

# MINING WORKS FOR CANADA

## L'INDUSTRIE MINIÈRE PARTENAIRE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

### ECONOMY

## Strengthening Our Engagement with First Nations Economies

**T**HE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS (AFN) and the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will see the mining industry strengthen its engagement with First Nations economies creating employment and business opportunities.

This historic initiative began when the AFN and MAC signed a Letter of Intent in November, 2007. The resulting dialogue has built partnerships between individual companies and communities of both organizations cumulating in this MoU. The partnership has also allowed for collaboration in such areas as joint advocacy on federal consultation policy and land claims resolution, human resource development and land use planning.

The memorandum of understanding builds on the AFN's Corporate Challenge initiative, launched in January 2007, which challenges corporate Canada to increase partnerships with First Nations government and business. The MoU commits MAC to delivering in four key areas, referred to as the Four Pillars of Commitment. They are: Partnership – Investment – Procurement – Employment.

To implement the four pillars, the AFN and MAC are currently developing an action plan that focuses on:

*continued on page 2*

### ÉCONOMIE

## Renforcer notre engagement envers les économies des Premières Nations

**L'**ASSEMBLÉE DES PREMIÈRES NATIONS (APN) et l'Association minière du Canada (AMC) ont récemment signé un protocole d'entente (PE) en vertu duquel l'industrie minière renforcera son engagement envers les économies des Premières Nations par la création d'emplois et d'occasions d'affaires.

Cette initiative historique a débuté lorsque l'APN et l'AMC ont signé une lettre d'intention en novembre 2007. Les échanges qui en ont résulté ont permis d'établir, entre diverses entreprises et communautés au sein des deux organisations, des partenariats qui ont débouché sur ce protocole d'entente. Le partenariat a également permis la collaboration sur des questions telles les politiques publiques d'intérêt commun en matière de consultations fédérales et la résolution de questions de revendications territoriales, la mise en valeur des ressources humaines et l'aménagement du territoire.

Le protocole d'entente table sur l'initiative Défi aux entreprises de l'APN, lancée en janvier 2007, laquelle sollicite les entreprises canadiennes à accroître leurs partenariats avec le gouvernement et les entreprises des Premières Nations. Dans le cadre du protocole d'entente, l'AMC s'engage à l'égard de quatre secteurs clés, appelés « Quatre piliers d'engagement » qui reposent sur : Le partenariat – l'investissement – l'approvisionnement – l'emploi.

*suite à la page 2*



**ECONOMY**  
Strengthening Our Engagement with First Nations Economies



**ENVIRONMENT**  
Canadian Mining Firms Recognized for Highly Credible Social Responsibility Program



**COMMUNITY**  
PDAC Launches a Framework for Responsible Exploration

# Quick Facts

- In spring, 2009, the Canadian Business of Social Responsibility ranked MAC's *Towards Sustainable Mining* initiative as one of the most effective extractive-sector Corporate Social Responsibility programs in the world.
- Since 1997 revenues for Aboriginal businesses in the NWT have grown to about \$600 million.



## *Strengthening Our Engagement with First Nations Economies* continued from page 1

- Promoting the participation of MAC members in the AFN Challenge to Corporate Canada;
- Enhancing the participation of the AFN and interested First Nations in mining industry human resource strategies, including the Mining Industry Human Resources Sector Council;
- Enhancing opportunities for partnership between the First Nation human resource delivery structure and MAC member companies;
- Collaborating to optimize the opportunities for First Nations community and business development and procurement.

The MoU will also strengthen MAC's *Towards Sustainable Mining* (TSM) initiative, which focuses on improving the mining industry's sustainable development performance and includes a policy framework on mining and Aboriginal Peoples.

"In resource development, First Nations and the mining community are natural partners," said National Chief Fontaine. "Developing a new partnership between the AFN and MAC will complement and enhance the growing relationships between First Nations and Canada's major mining companies."

"Canada's mining industry is the largest private sector employer of Aboriginal people," noted

The MoU was signed by MAC Chairman Jim Gowans (De Beers) and National Chief Phil Fontaine and witnessed by Regional Chief Wilton Littlechild and MAC Treasurer Ron Greenway (Teck).

Protocole d'entente signé par le président du Conseil d'administration de l'AMC, Jim Gowans (De Beers), et le chef national, Phil Fontaine. Étaient témoins : le chef régional, Wilton Littlechild, et le trésorier du Conseil d'administration, Ron Greenway (Teck).

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Jim Gowans, MAC Chairman and President and CEO of De Beers Canada. "Across Canada, mining companies and First Nations communities have agreements in place that include commitments on hiring, training, business development and environmental practices. We believe this growing relationship will be strengthened through dialogue and partnership with the AFN." ■

**A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is available on MAC's website at:**  
[www.mining.ca](http://www.mining.ca)

## *Renforcer notre engagement envers les économies des Premières Nations* suite de la page 1

En vue de la mise en œuvre des quatre piliers, l'APN et l'AMC travaillent à l'élaboration d'un plan d'action qui consiste notamment à :

- Promouvoir la participation des membres de l'AMC au défi lancé par l'APN aux entreprises canadiennes;
- Accroître la participation de l'APN et des Premières Nations intéressées aux stratégies de l'industrie minière en matière de ressources humaines, y compris les initiatives du Conseil sectoriel des ressources humaines de l'industrie minière;
- Accroître les possibilités de partenariat entre la structure organisationnelle des ressources humaines des Premières Nations et les sociétés membres de l'AMC;
- Collaborer afin d'optimiser les possibilités relatives au développement communautaire et commercial, et à l'approvisionnement auprès des collectivités des Premières Nations.

