



Media Release

For Immediate Release

Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce welcomes announcement of contract agreement

Focus must now be on achieving a productive and safe work environment that is an example to the world

(Greater Sudbury, July 9, 2010) The Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce (GSCC) congratulates the United Steelworkers Local 6500 for voting to accept the latest contract developed by the negotiating teams of the USW and Vale.

"Yesterday's announcement of a contract agreement concludes a long, contentious chapter in our community," said Debbi Nicholson, president and CEO of the GSCC. "It is vital that production and momentum be achieved as quickly as possible so that Greater Sudbury can move forward and re-establish itself as a leading centre of mining."

Details of the contract have been released to the public and can be found on our website. Some highlights include:

- A \$0.90 cents per hour raise over the life of the contract;
- Cost Of Living Allowance of \$0.28 upon ratification and an annual COLA roll-in on June 1 of 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014;
- Defined benefit pension-- an increase of \$150 to \$3,450 a month upon ratification. Another increase of \$100 to \$3,550 a month June 1, 2013. A defined contribution plan for new employees but includes a long-term disability plan that will pay the same amount as the defined benefit plan LTD;
- \$3.75 nickel bonus trigger with a 25% cap on straight-time hours worked;
- A return-to-work bonus of \$2,000 will be given to all returning and retiring employees;

"Despite the expansion of our economic origins in recent years, not having the full economic effect of a significant segment of the community over the last year has been noticeable. This contract remedies this situation and gets us back on track," concluded Nicholson.

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*The **Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce** represents over 1,000 businesses and through the participation of its member volunteers on committees and task forces, works as the 'Voice of Business' to influence federal, provincial and local legislation affecting business.*

