

ONTARIO

MINING Review



digital magazine

ISSUE 1 • 2026

**Evolution Mining's Red Lake operations
in Northwest Ontario celebrates over
100 years of mining gold in the region**



Côté Gold building the future of mining

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Message from the editor

**SHAYNA
WIWIERSKI**

As this issue of the *Ontario Mining Review* arrives in inboxes across the province and beyond, one theme stands out above all others: legacy. In mining, legacy is not simply measured in ounces produced or tonnes moved, it is reflected in the communities built, the careers shaped, the innovations developed, and the generations that continue to push the industry forward.

This edition highlights that enduring spirit through a closer look at Evolution Mining's Red Lake operations, where the region recently commemorated 100 years since the discovery of gold that sparked one of North America's last great gold rushes. Few places embody Ontario's mining story quite like Red Lake. What began in the summer of 1925 as a remote frontier transformed into one of the continent's most prolific high-grade gold camps, drawing prospectors, entrepreneurs, workers, and families who would ultimately shape the identity of Northwestern Ontario.

Today, the Campbell-Red Lake and Cochenour complexes remain symbols of both resilience and reinvention. Over the decades, ownership has changed hands, mining methods have evolved, and the industry itself has undergone periods of immense transformation. Yet the foundation of Red Lake has remained remarkably consistent: a deep connection between mining and community. It is a story that reflects not only the geological richness of Ontario, but also the determination of the people who continue to work and live in these regions.

That same forward-looking mindset is evident throughout the rest of this issue. As the mining sector adapts to shifting global demand, technological advancement, and the growing need for sustainable resource development, Ontario's academic institutions are playing a critical role in preparing the next generation of industry leaders.

We are proud to feature stories from Laurentian University, Lakehead University, and Queen's University, each offering insight into how mining education is evolving alongside the sector itself. From engineering innovation and critical minerals research to hands-on training and workforce development, these programs are helping ensure that Ontario remains globally competitive in mining expertise and talent.


The future of mining will require more than operational excellence. It will demand collaboration between industry, academia, Indigenous communities, governments, and local stakeholders. It will require investment in people just as much as infrastructure. And perhaps most importantly, it will require preserving the spirit of curiosity and perseverance that has defined mining communities for generations.

At the *Ontario Mining Review*, our goal remains to connect readers with the stories shaping the province's mining landscape, from established operations and emerging projects to research, innovation, and the people behind the industry. Through our twice-yearly digital publication and daily coverage on our site at ontariominingnews.ca, we are committed to highlighting the developments, challenges, and opportunities driving this sector forward.

As always, thank you to our readers, contributors, advertisers, and industry partners for your continued support. We hope this issue provides valuable insight into the people, projects, and institutions helping define the next chapter of mining in Ontario.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Shayna Wiwierski

Shayna@DELCommunications.com 

Message from the Ontario Minister of Energy & Mines

STEPHEN LECCE



The global race for critical minerals is on, and the jurisdictions that act with urgency and purpose today will shape the global economy for generations to come.

Global demand for critical minerals is expected to increase four to six-fold by 2040 as countries race to secure the minerals that power modern life. At the same time, geopolitical instability, trade tensions, and supply chain disruptions are exposing the risks of overreliance on unreliable jurisdictions. With strategic competitors dominating significant portions of global mineral processing, trusted partners have never mattered more.

Ontario's message is clear: we are that reliable partner. That was the case we made at PDAC 2026, the largest convention since its inception, drawing more than 30,000 attendees from over 130 countries. The scale of this year's conference underscored the rising demand for secure, responsibly sourced minerals, and a growing recognition that Ontario is uniquely positioned to lead the critical minerals race. That is why our government also launched a new vision for our Critical Minerals Strategy focused on accelerating responsible development, strengthening domestic supply chains, advancing Indigenous

partnerships, and securing Ontario's place as a global leader in the mining and processing of the minerals the world needs most.

In today's economy, capital moves quickly, and governments must move faster. That is why Ontario introduced 'One Project, One Process', a first-of-its-kind framework that streamlines approvals for major mining projects. By replacing fragmented, time-consuming reviews with one coordinated provincial process, Ontario is cutting permitting timelines by over 50 per cent and transforming the province from one of the slowest permitting jurisdictions in the OECD to one of the fastest in the G7.

Since launching last October, Ontario has designated three major projects to move forward faster under the 'One Project, One Process' framework: Frontier Lithium's PAK Project, Canada Nickel's Crawford Project, and Kinross' Great Bear Project. Together, these nation-building projects will deliver more than 5,000 new jobs and up to \$75 billion in economic impact to Canada, with faster approvals meaning greater certainty for investors, stronger local economies, and more

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Mining is already a cornerstone of Ontario's economy, contributing \$14.4 billion annually to the provincial GDP and supporting approximately 74,000 direct and indirect jobs. Globally, our province ranks among the top jurisdictions in nickel and cobalt reserves and is home to nine of 12 NATO-defined critical defence minerals. Ontario is ranked the number-one jurisdiction in Canada and second globally for mining investment attractiveness. Investors know what Ontario offers: world-class deposits, a highly skilled workforce, and the certainty needed to build for the long-term.

