



mining association of nova scotia

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING- APRIL 13

For more information or to register, please contact Lindsey at admin@tmans.ca or by phone at 406-7625. In an effort to deal with the hotel fairly we need to confirm registrations 48 hours in advance. Your help in registrating for the AGM before April 9, 2010 is appreciated and will allow all participants to enjoy the catering.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Folks,

As we emerge from winter we are also emerging from a less than rosy time in the mining and exploration world with many having faced great difficulties in raising cash and generating interest in properties. I hope that everyone involved in the industry is able to shake the winter away and look forward to showing Nova Scotians and the world what we have to offer; world class mineral resources, an able and well qualified work force and a quality of life that is enhanced daily by mining, whether by using the materials produced or by enjoying a quality of life that is, in part, due to wealth being generated by the mining industry. I urge everyone to take what you have learned in the leaner times and apply that wisdom to the projects you are working on and businesses you are running....if not, then the hardship was for nothing.

As this is my last President's message, I also want to make a final pitch for each and every one of you to speak up in defense of the industry at every opportunity, whether that be at a backyard barbeque or at a school science fair. The general public and elected officials show us on a regular basis that they are blissfully ignorant of what modern mining is and what it contributes to our everyday well being. Seek out opportunities to change that, ask MANS for speaking materials, go to that public meeting and say something instead of saying to yourself "these folks just don't understand," show people your sites, be proud of good projects, apologize for and learn from bad projects. Great strides have been made with MANS and I thank everyone that was part of the progress....it was a pleasure and honour to be your President.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MANS Annual Meeting

April 13, 2010
Citadel Hotel, Halifax

CIM Conference and Exhibition

May 9th - 12th, 2010 Vancouver, BC
<http://www.cim.org/vancouver2010/>

International Mine Water Association Conference

September 5-9, 2010
<http://www.imwa.info/imwa2010/>

NL Resource Investors Forum

September 28th - 29th, 2010 St. John's, NL
www.nlcmr.ca

Mining Matters 2010

October 25-26, 2010
Halifax, Nova Scotia



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Michelle Landreville

Hello MANS members,

Here is the list of meetings/activities that we have participated in over the last month. If you require any information or want to discuss any of these events, please feel free to call.

PDAC 2010

Ministerial Breakfast at PDAC

Luncheon with Minister John MacDonnell, DNR

Peter McBride - Manager of Communication, Ontario Mining Association

Malcolm McLeod - Manager, South Geological Surveys Branch, New Brunswick Natural Resources

2010 MANS Audit

March 2010 Board Meetings

Bernie Matlock - Regional Engineer, Nova Scotia Environment

Sharon Bond - Manager, HRM Subdivision and Land Use Compliance

That's it for now. Have a great April!

Our Apologies: We apologize for an oversight in last month's newsletter. In our Member Profile, Rick Splonick from Black & McDonald had graciously provided a photo, which should have had the following caption: *Assembly of a large high speed gypsum ship loader for Fundy Gypsum, Hantsport, Nova Scotia which utilized multi-trade workers including: electricians, millwrights, iron workers and general trades. Sorry Rick.*

As always, to view past newsletters, please visit us on the web at www.tmans.ca and click *News and Information*.

Annual General Meeting 2010 - Schedule of Events

Where are we going? How do we get there?

8:00am	Registration Opens
9:00am - 9:30am	Breakfast sponsored by Logan Drilling and Shaw Resources
9:30am - 10:00am	Andre Boudreau - Pricewaterhousecooper LLP <i>Financial Activity in the Mining Industry</i>
10:00am - 10:30am	Marc Dunning - Lawyer, Wickwire Holm <i>Occupational Health & Safety</i>
10:30am - 11:00am	Networking Break sponsored by Dexter Construction
11:00am - 12:30pm	Speakers to be announced
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Clinton Pinks - Landscape Architect, CBCL <i>Nova Scotia Wetlands Conservation Policy</i>
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch sponsored by Black & McDonald and AECOM
2:00pm - 2:30pm	Dr. Ross McCurdy - Chief Operating Officer for CBU Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment <i>Coal Classification and the innovative role CBU's Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment will play in Atlantic Canada</i>
2:30pm-3:00pm	Jim LeBlanc - Executive Director, NS Labour and Workforce Development <i>New Underground Mining Regulations</i>
3:00pm-3:30pm	Vince P. Garnier - Director, NS Labour and Workforce Development <i>Administrative Penalty Regulations</i>
3:30pm-4:00pm	Networking Break sponsored by Minetech and NS Department of Natural Resources
4:00pm-6:00pm	MANS Business Meeting
6:00pm-8:00pm	Reception, sponsored by Steele Ford, Atlantic CAT & AECOM

