Mining Indigenous Workforce Development Roundtable

September 16, 2025 Rogers Centre, Ottawa











Welcome

Welcoming Remarks

- Ronald Kanutski, Facilitator
- Ryan Montpellier, Executive Director, MiHR

Opening Prayer

Meeka Kakudluk, Inuit Elder









Indigenous Voices in Mining

Speakers

- Benjamin Green-Stacey, Assembly of First Nations
- Tara Shea, Mining Association of Canada









Setting the Stage: Labour Market **Trends**

Speakers

- Jamie Wolcott, MiHR
- Celine Pinsent, Aboriginal **Employment Services**







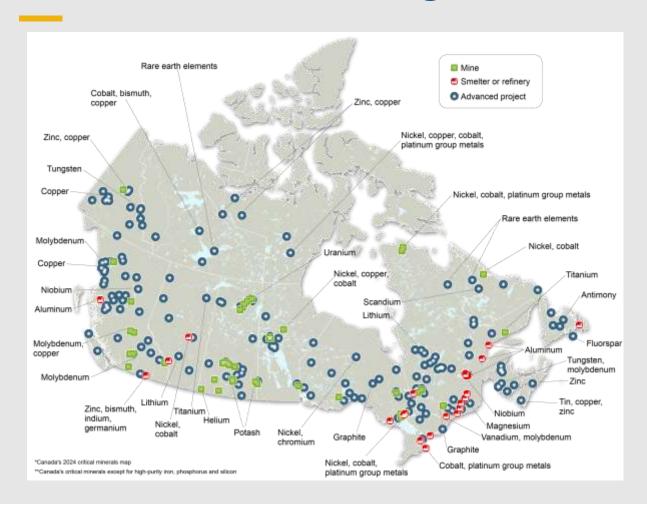






Jamie Wolcott, Director of Labour Market Information

Canada's Bullish Mining Outlook



"Canada names gas plant, port, mines as major projects to be sped up."

Reuters, September 11, 2025

"Canada's critical advantage: A natural resources superpower — mining and critical minerals are central to Canada's economic security and growth."

Canadian Mining Journal, August 28, 2025

"Canada's \$65B Critical Minerals Challenge: Can it keep up? Canada risks losing \$100B in investment by 2030 unless it acts fast."

CarbonCredits.com, June 17, 2025

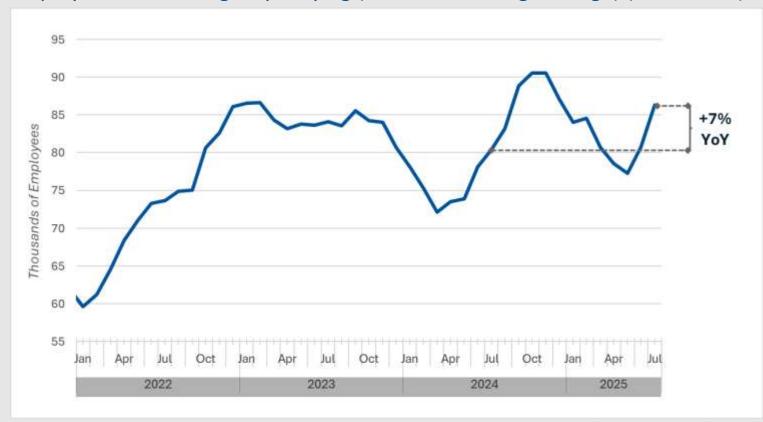
"Government of Canada strengthens the Critical Minerals Strategy to build the economy and secure the future."

Yahoo Finance Canada, August 26, 2025



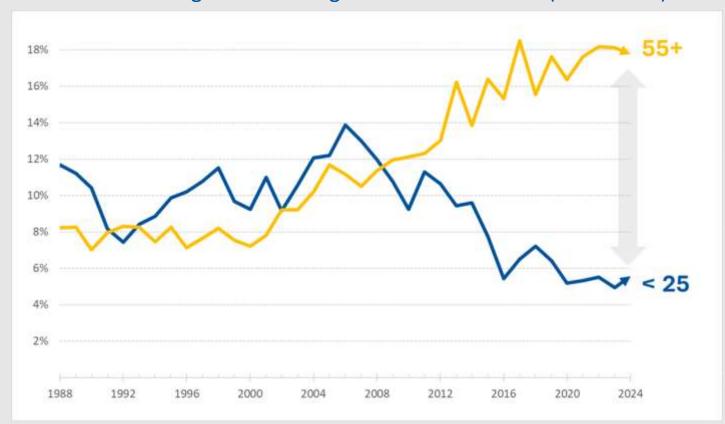
Employment Growth

Employment in Mining & quarrying (3-Month Moving Average) (2022-2025)



Widening Age Gap in the Mining Industry

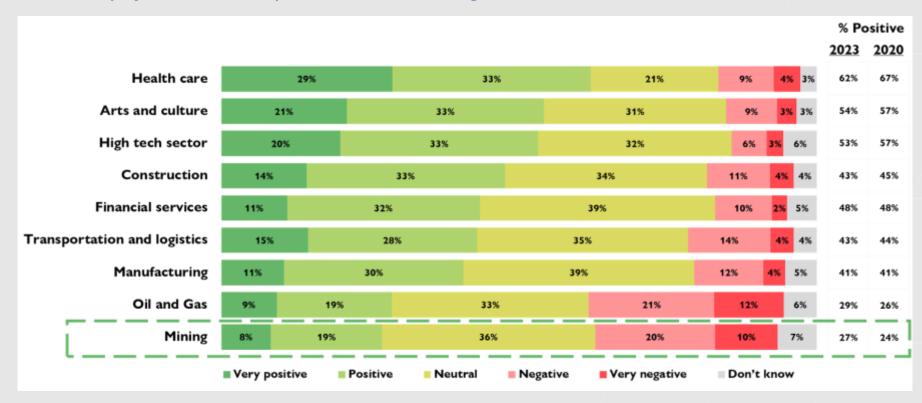
Share of the Mining Workforce Aged 55+ and under 25 (1988-2025)





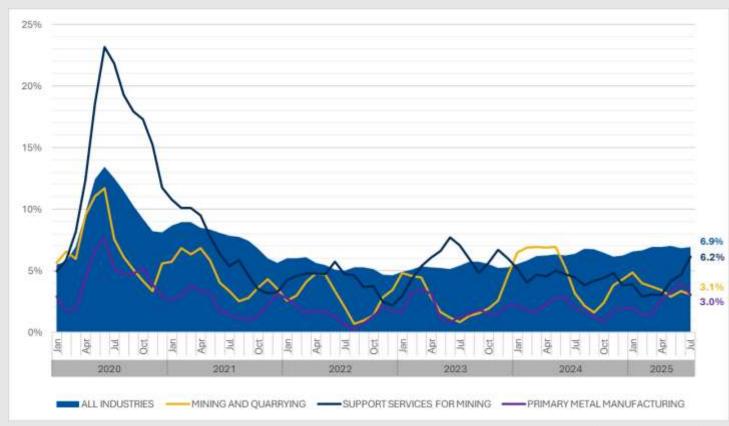
Difficulty Attracting Youth

Responses of Young Canadians (Ages 15 to 30): How likely, if at all, would you consider working in these sectors?



