

Ryan Morelli Government of Saskatchewan

Developments and Initiatives in Saskatchewan's Mineral Sector

ABSTRACT

Over the past year Saskatchewan maintained its role as a global leader in potash and uranium production, and also realized production of several other commodities including gold, coal, sodium sulfate, salt and clays. Strong geological potential for a variety of mineral deposit types, including critical minerals, combined with a stable policy and regulatory environment, continue to attract exploration attention from local juniors to international major mining companies as the province solidifies its reputation as a destination to do business. The Government of Saskatchewan has recently implemented a Mineral Development Strategy to support diversification of Saskatchewan's mineral sector by encouraging exploration for precious metals, base metals and diamonds. Three Strategic initiatives have been introduced to date: (1) acquisition of new airborne geophysical data in key areas; (2) focused geoscience studies, conducted by the Saskatchewan Geological Survey and, (3) a 'Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive' to support drilling in a defined area of high potential for the target commodities.

BIOGRAPHY

Ryan Morelli is a professional geologist with the Government of Saskatchewan. He completed his B.Sc. in Geology at the University of Saskatchewan, followed by his M.Sc. and Ph.D. at the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alberta, specializing in geochronology of hydrothermal ore deposits. In 2007, he accepted a position with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey as a Precambrian Research Geologist. In this role he undertook geoscience investigations throughout much of the Reindeer Zone in the Trans-Hudson Orogen of Saskatchewan and focused on settings of gold and base metal deposits. In 2017, he was assigned to a new role with the Survey as Assistant Chief Geologist of the Data Management unit. He also holds Adjunct Professor status in the Department of Geology at the University of Regina.

