

An Exciting Vision of Mining Development

Québec will soon have its very first mineral strategy, proposing an exciting vision of sustainable mineral development.

.....

Un message du Québec's Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune

Le Québec vit actuellement un véritable boom minier! En effet, en seulement quatre ans, les dépenses en exploration ont bondi, passant de 134 M\$ à 430 M\$. D'ailleurs, en 2007, et pour une septième année consécutive, l'Institut Fraser a placé le Québec au premier rang mondial pour son environnement favorable à l'investissement minier, en raison principalement de ses politiques minières et de son potentiel minéral.

Les données en ce sens sont éloquentes. En 2007, la valeur des expéditions minérales totales au Québec était de 4,5 G\$, dont 32,6 pour cent étaient constitués de minéraux non métalliques (minéraux industriels et matériaux de construction). De plus, l'industrie, y compris la première transformation, compte 50 000 emplois dans plus de 30 municipalités.

Il s'agit d'un succès de classe mondiale puisque le Québec est l'un des dix principaux producteurs miniers de la planète. Dans les 24 mines actives au Québec, on exploite surtout du fer, du cuivre, du zinc et du nickel, des métaux précieux, dont l'or et l'argent, des minéraux industriels, comme le chrysotile,

l'ilménite, le mica et le sel. À cela pourrait s'ajouter prochainement le diamant dont les travaux d'exploration sont prometteurs.

L'exploration, l'innovation et l'entrepreneuriat : moteurs de développement économique

Le développement de l'industrie minière passe par de nouvelles découvertes. Le gouvernement du Québec favorise la diversification de l'industrie par la découverte de nouvelles substances et l'exploration de régions moins connues, tout en poursuivant les efforts d'acquisition de connaissances de la géologie des régions minières traditionnelles dont une grande partie du potentiel (or et métaux usuels) reste à être révélée.

L'avenir de l'industrie minière passe aussi par l'investissement dans des solutions technologiques adaptées à la réalité de l'exploration et de l'exploitation minérales au Québec. Enfin, pour prospérer, l'industrie doit pouvoir compter sur un entrepreneuriat fort.

Pour ces raisons, le gouvernement du Québec a annoncé la création du fonds du patrimoine minier pourvu à partir des redevances minières et dont la dépense pourra atteindre 10 M\$ par année. Ce fonds est consacré (ou destiné) à l'acquisition de connaissances géoscientifiques, au soutien à l'innovation et au développement de l'entrepreneuriat.


Protéger l'environnement

Le Québec a pris une orientation claire en faveur du développement durable. Le gouvernement a d'ailleurs mis en œuvre un plan de restauration des sites miniers abandonnés, dont la réalisation, évaluée à 203 millions de dollars, s'étalera sur dix années. La même préoccupation environnementale s'applique aux activités d'exploration, pour lesquelles l'industrie a elle-même défini un guide des pratiques à respecter.

Une vision stimulante du développement minier

Le Québec se dotera bientôt de sa toute première stratégie minérale. Celle-ci proposera une vision stimulante du développement minéral pour en garantir un développement durable.





Québec: A Landscape of Mining Excellence

Canada is recognized as a world leader on many different stages. Our healthcare system, standard of living and other qualities can happily be boasted as being leaders on the global stage.

But did you know that Canada is a leader in mining? If you didn't, then get on your web browser and click over to the Fraser Institute's web site. Here, you will find that the province of Québec is ranked number one on the research company's list of best policy environment for the industry across the globe.

The reasons for this success, as noted by Fred McMahon, coordinator of the Survey of Mining Companies: 2007/2008, from which the rankings emanated, and the Institute's Director of Trade and Globalization Studies, are twofold. First, and perhaps most obviously, is the landscape of the province, whose composition of 90 per cent Precambrian rock carries deposits of gold, copper, nickel and zinc.

"Québec has always been viewed in a good light by the mining industry, primarily due to its favourable geology," McMahon stated on February 28,

2008, the day that the survey results were released.

McMahon's assessment can be seen in the sheer volume of work taking place in La Belle Province. As stated on the web site for the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife), 7.2 per cent of Québec's surface is held by active exploration titles. Among these territories is the LaRonde Mine, in the Abitibi Region. Operated by Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited, LaRonde, according to company statistics, has produced more than 4 million ounces of gold since 1988.

FACTS:

- The history of mining in Québec goes back almost to the discovery of North America, when Jacques Cartier thought he had found diamonds and gold on the slopes of Cap Diamant. However, when he returned to France, Pliny, the lapidary of François I, announced that what he had actually discovered was quartz and pyrite.
- Québec was ranked #1 worldwide in the Fraser Institute's 2007 survey of exploration investment attractiveness.
- Québec's mining taxation system is one of the most advantageous in Canada, featuring one of the lowest taxation rates, and a credit on duties refundable for losses for exploration, deposit appraisal and mine development activities that is unique in Canada. In addition, Québec offers businesses having establishments and that carry on activities in Québec a refundable tax credit for mineral exploration activities.
- Active exploration titles cover 7.2 per cent of Québec's surface area. Thus, vast expanses of land have yet to be explored in detail.
- As opposed to what may be common practice in other states, the mining regime in Québec is based on the principle of

free mining, which provides universal access to the resource. Thus, the first to obtain a mining title automatically obtains the exclusive right to search for mineral substances and the assurance of obtaining a mining lease upon request.

- Québec is remarkable from the standpoint of the wealth of its tremendous land area that has scarcely been tapped. It has roughly 30 mines, 158 exploration firms and 15 primary processing industries. Some 30 minerals are mined, of which the leading ones are gold, iron, titanium, asbestos, copper, zinc and silver. Scarcely 40 per cent of Québec's mineral potential is now known.
- Québec is one of the top 10 mineral producers in the world. Specifically, it is:
 - The second largest producer of gold and iron in Canada;
 - The second largest producer of metallic substances in Canada;
 - The second largest producer of industrial minerals and construction materials in Canada; and
 - The world's second largest producer of niobium.

Source: Québec's Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife.



As important as the makeup of Québec's land is, though, exploration can only occur with proper government assistance and approval. This, as McMahon added, was the second factor which pushed the province to the top of the Fraser Institute chart.

"Québec's government also provides a favourable policy environment to go along with strong mineral potential," McMahon remarked. "Mining companies feel Québec's stable policies provide them with the certainty that reduces risk for long-term projects. Year after year, the survey bears out that above all, mineral exploration companies value stability and certainty when it comes to government policy."

Indeed, Québec has been extremely proactive when it comes to promoting and building the mining industry. One of the methods the province employed was the Québec Mineral Strategy, which consisted of a series of consultations with various individuals and groups to develop a plan of action to help stimulate activity in the sector. These sessions

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took place in the fall of 2007 and examined several areas, including, as listed on the ministry's web site:

- Making new discoveries;
- Maximizing the benefits of mining activities for Québec;
- Meeting workforce needs;
- Supporting technological innovation;

- Protecting the environment;
- Ensuring harmonious coexistence of different land uses; and
- Involving the regions and Native communities.

The resulting strategy, as of press time, had not been released.

Along with the pending strategy, Québec has a number of initiatives already in place, including favourable mining rights, including a free mining principle which automatically gives companies the opportunity for exploration and permits for a mining lease when needed.

As a result of these two factors, Québec's mining industry employs roughly 50,000 individuals who work in approximately 900 facilities (including 200 active mines) across the province. That number, thanks to continued efforts by the government, will only increase in the coming years, and ensure that Québec retains its ranking as one of the best locations for mining anywhere in the world. **M**

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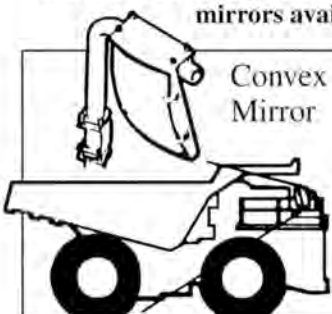
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Metso Expands Plant Capacity

Metso has signed an agreement with GE Energy to acquire GE's Lachine Main Plant, a heavy fabrication and machining facility located near Montréal, Québec, Canada. The transaction is expected to be finalized by mid-August, 2008, but no financial terms have been disclosed. The acquired assets will be integrated into Metso Minerals' Mining business line.

"Listening to our mining customers, we estimate that the current boom is likely to continue for years," says Matti Kähkönen, president of Metso Minerals. "Therefore, investments in the supply chain are extremely important. The acquired capacity will allow us to provide our mining customers with high quality products on attractive delivery times. It clearly supports Metso's growth strategy and our commitment to respond to our customers' needs."