Low Unemployment Rate

Unemployment Rate (3-month moving average) in Different Mining Sectors (2020-2025)



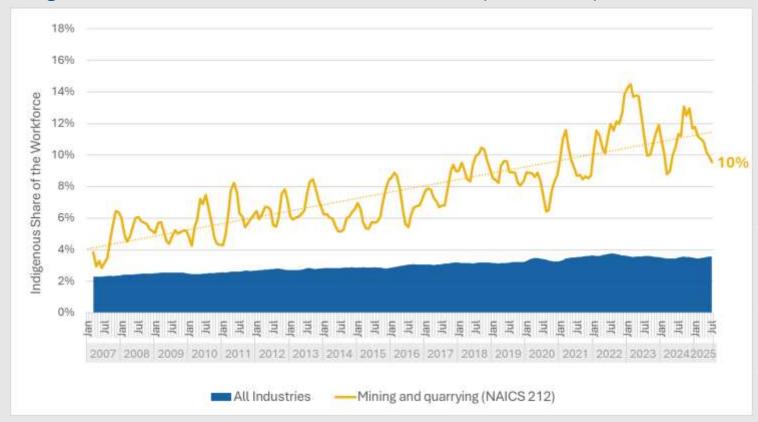


Indigenous Peoples in Mining

- 1) High (and Growing) Representation
- 2) Geographical Connection
- 3) Mining Outperforms Across Occupations
- 4) In Jobs Requiring No Formal Education
- 5) More Likely to Have No certificate, diploma or degree
- 6) Certain occupational labour pools are too shallow

1) High (and Growing) Representation

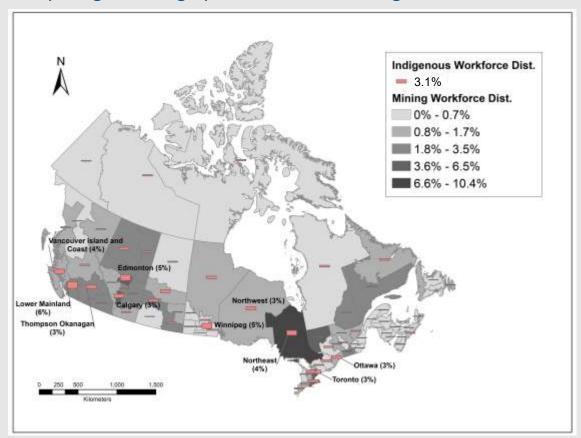
Indigenous Share of the Labour Force in Canada (2007-2025)





2) Geographical Connection

Comparing the Geographies of Canada's Indigenous Workforce and its Mining Workforce (2021)

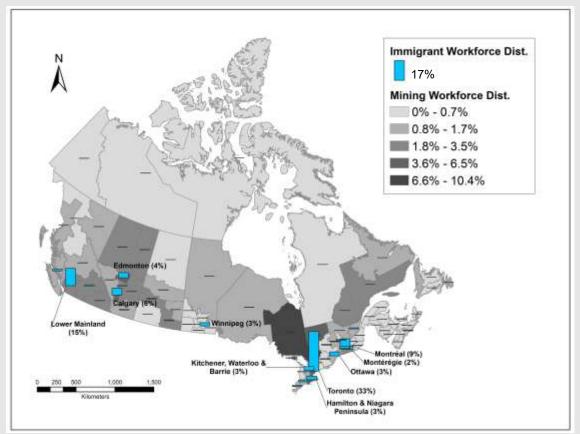


Rank	Economic Region	Share of All Indigenous Workers (All Industries)	Share of All Mining Workers
1	Lower Mainland Southwest, B.C.	41,830 (6%)	4,985 (3%)
2	Edmonton, Alta.	35,810 (5%)	12,270 (6%)
3	Winnipeg, Man.	33,500 (5%)	790 (0%)
4	Northeast, Ont.	29,675 (4%)	19,680 (10%)
5	Vancouver Island and Coast, B.C.	27,820 (4%)	1,570 (1%)
6	Toronto, Ont.	23,200 (3%)	7,340 (4%)
7	Calgary, Alta.	22,840 (3%)	10,030 (5%)
8	ThompsonOkanagan, B.C.	21,525 (3%)	4,580 (2%)
9	Northwest, Ont.	20,150 (3%)	3,200 (2%)
10	Ottawa, Ont.	18,905 (3%)	1,420 (1%)
Other Regions		405,175 (60%)	123,480 (65%)
Total		680,430 (100%)	189,345 (100%)



2) Geographical Disconnection

Comparing the Geographies of Canada's Immigrant Workforce and its Mining Workforce (2021)

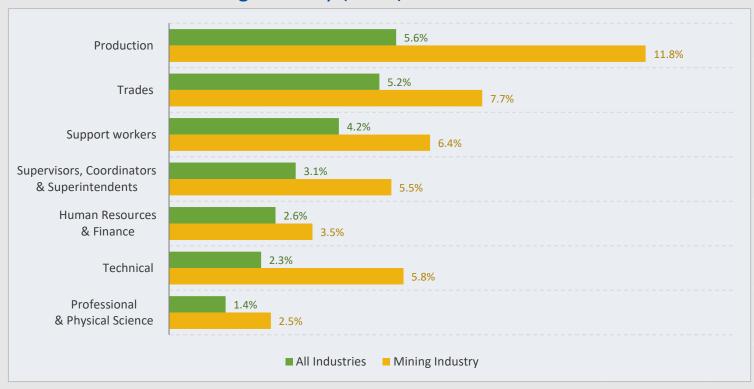


		<u>/</u>	//
Rank	Economic Region	Share of All Immigrant Workers (All Industries)	Share of All Mining Workers
1	Toronto, Ont.	1,656,645 (33%)	7,335 (4%)
2	Lower Mainland Southwest, B.C.	729,790 (15%)	4,985 (3%)
3	Montréal, Que.	431,290 (9%)	2,150 (1%)
4	Calgary, Alta.	285,210 (6%)	10,030 (5%)
5	Edmonton, Alta.	221,845 (4%)	12,270 (6%)
6	Ottawa, Ont.	165,935 (3%)	1,415 (1%)
7	KitchenerWaterloo Barrie, Ont.	163,355 (3%)	2,235 (1%)
8	HamiltonNiagara Peninsula, Ont.	150,690 (3%)	9,440 (5%)
9	Winnipeg, Man.	136,700 (3%)	790 (0%)
10	Montérégie, Que.	122,280 (2%)	5,620 (3%)
Other Regions		912,515 (18%)	133,070 (70%)
Total		4,976,255 (100%)	189,340 (100%)



3) Mining Outperforms Across Occupations

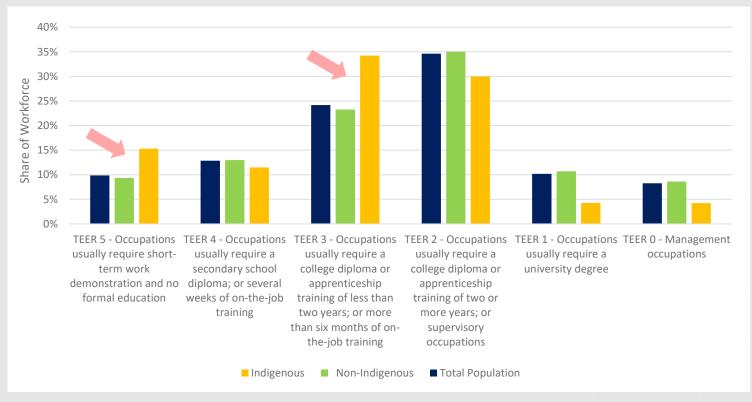
Indigenous Share of the Labour Force by Broad Occupational Category All Industries and Mining Industry (2021)





