



May 2010

Dear Women in Mining Canada Members:

With support from industry, WIM Canada launched in October 2009, and since inception membership has grown to 70 voting members, a several hundred others have joined our mailing list. We have experienced an exciting and productive six months as a national not-for-profit organization. With support from industry sponsors and numerous member volunteers, WIM Canada has been able to deliver successful projects and events.

Our 2010 year opened with the WIM Canada International Networking Reception at the PDAC where we released the results of; Ramp-UP: A study on the status of women in Canada's Mining and Exploration sector, in addition our WIM Canada website went live www.wimcanada.org.

We have introduced a number of Committees and have developed this quarterly update to keep our members informed about networking opportunities, events and new projects. We hope you will look to this as a tool for being informed and staying involved in women in mining.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn Mihychuk
President, Women in Mining Canada

WIM Canada International Networking Reception:

In March 2010 WIM Canada, with the help of industry sponsors and member volunteers, hosted the 3rd Annual International Networking reception during the PDAC. This year the event held record numbers with over 500 men, women and students in attendance. It was the best venue for networking at the PDAC. With increased interest from industry, our Event Committee opened sponsorship categories this year, allowing more sponsors to participate and bringing more benefits to those companies. Proven Reserves the exclusive silver sponsor, developed an exciting networking challenge for attendees with prize give-a-ways. The atmosphere of the event was complimented by a talented student string quartet. We are looking forward to another reception next year. If you your company would like to sponsor this event, please send an email to <mailto:info@wimcanada.org> Attn: Sponsorship Committee.

Membership:

Membership in WIM Canada offers you the opportunity to be a part of a national professional group that has a focus on enhancing the profile of women in mining. A Full Membership (Voting) is only \$25 but to encourage students and others who are interested we also offer a free Membership (non-voting). The International Networking Reception increased our membership numbers and also provided the opportunity to sign up for specific volunteer roles. Twenty-nine new volunteers showed their interest in the following categories; Communications, Finance, Membership, Event Planning, Mentoring, Governance and Special Project Committee. Thank you to all of our new members and volunteers. Over the course of Q2 each of you will be contacted by an interim committee chair as an introductory to the committee of your selection. Sign up is still available! If you have an interest in being part of any one of the WIM Canada Committees please let us know at <mailto:participate@wimcanada.org> Attn: Committee Volunteers.

Ramp-UP:

Another exciting part of the WIM Canada International reception was the release of the industry gender study entitled; **Ramp-UP: A Study on the Status of Women in Canada's Mining and Exploration Sector**. This study received a very positive response from representatives in the public and private sector. Women in Mining Canada worked closely with project partner, MiHr (Mining Industry Human Resources Council) and the Conference Board of Canada as the researcher. Over 2000 female employees, employers, students and educators were surveyed. Major findings and recommendations from the study can be found on the www.wimcanada.org website, click on "research".

House of Commons Standing Committee on of the Status of Women:

WIM Canada was invited to present to the Standing Committee on the topic of **Increasing the Participation of Women in Non-Traditional Occupations**. MaryAnn Mihychuk represented WIM Canada on Wednesday April 14th, 2010 at Parliament Hill. Her statement to the committee outlined the objectives of WIM Canada and summarized the results of the Ramp-UP study which reveals the barriers and opportunities for gender equality in the mining and exploration sector. The statement also emphasized the importance of the mining industry in Canada as a high tech, safe and environmentally responsible industry. Recommendations included programs such as Mining Matters as a tool for education; recognizing the importance introducing of geology and earth science earlier as part of curriculum for the primary grade levels. It was reported that WIM Canada received the most attention from committee MPs and co-presenters. The presentation was followed by a favourable question and answer period that delivered supportive comments from committee members.

Education and Mentorship:

Women in Mining Canada extended our support to the Corona College located in Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland and Labrador by way of a letter of endorsement for the **Orientation to Careers in Mining for Women program**. As our sector faces many challenges, including a pending skilled labour shortage, many experts agree that improving diversity within the mining workforce by attracting and retaining traditionally underrepresented groups such as women may be the best solution. We hope our letter will help the organization to inspire young women and introduce the field them to a career in the minerals sector.

New Chapters:

The University of Manitoba has initiated a chapter and have expressed interest in mentorship, networking, field trips and more. In addition, the Saskatchewan Branch launched in early 2010. Please welcome our newest chapters!

Up coming events:

- **CIM AGM Conference and Exhibition Vancouver May 9 – 12, 2010**
 - Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre
- **Toronto Branch WIM Luncheon Wednesday, May 12, 2010**
 - McMillan LLP Law Offices Brookfield Place, 181 Bay St, Suite 4400
 - Guest Speaker: Lisa Zangari, Senior Vice President, Human Resources for IAMGOLD Corporation. How to be Unique, Not a Freak!
- **CIM WIM Joint Luncheon Thursday, May 20, 2010**
 - National Club, 303 Bay Street, Toronto, ON
 - Guest Speaker: Lynda Bloom, President & CEO, Halo Resources Ltd. A New Lease on Life in Northwest Manitoba
- **WIM Canada AGM & Reception Thursday November 4, 2010**
 - Toronto, Location to be announced

Communications:

With the release of the website, WIM Canada has been exploring the best options for communication to keep our members informed without inundating you with too many emails. The Communication Committee will release quarterly updates related to Committee projects, events, employment opportunities and more. As a national organization, we will introduce a section on branches and even profile women in mining as special feature reports. Many news worthy and current events will be posted to the website, so we encourage you to check in from time to time to keep informed, help you network and find out ways for getting involved in women in mining and the broad spectrum of the mining and exploration industry.