The acquisition significantly increases Metso Minerals' large mining equipment supply capacity. The heavy manufacturing space of approximately 25,000 m² features major machine tools and lifting power, including some of the world's largest horizontal and vertical machining centers that are supported by very high capacity overhead service cranes. The plant has recently been dedicated to the production of hydraulic turbines and power generation equipment and is set to begin manufacture of the complete range of Metso's mining process machinery immediately after the finalization of the agreement. Approximately 200 skilled GE Energy employees are expected to transfer to Metso.

With excellent land and sea connections, the new facility can efficiently service Metso's customers worldwide. It is accessed by rail lines that extend directly to the interior of the plant, as well as being close to the Lachine canal, the Port of Montreal, and the trans-Canada highway. The plant also has 5,000 m² of attached modern office facilities.

The availability of resources such

"Listening to our mining customers, we estimate that the current boom is likely to continue for years. Therefore, investments in the supply chain are extremely important. The acquired capacity will allow us to provide our mining customers with high quality products on attractive delivery times. It clearly supports Metso's growth strategy and our commitment to respond to our customers' needs."

as capital equipment and core components is an increasingly critical factor in the start-up of new mining projects. Following the recently announced Metso Park investment in India, the Lachine plant further increases Metso's capacity to serve its customers. Metso will also leverage the new acquisition to enhance its service capabilities in the North American market, where the installed machinery base is relatively more mature than in the developing world.

Metso is a global engineering and technology corporation with 2007 net sales of more than € billion. Over 27,000 employees in approximately 50 countries serve customers in pulp and paper, rock and minerals processing, energy and selected other industries.

Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines signs rail transportation contract with Québec North Shore and Labrador Railway Company

In August 2008 Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited announced that it has entered into a transportation agreement with the Québec North Shore and Labrador Railway Company, Inc. for the transportation of iron ore concentrate generated from the Bloom Lake iron ore project.

The agreement provides that iron ore concentrate from the Company's Bloom Lake property will be carried on the QNS&L railway from the Wabush Lake Junction in Labrador City, Newfoundland & Labrador to the Sept-Iles Junction in Sept-Iles, Québec, a distance of approximately 400 kilometers.

Richard Quesnel, President and Chief Executive Officer of Consolidated Thompson said, "we are very pleased to have signed a confidential rail transport agreement with QNS&L, an outstanding and well-recognized rail transporter. This agreement will ensure long-term access to the world's largest consumers of iron ore for our future high quality product. The signing of this rail transport agreement also marks a significant milestone in the development of the Bloom Lake property."

106 purple diamonds in Québec rock samples

Metalex Ventures Limited in conjunction with its joint venture partners Dianor Resources Inc. and Wemindji Exploration Inc. (Wemex) are pleased to announce receipt of final diamond results for one hundred and eleven (111) reconnaissance surface rock samples taken on the Joint Venture's Ekomiak II; IV; V; VI; and VII properties in the James Bay region of Québec. Diamonds were recovered from all of the five sampled properties spread over a large geographical area of James Bay that is easily accessible by road. A review of the diamonds recovered to date by CF Minerals of Kelowna, B.C. confirmed the presence of 106 purple coloured diamonds in five samples from two properties (Ekomiak V and VII).



A Message from Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Natural Resources



Canada's eastern-most province is home to a vast wealth of mineral resources, including world-class ore bodies such as the rich nickel-copper-cobalt deposits at Voisey's Bay, the multi-billion tonne deposits of the western Labrador iron ranges, and the exceptionally high-grade massive sulphide deposits of central Newfoundland. High metal prices and an attractive business environment have had a major impact on the mining sector in this region, which in recent years has welcomed four new metal mines and record levels of claim staking and exploration expenditures.

Since 2004, there has been an approximately 470 per cent increase in the dollar value of Newfoundland and Labrador's mineral shipments with the value of shipments forecast to remain strong at \$3.9 billion in 2008. Likewise, exploration investment in the province has increased dramatically in recent years and is forecast to maintain record high levels at about \$133 million for 2008.

The province's mining sector boom is attracting major new international investments in several key areas including exploration for long-overlooked metals, such as uranium, molybdenum and tungsten; renewed efforts in traditional base metal, gold and iron districts; and reinvestment in existing mine infrastructure.

Growing global awareness of the province's stable political climate, strong resource-based economy, infrastructure, and proximity to major shipping routes, has helped increase mineral investment in its mining sector. In addition to maintaining a competitive tax regime, government has recently streamlined the regulatory climate, enhanced its industry incentives, and increased investment in the acquisition and online dissemination of geoscience data. Also, in 2005, Newfoundland and Labrador introduced a new Mineral Rights Administration System or MIRIAD, as it's known. The system provides for the acquisition of mineral rights online 24 hours a day, 7

days a week, regardless of geographic location, with absolute security of title.

Through the Mineral Incentive Program, the government of Newfoundland and Labrador also offers grants to individuals and companies to explore for minerals in the province. This very successful program has been in place for over 20 years and was recently increased to a record-high level of \$2.5 million.

The people and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador value the contribution that environmentally-sustainable mining is making to the province's communities. To find out more about the province's mineral resources and mining opportunities, visit the Department of Natural Resources website at www.nr.gov.nl.ca.

The Honourable Kathy Dunderdale
Minister of Natural Resources

Newfoundland: "The Rock" For a Reason

The province of Newfoundland and Labrador has long been considered a Canadian hotspot for a number of industries, such as fishing and tourism; but, as one would expect for a region is nicknamed "the Rock", mining is perhaps the most important of all work done on the Atlantic coast.

To say that the industry in Newfoundland and Labrador is in the midst of a boom period would be a gross understatement. According to statistics from the province's Mines and Energy Department (part of the Natural Resources ministry), the first half of 2008 had more

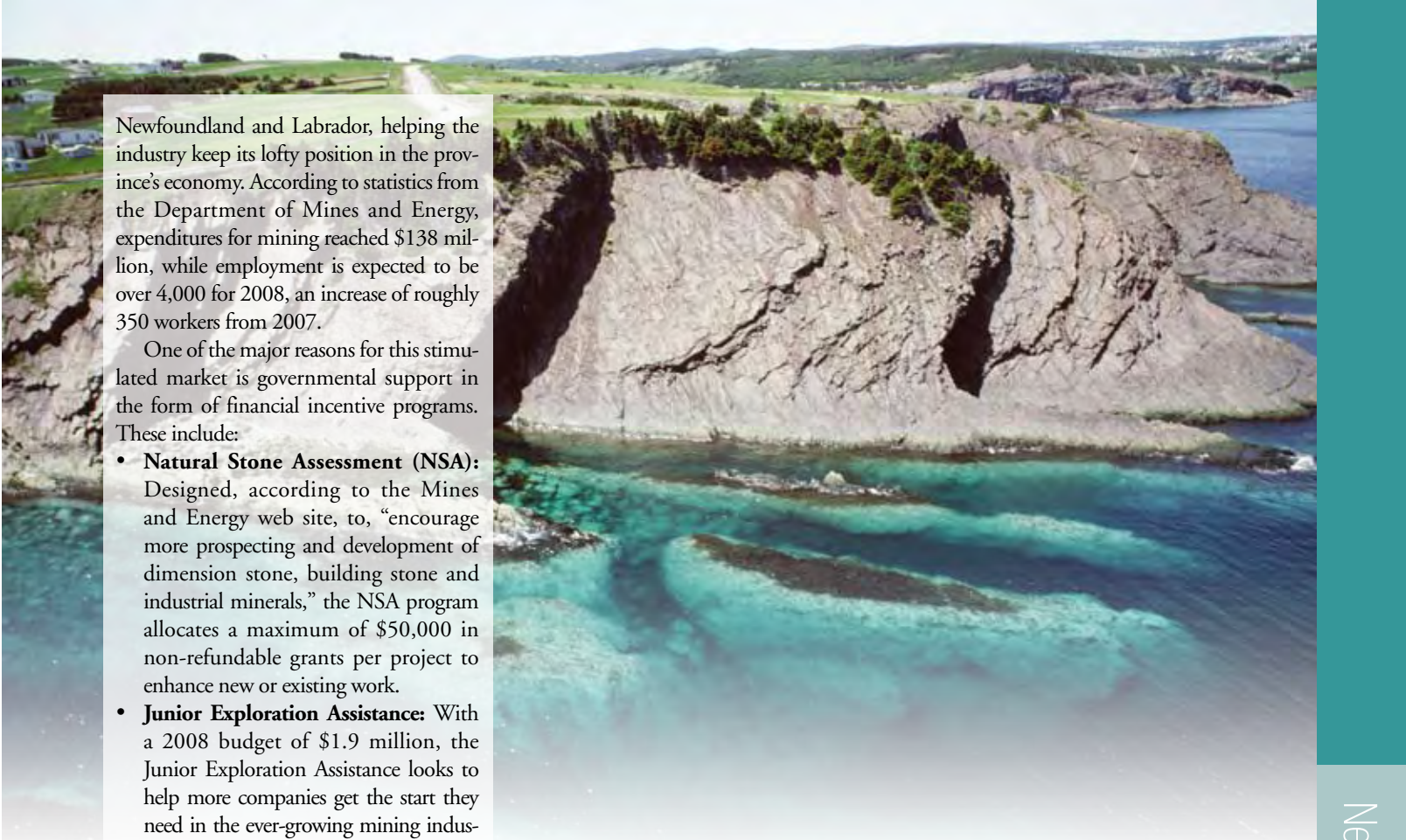
than 26,500 claims staked, of which 6,500-plus occurred in the month of June alone.

