

## **'MEET THE MINERS' GAINS SUPPORT OF ALL PARTIES**

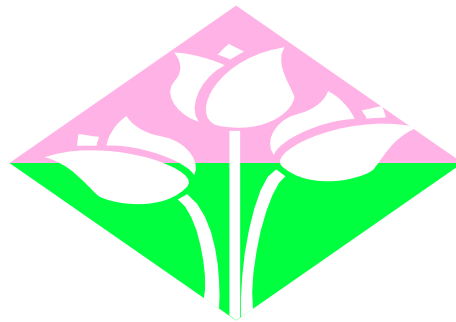
One of the leaders of the charge to help Ontario's mining industry gain new ground and make greater contributions to our society and economy is Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci. "We want wealth creation and growth in our industry for the future, . . . and I believe you my friends are the future," Mr. Bartolucci told the audience at the recent "*Meet the Miners*" reception at Queen's Park.

The minister believes the mining story is an exciting story. He spoke about the sector wide achievements in safety and environmental protection which are hallmarks of the industry in Ontario. He spoke about the contribution of the Ontario Mining Association and the potential benefits of the Ontario Mineral Industry Cluster Council.

"We are only beginning to see the influence mining is going to have through OMICC," he said. "A sector cluster is the way to grow industries and we want to create energy and synergy in our industry to create opportunity – job opportunities."

It was a great night for miners and Ontario's mining and minerals producing sector. The Ontario Mining Association's "*Meet the Miners*" reception at the Legislature attracted a

## **MINING MATTERS**



[www.oma.on.ca](http://www.oma.on.ca)

**MAY 2004**

significant crowd – quality and quantity – of politicians, public servants and miners to celebrate the contributions of the industry. OMA Chair Jim Vincent acknowledged the support of Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci, who helped open the doors at Queen's Park for this event.

Mr. Vincent also mentioned the support of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines for the 2004 edition of "*The Economic and Fiscal Contribution of the Mining Industry in Ontario*" and the MINING NEW OPPORTUNITIES First Nations video. He referred to charts near the podium which show mining in Ontario supports 100,000 direct and spin-off jobs, has a productivity level three times that of manufacturing and adds value to the provincial economy at a rate of \$190,000 per employee annually.

In addition, he demonstrated that mining is one of the safest sectors in the province. Its lost time injury rate

improved by 21% in 2003 to 1.1 per 200,000 hours compared with 2002 and its total medical aid incidents improved by 7% to 8.4 over the same time period.

Other politicians also had their say. Michael Prue (NDP MPP Beaches-East York) was pinch hitter at the podium for NDP Northern Development and Mines critic Gilles Bisson. “This is a most unusual place for a boy from Toronto to end up,” he quipped. “We as a caucus are supporters of what you do and want to ensure mining is viable in Ontario – we know it is a part of the heritage of our country.”

Norm Miller (PC MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka) brought greetings from the Progressive Conservative Party and, as Northern Development and Mines critic for his party, support for the industry. “I did have a prospector’s license at one time and have staked six claims in my life,” he said noting his practical mining experience. “I recognize how important mining is to the whole province and I want Ontario to return to the status as the best place to mine in the world.”

Mr. Bartolucci along with Mr. Miller and Mr. Prue all modeled OMA golf shirts for the audience following the speeches from the podium. The OMA would like to thank all who supported and participated in this evening at the Legislature.

### **IT’S TIME TO THINK ABOUT HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS**

The next Canadian Mining Hall of Fame induction dinner is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2005. The CMHF will be looking for nominations of individuals who have made

outstanding contributions to Canada’s mineral industry. The deadline for getting nominations to CMHF sponsors and associate sponsors, such as the Ontario Mining Association, is July 30, 2004. For further information about this industry institution see the CMHF website at [www.HallofFame.mining.ca](http://www.HallofFame.mining.ca).



### **MINERS ON THE MOVE**

In a reorganization of Inco Limited’s Canadian and United Kingdom operations, **Mark Cutifani** has been named President of Ontario Operations. This new structure sees Mr. Cutifani reporting to **Ron Aelick**, President of the Canadian/U.K. Operations, along with **Joe Loring**, President Manitoba Operations, **Adrian Gale**, Operations Director U.K. Operations and **Dorothy Cayen**, General Manager Finance.

“Inco’s Ontario Operations face some cost and operating challenges and we have plenty of opportunities to improve,” said Mr. Cutifani. “We face the challenge of a mature operation and we have the benefit of more than a century’s worth of experience. We have the people and we are improving our processes to be successful and create a long term future for our stakeholders.”

