

MINING WORKS FOR CANADA

DIAMONDS

S P E C I A L E D I T I O N

Message from the Honourable Chuck Strahl

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO contribute to the special Diamonds issue of *Mining Works for Canada*.

Diamond mining has come a long way in this country. In 10 short years, Canada has gone from a diamond-importing country to being the third-largest diamond producer in the world. Mining in the North is now a \$2 billion per year industry, employs over 1,300 people and Canada is now home to four operating diamond mines. It is a real Canadian success story.

In addition, there are a number of potential major development projects, including gold, nickel and iron ore. Together, these are contributing to a healthy Northern and national economy. Untapped natural resources in the North



Chuck Strahl,
Minister of Indian
Affairs and Northern
Development and
Federal Interlocutor for
Métis and Non-Status
Indians

combined with strong international demand will continue to drive Canada's prosperity into the future.

Clearly, an era of dynamic growth is underway in Canada's North, bringing both challenges and opportunities. The mining industry is contributing significantly to the economy in the North, and is providing lasting benefits to all Northerners.

As part of Canada's New Northern Strategy, we are committed to work with Aboriginal people, business and territorial leaders to promote balanced growth in the North.

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COMMUNITY

De Beers Canada invests in Education



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Energy savings programs at EKATI



ECONOMY

Diavik – Exceeding Commitments

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Message from Gordon R. Peeling

President and CEO
Mining Association of Canada



Gordon R. Peeling,
President and CEO
Mining Association of
Canada

SINCE CANADA'S DIAMOND MINING INDUSTRY began development in 1995, to the end of 2007, it has invested more than \$7 billion in capital expenditures. There are now four producing mines, including BHP Billiton's EKATI Mine, the Diavik Mine, a Rio Tinto Plc – Harry Winston Diamond Corporation joint venture, and two mines recently commissioned by De Beers Canada Limited, the Snap Lake Mine in the NWT and the Victor Mine in northern Ontario. A fifth mine, Tahera Diamond Corporation's Jericho mine, operated from March 2006 to January 2008. By the end of 2007, Canada had produced nearly 78 million carats of diamonds from three operating mines valued at \$8.9 billion.

Canada's diamond producers have all adopted high performance standards under MAC's Toward Sustainable Mining initiative and have led the Canadian mining industry in innovative and award-winning environmental management and sustainable development practices.

In 2006 the industry employed more than 4,000 Canadians directly and provided a nearly equivalent number of indirect jobs through goods and services contracts with northern and Aboriginal businesses. Collectively, the diamond producers have entered into 14 Impact Benefit and Participation Agreements with Aboriginal Groups in the NWT, Nunavut and northern Ontario. The cumulative employment impact of diamond mining in Canada for the period from 1995 through 2006 amounted to some 18,000 person-years of employment, of which 54% were northern and/or Aboriginal employees. On the job training

and skills development for Aboriginal workers have been a critical and strategic component of the industry's workforce development, as have post-secondary school scholarships, apprenticeships and support for high school vocational programs.

The industry has contributed to community development projects and an improved quality of life for some 20 Aboriginal and northern communities in the NWT, Nunavut and Ontario, including community sponsorships, transition houses, sports complexes, and has upgraded remote transportation and energy supply routes to the benefit of those communities.

For its part, in conjunction with the TSM Framework on Mining and Aboriginal Peoples and the MAC Diamonds Committee, MAC has initiated an Aboriginal Engagement Strategy towards developing a process for strengthening relations between Aboriginal Groups and the northern minerals industry. We are proposing that a joint Aboriginal-Industry forum be established that could provide opportunities to address issues of mutual interest or concern.

Within this special Canadian diamonds edition of the Mining Works for Canada newsletter, you will read about some of the challenges and success stories that have occurred in one of Canada's most dynamic and exciting industry. I hope it provides you with a better sense of the positive growth and development occurring as well as a better understanding of how that affects Canadians right across country. ■

Message from the Hon. Chuck Strahl continued from page 1

The Strategy focuses on four priorities: promoting economic and social development, improving and devolving governance, protecting our environmental heritage, and strengthening our Arctic sovereignty.

