



## News Release

### GN meets with Southern Mining Industry to encourage Mining Development in Nunavut

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (May 20, 2005)** – Economic Development and Transportation Minister David Simailak says he'll do what is necessary to encourage the development of a strong, sustainable mining industry in Nunavut, including initiating a review of procedures and regulations to streamline processes for companies wanting to do business in the territory.

"Nunavut has tremendous potential for mining development but we need to demonstrate to the mining community and other companies that we are open for business and that we are prepared to work with them to help smooth the way," Simailak said. "This sector promises to play a critical role in developing a strong and diverse economy, create employment and stimulate infrastructure development in communities across the territory."

That was the message that Simailak and his officials delivered earlier this week to mining officials in Toronto and Vancouver when they met with them to discuss what needs to be done to encourage development and investment in Nunavut. Simailak says one only has to look at the Northwest Territories to see the positive impacts of mining activity and notes that Nunavut is a territory that is rich with opportunity.

"We are following through on the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy by developing and coordinating action plans with many of our partners and economic development agencies," said Simailak. "At the end of the day it is my goal that we will have an economy that is as strong and diversified as the people of Nunavut but we can't do it alone, we need the support of industries such as the mining community."

Simailak reiterated that streamlining businesses processes is only one aspect of creating the right environment for a strong and viable mining industry. He says increased investment in the development of infrastructure and ensuring that Nunavut businesses and workers have the basic capacity and training to meet the needs of the mining community are also critical aspects.

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