

**PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**May 28 – 29, 2025  
Sudbury, Ontario**

**REVISED VERSION May 16, 2025**

**Greater Sudbury Mining Ecosystem Pre-Conference Tour – Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

Exclusive for conference participants, the Greater Sudbury Mining tour is a unique opportunity to gain an appreciation for our dynamic mining innovation ecosystem. The tour will begin with a visit to the NORCAT Underground Centre, a globally recognized mine for innovation testing and workforce training.

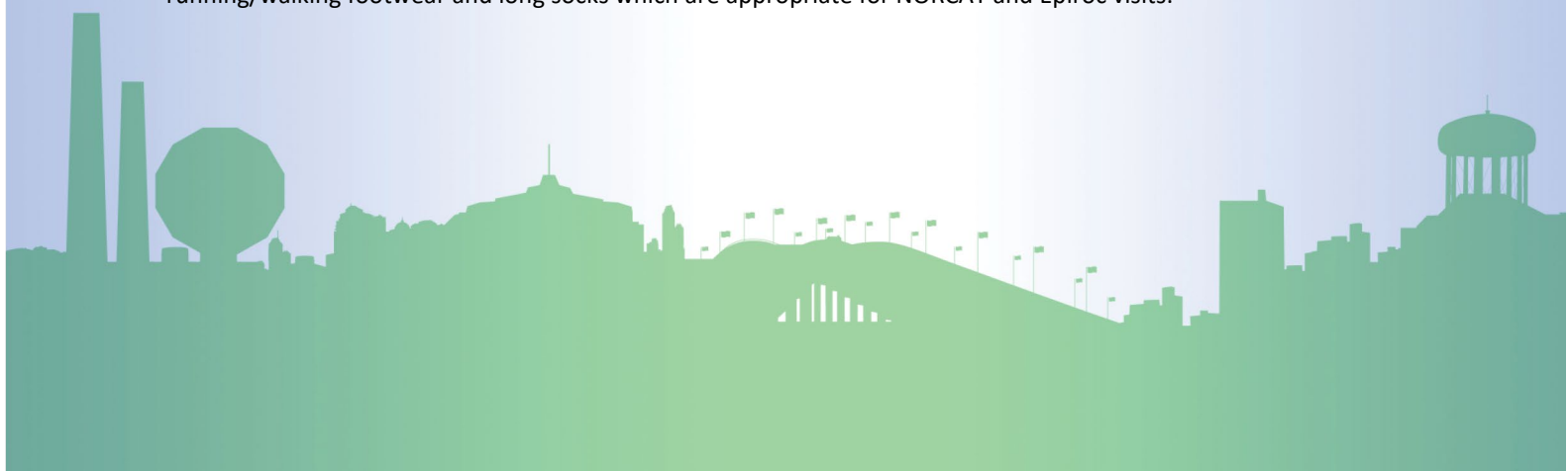
Following NORCAT will be a bus tour of Vale Base Metals integrated operations and the unique nature of their proximity to the community of Copper Cliff. It will conclude with a brief visit to the Vale greenhouse for a discussion regarding ongoing reclamation and biodiversity efforts.

The next step will be a tour of Epiroc’s Sudbury operations. Epiroc is a leading OEM in the development and application of battery electric vehicles in mining which will be demonstrated and discussed.

The final stop of the tour will be at Dynamic Earth to visit the Big Nickel and an exclusive screening of ‘Planting Hope’ – a new documentary on Sudbury’s 50 years of greening the landscape.

- 7:30 a.m. Depart from Lobby of Hilton Garden Inn (475 Barrydowne Road)
- 8:30 a.m. NORCAT Underground Centre - Fecunis Mine
- 11:15 a.m. Depart NORCAT
- 12:00 p.m. Driving tour of Vale Base Metals Copper Cliff Operations and Green House
- 12:50 p.m. Depart Copper Cliff
- 1:00 p.m. Epiroc
- 2:20 p.m. Depart Epiroc
- 2:30 p.m. Dynamic Earth/Big Nickel – viewing of ‘Planting Hope’
- 3:30 p.m. Depart Dynamic Earth
- 4:00 p.m. Return to Hilton Garden

Tour registration is required as an exclusive addition for conference participants. A box lunch and snacks will be provided. Participants are required to dress appropriately for the tour including long pants, long sleeve shirt, comfortable running/walking footwear and long socks which are appropriate for NORCAT and Epiroc visits.