Nowhere is that our province's economic opportunity more evident than in the Ring of Fire, an 8,000-square-kilometre region in Northern Ontario, which represents one of the most significant untapped critical mineral deposits in the world. Rich in chromite, cobalt, nickel, copper, and platinum, the Ring of Fire has the potential to supply the materials needed for advanced manufacturing, energy, and defence technologies for generations to come, and to do so from a stable, trusted Canadian jurisdiction. Its economic potential is transformational: \$22 billion in economic activity over the next 30 years and more than 70,000 jobs across Canada. Unlocking that opportunity requires more than

resource development; it requires the infrastructure to support it and the partnerships to sustain it. That is why our government is accelerating the construction of critical infrastructure, including all-season roads five years ahead of schedule, and transmission projects like the Greenstone Line, while advancing development in partnership with Indigenous communities through shared prosperity, equity participation, and long-term opportunity.

Ontario has the resources, the talent, and the determination to meet this moment and we are moving with urgency to deliver. In a more competitive and uncertain world, Ontario is ready to be the world's reliable partner. 



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Building the future of mining: Life and career opportunities at Côté Gold

Since achieving commercial production in August 2024 and reaching nameplate throughput of 36,000 tonnes per day in 2025, Côté Gold has quickly established itself as a high-performing, long-life operation with a mine life that will be multi-generational.

Côté Gold is more than one of Ontario's newest gold mines, it is a place where the future of mining is being built, every day, by people who believe the industry can do more, be better, and leave a lasting positive legacy. Located near Gogama on Treaty 9 territory, Côté Gold is an IAMGOLD mine, with joint venture partner, Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. and it represents a bold step forward for modern mining in Canada.

Since achieving commercial production in August 2024 and reaching nameplate throughput of 36,000 tonnes per day in 2025, Côté Gold has quickly established itself as a high performing, long-life operation with a mine life that will be multi-generational. But what truly sets Côté apart is not only what is being mined, it is how the mine was designed, how it operates, and the culture being built on site.

From the outset, Côté Gold was envisioned as a next generation operation. It is one of the first greenfield mine sites in North America to integrate autonomous mining technology from start up. Autonomous haul

trucks operate daily across the open pit, supported by an integrated operations centre that brings together people, data, and equipment in real time. This technology is not about replacing workers, it is about empowering them. By reducing repetitive and physically demanding tasks, automation allows employees to focus on higher skill, higher value work, while improving consistency and safety across the operation.

This commitment to safety and innovation extends well beyond technology. Environmental stewardship is deeply embedded in how Côté Gold operates. Comprehensive monitoring programs track air, water, and ecosystem health throughout the site and surrounding region. One of the most visible examples of this approach is Oshki Lake, a purpose built waterbody created to offset fish habitat impacts. Developed through meaningful collaboration with Indigenous partners and marked by ceremonial milestones led by Elders, Oshki Lake reflects Côté Gold's belief that responsible mining must respect both science and culture.



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Autonomous haul trucks operate daily across the open pit, supported by an integrated operations centre that brings together people, data, and equipment in real time.



With more than 700 full-time employees during operations, the mine is a major employer in Northern Ontario, drawing talent from Sudbury, Timmins, Gogama, surrounding First Nations, and beyond.

“We pride ourselves on responsible mining,” said Genevieve Sulatycky, sustainability manager at Côté Gold. “We want to have shared prosperity for people and the environment, and we want that prosperity to extend beyond the life of the mine.”

Côté Gold is located on the traditional lands of Mattagami First Nation and Flying Post First Nation, and within the traditional harvesting area of the Abitibi Inland Métis Community (Métis Nation of Ontario Region 3). Impact Benefit Agreements, one with Mattagami First Nation and Flying Post First Nation, and one with Métis Nation of Ontario Region 3, form the foundation of long-term collaboration, and relationships at Côté go far beyond agreements. Ongoing engagement, open dialogue, site visits, and shared learning are central to how the mine operates, reinforcing trust, respect, and mutual accountability.

At the heart of Côté Gold is its people. With more than 700 full-time employees during operations, the mine is a major employer in Northern Ontario, drawing talent from Sudbury, Timmins, Gogama, surrounding First Nations, and beyond. Employees work across a diverse range of roles, from trades and equipment operation to technology, environment, health services, and professional disciplines, in a workplace designed to support safety, wellness, and inclusion.

