

**Remarks for Mark Cutifani for the  
Announcement of Inco's \$5 Million Contribution to the  
Centre of Excellence in Mining Innovation (CEMI)**

**Science North –Inco Cavern**

**March 30, 2006**

Thank you Cory....and thank you to the media and invited guests for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us in the Inco Cavern today.

I hope you're comfortable in those seats. They're designed to move and provide special effects for Science North's "Wings Over the North" attraction, which is a great film, by the way, if you haven't already seen it.

While we are limited on special effects today per se...I think what I'm about to announce will certainly have a "special effect" on the future of mining innovation here in Sudbury.

A couple of years ago, I was approached by Minister Rick Bartolucci to sit on the Ontario Mineral Industry Cluster Council, or "OMICC" – to capitalize on the benefits a "cluster" approach could provide in finding ways to keep our mineral industry vibrant and competitive.

In May, OMICC submitted a final business plan to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, with a strong recommendation to create a Centre for Excellence in Mining. This was no small undertaking, and I want to especially thank Louise Paquette and her team at FedNor, for playing a key role in putting together this proposal and developing a framework for action to move this initiative forward.

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, under Rick's leadership, wholeheartedly endorsed our proposal, and this past December, I was very pleased to participate in announcing the establishment of the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation – or CEMI -- at Laurentian University's Sudbury campus. As most of you know, Dr. John Gammon has been appointed to lead the drive to bring the centre from concept to reality – and I personally have a great deal of faith in John, Dr. Judith Woodsworth and the team at Laurentian to make that happen.

Certainly, John and his team received a major boost last week when the provincial government took the first step to make CEMI a reality by announcing a \$10 million dollar commitment to get the Centre for Excellence off the ground.

I think the provincial government deserves a great deal of credit for showing this kind of leadership and commitment to mining innovation. Rick, there's no doubt that that announcement came as a result of a great deal of diplomatic "nudging" and influence on your part, so I want to thank you for being such a great ambassador for this initiative, our industry, and certainly our community, at Queen's Park. The creation of CEMI simply wouldn't have happened without your support.

With their support, the provincial government has sent a strong message to industry that we need to get on board to ensure CEMI's success. It's a message, I'm proud to say, that Inco took very seriously.

Inco has many reasons to support a Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation here in Sudbury. The Centre's research priorities, developed in partnership with our industry, will focus on mining exploration, deep mining research, integrated mine process engineering, environment and reclamation, and telerobotics and automation. These are areas of research that are critical to Inco's future success, because resources are becoming harder to find and recover after 100 years of mining the Sudbury Basin.

With the help of CEMI, we will be able to find new and innovative solutions to mine deeper than we ever have before, and create the next 100 years in Sudbury. We have the team and, with this initiative, we are building the infrastructure and technical support base to find new solutions to stay ahead of the competition curve to ensure our ongoing success.

The challenges we face in Sudbury are shared – to one extent or another – by many other mining jurisdictions, and the research work at CEMI will enable Sudbury to export its expertise and knowledge to the world. The benefits realized here will have applications around the globe, and will help solidify Sudbury's place as a leading global centre for mining and mining innovation.

As I've said many times before, one of the things that impresses me most about Sudbury is how the community comes together when it counts to make positive things happen. So I want to again congratulate Judith Woodsworth, John Gammon and the team at Laurentian University, Minister Bartolucci and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Mayor Courtemanche and the City of Sudbury and Louise Paquette and her team at FedNor, for coming together to support the development of this crucial project. On a personal note, I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to ensure CEMI is an international success story.

And now to the reason we're all here today.

Since the beginning, we at Inco have supported the concept of CEMI, but we believe it's time to put our money where our mouth is, especially after the provincial government's generous announcement last week.

So without further adieu, I'm pleased to announce a contribution on behalf of Inco of \$5 million dollars toward Laurentian University's Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation.

This contribution consists of \$3 million dollars in cash, and \$2 million dollars in kind for things like commercial expertise, resources and materials that will be required.

This donation serves as a great vote of confidence in Judith Woodsworth, John Gammon and their team at Laurentian University, and their ability to create a Centre for Excellence that will be recognized around the world.

Like the contribution from Rick Bartolucci and the provincial government, I hope today's donation from Inco serves as an inspiration to others to come forward in support of CEMI, to ensure we have the resources we will need to succeed over the long-term.

Thank You.