4) In Jobs Requiring No Formal Education

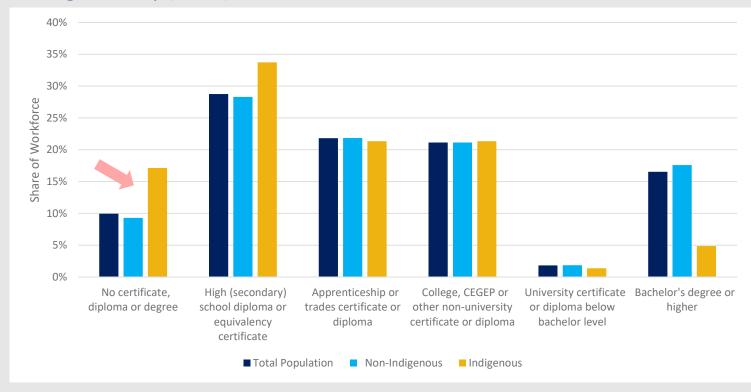
Distribution of TEER Categories by Indigenous Identity Mining Industry (2021)





5) More Likely to Have No certificate, diploma or degree

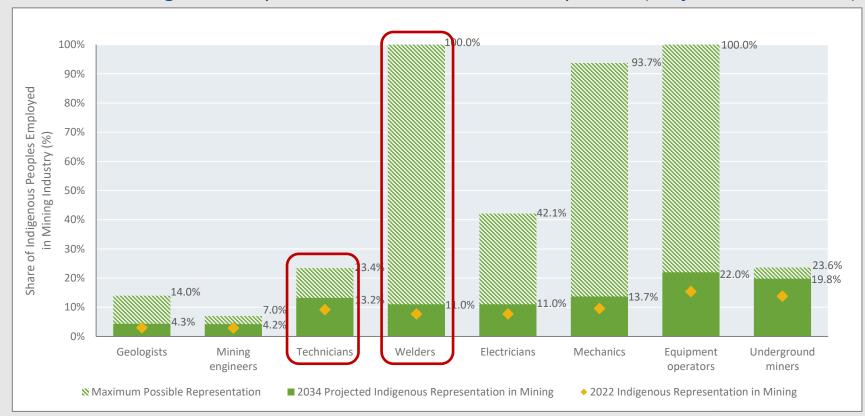
Distribution of Educational Attainment by Indigenous Identity Mining Industry (2021)





6) Certain Occupational Labour Pools are Too Shallow

Forecasted Indigenous Representation for Selected Occupations (Projected Year: 2034)





Occupation-Specific Strategies



Deep Labour Pool

Grow mining's labour supply share by increasing:

- Recruitment
- Advertising
- Wages/Benefits

Competition Mode: i.e. *Recruiting*



Shallow Labour Pool

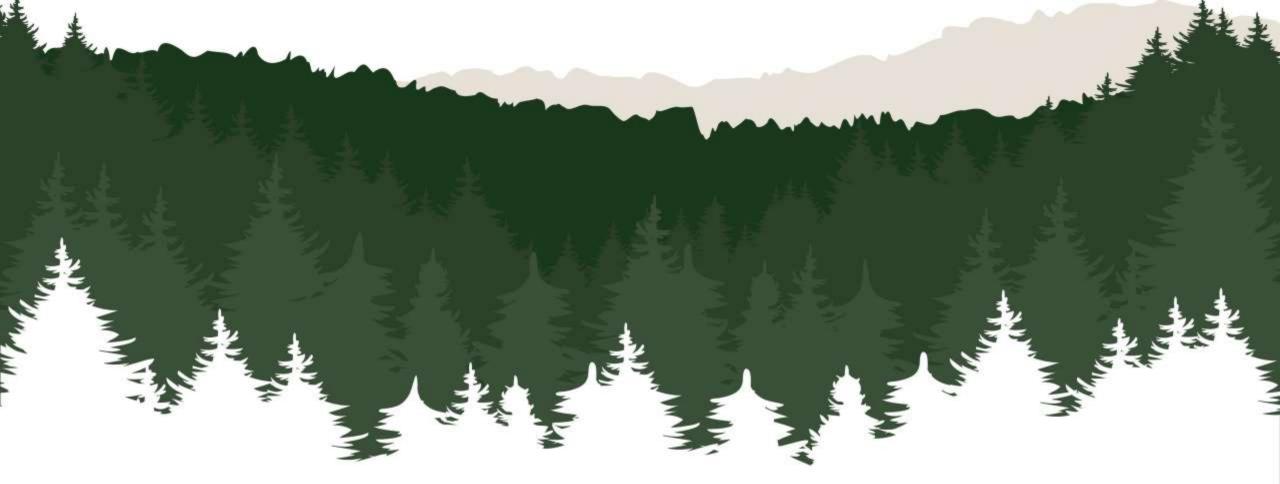
Expand the occupation's overall labour supply size by boosting:

- Career/Occupational Awareness
- PSE & Industry Partnerships
- Education/Training

Collaboration Mode: i.e. *Training*

THANK YOU.





UNDERSTANDING LABOUR SUPPLY Indigenous Labour Market Information Initiative

Mining Indigenous Workforce Development Roundtable



Indigenous Labour Market Information (ILMI) Initiative Background

- Context: Existing LMI often has large gaps when considering First Nation communities (e.g., Statistics Canada – Census, Labour Force Survey) – particularly for reserves and rural/remote communities
- Objective: Test processes and tools that will improve First Nation communities' access to <u>timely and useful community-level</u> information about the labour force
- Timely Relevant Local



Indigenous Labour Market Information (ILMI) Initiative Overview

- Each participating community owns their own data
- Pilot evolving; ongoing input from working groups
- Rapid growth since pandemic
- National participating First Nations
 - √ 40,000 respondents; 60,000+ surveys
 - √ 164 participating communities' population (15+) ≈ 270,000
- Ontario participating First Nations
 - √ 7,200 respondents; 10,000+ surveys
 - ✓ Participating communities' population (15+) ≈ 108,000

ILMI Agreement Holders (Ontario)

Grand River
Employment and
Training Inc (GREAT)

Anishinabek Nation

Mamaweswen (North Shore Tribal Council) Anishinabek Employment and Training Services (AETS)

Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment and Training Services (KKETS)

Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (ALFDC)

Wikwemikong Development Commission

Moose Cree Training & Employment Unit

Walpole Island First
Nation



ILMI Components

SURVEY OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS

(LABOUR SUPPLY)

15 years and older
12 months between surveys
On-line/Hard Copy
Multiple sections
Tailored modules