By continuing to work together, we can unleash the North's potential and ensure lasting prosperity for Northerners and all Canadians. ■

WITHIN THIS SPECIAL CANADIAN DIAMONDS EDITION OF THE MINING WORKS FOR CANADA NEWSLETTER, YOU WILL READ ABOUT SOME OF THE CHALLENGES AND SUCCESS STORIES THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN ONE OF CANADA'S MOST DYNAMIC AND EXCITING INDUSTRIES.

COMMUNITY

Diavik Partners in Much Needed Health Care Facility

THANKS IN PART TO DIAVIK DIAMOND MINES Inc. (DDMI) approach to partnering in local community projects, the Northwest Territories will have its own facility dedicated to treating people with Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia. Diavik has committed to support construction of the new Territorial Dementia Facility in Yellowknife.

The Territorial Dementia Facility is open to all Northwest Territories residents, and will allow them to transfer from long-term care facilities to one specifically designed to meet the needs of people with Alzheimer Disease and related dementias. The new 28-bed facility will be operated by the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors (YACCS).

"At Diavik, we feel very strongly about contributing back to the community and in helping support healthy lifestyles," said Diavik President Kim Truter. "The Side Door was our first project and addressed the needs of youth. With construction of the Shorty Brown Arena, we supported recreation for all ages, and Bailey House, currently in final construction, will help support men making transitions in their lives. The Territorial Dementia Centre is a much needed facility that will provide specialized care to people living with dementia, and will significantly lessen family stress by supporting affected family members closer to home."

"When we look at how ardently we approach health and safety within Diavik, it only made sense for us to reach beyond our mine to contribute to a local health partnership like this Territorial Dementia Facility," he added.

Under the community-driven partnership, Nahanni Construction Ltd. of Yellowknife will construct the facility. Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. will project manage construction and provide financial management similar to what was done for previous partnership projects. The NWT

Government will finance 100% of the construction, estimated at \$15 million. Completion of the facility is scheduled for late summer or early fall of 2009. ■



Diavik's newest community project will be to assist with construction of a new health facility in Yellowknife. From left to right: Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors President Don Costach, Diavik President Kim Truter, NWT Health and Social Services Minister Sandy Lee, and Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors Lifetime Director Barb Bromley at the launch.

Community Initiatives Focused on Sustainability

WITH A FOCUS ON THE FUTURE, BHP Billiton looks for sustainability in its operations and in the programs that it supports. The company announced earlier this year that it is funding a Project Manager to conduct a feasibility study to look at options for assisting local people in need. Called "Northerners Helping Northerners", the study will review options for providing a place for homeless people to go where they can find food, counseling, and support to start bettering their lives.

BHP Billiton's Project Manager is working with the RCMP, government agencies and current service providers to research available options to provide for those that need assistance. This important work is the first step to determining solutions to the problems faced by homeless Northerners, to help them break the cycle and participate in society in a more productive manner.

BHP Billiton is committed to sustainable development and in supporting health, safety, environment and community initiatives. The company supports private public partnerships and is willing to invest the time and money in projects supported by a majority of stakeholders with a goal to assist those in need. ■

Unearthing Tomorrow's Diamonds – Education and Literacy Development in Canada

LITERACY RATES IN CANADA, SPECIFICALLY IN Aboriginal communities, are surprisingly low. The facts are staggering. According to the Ontario Native Literacy Coalition, literacy rates for Aboriginal people are far lower in comparison to the rest of the Canadian population.

Education and literacy are the building blocks to accessing opportunities to build a sustainable future. The benefits of reading and sharing knowledge present themselves everyday in our careers and in our lives at home. De Beers Canada places a strong emphasis on literacy in the communities in which they operate through their corporate social investment activities.

“It’s great to know that De Beers will be back next year so the students can continue to add to their personal collection of reading at home.”

De Beers Canada is committed to combating illiteracy and promoting the gift of reading early in life with their *Books in Homes* program. This program was successfully launched four years ago in Aboriginal communities around the Snap Lake Mine in the Northwest Territories (NWT) and has been expanded to the Victor Mine in northeastern Ontario.

