

Northern Mining News

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From the Executive Director ...

January was a typically busy month as we attended the annual Roundup investment conference in Vancouver. Chamber staff, along with a formidable showing of support from public and Indigenous government leaders, manned booths, met with companies, and waved the flag for the NWT. Strong, supportive leadership voices help convince investors their investment is welcome and secure. And their money is critical to our territorial economies.

Some interesting developments on the business side as Mountain Province moves to acquire Kennady Diamonds, TerraX acquires the old Ptarmigan mine property, Det'on Cho buys G&G Expediting, and Sabina gets a \$66 million investment boost!

There's also several quarterly updates in this month's edition. And an editorial from the Chamber of Mines on how to potentially find, not lose, a billion.

Happy reading! ... Editor

Our Mission: To provide leadership on, and advocate for, responsible and sustainable mineral exploration and development in the NWT and Nunavut.

NWT promotes northern mineral potential at BC Conference

A significant public and Indigenous government presence promoted the NWT at Roundup.

GNWT Premier Bob McLeod and ITI Minister Wally Schumann spoke about the significant role resource development plays in the territorial economy.

During a keynote speech at a Greater Vancouver Board of Trade lunch, Premier McLeod said: “The Northwest Territories has all the ingredients for strong economic growth, including abundant natural resources, and significant participation and support for economic development from Indigenous-owned businesses and governments.”

The event, sponsored by the Diamond Producers Association, was attended by industry and government leaders including Indigenous northern leaders and coincided with the annual AMERoundup mineral exploration and development conference and trade show.

At the GNWT’s cabinet meeting with the Chamber of Mines, Premier McLeod stated: “It’s no secret to anyone in this room that the health of the Northwest Territories economy is deeply connected to the resource development sector. With a contribution of over \$900 million to territorial GDP in 2016, resource development continues to be the single biggest sector of the Northwest Territories economy. Diamond mining contributed over \$650 million of that – almost 70 percent of the sector.”

The Chamber raised a number of issues with the Premier, including challenges with access to land. “Exploration relies on access to land. Our exploration is still struggling, and better and certain access to lands will help. Our analysis shows over 30% of the NWT is closed to development, and we believe you’ve said publicly there’s even more,” said Chamber of Mines President Gary Vivian. “Thaidene Nene, protected areas, land claims, and Canada’s Conservation 2020 Initiative to protect 17% of Canada’s lands, are major concerns,” he added.

At the Intergovernmental Council breakfast meeting, powerful words came from guest speaker Ellis Ross, an Indigenous BC MLA for Skeena and former Chief Councillor of the Haisla Nation. Ellis said he was initially opposed to resource development in his region, but says he realized to truly help his people he had to change his opinion. He also spoke about non-Canadian interests influencing local politics and economic development and dividing communities. Once these outside groups were successful in having development stopped, they left without helping his people. “I had to change my opinion if I wanted to help my people,” he said.

Ellis speaks about seeing his community’s poverty reduction and education programs fail. People were suffering. He recognized that economic development was the way forward. Support for LNG and for the plan to modernize the local aluminum smelter worked and created jobs. Members settled their own issues on their own terms. He describes how his people became proud, becoming consumers, getting mortgages, and even excited about RRSPs. It’s not been easy though. He says, because he’s supported economic development, he’s been attacked by people who don’t care about Aboriginal people or their future. But as Ellis says, if doing so saves one Aboriginal life, if it puts one person on the road to independence, then it’s worth it.

Check out the video [here](#).

The following GNWT media releases provide more details of the Roundup trip:

- [Greater Vancouver Board of Trade keynote speech by GNWT Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines meeting remarks by GNWT Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [AME Roundup, NWT Night opening remarks by GNWT Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [AME Roundup, Indigenous partners breakfast remarks by Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [AME Roundup, network luncheon opening remarks by GNWT Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [AME Roundup, network luncheon remarks by GNWT ITI Minister Wally Schumann](#)
- [AME Roundup, panel discussion by GNWT ITI Minister Wally Schumann](#)
- [What we can learn from governance and reconciliation in the Northwest Territories - Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue speech GNWT Premier Bob McLeod](#)
- [Premier McLeod to talk about the future of the Northwest Territories in Vancouver](#)
- [Economic Future of NWT on agenda as mining conference kicks off](#)



Mountain Province to acquire Kennady Diamonds in friendly take over

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. and Kennady Diamonds Inc. [announced](#) January 29 that they have entered into a definitive arrangement agreement by which Mountain Province will acquire all issued and outstanding common shares of Kennady Diamonds.

Under the transaction, Kennady shareholders will receive 0.975 of a Mountain Province common share for each Kennady common share, representing the equivalent of C\$3.46 per Kennady share, based on the closing price of Mountain Province shares on the TSX on January 26, 2018. This Exchange Ratio represents a premium of 26% to Kennady's closing price and a premium of 15% based on the 20-day volume-weighted-average-price of Mountain Province Shares on the TSX and Kennady shares on the TSX-V, both as of close on January 26, 2018. The implied equity value for Kennady based on the Exchange Ratio is approximately C\$176 million.

Benefits to Mountain Province shareholders

- Adds Kennady's 100% owned diamondiferous bodies, which contain indicated resources of 13.62 million carats and inferred resources of 5.02 million carats
- Kelvin kimberlite – indicated resources of 13.62 million carats at an average grade of 1.60 carats per tonne; average value of US\$63 per carat estimated by a 2016 bulk sample
- Faraday kimberlite cluster – inferred resources of 5.02 million carats at an average grade of 1.54 carats per tonne and average value of US\$98 per carat as estimated by a 2017 bulk sample
- Upside to grow resources at both Kelvin and Faraday and develop potential resources at the Doyle and MZ kimberlites
- Adds 67,164 hectares of highly prospective and 100%-owned exploration ground strategically surrounding the Gahcho Kué mine



Rough diamonds from the Faraday mini bulk sample.

Benefits to Kennady shareholders

- All-share deal allows Kennady's current shareholders to retain ongoing exposure to Kennady's assets as well as gain exposure to Mountain Province's 49% interest in the operating Gahcho Kué mine
- Gain access to free cash flow from Mountain Province to fund exploration at Kennady's assets
- Immediate premium on the Kennady Shares
- Enhanced liquidity and improved capital markets profile
- Potential payment of dividends from Mountain Province's 49% interest in Gahcho Kué as operations become seasoned

Full details are expected to be mailed to shareholders by early March 2018.

Inspiring De Beers role models showcase opportunities for women

After close to 15 years working for De Beers in South Africa and Canada's Northwest Territories, Michelle Peters knows a thing or two about being a woman working in the mining industry.

She was one of three presenters who shared their experiences and insights to increasing the number of women in mining to an audience of 45 female high school students. "We wanted to provide the students with insight into the mining sector – potential career options where they can make the right study choices in high school that positions them for success," said Kelly Brenton, Superintendent of Indigenous Affairs and Sustainability.

"The event was a success. We had very positive feedback from the teachers and students, who were happy to learn more about positions in mining and at De Beers."



The presentation to Grades 11-12 students from high schools in Yellowknife and Behchoko took place November 17 in Yellowknife.

The event was organized as part of De Beers' effort to increase workforce diversity. In addition to a Gender Diversity & Inclusion team working on internal policies and programs to enhance diversity, the company has also launched a scholarship program in partnership with UN Women. De Beers has committed \$300,000 to a new scholarship program focused on encouraging Canadian women, to enter careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields. The first scholarships will be awarded in coming weeks to two students at the University of Waterloo, with an additional 16 De Beers scholarships to be awarded for 2018-2019 that includes a focus on female students from communities close to De Beers operations in Canada. Globally, as a global Thematic Champion for diversity with UN Women, De Beers is investing \$3 million (US) in programs to support women in all its producer companies. "It's important to create an environment in which everyone can equally bring his or her talent, skill and energy with no reservation and no barriers. Only when diversity is pursued and embraced can it enrich the outcomes of decisions and solutions within the company," said Peters.