Côté Gold offers something increasingly rare in the mining industry: the opportunity to help build a culture from the ground up. Employees are shaping how a modern mine operates, how decisions are made, and how success is measured. The site offers strong support services, innovative employee programs, and a workplace culture that values collaboration, fresh thinking, and personal growth.

“We’ve built Côté Gold side-by-side with our community partners and our employees,” said Colin Pegues, vice-president, Ontario and general manager of Côté Gold. “Together, we’ve put down strong roots, and we’re committed to growing those relationships for the long term.”

The impact of Côté Gold extends far beyond the mine gate. Over its life, the operation is expected to contribute approximately \$10 billion to Ontario’s GDP and generate roughly \$5 billion in wages, supporting regional economies, local businesses, and supply chains across the province. It is a powerful example of how mining can drive prosperity while creating meaningful careers close to home.

As an IAMGOLD mine, Côté Gold is connected to a global organization with a strong commitment to safety, sustainability, and responsible growth. That global expertise is paired with a strong local identity rooted in Northern Ontario, creating a workplace where international best practices meet regional pride.

For mining professionals looking for more than just a job, Côté Gold offers the chance to be part of something lasting. It is a place to work with cutting-edge technology, alongside people who care deeply about what they do, in an operation that is redefining what mining can be. At Côté Gold, employees are not just extracting gold, they are helping shape the future of the industry itself.

To learn more: *Together We Grow: 2025 Côté Gold Engagement Report* at www.cotegold.ca/news/together-we-grow-2025-cote-gold-engagement-report. 



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Humble beginnings, lasting returns: The Red Lake story



Balmertown, with Evolution Mining's Red Lake Operations Campbell complex in the background.

Last year, Evolution Mining's Red Lake operations in Northwestern Ontario commemorated 100 years since the discovery and subsequent mining of gold in the region.

In the summer of 1925, thousands journeyed to Red Lake in what is widely regarded as the last great gold rush in North America. The region forms part of one of the continent's highest-grade gold camps, and several of those founding mines continue to demonstrate remarkable geological prospectivity. Today, Evolution's Red Lake operations consolidates the underground Campbell-Red Lake and Cochenour complexes.

Despite harsh northern winters, remote terrain and decades of advancing mining practices, the

original prospector's spirit endures – sustained by generations of residents who have lived, worked, and raised families alongside the mines. There is a deep connection between the mines and the municipality, where the deposits are intertwined with local history, livelihoods, and future opportunities.

At times perceived as an under-capitalized asset with complex mineralization, the Red Lake and Campbell mines have passed through the hands of four mining companies since 2000. In 2020, Red Lake was acquired by Australia's second-largest listed gold mining company, Evolution Mining, marking the company's first major expansion into North America.

Headquartered in Sydney and formed in 2011 from the merger of two small gold producers, Evolution Mining has grown from junior miner to ASX-listed gold producer. Its strategy is one of strategic acquisitions, operational discipline, strong leadership, and an unwavering focus on safety and productivity. A culture of humility and resourcefulness has underpinned Evolution's ability to prosper through the cycle.

Evolution's leadership recognized Red Lake's potential to benefit from the company's proven track record of investing capital to unlock value in under-appreciated assets. However, integrating an operation with such a rich and embedded history required innovative planning

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Collaboration Agreement signing ceremony, June 2025. From L-R: Chief Clifford Bull of Lac Seul, Chief Bill Petiquan of Wabauskang, vice-president Red Lake operations, John Penhall.

to ensure sustainable long-term outcomes while addressing early operational challenges.

Evolution has systematically executed a comprehensive operational transformation plan to restore Red Lake to a premier Canadian gold mine.

Quarter-on-quarter, consistent delivery against plan is translating into tangible results. In FY25, Red Lake produced approximately 128,000 ounces of gold at an all-in sustaining cost of C\$2,442/oz*. The March 2026 quarterly marked a record net mine cash flow of C\$94 million, contributing to Evolution’s Group net cash position of C\$38 million**. These achievements reflect steady execution, guided by discipline, reinvestment, and perseverance – hallmarks shared by Red Lake’s past and Evolution’s beginnings.

Organic, long-term growth is embedded in Evolution’s purpose: to deliver long-term stakeholder value through low-cost production

in a safe, environmentally and socially responsible way. At Red Lake, this has included ramped-up underground drilling and reinvestment in the multi mine, multi mill complex. Innovative projects, such as reprocessing tailings are also being pursued to maximize mine life.

This investment extends beyond the operation itself to a strong affinity with the local community, which accounts for approximately 85 per cent of the Red Lake operations’ workforce. For Evolution, safety encompasses positive community impact, meaningful partnership with First Nations, and minimizing the environmental footprint of the operation.

Following continued dialogue and collaboration, Evolution Mining signed a collaboration agreement with Wabauskang and Lac Seul First Nations on June 5, 2025. The groundbreaking agreement establishes a framework for

partnership supported by a jointly developed implementation plan. Four committees have been formed to integrate traditional knowledge into key areas, including human resourcing, business opportunities, environmental management, and cultural awareness.