Books in Homes is run in partnership with school principals and educators to select appropriate books for the children to choose from. Since its inception, over 6000 students have received more than 19,000 books. The program also provides an opportunity for De Beers Canada to engage



directly with students. “The kids are fantastic,” explains Elizabeth Biscaye, Senior Liaison Coordinator at De Beers Canada. “Their enthusiasm and willingness to learn is what makes it all worthwhile.” De Beers Canada employees select and distribute the books personally to the students, and spend time in classrooms to read with them.

The *Books in Homes* program is an engaging and encouraging way to inspire students to complete their education. In the Northwest Territories, the students are given “book bucks” to purchase three books of their choice. This method allows students to browse through hundreds of books, and choose ones that they are excited to read.

Rita Mueller, Principal of the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in the community of Edzo in the NWT, has supported her school’s involvement in the program and believes that it is both needed and appreciated by her students. “It’s great to know that De Beers will be back next year so the students can continue to add to their personal collection of reading at home.”

Books in Homes is one of a number of initiatives De Beers Canada has been undertaking to support literacy within Aboriginal communities such as the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario’s Literacy Summer Camps for Aboriginal youth. De Beers Canada will continue to invest in literacy and education in local Aboriginal communities in the Northwest Territories and northern Ontario. ■

Stornoway Invests in Cross-cultural Awareness and Environmental Protection

LIKE MANY COMPANIES IN THE MODERN Canadian mining industry, *Stornoway Diamond Corporation* maintains a philosophy of social responsibility towards the communities in which it operates. For Stornoway, like the others, this means more than simply conforming to a regulatory standard. The people who migrate towards modern mining and mining exploration are people with a strong affinity for the culture of the north, derived from years of professional, and often personal, immersion in its landscapes and communities.

As a diamond exploration company, Stornoway is active in many jurisdictions of Canada's far north where mining represents a vital catalyst for locally derived economic development, education and skills development. In addition to maintaining leading levels of aboriginal employment within its exploration programs, Stornoway, and the individuals within Stornoway, also provide targeted support for initiatives designed to foster cross-cultural awareness and environmental protection.

Stornoway supports *Northern Youth Abroad*, a program for Nunavut and NWT youth aged between 15 and 21 to obtain skills and education opportunities in southern Canada and abroad. Stornoway also sponsors the participation of southern based high school students to visit the

Over a two year period it is expected that this program will achieve the restoration of at least 18 major sites of historic exploration activity.

north through Students on Ice, the award winning arctic expedition organisation.

In conjunction with a broad base of companies within the larger mining community, Stornoway also provides funding for the *Fonds Restor-Action Nunavik*, an industry initiative created to fund the clean-up and restoration of abandoned mining exploration sites in the Nunavik region of northern Quebec. Over a two year period it is expected that this program will achieve the restoration of at least 18 major sites of historic exploration activity, executed through the agencies of the Kativik Regional Government and the Inuit owned Makivik Development Corporation.

The modern mining industry is a progressive agent of meaningful change in Canada's north, and Stornoway is proud to play its part. ■



The Stornoway Team with Eira Thomas, CEO of Stornoway Diamond Corporation

Leadership Training at Diavik



Diavik's 2007 Aboriginal Leadership Development Training Program graduates.

DIAVIK HAS ALWAYS TAKEN AN INNOVATIVE approach to training. It started during construction when they delivered their unique community-based training partnership, and when they established their mine site learning centre.

Today, that spirit of innovation continues with a unique Aboriginal Leadership Development Program (ALDP) designed to provide promising Aboriginal workers with additional training and skills to help strengthen and advance their careers.

In December, Diavik completed their third ALDP, and celebrated the graduation of Floyd Abel and Christy Black, who work for I&D Management, and Jesse Beaulieu, Renee Grandjambe, Mathew Rabesca, Bea Rodh, Alex Steinwand, and Wilbert Wright, who work for Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. I&D Management, a 100% northern Aboriginal-owned company, that provides Diavik with over 150 heavy equipment operators. Diavik, which began delivering the ALDP program in 2005, has seen 26 graduates.

