



NEWS RELEASE

NWT Budget 2014 Supports Mineral Development

Yellowknife, NWT (February 6, 2014) The NWT minerals industry is pleased to report that the budget tabled today in the NWT Legislative Assembly contains significant support for mineral exploration and development.

In his address, the Honourable Michael Miltenberger stated that the Budget proposes the investment of \$1.9 million for initiatives recommended under the newly released *NWT Mineral Development Strategy*, specifically:

- \$655,000 to provide better and more comprehensive geoscience information and research;
- \$400,000 for a NWT Mining Incentive Program aimed at attracting mineral exploration; and
- \$200,000 to market the NWT as an attractive place for exploration and development investment;

Investments will also be made in mining workforce development, including the delivery of the recently completed Geoscience Field Assistant Training program, and linking NWT businesses with supply opportunities for the mining industry. To address critical infrastructure needs, the government will complete the business case for an integrated power transmission grid that could lower costs for communities and industry. Work will also be undertaken to investigate ways to improve access to the mineral-rich Slave Geologic Province.

“From an industry perspective, this is a very positive budget and the Chamber of Mines is pleased to support it. Never before has the NWT Government signalled such positive support for the minerals industry,” said Brooke Clements, President of the Chamber of Mines. “This budget demonstrates that rejuvenating investment in mineral exploration and mining development is a top priority for the NWT Government as it turns a historic corner on April 1 and becomes responsible for lands, water and resources. More responsible mineral development will help sustain and even grow future revenues that can be reinvested to the benefit of the NWT, its residents, and Canada.

The Minister’s budget address can be found [here](#) and the entire document [here](#).

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.