



NEWS RELEASE

New Naats'ihch'oh National Park Strikes Reasonable Balance

(Yellowknife – May 15, 2014) In 2012, the Chamber of Mines expressed its support for the establishment of the Naats'ihch'oh National Park Reserve in the Sahtu Region of the western Northwest Territories. The Chamber is pleased to support Federal Bill S-5 tabled yesterday in the Senate of Canada to formally establish the park.

The Mineral and Energy Resource Assessment completed by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) as part of the park establishment process documented many areas of significant mineral potential within the Mackenzie Mountains Cordillera, the region that surrounds and includes the Naats'ihch'oh Park Reserve area. The GSC's work was taken into account by the Government of Canada in making the final boundary decision.

"As we said when the Prime Minister announced Naats'ihch'oh in 2012, the Chamber of Mines supports the development of park boundaries that exclude known resource-rich areas so that northerners and all Canadians might take full advantage of future economic opportunities," said Chamber President Brooke Clements. "We are pleased that the significant mineral potential documented under the GSC mineral assessment has been taken into account in the boundary selection, and that the Minister is authorized to provide road access through the park to access resources in the future. Non-renewable mineral resources are the anchor of the NWT's economy, and will provide socio-economic opportunities for future generations."

Naats'ihch'oh complements and adjoins the already established Nahanni National Park Reserve. Together they create a contiguous 35,000 square kilometre national park, one of Canada's largest. The park was established to protect the unique environmental, wildlife and geographic values of the Nahanni watershed.

For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, please visit the website at www.miningnorth.com or contact Tom Hoefer, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: executivedirector@miningnorth.com.