Delivered by SAIT Polytechnic, in collaboration with Diavik, the program is designed to give

The ALDP comprises 10 modules addressing 16 leadership competencies, and includes over 160 hours of leadership training, augmented with mentoring from Diavik staff.

participants additional leadership tools, and help increase the number of qualified Aboriginal people at the supervisory and management level at Diavik. The ALDP comprises 10 modules addressing 16 leadership competencies, and includes over 160 hours of leadership training, augmented with mentoring from Diavik staff. Course content is built around SAIT's Applied Management Certificate Program, but customized to Diavik's needs. ■

The Inuit have spent several years at EKATI evaluating how caribou move in and around the mine site. The result is a series of experimental inokhok fences that steer herds of caribou around the site.

ENVIRONMENT

A Mining-Inuit Partnership Centred on Traditional Knowledge – A First in Canada

FOR 12 YEARS NOW, TRADITIONAL INUIT knowledge has been at the heart of a unique project involving BHP Billiton and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. These partners, along with Rescan, an environmental consulting firm, have created a database to capture the ecological knowledge of the Inuit from the western Kitikmeot region.

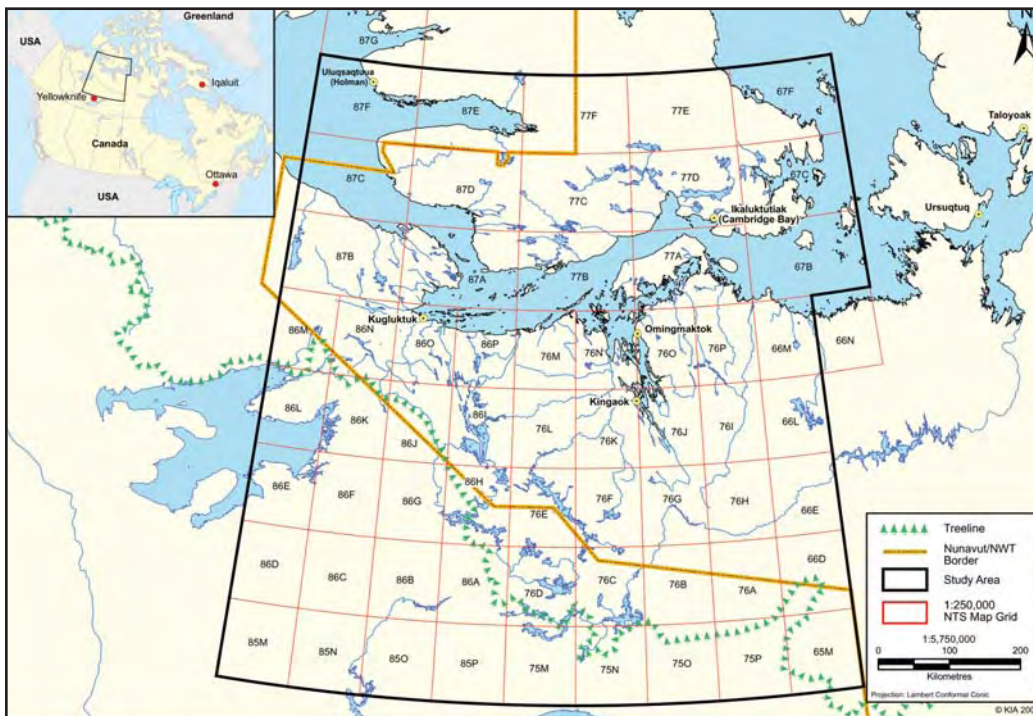
The GIS-based database contains information about the Slave Geological Province, some 720,000 square kilometres of Arctic tundra that covers parts of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories (see map). The information was collected so that traditional Inuit knowledge could be incorporated into environmental screening processes, as well as into environmental management at BHP Billiton's EKATI diamond mine.

The project, known as the NTKP, or Naonayaotit Traditional Knowledge Project (*Naonayaotit* is Inuit for “seeking knowledge”), will benefit the Inuit of western Kitikmeot in two ways. First, it will help inform future decision making

about their traditional territory. Second, it will preserve hundreds of years of Inuit knowledge for generations to come.

