



NEWS RELEASE

Federal Budget Can Benefit Northern Mining

Yellowknife, NWT (March 22, 2013) Canada's proposed Federal Budget, *Economic Action Plan 2013*, contains a number of measures to assist with job creation, investment, and infrastructure that can be good for the Northern minerals industry.

The following measures in particular are relevant to increased success in the northern minerals industry:

- Funding to address skills shortages including initiatives to reallocate funds to promote education in high demand fields (like mining); enhanced Aboriginal training-to-employment programs and a boost in scholarships and bursaries; and a proposed consultation process which includes industry, to determine the allocation of skills funds.
- Commitment to extend the 15 per-cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for flow-through share investors for an additional year.
- A \$53.5 billion *Building Canada Plan* to focus on addressing infrastructure needs.

"This budget recognizes the needs of our minerals industry," said Cathie Bolstad, Chamber President. "Federal training dollars have been critical to our success in making mining the largest private sector Aboriginal employer in the country. Proposed mining projects in the NWT and Nunavut will require over 7,000 jobs in the next 10 years, and Federal investments in training and education will continue to be critically important. We are also hopeful that the *Building Canada Plan* can help address the north's need for infrastructure and lower costs of living, including cheaper power, and connections through roads and ports. Given the difficult financial marketplace, our exploration companies will be grateful to see the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit renewed for another year."

"While not mentioned directly in the budget, we also look forward to continued investment in northern geoscience," she added. "Geoscience is critically important in the north which is the most undermapped and least understood geologically of any of the jurisdictions in the country."

For more information on the budget, click [here](#).

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.