SURVEY OF

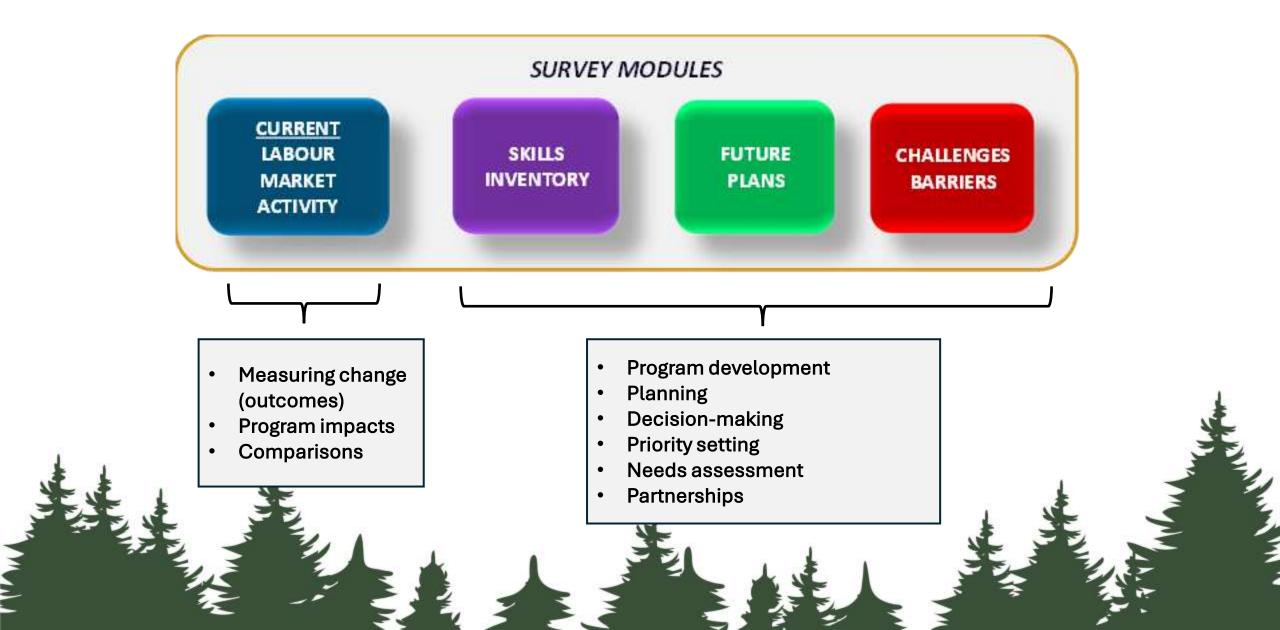
EMPLOYERS

(LABOUR DEMAND)

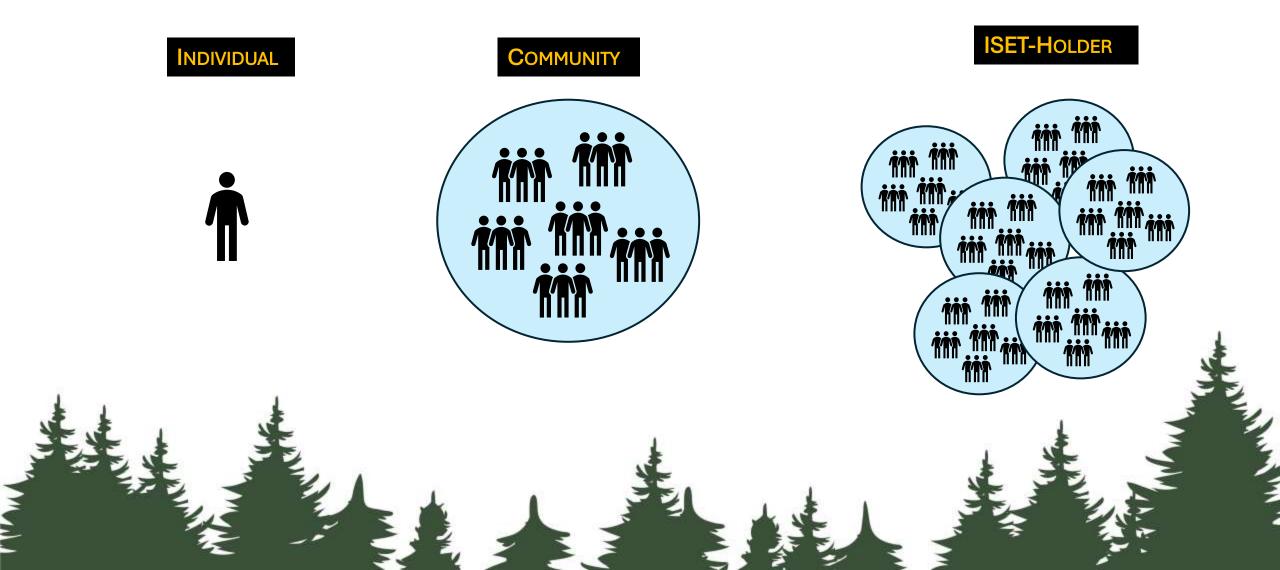
Previous hiring
Current vacancies
Future hiring
Labour sources
Labour challenges



