



NEWS RELEASE

Government Investments Good for Northern Mining & Communities

Yellowknife, NT (March 28, 2012) The Chamber of Mines welcomes government investments in infrastructure, skills, business development, and training announced over the past month by the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister Responsible for the North and for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor). These investments in northern capacity will help support both communities and mining investment.

"We're delighted to see ongoing support from Minister Aglukkaq towards skills development and infrastructure enhancement in the North", said Pamela Strand, President of the Chamber of Mines. "Investments like these that integrate with and complement mining and exploration activities will significantly help strengthen both territorial economies and enhance industry's ability to advance mining projects to the benefit of community residents."

The recent announcements include investments in:

- Airport improvements at Cambridge Bay, Nunavut to improve service, make travel safer, and increase shipping capacity for the entire region. It will also support the significant exploration investments opportunities occurring in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut, similar to government's funding support for Nunavut's Rankin Inlet airport announced last fall.
- Mine training equipment for a new mining training centre in Ft. Simpson, Northwest Territories that will train workers for opportunities at Canadian Zinc's Prairie Creek mine. Training for career opportunities in mine administration, underground mining, heavy equipment operations, safety, and camp catering will help provide much needed employment in the Dehcho region.
- Pre-trades Skills modules in both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut to provide youth with a low-risk, low-cost opportunity to explore skilled trades and technology careers. This investment will give "both northern youth and businesses expanded opportunities for local employment in important sectors that contribute to our economic growth such as mining, construction and tourism," said Minister Aglukkaq.

For more detail on CanNor's announcements, visit <http://www.north.gc.ca/mr/nr-eng.asp>. For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, please visit the Chamber's website at www.miningnorth.com or contact Tom Hoefer, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: executivedirector@miningnorth.com.