



INCO LIMITED GIVES HUGE BOOST TO MINING INNOVATION IN SUDBURY

Sudbury, March 30, 2006 –Mark Cutifani, Inco's President North America/Europe, today reinforced Inco's commitment to strengthen the future of mining in Sudbury by announcing a \$5 million investment toward the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation at Laurentian University.

"Sudbury's rich history and promising future makes it the perfect centre for an institution promoting mining excellence and innovation," said Cutifani. "Inco is proud to demonstrate significant support for this project because we believe the innovative solutions developed here will boost the competitiveness and longevity of our operations – and those of the broader mining industry – in Sudbury and around the world."

Inco's \$5 million dollar commitment includes a donation of \$3 million in cash and \$2 million in kind for things such as commercial expertise, resources and materials. This contribution follows the Ontario government's funding commitment of \$10 million to launch the Centre, announced in last week's provincial budget.

[insert Rick Bartolucci quote – Laura Blondeau to provide]

Dr. Judith Woodsworth, President of Laurentian University, was also enthusiastic about Inco's contribution.

"The generous contribution of Inco, combined with last week's provincial government commitment of \$10 million, is very welcome news," said Woodsworth. "This financial support and vote of confidence will help us solidify plans for the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation. The investment of industry in our efforts to strengthen mining-related research and education reflects our mission of working in partnership to further regional prosperity and achieve international recognition."

About the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation

In December 2005, the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation was established at Laurentian University's Sudbury Campus, to capitalize on the region's already considerable mining assets and strengths, and to further enhance Sudbury's stature as an international centre for world-class, mining industry-driven research. The Centre's research priorities, developed with industry input, will focus on mining exploration, deep mining research, integrated mine process engineering, environment and reclamation and telerobotics and automation.

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