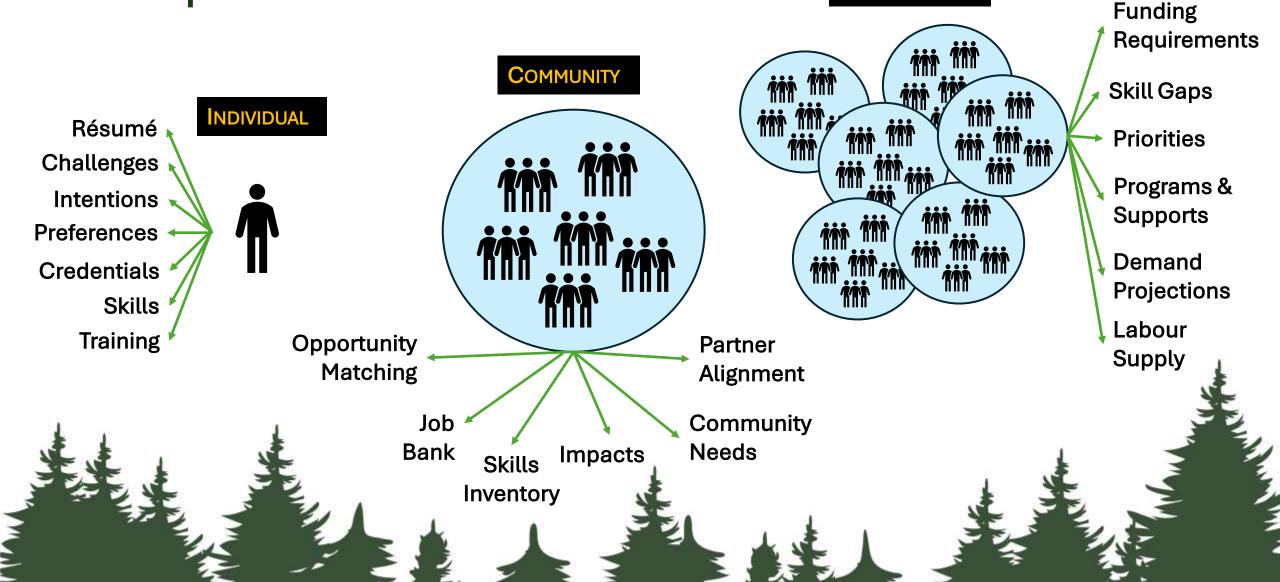
Community Member Survey



Information at multiple levels



Information at multiple levels



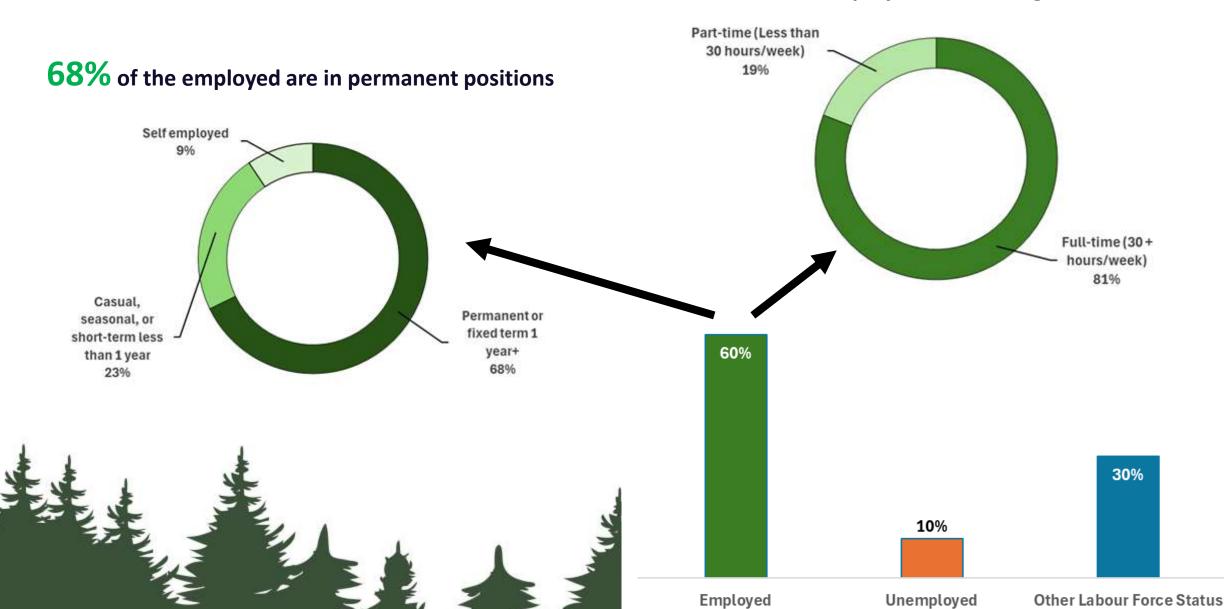
ISET-HOLDER

Some ILMI examples (Ontario data)



Labour Force Status

81% of employed are working full-time



MOST FREQUENTLY CITED OCCUPATIONS

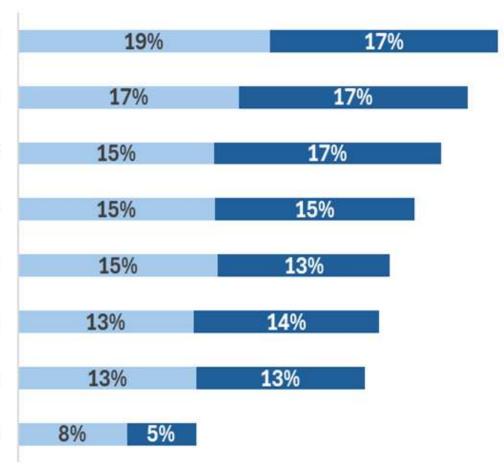
#	OCCUPATION CATEGORY	% Occupation Descriptions
1	Sales and service support occupations	13%
2	Professional occupations in law, education, social, community and government services	10%
3	Front-line public protection services and paraprofessional occupations in legal, social, community, education service	7%
4	Administrative and financial support and supply chain logistics occupations	7%
5	Administrative occupations and transportation logistics occupations	5%
6	Helpers and labourers and other transport drivers, operators, and labourers	5%
7	Technical trades and transportation officers and controllers	5%
8	Sales and service representatives and other customer and personal services occupations	5%
9	General trades	3%
10	Administrative and financial supervisors and specialized administrative occupations	3%

22% were working at a job that was "not at all related" to their education, experience, and skills.

This could indicate a relatively high number of people are actually underemployed and may need assistance in finding more suitable employment opportunities.

Employment Challenges

Challenges finding and getting a job Not having right type of education/training to get a job Living in a community that is far away from jobs Not having enough work experience to get a job Not having the skills that employers are looking for Not having money for job application/interview Not having money to pay for things related to job Challenges keeping a job





■ LARGE CHALLENGE



Training Challenges

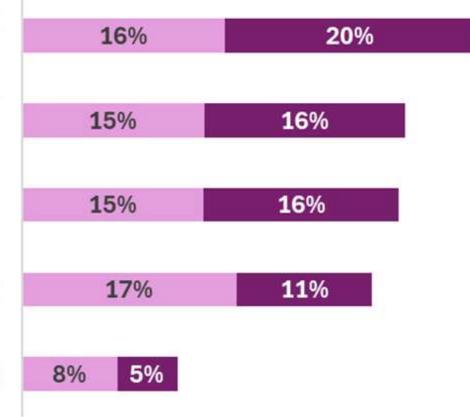
Challenges finding money for training program

Not having the educational requirements for training or education programs

Living in a community that is far away from training opportunities

Challenges finding appropriate training

Challenges staying in training



■ MEDIUM CHALLENGE

■ LARGE CHALLENGE



TOP AREAS OF INTEREST FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Construction/heavy equipment/earthmoving equipment operation

Business administration and management, general

Mental health counselling/counsellor

Construction trades, general

Truck and bus driver/commercial vehicle operator and instructor

Social work, general

Aboriginal studies

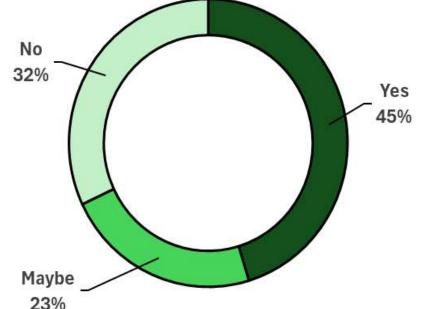
Carpentry/carpenter

Heavy equipment maintenance technology/technician

Upgrading-general education







Looking for Employment

75% are interested in receiving notifications of employment opportunities that match their skills and interests.

TOP AREAS OF INTEREST FOR EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

Professional occupations in law, education, social, community and government services

Technical trades and transportation officers and controllers

Sales and service support occupations

Front-line public protection services and paraprofessional occupations in legal, social, community, education service

Helpers and labourers and other transport drivers, operators, and labourers

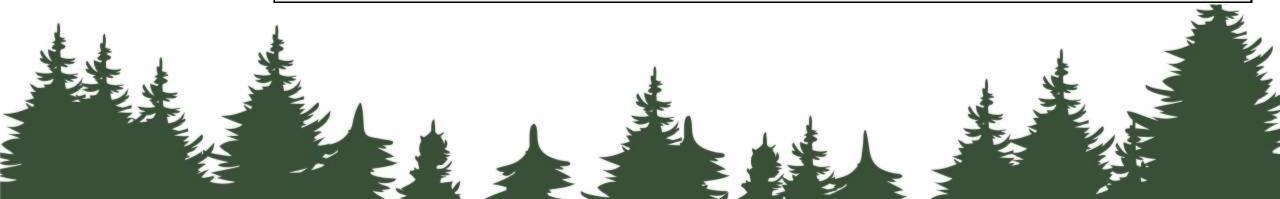
General trades

Administrative occupations and transportation logistics occupations

Administrative and financial support and supply chain logistics occupations

Sales and service representatives and other customer and personal services occupations

Professional occupations in natural and applied sciences



Health Break (15 minutes)

Refreshments and snacks available in the hallway.











