

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MSABC Supports Continued Investment in Mineral Exploration, Infrastructure and Job Training in Federal Budget 2014**

**February 11, 2014**

Vancouver – The Mining Suppliers Association of British Columbia (MSABC) supports the Government of Canada’s continued investments in mineral exploration, infrastructure and job training in Budget 2014. “While staying on course for a balanced budget in 2015, we were pleased to see an extension of the 15% Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for flow-through shares,” said Ken Roberts, Chair of MSABC. “Especially in this period of continuing global economic uncertainty, the METC remains an important tool for gaining access to the capital needed for mineral exploration.”

MSABC also welcomes the federal government’s continued focus on infrastructure investment in Budget 2014. “Mining companies, associated transportation service providers and the community at large benefit from an efficient network of roads, rails and ports to deliver mining products to the world,” added Roberts. “The additional investment of \$14 billion over 10 years for a new Building Canada Fund provides an opportunity to further enhance our transportation infrastructure and maintain B.C. as the preferred gateway to Asian markets.”

Mining suppliers and contractors will also benefit from new investments in job training. “As we move forward with the development of new mines and other industrial projects, including ship building and LNG, multiple sectors will face the common problem of a shortage in skilled labour,” said Roberts. “By investing \$40 million towards internships and providing \$100 million in interest-free loans for apprentices in Red Seal trades, Budget 2014 will help ensure Canadians are trained and in a position to take advantage of job opportunities created by new industrial development.”

The Mining Suppliers Association of B.C. comprises suppliers, contractors and consultants to the B.C. mining industry who are committed to promoting the sustainability of this valuable resource sector.

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