



NEWS RELEASE

Prairie Creek Mine Project Receives Review Board Approval

Yellowknife, NT – December 9, 2011. The Chamber of Mines is pleased with the Mackenzie Valley Review Board's conclusion that the Prairie Creek mine is not likely to have any significant adverse impacts on the environment or to be a cause for significant public concern.

The Review Board has therefore concluded that an environmental impact review of this proposed development is not necessary and that the Prairie Creek Mine project should proceed to the regulatory phase for approvals.

Chamber of Mines President Pamela Strand: "We are encouraged that Prairie Creek has passed this important step in the environmental process and look forward to seeing the project move expeditiously through the regulatory process. This would be an important milestone for the Northwest Territories, and will help send a signal of confidence to companies considering investment in the Territories."

However, she says, "The Chamber of Mines encourages all parties to continue to demonstrate leadership in making appropriate changes in the regulatory processes to reinstate the NWT as an attractive investment destination."

The Chamber of Mines continues to actively encourage the Government of Canada in its work to improve the northern regulatory environment, and the Boards in their work to improve the efficiency and predictability of their processes. Chamber members are also encouraged with the recent announcement that a mining strategy will form part of the new NWT Government's priorities.

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