

**Board Resolution Regarding PolyMet Mining**  
January 28, 2014

The Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce supports the emerging strategic metals mining industry in Northeastern Minnesota. The Chamber's board of directors passed a formal resolution, illustrating this support, on May 28, 2013.

The Chamber's board understands how the strategic mining industry of Northeastern Minnesota will generate thousands of new jobs for our region. As well, the board appreciates how strategic metals mining will have a positive impact on local tax revenue and education funding. Additionally, the board realizes how mining companies operating in Northeastern Minnesota, such as PolyMet, will utilize advanced technology to meet rigorous environmental standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Minnesota to ensure protection of human and environmental health. These agencies rely on years of scientific research to set these standards that safeguard our air, water and land.

The board also recognizes and appreciates how members of our Chamber have already benefited from the planning phase of the PolyMet project. For example, Barr Engineering is doing much of PolyMet's environmental work. Additionally, Krech Ojard is providing PolyMet engineering support. PolyMet has spent more than \$1.2 million doing business with Duluth companies in 2013.

We recognize that, once PolyMet receives its permits, several more Duluth area businesses will provide services and product to the Polymet Project. The positive economic impact of PolyMet will exponentially grow when construction and mining begin.

In summary, the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce stands in support of the emerging strategic metals mining in beautiful Northeastern Minnesota. The PolyMet Project is the most immediate example of this mining.

Therefore, the Chamber's board is passing this formal resolution to: **fully support and publicly advocate for the PolyMet Mining initiative. We respectfully encourage decision makers empowered with determining PolyMet's future to allow this needed project to proceed.**

D. Ross