
News Release Communiqué

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CANADA CONTRIBUTES TO YUKON MINE TRAINING

OTTAWA, ONTARIO (February 11, 2008) – The Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, today announced funding for the Yukon Mine Training Association (YMTA) through Canada’s Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development (SINED) initiative.

“This Government is proud to be strengthening Yukon’s mining and exploration sector by providing this funding to the Yukon Mine Training Association today,” Minister Strahl said. “Together, with partners like the Yukon Mine Training Association, we are working on initiatives that provide enhanced economic opportunities for Northerners and develop stronger, more diversified local economies.”

The Yukon Mine Training Association will receive \$225,000 under the SINED Targeted Investment Program (TIP) to develop and acquire curricula specifically related to the needs of the Yukon’s exploration and mining industry.

“The Yukon Mine Training Association welcomes Canada’s funding through the Strategic Investment in Northern Economic Development initiative,” said Bill Dunn, Chair of the YMTA. “Our overall goal is to maximize mining’s benefits for Yukon residents, businesses and governments and ensure a supply of local workers for mining projects in the territory.”

The Yukon Mine Training Association is a partnership between the Yukon’s mining and exploration sector and First Nations. It was formed in recognition of the need to develop mining-related skills within the Yukon workforce, especially among First Nations members living in smaller communities who are typically closer to mineral development activities.

This announcement reinforces the commitment in the Speech from the Throne to advance an integrated Northern Strategy focused on strengthening Canada’s sovereignty, protecting our environmental heritage, promoting economic and social development and improving and devolving governance. Today’s announcement supports improving economic opportunities and helping to meet needs of Northerners.

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