Mining Needs You Youth Career Awareness Campaign

Speaker

• Will Meyer, MiHR



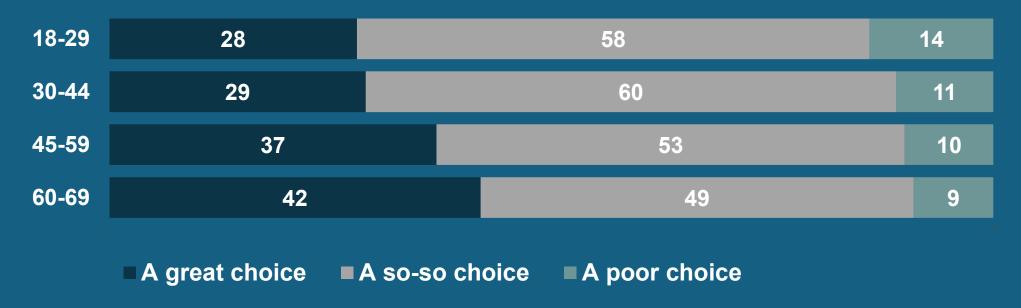






Youth Perceptions of Mining

A majority of young people aren't sure a career in mining is a good choice, but aren't convinced it's a bad choice.



Building a Coalition of Partners

- Efforts to engage young people in mining are not working. Needed a different approach to communicate with youth and potential job seekers.
- Our Goal was to raise \$1 million per year for a <u>5-year national campaign</u> (\$5 million total).
- <u>Secured \$1 million</u> to support the campaign in 2025 and work with partners toward common objectives:



Campaign Objectives & Target Audiences

OBJECTIVES

- Address lack of awareness and negative perceptions among youth.
- 2. Support industry recruitment and align with federal government objectives.
- 3. Increase the mining talent pipeline

TARGET AUDIENCES

Youth 15 to 24, Influencers, Industry Stakeholders, Workers from Other Sectors



Campaign Components

A strategic multi-channel approach is essential to reach youth aged 15-24. Therefore, the campaign combines six key components.





2. SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY



3. CAREER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM & PRESENTATIONS



4. CAREER AWARENESS TOOLS & COLLATERAL



5. CAREER FAIRS & EVENTS



6. MEDIA RELATIONS



MiningNeedsYou.ca

- Complete overhaul of MiningNeedsYou.ca content and visuals to adhere to new campaign branding & improve mobile experience.
- New menu structure
- Interactive World of Mining Careers and other features updated to new campaign branding and mobile standards.





Mining Career Seeker Dashboard

- Hosted on MiningNeedsYou.ca
- Objective: NRCan grant to design an interactive career map to assist students job seekers and students in navigating the diverse career opportunities within Canada's mining industry.
- Key Audiences: Grade 7 to 12 students; post-secondary students, job seekers.
- Content: The location of PSIs that offer mining-related education, operating mines and processing facilities and their company career pages, cost of living information.





Career Ambassador Program

- Partnership between MiHR and CIM
- Raises awareness of mining careers and the sector's role in environmental sustainability, social responsibility and technological innovation
- 60 ambassadors signed up to the program; many featured on MiningNeedsYou.ca





New Career Ambassador Webinar Series

- New career ambassador webinar series for all Mining Needs You audiences.
- First session was on June 26 in celebration of the International Day of Women in Mining:
 - Nearly 100 attendees, high engagement during Q&A
- Second webinar taking place October 1 in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

CAREER AMBASSADOR WEBINAR SERIES

Exploring Mining Careers – Honouring Indigenous Voices

An insightful webinar with mining professional **Dan Miron**, Process Superintendent at VALE, in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Date: Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Time: 1:00 - 1:45 pm EST

Register: bit.ly/mihr-ndtr







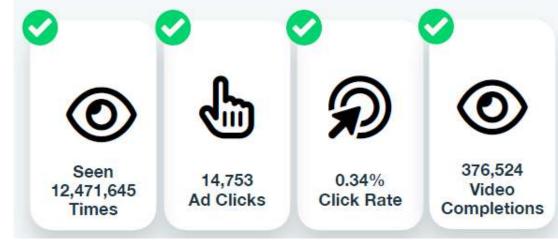




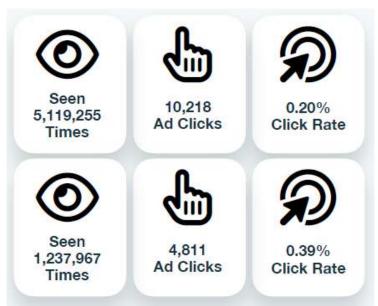
Pilot Test of Campaign Creative

- Two pilot campaigns (Kamloops and Saskatoon) were launched on May 15 and ran until June 27.
- Channels:
 - Social: Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube
 - Streaming: Spotify
 - Paid Search: Google
 - Programmatic Display and Connected TV
 - OOH: Bus Interiors & Transit Shelters
- National campaign now running (Sept 2 – end of Dec)





Saskatoon:



Kamloops:

myBlueprint Micro Grant Contest

- Micro Grant Contest Sponsor within the '25-26 Industry Immersion Series
- Reach 1.1M Grade 7-12 students across Canada
- Promotion of contest via myBlueprint Student Dashboard
- Custom mining landing page and contest application form
- Newsletter sent to 40,000+ teachers/school employees
- Social media mentions
- Host a sponsored student webinar
- 3 You Do What!? Career Interviews featured in Student Content Hub
- Standalone lesson plan, guide and customized occupation content











Next Steps 2025

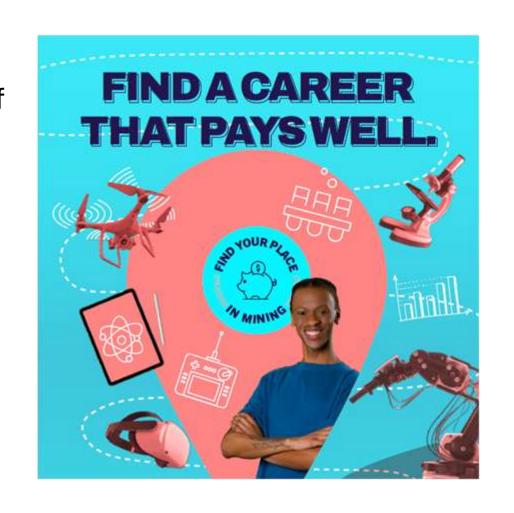
- Share campaign information
- Virtual career fair November 17-18
- Proposals to be submitted to partners Oct-Nov to build on what has been created and achieved in 2025.





Next Steps 2026

- Continue paid media campaign for remainder of 2025-2026 school year
- Expand targeted paid media campaign in other communities in the fall
- Expand national Career Ambassador Program
- Expand Scholarship Program
- Continue and expand social influencer strategy
- Support student mine tours





Thank You

MiningNeedsYou.ca

wmeyer@mihr.ca





Indigenous Engagement Initiatives

Speakers

Pascale Larouche,
 MiHR









MINING INDUSTRY





MINING INDUSTRY HUMAN RESOURCES COUNCIL

CONSEIL DES RESSOURCES HUMAINES DE L'INDUSTRIE MINIÈRE



Essential & Work Readiness Training



Mining Essentials

A training to employment program that teaches the essential and work readiness (non-technical) skills which the industry has validated and deemed necessary for employment.

