

DICK DESTEFANO RECOGNIZED AS SCIENCE NORTH HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

(SUDBURY, ON) – Science North recognized a leader of Northern Ontario’s mining industry as an Honorary Life Member on Friday night. Mr. DeStefano, Executive Director (Retired) Sudbury Area Mining Supply and Service Association (now MineConnect), is a community leader who has contributed a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the fields of mining.

With a strategic vision of a united mining service and supply sector across Northern Ontario, Mr. DeStefano has worked hand in hand with Dynamic Earth and Science North for many years as a champion our vibrant and progressive mining community.

When Dick discovered there were over 25,000 people working in the local mining industry and that 8 per cent of the population in the City of Greater Sudbury worked in the supply sector, generating \$5 billion annually in sales, it seemed obvious that the businesses working together collectively could be very powerful. Dick credits his background as a generalist with experience in education, community development and communication technologies for his success. Today MineConnect represents a membership of 190 mining-related companies across Northern Ontario. Members are globally recognized for their innovation, and the essential role they play in advancing the mining sector.

“I would like to congratulate our distinguished honoree and celebrate Dick’s contributions to mining innovation. As a result of his efforts, Northern Ontario continues to be recognized as a world-leading centre for science, mining, business, and innovation; for developing future generations to pursue careers in these fields; and for the possibilities that emerge when we dare to dream big. We are inspired by Dick’s efforts and accomplishments and pleased to honour him with an Honorary Life Member award at Science North.”- *Dr. Stephen Kosar, Chair, Board of Trustees*

“Dick has worked in partnership with Science North for over 20 years and is extremely deserving of this honour. His long-time support and involvement in key projects have contributed immensely to the success of Dynamic Earth. He has been a lifelong educator, business leader, connector and relationship-builder whose legacy continues to thrive and grow our integrated, diverse and sustainable mining sector.” – *Jennifer Booth, Science North CEO, Interim*

The Honorary Life Member Award was instituted in 1984 by the Board of Trustees of Science North to recognize individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to science and/or

to Science North.

To make a donation in support of the establishment of the Dick DeStefano Accessibility Fund for Dynamic Earth please visit, sciencenorth.ca/HLM.

About Science North

Science North is Northern Ontario's most popular tourist attraction and an educational resource for children and adults across the province. Science North maintains the second – and eighth-largest science centres in Canada. Science North's attractions include a science centre, IMAX® theatre, digital Planetarium, butterfly gallery, special exhibits hall, and Dynamic Earth: Home of the Big Nickel. Science North, in partnership with Laurentian University, offers North America's first and only comprehensive Science Communication program, a joint Master's and Graduate Diploma program. As part of its mandate, Science North provides science experiences throughout Northern Ontario including outreach to schools and festivals, summer science camps and more, and has a permanent base in Thunder Bay providing outreach to the Northwest. Science North is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For information, visit sciencenorth.ca.

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