In relating the prospector’s legacy with modern mining discipline, Evolution has not only honoured Red Lake’s storied past—it has reinforced it, ensuring this iconic Canadian gold camp remains a valued asset in its global portfolio.

Alongside Red Lake, Evolution Mining currently operates five mines in Australia and has expanded its exposure to copper through recent acquisitions.

**Currency conversion rate from Australian dollars to Canadian dollars as of June 30, 2025.*

***Currency conversation rate from Australian dollars to Canadian dollars as of May 11, 2026. ⚒*

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From the lab to the land

How Lakehead's CESME is training the next generation for the new northern economy

By Dr. Peter Hollings, Director,
Centre of Excellence for Sustainable
Mining and Exploration, Lakehead University

MSc student Jordan Peterzon, underground at Lac des Iles.

Northern Ontario has a long history of mining. From Indigenous use of native copper more than 5,000 years ago to the current push for critical metals. For over a decade, Lakehead University's Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining and Exploration (CESME) has built partnerships between academia, industry, and communities to support the equitable development of our region's mineral resources. The centre is built on three pillars: mineral exploration and mineral processing, the environmental impact of mining, and engagement with First Nations, Métis, and local communities. Those pillars provide the framework which drive our activities, guide our collaborative research and bring together a diverse group of researchers across our locations in Thunder Bay, Orillia, and Barrie.

Researchers at CESME provide an unbiased pool of expertise in various fields across all stages of the mining life cycle. We connect Lakehead researchers with Indigenous, government, and industry partners to support exploration and impact assessments of proposed mining activities and mine closures. This collaborative approach recognizes that Canadian natural resource development requires sophisticated planning, collaboration, assessment, implementation, and remediation strategies that are calculated to minimize negative environmental, socio-economic, and cultural impact. Through cutting-edge research, CESME develops tools and techniques to minimize these impacts, while finding new methods to efficiently explore, develop, and clean up the mines we need to

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MSc student Luis Zappa logging drill core in Terrace, B.C.



MSc student Myles Harding sampling drill core in Manitoba.



Second-year geology field school students this spring along the Current River in Thunder Bay, Ont.

advance our modern Canadian economy. Although mining is an inherently non-renewable activity, it is through research and partnerships that we can provide a sustainable and mutually beneficial path forward.

One core focus of CESME is to train the next generation of geologists, providing students with the skill sets to locate and develop our region's resources. Our students graduate with an understanding of the latest mining methods and techniques along with an ability to navigate the complex regulatory environments they will encounter in the field. In addition to classroom and field training, the state-of-the-art analytical equipment that CESME has brought to the university helps equip our graduate students with the research skills and professional expertise needed to succeed in their future careers. This advanced training exposes students to novel mineralized systems and exploration models, leading to more efficient strategies for discovering and developing new mines.

CESME was established in 2014 with the goal of bringing together stakeholders to advance the sustainable development of Northern Ontario. Over the past 10 years, we have supported students through scholarship funding, secured millions of dollars in research funding, and trained the next generation of researchers to be innovative, respectful advocates for a sustainable future. As we look toward the next

decade, we remain committed to this mission and welcome the opportunity to deepen our collaboration with both long-standing and new partners throughout the region. ⚒

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Ontario investing in world-class mine training facility in Sudbury

On April 15, 2026, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) David Piccini announced funding through efforts with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), led by president and CEO Jeff Lang, for a new state-of-the-art mine training facility in Sudbury to strengthen worker safety, expand training capacity, and support the province's leadership in critical minerals.

The 124-acre facility will offer specialty training such as confined space, live fire exercises, tower and water rescue, and other targeted programs to further mining health and safety, and emergency preparedness services for not just Ontario but globally. With the global demand for critical minerals expected to double by 2030, this announcement will see Sudbury play a major role in economic development for the province as a whole.

Ontario Mine Rescue (OMR) will further solidify their leadership in state-of-the-art rescue by actively utilizing the facility to strengthen their mine rescue practices.

"An initiative of this caliber strengthens our resources and expands access to equipment and training, enabling continual improvement and ensuring the evolving needs of mine rescue across the industry are fully supported," said Shawn Rideout, chief mine rescue officer for OMR.

Mike Parent, president and CEO of Workplace Safety

North and the OMR, said that this is a transformative step for mine rescue and emergency preparedness in Ontario.

"A world-class mine rescue training academy in Sudbury will significantly strengthen our capacity to deliver advanced, leading-edge training and ensure we are prepared for the future growth of mining in this province," said Parent. "It firmly positions Ontario as a global leader in mine safety and emergency response. This facility will also enable world-class emergency preparedness training to be delivered here at home, reducing the need to seek specialized expertise outside Canada, and further reinforcing Ontario's reputation as a premier mining jurisdiction."