Reporting to Mr. Cutifani are **Alistair Ross**, General Manager Processing, **Scott McDonald**, General Manager Services and Support and **Dale Krueger**,

General Manager Refining and Business Planning.

At Placer Dome, **Jay Taylor**, President and Chief Executive Officer, has announced his retirement effective Sept. 30, 2004. "I have accomplished the objectives I set out for myself and this company when I became CEO and believe now is the appropriate time to turn over the company to a new leader."

### **OMA WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS**

At the most recent OMA Board meeting, the membership of the Association was officially expanded by two. The new members are equipment manufacturer and supplier Toromont CAT and SRK Consulting. The OMA welcomes these new members and looks forward to their involvement in the affairs of the Association promoting the interests of the mining industry.

### **ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE**

The Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO), formerly IPPSO (Independent Power Producers Society of Ontario), has appointed **David Butters** to the new position of President. The OMA is involved in activities with APPrO and Mr. Butters on a number of energy related issues and we wish him success and offer support in his new duties.

### **GEOLOGICAL EXACTNESS**

At the OMA's "*Meet the Miners*" reception, there was a little contest which involved guessing the grade of a gold ore sample kindly donated by the

Porcupine Joint Venture from what will be its new Pamour Mine in the Timmins area. There were dozens of entries and the range in assessing the gold grade was quite literally all over the map. It appeared that a little geological foreknowledge was of great benefit. The winner was George Manard, a geologist with River Gold, who received an OMA golf shirt for having made the closest guess. George was only a little under in his assessment of the ore sample, which had a grade of 16.56 grams per tonne. Thanks to all who entered the contest.

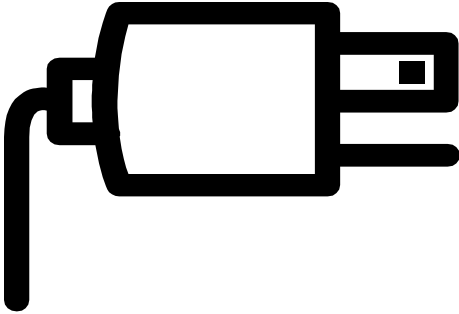


### **PROVINCIAL BUDGET TO BE DELIVERED MAY 18**

Finance Minister Greg Sorbara has announced May 18 as the day the new provincial budget will be presented. Earlier this year, the Finance Minister held a round of pre-budget consultations. The Ontario Mining Association was a participant in this exercise.

The OMA emphasized a concern about the future of the province's electrical infrastructure as key to future economic development. The OMA participated in discussions with the Minister, Ministry of Finance staff and representatives of other organizations.

The government is grappling with how to handle a deficit. At this time, 14 cents from every tax dollar are already used to service the province's outstanding debt.



### **THERE WILL BE SHOCKS BUT DUNCAN TRIES TO STEER SAFE ELECTRICAL COURSE**

In his April 15, 2004 address on the future of electricity supply and price in Ontario, Energy Minister Dwight Duncan outlined many energy goals of his government. They included: encouraging the development of new reliable supplies, lessening environmental footprints, producing stable prices for small consumers, offering large consumers the benefits of a competitive marketplace, enhancing the competitiveness of Ontario's electricity pricing, creating stability in the sector, welcoming private investment and promoting a culture of conservation.

These are ambitious goals which may appear to be at least in partial conflict with each other.

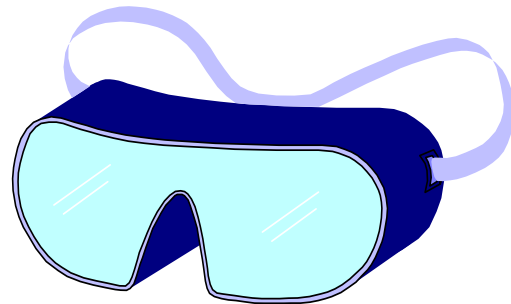
In his speech, he said the government has rejected the old Ontario Hydro monopoly as the model to use in moving into the future and it has also rejected moving to a fully competitive marketplace. It appears the government is going a middle route between the two – “a balanced approach.”

The stand on the phase out of coal fired generation appears to be softening a bit. In his speech the year 2007 was not mentioned. The new line seems to be “we remain committed to replacing coal-fired generation in the province . . . in doing so,

we will never put Ontario consumers in jeopardy and will be totally satisfied that adequate alternatives are in place before we replace coal.”