De Beers presenter Sarah McLean.

One of the presenters, Sarah McLean, pictured, Regulatory Specialist with De Beers Canada, said women play important roles at De Beers, including approximately 60 women who work as geologists, engineers, environmental specialists and in other technical roles. About 20 per cent of the employees at De Beers Canada are women. "In speaking with the students, I was able to draw upon current women working at Gahcho Kué as examples of how varied the work really is, whether you're interested in STEM professions or others," McLean said.

[View post](#)

Teamwork and leadership stressed at De Beers NWT skills workshop

Some Grade 8 girls and boys from around the Northwest Territories learned valuable lessons about teamwork and leadership, and career opportunities available in the mining industry, as De Beers participated in the annual *Power Up! Conference* led by Skills Canada NWT.

The conference is an opportunity for teens to explore a variety of career opportunities by participating in workshops with interactive and hands-on activities. The girls' conference was Nov. 20 and the boys' event was Nov. 21. The conference was held in Yellowknife and De Beers was one of several local companies who hosted groups of young participants.

"It was great to see these young women engaged in learning about our industry and discussing Women in Mining and non-traditional roles," said Andrea Sluggett, Operational Contracts Performance Manager for Gahcho Kué Mine.

Both the girls and the boys the following day also took part in activities designed to encompass leadership and teamwork, said Guylaine Ross, a data analyst with De Beers' environment department. This was the fifth time she has volunteered to support Power Up! For De Beers.

"The game used rubber bands and string to pick up and stack plastic cups," explained James Mason, a geotechnical engineer at Gahcho Kué Mine. "It was a fun way to demonstrate that solving challenges requires teamwork and the need to adapt quickly when things aren't working."

Mason led De Beers' workshop for boys and shared information about diamond mine engineering, geology and general mine site activities. "This was tied into putting safety first as some of the children had parents who work at mines in the area or have worked at one of the mines in the past."

[View post](#)



Students at the annual Skills Canada NWT Power Up conference in Yellowknife.

Bob Gannicott inducted into Canadian Mining Hall of Fame

Robert Gannicott, a pioneer of Arctic mineral exploration and a visionary entrepreneur who helped unlock the downstream value of Canada's fledgling diamond industry, is among the most recent Canadian Mining Hall of Fame (CMHF) inductees.

Bob played a pivotal role in the discovery and development of the NWT's Diavik mine for Aber Diamond Corporation in the 1990s and led Aber's later acquisition of luxury jeweller Harry Winston to help promote the exceptional quality of Canadian gem diamonds.

"The late Bob Gannicott's induction into the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame is indicative of the life-long commitment to the North that he had. Bob contributed immeasurably to the growth and evolution of both our economy and our Territory," said NWT Premier Bob McLeod.

With Gannicott as Chairman and CEO, Aber evolved into Harry Winston Diamond Corporation in 2007, and became Dominion Diamond Corporation in 2013. In a bold move in 2013, Gannicott sold the retail division of Harry Winston to acquire an 80% interest in the Ekati mine, which combined with 40% of Diavik transformed Dominion into Canada's largest independent diamond producer. It was the first time a Canadian company owned a majority share of a Canadian diamond mine, along with value-added sorting and marketing operations in Canada, Belgium and India.

Born and raised in England, Gannicott immigrated to Canada in 1967, and found his first job at a gold mine in Yellowknife. His career compass continued to point north after he graduated with a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Ottawa in 1975. He joined Cominco as an exploration geologist working mostly in the High Arctic, including the Black Angel lead-zinc mine in Greenland. In 1986, he formed Platinova, which discovered the Skaergaard copper- gold and Citronen Fjord base metal deposits in northern Greenland. The latter has been described as one of the world's largest undeveloped zinc-lead resources.



Bob Gannicott – Mining Hall of Fame inductee.

Gannicott's Arctic experience helped pave the way for his entry into diamond exploration. He and a group of colleagues formed a private company, West Viking Exploration. It merged with Aber Resources after staking and exploring ground near the first kimberlite diamond discovery made by Dia Met Minerals in 1991. Aber's subsequent Diavik discovery attracted Rio Tinto as an operating partner, leaving Aber with a 40% interest. Gannicott is credited with ensuring Aber's survival and subsequent evolution into Dominion Diamonds.

View CMHF's release [here](#) and NWT Premier McLeod's comments [here](#).

TerraX acquires Ptarmigan Mine property on Eastbelt, Yellowknife City Gold

TerraX Minerals Inc. [announced](#) it has entered into an agreement to acquire the Ptarmigan Mine property, located within its Eastbelt property, Yellowknife City Gold Project.

The Ptarmigan Mine was a gold producer in the Yellowknife gold district from 1941-42, in 1983 and from 1985-1997. The main Ptarmigan vein was accessed by a shaft extending to 275 meters depth and mined over 400 meters of strike length. The gold is free milling with recoveries in the 1940's reported at 97-98%. Gold recovery in the 1985-97 period consisted of gravity and flotation concentration with reported recovery of 94%. When the mine closed in 1997 the vein was still open along strike to the west on claims now owned by TerraX, and open down dip below the mine workings.

"The acquisition of the Ptarmigan mine property gives TerraX nearly 1 kilometer of strike coverage along the Ptarmigan vein trend. This provides an opportunity not only to extend the mineralization below and along strike of the main vein at the mine, but also offers opportunity to explore parallel vein systems discovered south of the main vein and reported in historical documents and identified as potential production areas. With paved road access from Yellowknife, and high-tension powerlines connected to the former mine site, Ptarmigan, with exploration success, could easily be brought back to life," said Joe Campbell, CEO of TerraX.

The Ptarmigan property consists of a mineral lease and a mineral claim totalling 47 hectares. TerraX has no liability for any remediation of the previous mine site.

The option agreement is for a 100% interest in the property with the following terms:

- A total of \$5,000 in cash payments, payable on TSX-V approval of the option agreement; and
- A total of 40,000 TerraX shares issued on approval of the option agreement.

The technical information contained in this news release has been approved by Joseph Campbell, the Chief Executive Officer of TerraX, who is a Qualified Person as defined in "National Instrument 43-101, Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects." The information on the operation history at Ptarmigan has not been prepared in accordance with National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101") and TerraX is not treating any historical results at Ptarmigan as current mineral resources or mineral reserves. No qualified person has done sufficient work to classify any historical information as a current mineral resource or mineral reserve.



Production from Ptarmigan totaled 364,874 tonnes producing 112,213 ounces of gold (average 9.56 g/t Au recovered).

Det'on Cho Corp expands with major acquisition of G&G Expediting

Det'on Cho Logistics (DCL), a majority-owned company of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation's Det'on Cho Corporation (DCC) and one of the North's leading third-party logistics providers, has acquired another leader in northern logistics; G&G Expediting. [View release](#)

According to Matt Mossman, Co-founder and President of Det'on Cho Logistics, "Combined, DCL and G&G Expediting will be able to provide companies in the region's mining, oil, and gas industries with a larger pool of highly-trained resources, an expanded infrastructure, and a broader range of services. We remain dedicated to delivering unique solutions that are tailored to the individual needs of our clients and to providing the same level of exceptional service they have come to expect."

Established in 2009, with headquarters in Yellowknife and logistics offices in Vancouver and Edmonton, DCL provides a comprehensive set of third-party logistics services, including expediting and logistics, freight forwarding and consolidation, air cargo handling support, and passenger movement services. With more than 50 years of combined experience in northern logistics and transportation, DCL counts two of the three largest diamond mining companies in the region as customers.