The initiative supports Ontario's broader strategy to strengthen supply chain resilience, drive economic growth, and advance responsible development of critical minerals, particularly in Northern Ontario. Minister Piccini welcomed the collaboration with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, thanking Jeff Lang for his leadership in advancing specialized training and strengthening Ontario's occupational health and safety system.

"I want to thank Workplace Safety North and Ontario Mine Rescue for their leadership in advancing mine safety and emergency preparedness in our province," said Mayor of Sudbury Paul Lefebvre. "This investment

reinforces Greater Sudbury’s position as a global centre of excellence in mining innovation and safety. As the only facility of its kind in Canada, the new Mine Rescue Training Academy will strengthen worker safety, create new economic opportunities, and attract talent and expertise from around the world, helping ensure our community remains at the forefront of responsible mining for decades to come.”

The announcement coincides with Workplace Safety North’s 28th Annual Mining Health and Safety Conference themed Shaping Safety in the Critical Minerals Era, attended by 250 industry leaders from across the mining sector. The sold-out event provided a fitting setting to unveil an initiative of this magnitude.

Conference discussions highlighted key priorities shaping the future of mining.

“For nearly three decades, this conference has built trust and credibility across the industry,” added Parent. “We are proud to leverage that foundation to support Ontario’s mining sector from a position of strength well into the future.”

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2026 AND BEYOND

Advancing Mining Health, Safety, and Emergency Preparedness

This facility will further strengthen Ontario’s global leadership in mining safety by expanding training, consulting, and resources. It will also enhance collaboration with Ontario Mine Rescue and elevate specialized rescue training capabilities.

Reinforcing Leadership in Mining

The project underscores Ontario’s position as a premier mining jurisdiction, nationally and globally, recognized for excellence, innovation, and responsible practices.

Supporting Sustainable Mining Growth

By accelerating critical mineral development, this initiative will boost economic growth in Northern Ontario, strengthen supply chain resilience, and enhance Ontario’s competitiveness among G7 economies. ⚒

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Mining the future: How Queen's University is shaping global engineering leaders

By Vladislav Kecojevic, Professor and Head,
Noranda-Falconbridge Chair in Mine Mechanical Engineering,
the Robert M. Buchan Department of Mining,
Smith Engineering, Queen's University

*Faculty and students at Queen's
mining are advancing innovations
in artificial intelligence,
automation, and electrification,
all of which are reshaping mining
operations.*

As global demand for critical minerals grows, the Robert M. Buchan Department of Mining at Queen's University is evolving to prepare future engineering leaders.

Students in the mining program receive more than traditional technical training. Alongside strong foundations in math, science, and core mining principles, they gain hands-on experience through internships, co-op placements, and design projects. These opportunities expose students to real-world challenges, often in collaboration with industry, and help them transition smoothly into professional roles. Graduate programs at the master's and doctoral levels allow for specialization in areas aligned with industry needs, while flexible online credentials support working professionals seeking to build expertise in mining technologies, mineral processing, and data-driven decision-making.

A defining feature of the program is its focus on human-centered engineering. Students are encouraged to consider how mining intersects with communities, the environment, and broader societal goals. This approach ensures that technical innovation is balanced with ethical responsibility, preparing graduates to make decisions that are both effective and sustainable.

The program's recent growth reflects changing perceptions of mining. Enrollment has nearly doubled, rising from 87 students in 2017 to 171 in 2025. Female representation has also increased significantly, from 14 per cent to 32 per cent, highlighting progress toward greater diversity and inclusion. This shift mirrors broader changes in the mining sector, which increasingly values diverse perspectives to address complex global challenges. As critical minerals become essential for clean energy technologies, mining is



The mining industry faces a growing talent shortage due to retirements and increasing operational complexity. Queen's University is helping address this gap by expanding access to education and equipping students with a mix of technical, digital, and interpersonal skills.

attracting students eager to contribute to impactful, future-oriented work.

Research is central to this transformation. Faculty and students at Queen's mining are advancing innovations in artificial intelligence, automation, and electrification, all of which are reshaping mining operations. Efforts focus on improving mineral recovery, developing low-carbon extraction methods, and designing safer systems for deep and high-stress environments. Strong partnerships with industry and government ensure that research moves beyond theory into real-world application, supporting a mining sector that is more efficient, safer, and environmentally responsible.

Canada, and particularly Ontario, plays a key role in the global supply of critical minerals such as nickel, cobalt, and chromite. These resources are vital to the transition toward renewable energy and electrification. However, responsible development requires collaboration across sectors, including meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities. The program emphasizes dialogue, partnerships, and education that support respect, shared decision-making, and long-term relationship building. At the same time, the mining industry faces a growing talent shortage due to retirements and increasing operational complexity. Queen's University is helping address this gap by expanding access to education and equipping students with a mix of technical, digital, and interpersonal skills. Graduates are prepared not only as engineers but as adaptable problem-solvers capable of navigating modern resource challenges.



