

Fundraising by Junior, Intermediate Miners hit Lowest since 2019

Mining fundraising declined in 2024, with junior and intermediate miners raising US\$10.27 billion, down 12% and marking a five-year low. Despite a slight increase in financing deals, total funds dropped sharply in November and December. Gold financings fell 28% in December due to fewer large deals, while base metals funding plunged 45%. In contrast, specialty minerals saw a surge, with lithium, uranium, and graphite financings reaching multi-month highs.

Fast-track approval no guarantee of success for B.C. mines, researcher suggests

B.C.'s move to fast-track mining permits amid U.S. tariff threats is welcomed by the industry, but research shows economic factors, not regulations, cause most delays. Nearly half of approved B.C. mines since 1995 never opened due to market volatility. While the initiative aims to boost critical mineral production, concerns remain over project viability and underperformance. The government insists environmental and Indigenous consultations will continue.

More Power Needed for Growing Northwestern Ontario Mining Sector

Northwestern Ontario needs significant power upgrades to support its rapidly growing mining sector, with 37 major projects aiming for operation by 2033. The region requires 250 megawatts of additional generation, with key areas like the Ring of Fire, North Shore, and Red Lake facing critical shortages. The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association's task force recommends expanding biomass power facilities for faster deployment and upgrading key transmission lines to ensure reliable energy supply. Without immediate investment in infrastructure, mining companies may hesitate to proceed, risking lost economic opportunities for the region.

Gold Demand has hit Record Levels as Central Banks Buy at 'Eye-Watering' Pace

Gold demand is soaring as central banks and investors seek stability amid economic uncertainty. Prices surpassed \$2,900 per ounce, driven by inflation concerns and geopolitical tensions. Central bank buying surged in 2024, while gold ETFs saw renewed interest. Goldman Sachs forecasts prices reaching \$3,000 by 2026, with future demand tied to Fed rate cuts and U.S. trade policies.

Canada's mining sector expresses concern over US tariffs on critical minerals

The Mining Association of Canada (MAC) warns that new U.S. tariffs on Canadian minerals will disrupt supply chains and raise costs for U.S. businesses. MAC President Pierre Gratton urged collaboration, noting Canada supplies over half of U.S. mineral imports. The tariffs may push Canadian firms to seek other markets, impacting U.S. industries. The U.S. Aluminum Association also seeks an exemption, citing Canadian imports' importance to manufacturing and defense.