The combined company will have 34 full time employees (and 16 seasonal workers) dedicated not only to delivering the best service possible for clients, but to building a prosperous and self-sustaining business for the Yellowknives Dene First Nation.

"Det'on Cho Corporation is 100% owned by the Yellowknives Dene and dedicated to the creation of jobs and prosperity for our members and for the people of the north," said Edward Sangris, Chief of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. "DCL is one of DCC's core businesses and, to this point, DCL's impressive growth has been achieved by delivering an exceptional client experience. The acquisition of G&G Expediting allows DCL to grow rapidly in a period of economic uncertainty in the territory."

"The purchase of G&G Expediting is a bold statement of our commitment to the development of Canada's North," said Paul Gruner, President and CEO of Det'on Cho Corporation. "Det'on Cho has developed a diversified service offering through a series of wholly-owned businesses and partnerships. We will continue to look at equity investments where we have acquired significant operational expertise and have identified market opportunity."

De Beers production report for fourth quarter

Rough diamond production for fourth quarter 2017 increased five per cent to 8.1 million carats, reflecting stronger trading conditions as well as the contribution from the ramp-up of Gahcho Kué in Canada, [reports](#) De Beers.

In Canada, production doubled to 993,000 carats due to the ramp-up of Gahcho Kué, which reached nameplate capacity in second quarter 2017.

Consolidated rough diamond sales from its global operations in Q4 2017 were 7.5 million carats (2016: 7.5 million carats). Total sales volumes (100 per cent), which are comparable to production, were 8.2 million carats in Q4 2017 (Q4 2016: 8.0 million carats).

For the full year, consolidated sales volumes² were 33.1 million carats (2016: 30.0 million carats). Total sales volumes (100 per cent),² which are comparable to production, were 35.1 million carats (2016: 32.0 million carats).

The full year consolidated average realized price of US\$162/ct was 13 per cent lower than in 2016. This reflected strong demand in Sight 1 2017 for lower value goods held in stock at December 31, 2016, following a recovery from the initial impact of India's demonetization program in late 2016, as well as the ramp-up of production from lower value per carat but high margin operations, including Orapa and Gahcho Kué. The lower value mix was partially offset by a higher average rough price index, up three per cent compared with 2016.

Sahtu Land Use Plan 5-year review announced

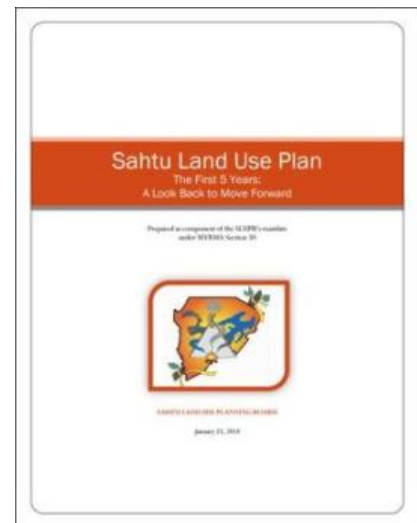
The Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB) is beginning its 5-year review of the Sahtu Land Use Plan, and has released its opinion paper: [*Sahtu Land Use Plan, The First 5 Years: A Look Back to Move Forward*](#). This document was prepared to communicate the SLUPB's comprehensive review of the Sahtu Land Use Plan's first 5 years of implementation as mandated under Section 50 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

The SLUPB has determined that amendments to the Sahtu Land Use Plan are needed. As a next step, the SLUPB is seeking written comments from interested parties on this document. The public comment period will run until July 27, 2018.

Comments should be addressed to the SLUPB Chair and delivered by email to: chair@sahtulanduseplan.org, or by mail to: PO Box 235, Fort Good Hope, NT X0E 0H0, or by fax to: 867-598-2545, or even in person to: SLUPB Office, Yamoga Building, Fort Good Hope, NT

The SLUPB Registry Link:

www.sahtulanduseplan.org/registry/category/5-year-slup-review



Mountain Province update: diamond sales, Q4 report and exploration

Results of tenth diamond sale

Mountain Province Diamonds [released](#) the results of its recently completed tenth diamond sale. Highlights of the December sale include:

- Tender sale proceeds: (USD million) 19.1
- Carats sold: ('000s) 364
- Value per carat: (USD) 53

- Normalized Value per Carat (USD) 65

Prices across all assortment categories continued to firm, increasing an average of 3% over the ninth sale. No fancies or specials were offered in this tenth tender sale as the fancies and specials bid for the related production split was won by De Beers. Including the value of the fancies and specials had Mountain Province won the bid, the normalized value per carat realized in the tenth sale was US\$65. The decrease in average price realization compared to the ninth sale is due primarily to a finer size distribution of goods. Notably, the last production split of 2017, which will supply the January tender sale, saw significant volumes, an improved size frequency distribution and the largest parcel of fancy and special diamonds produced to date, both in value and volume terms.

“Our tenth sale saw further stabilization of rough prices and strengthening of competition with over 150 companies attending the tender, the highest to date. This, combined with solid holiday sales results reported by the retail sector, bodes well for a positive rough market re-opening in January,” said Reid Mackie, Vice President Diamond Marketing.

Q4 production report

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. [released](#) production results for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2017 from the Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine.

Mining of overburden, waste rock and ore in the 5034 open pit for the fourth quarter was approximately 8.7 million tonnes, with approximately 840,000 tonnes of ore (100 percent basis) mined but remaining untreated at period end. In the fourth quarter, the GK Mine treated approximately 693,000 tonnes and recovered approximately 1,627,000 carats on a 100% basis for an average grade of approximately 2.35 carats per tonne. The company’s attributable share of fourth quarter diamond production was approximately 797,000 carats.

“These production results have notably exceeded our upwardly-revised full-year 2017 production guidance of 5.5 million carats recovered on a 100% basis (actual is 8% greater than guidance). This was driven by over-performances in both ore tonnes processed (actual is 3% greater than guidance) and grade recovered. Ice road development is progressing on schedule, with shipments to site expected to commence by the end of the month. As well, production results continue to track on budget into 2018, with winterization measures implemented this past year showing to have been effective. The Gahcho Kué team is to be congratulated for achieving such a strong performance in the mine’s first full year of operations,” said David Whittle, the Company’s Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.

Mountain Province’s exploration update on Southwest Corridor at Gahcho Kué

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. announced an update on the exploration program currently ongoing in the Southwest Corridor area of the Gahcho Kué mine site. The Southwest Corridor area lies between the 5034 and Hearne pipes, and during mining activity has been recognized as containing diamondiferous kimberlite that is not included in the project resource statements. The current exploration program has included geophysical surveys, as well as exploration drilling which remains ongoing.

A geophysical program was carried out in the fall of 2017. This program comprised a ground gravity survey centred on the Southwest Corridor area as well as other nearby areas, including between the Tuzo and Tesla pipes. Approximately 70% of the ground gravity survey was completed in the fall and has identified a potential target in the corridor between Tesla and Tuzo. The remaining 30% of the survey will be completed in February, including infill stations to complete the assessment of this new target. As well, the geophysical program included an airborne magnetics and electromagnetics survey spanning the full lease area around the mine, which has detected a possible extension of the Tesla pipe to the southwest.

A 17 hole exploration drill program in the Southwest Corridor, based on a 50 metre by 50 metre spacing plan, was commenced in November 2017. Drilling remains ongoing and is expected to continue until mid-March. Six holes have been completed to date, and a summary of results is provided as follows:

- Intercept is composed of kimberlite, kimberlite granite breccia, granite kimberlite breccia, and internal granitic dilution.
- Not true thickness.
- Estimated true thickness, to be confirmed.