The success that miners enjoy today is not unlike that which was seen for over 200 years. As documented on the Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage web site, mining's roots in Newfoundland and Labrador can be traced back to the late 1700s with small-scale operations. The first major work would follow in 1864, when the excavation of gold and copper deposits at Tilt Cove began. The mines at Tilt Cove would remain open until 1917, when, as noted on the heritage site, operations would cease due to, "international market and military conditions, as well as

problems of ore grade and accessibility." The mine was re-opened 40 years later by the Maritime Mining Company before closing once again in 1967.

Tilt was just one location, however, that proved prosperous. Areas such as Terra Nova, Bette's Cove and Little Bay among others yielded large amounts of copper, gold and pyrite.

Today, mines such as the Pine Cove Gold mine (owned by Anaconda Mining Inc.), the Beaver Brook Antimony mine (Beaver Brook Antimony Mine Inc.) Lower Cove (Atlantic Minerals Limited), Duck Pond Mine (Aur Resources Inc.) and others keep activity strong in




Newfoundland and Labrador, helping the industry keep its lofty position in the province's economy. According to statistics from the Department of Mines and Energy, expenditures for mining reached \$138 million, while employment is expected to be over 4,000 for 2008, an increase of roughly 350 workers from 2007.

One of the major reasons for this stimulated market is governmental support in the form of financial incentive programs. These include:

- **Natural Stone Assessment (NSA):** Designed, according to the Mines and Energy web site, to, "encourage more prospecting and development of dimension stone, building stone and industrial minerals," the NSA program allocates a maximum of \$50,000 in non-refundable grants per project to enhance new or existing work.
- **Junior Exploration Assistance:** With a 2008 budget of \$1.9 million, the Junior Exploration Assistance looks to help more companies get the start they need in the ever-growing mining industry. Maximum funding has been set at \$100,000 for projects in Newfoundland and \$150,000 in Labrador for advanced mining exploration, along with \$500,000 for grassroots exploration.
- **Prospectors Grants and Training:** Resident prospectors who are working on independent explorations are eligible for up to \$4,000 in grant money and an additional \$2,000 for air support where there are no other methods of transportation available. Also offered is a 14-day basic training program for potential prospectors. The course was offered in Stephenville and Happy Valley-Goose Bay this summer and will potentially be offered in new locations in 2009.

Another fund helped to boost the local mining economy with the assistance of the federal government. The Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Development Fund, came into effect under the *Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Newfoundland Act* in 1986, and earmarked \$300 million for offshore petroleum projects. In total, 40 projects were enacted under the fund.

With these initiatives in place, and increasing attention from existing companies, mining on The Rock looks to continue well into the future. 

FACTS:

- In 2007, the value of mineral shipments increased to almost \$3.9 billion, the highest value on record, up 31.9 per cent over 2006. The increase reflected higher shipments from Voisey's Bay, the opening of the Duck Pond mine and increased metal prices. Employment in mining averaged about 3,700 in 2007.
- Vale Inco Newfoundland & Labrador Limited (Vale Inco NL) operates the nickel, copper and cobalt mine located in Voisey's Bay, Labrador. Currently, nickel concentrate from the mine is shipped to Vale Inco's operations in Sudbury, Ontario and Thompson, Manitoba for processing. However, a commercial nickel processing plant is scheduled to commence operation in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2012.
- Production at the Duck Pond mine started in January 2007. The mine is expected to produce 41 million pounds of copper, 76 million pounds of zinc, 574,000 ounces of silver and 5,000 ounces of gold annually over the eight year mine life. Employment is anticipated to average 192 people annually. Aur Resources originally started the Duck Pond project, however, the company was taken over by Teck Cominco in 2007.
- Mineral exploration spending in the province has grown considerably over the last several years, in line with national and global trends. Higher metal prices have been a key driver of exploration. Expenditures in the province reached \$138 million in 2007, six times the level of expenditures in 2003.
- About 45 per cent of the exploration expenditure was for base metals, 45 per cent was for uranium, 5 per cent was for gold with the remaining 5 per cent for commodities such as iron ore and industrial minerals.
- There were more than 79,000 claims staked in 2007 and about 189,300 claims in good standing—the highest levels since the mid-1990s.
- The value of mineral shipments is expected to increase 1.3 per cent in 2008 to a record \$3.9 billion. Higher iron ore volumes as well as prices are expected to be the major factors behind this performance.

Source: *The Government of Newfoundland.*



News Watch:

Newfoundland

First gold poured at Pine Cove Mine

The province newest mine at Pine Cove near Baie Verte poured its first gold bars in July 2008, marking another milestone for Newfoundland and Labrador's mineral resources sector.

"The successful opening of the Anaconda Mining operation is the latest in a growing list of mineral exploration and development achievements for the province," said the Honourable Kathy Dunderdale, Minister of Natural Resources. "I want to congratulate the entire team on this significant achievement in helping return the Baie Verte Peninsula to its former glory as an important mining centre in the province. The successful completion of the mine and mill and beginning of gold bar production is an important accomplishment for the people of the area."

Anaconda Mining and partner New Island Resources began construction of the mine in June 2007. The company estimates the mine will produce approximately 16,000 ounces of gold annually for the next 13 years and will employ 44 people directly.

Pine Cove is the province's fourth new mine to open in the past four years and caps off a string of record-breaking years for the province's mineral sector.

\$500 million expansion shows province successfully competing in global mining industry

A March 2008 announcement of a \$500-million investment by the Iron Ore Company of Canada into its Labrador City operation is another sign of the province's mining industry strength. The investment will generate 250 construction jobs at peak construction over the next three years and 200 full-time mining jobs once the expansion goes into operation.

The Iron Ore Company of Canada and majority owner Rio Tinto made the announcement this spring, saying the expansion will increase annual iron ore concentrate production at the mine to 22 million tonnes per year. The company reported production of 17 million tonnes of concentrate and 12.7 million tonnes of pellets in 2006.

The province's mining sector is booming thanks to a thriving commodities market, excellent mineral resources, and strategic provincial government investments. Companies exploring for minerals in the province set a record for exploration expenditures of \$138 million in 2007. Mineral shipments also reached a record level of \$3.9 billion last year due mainly to nickel and iron-ore shipments. That's 470 per cent higher than just four years ago.

Province launches expanded geological mapping program

The Department of Natural Resources launched an expanded summer field program in May 2008 that will see nine geological mapping projects proceed as part of a three-year, \$3-million initiative announced in Budget 2008 to improve knowledge of the province's mineral resource base. The endeavour includes four new projects and the expansion of existing ongoing efforts.

Budget 2008 provides an additional \$1 million to the program's base budget in 2008. In total, \$1.5 million will be devoted to field activities this year, \$800,000 of which will be invested in the most extensive mapping effort in Labrador in over a decade. The Labrador program includes two major bedrock mapping projects (in the Makkovik and Seal Lake areas), a study of uranium mineralization in the Central Mineral Belt and the conclusion of a 20-year mapping effort in southern Labrador.

"The mineral industry is delighted to see the significant increased investment this government is making in geoscience," said Gerry O'Connell, Executive Director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Chamber of Mineral Resources. "Geoscience is essential to the understanding of our mineral potential and the new data being collected will lead to increased mineral exploration investment."



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A Message from New Brunswick's Minister of Natural Resources

The mining sector is a huge contributor to the economic prosperity of New Brunswick. New Brunswick has seen a marked increase in mineral exploration and mine development over the last few years. About \$32 million dollars was invested by the industry searching for minerals and over \$100 million on the development of mining operations in New Brunswick last year. The value of mineral production in New Brunswick reached nearly \$1.6 billion in 2006-2007. New Brunswick ranks second in mineral production in Atlantic Canada and is number one in the Maritimes. Compared to the 13 provinces and territories we are tied for fourth on a per capita basis. The

industry directly employs over 3,150 people.

