



## NEWS RELEASE

### **First-ever MAX Awards celebrate NWT mineral resource industry excellence**

(Yellowknife, NT – November 7, 2017) The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines is pleased to announce the inaugural *2017 MAX Awards* recipients, recognized for their excellence in mining and exploration in the Northwest Territories.

*MAX Award* recipients have all played an enormous role in responsible and successful resource development; generating opportunities and demonstrating leadership in their respective categories. Their contributions include finding and developing resources, engaging with the public and governments, ensuring Indigenous participation, creating jobs and business benefits, and training northerners, all of which adds to the well-being of the Northwest Territories.

Recipients of the *2017 MAX Awards* are:

- Distinguished Service – Aurora Geosciences
- Economic Leadership – Ekati Diamond Mine and Diavik Diamond Mine
- Environmental & Social Responsibility – Diavik Diamond Mine and TerraX Minerals
- Indigenous Achievement Awards – Joe Rabesca and Darrell Beaulieu
- Special Achievement Awards – Mine Training Society and Altaf Lakhani

Keynote speaker for the event is Patrick Evans, new Chief Executive Officer of Dominion Diamond Corporation, which has just been acquired by The Washington Group. Special guest speaker is Stewart Muir, Executive Director of Resource Works, the organization that communicates with British Columbians about the importance of the province's resource sectors.

The *2017 MAX Awards* selection and celebration is a partnership of the Chamber of Mines and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The *2017 MAX Awards* coincide with the Chamber of Mines' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Geoscience Forum, and will be presented Thursday, November 16 at the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife. Tickets for the event can be purchased through the [Geoscience Forum website](#).

For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, please visit the Chamber of Mines website at [www.miningnorth.com](http://www.miningnorth.com) or contact Tom Hoefler, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: [executivedirector@miningnorth.com](mailto:executivedirector@miningnorth.com).