Based on core logging, the kimberlitic zone is comprised of kimberlite and breccias with variable granite content. See the appendices to the news release posted on the Company's website for drill plots and additional information regarding intercept composition.

"It is encouraging to have intercepted kimberlite in all six of the exploration holes drilled to date. This is particularly notable given much of the Southwest Corridor is already scheduled under the mine plan to be mined as waste rock. We're also pleased with the identification of a potential new target in the Tesla-Tuzo corridor," said David Whittle, the company's Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.

As noted, the ground gravity survey and the exploration drilling are expected to be completed in mid-March. A subsequent drill program is anticipated to drill test the ground gravity target in the corridor between Tesla and Tuzo, and also to drill test the corridor between 5034 and Tuzo. The North Pipe kimberlite, which lies within that corridor and comprises part of the 5034 inferred resources, is open in all directions for expansion. Additionally, analysis of the results of the current drill program is expected to be completed in mid 2018, with the goal of estimating a resource for the Southwest Corridor area for eventual incorporation into the Gahcho Kué mine plan. [View release](#)

TMAC announces Q4 results, important permitting & new CEO

Q4 Results

For fourth 2017 TMAC sold 17,350 ounces of gold, realizing \$28.1 million (US\$22.1 million) at an average realized gold price of US\$1,275 per ounce.

The full [update](#) includes details on:

- 2017 and fourth quarter production highlights
- Processing plant update

- 2018 objectives
- Doris operations and capital expenditure
- Environment and permitting:
- Madrid and Boston

Review of Final EIS and Water Licence Applications for Madrid and Boston Initiated

TMAC Resources Inc. [reported](#) another milestone on the company's path to production at their Madrid and Boston gold deposits. The Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Water Board have accepted the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Water Licence applications and are commencing the coordinated review of TMAC's proposal for development and mining at the Madrid and Boston gold deposits.

TMAC looks forward to working with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Kitikmeot communities and government departments during the NIRB and NWB coordinated review process that is anticipated to provide TMAC with new Project Certificates and Water Licences in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

"We are pleased that the permitting process is proceeding smoothly. We already have an exploration permit to conduct surface exploration over the entire 80 kilometre by 20 kilometre Hope Bay gold belt. We also have advanced exploration permits which allow us to go underground at Madrid to extract a bulk sample and to reopen the portal at Boston to extract a bulk sample where we have three kilometres of underground infrastructure. Once the Project Certificates and Type A Water Licenses are obtained we will be able to put both Madrid and Boston into production. In total, we will have permits that will allow TMAC to mine up to 5,600 tonnes per day at Madrid and Boston. 2018 is setting up to be an exciting year as we commence the work necessary to bring our next two mines into production, said Terry MacGibbon, Executive Chairman of TMAC.

TMAC appoints Jason Neal as President and Chief Executive Officer

TMAC Resources Inc. [announced](#) the appointment of Jason Neal as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company effective February 15, 2018.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Jason Neal to TMAC as our new President and Chief Executive Officer and to the Company's Board of Directors," said Terry MacGibbon, Executive Chairman of TMAC. "I will continue in the role of Executive Chairman and look forward to assisting and mentoring Jason and the entire TMAC team to grow the Hope Bay project into Canada's next great gold mining district. Jason is joining us from BMO Capital Markets, where he has been Co-Head and Managing Director of the Global Metals & Mining Group.

Jason Neal stated, "I am excited to be joining Terry, the TMAC Board and the entire TMAC team, which has already accomplished so much since going public in 2015. I have been involved with the Hope Bay project since the late 1990's as an investment banker during the Miramar, Newmont and TMAC eras, including leading TMAC's IPO team in 2015, and now look forward to dedicated focus as CEO. The Hope Bay project is one of Canada's most prospective and under-explored gold belts and I look forward to leading TMAC's accomplished team to make it Canada's next great gold mining district."

How to find – not lose – a billion dollars from resources

NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines *Guest Editorial* – *News/North, January 22*

Several of our members and I had the pleasure of attending the ‘Ledge Talk’, titled ‘How to Lose a Billion Dollars’.

It’s certainly a subject that hits home – we’re resource rich and we’re all for sharing responsible resource development benefits.

The title of the talk, delivered by video by Dr. Don Hubert, President of Resources for Development Consulting, comes from his report of the same name. The report shows how governments of some countries rich in oil, gas, and minerals often fail to secure a fair share of their natural resource wealth.

Dr. Hubert shared Natural Resources Canada data from 2012 which shows the NWT total resource tax rate at 20%, very much in line with the rest of Canada. Presumably NRCAN was demonstrating Canada as an attractive place for resource investment. While other countries are much lower, the top end was almost 60%. Dr. Hubert admitted he didn’t know the particulars of the NWT, but in his estimation Canada as a nation is missing out on resource tax revenue, which he believes should be much higher.

Looking at the NWT total tax take, is 20% a ‘fair share’ when it comes to the North?

This is a complex question and will require a not-insignificant analysis by GNWT, looking at all the tax and other burdens industry faces. For example, it must include property taxes, which are unique to our northern mines; southern provinces don’t charge them. And it must include the other hurdles we face, like building our own ice roads annually. As another regulatory expert, one Dr. Hubert admires, Andrew Bauer identified to the GNWT in his report: “the high cost of building winter roads every year to existing mines shrinks royalty and corporate income tax payments.”

To Dr. Hubert’s other messaging, we also support clear, understandable taxation. Clarity reduces company risk and strengthens investor confidence. And how could one not support another notion of Dr. Hubert’s that companies need to follow the law. According to Dr. Hubert, this is where some nations lose, or one might say, find, a billion dollars.

To speak to the positive returns from mining, Dr. Hubert presented some good examples from countries like East Timor, and its phenomenal profit from oil and gas revenues when markets were strong. And Dominican Republic, which has done well by gold mines. Closer to the NWT, he pointed out Botswana, which has based its economy on diamond mining. Through wise management of its diamond revenues, it has been able to invest in the betterment of its people through better health care, education and poverty reduction.

Although agreeing on what’s ‘fair’ taxation might be tough, when it comes to mineral resources, I think we can all agree that we rely on government to put the returns to good use. Once the resource is mined, it’s too late.

We recommend reading the 72-page report from Resource Development Consulting's web site. Sure it's a long read but who knows, maybe it shows how to 'find a billion dollars' that was already there to begin with. That sounds fair.

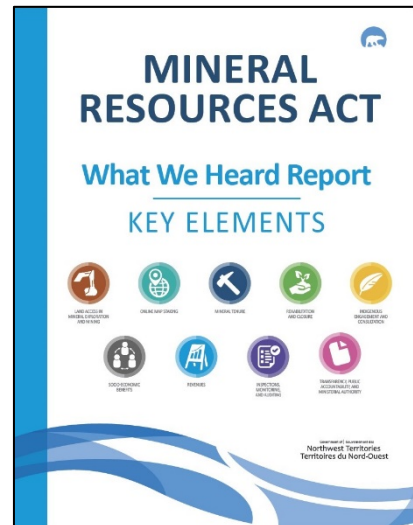
Mineral Resources Act *What We Heard Report* released

The Government of the Northwest Territories has released its [*What We Heard Report*](#) on public engagements that will inform the development of a new NWT Mineral Resources Act (MRA).

The GNWT's public engagement on the MRA encompassed seven well-attended community visits across the NWT and submissions collected from an interactive engagement portal, small-group meetings, email, social media, phone, and mail.

The analysis and synthesis of engagement findings was completed with the International Institute for Sustainable Development — an international consulting firm specializing in natural resource governance. These findings, together with the results of the GNWT's preliminary scoping exercise, cross-jurisdictional reviews, and extensive policy research already completed will now guide and inform the development of a new Mineral Resources Act for the NWT.

Proposed Key elements for a new Mineral Resources Act are included in the report.



