



## NEWS RELEASE

### Chamber Congratulates Mine Rescue Championship Participants

Yellowknife, NT (June 19, 2012) Mine Rescue Teams from the three northern Territories demonstrated their life saving and rescue skills in the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Mine Rescue Competition held in Yellowknife last week.

Teams participating in this year's event represented the Ekati, Diavik, and Snap Lake diamond mines and the Cantung tungsten mine in the NWT; the Minto copper-gold mine from the Yukon; and the Meadowbank gold mine from Nunavut.

Mine rescue teams are a critical aspect of safety at our northern mines, and their members hone their skills continuously at their home mine sites. The Annual Mine Rescue Competition provides an opportunity for teams from often diverse and distant mines to get together in a friendly environment to tackle a variety of skill-demonstrating events. Some of the events are focused on underground operations, while others on surface mines. Ekati was the only mine that sent teams for both. The top awards are the **Overall Surface** and **Overall Underground**, won by Ekati and Diavik respectively.

### COMPETITION & EVENT WINNERS

<b>Overall Surface Winner (sponsor WSCC)</b>	- Ekati Diamond Mine - Surface Team
<b>Overall Underground Winner (sponsor WSCC)</b>	- Diavik Diamond Mine
First Aid (sponsor Rio Tinto)	- Ekati Diamond Mine - Underground Team
Surface Practical Bench (sponsor BHP Billiton)	- Minto Mine
Fire Fighting (sponsor Levitt-Safety)	- Meadowbank Mine
Rope Rescue (sponsor Nuna Logistics)	- Snap Lake Diamond Mine
Surface Written Test (sponsor WSCC)	- Ekati Diamond Mine - Surface Team
Underground Written Test (sponsor BHP Billiton)	- Diavik Diamond Mine
Surface Smoke (sponsor Draeger Canada)	- Ekati Diamond Mine - Surface Team
Underground Smoke (sponsor Draeger Canada)	- Diavik Diamond Mine
Underground Bench/Field Test (sponsor WSCC)	- Diavik Diamond Mine
Surface Obstacle/Extrication (sponsor Rio Tinto)	- Ekati Diamond Mine - Surface Team
Underground (sponsor De Beers Canada)	- Snap Lake Diamond Mine

The annual Miners Picnic was held simultaneously and attracted several hundred participants to watch the competition and enjoy food and family-focused events. Our thanks go out to our many Chamber members who sponsored the events.

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