



News Release

Nunavut Releases its Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy

TORONTO, Ontario (March 5, 2007) - The Honourable David Simailak, Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, today launched the new Government of Nunavut mineral exploration and mining strategy during the 75th Annual Meeting of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada. The strategy provides a comprehensive framework to support mineral exploration and mining development in Nunavut.

“The goal of the strategy is to create the conditions for a strong and sustainable minerals industry that contributes to a high and sustainable quality of life for all Nunavummiut,” said Simailak.

Parnautit: The Nunavut Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy, outlines a modern policy direction and specific actions to address improvements in four thematic areas, or “pillars”: Jurisdictional Framework; Community Benefits; Infrastructure Development; and Environmental Stewardship. The strategy establishes guidelines for good environmental practices for mineral exploration, mining, and reclamation in Nunavut, and ensures a sustainable approach to development.

The Government of Nunavut is committed to working with the federal government and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) to ensure the proper rules are in place to allow the mining industry to prosper, to ensure the maximum participation of Nunavummiut in the socio-economic benefits of mining, and to protect the environment. Targeted efforts are being made to meet industry-specific needs in education, training, and community consultation.

The strategy also makes a commitment to prepare infrastructure development policies in partnership with industry, to obtain mutual benefits from construction projects, and to improve geoscience and baseline information needed to support mineral exploration and development.

Parnautit: The Nunavut Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy is available on-line on the Department of Economic Development & Transportation web site at www.edt.gov.nu.ca/parnautit.

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