Aussi, le protocole d'entente viendra renforcer l'initiative *Vers le développement minier durable* de l'AMC, une initiative qui a pour but d'améliorer le dossier de l'industrie minière en matière de

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développement durable et comprend un cadre stratégique sur l'exploitation minière et les peuples autochtones.

« En ce qui a trait à la mise en valeur des ressources, les Premières Nations et le milieu des mines sont des partenaires naturels, » a déclaré le chef national de l'APN, Phil Fontaine. « Le fait d'établir un nouveau partenariat entre l'APN et l'AMC permettra de renforcer et d'élargir les relations de plus en plus solides qu'entretiennent les Premières Nations et les grandes sociétés minières du Canada. »

« L'industrie minière canadienne représente le plus important employeur du secteur privé pour les Autochtones, » a souligné Jim Gowans, président du conseil de l'AMC et président et chef de la direction de DeBeers Canada. « Dans l'ensemble du Canada, des compagnies minières et des collectivités des Premières Nations ont conclu des ententes comportant des engagements en matière d'embauche, de formation, de création d'entreprises et de pratiques environnementales. Nous croyons que le dialogue et le partenariat avec l'APN permettront de consolider cette relation dynamique. » ■

**Un exemplaire du protocole d'entente est affiché sur le site Web de l'AMC à : [www.mining.ca](http://www.mining.ca)**

## ENVIRONMENT

### Canadian Mining Firms Recognized for Highly Credible Social Responsibility Program



**M**EMBER COMPANIES of the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) were recently recognized for having one of the most effective corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs with their *Towards Sustainable Mining* (TSM) initiative.

In the recently released Canadian Business of Social Responsibility (CBSR) report, entitled "CSR Frameworks Review for the Extractive Industry," TSM was identified as a leading program when compared to ten other leading CSR programs for the extractive industries, according to the degree of prescription, guidance and compliance. The report found TSM provides "a practical and tangible system of continuous improvement of social and environmental management." It singled TSM out, as one of the few CSR programs for the extractive sector that includes mandatory reporting and third-party verification of results. It concluded that TSM was "well suited for benchmarking against Canadian peers and observing industry trends."

"Canadian Business for Social Responsibility recognized a need among our member companies in the extractive industries for a review of the

growing body of CSR frameworks available to them," said Andrea Baldwin, Director, Advisory Services, CBSR. "As a CSR leadership organization, this is one example of the support, counsel and research we provide to help Canadian companies advance their social and environmental performance."

TSM focuses on improving the mining industry's sustainable development performance. Member companies follow guiding principles and report on indicators that measure their performance for specific mining activities such as tailings management, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions management, external outreach and crisis management. Four new indicators in development include: Safety and Health, Mining and Aboriginal Peoples, Biodiversity and Mine Closure. The association is also examining its international application of the initiative.

"This report is consistent with previous studies, which found TSM to be 'best in class'," explained Gordon Peeling, President and CEO of MAC. "The CBSR report reaffirms that TSM is effective, credible and enables our members to demonstrate their commitment to improved sustainable development performance."

The report and its recommendations will help to inform the MAC Board's strategic decision-making on the longer-term development and application of the initiative. ■

**A copy of the Canadian Business of Social Responsibility's report is available on MAC's website at [www.mining.ca](http://www.mining.ca) and at [www.cbsr.ca/resources/cbsr-research](http://www.cbsr.ca/resources/cbsr-research).**

## COMMUNITY

# PDAC Launches a Framework for Responsible Exploration

CANADA IS A DOMINANT PLAYER in global mineral exploration. More than 10,000 projects around the world are managed by mining and exploration companies listed on the two Toronto Stock Exchanges. Half of these projects are located outside Canada.

Exploration companies and their personnel are the ambassadors for mining. Often they take 21st century knowledge and technology to remote, isolated communities. Their practices can make the difference between local residents welcoming the prospects of a mining development and the benefits that it entails, or opposing such development.

The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), an organization representing the interests of individuals and companies in the business of mineral exploration, has created *e3 Plus: A Framework for Responsible Exploration* to help mineral exploration companies improve their social and environmental performance.

“Companies need a social license to operate,” says Tony Andrews, executive director of the PDAC. “The above ground social challenges are just as important as those technical, below ground issues. e3 Plus, which can be tailored to the needs and circumstances of individual companies, will assist companies manage these challenges.”

The new program was founded on the association’s flagship product, *e3 Environmental Excellence in Exploration*, which provided guidelines for environmental stewardship in exploration. The program was also informed by the association’s involvement in a series of federal government roundtables on corporate social responsibility and the Canadian extractive industry in developing countries in 2006.

The acronym e3 stands for excellence in exploration in three ways: social responsibility; environmental stewardship; and health and safety. Comprehensive toolkits for each of these areas, along with eight principles and guidance, comprise the first phase of the program which was launched in March 2009. A second phase, covering performance objectives, reporting criteria, and verification, is now under development. ■

For more information, please go to [www.pdac.ca/e3plus](http://www.pdac.ca/e3plus).



Delegates attending the PDAC’s annual convention in March discuss the new e3 Plus program.



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