New Brunswick is blessed with a variety of rich mineral deposits. The minerals and commodities contributing to this wealth include metals (antimony, bismuth, cadmium, copper, gold, lead, silver and zinc); non metals (marl, peat moss, potash, silica, salt and sulphur); fuels (oil, natural gas and coal); and structural materials (lime, sand and gravel, stone).

Our large reserves of lead, zinc and copper are found in the northern part of the province around Bathurst. Potash and salt deposits are centred in the southern region, primarily around Sussex. Although peat harvesting takes place primarily on the Acadian Peninsula, the resource can be found in a broad diagonal zone that stretches from the south to the northeast of the province.

Many exciting developments are presently taking place in the Province including the development of a new potash mine near Sussex, the possible reopening of the Mount Pleasant Mine, the potential for a new tungsten-molybdenum mine in central New Brunswick and the recent opening of the Blue Note Caribou mine.

Continued growth in demand for mineral resources in places like China and India should keep metal prices fairly high which is good news for exploration investment and mine development in New Brunswick.

New Brunswick will continue to work diligently to attract mining investment to our province. In many aspects, New Brunswick has a competitive edge, and I will continue to capitalize on them and work to develop more.

The Honourable Donald Arseneault
Minister of Natural Resources

New Brunswick:



Hotspots

Boast Major Mining


As one might expect for Canada's Maritime provinces, mining has been a major part of New Brunswick's history. As early as 1810, mining has been influential in the growth and development of the province's economy.

Back in those early days, as noted on the Government of New Brunswick Natural Resources Ministry's web site, the Crown would often reserve the rights to any gold, silver or other mineral deposits; and though those conditions are still in existence today through the provincial *Mining Act*, the mining industry continues to not only be important to the province's economy, but it also has shown to be a major player in the national and international marketplace.

As surprising as it may be for such a small province (Statistics Canada estimates for 2008 had the total population at just over 750,000), New Brunswick has a very sizable mining industry. According to provincial government statistics, the mining industry has ranged between \$652 million and \$772 million, while giving direct employment to more than 3,150 citizens.

For any company either looking at New Brunswick as a mining destination, the proverbial hotspot is in the northern region, where deposits of lead, zinc and copper are common. Southern parts of the province,





meanwhile, have yielded significant finds of Potash, particularly around Sussex. This particular mineral has been heavily pursued, with \$3.5 million being spent in exploration in 2005, though only one mine the Penobscis Mine operated by the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. (PotashCorp), is currently online, though it looks to potentially be the biggest in New Brunswick in just a few years time.

In 2007, PotashCorp announced that it would be investing \$1.66 billion in the Penobscis Mine and operation facilities. For the company, the advantage lies in the ease of shipping that the Atlantic coast province offers; but for the nearby town of Sussex and its 4,200 inhabitants, the potential exists for a huge economic impact.

"This is tremendously important for us," Sussex Mayor Ralph Carr said on April 16, 2008. "It's like a big wave that's going out and touching everybody."

Penobscis is one of 15 mines which are currently active in New Brunswick. Along with PotashCorp, 10 other companies hold rights to these zones, with three businesses, Blue Note Caribou Mining, Graymont (NB) Inc. and Elmtree Resources Ltd., operating multiple properties.

While mining for aforementioned minerals and other compounds such as limestone have proven to be prosperous for New Brunswick, the potential exists for another substance, uranium, to be a major hit; however, this prospect has been met with serious controversy over the last couple years. As previously reported by *Canadian Mining Magazine*, local communities, such as the city of Moncton, had previously banned any activity in their region.

The mounting protests from some organizations and concerned citizens across the province led the government of New Brunswick to ban exploration and mining

of uranium within 300 metres of residential or institutional buildings, or any public water supply regions. As the province's Natural Resources Minister, Donald Arsenault told the Canadian Press on July 4, 2008, the new provisions come with stipulations that will still give the province's population the final say in whether a company can explore on property areas.


"Landowners will still have to give permission for mining companies to come on their land," Arsenault stated.

Despite the recent legislation, mining in New Brunswick looks to continue to be a major leader in the province's economy. With more companies exploring and new projects likely to start soon, this Maritime province looks to continue its rich heritage of mining excellence. **M**

News Watch:

New Brunswick

Uranium exploration and mining regulations take effect



In July 2008 new uranium exploration and mining regulations to better protect drinking water supplies and improve the claims-staking process for property owners were announced by Natural Resources Minister Donald Arsenault and Environment Minister Roland Haché.

"Our government heard the concerns of the people of New Brunswick and we have responded," said Arsenault. "These changes are consistent with New Brunswick's public policy approach of being proactive in protecting designated drinking water supplies, and they address the issues of access to private landowners' property."

Uranium exploration and extraction in designated watersheds and well fields, as well as in villages, towns and cities, is now prohibited. In addition, all mineral-claims-staking activity in the province is suspended until a new map-staking system can be implemented.

Arsenault said that the method of acquiring mineral rights will be changed from the current ground-staking method to an electronic on-line map-staking system. Other

initiatives will focus on appropriate buffering and landowner permission for any possible intrusive uranium exploration or development on private land.

The Department of Natural Resources recently enhanced drilling requirements for uranium exploration to include more specific rules designed to protect the environment and the health of New Brunswickers.

Province, Blue Note Mining invest in mineral exploration

The New Brunswick government allocated up to \$3 million in matching exploration funding to Blue Note Mining in April 2008.

This funding will help Blue Note search for more mineral reserves in previously unexplored areas in the Bathurst mining camp. The ultimate goal is to be able to find enough to extend the life of the mine by several more years. The three-year Advanced Exploration Agreement will match a maximum of \$1 million per year that Blue Note Mining invests in exploration. This formula is similar to the current Advanced

Exploration Program the province has with Xstrata Zinc Canada, owner of the Brunswick Mine. New Brunswick provided matching 50/50 funding with Xstrata and its junior mining company, El Nino. The province contributed \$2.5 million per year for five years. The program expired March 31.

"We are committed to the longevity of the Caribou Mine and the future growth of the Bathurst community," said John Martin, Chief Operating Officer for Blue Note Mining. "Together with our employees we will continue to embark on ambitious goals for our company and our region."

Blue Note began operations at the Caribou Mine in July 2007, with production getting underway in January of this year. The company operates an underground base metal mine 50 kilometres west of Bathurst and the Restigouche open pit mine 40 kilometres west of there. The combined operation is designed to produce 3,000 tonnes of zinc, lead and copper ore per day. Blue Note has a staff of 275, and almost 100 contractors. **M**



A Message from Nova Scotia's Minister of Natural Resources

Strong growth, economic surge, and some of the highest levels of exploration investment in two decades are leading to exciting times for the mineral industry in Nova Scotia.

The past year has brought many successes to the province's mineral industry. Exploration investments remain high and the province is once again among the ranks of metal producers. The industrial minerals sector continues to be a strong performer and there is renewed interest in coal resources.

Nova Scotia's mineral industry receives support from several provincial departments and their federal counterparts. The Provincial and Federal governments have recently concluded negotiations to provide

for the administration and regulation of the Donkin undersea coal resource, and legislation has been passed at both levels to give this agreement effect. This substantial accomplishment shows how both governments can work together in the interests of important economic development projects for the region.

In Nova Scotia, there is a blueprint for responsible and sustainable mineral development. As part of this we consult with the mining industry before naming additional protected areas. The government has begun a socio-economic study of three candidate wilderness areas. The province's Natural Resources Mineral Resources Branch is busy preparing a series of maps to provide geoscience and mineral resource information for these three areas, using available technology and GIS.

The department has also held a series of public consultations and stakeholder meetings to help learn more about the values Nova Scotians place on minerals. This was the first phase in the preparation of a comprehensive Mineral Strategy for the province.

As Nova Scotia mining comes to a new life, there is a combination of cooperative government, the values of Nova Scotians, utilization of technology, and increasing exploration which is leading to the resurgence of mineral resources in the province.

The future of mining in Nova Scotia is bright, with mineral commodity prices on the rise and \$10-million being invested in exploration annually. With innovative thinking and partnerships across the country, and globally, we will continue these trends.

The Honourable David Morse
Minister of Natural Resources

Nova Scotia: Small on Size.

BIG on Mining!

In a province where the population sits just under one million people, the dollar amount of \$488.6 million is a staggering number; but that is the economic impact that mining has in Nova Scotia.


The amount, which was cited in the report "Economic Impact of the Mineral Industry in Nova Scotia" which was released in 2006 by the province's Natural Resources Ministry, includes both direct (483.4 million) and spin-off (\$205.2 million) industries reflects an even greater impact when you also factor in that 6,340 Nova Scotians are part of the mining workforce in one form or another, including an estimated 1,600 jobs in rural locations.