The training program is designed specifically for Indigenous peoples by incorporating teachings that are culturally relevant to this group.

Mining Essentials is the first step towards a rewarding career







Objectives:

- Equip Indigenous peoples with transferable and foundational skills, attitudes and industry knowledge
- Provide a diverse, skilled and safety conscious workforce through partnerships
- Empower learners with information and access to opportunities for meaningful employment
- Deliver a nationally recognized work-ready skills development program



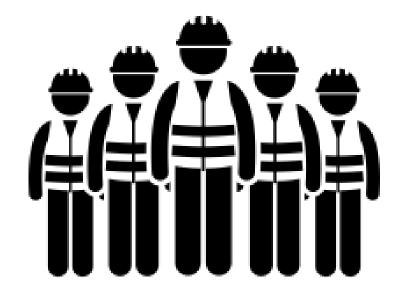




Two components to the learning experience:



150 hours of classroom training



120 hours enrichment activities



For a total of 270 hours





Total of 68 deliveries

- British Columbia 3 deliveries
- Saskatchewan 9 deliveries
- Quebec 11 deliveries
- Ontario 40 deliveries
- Nova Scotia 1 delivery
- Nunavut 2 deliveries
- Northwest Territories 2 deliveries









Results to Date (Canada wide):

Participants	Results
Total enrollment to date	904
Total graduates	+/- 60%
Graduates seeking further education or finding employment within 12 months of completion	+/- 50%



I am impressed with his growth and notice his confidence has grown substantially!! – Parent of a graduate





eLearning Training



Indigenous Awareness Training

A 1-hour online introduction to Indigenous values, histories, peoples and experiences. Leaners reflect on their understanding of Indigenous histories, peoples and the vital roles we may all play to advance reconciliation in Canada.

To date 5,766 have registered for the training.

In recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, MiHR will be offering complimentary individual enrollments to MiHR's Indigenous Awareness training.

Email lms@mihr.ca to request your free training Sept 29 & 30, 2025.





Digital Fundamentals Training



- MiHR delivered to a total of 20 deliveries across Canada, resulting in 156 graduates.
 - 52% Indigenous, 48% Women, 5% Newcomers
- The training has been well received, with an overall satisfaction rate of 80%
- Delivery partners have continued to offer the training, either as a standalone training or integrated with other MiHR training programs or their own existing programs.



Building Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces

Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces

- EDI Toolkit for Mining Companies Guides, tools and reports to assist mining organizations develop and implement EDI strategies, helping drive systemic industry change and innovation.
- Safe Workplaces for All Expands employer, union and employee knowledge of, and response to, sexual harassment and violence. Supported by a set of posters, postcards, a report and infographic.







Building Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces

Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces

- In-Person Workshop on Preventing and Addressing Harassment and Gender-Based Violence in the Workplace
 - Developed in partnership with Ernst and Young (EY)
 - 3-hour in-person workshop on site
 - Build awareness, support-co-workers and take accountability
 - Designed for all employees, frontline supervisors, mid-management.







CMSDS Mining Immersive Training Program



MiHR, in partnership with Confederation College, secured \$1.6 million in funding from the Government of Ontario through its Skills Development Fund Initiative to develop an innovative, immersive two-phased training approach to attract and engage new talent in Northwestern Ontario's mining sector.

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026





CMSDS Mining Immersive Training Program



Project Objectives:

- 1. Entry-level training that equips new talent with the mining skills needed by mining employers in Northwestern Ontario through:
 - eLearns
 - 360 videos
 - Interactive activities
 - VR Scenarios
- 2. 4-6 week work placement



Panel Session: Barriers and Best Practices

Panelists

- Glenn Nolan Retired VP,
 Indigenous Enterprises, Wyloo
 Ring of Fire Metals
- John DeGiacomo ED, AETS
- Anne Johnson Assistant
 Professor, Queen's University
 Smith Engineering
- Kyle Loney CEO, Taighwenini Technical Services Corporation (TTSC), Wahnapitae First Nation









Lunch (45 minutes)

Guest Speaker:

- John Mason, Geological Consulting
- 12:30 pm











Northwestern Ontario:

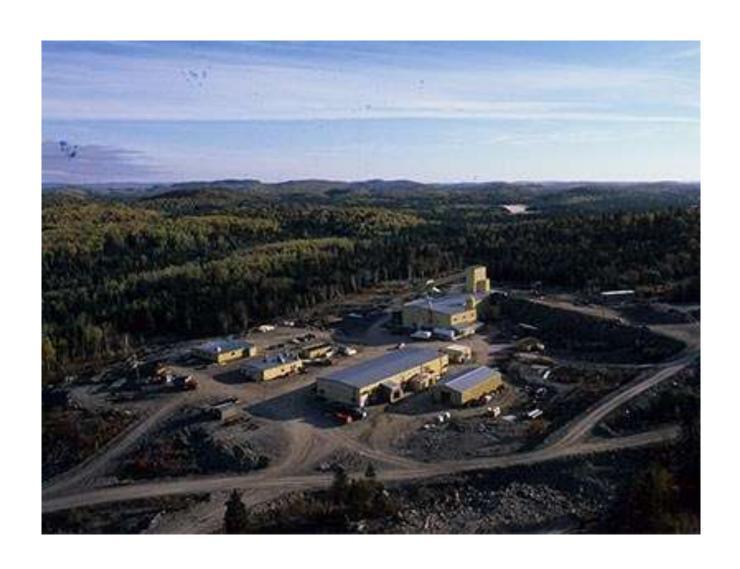
a mining powerhouse

September 16,2025

Island Gold Complex—Alamos Gold



Eagle River Mine—Wesdome Gold Mines





Rainy River Mine —New Gold Inc.





Red Lake Mine—Evolution Mining



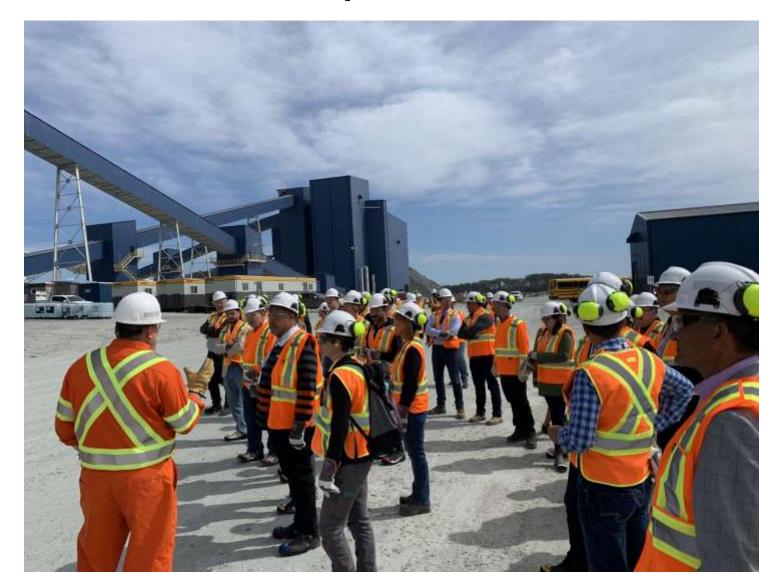




Musselwhite Mine—Orla Mining



Greenstone Mine—Equinox Gold



Indigenous Employment in Mining: —10.8% in much of Canada

Northwestern Examples that proudly exceed those #s:

LAC DES ILES MINE---13%

EAGLE RIVER MINE---14%

MUSSELWHITE MINE---19-24%

RAINY RIVER MINE---24%

GREENSTONE MINE—25%

Emerging Technology in Exploration/Mining

- Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)—machine learning
- Exploration geophysics for deep mineral deposits
- Drones—exploration and underground mines
- EV powered mining equipment —i.e. Borden Lake Mine
- (Ontario mines nickel and soon lithium to power u.g. battery vehicles)
- Autonomous vehicles
- Deep exploration drilling













Recommendations:

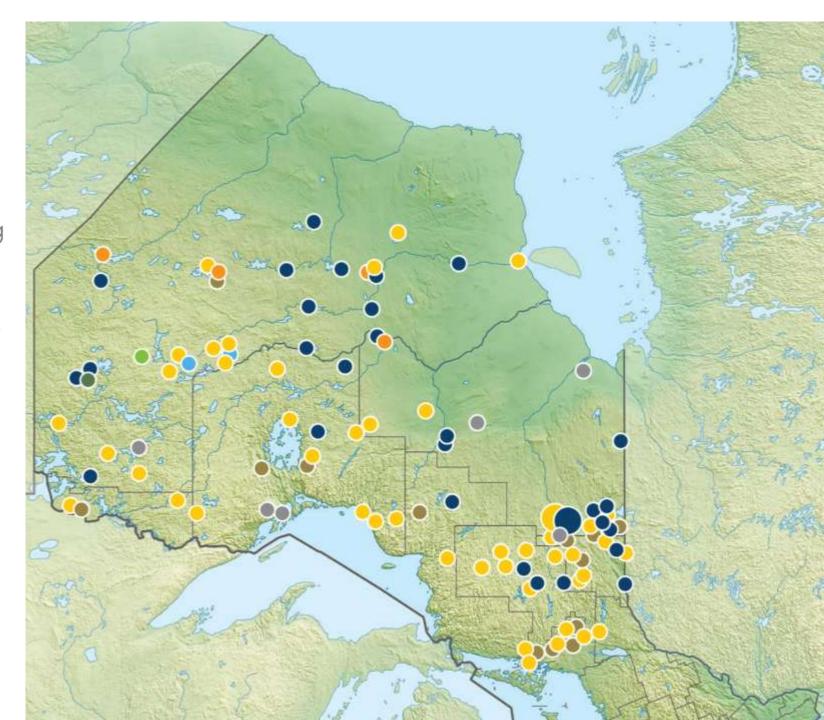
- Workforce budget is the largest cost at a mine (electricity is next)
- Meet the HR departments and exploration company geologists/VPS
- Students—Align with Mining Matters and OYEP
- Students—Communicate with Trade Unions, Community Colleges and Universities, early years of high school
- Students—explore dual credit opportunities
- Reach out to the OMA, PDAC and Mines (Ontario) for information about career paths and the sector as well as mine/field tours!
- As the OMA says: curiosity, conversation and classroom ignite mining and exploration careers

Careers in Mining/Mineral Exploration— The Positives

- Mining is a hi-tech and innovative industry
- Highest paying industrial sector (salary)
- Trades and professional occupations available
- Work is in the great outdoors
- See the world
- Grow in your position to be promoted
- It is a people industry
- Proud Canadian; some of the best geologists, engineers, tradespeople in the world
- Health and safety is paramount
- Gratifying because you are providing minerals for society
- Free time and flexibility with remote work
- Mining employs the highest % of indigenous people (relative to other industries)

Agreement Type

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Exploration Agreement
- Impact and Benefits Agreement
- Cooperation Agreement
- Engagement Agreement
- Letter of Intent
- Negotiation Protocol
- Participation Agreement
- Socio-Economic Agreement
- Other



PARTNERSHIPS ARE CRITICAL=WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

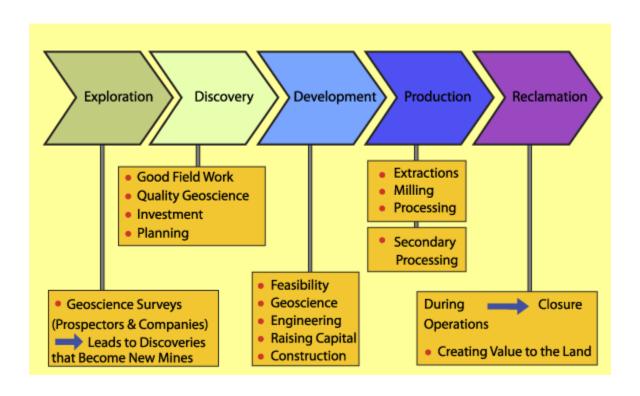
Minodahmun (MDLP) + Equinox Gold + Confederation College

• Treaty #3 (18 FNs) + New Gold Inc. + Seven Generations

Musselwhite Agreement + Orla Mining + Lakehead U (CESME)

• Shared Spirits + Red Lake Mining Companies + Confederation C

Mining Sequence-goal is to harness workforce/career development opportunities at each step!!



Thank You!



Lunch









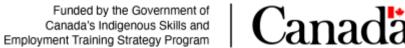


Breakout Session













Identified Barriers

STRUCTURAL BARRIERS

- Remote community locations and the high travel/relocation costs
- Limited access to local training programs and systemic gaps in education
- Lack of placement opportunities available.

CULTURAL BARRIERS

- Cultural considerations—such as the need to leave family and land or concerns about environmental impacts
- Need for culturally safe workplaces
- Lack of Indigenous role models in the mining sector

EDUCATIONAL & AWARENESS BARRIERS

- Under-preparedness for mine life and culture shock
- Limited awareness of mining careers beyond extraction
- Lack of awareness or unrecognized transferable skills
 Indigenous individuals bring to the mining sector
- Need for micro skills/credentials to improve employability in mining

SOCIAL BARRIERS

Health, housing, childcare, and other social challenges

Question 1

Based on the identified barriers, what supports are currently in place in your region—or should be in place— to help Indigenous individuals overcome these employment barriers?

What approaches or strategies can be taken to help strengthen and support Indigenous participation in Ontario's mining workforce?

Question 2

What changes are needed in how training and education programs are designed and/or delivered to make them more accessible and successful for Indigenous learners?

Question 3

What is one concrete step that industry, training providers, Indigenous organizations, and government can each take to improve Indigenous employment outcomes in the mining sector?

Group Discussion

Groups will have 5 minutes each to share their insights and findings.









Group Discussion

Let's reflect on the concreate steps presented.

How can we ensure these actions move beyond discussion and are implemented effectively?

What suggestions do you have to support follow-through?

Health Break (15 minutes)

Refreshments available in the hallway.











Summary and Next Steps

Speakers:

- Ryan Montpellier, MiHR
- John DeGiacomo, AETS









Closing Remarks

Remarks

Hon. Patricia Hajdu, Minister of Jobs and Families

Closing Prayer

- Parmallia Burgie, Senator representing the Métis
- Mike Mitchell, First Nation Elder