The idea for the NTKP came in 1996, during the environmental assessment for the EKATI diamond mine in the Northwest Territories. The environmental review board required the mine to give traditional knowledge equal consideration alongside scientific and engineering knowledge when developing the mine. This requirement was a first in Canada.

As a result, BHP Billiton staff and consultants worked with elders and community members from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association to develop a framework for collecting traditional knowledge and a platform for storing, querying and graphically retrieving the knowledge. The partnership they formed continues today, as BHP Billiton works with the Inuit owners of this knowledge to build capacity that will make the project a sustainable and integral part of environmental management at the EKATI mine.



The NTKP's first major product was an atlas of place names in 2004. The second was a series of 13 reports on topics such as heritage and culture, wildlife and land use, water quality and Inuit opinions on exploration, research and development. The third major product is the GIS database, a valuable tool for Inuit land managers.

As the NTKP has progressed, the Inuit and BHP Billiton have worked together to solve problems related to environmental management at EKATI. To begin with, the two parties developed methods acceptable to both Aboriginal groups

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Caribou Study Shows Herd Returning to Victor Site in Larger Numbers

SIX YEARS BEFORE THE DE BEERS VICTOR MINE moved into the current commissioning phase, the first environmental studies around the Victor mine site were undertaken and the local caribou population became an important part of that program. That initial data led to a more detailed initiative that today is producing both interesting and encouraging results.

The caribou monitoring program has shown animals collared during the winter of 2004 continue to return to their historic calving grounds. Three years later, a survey showed that more than twice as many caribou were observed in the area than previous years. All of the animals observed appeared to be robust and healthy and there was a good representation of calves from the previous calving season. ■



Caribou monitoring program in effect at the Victor Mine

Energy Savings Programs at EKATI

GOOD BUSINESS SENSE involves also taking care of the resources that are available to you. BHP Billiton has been voluntarily reporting its greenhouse gas emissions for years, and is recognized for the efforts that it's taken to reduce its emissions. Last year, BHP Billiton implemented an idle-free program at the EKATI Diamond Mine.

Over the course of the last four years BHP Billiton's need for boiler fuel to heat its mine site has dropped from 1.7 million litres to 450,000 litres.

The Idle-Free Campaign was implemented after BHP Billiton discovered that its winter fuel consumption nearly doubled its summer consumption and was attributed to some vehicles that were commonly left idling. It was a clear decision to reduce idling on the mine site and through its Idle-Free Campaign, BHP Billiton saved well over 100,000 litres of fuel during the winter, an amount that was verified by an independent auditor.

Another energy savings program at EKATI Diamond Mine involved examining the heat recovery plant that distributes heat from exhaust to many different areas of the mine site. The efficiency of this plant is continually upgraded to reduce boiler fuel consumption. Over the course of the last four years, BHP Billiton's need for boiler fuel to heat its mine site has dropped from 1.7 million litres to 450,000 litres.

Through these and other programs, BHP Billiton has achieved the highest level – **the Gold Champion Level** – in the Canadian Greenhouse Gas Challenge Registry. This accomplishment shows how serious BHP Billiton is about being environmentally conscious while continuing to reach its goal of extending the life of the mine. ■

Some Facts about the Canadian Diamond Industry

ECONOMY

De Beers Canada – Turning Diamond Dreams into Lasting Realities

WITH COMMISSIONING UNDERWAY AT De Beers Canada's Snap Lake and Victor Mines, Canada solidifies its position as a leading diamond producer by value. Canada currently produces around US\$1.5 billion worth of diamonds annually. This number is expected to increase by 40% once the Snap Lake and Victor mines enter full production later this year.

De Beers has invested almost C\$2 billion dollars into the Canadian economy constructing two diamonds mines simultaneously in remote locations, in different jurisdictions, under challenging climatic conditions. The trickle-down effect for local economies is significant. For instance, it is estimated that the Victor Mine in northern Ontario will contribute \$7 billion to the province's gross domestic product (GDP) over the life of the mine.