Students from the Robert M. Buchan Department of Mining at Queen's University visited a leading university in Lima, exchanging ideas with peers and faculty while gaining new perspectives on global mining education.

Global learning is another key strength. Mining is an international industry, and students benefit from opportunities beyond the classroom. A recent field trip to Peru illustrates this approach. Senior students visited underground and large-scale open-pit mining operations, gaining firsthand insight into extraction methods, technologies, and operational challenges. They also explored environmental practices and community engagement strategies, observing how companies interact with local populations. The experience extended beyond technical learning. Students visited a leading university in Lima, exchanging ideas with peers and faculty while gaining new perspectives on global mining education. Cultural activities and informal interactions helped build connections and reinforced the importance of communication and collaboration in an international context. By examining mining through technical, environmental, and social lenses, students developed a more nuanced understanding of their future profession.

Looking ahead, the Robert M. Buchan Department of Mining at Queen's University is well positioned to remain a leader in education and innovation. Its focus on emerging technologies, sustainability, and inclusivity will continue to shape both academic programs and research priorities. As the mining sector evolves to support a low-carbon future, the program is not only adapting but helping define the path forward, producing graduates ready to lead with both expertise and responsibility. ⚒️

Aviation as critical infrastructure for resource operations



PERIMETER
AVIATION

Point-to-point charter operations reduce logistical friction by flying directly to site, helping operators maintain continuity, predictability, and cost control in challenging environments.

Inset: Charter aviation plays a critical role by supporting operational realities that extend well beyond the constraints of scheduled air service.

In forestry and mining, aviation is not an added convenience, it is essential infrastructure. From crew movements to time-sensitive shift rotations, dependable air access underpins productivity in remote environments. Charter aviation plays a critical role by supporting operational realities that extend well beyond the constraints of scheduled air service.

Charter services built around the worksite

Charter models are rooted in flexibility. Each operation is different, and charter services are structured to reflect that, from flight timing and routing to on-site coordination. Whether supporting a single mobilization or a recurring rotation, charter aviation works closely with operators to develop travel solutions that align with production schedules and operational priorities.

Direct access where roads and routes end

Remote forestry camps and mining sites often require direct access. Scheduled air services can play an important supporting role, particularly for moving personnel into regional hubs or connecting communities within established networks. However, scheduled routes may also introduce complexity. Point-to-point charter operations reduce logistical friction by flying directly to site, helping operators maintain continuity, predictability, and cost control in challenging environments.



From small technical teams to full crew rotations, charter fleets often offer a range of aircraft configurations to support both passenger and cargo requirements.

In sectors defined by remote locations and operational complexity, charter aviation plays a vital role.

Specialized experience in remote and rugged conditions

Operating safely in remote terrain requires specialized expertise, an area in which relatively few aviation providers specialize. Flight crews must be experienced in northern operations, including gravel and short runways, and supported by aircraft suited to remote conditions. This combination enables reliable

access to locations that demand precision, adaptability, and strong regional knowledge.

Supporting shift rotations and operational efficiency

Charter aviation simplifies crew movements by eliminating unnecessary stops and rigid schedule constraints. Predictable, direct flights support efficient shift rotations, reduce crew fatigue, and help



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Airlines such as Perimeter Aviation support forestry and mining companies through experience in remote environments, charter and scheduled service options, aircraft suited to rugged conditions, and evolving fleet investments to meet changing operational demands.

keep projects on schedule, particularly during peak operational periods or weather-sensitive phases of work.

Safety aligned with industry expectations

Safety is a foundational priority shared across aviation, forestry, and mining operations. Certifications such as the Basic Aviation Risk Standard (BARS) reflect a strong commitment to risk management, operational discipline, and continuous improvement. These standards align closely with the safety frameworks and governance expectations common throughout the resource sector.

Scalable aircraft and cargo capability

From small technical teams to full crew rotations, charter fleets often offer a range of aircraft configurations to support both passenger and cargo requirements. This scalability allows operators to match aircraft to mission needs, supporting efficient planning and responsible cost management across different phases of a project.

Corporate travel solutions designed in partnership

Beyond flight operations, effective aviation programs are built through collaboration. Customized booking tools and travel processes can be developed to align with an organization's internal workflows, approval structures, and reporting needs. Dedicated corporate travel support and specialized communications help maintain clear information flow and coordination, particularly important in complex, multi-site operations.