The development of homegrown mineral legislation to address the unique needs of the NWT is central to the objectives of the GNWT's Mineral Development Strategy and a stated commitment of the GNWT's 2016-2019 Mandate.

- The release of the What We Heard document allows the GNWT to begin moving forward on the policy development and drafting phase.
- The document reports on nine overarching themes raised during the extensive 120-day public engagement that will inform the drafting of the new Act.
 - Land access in prospecting and exploration
 - Mineral tenure
 - Indigenous engagement and consultation
 - Revenues
 - Socio-economic benefits
 - Transparency, public accountability and ministerial authority
 - Online map staking
 - Inspections, monitoring and auditing
 - Rehabilitation and closure

The GNWT visited Yellowknife, Norman Wells, Inuvik, Fort Simpson, Hay River, Fort Smith and Behchokò during public engagement. Small group meetings were solicited from Indigenous governments and organizations, municipalities, non-governmental organizations, industry, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders. More than 2,200 outgoing communications were

sent to solicit engagement and build awareness about the process. 516 submissions were contributed to the engagement from all stakeholders.

[View release and links](#)

NWT publishes new geological research on Mactung and Mackenzie Mountains

Three new publications from the Northwest Territories Geological Survey (NTGS) are furthering understanding of – and interest in – the Northwest Territories mineral wealth. They are:

- Carlin-type gold and clastic-dominated zinc-lead potential of the Misty Creek Embayment Region, Mackenzie Mountains, NWT. This report details the potential for Carlin-type gold, which is a particular type of gold that has a microscopic grain size, in a region of the NWT's Mackenzie Mountains.
- Geology of the Mactung tungsten skarn and area – Review and 2016 field observations
- Geology of the Mactung tungsten skarn deposit

Two additional reports include a review of field observations and geological knowledge at the Mactung mineral deposit as well as a bedrock map covering an area of 44 square kilometres surrounding the deposit. The Mactung deposit, currently owned by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), is home to one of the world's largest undeveloped concentrations of tungsten. The publications synthesize new and pre-existing information to provide a solid basis for future work.

Geoscience data and research continue to be a key part of the GNWT's support for mineral exploration and development. The release of these three documents is timely as investors, prospectors and exploration companies gather at AME Roundup this week. [View release](#)

AME announces 2017 award recipients – includes northern rep's

The Association for Mineral Exploration [announced](#) its 2017 award recipients with awards presented on January 24 during the AMERoundup 2018 conference.

"It is an honour to congratulate the industry leaders who are receiving AME's 2017 awards," said Diane Nicolson, Chair of the AME Board of Directors. "Each has made a significant contribution to our industry, setting the stage for its future success. The theme of AME's 2018 Roundup conference is a New Generation of Discovery, and these individuals and teams, through their efforts in exploration, development and outreach are representative of that theme, having made or facilitated the discovery and creation of new mines which will bring benefits to communities throughout British Columbia and Canada. The Awards Gala at Roundup is an opportunity for us all to acknowledge and celebrate their accomplishments."

Northern mining company leaders among this year's award winners included:

- Patrick Evans, Jonathan Comerford and Carl Verley, presented with the Hugo Dummett award for excellence in diamond exploration and development. They are recognized for advancing Mountain Province Diamonds from a junior exploration company to a partner with De Beers Canada, co-launching the Gahcho Kué mine in the NWT.

- Brent Murphy and Elizabeth Miller, recipients of the Robert R. Hedley Award for excellence in social and environmental responsibility for their significant contributions and advances in the realm of social and environmental responsibility related to Seabridge Gold Inc.'s KSM project in northwest B.C. Brent is VP of Environment, and oversees Seabridge's Courageous Lake gold project in the NWT.

Sabina announces closing of 9.9% Chinese investment by Zhaojin

Sabina Gold & Silver Corp has [announced](#) investment by Zhaojin International Mining Co., Ltd. to purchase 24,930,000 common shares of the company at \$2.65 per share for a total investment of approximately \$66,100,000 in a private placement has closed.

Zhaojin International now owns approximately 9.9% of the company's issued and outstanding common shares on a non-diluted basis. Zhaojin International is a subsidiary of Zhaojin Mining Industry Co. Ltd., which is a leading Chinese gold producer and one of China's largest gold smelting companies.

"We are pleased to welcome Zhaojin as a new shareholder to the Company. As experienced gold miners, we also look forward to their technical input as we advance the Back River Gold Project. This investment by Zhaojin is a significant step towards the equity requirements to fund the Project. We are very pleased with our new financial partnership and look forward to advancing Back River towards production." said Bruce McLeod, President and CEO.

Development activities for 2018 will focus on continuing to de-risk the Project by:

- completing pre-construction earthworks;
- early procurement commitments;
- logistical improvements, including air and sea mobilization; and
- building the Project execution team.

Additionally, the Company plans on a significant exploration program to follow up on 2017 successes and to assess new targets. 2018 key exploration objectives are focussed on:

- optimizing and expanding the Vault zone;
- continuing to define the continuity and extension at Llama;
- continuing to drill test the concept of the deeper iron formation at Llama and Umwelt;
- continuing Echo step out drilling and scoping of resource expansion potential;
- testing the Goose Main Trend extension; and
- developing drilling approach for targets on the George and Boulder claim blocks.

The company plans to mobilize crews and equipment for the 2018 winter exploration campaign at the end of February 2018. Activities and budgets for 2018 will be announced mid-February 2018.

Exploration & Development News Briefs (see [website](#) for more information)

Aston Bay Holdings Ltd. [announced](#) the filing on SEDAR of an initial Inferred Mineral Resource Estimate for its 100%-owned Seal Zinc deposit located on the Aston Bay property on Somerset Island, Nunavut. The Mineral Resource Estimate results were previously disclosed in the Company's news release of December 6, 2017.

The report Initial Mineral Resource Estimate and Technical Report for the Seal Zinc Deposit, Aston Bay Property, Somerset Island, Nunavut is effective as of October 6, 2017 and signed January 17, 2018. The Technical Report was authored by independent Qualified Persons at P&E Mining Consultants Inc. and is in accordance with National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects. The Technical Report is available at www.sedar.com under the Company's profile, as well as on the company's website at www.astonbayholdings.com.

Crystal Exploration [announced](#) that two new mineral claims have been added to the Contwoyto Gold Project located in Nunavut, Canada. The Mineral Claims (named "PN1" and "PN2") comprise 2184 hectares and are immediately adjacent to Crystal's Fin 4 Mineral Claim which hosts the Pan Gold Occurrence. The new ground is situated near historical high-grade drill intersections that include DDH-S3-84 grading 35.19 g/t gold over 3.6m (Bow Valley Industries, 1984).

Jim Greig, President & CEO commented, "We are excited to add the prospective gold claims that have the potential to host high-grade gold as evidenced by historical drill results and Crystal's recent, near surface gold results at the Butterfly Occurrence. The new claims and historical gold occurrences have potential to host significant gold over multiple, nearby zones." A location map can be viewed at Crystal's website.

Crystal Exploration [announced](#) gold results from drilling at the Contwoyto Gold Project located in Nunavut. Selected drill results include:

- 14.43 grams per tonne gold ("g/t Au") over 4 meters (m) in hole 17CEI002; including 18.23 g/t Au over 3m; 24.65 g/t Au over 2m and 38.8 g/t Au over 1m.
- 6.83 g/t Au over 5m in hole 17CEI003; including; 8.79 g/t Au over 3.82m; 11.5 g/t Au over 2.82m and 20.6 g/t Au over 1m.
- 2.19 g/t Au over 9m in hole 17CEI001; including 5.12 g/t Au over 3m.