The Victor Mine, located approximately 90 kilometres west of Attawapiskat along the James Bay coast, is Ontario's first diamond mine. The mine has created almost 400 permanent positions in the region, with priority given to local Aboriginal communities. "De Beers' investment here means more than just new jobs. It will provide more opportunity for families and First Nation communities," stated Premier Dalton McGuinty at the mine's official ground breaking ceremony in July 2006.

Once in full production, the Victor Mine is expected to produce approximately 600,000 carats per year.

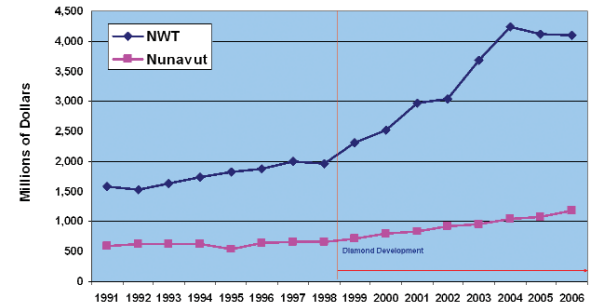
The Snap Lake Mine, located approximately 220 kilometres north-east of Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories (NWT) is Canada's first underground diamond mine. During operations, Snap Lake will require 417 De Beers employees, plus 150 contractors. The mine is estimated to produce about 1.4 million carats a year.

Several Impact Benefits Agreements have been signed with Aboriginal communities surrounding De Beers Canada's operations, which outline benefits such as investments in education, training, employment and local businesses.

"One of the most exciting components of this project is the unique relationship that De Beers Canada has with the local First Nation communities," says Jeremy Wyeth, Vice President, External Affairs. "By building relationships, we have created over \$140 million dollars in business development opportunities for the community so far,"

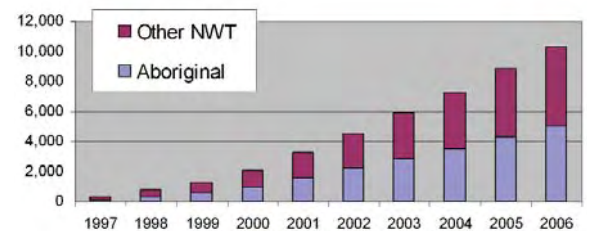
"De Beers is passionate about what we do and it is important for us to work with those close to the resource," explains Wyeth. ■

Gross Domestic Product – NWT



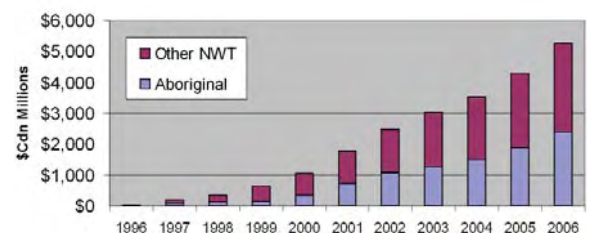
Since Diamonds were discovered in 1991, the NWT GDP has almost tripled, from \$1.6 billion to \$4.3 billion.

Cumulative Northern Employment



NWT diamond mines have provided more than 10,500 person-years of employment to Aboriginal and northern communities.