**Pre-Conference Opening Dinner – Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**
**REGISTRATION AND OPENING DINNER: VALE CAVERN – SCIENCE NORTH**

(Shuttle Bus Departs Hilton Garden Inn 5:00 p.m. for Science North)

- 5:00 p.m.      **Registration and Networking**
- 6:00 p.m.      **Master of Ceremonies Introduction**  
*Meredith Armstrong, Director of Economic Development, City of Greater Sudbury*
- 6:05 p.m.      **Welcome Remarks and Land Acknowledgement**  
*Ashley Larose, Chief Executive Officer, Science North and Dynamic Earth*
- 6:10 p.m.      **Opening Prayer - Namehwin**  
*Dominic Beaudry, Associate Vice President for the Office of Academic and Indigenous Programs, Laurentian University*
- 6:15 p.m.      **Dinner Service** - Planting Hope trailer (courtesy of Science North)
- 7:00 p.m.      **Mayor's Welcome**  
*Paul Lefebvre, Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury*
- 7:05 p.m.      **Ministry of Energy and Mines**  
*Chris Scott, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Energy and Mines*
- 7:15 p.m.      **Presentation: From Lithium-Ion to Solid State and Beyond: Demystifying EV Battery Technology Innovation and Future Adoption**  
 Professor Pope, a leading researcher in battery materials, will share the current state and evolution of lithium-ion batteries as well as pull back the curtain on new technologies that will shape the industry including the promise of solid-state technologies and the future role of sodium-ion battery solutions.  
*Dr. Michael Pope, P.Eng. (confirmed)*  
*Co-Director, Ontario Battery and Electrochemistry Research Centre (OBEC); Associate Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Waterloo*
- 7:45 p.m.      **Panel Discussion – Mines to Mobility in a Time of Geopolitical Uncertainty**  
*Panelists:*  
*Paul Lefebvre, Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury*  
*Brendan Sweeney, Managing Director, Trillium Network for Advanced Manufacturing*  
*David Adams, President, Global Automakers of Canada*  
*Raed Kadri, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Business Development and Head of the Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network, OCI*  
  
*Moderator: Dr. Nadia Mykytczuk, CEO and President MIRARCO;*  
*Executive Director, Goodman School of Mines; CIM 2025 Distinguished Lecturer*
- 8:25 p.m.      **Closing Remarks**
- 8:30 p.m.      **Dinner Concludes**
- (Shuttle Bus Departs Science North for Hilton Garden Inn 8:50 p.m.)

**Conference Program – Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**
**REGISTRATION AND AM PLENARY SESSIONS: STUDENT LIFE CENTRE – CAMBRIAN COLLEGE**

(Shuttle Bus Departs Hilton Garden Inn for Cambrian College 7:45 a.m)

