



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mining: Rock Solid Foundation For Saskatchewan

Regina: The Honourable Bill Boyd, Minister of Energy and Resources and Kelvin Dereski, President of the Saskatchewan Mining Association launched the province's twentieth annual provincial Mining Week today at Construction Careers Regina. Mining Week in Saskatchewan runs from May 24 to 30, 2009.

"Our theme of this year's Mining Week is 'Mining: Rock Solid Foundation for Saskatchewan'," said Kelvin Dereski, President of Saskatchewan Mining Association. In 2008 mineral production from Saskatchewan was valued at a record \$9.7 billion, positioning the province as the #1 mineral-producing jurisdiction in Canada, ahead of both Ontario and Quebec. Mining provides employment for 25,000 people in the province and in 2009 direct revenues from mining will represent 20% of the revenue stream. These dollars fund programs and services such as health and education that contribute to the great quality of life in Saskatchewan.

"Looking toward the future, Saskatchewan mining companies have committed to over \$10 billion in capital expansion projects of key commodities, including potash, uranium, coal and gold. While there have been some short-term reductions in mineral production, the foundation for long-term remains solid. During Mining Week our industry makes an extra effort to highlight the role mining plays, and will continue to play, as a rock solid foundation for economic growth in our communities, our province and our country," said Dereski.

This year the Saskatchewan Mining Association will again have dozens of events in communities across the province including, service club, business presentations, and special events such as the 41st Annual Emergency Response/Mine Rescue Skills Competition.

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