Northern Business Expenditures

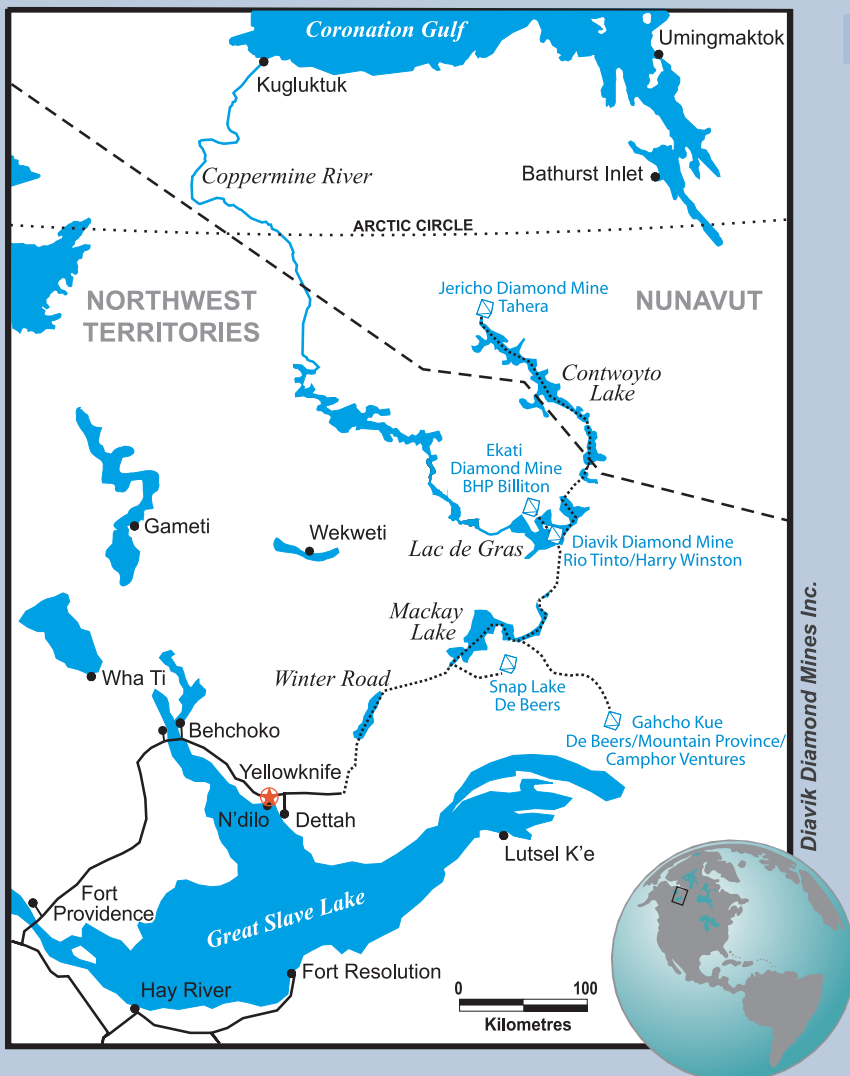


Expenditures by NWT diamond mining operations on NWT diamond mines have contributed more than \$5 billion to Northern and Aboriginal businesses.

Ice Road Facts

- 600 kilometres long
- 75% over lake ice
- 64 portages
- Speed limits 25 km/h, monitored by radar
- Sophisticated engineering support
- Three support camps
- Serves three diamond mines

The world's longest ice road brings essential freight to the NWT diamond mines during a critical 2-month window



Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.

Diavik – Meeting and Exceeding Commitments

DURING THE MINE PLANNING STAGE nearly 10 years ago, Diavik set its sights high to train, employ, and do business locally. They formalized their goals in a Socio-Economic Monitoring Agreement (SEMA) that was signed with the NWT Government, and which was endorsed by the Tlicho Government, the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, the North Slave Metis Alliance, and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. They also negotiated individual participation agreements with these same Aboriginal groups.

For training, Diavik committed to support from 8 to 18 apprentices every year at the mine. Throughout its five-year operations history, Diavik has met its commitments; in fact, at year end, Diavik had 22 apprentices working at the mine. This program is paying off, with already 12 journeypersons graduating, all of them northern and approximately half Aboriginal.

Besides formal commitments to apprenticeships, Diavik provides a wide range of training, including a workplace learning centre staffed by two workplace educators who give interested workers a “hand up” to advance their education. As well, a unique leadership program provides promising Aboriginal workers with additional training and skills to help strengthen and advance their careers.

On the employment side, Diavik is surpassing its own projections. “10 years ago, we expected to hire up to 450 mine operations workers. Of these, we expected that two-thirds, or up to 300 workers, would be northern, and up to 180 would be Aboriginal,” said Tom Hoefler, Diavik spokesperson. “In fact, we have exceeded our projections and, at the end of 2007, we had over 500 northerners

We have exceeded our projections and, at the end of 2007, we had over 500 northerners operating our mine, and approximately half of them were Aboriginal.

operating our mine, and approximately half of them were Aboriginal.”

“In business, we originally projected we would have to spend \$100 million every year to support the mine, with \$70 million to be spent in the North,” he added.