Keeping resource operations connected

In sectors defined by remote locations and operational complexity, charter aviation plays a vital role. Airlines such as Perimeter Aviation operate within this framework, supporting forestry and mining companies through experience in remote environments, charter and scheduled service options, aircraft suited to rugged conditions, and evolving fleet investments to meet changing operational demands. When aviation is integrated thoughtfully, it helps keep teams connected, projects on track, and operations running safely in even the most demanding environments. 🛠️

PDAC 2026 reflects growing global momentum for mineral exploration and development



The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) Convention brought together the global mineral exploration and mining community the first week of March, continuing a 94-year tradition of connecting industry, governments, investors, Indigenous communities, and students.

PDAC 2026 welcomed 32,155 participants from around the world, the highest participation in the event's history.

"There was a clear sense of energy throughout the convention," said PDAC president Karen Rees.

"Strong commodity markets are contributing to optimism across the sector. At the same time, governments and the public are recognizing more clearly how essential minerals are to economic growth, electrification, defence, and modern technologies."

The convention also set a record with more than 1,300 exhibitors, delivering the largest trade show footprint in PDAC's history and filling the Metro Toronto Convention Centre across both the North and South buildings. Over four days, PDAC 2026 facilitated networking, investment discussions, and

deal-making. The convention's programming featured hundreds of expert presenters examining the key opportunities and challenges shaping mineral exploration, project development, and financing.

PDAC 2026 also welcomed participation from governments around the world, alongside Canadian policymakers and leaders from municipal, provincial, and federal levels. Their presence reflects the growing global focus on mineral supply, investment, and the policies needed to support responsible development.

"Government policy choices play a critical role in supporting the mineral sector and ensuring Canada remains a global leader in mineral exploration and development," Rees said. "Proven, made-in-Canada exploration tax credits and greater regulatory predictability are essential to maintaining Canada's competitiveness and investor confidence."

While the convention is an important moment for the association, PDAC advocates throughout the year on behalf of its members and the broader sector.

"In a more complex global environment, a strong mineral sector is fundamental to Canada's economic prosperity, supply-chain security and sovereignty," Rees said.

PDAC thanks its volunteers, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and participants for contributing to a successful convention and looks forward to welcoming the global mineral exploration and mining community back to Toronto for PDAC 2027, March 7-10, 2027.

ABOUT PDAC

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community, an industry that employs more than 724,000, and contributed \$156 billion to Canada's GDP in 2024 (Natural Resources Canada, February 2025). Representing more than 8,200 members worldwide, PDAC works to support a competitive, responsible, and sustainable mineral sector. Visit pdac.ca for more information. 

Laurentian University sets the pace for Canada's next generation of mining engineers

With its new Minerals and Mining Strategy, strengthened faculty expertise, and deep industry integration, Laurentian is redefining mining education from the heart of Sudbury

By Macy Grace Rodriguez



Laurentian's Mining Engineering program leverages its proximity to local operating mines with regular field trips and work-integrated learning opportunities.

In a region synonymous with mining innovation, Laurentian University is reaffirming its leadership with a renewed institutional vision. Its all-new Minerals and Mining Strategy signals a forward-looking commitment to education, research, and industry collaboration, positioning the university at the forefront of Canada's mining future. At the core of this strategy lies the Mining Engineering program, a cornerstone in training the professionals who will design, operate, and sustain the mines of tomorrow.

Mining engineering remains a critical pillar across the entire mining life cycle, from exploration to closure. As the industry faces increasing pressure to deliver critical minerals responsibly, the demand for highly skilled engineers continues to grow. Laurentian's program

responds to this need by blending rigorous technical education with hands-on, industry-integrated learning in Greater Sudbury, a city that has long been recognized as a global hub for mining expertise.

The program itself is structured to provide both depth and adaptability. Students gain a strong grounding in core disciplines such as rock mechanics, mine ventilation, and mineral economics, while also engaging with emerging areas like automation, electrification, and data-driven mining systems.

Recent faculty additions are strengthening this offering:

- Dr. Ezzeddin Bakhtavar's research focuses on critical minerals supply chain management, circular economy



Laurentian University's Mine Rescue team competes in the 2026 Intercollegiate Mine Emergency Response Competition (IMERC), earning first place overall against eight other university teams from across North America.



Second-year Mining Engineering students tour IAMGOLD's Côté Gold mine in Gogama, Ontario, studying open pit operations for Surface Mining Methods class.

in mining systems, and sustainable mine planning and design.

- Dr. Subash Bastola contributes expertise in geomechanics, geotechnical hazard assessment, and ground control, emphasizing safety in underground operations.
- Dr. Ahlam Maremi specializes in advanced mine planning and optimization, promoting efficient resource use and data-driven decision-making.

Laurentian takes advantage of its uniquely mining-specialized location with work-oriented learning opportunities available to students throughout their academic journey. Undergraduate students have the opportunity to take a four-month co-op placement after second year and a 16-month placement after the third year, allowing them to gain nearly two years of work experience before entering the field. Partnerships span major operators such as Vale, Glencore, and IAMGOLD, and local companies such as Technica Mining. These experiences not only build technical skills but also help students develop professional networks that often lead directly to employment.