Likely one of the reasons for the strong local job force is due to the salaries being earned. Further in the report, the Ministry states that the average weekly salary in mining is over \$1,000, well above the average of \$600-plus.

So what is stimulating the mining economy in Nova Scotia, you ask? Well, ultimately it's a number of factors that are bringing companies to the Atlantic Coast province.

First off, Nova Scotia is home to some of the largest deposits of gypsum anywhere in Canada, with the full northern half of the province containing deposits, as well as additional findings coming from Cape Breton Island. According to the Natural Resources





Ministry, mining for the mineral dates back to the 1770s as a part-time operation, but by the 1800s, between 100,000 and 200,000 tonnes of gypsum were being produced annually.

As demand grew for gypsum, thanks to its usage in plaster and fertilizer among other products, so to did the need for the mineral, and while U.S. tariffs and decreasing local demand would slow production (and caused the closer of mills in the province) for a period of time, the mineral would again find demand, to the point that over one million tonnes were produced in 1939.

Today, Nova Scotia is regarded as being the most productive region for gypsum across the globe. A large number of companies, including the Fundy Gypsum Company, the Little Narrows Gypsum Company, Georgia-Pacific Canada Inc. and others have operated mines in recent years for this mineral, and more companies look to come on board in the future.

Another key factor in the success of Nova Scotia's mining industry has been its

Nova Scotia is home to some of the largest deposits of gypsum anywhere in Canada, with the full northern half of the province containing deposits, as well as additional findings coming from Cape Breton Island. According to the Natural Resources Ministry, mining for the mineral dates back to the 1770s as a part-time operation, but by the 1800s, between 100,000 and 200,000 tonnes of gypsum were being produced annually.

coal production. As stated on the web site "History of Coal Mining in Nova Scotia", the sector's roots can be traced back more than 300 years, to a time when European settlers and soldiers would mine for the mineral out of sheer necessity, needing it to stay warm during the harsh winter months.

In the early 1800s, however, that necessity spawned the realization of the potential financial windfall that could come from coal. Soon, local authorities would begin to create a structure for the fledgling industry, and by the start of the 1900s, mining for the mineral would become an important sector in the province, with full towns being created around the business.

Thanks to this rich heritage of mining in Nova Scotia, companies from across the world have demonstrated a keen interest in exploring the potential the province holds. Since those early days, a number of other minerals have been discovered and mined in the province, including barite, anhydrite, salt, limestone, quartz and gold.

With this variety of mineralization found in the province, there is little doubt that the strong tradition of mining in Nova Scotia will continue for many years to come. **M**

News Watch:

Nova Scotia

Underground mining regulations responds to changing needs

Revised occupational health and safety regulations took effect in August 2008. They provide clear, targeted and practical requirements for safe working conditions in underground mines. The revisions update standards, recognize changing technology, and significantly reduce red tape for non-coal underground mines. For example, the number of documents that must be submitted to regulators for non-coal underground mining operations has been reduced from 32 to 15. These improvements align with the province's Better Regulation Initiative. "We have delivered on our commitment to employees and employers in the mining industry," said Mark Parent, Minister of Labour and Workforce Development. "We consulted with them and made these latest changes based on their recommendations." The regulations were also revised

to supply a regulatory framework for undersea mines, such as the proposed Donkin Coal Block Resource Project. Nova Scotia will be the sole Occupational Health and Safety regulator for such mines, administering the common laws of both jurisdictions. The regulations may be viewed online at www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/ohsmine.htm.

Value of mineral industry increases

The number of mining-related jobs in Nova Scotia has increased in recent years, as has the amount of money being spent on exploration, says an update of the report on the Economic Impact of the Mineral Industry in Nova Scotia. "This updated report confirms what the original report told us in 2006: that mining and mineral-related operations continue to play an important role in the rural economy of Nova Scotia," said Natural

Resources Minister David Morse. "It is also clear that the province is benefiting economically from strong commodity prices and increased demand for metals and minerals." The 2008 document shows that 6,340 people had direct or spin-off jobs in the minerals industry in 2006, up from 5,260 in 2002. The contribution to Gross Domestic Product has also increased by about 20 per cent, to more than \$488 million in 2006 from about \$400 million in 2002. A wide variety of processed mineral products are manufactured in Nova Scotia, including clay products, Portland cement, ready-mix concrete, brick and marble products, building stone and slate, gypsum wallboard and salt. The items with the highest primary production values continue to be gypsum, crushed stone and salt. The study is available on the Department of Natural Resources website at www.gov.ns.ca/natr/meb. **M**

Tools of the Trade



Pinch valve replaces ball, plug valves

The Red Valve Series 75 Pinch Valve is a reliable, maintenance-free, cost-effective valve designed to eliminate the problems associated with ball and plug valves in tough slurries, abrasives and corrosive chemical applications. The full port design eliminates any dead spots or crevices, seats or bearings. The self-cleaning, flexing action of the elastomer sleeve eliminates any clogging. The Series 75 pinch valve has the same face-to-face dimensions as plug or ball valves up to 12". Due to its excellent control characteristics, the Series 75 can function as a throttling manual control valve. Operators can fine-tune the valve position by simply turning the hand wheel.

www.redvalve.com



Spiral casing design revolutionizes horizontal recessed impeller pump market

Toyo Pumps North America Corp. launched its new horizontal recessed impeller vortex pump series, the DEH, which it is manufacturing in the United States. Toyo is utilizing the same revolutionary axial spiral casing design on its new horizontal DEH line that has been proven highly successful on its famous recessed impeller Vertical Cantilever line, the DEC.

This is one of the most revolutionary recessed impeller pump designs available today due to its most notable feature, the unique axial spiral casing design which allows solids to follow the flow path directly out of the pump. This major design benefit means that internal recirculation, which is detrimental to hydraulic efficiencies and increases pump wear, is minimized. Sacrificial wear parts are not needed with this advanced design DEH. End users will also find that reduced life cycle costs are achieved whilst benefiting from lower power consumption.

www.toyopumps.com

PressurePro TPMS adding substantial savings for the heavy duty market

Advantage PressurePro LLC, developer and marketers of the PressurePro Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems, announced the release of their Industrial TPM System. Soon after the announcement, a tire shortage, mixed with a surge of demand for raw material, put much of the heavy duty market in need of a tool that could help them keep their tires rolling. In stepped PressurePro. To date, several mines and heavy duty equipment fleets worldwide have chosen PressurePro to monitor their vehicles' tires. These fleets have since been recognizing substantial savings attributed to the information provided by PressurePro which allows them to extend tire life and decrease downtime.

Barrick Gold of Australia Ltd, entity of the gold mining elite Barrick family, has been using the PressurePro TPM System since November of 2007 in its Osborn, Queensland and Western Australia locations on their CAT AD 55 Dump Trucks. "The product has been found to be accurate, durable and easy to install, with no special tools required," says Dave Pafflin, representative for Barrick. "Unlike any manual system, it operates 24/7 and while the vehicle is moving. Drivers have been alerted to under-inflated tires, thereby saving both tires and downtime."

www.youvegottair.com



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Atlas Copco's reverse circulation (RC) hammers are specifically designed for both deep hole exploration drilling and in-pit grade control applications. With the RC 50, drillers can expect 15 per cent to 20 per cent higher penetration rates over similar size hammers. Whether exploring for potential sites or working in an existing mine, the RC 50 hammer assures high performance, exceptional reliability, and dependable support.

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Ten million strong...and growing!

Yaskawa Electric, a world leader in the manufacture of AC drives, servomotors, motion controllers and robotics, recently became the world's first to ship 10 million variable frequency drives. In reaching this milestone, the company now claims to have more than 14 per cent of the global market for drives rated from 0.1 to 300kW.

The 10-millionth drive was a model from Yaskawa's latest generation of variable frequency drives, the V1000, which it launched late last year.

"With our global and local presence, we are now able to modify specifications and efficiently ship products to customers within hours," says Mike Knappek, Senior Vice President of Yaskawa Electric America. "Having engineers and technicians more local means we also can provide fast technical support."

www.yaskawa.com



FLIR Systems adds EECOL Electric as Canadian supplier and launches the ThermoCAM® P660

FLIR Systems Ltd., the global leader in infrared cameras, has announced that Calgary-based, EECOL Electric has been selected to provide the latest categories of infrared cameras geared towards electrical/mechanical systems and facilities maintenance. EECOL Electric is a leading wholesaler and distributor of electrical and industrial products, with over 60 branches throughout Western Canada and South America.

