



HOSTED BY THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PROSPECT NORTH MINING CONFERENCE PROMOTES ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF THE MINING INDUSTRY**

The Prospect North Mining Conference, an initiative of the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, with the support of the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce, will bring together a regional community to discuss the economic potential inherent in a strong and collaborative Northern Ontario mining industry. The event will be held October 23-24, 2008 at the Travelodge Airline in Thunder Bay.

Businesses, governments, organizations and residents across all sectors can benefit from the mining conference.

“Mining is one of the most productive industries in Ontario. The Prospect North Mining Conference will leverage in-depth knowledge, broad networks and understanding to ensure current and future growth of the mining industry in our region,” said Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines.

Guest speakers will discuss such topics as exploration, production and processing operations in Northern Ontario, collaborating with governments and First Nations, and how spin-off businesses – such as those providing goods and services to the mining industry – can benefit.

“The economic contribution of mining is enormous. We can work collaboratively to support and improve the competitiveness of the mining sector in Northern Ontario to impact all residents. We’re very pleased to launch this forum for our region,” said Barry Streib, President of the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce.

“This is a great opportunity for key stakeholders to get together in one place as partners in prosperity building,” said Mary Long Irwin, Chief Operating Officer of the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce and President of the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.

**For more information, please contact:**

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