Last year, Diavik doubled that spending to operate the mine, and still lived up to their commitment to spend 70% locally. When you add in the investment in the new A418 pit and underground feasibility studies, Diavik spent a total of \$727 million in 2007. Over half a billion dollars of this was spent locally with northern companies.



Diavik’s innovative and national award winning dike has made diamond mining possible.

In total, since construction began in 2000, through 2007, Diavik has spent approximately \$2.5 billion (or 74% of total spending) with northern businesses. Diavik is the first in the north, and one of three Canadian mining companies, to have passed \$1 billion in business spending with Aboriginal businesses. ■

A Mining-Inuit Partnership *continued from page 7*

and government for removing fish from lakes that had to be drained before mining. Then, as part of BHP Billiton’s Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program, Inuit hunters helped develop a system that tracks wolverine presence near the mine.

More recently, the Inuit have spent several years at EKATI evaluating how caribou move in and around the mine site. The result is a series of experimental inokhok fences that steer herds of caribou around the site. The Inuit will continue to monitor these fences and study their effectiveness.

As the owner of the NTKP, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association will benefit from the database when making decisions that affect traditional Inuit lands. And resource developers will benefit as well. Like BHP Billiton, they can turn to the database for invaluable information on how to design and manage resource activities to minimize their ecological effects. ■

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EKATI Diamond Mine and Diavik Diamond Mine Winners of Canadian Safety Award

TWO OF CANADA'S DIAMOND MINES, EKATI and Diavik Diamond Mines were recently awarded the prestigious John T. Ryan Safety Awards.

BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. received the National Safety Trophy in recognition of EKATI Diamond Mine as having the best safety performance in Canada in the Select Mine Category for 2007. This prestigious national award from Mine Safety Appliances Canada Limited has a proud history in Canada and is awarded each year to operations which display outstanding safety performance.

“Winning the John T. Ryan National Safety Trophy is an important milestone on our journey towards Zero Harm and we will take a moment to celebrate this significant achievement with our team of dedicated employees and contractors”, said Ricus Grimbeek, President and Chief Operating Officer of BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. “The real prize for a good safety performance is that all of our workers return home to their loved ones without injury, and we are working towards an operation where we can guarantee Zero Harm to everyone in our workplace.”

EKATI has worked for many years to reduce the frequency of injuries in its business and in the last two years in particular, the number of injuries sustained has dropped by two thirds. This performance is all the more remarkable during a time of unprecedented activity with the ramp up of its newly constructed Panda Underground Mine and the construction of the Koala Underground Mine.

EKATI's safety performance in 2007 places it as one of the top 10 safest mines to work at within the BHP Billiton Group and therefore in the world.

In the Regional Select Mines category for Western Canada, the Diavik Diamond Mine was awarded the 2007 John T. Ryan Safety Award for achieving the lowest reportable injury rate.

The John T. Ryan Safety Trophies Committee, which includes senior provincial and territorial mines inspectors and senior provincial and territorial mining association representatives, selects John T. Ryan award winners. Participants in the regional Select Mine category include all western Canadian open-pit metal mines, oil sands operations, and various other mines, including diamonds.

“This trophy is official recognition of the effort made by every single person who works in our business. It is a prestigious award and one we should all feel very proud of. The award also confirms the value that the community places on workplace safety and provides confirmation of why we make health and safety one of our core values and must continue to do so,” said Diavik President Kim Truter. “We also believe that one of the reasons people choose to work on our site is because of our approach to health and safety,” he added.

Diavik was the first diamond mine in Canada to receive a John T. Ryan safety award, and in the five years since production began, Diavik has won the Regional Trophy three times. This confirms that Diavik is delivering results and is among the safest mining sites in the world. Diavik strives for continuous improvement in safety, and its 2007 Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate was 0.43, a nine per cent improvement over the previous year. The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate is an industry standard based on number of injuries per 200,000 hours worked.

The John T. Ryan awards commemorate the founder of Mine Safety Appliances, and were inaugurated in 1941 as an effort to promote safety in mineral production. Awards are made on a national and regional basis to metalliferous, select, and coal mines which in the previous year experienced the lowest reportable injury frequency rate. ■



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