In May 2008 FLIR Systems, Inc. announced the addition of a new camera to its P-Series line of thermal imaging cameras. The infrared cameras are designed for utility industry and thermography professionals for a wide variety of maintenance applications.

"Utilities and other industries have the challenge of maintaining equipment that is spread over great distances. Having GPS and the ability to monitor problems remotely from safe distances is a significant step in having a truly effective predictive maintenance program," says David Francoeur, Director of Thermography Marketing, FLIR Systems. "And, having an effective predictive maintenance program means less downtime and minimal impact on the bottom line."

The new ThermoCAM® P660 infrared camera includes a Global Positioning System (GPS) to automatically record the location of equipment. The tagging feature uses GPS Google Earth data to "tag" the infrared images captured. This can be used to determine equipment failure patterns so problems can be avoided in the future.

FLIR also introduces a new remote feature with the P660. Thermographers can extend the use of the P660 to new environments and applications by deploying the handheld Wireless LAN-based remote control and display. The remote can be used to capture and monitor equipment at safe distances. This is particularly useful in high-voltage and other dangerous areas where, for safety reasons, conductive cabling cannot be used to remotely control cameras.

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The XRF instrument at ITL is a bench-top energy dispersive x-ray fluorescence (EDXRF) spectrometer. The EDXRF can be used to measure virtually every element from sodium (Na) to uranium (U) in the periodic table, in concentrations ranging from ppm levels to nearly 100 per cent by weight. It can be used for monitoring major components in a product or process or the addition of minor additive. Two of the most important characteristics of the EDXRF are minimum sample preparation and its capability to provide rapid, real-time multi-element analysis on many types of samples, such as solids, liquids, powders, thin films, slurries, and pastes. Because of these advantages, the technique has a broad appeal to many industries.

The EDXRF at ITL is also capable of performing high precision analysis of an area of 0.1 mm or 1.2 mm in diameter. The combination of its large sample chamber and small X-ray beam diameter provides compatibility with a wide range of sample sizes, from small parts to large products. Elemental content in products and parts can be measured with no sample preparation.

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Novariant launches Terralite™ XPS Multi-Pit solution

The Novariant solution supports High Precision machine control and guidance applications that rely on HP GPS for position data in open-pit mining. Modern day mining equipment depends on GPS signals to support operations. When GPS signals are not available, drills and shovels relying on high precision positioning are forced into “work around” solutions, which may result in drilling errors (fragmentation, ore control and grade control); and shovel positioning errors (ore control, grade control); as well as operational delays. Novariant provides the solution to ensure 24/7 HP operations. The Terralite XPS System is composed of a constellation of Terralite stations transmitting Novariant’s proprietary XPS signal; combined with a GPS+ XPS Reference Station/Integrity monitor. The Terralite XPS solution utilizes Novariant MX100 receivers, and provides operators in the pit with the necessary GPS+XPS signals, enabling up to 100 per cent availability of HP position data. This virtually eliminates operational down time due to limited GPS signal availability.

www.novariant.com



Lightweight Fluke 719 Electric Pressure Calibrator lets you calibrate and test pressure devices with one hand

Fluke Electronics Canada, an industry leader in handheld electronic test and measurement equipment, today announced the new Fluke 719 Electric Pressure Calibrators. These high performance, lightweight devices feature a built-in electric pressure pump that makes it possible to quickly calibrate and test pressure devices with one hand.

Process technicians, plant maintenance technicians and instrument technicians who do pressure calibration work often use manual pumps to pressurize transmitters and gauges. That requires the use of two hands: one to pump and one to hold the pressure calibrator. With its built-in, battery powered pump controlled by a thumb button, the Fluke 719 pressure calibrator is more convenient, faster and easier to use.

The electric pump can be programmed to set target pressures or limit pressure to eliminate over pressurization. It is designed to perform 5,000 pump cycles between rebuilds. Its unique cleanout port makes it easier to service the Fluke pressure calibrator without sending it out for repair. The cleanout port minimizes pump failures caused by accidental exposure to contaminating fluids.

www.flukecanada.ca

A dynamic arm geometry and payload monitoring system for hydraulic shovels and excavators

A novel system for open-pit hydraulic shovels and excavators, LoadMetrics uses a collection of sealed accelerometers and pressure sensors to determine the arm geometry, the payload weight inside the bucket, and the cutting force magnitude and direction during digging. Developed by Motion Metrics International Corp (MMI) over the last eight years, LoadMetrics provides this functionality in real-time and with no need to stop the machine arm from moving, i.e., with no interruption to the normal operation of the mining equipment.

The Arm Geometry System (AGS) component of LoadMetrics senses the real-time joint angles and the position of the

bucket relative to shovel base. Sealed, capacitive biaxial accelerometers are installed on the shovel joints to sense the joint angles using a proprietary technology developed by MMI. For large hydraulic shovels such as Komatsu PC8000, the system delivers a consistent accuracy of better than ± 5 cm in both horizontal and vertical coordinates of the bucket joint relative to the shovel base. When combined with the GPS system on board the shovel, the absolute position of the bucket at all times can be obtained. This is particularly useful for precious metal mining. With AGS, the mines can optimize the selective mining process and operate safely around the in-pit hazards from the old underground workings.

www.motionmetrics.com



The Canadian Mining Credentials Program: Defining the Work We Do

By Barbara Kirby, Director, Labour Market Intelligence and Workforce Development, MiHR Council

The Canadian mining industry has predicted that there will be an increased demand for mine workers in the coming years. Current estimates suggest the need may be as high as 92,000 additional workers over the next decade (Mining Industry Human Resources Council, 2007). To address these HR challenges, industry has developed a strategy for workforce development and skills recognition through the Canadian Mining Credentials Program.

This initiative, under the coordination of the Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MiHR), began in 2006 with the development of the first three National Occupational Standards (NOS) for the Canadian mining industry. These NOS were created for the occupational areas of underground mining, surface mining and minerals processing operations. These first sets of NOS will serve as a foundation for two systems under the umbrella of the National Mining Credentials Program:

- A worker certification system; and
- A training accreditation system.

The certification and accreditation systems will be the first in the

Canadian context for mine workers and employers.

Historically, there has not been a pan-Canadian worker recognition framework for miners, even though mining is a fundamental part of the Canadian economy and culture. Many Canadian communities thrive because of mining, with generations of skilled

workers who have pursued satisfying careers in the industry. However, given the changing economic outlook as well as different mine closures and openings, there is a need for mine workers to possess a portable credential. A national certification system would provide such a credential, and at the same time recognize the skills, knowledge and

The conceptual framework for building a credentialing program.



Many Canadian communities thrive because of mining, with generations of skilled workers who have pursued satisfying careers in the industry. However, given the changing economic outlook as well as different mine closures and openings, there is a need for mine workers to possess a portable credential.



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experience of miners through industry-defined assessment. Work on the development of the national worker certification system began in May 2008.

Proactive workforce planning that addresses the labour crunch also requires proper training tools. Based on the NOS, formal training institutions as well as industry-based training programs are able to clearly define and articulate learning objectives. Industry accreditation of training programs signals to employers that recent graduates have the requisite skills to assume entry-level positions in the industry. It also provides industry's "stamp of approval" to training organizations for their programs and assures potential students that their studies will equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to work safely and find rewarding employment.

Moreover, training institutions will be better able to attract and train more students, which will address the skills shortage. This can be accomplished through promoting industry's endorsement of accredited training programs that increase the hiring rates of new graduates. The activities associated with the development of a training accreditation system are expected to begin in early 2009.

These certification and accreditation systems will be developed by industry through a thorough consultation process to ensure that they have integrity and receive support from all stakeholders. As such, the development process will take some time but the first certified workers are expected to have gone through the process within the next two years. In the meantime, it is possible to develop other programming, based on the NOS, that lead to accreditation and certification, as can be seen in Figure 1: Conceptual Framework for Building a Credentialing Program.

For instance, assessment guides for Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) can be developed, using the NOS as a foundation. These guides would expand the labour pool by identifying skills of exiting workers from industries in decline, such as forestry. Based on the identified skills requirements stemming from the NOS, gap training programs could be developed to fully equip workers for a career in mining. Starting in May 2008,

MiHR is testing this approach by conducting a series of pilot programs aimed to transition at least 45 displaced forestry workers with transferable skills into mining occupations. The PLA assessment guides could also support the assessment of skills of new Canadians and foreign workers wishing to enter into a mining occupation in Canada.

