

## **Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation (CEMI) at Laurentian University closer to reality with \$5 million investment from Inco Limited**

Earlier today, Inco Limited announced a \$5 million investment in Laurentian University's Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation. This announcement comes on the heels of the Ontario government's recent \$10 million investment in CEMI, announced last week as part of the government's presentation of the new budget.

"The generous contribution of Inco, combined with last week's provincial government commitment of \$10 million, is very welcome news," said Laurentian President Judith Woodsworth. "We are very grateful to Inco for their financial support and commitment to continued economic prosperity for this region and the country, through their significant investment in research. These investments and endorsements reflect our mission of working in partnership to further regional prosperity and achieve international recognition."

In May 2005, the Ontario Mineral Industry Cluster Council (OMICC) recommended the creation of a Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation at Laurentian University to consolidate and lead mining and mining-related research. Establishing CEMI in Sudbury will have substantial, and long-lasting, positive economic impacts on Sudbury and the rest of Northern Ontario, as well as the entire province and the country. Laurentian is already an acknowledged leader in mining education and research across Canada. The University is currently home to nine mining research centres, seven mining-related graduate programs at the master's and PhD levels, as well as seven Canada Research Chairs, three of which have links to mining and exploration research.

"From the beginning, there has always been very strong interest in and support for CEMI from all levels of government and industry," explained Dr. John Gammon, Director, Mining Initiatives at Laurentian University. "CEMI needs an initial investment of \$30 million. This financial support and vote of confidence from industry and government will ensure that the CEMI vision of collaborative research and productive networking will become a reality."

The inaugural meeting of CEMI's advisory board, composed of key government and industry representatives, will be held April 12, at Laurentian University.

For more information, please contact Dr. John Gammon, Director, Mining Initiatives at Laurentian University, by calling Director (705) 675-1151, ext. 2197 or via email at [jgammon@laurentian.ca](mailto:jgammon@laurentian.ca).

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