

\$1 Million Investment Announced at IMII AGM

At its May Annual General Meeting, IMII was characterized as key to continued mining expansion in Saskatchewan and a fundamental pillar to mining safety from which member firms stand to benefit enormously by three high ranking speakers from government and the minerals industry.

Innovation Saskatchewan announced an additional \$1 million investment in IMII for 2015 at IMII's Annual General Meeting on May 21.

Innovation Saskatchewan has been a strong supporter of the Institute since its inception in 2012 having now contributed \$3.7 Million. The provincial commitment is one component of IMII funding that has launched seven education and training projects throughout Saskatchewan and two research projects focusing on safety and environment.

"Saskatchewan's mining industry is contributing to the province and to the world in big ways, and IMII is dedicated to funding projects that will address the industry's primary challenges to ensure continued expansion and prosperity," Minister Responsible for Innovation Jeremy Harrison said at the IMII AGM.

IMII has invested in a number of projects that are helping address industry's largest challenges, from a skilled labour shortage to research and development projects addressing safety, environment, extraction, processing, exploration and market issues.

Engin Özberk, Executive Director and Senior Technical Advisor of IMII said, "We are very proud of our accomplishments over the last three years. More than 60 First Nations students are being trained at the Regional Colleges, more than 50 university students are taking the mining engineering options and more than a dozen university graduates and academics are doing research on minerals industry technical solutions to obtain their graduate degrees."

"Education and research are fundamental pillars in advancing improvements in safety and efficiency in the minerals sector. IMII brings together the collective resources of the private sector, government and educational institutions to advance education and research toward the future of mining and mineral processing," said Mark Fracchia, President, PCS Potash.

"Companies like BHP Billiton and the other industry partners stand to benefit enormously from the innovative and collaborative approach of the IMII. We are proud to invest in such sound R&D and E&T initiatives which will produce quality skills in a broad and inclusive labour pool that will grow the capacity of a safe and sustainable resources industry," said Alex Archila, Asset President, BHP Billiton Potash.



Electrician Program Open House

Thirteen students will complete their Saskatchewan Polytechnic – Level 1 Electrician Certificate on June 30th, at which time they will be ready for a two week work placement

Parkland College is hosting an Electrician Program Open House on June 17th at the Esterhazy Campus, providing industry with an opportunity to meet the thirteen students in the program, view their resumes and discuss the potential for a work placement. All attendees will also be able to view the new facilities at the campus.

Funded by IMII, this twenty week program followed a 10 week Workplace Essential Skills. — Electrician prep program which included math and electronics and seven safety tickets including First Aid/CPR, WHMIS, Confined Space, Fall Protection, Ground Disturbance, and Fire Safety/Awareness.

"The success of yet another training program is just one of many initiatives that will benefit the minerals industry", said IMII Board Chair Dwight Percy. "In the past year, IMII approved, and saw the launch of, seven training projects. Every one of these was designed, approved and operated in response to the minerals industry's need for a trained and qualified workforce."

IMII Quick Fact: IMII Board composition includes 8 from the minerals industry and 5 from educational institutions and government.

Innovation through collaboration key to success

Three guest speakers provided unique perspectives to IMII's 2nd annual "Let's Talk Minerals!" event, attended by almost 100 people, on May 21.

Jim Gowans, Co-President of Barrick Gold Corporation stated that long-term success in the mining sector depends on innovation, collaboration and trust, and sharing of new ideas. IMII is a great example of industry-driven innovation.

Mitacs CEO & Scientific Director, Alejandro Adem followed up with a discussion on Mitacs goal to deliver innovation through research and development by building partnerships between academia, industry and the world. The purpose of the Mitacs program, one that IMII taps into, is to create a more innovative Canada.

Riel Bellegarde, President & CEO of Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies rounded out the workshop by relating SIIT's innovative approach in providing First Nations learners with the tools they need to play a vital role in Saskatchewan's future. Building on partnerships and collaboration with industry ensures their education programs are relevant to market needs. He concluded his address by saying "Keeping our doors...and our minds...open to talk about ways we can work together ... that's how we build success together."



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Research project provides unforeseen opportunities

What began as a team of six has grown close to 90 people working on the research team, reading and learning about safety. We had not foreseen that magnitude.

The collaboration between Saskatchewan Polytechnic and the University of Saskatchewan on the Enhancing Cultures of Safety and Safety Engagement research project is full of benefits for industry and the six principle investigators of the project. But with 40 topics of inquiry being shared between the organizations and 40,000 papers to review, the engagement of volunteer students and faculty have been a key contribution to the project.

The team from University of Saskatchewan is led by Dr. Valery Chirkov, Jade Anderson and Angie Gerrard. Their supporting team consists of two additional faculty members, one paid undergraduate and two paid graduate students, along with two graduate students, two alumni and 15 undergraduate students volunteering their time.

Saskatchewan Polytechnic's team is led by Dr. Lyle Grant, Dr. Madeline Press, Chau Ha and Nolan Horbach. Assisting them are 13 research teams, each with 3-7 faculty members, reaching approximately 50 members.

Upcoming Minerals Industry Events

June 10	CMIC 2015 National Mining Innovation Forum, Toronto
June 11	CMIC Annual General Meeting, Toronto
June 16-18	3 rd Annual Health and Safety Excellence for Mining Conference, Toronto
June 17-18	5 th Annual Ontario Mining Forum, Thunder Bay
June 20-25	Mining and Environment 2015 International Conference, Sudbury
July 10	CIIM Annual Golf Tournament, Saskatoon
July 19-21	Energy and Mines Ministers Conference, Halifax

IMII: Driving the Innovation Agenda of a World-Class Minerals Industry