- 7:30 a.m.      **Registration and Networking**  
Coffee and Continental Breakfast
- 8:20 a.m.      **Welcome Remarks and Land Acknowledgement**  
**Conference Chair:**  
*Shawn Poland, Vice President, External Partnerships, Strategic Enrolment, and Executive Director, Cambrian Foundation*  
*Paul Lefebvre, Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury*
- 8:35 a.m.      **Mining as a Strategic Priority: Strengthening Ontario’s Foundation for a Fully Integrated Mines-to-Mobility Supply Chain**  
*Priya Tandon, President, Ontario Mining Association*
- 9:00 a.m.      **Partnering for Battery Materials Supply Chains**  
As nations and corporations navigate shifting geopolitical landscapes, long-term partnerships, government support, and investment strategies are critical to ensuring secure and efficient supply chains. This panel brings together industry leaders, policymakers, and financial experts to explore best practices and collaborative approaches in building robust critical mineral supply chains in North America.  
*Panelists:*  
*Trevor Walker, President & CEO, Frontier Lithium*  
*Hugh Samson, RBC Global Co-Head Metals & Mining, RBC Capital Markets*  
*Musfiq Islam, Investment Lead, Advanced Manufacturing, Invest Ontario*  
*Ashley Glen, Director, Structured & Project Finance, Export Development Canada*  
*Moderator: Matthew Fortier, Accelerate ZEV*
- 9:40 a.m.      **Navigating Current and Future Battery Materials Demand**  
In this presentation, we’ll review the evolution of the North American EV and battery markets since 2020 and examine key trends. We will also discuss possible scenarios for market evolution through 2035 and zoom in on potential developments in Ontario. This presentation will draw on data, research, and analyses derived from Adamas Intelligence’s industry-leading services."  
*Alla Kolesnikova, MBA, Head of Data Analytics, Adamas Intelligence*
- 10:05 a.m.      **Refreshment Break**

10:20 a.m. **From Electric Vehicles to Energy Storage, AI and Beyond – On the Precipice of the Battery Electric Economy Transition**

It's time to start thinking of batteries as a vital part of a sustainable ecosystem rather than siloed into specific applications. A battery-electric vehicle is as much a form of transportation as it is distributed energy resource and a backup generator for your home. The age of EVs is not ending or dying — it's just begun. Industry and government need to be in lock step when it comes to building out a supply chain and understanding the opportunities and challenges of a battery electric economy.

*Panelists:*  
*Daniel Breton, President and Director, Electric Mobility Canada*  
*Rachel Doren, President and Executive Director, Clean Energy Canada*  
*Cara Clairman, President & CEO, Plug'n Drive*  
*Mona Eghanian, Assistant Vice President and Deputy Head of Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network*  
*Session Chair: Nino Di Cara, Founder & President, Electric Autonomy Canada*

11:00 a.m. **Economic and Community Partnerships as the Key to Unlocking Ontario's Critical Minerals**  
*The Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation/ Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire Economic and Community Partnerships*

11:15 a.m. **Morning Break and Move to Concurrent Sessions**

**AM CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (Choose One of Three)**

11:30 a.m. **Concurrent #1: The Other Gold Rush: Driving Mobility Through Rare Earth Elements (REEs) Amphitheatre Room #2226**

This panel explores the critical role of rare earth elements (REEs) in electric motors, featuring experts advancing innovation in the REEs supply chain. Discussions will cover innovative technologies to reduce reliance on REE mining, sustainable extraction methods, and circular economy strategies for magnet production. Attendees will gain insights into supply chain challenges and emerging solutions driving the future of electrification.

*Participants:*  
*Alla Kolesnikova, MBA, Head of Data Analytics, Adamas Intelligence*  
*Vasileios Tsiannos, Vice President of Corporate Development, Neo Performance Materials*  
*Dr. Muhammad Imran Ph.D., P.Eng., C.Dir., Vice-President of The Rare Earth Element Division at The Saskatchewan Research Council*  
*Session Chair: Shelley Hirstwood, Director of Economic Development, Kingston Economic Development Corporation*

11:30 a.m. **Concurrent #2 – Accelerating Critical Minerals Programs in Ontario eDome - #1830**

The Ministry of Energy and Mines will deliver a presentation showcasing actions that the Ontario government is taking to accelerate the development of critical minerals mines and processing capacity and stimulate economic growth. The presentation will highlight how we will get our minerals to market faster by streamlining approvals and eliminating regulatory duplication, as well as programs that support innovation, mineral processing and Indigenous capacity building.

