



NEWS RELEASE

Bill S-6 Improvements an Important Step to Advance Northern Mining

(Yellowknife, NT – June 5, 2014) On June 3, the Federal Government tabled Bill S-6, the *Yukon and Nunavut Regulatory Improvement Act* which includes important amendments to the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*. Passage of Bill S-6 will also mark the completion of the government's *Action Plan to Improve Northern Regulatory Regimes*, an ambitious initiative to modernize northern legislation and create consistency with broader Canadian legislation. It included Bill C-47, *The Northern Jobs and Growth Act* and Bill C-15, *The Northwest Territories Devolution Act*.

"We are pleased with a number of the legislative changes proposed by Bill S-6, and we expect they will be an incentive for increased mineral investment in Nunavut," said Brooke Clements, President of the Chamber of Mines. "We also look forward to future dialogue with the Federal Government as they create accompanying regulations."

The following components of the Bill are of special interest to mining and exploration companies looking for increased investor certainty in Nunavut:

- Establishing time limits for the evaluation and approval of water licence applications will allow for more predictable and timely reviews.
- Issuing life of mine water licences removes the requirement for multiple licence applications and public review processes throughout the life of a mine, and promises efficiencies to both industry and regulatory agencies.
- Empowering the Minister to enter into written arrangements with Inuit land owners where a project involves both Crown and Inuit Owned Lands is a step toward resolving the current duplicative and unnecessary "double security bonding" for development projects.

Bill S-6 also enables the creation of certain regulations relevant to the mining and exploration industry, including Administrative Monetary Penalties and Cost Recovery for activities related to water licence applications. The Chamber and its members appreciate the Government of Canada's commitment to consult on the creation and implementation of these regulations.

For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, please visit the website at www.miningnorth.com or contact Tom Hoefler, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: executivedirector@miningnorth.com.