

# BC MINING QUARTERLY

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THE MINING ASSOCIATION  
OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
"BC'S VOICE OF MINING SINCE 1901"

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## Message from the President



Michael McPhie,  
President & CEO

The old saying goes "we live in interesting times". This most surely applies to the mining business in BC today. As I am writing this, the disappointing news about the suspension of the Galore Creek Project by Teck Cominco and Nova Gold, both corporate members of the Mining Association, has just come in. A real setback for the northwest of the province and for the industry, we are hopeful that a careful re-examination of the engineering plans and costs will allow this project to be reconsidered and developed in the future.

One key aspect of this unfortunate news is some clear acknowledgement that the cost pressures facing other industries also impacts the mining business. An unprecedented rise in the Canadian dollar, higher fuel and energy costs, labour constraints and fluctuations in commodity prices, to name just a few of the key economic variables, have a strong influence on the profitability and prospect of future mining operations.

This also points to the importance of sustaining and supporting existing mining operations in BC. Everyone involved with this business knows that it is very difficult to take a green fields development into production. This is one of the reasons we expressed such strong disappointment on the recent Public Panel recommendations on the Kemess North

Project. Kemess South was the last major metal mine built in BC — more than 10 years ago!

In other news, Rio Tinto Plc. completed its successful takeover of Alcan Inc. Both of these companies are world class organizations, the latter being a long time member and supporter of the MABC. The merging of these companies is sure to build a global powerhouse in the mining and smelting business.

The staff and management of the MABC are staying close to the issues that confront our industry today. We will continue to advise our members on the possible implications and what appropriate actions the industry, in collaboration with our partners in communities, industry and government can take to ensure the mining and mineral smelting industry in BC remains vibrant.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of the entire staff of the MABC in holding the inaugural Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals in early October of this year. Truly a team effort, the event was a great success. I would also like to recognize the leadership of our Chairman, Pierre Lebel, who was a dominant force in making the forum a highly regarded event.

As the year comes to close, please remember to approach everyday with the knowledge of how lucky we are to live and work in this great province and be safe in everything you do.

Michael R. McPhie, M.Sc., QEP  
President and CEO

## NEW MEMBERS

The MABC is pleased to announce the following new members for 2007. Increased membership means an even more dynamic and powerful MABC. With a stronger voice, the MABC ensures mining remains an important part of BC's future.

- Adanac Molybdenum Corporation
- BC Hydro Power Smart
- Canadian Dehua International Mines Group
- Hawthorne Gold Corporation
- Lundin Mining Corporation
- Merit Mining Corporation
- North American Tungsten Corporation
- NovaGold Resources Inc.
- Pacific Booker Minerals Inc.
- Silvercorp Metals Inc.
- Terrane Metals Corporation
- Victaulic Company of Canada

## EVENTS

### Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals 2007



From L-R: Yuen Pau Woo, *President and co-CEO, Asia Pacific Foundation*; Eric Nonacs, *Senior Clinton Foundation Advisor*; Lukas H. Lundin, *Chairman, Lundin Mining Corporation*; Senator Heherson T. Alvarez, *Chair, Philippine Mining Development Corporation*; The Honourable David Emerson, *Canadian Minister of International Trade*; Michael McPhie, *President & CEO, MABC*

The MABC's inaugural Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals was a smashing success. Almost 300 senior delegates from across the Pacific Rim converged on Vancouver to hear over 50 world-class speakers discuss some of the weightiest issues facing the mining sector.

Forum themes focused on trade and investment, finance & risk and best practices and there was no shortage of debate.

According to MABC Chair Pierre Lebel of Imperial Metals, "We have the making of a Davos-type forum for mining. And its right here in Vancouver."

As an added bonus both the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia chose the Forum as the venue for over half a billion dollars worth of announcements.

Federal Minister of Natural Resources Gary Lunn formally announced \$150 million in funding for the creation and operation of a Major Project Management Office (MPMO). According to the Minister, the MPMO's mandate is to halve the environmental assessment and permitting timelines associated with major projects. The Minister acknowledges that most major mining projects with challenging timelines are in BC.

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Robert Friedland,  
*Ivahoë Mines* gives keynote address at Asia Pacific Forum 2007

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## Ron Caldwell Wins Prestigious Public Safety Award!



Ron Caldwell,  
Vice President of  
Health, Safety  
and Disability  
Management, MABC

MABC's very own Ron Caldwell was honoured November 21 with the prestigious Lieutenant Governor's Award for Public Safety 2007! The award, administered by the BC Safety Authority, is the province's highest honour celebrating those who are making our communities and workplaces as safe as possible.

Joined by industry and government leaders, colleagues, friends and family at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre, the newly appointed lieutenant governor, the Honourable Steven L. Point, recognized Ron for his 40 years of accomplishments and leadership in the promotion of safety in BC. ■

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## Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals 2007

The Premier of British Columbia, Gordon Campbell, also chose the Forum as a venue to announce the electrification of Highway 37 in Northwest BC (see article on page 3).

