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**YUKON EXPECTS GREATER INTEREST AT MINERAL EXPLORATION CONFERENCE**

WHITEHORSE – Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Archie Lang expects that Yukon will generate greater than usual interest at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Mineral Exploration Roundup, given record high metal prices and the territory’s rich mineral potential.

“I am looking forward to having discussions with people who are enthusiastic about investing in Yukon’s mineral wealth and with industry about mine development,” Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Archie Lang said. “With metal prices currently at high levels coupled with a significant global demand for commodities, this is an opportune time to maintain progress currently experienced by the Yukon mining industry.”

The Mineral Exploration Roundup will be held Jan. 29 to Feb. 1 in Vancouver. It is the world’s largest technical mineral exploration conference with over 5,000 people in attendance. The conference is a prime opportunity for Yukon’s exploration and mining community to meet face-to-face with existing and potential mining industry clients.

Members of the Yukon Prospectors’ Association will attend to discuss the mining potential of their properties. The Yukon Chamber of Mines hosts *Yukon Night*, an annual social event that follows the Government of Yukon’s reception. Geologists from the Yukon Geological Survey will present the results of their research and fieldwork, and provide information about Yukon’s mineral potential and mining investment.

“Yukon will be well represented at the Roundup,” Lang said. “I predict a very receptive audience for our information about Yukon’s competitive business environment and mining investment opportunities. There has never been a better time for mine development in Yukon.”

Exploration and mining industries will gather to network, review geological maps and core samples, talk about recent field work, and to attend technical sessions, social events, government and industry presentations, as well as the extensive tradeshow.

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