The Butterfly Gold Occurrence remains open at depth and along strike as indicated by historical drilling and ground geophysical surveying including Horizontal Loop Electromagnetics and High-Resolution Magnetics / Very Low Frequency Electromagnetics.

Three drill holes totaling 198.42 meters (17CEI001-003) of BTW drill core were completed at the Butterfly Gold Occurrence. All three drill holes intersected sulphidic, amphibolitic iron formation within ~50m of surface which was intensely altered, silicified and sulphidized.

Nighthawk Gold Corp. [reported](#) drill results from the final six holes of its 2017 program. Nighthawk drilled its first two holes at the Grizzly Bear deposit, part of its 100% owned Colomac Gold Project, and four holes on the North Inca gold deposit, (one of four high-priority prospects lying within the Leta Arm Gold Project southwest of Colomac) following up on high-grade gold intersections reported from the Company's 2011 drill campaign.

All holes intersected gold mineralization, highlighted by Grizzly Bear hole GB17-01B that returned 12.60 metres of 4.96 grams per tonne gold including 8.00 metres of 7.32 gpt Au, and 4.00 metres of 13.40 gpt Au; and North Inca hole NI17-01 which assayed 9.55 metres of 4.03 gpt Au, including 3.00 metres of 8.14 gpt Au.

Grizzly Bear Deposit

Initial drilling confirms the presence of higher-grade mineralization over significant widths:

- Hole GB17-01B intersected 12.60 metres (6.60 metre true width) of 4.96 gpt Au, including 8.00 metres of 7.32 gpt Au, and 4.00 metres of 13.40 gpt Au;
- Hole GB17-01 intersected 11.30 metres (8.00 metre true width) of 1.91 gpt Au, including 3.80 metres of 3.87 gpt Au;
- Near-surface mineralization remains open in all directions;
- Significant resource expansion potential.

North Inca Deposit

Part of the Leta Arm Gold Project – located within a well mineralized deformation zone up to 10 kilometres long and 500 metres wide that hosts two historical gold mines and several gold deposits and showings:

- Hole NI17-02 intersected 9.55 metres (7.80 metre true width) of 4.03 gpt Au, including 3.00 metres of 8.14 gpt Au;
- Hole NI17-01 intersected 13.20 metres (11.00 metre true width) of 2.24 gpt Au, including 8.50 metres (7.20 metre true width) of 3.24 gpt Au;
- Drilling to-date confirms the presence of an underexplored yet fertile and extensive land package hosting multiple gold deposits and showings.

North Arrow Minerals [reports](#) it has significantly increased the size of its 100% owned Mel Diamond Project from 7,500 ha to 56,075 ha. Claim staking was initiated because of North Arrow's September 2017 discovery of a new diamond bearing kimberlite field at Mel, located within 20 km of tide water on the Melville Peninsula, Nunavut. North Arrow made the prospecting discovery of the ML-8 kimberlite near the up-ice termination of a well-defined kimberlite indicator mineral (KIM) train in the northern part of the project area ("Mel North"). A 62.1 kg sample of the ML-8 kimberlite returned 23 diamonds larger than the 0.106 mm sieve size, including a single, colourless diamond larger than the 0.85 mm sieve size. Details of the discovery

were reported in North Arrow news release #17-12 dated October 16, 2017.

Exploration drilling will focus on defining the ML-8 kimberlite, as well as testing a series of targets at the head of three well defined KIM trains in the Mel North area. A study of till and other glacial deposits is presently underway, intended to better understand the Quaternary (or glacial) geology and terrain within the expanded project, in particular the central project area between the Mel North and Mel South KIM trains.

Seabridge Gold announced drilling will commence in February at its 100%-owned Courageous Lake Project in Canada's NWT. The planned 36 hole, 7,200 meter program will test seven separate targets along a geophysical and stratigraphic break that hosts the Walsh Lake Deposit which Seabridge discovered in 2012 (see September 10, 2012 news release). The Courageous Lake Project covers almost all of the 53 km long Mathews Lake Greenstone Belt (MLGB) which hosts Seabridge's Felsic-Ash-Tuff (FAT) deposit and was estimated in a July, 2012, pre-feasibility study to contain 6.46 million ounces of proven and probable gold reserves. The Walsh Lake deposit was discovered as part of a campaign designed to extend the Courageous Lake Project's mine life, thereby improving capital efficiency for this remote project. Drilling confirmed a near surface inferred resource at Walsh Lake, estimated in March, 2014, of 482,000 ounces of gold (4.6 million tonnes grading 3.24 g/T). Subsequent

metallurgical testing demonstrated that the material is free milling with cyanide recoveries as high as 95%. Based on these factors, the Walsh Lake deposit could be mined prior to constructing the processing plant required for the larger, refractory FAT deposit. This order of development could have significant economic benefits for the Courageous Lake project not only by extending mine life but also by generating cash flow to pay for some capital costs as the FAT deposit ramps up. View [release](#) and tables.

TMAC Resources Inc. has [advised](#) that Gordon Morrison is retiring as President and Chief Technology Officer, effective December 31, 2017, and will immediately transition to the part time role of Executive Advisor effective January 1, 2018. Mr. MacGibbon stated, "On behalf of the board of directors and all TMAC stakeholders, I thank Gord for his dedication, commitment and tremendous contributions over the past five years as he played an instrumental role in TMAC Resources' transformation from a private, exploration company to a TSX listed, new producing gold mining company. We are very pleased that Gord's vast knowledge, wisdom and experience will continue to be available to the Company as he provides guidance and technical expertise in his new executive advisory role to TMAC and its exploration group as we continue to develop Hope Bay into Canada's next gold mining district."

Calendar of events

- **PDAC 2018 International Convention, Trade Show & Investors Exchange**, March 4 - 7, 2018, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto. Learn more [here](#).
- **Nunavut Mining Symposium**, April 9-12, 2018, Iqaluit. Stay tuned for the call for speakers and sponsors. Click [here](#). #NuMS18
- **Resources for Future Generations (RFG2018)**, June 16-21, 2018, Vancouver Convention Centre. With themes covering all the key geoscience sectors across all professional practice – Minerals, Energy, Water and the Earth. Organizers are calling for sessions and proposals at: www.RFG2018.org. Abstracts will be sought in June 2017.
- **46th Annual Yellowknife Geoscience Forum**, the North's largest combined tradeshow and conference, will be held November 20-22, 2018 in Yellowknife, NT. Watch for updates on the chamber of mines website at www.miningnorth.com #ykgeo2018.

Welcome New Members!

On behalf of our members, we would like to welcome the following new member to the Chamber of Mines. We encourage your support of their business. Please join us in a warm welcome to **Knight Piésold Ltd.**, which provides services to the mining, power, water resources, infrastructure, and oil and gas industries. Its engineers, environmental scientists, geoscientists, and technologists focus on creating value at every stage of a project through quality driven, sustainable, and cost-effective solutions. <https://www.knightpiesold.com/en/>

Member news releases this past month

Click on the news release headlines which are live links for news releases issued by our member companies this past month.