World class speakers and participants included Robert Friedland, Executive Chairman, Ivanhoe Mines; Eric Nonacs, Senior Clinton Foundation Advisor; David Emerson, Canadian Minister of International Trade; Norberta Roque Diaz de Leon, Mexican Minister of Mines; Gordon Campbell, Premier of the Province of British Columbia; Lukas Lundin, Chairman of Lundin Mining Corporation; Doug Horswill, Teck Cominco's Senior Vice-President of Environment and Corporate Affairs; Senator Heherson T. Alvarez, Chair of the Philippine Mining Development Corporation.

Preliminary planning is already underway for a second Forum, the proposed date being October 26, 2008. Themes under consideration include trade, energy and the environment. ■

## 2007 — An Outstanding Year For Mine Rescue Competitions



52nd Annual BC Provincial Mine Rescue Competition at Williams Lake

British Columbia's booming mining industry is also among the safest of heavy industries. This is due in part to the skill and dedication of mine rescue workers. All BC mines are required to provide emergency response capabilities under the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code. These rescue teams help make BC's mining industry a world-wide model for health and safety practices..

On June 9th of this year, the BC Mine Rescue Association, led by President Gerry Wong, organized an excellent 52nd annual provincial competition, held on the Williams Lake stampede grounds. Fifteen teams representing the East Kootenay Zone, the Northern Zone and the South Central Zone competed in the categories of open pit rescue, underground mine rescue and three-person miners first aid.

In addition to the annual provincial event, every two years the North West Regional Mine Rescue Competition is held in Fernie, BC, in which the BC provincial champions compete against championship teams from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northwest Territories and the northwest United States. This year the 8th North-Western Regional Competition saw nine superb surface and ten underground teams compete on September 8th.

The competitions for both the provincial and north-western events were exceptional, a tribute to the team captains, coaches and support staff and, most importantly, the mine rescuers themselves.

The Mining Association of British Columbia salutes all those involved in mine rescue: including team members, captains, coaches, organizing committees, judges, administrators, local and provincial government representatives, host communities and generous sponsors ...and let's not forget Johnny Bagpipes! The results of this year's competitions are listed below. ■

### Mine Rescue Competition Results

#### North West Regional

#### Rescue Competitions 2007

#### **Overall Surface Competition**

Fording River Operations F Shift

#### **Overall Underground Competition**

Agrium Vanscoy Potash Operations

#### British Columbia 2007 Results

#### **Surface Mine Rescue**

Fording River Operations

#### **Underground Mine Rescue**

Eskay Creek Mine

#### **3-person First Aid**

Fording River Operations

#### **Cathy Loftstrom Memorial Award**

(Best Coach)

Shelly Dingreville, Fording River Operations

For a full listing of participants visit:

[www.mining.bc.ca/minerescue](http://www.mining.bc.ca/minerescue)



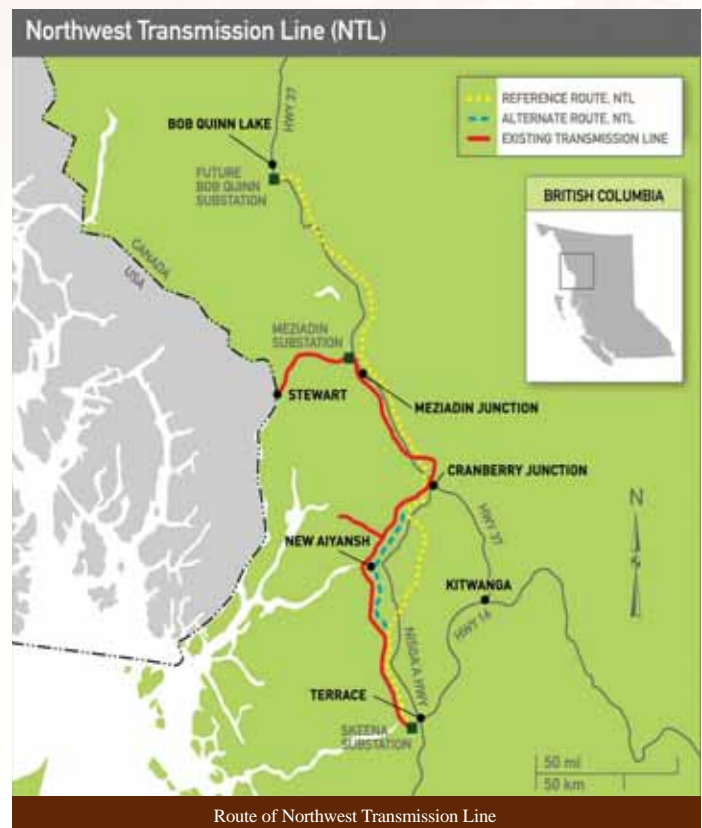
BC Premier Gordon Campbell announces Northwest Transmission Line at the Asia Pacific Forum 2007

On October 1st at the Inaugural Asia Pacific Forum on mining and minerals, BC Premier Gordon Campbell joined representatives from industry including the MABC, to announce the Government has asked the British Columbia Transmission Corp. (BCTC) to proceed with the \$400-million Northwest Transmission Line (NTL) in northern B.C., “opening the door to investment and community development.”

