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USEFUL LINKS

Mining Association of B.C. (MABC)
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Association for Mineral Exploration in British Columbia (AMEBC)
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Northwest Mining Association
www.nwma.org

Geoscience BC
www.geosciencebc.com

Mining Association of Canada
www.mining.ca

National Energy Board
www.neb.gc.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



First class mineral resources, skilled workers and policies that encourage investment have helped lead the revival of B.C.'s mining industry, creating jobs and growth in communities. We've taken numerous steps over the past eight years to support the mining sector and

make B.C. a place where people want to invest in mineral exploration and mining. It is because of these steps — lowering the corporate capital tax, eliminating tax on machinery and introducing and extending the Mining Flow Through Share Tax Credit — that we've seen mineral exploration grow to just over \$360 million in 2008, a 1,100 per cent increase over the 2001 investment level of just \$29 million.

Mining is critical to B.C.'s economic future. It creates good, well-paying jobs and encourages economic activity in regions across the province. That's why we're working to introduce streamlined approvals that will help projects get off the ground faster, creating jobs and encouraging even more investment in this important sector.

We can ensure British Columbia's mining industry becomes even more globally competitive by working together, while continuing to be a leader in environmental sustainability.

Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia



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BUILDING THE FUTURE >>

IN MINING





HELPING OUR ECONOMY

Mining is a significant and growing contributor to our economy, creating jobs, encouraging investment and making B.C. more competitive. Not only does mining provide materials for everyday products like light bulbs, roads, cars and cameras — mining also provides materials for pacemakers, computers, robotics, wind turbines and more.

HST

The Harmonized Sales Tax, to be adopted in July 2010, will result in estimated savings of \$80 million for the mining and oil and gas sectors which will help create more jobs and generate long-term economic growth for the mining industry.

ENCOURAGING MINING INVESTMENT

B.C. is one of the top jurisdictions in the world for mining with one of the most competitive tax and regulatory systems in the world. We are ranked among the best in the world for the quality of our geological database, and we have a growing inventory of more than 12,000 mineral occurrences. The Province has:

- » Extended the Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit to December 31, 2010.
- » Extended the Mining Exploration Tax Credit through 2016.
- » Streamlined regulations reducing duplication by 30 per cent.
- » Cut corporate income tax to 11 per cent.
- » Extended the new mine allowance to 2016.
- » Provided \$37 million to Geoscience BC for mineral exploration.

SUPPORT FOR WORKERS

B.C. is working with industry, First Nations and other partners, to support efforts aimed at meeting labour demands in the mining industry, with an expected 40 per cent retirement of the workforce in the next 10 years.

Since April 2005, B.C. has contributed over \$4.8 million for mining education and skills training for rural communities and First Nations.

In 2005, the Province, in collaboration with the Federal Government, funded the Reclamation and Prospecting Program, RAP, a three-year pilot project providing youth from rural First Nations communities with the knowledge and skills they need to find skilled employment in the mining industry. An additional \$2 million was made available in April 2009 to support the continued development of leadership and employment skills in First Nations communities in northern British Columbia.

There are excellent opportunities for employment in mining, one of the safest heavy industries in B.C.

- » In 2008, more than 28,000 people were employed in the minerals economy in over 50 B.C. communities. Of these, approximately 10,700 jobs are in mining, 2,100 in exploration and the rest in smelting, refining and downstream mineral processing.
- » Mining jobs pay family supporting wages averaging \$112,800 with benefits.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NORTHWEST

The Province is pushing ahead with the Northwest Transmission Line, a \$400 million project that will open mining and energy opportunities in the northern part of the province, helping support communities in the region transition away from diesel generation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Expanding transmission along highway 37 could stimulate thousands of jobs and billions of dollars worth of economic activity for British Columbia.

The Province has already invested \$10 million to support the environmental assessment and First Nations consultation process.

With a further commitment of \$250 million on the table, the Province is working to secure additional financing to make the power line a reality.

The Northwest Transmission Line would carry power 358 km from Terrace, north to Bob Quinn Lake.

By electrifying highway 37, the project could potentially support the development of a number of new mines and take advantage of the vast mineral potential of that region while continuing to develop the infrastructure of the northwest.

It will also help to realize the potential of the Prince Rupert Fairview Container Terminal.

MINING GROWS IN B.C.

Mining in B.C., a \$6.6 billion industry, is instrumental to our economy, and the Province continues to help it thrive.

- » British Columbia has nine coal mines, eight metal mines, 35 major industrial mineral mines, and hundreds of sand and gravel quarries.
- » Mining contributed \$365 million in 2008 in direct taxation to all levels of government.
- » In 2008, 388 exploration projects were underway in B.C.
- » Sixty per cent of Canadian exploration companies are based in B.C., raising \$2.9 billion in equity capital.
- » Resource Revenue Sharing with First Nations is committed on new and expanded mine projects.

