



## Media Release

### 2009 Socio-Economic Results released for the Snap Lake Mine

**Yellowknife (May 13, 2010)** – De Beers Canada is pleased to release on its website ([www.debeerscanada.com](http://www.debeerscanada.com)) the Snap Lake Mine 2009 Socio-Economic Report summarizing the company's contribution to the economic, social and cultural well-being of the Northwest Territories.

“As I reflect on the year, one thing rings loud and clear,” said Brad Corrigan, Mine General Manager. “Our employees are a resilient, dedicated, hardworking team of ordinary people and they have done the most extraordinary things in 2009. I am proud of them.”

Highlights of the 2009 Socio-Economic Report include:

- \$155.9 million spent in 2009, bringing De Beers' total investment on Snap Lake's construction and operations to \$1.39 billion at the end of 2009
- Of the total expenditure, \$116 million was spent with NWT companies (74.51%) and \$58.9 million was spent with Aboriginal companies (50.74% of NWT spend)
- 163 NWT businesses have registered in De Beers NWT Business registry to obtain access to early information about goods and services required by the mine
- \$1.69 million in social investment spending during 2009, including \$1.2 million on education, training and literacy initiatives
- De Beers “Books in Homes” literacy program was awarded the NWT Ministerial Literacy Award, and De Beers delivered another 4,000 free books to children in communities close to the mine
- 12,135 hours of total instruction at our learning centre
- Snap Lake Mine registered to certify Underground Miners to Ontario Common Core certification
- 41 total trainees since inception, exceeding our commitment

In late 2009, De Beers announced plans to ramp-up production at Snap Lake to reach full production by the end of 2012 and the hiring of 175 additional workers by the end of 2010.



“Our careful and deliberate growth is planned so that we increase production in line with worldwide diamond demand, which is trending in a positive direction,” said Corrigan. “The first phase of our ramp-up hiring is complete. We are focused on ensuring full training of newly hired employees and safe integration of each employee into our workforce.”

The company is investing approximately \$48 million in capital projects in 2010, including construction of the permanent accommodations for employees on site and the East Cell, which is the second phase of the North Pile, the processed kimberlite containment facility.

The Snap Lake Mine is located about 220 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife and was the first of two diamond mines opened in Canada by De Beers in 2008.

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