

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Northern Ontario working to attract global investors

North Bay, Ont. (Feb. 11, 2010) – Northern Ontario is open for business. A new web portal, www.investnorthernontario.com, will help spread this message to investors around the world. The site was unveiled today by the Ontario's North Economic Development Corp., a partnership of municipal economic development organizations in five Northern centres: North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Timmins and Thunder Bay.

ONEDC utilizes the benefits that come with strengths in numbers and promotes investment in Northern Ontario.

"This new website will serve as an excellent tool for businesses and organizations to attract investment to Northern Ontario" said the Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for FedNor. "Ontario's North Economic Development Corporation is doing fantastic work to promote the North and all it has to offer".

"The Invest North website is an important part of our collective effort to strengthen the North by promoting our investment advantages," said Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry.

Numerous projects have been undertaken through the ONEDC partnership as a means of encouraging investment in the North. The Invest North program, which includes the web portal and additional collateral material, is a prime example of the benefits that result when the region works together for a common goal. The portal contains information targeting potential investors about the ONEDC partner cities as well as details relating to their combined capacity in regards to the primary growth sectors of each.

"It's rewarding to see the five Northern communities continue to work together for the good of the North. We recognize that success for one ultimately means success for all. This new Web portal is a perfect tool to get the message out that the North is *the* place to do business." said Victor Fedeli, Mayor of the City of North Bay

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For more information, please contact: Marla Tremblay, EDO
Mayor's Office of Economic Development
City of North Bay
(705) 474-0400 ext. 2318