Register now by phone: 406-7625
Email: admin@tmans.ca
Web: www.tmans.ca

Federal Budget 2010:

Excerpts from the budget affecting the mineral industry

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/finance/en/home/budget/default.aspx>

Supporting Canada's Mining Sector

Canada's rich mineral resources represent significant economic opportunities. Promoting the exploration and development of these resources offers important benefits in terms of employment, investment and infrastructure, especially for rural and remote communities. The temporary 15-per-cent Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC) helps companies raise capital for mining exploration by providing an incentive to individuals who invest in flow-through shares issued to finance exploration. Canada's Economic Action Plan previously extended the temporary METC to flow-through share agreements entered into during the period from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010. Budget 2010 proposes to extend the credit for an additional year, to March 31, 2011.

It is estimated that the net cost of this extension will be \$65 million over the next two fiscal years.

Additional reference in budget:

Budget 2010 proposes to extend eligibility for the mineral exploration tax credit for one year, to flow-through share agreements entered into on or before March 31, 2011. Under the existing "look-back" rule, funds raised in one calendar year with the benefit of the credit can be spent on eligible exploration up to the end of the following calendar year. Therefore, for example, funds raised with the credit during the first three months of 2011 can support eligible exploration until the end of 2012.

Streamlining the Northern Regulatory Regime

The Federal Government is committed to ensuring that a strong and prosperous North helps shape the future of our nation. Canada's Economic Action Plan included a number of investments in economic development, skills training, housing, and research infrastructure in support of the Government's Northern Strategy.

The resource potential in Canada's North is world-class, yet potential investors in northern resource projects face complex and overlapping regulatory processes that are

unpredictable, costly and time-consuming. Streamlining the regulatory regime and removing barriers to private investment will support economic growth and help provide opportunities for Northerners by unlocking the resource potential in Canada's North, while at the same time protecting the environment.

Budget 2010 provides \$11 million over two years to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to support the acceleration of the review of resource projects in the North. These reforms will provide clarity and certainty for investors while ensuring that the environment is protected and that Canada's obligations under existing land claims agreements with Aboriginal groups are respected.

Renewal of Programs

Budget 2010 renews funding for a number of programs, including:

* \$12 million over two years to Natural Resources Canada to renew the Targeted Geoscience Initiative, with a focus on developing new ways of exploring for deeper mineral deposits.

Strengthening the Financial Sector

Canada's financial sector has been widely acknowledged as being one of the strongest in the world. Budget 2010 will further strengthen the sector by moving forward with the majority of provinces and territories toward a Canadian securities regulator, extending access to financing for Canadian businesses, and enhancing disclosure and financial institutions' business practices to better protect consumers.

Federal Budget 2010: Highlights for Atlantic Canada

“Commentary by the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council”

<http://www.apec-econ.ca>

March 4, 2010

The Conservative government's fifth budget, tabled today by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, was short on new measures (and transparency which has made it increasingly difficult in recent budgets to decipher new funding and policy directions).

Stimulus spending will continue as announced in last year's budget. A recovery in revenues and spending restraint (outside of major transfers to governments and persons) is designed to bring the \$49 billion deficit in 2010-2011 back to near balance by 2014-2015. Two specific areas targeted for spending restraint include foreign aid (frozen in nominal terms from 2011-2012) and defence (a slower growth path beginning in 2012-2013). Atlantic Canada had 19% of military personnel employment and wages and salaries in Canada in 2009. Other departmental salary and operating budgets will be frozen for three years while program review processes will seek to identify further savings. These measures will return federal program spending to 13.2% of GDP by 2014-2015, similar to the level prior to last year's stimulus package.

The biggest single budget announcement in dollar terms is the complete elimination of tariffs on imports of machinery and equipment and manufacturing inputs, saving Canadian businesses an estimated \$300 million annually when fully implemented. The Canadian and Atlantic manufacturing and export sector have been under intense pressure in recent years and this will provide some modest relief by lowering the cost of investment in new equipment which should help improve competitiveness for those businesses which have survived the global recession.

There were several announcements that may provide some benefit over time particularly to small- and medium-sized business. The government will set up a new Red Tape Reduction Commission to review and recommend ways to reduce compliance costs relating to federal regulations. An Advisory Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship will advise the government on how to improve access to federal programs and information. And a two-year pilot initiative will provide \$40 million to support up to 20 projects for federal departments and agencies to demonstrate the use of innovative products and technologies developed by small- and medium-size businesses.

