

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2008



A message from the Minister:

Despite the cyclical fluctuations of the international marketplace, Manitoba's world-class deposits and high mineral-resource potential have sustained a consistently strong and productive mining industry in our province. In 2007, the value of mineral production totaled \$2.5 billion for metals and industrials and \$600 million for petroleum, reaching a record \$3.1 billion, tripling in value since 2003. Company spending on exploration in Manitoba is estimated at \$102.6 million for 2007, nearly double the \$52.9 million spent in 2006 and 2005.

Athriving exploration and mining industry contributes significantly to the provincial economy and also offers a wide range of employment and economic development opportunities for Manitobans, particularly for residents in our northern and Aboriginal communities.

Providing timely, high-quality geoscience data is critical to attracting explorationists and investors who can help us explore and develop our mineral wealth. The annual *Report of Activities* is one of many exploration tools produced by the Manitoba Geological Survey. It summarizes the Survey's geoscience investigations from the past year, including new field programs, new digital initiatives, and collaborative ventures with the federal government, universities, and the mineral exploration industry.

The *Report of Activities* is released at our Manitoba Mining and Minerals Convention where delegates can obtain a complimentary copy in print and in digital format on CD. We also make the report available on our website for free download and for purchase through our Publication Sales to ensure that the latest on Manitoba's geology and mineral resources is readily accessible to everyone.

Manitoba means business—I invite you to explore the possibilities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Rondeau', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Honourable Jim Rondeau
Minister of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines