

# SURFACE MINER

**DO YOU LIKE TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY WHILE BEING PART OF A TEAM?**

WOULD IT BE EXCITING TO HELP PRODUCE VALUABLE METALS AND MINERALS THAT SUPPORT OUR WAY OF LIFE?

They work with other engineers and technologists to help plan, design and erect new mines. They also manage and control the activities of existing mines. Would you enjoy a career path with a multitude of options, from technical research to senior management? **Mining engineering may be right for you.**

## JOB DESCRIPTION

- **The surface miner** is part of a mining team that begins the process of extracting rock and mineral from the ground.
- **The miner uses sophisticated machines** and equipment to blast and move rock containing the sought-after minerals.

## COMPENSATION

2007 TECHNOLOGIST – MINE

Average Annual Salary: **\$75,000**

## WHY ARE PEOPLE ATTRACTED TO THIS CAREER?

- The opportunity to **work anywhere in Canada (or the world)**. (Relocation allowances are generally provided.)
- Independent thought and work.
- **Financial rewards** for high achievers.
- Opportunities for training and **career advancement and continuous learning**
- Opportunities to work with **new technologies**
- Soon (likely 2009) to be part of a **National Certified Program**

## LIFESTYLE EXPECTATIONS

[WITH SOME POSITIONS IN SOME COMPANIES]

- **READY TO WORK SHIFTS**
- **IF MINE IS IN REMOTE LOCATION:**
  - i) Time away from family for extended periods
  - ii) Live with work colleagues on a 24/7 basis for 2-3 weeks at a time, with 2-3 weeks off between work schedules
- **MINE MAY BE IN A RURAL COMMUNITY, WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS, HUNTING, FISHING, HIKING AND SO FORTH**

# PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

SOMEONE GOING INTO THIS LINE OF WORK SHOULD:

- i) Be a team player and communicate well with others but also be resourceful and independent
- ii) Enjoy working with people from different cultures
- iii) Depending on the mine, be capable of working in challenging physical environments
- iv) Able to visualize three-dimensional layouts
- v) Enjoy problem solving
- vi) Be hands-on, problem-oriented, methodical and able to recognize and account for risk in managing tasks
- vii) Like operating large equipment
- viii) Understand the importance of following procedures (especially with hazardous materials, equipment)
- ix) Have a high level of respect for established safety procedures and regulations
- x) Accept challenges (such as a variety of working conditions, some severe) with patience, flexibility, adaptability, and fortitude
- xi) Adaptable to established work practice and standards
- xii) Embrace new techniques and technologies
- xiii) Be physically fit and mobile

## CAREER PROGRESSION OPTIONS: SURFACE MINER

# 1

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Secondary school diploma is recommended
- Apprenticeship training up to two years may be required, as determined by the province/territory of employment.
- Specialized on-site training as needed