### **REDPATH BUILDS UPON ITS SAFETY ACHIEVEMENTS**

In the last issue of this publication, Ron Dion, Manager Safety and Personnel for the Redpath Group, reported that safety efforts inside the company were paying dividends. The mining contractor continues to build on that safety success and provided us with an update. The North Bay Shop Complex has now gone 18 years without a lost time accident. The company also can state that it has gone six consecutive months world wide with 900 employees working on a number of different projects without a lost time accident. Congratulations to all at Redpath for these safety accomplishments.



### **GODERICH ‘SAFETY SALTS’ EARN INTERNATIONAL AWARD**

The Salt Institute has presented Sifto Salt's Goderich mill its award for the safest small processing plant. The Salt Institute represents 95 salt production facilities in North America and offers safety recognition awards for the lowest incidence and the lowest severity of reportable injuries in mining, small processing plants, large processing plants and warehouse categories. The

Goderich Mine is a previous multiple winner. Congratulations to all at Sifto for their safety achievements.



## **GLOBAL AUDIENCE VIEWS FIRST NATIONS VIDEO**

The OMA video “Mining New Opportunities” was featured at a special session of the World Mines Ministries Conference held in Toronto in March. In a segment on Mining Education for Indigenous Peoples, the video enjoyed a starring role. Also, at this important international conference, the provincial Ministry of Northern Development announced its funding support of this initiative. The participation of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund makes this project a three-way joint venture involving the mining industry and the Ontario Mining Association and the federal government through FedNor.

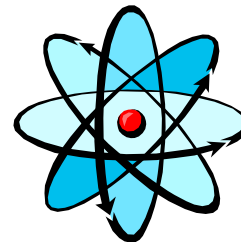
“The McGuinty government is working to build a strong and prosperous northern economy by taking steps toward meaningful mineral development partnerships with First Nations communities through support for an educational mining video,” said Mines Minister and Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Chair Rick Bartolucci.

“We must begin to address a long-standing need within First Nations communities for greater understanding of modern mining and its impacts,” said Mr. Bartolucci. “Improving communications will allow us to develop meaningful partnerships with First Nations and allow them to share in the

economic prosperity that mining brings to this province.”

Northern Ontario Heritage Fund is making a \$50,000 investment to assist the OMA in completing all aspects of the video project which outlines the employment and entrepreneurial opportunities the industry can make available to people in First Nations communities. The video was produced in five languages -- Cree, Oji-Cree, Ojibway, French and English and potentially could be produced in additional First Nation languages in the future.

“Mining New Opportunities” will be complemented by a second video to be produced in partnership with Northern Development and Mines, Natural Resources Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.



## **NUCLEAR ENERGY HELPS POWER THE WORLD**

While Canada obtains about 13% of its electricity from nuclear energy, France and Lithuania lead the way with about 80% of their national electricity needs being met by nuclear power. About 20% of the electricity supply is the United States is nuclear in origin and the nations of Belgium, Japan, Sweden and Switzerland gain about one-third of their electrical needs through nuclear plants. These statistics are provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency.



## **ONTARIO MAKES COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT KYOTO ACCORD**

The Ontario government will enter into official discussions with the federal government on how to jointly tackle the climate change issue, announced Ontario Environment Minister Leona Dombrowsky recently. "Ontario is ready to move ahead in the fight against climate change," she said. "We are ready to work together with the federal government to help meet Canada's Kyoto commitments."

While some would applaud this new direction by Queen's Park, many Canadian climatologists would prefer to provide Environment Minister Dombrowsky and her federal counterpart David Anderson with some science lessons. Tim Patterson, a professor in the Earth Sciences Department of Carleton University specializing in paleoclimatology, has sent the federal minister a compendium of the latest science on this subject. A sample of the contents of that compendium would include the following.

- "Every month papers are published debunking various aspects of the global warming theory. Why are they ignored?"
- "As more climate research is performed, uncertainty in the science backing Kyoto is increasing. Consequently, the

trend is away from science that supports the need for controlling human induced greenhouse gas emissions."

- "The case for action on climate change is extraordinarily weak. Many new scientific studies from credible, non-governmental, non-industry experts in the field reveal that much of the science that backs Kyoto is highly flawed and ignores natural climate drivers that are shown to be far more influential than human activities."

## **VARIS WINS TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AWARD**

At the sixth annual Ontario Global Traders event, Varis Mine Technology of Sudbury gained top honours for innovation. It was recognized as one of the top exporters in Northern Ontario. The company manufactures and supplies underground communications systems which enhance safety and productivity. The Varis leaky-feeder technology is employed in mining and tunneling operations in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Turkey, China and Australia. Varis provides an example of how Canadian mining technology and know-how is being exported around the world.