A nationally-endorsed Canadian Mining Credentials program will also help employers' plan their internal human resources and skills development programs. Using the NOS as a point of reference, employers can maximize the efficiency of their professional development program resources by focusing on those skills that are missing or lagging behind and designing gap training programs. This will save valuable time and expense by avoiding re-training workers in skills they have already mastered. In addition, well-maintained occupational standards enhance the ability to cross-train and rapidly redeploy workers from one task or position to another, according to shifting production needs and requirements. Individual training departments can use the NOS as a basis for developing customized coaching or on-the-job training modules along with train-the-trainer programs.

Canadian Mining Credentials Program would not be viable without extensive industry participation. To date, industry has both led and contributed to the development process, ensuring that the resulting outputs are "by industry, for industry". Continued industry participation and engagement are the backbone of these programs that will provide industry recognition for skills and workforce development tools.

In August 2008, MiHR delivered a presentation in Peru on the Canadian Mining Credentials Program. The international interest that MiHR's efforts have generated is a reflection of the importance that occupational standards play in establishing the basis for consistent safety and training programs, skills recognition, and worker mobility.

If you would like further information on the Canadian Mining Credentials program, please contact MiHR at info@mihr.ca or by visiting the website www.mihr.ca.

A nationally-endorsed Canadian Mining Credentials program will also help employers' plan their internal human resources and skills development programs. Using the NOS as a point of reference, employers can maximize the efficiency of their professional development program resources by focusing on those skills that are missing or lagging behind and designing gap training programs.

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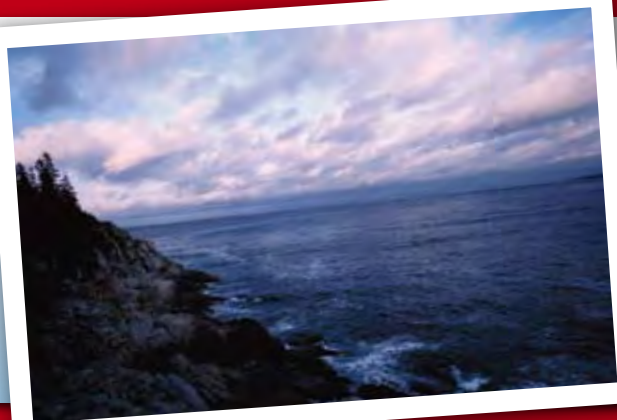
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Coming Up...

Canadian Mining Magazine continues to bring all of the hot topics in the industry through 2008. Be sure to keep an eye on your mailbox for the following stories in our upcoming issues.



Fall 2008

- We're headed out east as Atlantic Canada is our provincial spotlight.
- Canada's big rigs are featured in our special look at the heavy equipment of mining.

Winter 2008-2009

- Curious about foreign investment protection for Canadian mining companies operating overseas? Find out more in this edition.
- With infrared testing, miners can see bad insulators and loose connections on the track and rectifiers before they present a danger. This technology article will explain how it works.



Spring 2009

As the snow melts and the ground thaws, Canadian Mining Magazine will continue to bring you exciting features and important news stories. Call your sales representative for more information on our 2009 editions.

Plus our regular departments in every issue:

- Features
- Transaction Report
- Tools of the Trade
- International Spotlight
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- Job Watch
- News Watch
- Calendar of Events



Updated Resource Estimate to be Released in July 2008

Andina Minerals Inc.

... a Canadian-based, Chilean-focused exploration company

TSXV - ADM

ANDINA

Since its formation in December 2004, Andina Minerals has rapidly grown the resource base at its Volcan Gold Project through a series of aggressive exploration campaigns and has recently completed its largest program to date, the Phase IV campaign which included over 48,000 metres of drilling. The 9,450 hectare Volcan property is well-positioned in Chile's prolific Maricunga Gold Belt among a number of large porphyry deposits, including the Maricunga gold mine (Kinross), the La Coipa gold/silver mine (Kinross), the Cerro Casale gold/copper deposit (Kinross/Barrick) and the La Pepa gold project (Yamana).

Recent Achievements

Andina completed the, Phase IV exploration campaign in May 2008, achieving its goal of increasing the resource base in the Dorado area of the Volcan property where the October 2007 resource estimate determined indicated gold resources of 2.93 million ounces (115.1 million tonnes at 0.79 g/t gold) with a further 4.20 million ounces of gold (170.3 million tonnes at 0.77 g/t gold) in the inferred category. An updated resource estimate is expected in July 2008.

Drilling activities were also expanded to the Ojo de Agua area where a limited drilling program completed at the end of last seasons Phase III program outlined a new zone of gold mineralization with drill results including 104 metres grading 0.81 g/t gold and 82 metres grading 0.73 g/t gold.

Share Capitalization (Dec 31, 2007)

Symbol:	ADM(TSX-V)
Shares O/S:	72.6 million
Shares F/D:	87.5 million

Contact:

Carl B. Hansen, President & CEO
 56 Temperance Street - 3rd Floor
 Toronto, Ontario M5H 3V5
 Tel: 416 203 3488
 e-mail: info@andinaminerals.com

Andina completed the acquisition of water rights at a rate of 340 litres second and positive preliminary metallurgical testing (see press releases dated Nov. 21, '07 and May 22, '08) confirming that Volcan mineralization is amenable to heap leaching. Andina is now looking forward to the commencement of an economic study on Volcan in the latter part of 2008.

Key Events

- July 2008 – updated resource estimate Dorado area only (Phase IV drilling)
- Q3 2008 – updated resource estimate, including Dorado & Ojo de Agua (all Phase IV drilling)
- 2H 2007 – commencement of economic assessment of Volcan property

www.andinaminerals.com

Some statements in this advertisement are considered to be forward-looking and actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The most recent resource estimate for the Volcan property, dated October 2007 and filed with SEDAR on www.sedar.com, was carried out under the supervision of Ralph Gonzalez, a Registered Professional Geologist who is an "Independent Qualified Person" as defined by National Instrument 43-101. For further information regarding forward-looking statements and risk factors associated with those statements, please see Andina's December 31, 2007 Annual Report.

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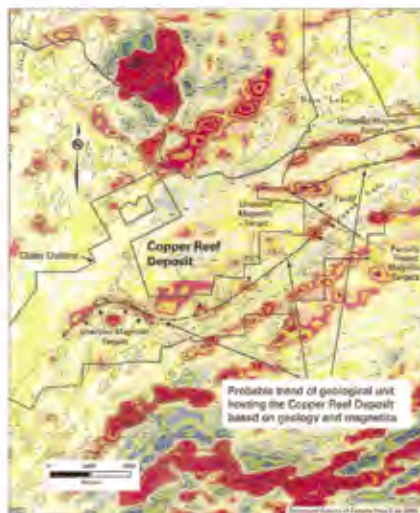
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Geological Survey of Canada Map
Probable trend of geological unit hosting the Copper Reef Deposit based on geology and magnetism.



**Copper Reef CNQ Listing CZCC.CNQ
Toronto, Ontario - February 21, 2008**

Copper Reef Mining Corporation (CNQ:CZCC) is pleased to announce that Canadian Trading and Quotation Systems Inc. (CNQ) has approved the listing of the common shares of Copper Reef Mining Corporation. The Company's common shares started trading on the CNQ on Thursday February 21, 2008 under the trading symbol CZCC.

Copper Reef Mining Corporation is a Canadian junior mineral exploration company with a specific focus on mineral properties in Northwest Manitoba and Northwest Saskatchewan, Canada. All of the Company's properties are currently at the exploration stage. The Company has no long-term debt and has assembled a portfolio of base metal and precious metal prospects, including strategic locations in the Flin Flon Greenstone belt in the Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Corporate Head Office
Suite 600, 15 Toronto Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2E3

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Flin Flon, Manitoba

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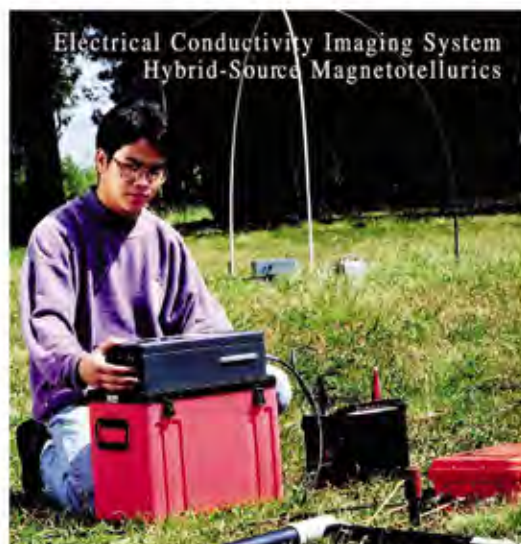
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TSX-V-NOT



TSX Venture Ranks Noront Resources Ltd. As Top Mining Company in 2008 TSX Venture 50

The TSX Venture 50 identifies the top 10 companies in five major industry sectors, based on a ranking formula that includes revenue, return on investment, market cap growth and trading volume.