Outcomes for graduates remain strong. Mining Engineering students at Laurentian consistently achieve high employment rates (92.8 per cent after six months, 97.5 per cent after two years), often securing positions before completing their degrees. Their career paths span operations, consulting, research, and government, reflecting the versatility of the training they receive. In an industry facing both labour shortages and rapid technological change, Laurentian graduates are well-positioned to step into critical roles.

Beyond the classroom, Laurentian Mining Engineering students distinguish themselves through co-curricular activities that reinforce leadership and technical excellence. Recently, the Mine Rescue Club took home the championship at the 2026 Intercollegiate Mine Emergency Response Competition (IMERC), while the Laurentian Hard Rock Miners placed high in several categories of the Canadian Mining Games, and two Mining Engineering students competed in the cross-disciplinary mining investment competition, the Goodman Gold Challenge. Student chapters of mining-related organizations such as CIM, MetSoc, and Women in Engineering (LUWiE) also provide opportunities for networking, conferences, and industry engagement.

Yet another emerging strength of the program lies in its growing collaboration with other disciplines within the School of Engineering and Computer Science. The Laurentian Intelligent Mobile Robotics Lab (LMIRM), for example, recently delivered an exceptional performance at the 2025 FIRA RoboWorld Cup in South Korea, taking home multiple first-place awards across various categories. The lab's work in mobile robotics, autonomous systems, and mapping technologies has direct applications in mining, preparing students for increasingly digital and automated operations.

Taken together, these elements underscore a clear message: Laurentian University is not only maintaining its legacy in mining education but actively reshaping it. Through its Minerals and Mining Strategy, the university is reinforcing the central role of its Mining Engineering program as a critical pillar in developing the next generation of industry professionals equipped to meet the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly evolving global mining sector. 🛠️

The true cost of corrosion

Why Canadian mines can't afford to react



A successful preventative approach requires considering an asset's entire life cycle, defining its specific corrosion risks, and optimizing for cost by selecting the most appropriate type of corrosion control given the site environment.

When coatings are required, the partnership of a professional coating contractor becomes crucial to a lasting coating solution.

The global cost of corrosion is estimated at a staggering US\$2.5 trillion annually, or the equivalent of about 3.4 per cent of the world's GDP (impact.nace.org/). Many Canadian mine sites face unrelenting corrosion issues, which degrade asset productivity, threaten worker safety, and cause costly failures and unexpected shutdowns. At the site level, these issues can quickly lead to budget overruns and unmanaged maintenance problems. Many operators choose to accept the consequences of corrosion as an

inevitable result of running a mine.

However, taking a preventative approach can move you away from a "firefighting" cycle of reacting to problems; this involves implementing standard processes and monitoring plans to ensure long-term asset integrity. A successful preventative approach requires considering an asset's entire life cycle, defining its specific corrosion risks, and optimizing for cost by selecting the most appropriate type of corrosion control given the site environment.

These controls might be a mix of solutions, such as designing with corrosion-resistant materials, applying protective coatings, or adding cathodic protection systems to existing site infrastructure. Accompanied by regular inspections and monitoring by specialists, these methods help you catch corrosion early and save on costs overall.

Protective coatings are one of the most common and effective ways to control corrosion. However, the highest-performance coating in the world becomes useless if it's not

applied correctly. When coatings are required, the partnership of a professional coating contractor becomes crucial to a lasting coating solution. A certified contractor has the specific knowledge to do the work correctly the first time in line with specifications, giving peace of mind to operators and keeping repair costs down. Without this expertise, projects can get stuck in a frustrating cycle of premature failures and expensive, repetitive repair.

ICE Dragon Corrosion has supported many mining operations from the design phase through construction/commissioning and into operation and maintenance. As well as ensuring robust corrosion control designs, specifications and QA/QC, we also focus on the


early development of inspection programs, data collection processes, and predictive models that enable long-term reliability and proactive maintenance.

At all stages of a project, investing in a rigorous approach for corrosion and in particular, coatings, makes sense for the long-term reliability and performance of your assets. This is especially crucial for Central Canadian mines, some of which operate in highly corrosive environments. For example, the chemistry of potash (primarily potassium chloride, KCl) creates a chloride-rich environment that is extremely aggressive towards steel, many alloys, and even concrete structures. The challenge is often amplified by high humidity process environments. Mined material can



ICE Dragon Corrosion has supported many mining operations from the design phase through construction/commissioning and into operation and maintenance.

also be highly abrasive, with the wear accelerating corrosion and damage to equipment.

For more information on strategic corrosion management, please visit the ICE Dragon website, icedragoncorrosion.com and parkderochie.com/. 



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