

For Immediate Release

March 25, 2013

## **The Future is Now: Grow Greenstone Expo**

The Grow Greenstone Expo, the region's largest mining expo to date, kicked off this morning with opening ceremonies that featured addresses by The Hon. Bob Rae, MP – Toronto Centre, The Hon. Michael Gravelle, MPP – Thunder Bay/Superior North and Minister of Northern Development and Mines, Mayor of Greenstone, Renald Beaulieu and Darius Ferris, President of Matawa First Nations Board of Directors.

Featuring speaking presentations running all day today and tomorrow designed to educate and inform business owners and job seekers about opportunities in the mining sector and specifically in Greenstone, the Gateway to the Ring of Fire.

Today's highlight presentation was hosted by MNP's Suzanne Ebelher. Introduction to Contract Readiness is a concentrated version of a 2-day seminar. This presentation informed business owners how to fit their businesses into the mining supply chain.

This evening the Greenstone Growth Plan will be unveiled and Ovide Mercredi, National Treaties 1-11 Spokesperson and Former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, will be the keynote speaker.

Tuesday kicks off at 9am with Nick Sanders, President of the Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce. Fort McMurray faced similar issues and struggles during its growth period and this presentation is timely and topical.

There are also over 60 exhibitor booths in the Business Exchange and Workforce Attraction Summit Areas. Business owners can learn what others are doing, forge partnerships and develop new business opportunities, while job seekers and employers can learn about the skills training options currently available in the region.

A schedule of events, complete with speaker summaries and bios is available online at [growgreenstoneexpo.com](http://growgreenstoneexpo.com)

The Grow Greenstone Expo wraps up Tuesday at 2pm. The event is free admission and open to the public. Business owners, job seekers, regional mining sector developers and anyone interested in Ring of Fire are encouraged to attend.

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### **For more information:**

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