## **WORDS OF OMA CHAIR EXPORTED TO AFRICA**

An article by OMA Chair Jim Vincent, "*OMA's Framework for the Future*" which appeared in the Jan/Feb issue of the Canadian Mining Journal appears to be gaining broader circulation than the normal range of that publication. B.N. A. Aryee, Chief Executive Officer of the

Minerals Commission of Ghana has asked to quote Mr. Vincent in a paper he is doing on mining and sustainability in the Ghanaian context.

The words he would like to use include “without supportive action, most philosophical phrases ring hollow . . . the mining industry in Ontario is working proactively on a number of fronts to move sustainable development along the path from an idealistic concept into a practical reality.”

Also, to be included are “there is a strong will in both industry and government circles to make sustainable development real” and “in looking at sustainable development achievements . . . mine rehabilitation is one area in which the sector has made considerable progress.” The OMA is pleased to be of assistance to the Minerals Commission of Ghana.

### **MINING WEEK IN NORTH BAY TO HONOUR LOCAL STAR**

Mining week in North Bay will kick off May 15 with an awards gala to recognize the contribution of a local mineral industry personality. This event leads into a week of activities including community breakfasts, school presentations and mining equipment displays.

Mining Week is a public awareness campaign promoting the contribution of mining and the mining services sector to the local and regional economy. One of the education related activities involves “Mining in a Box,” which is a kit to be distributed to about 500 primary, intermediate and secondary students showing 46 different careers in mining

with accompanying educational and training requirements and remuneration. The OMA salutes the volunteers in North Bay for developing and executing a creative and interesting Mining Week program.

### **LAURENTIAN CAPTURES MINING GAMES TITLE**

Laurentian University’s School of Engineering in Sudbury recently captured its fourth Canadian University Mining Games title in six years. The competition was held at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and involved 12-person teams from 10 competing universities. Events included mine design, rock mechanics, surveying, blasting, drilling, ventilation and other disciplines. Congratulations to the team from Laurentian which has the best overall record in the 14 years these games have been held.

### **MNDM PUBLICATION GAINS RECOGNITION**

The Economic Development Council of Ontario has honoured the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines *Mineral Sector Profile* as the best business development publication. “I am delighted that the work of my ministry was recognized for its work in promoting economic development across the province,” said Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci.

### **PERHAPS IT IS NOT SUCH A BASE METAL AFTER ALL**

Perhaps it is a sign of rising base metal prices with a bit of a dark twist. In suburban Montreal recently, thieves made off with \$2 million worth of nickel

from a warehouse. Armed criminals entered the depot, tied up workers and drove away in two nickel laden trucks.

What would Auric Goldfinger have to say about thieves concentrating their focus on nickel instead of bullion? Precious metals have long been an attraction to thieves as high value, low volume items basically as interchangeable as cash. Perhaps it is time to rethink nickel's categorization as a base metal.

### **SO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A MINE MANAGER DO YOU???**

From an operational point of view in the mineral sector striving to train to become a mine manager seems like a logical and noble goal. However, taking on those duties involves a lot of things – and issues – you may never have thought of as being part of the job.

Many of those issues came to the forefront at a recent Ontario Mining Association Mine Managers meeting. There was a great turnout with mine managers from all parts of the province representing all sectors from gold and other precious metals, nickel, copper, zinc and industrial minerals producers.

The agenda was absolutely jam packed. There were a number of experts present at the meeting who addressed specific topics and issues. There were sessions on property tax and the assessment of mine tailings areas, occupational diseases and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, federal legislation on amendments to the Criminal Code related to health and safety issues and new regulations dealing with working in confined spaces.

These discussion topics could perhaps be viewed as a warm-up. More was to come dealing with watershed based resource protection, future energy supply, education of future mining industry employees, diesel particulate in underground mines and the future direction of training in the mineral sector.

Mine managers may not be required to be lawyers with business degrees with expertise in energy efficiency and training in environmental management. However, those qualifications would help.

Don't forget, mine managers still have as part of their job description being responsible for getting ore out of the ground and processing it. The OMA salutes all its mine managers who tackle one of the most multi-faceted jobs there is in any profession.



**“IF YOU ARE A SMOKER, STOP!  
IF YOU ARE NOT,  
URGE YOUR FRIENDS TO STOP  
SMOKING.”**

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