



PRESS RELEASE
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Whitehorse

Announces the New YMTA Axis Training Awards

Whitehorse: The Yukon Mine Training Association (YMTA) is pleased to announce the creation of the YMTA Axis Training Awards. These awards recognize those who have developed successful and innovative training projects using YMTA funds. The awards will be presented annually, with this year's awards to be presented on Monday, November 26th at the Geoscience Forum banquet in Whitehorse, Yukon.

Awards will be presented in four categories:

1. Outstanding Performance;
2. Creative Innovation;
3. Raising the Bar; and
4. Power of Partnership

We are delighted to have Axis Insurance Managers as our award sponsor. Axis is Whitehorse's newest brokerage firm and is locally operated by Jeff Peters, CAIB, who has worked as a Commercial Insurance broker in Whitehorse for seven years, and also serves as Treasurer on the Yukon Chamber of Mines' Board of Directors. "Axis Insurance understands the value of local community," according to Peters. "The obvious next step is to support the Yukon Miner's Training Association. AXIS Yukon is the perfect sponsor for these awards," said Bill Dunn, chair of YMTA. "Safety and incident prevention go hand-in-hand with insurance and risk management."

Demand for skilled workers is on the increase in the Yukon. For example, YMTA learned from the Taku River Tlingit in Atlin, BC that they too are facing labour market demands from the newly permitted Adanacmoly project. This mine will generate hundreds of new jobs and business opportunities for both BC and Yukon people. "This expected increase in jobs is why YMTA is working hard now to support training and the awards are one

way we can congratulate businesses, communities and First Nations that take the time to organize training programs,” says Bill Dunn. “Their efforts will ensure northerners benefit from the various opportunities now coming our way from mining,”

Yukon Mine Training Association is a partnership between the Yukon’s mining industry and First Nations for the purpose of building labour market capacity in the Yukon by providing safety and skills training opportunities. As mining jobs emerge in the north YMTA is working to ensure all Yukoners, especially First Nation Yukoners are able to benefit. The YMTA is also working towards increasing the profile of employment and other economic opportunities related to the mining sector by assisting in the attraction and retention in the work force and facilitate the delivery of targeted skills and training programs as required. If needed, YMTA will also coordinate with its education delivery partners the development and execution of training programs that meet national standards. The YMTA is presently funded by industry, First Nations, Yukon Government, the Northern Strategy Trust Fund and the WCB Prevention Fund.

For more information on the program or to download a nomination form please see our new splash page at www.yukonminetraining.com. Nominations close November 1, 2007.

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