Despite these and other initiatives relating to innovation and competitiveness, a coordinated strategy to improve productivity is lacking. This is not only a national issue but a specific concern in Atlantic Canada where productivity lags well behind the national level.

Youth were disproportionately affected by the recession in terms of job losses and the budget includes funding for a number of initiatives (worth \$77 million in 2010-2011) to help provide internships for new graduates; mentor young entrepreneurs; and assist Aboriginal, disadvantaged and youth at risk.

Other specific measures or announcements and their relevance for Atlantic Canada are as follows:

Infrastructure Stimulus

- The second year of Canada's Economic Action Plan will continue to support infrastructure spending in Atlantic Canada. Many of the programs that were announced in last year's budget will continue to support infrastructure spending in 2010-2011. Activity on Atlantic Canadian projects announced under these programs is expected to increase in 2010.

Transportation Infrastructure

- The budget will provide \$175 million over the next two years to help renew Marine Atlantic's fleet and shore facilities and improve the quality and reliability of its services.
- The budget will provide \$28 million in 2010-2011 to support the operations of Atlantic ferry services including Digby-Saint John, Woods Island-Caribou and Souris- Îles de la Madeleine.

Regional Development

- The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) is being given \$19 million per year, starting in 2010-2011, to extend its Atlantic Innovation Fund (which provides funding for businesses and research institutes to develop and commercialize new technologies) and to support its Innovative Communities Fund (which helps communities adapt to new economic realities and opportunities). However, this announcement appears to imply a substantial reduction in funding. Launched in 2001, the original Atlantic Innovation Fund provided \$300 million over 5 years, which was renewed at the same level of funding in 2005. Neither was there any announcement to renew the broader Atlantic Investment Partnership which also included funding for trade and investment initiatives.

Innovation

- The National Research Council will receive an additional \$135 million over the next two years for its 11 regional innovation clusters which includes centres in St. John's (Ocean Technologies), Charlottetown (Nutrisciences and Health), Fredericton (Information Technologies & E-business) and Halifax (Life Sciences). Genome Canada will also receive an additional \$75 million in 2009-2010 to launch a new targeted research competition focused on forestry and the environment and to sustain funding for the regional genomics innovation centres.
- There was a commitment to create a Digital Economy Strategy that will help the information and communications technologies (ICT) sector to create new products and services and accelerate the adoption of digital technologies. The ICT industry is a small but rapidly growing industry in Atlantic Canada but the region as a whole lags on its investment in ICT (see APEC Report Card, January 2010). It remains to be seen whether this strategy will help the region close its ICT investment gap.
- The Government announced a comprehensive review of all federal support for R&D to improve its contribution to innovation and economic opportunities for business. There have been criticisms in the past of the ability to access and fully utilize programs such as the Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program.

Forest Industries

- The Next Generation Renewable Power Initiative will provide an additional \$100 million over four years to support the development of advanced clean energy technologies in the forestry sector.

Fishery

- The budget provides \$7.2 million over two years to support a new Catch Certification Office in Fisheries and Oceans Canada that will issue certificates to exporters attesting that seafood products are legally harvested. This will help ensure access to international markets, most notably the European Union.

Federal Transfers

- The government reaffirmed its commitment not to cut the growth track of major transfers to other levels of government. However, there are concerns about the path of federal transfers beyond 2013-2014 when existing agreements on transfers such as the Canada Health Transfer expires. Federal transfers currently account for between 36% and 44% of total government revenues in the three Maritime provinces and 20% in Newfoundland and Labrador (which no longer receives equalization payments).

Canada Science and Technology Museum Looks to Increase its Mining Collection

(taken from brochure, *Mining Collection*)

The mandate of the Corporation as set out in the Museum Act is “to foster scientific and technological literacy throughout Canada by establishing, maintaining and developing a collection of scientific and technological objects, with special but not exclusive reference to Canada, and by demonstrating the products and processes of science and technology and their economic, social and cultural relationships with society.”

The Canadian mining industry plays a central role in the development of Canada and its society. The Canada Science and Technology Museum located in Ottawa would like to ensure that the importance of mining in the growth of the country and its contribution to the Canadian economy are reflected in the National Collection. The Museum is currently looking at improving all aspects of its mining collection including prospecting, extracting, and transformation of natural resources. To this end, the Museum would welcome artifact donations from mining companies or individuals having worked in this industry. Examples of the artifacts, which would greatly enrich the national collection include:

- *artifacts, which document all levels of involvement in operating a mine: from the corporate boardroom, to exploration and work underground
- *machinery and tools, safety equipment
- *miners' equipment: helmets, lamps, picks, boots, coveralls
- *awards such as long service pins and safety certificates
- *trade literature
- *photographs, maps, reports, companies' archives, educational or promotional posters
- *engineering drawings, plans, prototypes and models of mining machinery developed in Canada

It should also be noted that the Museum is not only interested in old mining technologies, but also in the modern developments, and in operations of Canadian Mining companies in this country and abroad.