- 29 January 2018 [Mountain Province to acquire Kennady in friendly all-share offer](#)
- 29 January 2018 [Stornoway reports results of first sale of 2018](#)
- 26 January 2018 [Mountain Province production report for fourth quarter](#)
- 25 January 2018 [De Beers production report for the fourth quarter of 2017](#)
- 24 January 2018 [Crystal adds Gold ground in Nunavut](#)
- 22 January 2018 [North Arrow expands the Mel project to over 56,000 hectares](#)
- 22 January 2018 [Sabina announces closing of 9.9% investment by Zhaojin](#)
- 18 January 2018 [Det'on Cho Corporation expands with northern acquisition](#)
- 18 January 2018 [Stornoway announces 2018 exploration programs](#)
- 18 January 2018 [TMAC makes permitting step towards production at Madrid and Boston](#)
- 17 January 2018 [Mountain Province provides exploration update at Gahcho Kué Mine](#)
- 17 January 2018 [Aston Bay Holdings files initial reports for Seal Zinc Deposit](#)
- 17 January 2018 [Nighthawk drills Colomac's Grizzly Bear deposit](#)
- 16 January 2018 [De Beers progresses blockchain initiative for diamond value chain](#)
- 16 January 2018 [TMAC provides fourth quarter operations update and 2018 milestones](#)
- 16 January 2018 [TMAC appoints Jason Neal as president and chief operating officer](#)
- 12 January 2018, [TerraX acquires Ptarmigan Mine property](#)
- 11 January 2018, [Stornoway announces quarter results, 2018 guidance](#)
- 10 January 2018, [Crystal intersects 18.23 g/t gold over 3 meters at Contwoyto project](#)
- 8 January 2018, [Seabridge Gold to drill Courageous Lake Project this winter](#)
- 3 January 2018, [Mountain Province Diamonds results of tenth diamond sale](#)

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For further information contact us at:
#103, 5102 50 Ave, Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S8
Email: info@miningnorth.com
Website: www.miningnorth.com

Mines & promising Northwest Territories mine projects

The following table describes leading mineral development projects in the NWT.

Project Name	Owner(s)	Commodity	Description	Status
Ekati Mine	Dominion Diamond Mines , and Dr. Stewart Blusson.	Diamonds	Canada's first and largest diamond mine, 310 km. NE of Yellowknife. Open pit and underground. Mine life to 2041. Workforce in 2016, 1,889. The Ekati mine consists of two joint ventures, the Core Zone Joint Venture and the Buffer Zone Joint Venture, in which the company has an interest of 88.9% and 72.0%, respectively. Reserves at 31 January 2017 were 68.9 million tonnes at 1.5 carats per tonne for 105.4 million carats. Inferred mineral resources were 20.6 million tonnes at 1.0 carats per tonne for 19.8 million carats. Additionally, Fox Deep indicated and inferred resources of 51.0 million tonnes at 0.4 carats per tonne for 18.7 million carats.	News release, November 1, 2017, Dominion Diamond announces completion of plan of arrangement
Diavik Mine	Rio Tinto (operator) & Dominion Diamond Mines	Diamonds	Canada's largest producer of diamonds, 300 km NE of Yellowknife. Mine life to 2025. Became all underground mine in 2012. Workforce in 2016, 1,187. Work to develop new A21 open pit well underway and will cost US\$350m over 4 years. A21 is on track to commence ore production in the second half of 2018. The A21 workforce will peak at approximately 200 people. Reserves at Dec 31, 2016 were 16.3 million tonnes at 2.8 carats/tonne for total of 46.0 million carats. Inferred mineral resources are 1.9 million tonnes at 2.9 carats per tonne for 5.5 million carats.	News Release, March 31, 2017: Dominion Diamond files updated technical report for Diavik Diamond Mine
Gahcho Kué Mine	De Beers Canada (51% and operator) and Mountain Province (49%)	Diamonds	Located approximately 280 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT. Open pit mine with life of 12 years. Mine reached commercial operation in Q1 2017. Workforce in 2016, 628. Plan is for three open pits to mine 5034, Hearne and Tuzo ore bodies producing average of 4.5 million carats/year. Reserves at 31 March 2014 (production commenced Q3 2016) were 35.4 million tonnes at 1.6 carats per tonne for 55.5 million carats.	January 29, 2018 Mountain Province to acquire Kennady in friendly all-share offer January 26, 2018 Mountain Province production report for fourth quarter January 25, 2018 De Beers production report for the fourth quarter of 2017 January 17, 2018, Mountain Province provides exploration update at Gahcho Kué Mine January 16, 2018 De Beers progresses blockchain initiative for diamond value chain January 3, 2018, Mountain Province Diamonds results of tenth diamond sale
Prairie Creek	Canadian Zinc Corporation	Zinc-lead-silver	Proposed underground mine 120 km W of Ft. Simpson. Estimated mine jobs: 220 All permits now in place to construct and operate the mine. Feasibility Study completed in 2017 supports 15-	News release, November 14, 2017, Canadian Zinc reports results for third quarter

			<p>year mine life. Subject to completion of financing, and 2.5-year construction phase, production proposed for mid-2020.</p> <p>In 2017, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board recommended approval of the proposed all season road.</p> <p>Over the past eight years Canadian Zinc has successfully completed numerous environmental assessments related to exploration and development of the Prairie Creek Mine. Canadian Zinc has obtained all the significant regulatory permits and social licences required to complete construction and development and undertake mining and milling at Prairie Creek, including construction and use of a winter access road to the mine site.</p>	
NICO	Fortune Minerals Ltd.	Cobalt-gold-bismuth-copper	<p>Proposed open pit and underground mine located 50 km NE of Wha Ti. Estimated mine jobs: 150.</p> <p>In September 2017, the GNWT announced completion of the request for qualification phase of the proposed private-public-partnership to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Tlcho All Season Road and has selected three consortiums to advance to the request for proposal stage, subject to progress of the EA. Earlier this year, the Canadian, GNWT and Tlcho governments announced conditional approval of federal funding for 25 per cent of the construction costs for the TASR through the P3 Canada Fund. The winning consortium will fund the remaining 75 per cent of the cost of the road and will be repaid with interest over the life of the contract by the GNWT.</p>	December 15, 2017, Fortune Minerals completes \$5M private placement
Kennady North	Kennady Diamonds Inc.	Diamonds	<p>Kennady Diamonds controls 100% of Kennady North project comprising 13 leases and claims immediately to north and west of 4 leases controlled by the Gahcho Kué Joint Venture (see above). Kennady Diamonds aims to identify a resource along the Kelvin – Faraday kimberlite corridor of between a 12 and 15 million tonnes at a grade of between 2 and 2.5 carats per tonne and also to identify new kimberlites outside of the corridor. The Kelvin – Faraday corridor is a target for further exploration. The tonnage estimate is based on the drilling completed to date. Potential quantity is conceptual as there has been insufficient drilling to define a mineral resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in target being delineated as a mineral resource.</p>	News release, November 20, 2017, Kennady files NI 43-101 Faraday resource report on SEDAR