Noront Resources is a Canadian base and precious metals exploration company operating mainly in Northern Ontario and Quebec, Canada. Its primary asset is its nickel, copper, platinum, palladium Double Eagle Project in the James Bay Lowlands of Northern Ontario. The discovery is significant because of the rare high grade encountered in an area which is relatively under-explored.

Initial Resource Estimate at Eagle One Deposit

Noront is pleased to report the results of an initial resource estimate by P&E Mining Consultants Inc. of Brampton Ontario on its recently discovered Eagle One Cu-Ni-PGE Deposit, lying within the Double Eagle Project located in the James Bay Lowlands, Northwestern Ontario.

Significant sulphide mineralization was outlined on nominal 50-metre spaced sections over dip lengths of up to 225 metres that can be projected to 200 metres of strike length. Twenty-three (23) drill holes that intersected mineralization on these five sections form the basis of the resource estimate while an additional six (6) holes were incorporated to build the total geological model. Inverse distance squared grade interpolation was utilized to determine block model grades.

The following table sets out, for the first time, an indicated and an inferred mineral resource for the Eagle One project

INITIAL MINERAL RESOURCE—EAGLE ONE PROJECT

Indicated	Tonnes	Ni %	Cu %	Au %	Pt %	Pd %	Ag g/t	Ni lbs Millions	Cu lbs Millions	Au oz	Pt oz	Pd oz	Ag oz
Massive	233,000	6.52	3.45	0.24	1.94	12.21	9.75	33.4	17.7	1,800	14,500	91,400	72,900
Disseminated	1,601,000	1.30	0.85	0.14	1.00	2.70	2.94	45.8	29.9	7,300	51,700	139,100	151,500
Total Indicated	1,834,000	1.96	1.18	0.15	1.12	3.91	3.81	79.2	47.6	9,100	66,200	230,500	224,400
Inferred	Tonnes	Ni %	Cu %	Au %	Pt %	Pd %	Ag g/t	Ni lbs Millions	Cu lbs Millions	Au oz	Pt oz	Pd oz	Ag oz
Massive	217,000	7.00	2.86	0.18	3.00	11.75	8.70	33.5	13.7	1,300	20,900	82,000	60,700
Disseminated	870,000	1.24	0.88	0.12	0.97	2.69	3.09	23.7	16.8	3,300	27,000	75,300	86,300
Total Inferred	1,087,000	2.39	1.27	0.13	1.37	4.50	4.21	57.2	30.5	4,600	47,900	157,300	147,000



Management

Richard Nemis (LL.B.) *President and Chief Executive Officer*

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Kevin Feeney (C.A.) *Chief Financial Officer*

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David Graham (B.Sc.) *Vice President Special Projects*

Carmen Diges (LL.M., CFA) *Vice President Legal and Business Affairs*

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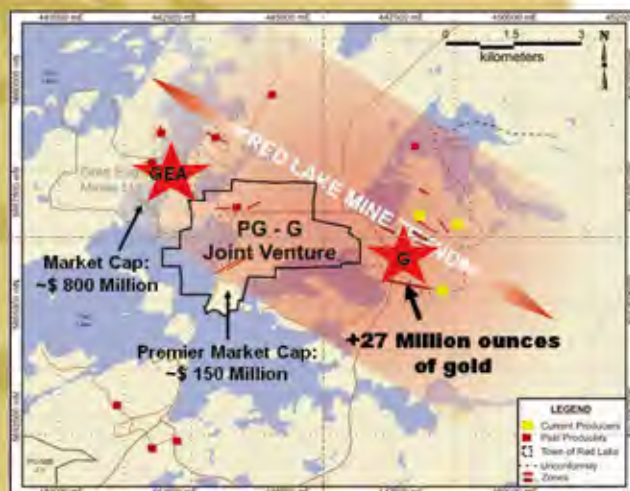
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**RAHILL-BONANZA PROJECT (NI 43-101
complainant estimate more than 900,000 oz/Au
resource)**

**2006 Drilling - 13.27 g/t Au across 19.0 meters
8.66 g/t Au across 22.0 meters**

GERALDTON PROJECT

**Kailey Zone- 39.64 g/t Au across 2.0 meters
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MEXICAN JOINT VENTURE

Santa Teresa- 479.31 g/t Au across 2.0 meters



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The Rahill Bonanza Property is a large land package being explored under a joint venture with Goldcorp. The property is strategically located between Goldcorp's RLGM and Gold Eagle's high grade Bruce Channel Discovery. Premier and Goldcorp are currently completing a major surface and under ground drill program on the property that to-date has returned numerous high-grade gold intersections including 14.19g/t Au over 5.0 meters. Previous surface drilling at the Bonanza gold discovery returned high-grade intersections including 13.27 g/t Au across 19.0 meters and 8.66 g/t Au across 22.0 meters resulting in a NI 43-101 compliant gold resource for this project with an estimate of more than 900,000 ounces of gold.

Premier has several other projects in Red Lake including the East Bay Project that has been subject to several drill programs with joint venture partner Goldcorp. The deposit at East Bay is comprised of several parallel gold zones hosted within an altered ultramafic rock unit, similar to the geological setting at the primary gold mines that have made Red Lake a household name in mining circles.

Successful exploration over the past several years, and a strong working relationship with the only gold producer in the camp, has positioned Premier Gold Mines Limited to capitalize on its strategic land holdings and become involved in potentially building Red Lake's next major gold mine.

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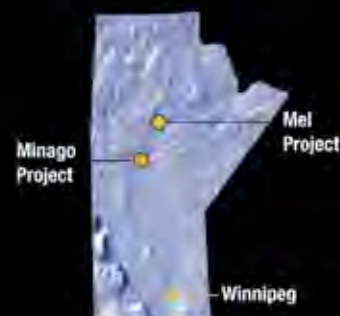
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Minago Project Thompson Nickel Belt Manitoba

- 100% owned
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- 16+ year mine life based on scoping study
- Annual nickel production: 20-22 million lbs.
- Extremely high-grade concentrate
- Bankable feasibility well advanced
- Projected production: 2010

Mel Project Thompson Nickel Belt Manitoba

- 100%-owned subject to Vale Inco back-in
- 25 km north of Thompson, Manitoba
- Near-surface measured & indicated resource: 83 million lbs. in-situ nickel
- Near term production potential

Lac Rocher Project Quebec

- 100%-owned
- High-grade: up to 10.8% nickel
- Near-surface resource: ramp access
- Permitting underway for development

What do these people know that you don't?

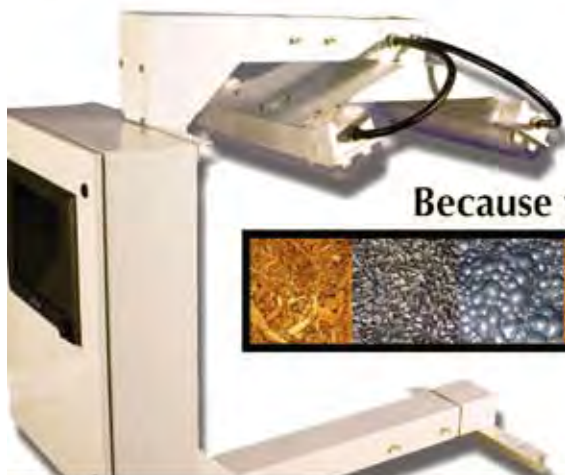


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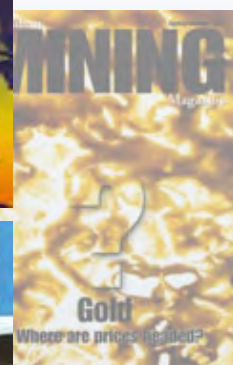
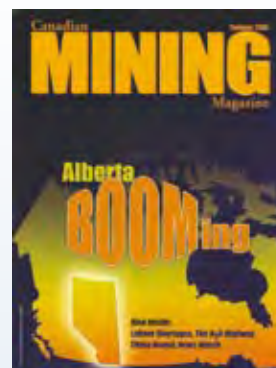
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Shallow Water Well

Geotechnical
Deep Foundation

Seismic
Drill/ Blast

Mineral Exploration
Civil / Construction

- **Booster Compressors**

- **Drill Rods—RC**

- **Rotary Top Drives**

- **Mud Cleaning systems**

- **Casing Diverters**

- **Heli-portable Compressors**

- **Rotary Inlet & Discharge Swivels**

- **Grouting Equipment**

- **Cyclones**

- **Hydraulic Power Units**

- **Rotary Casing Tables**

- **Custom Components**

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