

NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines

Five Year Strategic Plan

2024 – 2029



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Acknowledgements

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The Chamber would like to acknowledge our members who responded to the Strategic Plan Survey and/or attended the Strategic Planning Virtual Cafes and provided their valuable insights.

We also want to acknowledge the members of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee who have dedicated their time and resources to frame the vision, mission and pillars of the strategy.

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Photo Credits

Photo 1 – Winter Drilling in Campbell Shear Zone, Gold Terra Resource Corp.

Photo 2 – Ship in Milne Inlet, Baffinland Mary River Iron Mine

Photo 3 – Core Drill Sample, Li-FT Power Ltd.

Photo 4 – Shift Change, Meadowbank Gold Mine, Agnico Eagle Mines

Photo 5 – Meliadine First Gold Pour, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

Photo 6 – Ekati Diamond Mine, Burgundy Diamond Mines

Photo 7 – B2 Gold Back River Corp.

Photo 8 (Footer) – NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines

Message from the President

For almost a century, the minerals industry has made tremendous contributions to the lives and prosperity of northerners by providing business and employment opportunities; contributing to and encouraging education and training; providing assistance for social, cultural and recreational initiatives; creating a legacy of community, infrastructure and human resource development; and generating significant tax revenues that allow northern governments to provide valued services.

The northern minerals industry is now in a period of transition. New and potential minerals projects are on the horizon in both Nunavut and the NWT. However, other mines in both Territories are maturing, and some are in, or nearing, closure. Investments in prospecting and exploration have declined over the past few years, and there is a need to generate new discoveries to ensure the future of a successful northern mining sector.

I am therefore pleased to present the *NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines Strategic Plan: 2024 – 2029*. The plan is based on feedback from our members and has been framed by the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. The vision, mission and pillars have been developed to address the key

challenges faced by the minerals industry over the next five years, and to enhance the many positive aspects of the mining sector.

I would like to thank all of those who participated in the creation of the Strategic Plan. I look forward to continuing to work with the members of the Chamber to ensure a healthy, sustainable and vibrant minerals industry.

Message from the Executive Director

Since 1967, the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines has been the voice of the northern minerals industry. The Chamber has made a significant contribution to promoting and encouraging a strong northern minerals industry. Our members have once again voiced their support for the Chamber and the value of the work we do.

As we enter a new era of opportunity, such as the emerging critical minerals sector, as well as a period of change, we will continue to work toward meeting our vision, mission and objectives. The staff of the Chamber would like to thank all those who contributed to the development of the Strategic Plan and we look forward to providing quality information, research and services to all of our members as well as to stakeholders and members of the public.

Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

A strong minerals industry that benefits the Peoples of the North.

Mission

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

Values

The values of the Chamber are to:

- establish a safe, healthy and sustainable minerals industry and working environment
- promote collaboration, partnerships and mutual respect
- embrace equity, diversity and inclusivity
- commit to environmental responsibility and respect for the communities where we work
- conduct open and honest engagements
- rely on evidence-based decision-making
- ensure sound governance and financial and operational practices, and
- provide quality services for our members.

Pillars of the Strategic Plan

The pillars of the Strategic Plan are:

- Relationship Building
- Advocacy
- Outreach and Education.

Pillar 1: Relationship Building

The Chamber will continue to build and enhance strong relationships with industry partners, stakeholders and the public to ensure the minerals industry provides opportunities for northerners to prosper while respecting cultural traditions and the northern environment.

Main Objectives

*Continue to develop and strengthen positive and constructive relationships with **public governments.***

- Meet with senior political and administrative representatives of the Federal and Territorial governments
- Develop relationships with respective municipal and community governments and organizations
- Hold information sessions with public officials to provide updates and information.

*Grow relationships and collaborative efforts with **First Nations, Inuit and Metis governments and organizations.***

- Attend meetings with First Nations, Inuit and Metis governments and organizations as invited
- Continue to find pathways for First Nations, Inuit and Metis businesses and jobseekers
- Collaborate on developing shared goals for the minerals industry
- Encourage participation on, and input to, the Chamber
- Act as a resource and provide support and feedback including in such areas as legislation, regulations and policy development.

*Build and maintain relationships with **Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders.***

- Hold joint sessions with NGOs to discuss shared areas of interest
- Attend meetings with NGOs and other representative groups such as the Chambers of Commerce, as invited
- Continue to make strong connections with industry associations such as PDAC and MAC.

Pillar 2: Advocacy

The Chamber will continue to be a strong voice to advocate for a vibrant, sustainable and healthy minerals industry that contributes to the prosperity of the Peoples of the north.

Main Objectives

*Promote and encourage **increased investment** in the northern minerals industry, particularly in prospecting and exploration.*

- Continue to promote Nunavut and the NWT as jurisdictions that are rich with current and potential minerals opportunities
- Identify and propose solutions to mitigate or eliminate barriers to increased investments
- Ensure that decision makers are aware of the benefits of increased investments and the risks associated with declines in the investment climate.

*Provide evidence-based research on, and advocate for, the effective resolution of **regulatory and land access issues.***

- Provide meaningful and factual input on land use plans and exploration and minerals legislation impacting the mining sector
- Identify and propose solutions to address legislative and regulatory duplication, challenges and delays that are impeding responsible mineral development

- Provide advice and assistance to members and industry partners to navigate the complex regulatory framework.

*Continue to advocate for **infrastructure development** that significantly benefits all northerners, northern businesses and organizations, including the minerals industry.*

- Provide research on, and continue to advocate for, infrastructure development
- Encourage the development of transportation infrastructure that allows for greater access to goods and services, reduces costs and increases mineral exploration and development opportunities
- Advocate for the development of energy generation projects that decrease northern dependence on imported fuels, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide steady and reliable power.

*Advocate for, and demonstrate the industry's on-going commitment to, **environmentally responsible** mining practices.*

- Demonstrate the various environmental initiatives and successes of the northern minerals industry
- Advocate for continued collaboration with stakeholders to implement environmentally sustainable projects.

Pillar 3: Outreach, Education and Participation

Enhance awareness and understanding of the minerals industry and its value to the Peoples of the north.

Main Objectives

Advance a greater understanding of the minerals industry and its overall value.

- Describe the current northern minerals environment and explain the minerals industry
- Educate on the future of the northern minerals industry including emerging energy and critical minerals sectors
- Promote the value of the minerals industry including business and employment opportunities and social investments
- Describe the impacts of closure and not replacing existing mines.

Enhance internal and external communications to better promote the Chamber and the minerals industry.

- Consider the variety of audiences in the NWT and Nunavut
- Establish effective messaging that can be adapted to various situations
- Utilize a variety of communications methods and tools based on messaging and audiences.

Collaborate with partners to engage northerners in order to increase awareness of, and participation in, the minerals industry.

- Promote opportunities in, and the benefits of, the minerals industry in collaboration with other parties
- Create innovative approaches to educate northern youth on the minerals industry.