Nechalacho	Avalon Advanced Materials Inc.	Rare earth metals	Proposed underground mine 100km SE of Yellowknife. Estimated mine jobs: 200. The company remains optimistic that rare earth demand will recover sufficiently in 2015 to attract Project financing and allow construction work to begin by summer 2015.	News release, 29 November 2017, Avalon releases annual sustainability report with 2017 annual filings
Indin Lake	Nighthawk Gold	Gold	Nighthawk controls over 90% of the prospective Indin Lake Greenstone Belt in this historic gold camp with a total ground position now comprising 930 sq km, approximately 220 km north of Yellowknife, NT. The Indin Lake Greenstone Belt is one of Canada's most underexplored gold camps. The property contains 14 known gold deposits and showings, 3 are historic mines (eg Colomac)	January 17, 2018 Nighthawk drills Colomac's Grizzly Bear deposit
Pine Point	Pine Point Mining (formerly Darnley Bay)	Lead-zinc	Proposed open pit mine east of Hay River, NT. 10 open pits mined sequentially with 321 jobs. Darnley Bay Resources acquired the project in 2017, and has begun active exploration to advance the project. Darnley Bay Resources is planning to start feasibility study in September, with results expected the following year. PEA quotes 13-year mine life.	News release, December 18, 2017, Osisko Metals announces friendly acquisition of Pine Point Mining December 11, 2017, Pine Point announces successful confirmation drilling program on East Mill Site Deposits
Courageous Lake	Seabridge Gold Inc.	Gold	Proposed open pit mine 240 km NE of Yellowknife. 6.5 M oz proven and probable reserves in 91.0 million tonnes at 2 g/t (2016 Annual Report). Positive PFS July 2012. The FAT deposit is one of Canada's largest undeveloped gold projects. Seabridge is currently focusing on their KSM mine and other BC projects.	January 8, 2018, Seabridge Gold to drill Courageous Lake Project this winter
Selwyn (Howard's Pass Project)	Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd.	Zinc, lead	Proposed base metal mine in Yukon on NWT border and access is through NWT. Agreements signed with NWT (Sahtu) Indigenous land corporations. The project will process multiple open pit mines over an approximate 10+ year mine life and includes a mineral processing plant, tailing management facility and the required on-site infrastructure. The mine is being designed to process 38,500 tonnes per day (tpd) of ore which, after processing, is expected to result in 2,500 tpd of zinc and 600 tpd of lead concentrate, which would be trucked to the Port of Stewart for export. Selwyn Chihong estimates the proposed mine will create approximately 1500 jobs during construction and approximately 750 during operation.	Selwyn Chihong Mining's proposed upgrade of a road to its lead-zinc mining project in Yukon's Selwyn Mountains will undergo an environmental assessment. Parks Canada has referred the 79km Howard's Pass Access Road (HPAR) to Environmental Assessment under the MVEIRB, which accepted the referral in July 2015. The HPAR was developed in the 1970s, and runs from the Nahanni Range Road to the NWT-Yukon border. Passing through 2 national parks. Yukon media reported in Feb 2016 that Selwyn Chihong has decided to slow their project down due to the current low zinc prices, and will not to take the project to the permitting stage this year. According to External Affairs VP Maurice Albert, SC has opted for a traditional drilling program and hopefully add another 10 years to the mine life.

Mines & promising Nunavut mine projects

The following table describes leading mineral development projects in Nunavut.

Project	Owner(s)	Commodity	Description	Status
Meadowbank Gold Mine	Agnico Eagle Mines	Gold	In operation since 2010. Open pit mine located in the Kivalliq Region, 300 km west of Hudson Bay and 70 km N of Baker Lake. Mine jobs: 775 AEM announced they will develop Amaruq satellite deposit, 50km from mine site and add 6 years to mine life, beginning in 2019. Construction of the Amaruq Exploration Access Road commenced in first quarter 2016. Road construction is ongoing with nine kms completed to date of expected total length of 64kms.	News release, September 22, 2017, Agnico Eagle provides notice third quarter results release News release, September 5, 2017, Agnico Eagle reports positive exploration results at multiple projects
Mary River Iron Mine	Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation	Iron	In operation since September 2014; Open pit mine 936 km N of Iqaluit. Mine jobs: 602 Production from Early Revenue Phase (ERP) began September 8, 2014. company has proposed a Phase 2 project with increased production and shipping. AANDC Minister has approved application for exemption from NPC negative conformity determination, July 2015.	News release: October 18, 2017, Baffinland Iron Mines concludes record-setting shipping season
Hope Bay (Mine began commercial production May 15, 2017)	TMAC Resources Inc.	Gold	Gold mine 130 km S of Cambridge Bay. TMAC's property covers the majority of the Hope Bay Greenstone Belt. Workforce in 2016: 335 First gold poured in first quarter 2017 and achieved commercial production in second quarter 2017.	January 18, 2018 TMAC makes permitting step towards production at Madrid and Boston January 16, 2018 TMAC provides fourth quarter operations update and 2018 milestones January 16, 2018 TMAC appoints Jason Neal as president and chief operating officer 17 January 2018
Meliadine	Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.	Gold	Proposed open pit and underground gold mine, 25 km NE of Rankin Inlet. Estimated construction jobs: 1,000 Estimated mine jobs: 700 IIBA signed June 2015. Initial capital cost estimate \$911m; mine life 14 years. On February 15, 2017: Agnico Eagle approved Meliadine and Amaruq projects for development with production beginning in 2019.	News Release, July 26, 2017: Agnico Eagle reports second quarter results
Back River	Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.	Gold	Approximately 60KM from Hackett River; adjacent to the Wishbone Greenstone belt. Consists of George and Goose Lake deposits and holds significant gold resources. Estimated construction jobs: 1,600 Estimated mine jobs: 900 Sabina's Feasibility Study on its 100% owned Back River Gold Project presents a project designed on a fit-for purpose basis, with the potential to produce ~200,000 ounces a year	January 22, 2018 Sabina announces closing of 9.9% investment by Zhaojin

			for ~11 years with a rapid payback of 2.9 years (at a US\$1,150 gold price and a 0.80 exchange rate). Initial CAPEX of \$415 million. Project certificate from NIRB obtained in December 2018 completing environmental assessment.	
Kiggavik	AREVA Resources Canada Inc.	Uranium	Proposed uranium mine 80 km W of Baker Lake. Estimated Construction jobs: 750 Estimated mine jobs: 600	July 25, 2016, Federal Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, on behalf of responsible ministers for authorizing whether the Kiggavik Project should or should not proceed, accept NIRB's determination that the Project should not proceed at this time.
Izok Corridor Project (with High Lake & Hood River deposits)	MMG Ltd.	Copper, Zinc, Gold, Silver	High Lake is 1,710-hectare, copper-zinc-silver-gold property, 190 km ESE of Kugluktuk. Izok is high-grade zinc-copper-lead-silver deposit, 255 km SW of Kugluktuk. Estimated construction jobs: 1,140 Estimated mine jobs: 710	MMG examining alternative designs to reduce costs, add value, and improve economic viability of the project. Company stated publicly that project needs Grays Bay Road and Port project infrastructure to become a mine.
Chidliak	Peregrine Diamonds Ltd.	Diamonds	Located 120 kilometres NE of Iqaluit, the capital of Nunavut, and 180 km S of Pangnirtung. 71 kimberlites discovered to date with 8 potentially economic on 413,000-hectare site. Positive Phase One Preliminary Economic Assessment in July 2016 highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After-tax payback - 2 years, • LOM of 10 years. • Commercial production 2021 with 3-year construction schedule. • LOM average production rate of 1.2 million carats per annum, peaking at 1.8 million carats/year. • LOM average head grade 1.67 ct/T • Estimated pre-production capital of approximately C\$434.9 million, includes construction of 160-kilometre, all-weather road to connect to Iqaluit. • 2,000 tonnes per day. • LOM Opex of C\$94.4/tonne of C\$57.7/carat. 	News release, November 28, 2017, Peregrine Diamonds reports microdiamond results extend high grade CH-6 kimberlite, unique green diamond recovered
Angilak	Kivalliq Energy Corp.	Uranium	340,268-acre property located SW of Baker Lake; Hosts the high-grade Lac 50 Trend deposit	News Release, October 25, 2017, Kivalliq Energy Corporation identifies new gold, confirms gold zones
Qilalugak	North Arrow Minerals / Stornoway Diamonds	Diamonds	7 km from tidewater; 9 km from Repulse Bay, Melville Peninsula; 7,143 hectares of contiguous mineral claims. Largest kimberlite in Nunavut.	January 29, 2018 Stornoway reports results of first sale of 2018 January 22, 2018 North Arrow expands the Mel project to over 56,000 hectares January 18, 2018 Stornoway announces 2018 exploration programs January 11, 2018, Stornoway announces quarter results, 2018 guidance
Committee Bay Gold Project	Auryn Resources (purchased North Country Gold Corp.)	Gold	Committee Gold Bay Project Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High grade gold endowment • Existing exploration infrastructure • 217,600 hectares with district scale discovery opportunities 	December 14, 2017, Auryn identifies 8 high priority gold-in-till anomalies across Gibson MacQuoid Greenstone Belt

Project maps