*Participants:*  
*Liam McGill, Manager, Critical Mineral Strategy Unit, Mines and Minerals Division, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines*  
*Suzanne Halet, Acting Director, Mineral Development and Program Modernization Branch Mines and Minerals Division, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines*  
*Session Chair: Michael Loken P.Eng., Director Strategic Services Branch, Mines and Minerals Division, Ministry of Energy and Mines*



- 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent #3 – Novel Approaches Towards the Extraction and Recovery of Critical Minerals Amphitheatre Room #2230**  
 Beyond the development of new mines, meeting the future demands for critical minerals will require new and innovative extraction and recovery approaches. This session will feature some leading Canadian companies that are advancing these technologies while broadening the definition of what it means to 'mine' critical minerals beyond what we traditionally consider mining.  
 Participants:  
*Theresa Quick, Vice President Growth, Novamera Surgical Mining Technologies*  
*Josh Clarke, Lead Scientist; and Greg Hanna, Founder and CEO, Destiny Copper*  
*Session Chair: Jeffrey Beaudoin, Manager, Business Development, Ontario Centre of Innovation*
- 12:25 p.m. **Networking Lunch Student Life Centre**  
 During lunch delegates are encouraged to visit the outdoor display of battery electric consumer and mining vehicles adjacent to the Student Life Centre.

**PM PLENARY SESSIONS: STUDENT LIFE CENTRE**

- 1:45 p.m. **Live Podcast – The Unlikely Innovators Tackle Trade, Tariffs, and Fortress Canada with Lauren Tedesco**  
*Featuring:*  
*Lauren Tedesco, Chief Operating Officer, Auto Part Manufacturers Association – APMA*  
  
*Podcast Hosts:*  
*Mike Commito, Director Research and Innovation, Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology*  
*Steve Gravel, Manager, Centre for Smart Mining, Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology*
- 2:20 p.m. **From Critical Minerals to Batteries: Shaping the Future Economy and the Opportunities for Canada**  
 Maximizing the value of Canada's resources requires looking beyond the minerals themselves into value added processing, production and end-of-life recycling. This session will focus on current efforts to determine the ideal processes and the required industries to unlock this potential and facilitate the emergence of a new industry.  
*Sean De Vries, Executive Director, Battery Metals Association of Canada*  
*Moe Kabbara, Executive Director, The Transition Accelerator*
- 2:50 p.m. **Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects Spotlight – Canada Nickel Company**  
*Mark Selby, Chairman & CEO, Canada Nickel Company*
- 3:05 p.m. **Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects Spotlight – Electra Battery Materials**  
*Trent Mell, President, Electra Battery Materials*
- 3:20 p.m. **Afternoon Networking Break**
- 3:35 p.m. **Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects Spotlights – Northern Graphite**  
*Hugues Jacquemin, CEO, Northern Graphite*

3:50 p.m.

**From the Land to the Road: First Nations Role in Mines-to-Mobility**

As the global shift to electrification accelerates, the development of a sustainable and secure supply chain is critical to the country's economic and environmental future. First Nations communities are at the forefront of this transition and play a vital role in the mineral development, processing, and infrastructure projects that power the battery-electric economy. This session will provide insights on how First Nations partnerships will shape the future of the battery-electric economy, from development to end-use mobility solutions.

*Panelists:**Saga Williams, Senior Advisor External Relations, First Nations Major Projects Coalition**Nathan Wright, Director of Indigenous Engagement, ALTO**Darrell Beaulieu, CEO, Denendeh Investments Inc.**Moderator:**Jenny-Lou Campbell, Executive Director, Indigenous Centre of Excellence for Mineral Development*

4:30 p.m.

**Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects  
Spotlight – Frontier Lithium***Graeme Goodall, Vice President of Operations, Frontier Lithium*

4:45 a.m.

**Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects  
Spotlight - Magna Mining Inc.***Jason Jessup, President & CEO, Magna Mining Inc.*

5:00 p.m.

**Closing Remarks***Shawn Poland, Vice President, External Partnerships, Strategic Enrolment, and Executive Director,  
Cambrian Foundation*

5:05 p.m.

**Post Conference Reception - Student Life Centre, Fireside Lounge and Outdoor Display**

(Shuttle Bus Departs Cambrian College for Hilton Garden Inn 5:30 p.m.)

6:30 p.m.

**Reception Concludes**

(Shuttle Bus Departs Cambrian College for Hilton Garden Inn 6:30 p.m.)