The new 287-kilovolt line will extend 335 km from Terrace to Meziadin Junction and north to Bob Quinn Lake, providing access to the electricity grid for customers while supporting the economic diversification of the area. Michael McPhie, President and CEO of the Mining Association of British Columbia commented by saying, “The B.C. government is to be congratulated for helping to secure the long-term viability of the province’s mining sector and the northwest region of the province. The electrification of the northwest region will provide reliable clean power while providing economic opportunities for First Nations and communities.”

The announcement is the culmination of years of efforts on the part of the MABC and industry to convince BC government of the importance of this project. Since 2003 the mining industry has been promoting the transmission of power to this region. Currently communities and industrial operations in the region rely on self-generated power, often diesel — and this lack of power has been a key reason for the lack of development in the region. Mining development in particular has been held back.

According to the Northwest Powerline Coalition, there are over a dozen mineral properties at various stages of exploration and development located within 160 km or so of the proposed power grid extension. ■



Route of Northwest Transmission Line

**Existing and Potential Projects Benefiting from Hwy 37 Electrification**

Golden Bear Mine	Red Chris Mine
Schaft Creek Mine	Turnagain
Copper Canyon Mine	Kutcho Creek
Galore Creek Mine	Gnat Pass
More Creek power project	GJ/Kinaskan
Forrest Kerr power project	Mt. Klappan
Eskay Creek Mine	Groundhog
Kerr Sulphurets	

**Signed up for the MABC Job Board?**

The MABC Job Board has met with great success in 2007 posting over 230 mining sector jobs in our first year of operation! The Job Board features a diverse range of occupations ranging from senior executive positions (Mine Managers, Vice Presidents) to health & safety, community relations, engineering, geology, metallurgy, administrative, technical and trades positions. Several our non MABC member clients have become repeat customers due to the high success rate of filling jobs we have posted for them.

Sign up for the MABC Job Board now — it's easy, it's low cost and our customer service is unbeatable!

For more information contact: Claire Thomson,  
*Director, Knowledge & Information Services*  
Email: [cthompson@mining.bc.ca](mailto:cthompson@mining.bc.ca)  
Tel: 604-681-4321 ext 103

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Claire Thomson,  
*Director, Knowledge & Information Services*  
Email: [cthompson@mining.bc.ca](mailto:cthompson@mining.bc.ca)  
Tel: 604-681-4321 ext 103

**Upcoming Events**

- Natural Resource Forum,  
Prince George,  
January 17-18, 2008
- 25th Annual AMEBC Roundup,  
Vancouver,  
January 28-31, 2008
- PDAC, Toronto, March 2-5, 2008
- MSCCA Dinner & Auction,  
Vancouver, April 3, 2008
- Minerals North, Smithers,  
April 16-18, 2008
- CIM, Edmonton,  
May 4-7, 2008
- British Columbia Mining Week,  
Province-wide, May 11-17, 2008

**[www.mining.bc.ca](http://www.mining.bc.ca)**

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If you would like more information about the Mining Association of BC please visit us online at: [www.mining.bc.ca](http://www.mining.bc.ca)  
Or contact us: [editor@mining.bc.ca](mailto:editor@mining.bc.ca)

Mining Association of BC  
Ste 900-808 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6C 2X4

Tel: 604-681-4321

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- Bralorne Gold Mines Ltd.
- Canadian Dehua International Mines Group Inc.
- CertainTeed Gypsum Canada Inc.
- Compliance Energy Corporation
- Eldorado Gold Corporation
- Electra Gold Inc.
- Elk Valley Coal Corporation
- Emil Anderson Construction Inc.
- Goldcorp Inc.
- Graymont Limited
- Hawthorne Gold Corporation
- Highland Valley Copper
- Hillsborough Resources Limited
- Huckleberry Mines Limited
- Hunter Dickinson Inc.
- Imperial Metals Corporation
- Inmet Mining Corporation
- Lundin Mining Corporation
- Merit Mining Corporation
- NEMI Northern Energy & Mining Inc.
- New Gold Inc.
- North American Tungsten Corporation Ltd.
- Northgate Minerals Corporation
- NovaGold Resources Inc.
- NVI Mining Limited
- Pacific Booker Minerals Inc.
- Pan Pacific Aggregates Ltd.
- Polaris Minerals Corporation
- Quinsam Coal Corporation
- Redcorp Ventures Ltd.
- Rio Tinto – Alcan
- Roca Mines Inc.
- Silvercorp Metals Inc.
- Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.
- Taseko Mines Limited
- Teck Cominco Limited
- Terrane Metals Corporation
- Texada Quarrying Ltd.
- Thompson Creek Metals
- Victaulic Company of Canada
- Western Canadian Coal Corporation
- Western Keltic Mines Inc.
- Xstrata