The Museum has a well established acquisition policy, which can be consulted at: <http://www.sciencetech.technomuses.ca/english/collection/donation.cfm>

For more information, please contact:
Anna Adamek Curator, National Resources & Industrial Design, Phone: (613) 991-3077
Email: aadamek@technomuses.ca

APEC Releases Guide to Hiring Immigrants for Atlantic Employers

The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council (APEC) launched its “Hiring International Workers in Atlantic Canada: An Employer’s Guide”, which is available free on the APEC website (www.apec-econ.ca/hireinternational) in both French and English.

This detailed, step-by-step guide is designed to help employers through the entire hiring process, including recruitment and selection, obtaining Canadian work permits and integrating new international employees and their families into the local workforce and community.

“Hiring international workers can be an effective way to address labour shortages, while also increasing diversity and building connections to international markets,” said David Chaundy, APEC senior economist. “Companies that have hired international workers in Atlantic Canada are generally very pleased with the outcome, even after taking into account any additional time and resources required.”

A draft of the guide was shared with the business community at a series of how-to sessions held across the Atlantic region in the fall of 2009. The guide was sponsored by Citizenship and Immigration Canada as part of the Atlantic Population Table Initiative, a collaboration of the Government of Canada and the four Atlantic Provinces.

Update from DNR

Diane Webber, P.Geol., Liaison Geologist
Department of Natural Resources

Mineral Exploration Roundup

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plays an important role in informing both junior and major exploration and mining companies of the mineral resources and investment opportunities in Nova Scotia. The AMEBC Roundup conference in Vancouver and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) in Toronto are rated as two of the best conferences in North America for increasing exploration and development activity in the province.

Roundup 2010 was held from January 18 to 21 at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver. The conference is regarded as the world's largest technical mineral exploration conference. Over 4,500 registrants from over 40 countries attended the 27th annual Roundup which featured 10 short courses, 2 field trips, 8 technical sessions, a prospector's tent, core shack, map tent and hundreds of poster displays.

Executive Director of the Mineral Resources Branch Mike MacDonald and Liaison Geologist Diane Webber attended the conference and promoted Nova Scotia's mineral resources in the DNR booth. The display presented a geological overview of the province focusing on gold and rare metals. There was significant interest at the booth and Diane continues to respond to potential clients who have requested additional information on various properties held by prospectors and mining companies.

PDAC

The PDAC 2010 International Convention, Trade Show and Investors Exchange, March 7-10, broke an attendance record with nearly 23,000 people attending the 78th gathering at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The atmosphere at this year's event was exhilarating, with the noticeable increased attendance from last year and enthusiasm and excitement in the industry.

This year's Natural Resources delegation consisted of Minister the Hon. John MacDonell, Deputy Minister Peter Underwood, Mineral Resources Branch Executive

Director Mike MacDonald, Registrar of Mineral and Petroleum Titles John MacNeil, Liaison Geologist Diane Webber and Mineral Deposits Geologist Trevor MacHattie. DNR had an opportunity to promote the mineral resources of the province with excellent visibility in the Atlantic Rock Room that included a slideshow and display of Nova Scotia rocks. Thousands of attendees passed through the DNR booth space gathering technical information and inquiring of opportunities in the mining sector in Nova Scotia.

In recognition of the importance of prospectors to the prosperity of the Nova Scotia mineral sector, DNR provided financial assistance for sixteen prospectors to attend the PDAC conference this year. DNR rented booth space for the Nova Scotia prospectors to display their materials and following the show the prospectors reported having one of their best shows ever. Prospectors offered compliments and thanks to the staff of the branch for their assistance.

It was a pleasure to have Minister of Natural Resources the Hon. John MacDonell attend his first PDAC, and for him to experience the scope of the industry and its importance for the growth of our economy. Mr. MacDonell was pleased to host a breakfast and luncheon for industry representatives at the conference and discuss the small footprint of the mining industry and its impact on the sustainable growth of Nova Scotia's economy, while adhering to its 'best practice' obligations.

Nova Scotia mineral resources received high visibility at the PDAC 2010 as a result of DNR's substantial funding and participation, and the conference proved to be a huge success for Nova Scotia prospectors and the industry.



We welcome your letters and articles to the newsletter!

Please send your comments to:

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(please use subject line: NEWSLETTER ARTICLE)

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