

The Canadian Minerals and Metals Plan

Hot Commodity progress report

November 2018

- On November 17, 2018, the Secretariat:
 - met with the **Yukon Conservation Society**. Key issues discussed included **capacity building for First Nations** communities to engage with industry, **responsible resource sharing, and the carbon tax**.
 - presented at the **Yukon Geoscience Forum** and facilitated a workshop to **gauge participant feedback on the Plan**. Approximately 40 participants visited “stations”, one for each of the six Strategic Directions, and engaged in a dot-mocracy exercise to indicate which of the actions they would most like to see under the Plan. Actions that received the most votes include **streamlining all grant programs** into a single portal, **supporting community capacity building** in Indigenous communities, and **reviewing Canada’s tax policy environment to support the mining industry**.
 - presented to the **Lands Technical Working Group** in **Yellowknife, NT**, whose members include representatives from **three Regional Inuit Associations and the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated**. The presentation focused on providing an overview of the Plan, opportunities to contribute and next steps. The draft of the Strategic Direction of Advancing the Participation of Indigenous Peoples was shared with the Working Group’s members. Following the presentation, discussion focused on **difficulties in translating training into workers** due to other factors that influence a person’s decision to work in a mine, and the **importance of infrastructure** that supports both mine operations and communities, and remains following a mine’s closure.
- On November 19, the Secretariat and the Communications and Portfolio Sector launched the “**Minerals of Mining**” social media project. Once a week, the Twitterverse will get to “**meet**” a **new mineral** and provide entertaining facts to help the public **learn about its properties**.
- On November 19, the Secretariat presented to the **First Nations Major Projects Coalition** in **Prince George, BC**. The presentation focused on providing the Coalition with an overview of work done-to-date on the Plan, a summary of what was heard at the National Forum on October 5, and next steps for the Strategic Direction on Advancing the Participation of Indigenous Peoples.
- On November 21, the Secretariat:
 - conducted a **pre-conference presentation at the Central Canada Mineral Exploration Conference in Winnipeg** and facilitated a follow-up workshop to refine key actions under the Plan. Approximately 20 participants took part in round-table discussions that

focused on each Strategic Direction, and used a dot-mocracy tool to provide feedback about actions they would most like to see prioritized. Actions that received the most votes include: **increasing assistance to federal, provincial and territorial geoscience surveys and university researchers; supporting the Indigenous talent pool**; developing a strategy regarding the benefits of mining and green/sustainable mining practices to **increase general public outreach/awareness; increasing clarity on the role of EAs within the mining sector** and providing appropriate resources to conduct EAs; **supporting the development of geoscience tools** in exploration; and reviewing Canadian tax policy to support cost competitiveness.

- presented an update of the Plan at the **46th Yellowknife Geoscience Forum** and met with **Government of Northwest Territories** directors (Andrew Stewart and Sonya Saunders) to discuss **energy and transportation** challenges, opportunities, priorities and next steps. Their feedback concerning the CMMP was that it did not place enough emphasis on **infrastructure**, and where there are significant gaps in NWT, mineral projects will not be economical. And while access corridors in the north are very expensive, the Territory is trying to prove that **benefits exceed costs**. There were also informal discussions with the **Mine Training Society (MTS)**, more **GNWT representatives** (on land use planning and an initiative called **REDI or Resources and Energy Development Information**), and **Ollerhead & Associates Ltd.** (a land surveillance and engineering firm). MTS is working with Nunavut to see if they can deliver training programs that are largely funded by the Federal Government. The MTS approach has been very successful in the NWT and could be replicated elsewhere in the country, especially northern/remote communities. Ollerhead is mainly focused on the Canadian north and was unaware of international mining trade shows or associated trade missions.
- held a workshop at the **Québec Mines + Énergie 2018 convention in Quebec City** to gauge participant feedback on the Plan, its strategic directions and proposed actions. Hailing from different stakeholder groups such as science and technology, Indigenous organizations, mineral exploration and export promotion, participants discussed the six Strategic Directions and engaged in a dot-mocracy exercise to indicate which of the actions they would most like to see under the Plan. Actions that received the most votes include the need for more geoscience funding, the development of a Canada Mining brand, reinforcing the capacity of Indigenous communities, incentives for the adoption of clean technologies, increasing the awareness of mining in the general public, and adopting a coordinated approach to mining innovation.
- On November 24, the Secretariat hosted the **Digging Deep Mining Hackathon** at Impact Hub in **Ottawa**. Five teams comprised of **students** from across Ontario and Quebec competed and developed an innovative solution to a mining challenge focused on **establishing a modern mine in a remote northern community**. Their pitches took into account factors such as **environmental concerns, modern mining techniques, potential economic impacts, a diverse workforce**, and obtaining a **social license** from the community. In addition to the main challenge, teams participated in a surprise “bonus challenge” on **automated vehicles** in order to earn extra points towards their team’s score. Ryan Montpellier, Glenn Mason, and Photinie Koutsavlis listened to each team’s pitch, posed thoughtful questions, and were judicious in choosing a winner. **L’Université de Laval** took first place for their in-depth presentation,

followed by a team from the University of Toronto. Initial feedback from the hackathon was very positive, and the Secretariat is hoping to host a similar event in the future.