



PROSPECTS

The Yukon Mine Training Association's newsletter

Issue 1 - Fall 2007



Rick Zuran

Welcome to the first edition of Prospects, the Yukon Mine Training Association's newsletter. We want to keep you informed about how we're helping to make the most of the expanding activities here in the North.

Yukon exploration training

YUKONERS GET READY FOR RICH STREAM OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Yukon's mining industry and First Nations are working together to help the Yukon make the most of employment opportunities created by the growth of mining and resource development in the North.

To further their efforts, they have formed the Yukon Mine Training Association (YMTA), a partnership committed to ensuring that Yukoners are trained and ready to benefit from the resurgence in mineral and resource development activity, as well as tackling the territory's current labour shortage.

Roles include providing funding for training and ensuring safety training meets industry standards.

STANDARDS SET TO KEEP MINING INDUSTRY SAFE



What are occupational standards?

Occupational standards clearly define the knowledge, skills and abilities that a worker needs to have to do their job competently and safely.

Why are occupational standards important for mining?

Identifying the skills and standards required for an occupation creates a clear and objective benchmark for safer working conditions, increased competitiveness and productivity, and improved labour mobility within Canada.

What's happening in the Yukon?

Work is already underway to develop occupational and safety standards for the Yukon mining industry.

The YMTA has formed an advisory committee to review occupational standards for the Yukon mining industry. If you are interested in working with the committee please call the YMTA office at 867.633.6463 or email clive@yukonminetraining.com.

Kurt Dieckmann, Director of Occupational Health and Safety at the Workers' Compensation Board comments: "Ultimately we want to help industry develop the safety tools that they need to operate safely."

YMTA AWARDS COMMEND TOP QUALITY TRAINING

A new awards program has been designed to recognize innovative, high quality and successful mining-related training initiatives funded by the Yukon Mine Training Association.

The Yukon Mine Training Association is inviting nominations for the new 2007 YMTA Training Achievement Awards. Nominations are welcome from all phases of mine development, mining industry, support services and First Nations projects. The deadline for nominations is November 1, 2007.

Award Categories

Outstanding Performance
Creative Innovation
Raising the Bar
Power of Partnership

The winners will be selected by the YMTA board, in keeping with YMTA objectives, job assurance and trainee employment standards, exceptional safety standards and culturally-appropriate programming.

The awards will be presented at the Geoscience Forum banquet in Whitehorse, Yukon, on Monday November 26, 2007.

For more information contact:

Training Achievement Awards
Yukon Mine Training Association
3151C – 3rd Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1G1
Phone: 867.633.6463 / Fax: 867.633.2605
Email: info@yukonminetraining.com
Web: yukonminetraining.com

We are pleased to introduce the Yukon Mine Training Association Board of Directors:

Chair: Bill Dunn, Sherwood Copper Ltd
Vice Chair: Al Doherty, AURUM Geological Consultants
Secretary & Treasurer: Mike McDougall, Klondike Placer Miners' Association
Directors: Harlan Meade, Yukon Zinc Corporation
Robert Rodger, Tagish Lake Gold
Pat Van Bibber, Selkirk First Nation/Sherwood Copper
Gary Wilson, Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation
Justin Himmelright, Selwyn Resources Ltd
Joseph Nayally, Kwanlin Dün First Nation



BONANZA OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YUKONERS

Four pilot projects are now underway. Bob Jacobs, owner of Jacobs Industries, is delighted to have received almost \$13,000 to conduct a Marine Emergency Duty Workshop. Sharing costs with the YMTA, explains Bob, enabled his company to train more workers than they would have been able to afford without assistance.

As a result, six Yukoners have become trained to meet Transport Canada's new guidelines for the operation of their river boat and barge access to the Minto Mine Site. The six workers from Pelly, Dawson City and Whitehorse are now certified as Master operators.

Sherwood Copper Ltd is developing an entry-level mill training program to enhance opportunities for 16 Selkirk First Nation people and other Yukoners.

The Ross River Dena Council has provided 12 youth with environmental studies and monitoring experience in partnership with Pacifica Resources, Yukon Zinc, North and American Tungsten.

Ryanwood Explorations Inc. is currently conducting exploration safety awareness and geology fieldwork training.

The YMTA is now accepting applications for funding to support training. We strongly encourage applications submitted in partnership between industry and First Nations. Please call us at 867.633.6463 or visit www.yukonminetraining.com for more information.



Transport Canada Boat Safety training

YMTA would like to acknowledge its funders:

- Yukon Mining & Exploration Training Trust Fund
- Northern Strategy Trust Fund
- Yukon Workers Compensation Health & Safety Board Prevention Fund
- Industry and First Nation Partners
- Government of Yukon, Departments of Economic Development (Strategic Industries) and Energy, Mines and Resources



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WHAT PARTNERS ARE SAYING

“Not participating and contributing to the Yukon Mine Training Association was never an option for our companies and for me personally.

“YMTA provided one of the few real opportunities for addressing the critical shortage of skilled labour in the Yukon and providing a bridge for engaging First Nations and others in the mining industry. If our industry is to grow in the Yukon, we will need the support of the communities and that means social and economic benefits: simply safe and satisfying jobs and opportunities to grow. YMTA as a partnership between industry, First Nations and governments is well-positioned to provide leadership in this important initiative.”

Harlan Meade, Yukon Zinc Ltd, YMTA Board Member

“There are opportunities for First Nations individuals in the mine trades sector and the YMTA is working to develop skills training to meet existing and future needs in this area,”

Joseph Nayally, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, YMTA Board Member

“The Yukon Mining Training Association is an important new initiative that will develop skills in the mining and exploration industry and will help to diversify our local economy. Yukon College is anxious to expand our involvement with the YMTA and will definitely support them in any way we can.”

Terry Weninger, President of Yukon College

We welcome comments and feedback about Prospects. Please call, email or come visit us above the Yukon Chamber of Mines.



WHERE TO FIND US

The YMTA office is above the Yukon Chamber of Mines on 3rd Avenue in Whitehorse.

Yukon Mine Training Association

3151 C – 3rd Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 1G1

Phone. 867.633.6463

Fax. 867.633.2605

Email. info@yukonminetraining.com

YMTA Staff:

Janet Lee
Project Manager

Clive Bainbridge
Director Standards
& Program Development

Nicole Berndt
Executive Assistant

You will also find us at the 2007 Prospects North Conference in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories on September 18–20 and at the 2007 Geoscience Conference in Whitehorse, Yukon on November 25–28.