

April 1, 2022

Executive Director's Message

SMRs (small modular reactors) in Saskatchewan haven't taken another step forward with "[A Strategic Plan for the Deployment of Small Modular Reactors](#)" being released jointly by the Governments of Ontario, New Brunswick, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.

To achieve our goal to see as much SMR related work come to and stay in Saskatchewan;

- SIMSA has begun a dialog with the Organisation of Canadian Nuclear Industries on seeing Saskatchewan companies becoming accredited for nuclear power work.
- SIMSA's Board met with Cameco Executive on March 30th to discuss all the relevant issues
- SIMSA's Board Chair and Executive Director, will be meeting with X-Energy's President and CEO next week to discuss their proposed design (X-Energy is a potential provider of a/the SMR(s)).
- SIMSA has begun a dialogue with GE Hitachi (GE Hitachi is a potential provider of a/the SMR(s)).

For background information on SMRs and to read further thoughts on "the best SMR characteristics for Saskatchewan" see [SIMSA's March 1st newsletter](#).

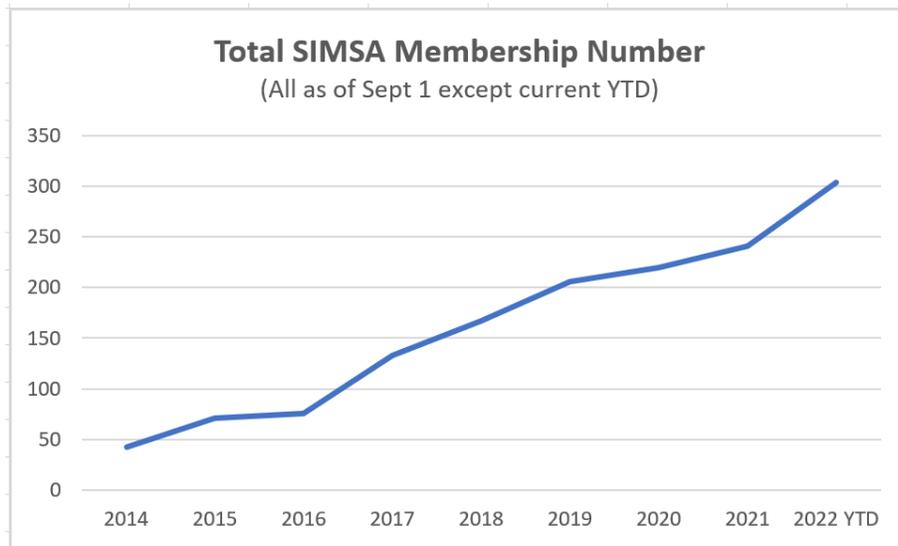
SIMSA provided 2 learning opportunities through the Industrial Concierge in March. The first was a Carbon lunch and learn which included the expectations of the mining sector on supplier emissions. Additionally, there was some information on the impact of the carbon tax on operations and current methods for reducing energy consumption. The event included the participation of BHP.

The second lunch and learn was on digital innovation and trends within the mining industry. The presentation outlined the current under-investment of the Canadian market vs its peers in R&D, the current opportunities, and the need to prioritize the acquisition of digital skills and talent.

Additionally, through the Industrial Concierge initiative, we are looking to bring together multiple industries, including mining, oil & gas, oil sands, and crown corporations to speak to their digital needs, and what they may be willing to collaborate on. This we hope will lead to a list of innovation needs and opportunities required of SIMSA members.

And finally, SIMSA has surpassed 300 members. Our growth has been steady and we expect it to continue.

SIMSA's Steady Growth



Eric

Advocacy

SIMSA has brought the “Certified Saskatchewan Supplier” Designation to SupplierLink SK. SupplierLink is a trade-agreement compliant supplier-sourcing tool – since it stretches across provincial borders - which is seeing growth in its use by provincial governments, their agencies and crowns, as well as cities, towns, and RMs.

With SIMSA’s new affiliation, buyers can quickly identify Saskatchewan suppliers. The goal is for procurement persons to easily identify suppliers, with a significant economic commitment to Saskatchewan.

SIMSA members’ profiles on SupplierLink will be marked as a SIMSA member and be deemed a “Certified Saskatchewan Supplier by SIMSA.” Until SIMSA began work with SupplierLink, there was not a way to readily identify “Saskatchewan Certified Suppliers” on the system – now there is.

Further, SIMSA will be providing a “Certified Saskatchewan Supplier by SIMSA” credential, to companies who would not normally be SIMSA members, but do meet SIMSA’s “Saskatchewan” presence criteria, such as “having a permanent physical office in Saskatchewan.”

It should be noted that if a company qualifies to be a SIMSA Regular or Open member, the company must join SIMSA to gain the “Certified Saskatchewan Supplier by SIMSA” accreditation on SupplierLink.

It should be noted that listing on SupplierLink is optional for SIMSA members.

Further, BHP Hatch/Bantrel are still using SIMSA’s Saskatchewan Supplier Database to identify suitable businesses when developing the potential list of contractors for a specific scope of work. SIMSA’s member database is one of the four databases included in the competitive bid process for the Jansen Potash project, which includes: EXPORT – The Aboriginal Marketplace, Mid Sask Municipal Alliance, Hatch/Bantrel, and SIMSA. See [HERE](#).

SIMSA members will also see a reduced subscription cost on SupplierLink, as well as an option to have their information on SIMSA’s Saskatchewan Supplier Database, directly ported to SupplierLink, to ease setup on that system. And, if a SIMSA member chooses to subscribe to SupplierLink, they will also see greater exposure to procurement persons falling under the various trade-agreements, such as provincial governments, their agencies and crowns, as well as cities, towns, and RMs.

The “Certified Saskatchewan Supplier by SIMSA” program and software development work required to support it are currently underway. We are targeting May 2nd, 2022 as the official release date.

Members’ News

[APEX Distribution Launches New Product Guide](#)

[Automation Project Feature - TSS Mine Water Discharge — Team Power Solutions](#)

[Big fabrications – indoors and outdoors – lead the way at JNE in February](#)

[Brandt's Best-in-Class Monitoring Solution](#)

[Did You Know One of the Largest Commercial Diamond Processing Labs in the World is in Saskatoon?](#)

[Haztech Launches Virtual Covid-19 Testing for Travel.](#)

[Nobel HSSE is now offering Advanced First Aid for Mine Rescue & Firefighters!](#)

[Northern Strands Releases an Expanded Products and Services Catalogue for 2022](#)

[Prairie Machine is Expanding](#)

[Sodexo Canada releases **new** report on economic reconciliation through Indigenous prosperity](#)

[Team Power Solutions Begins the 14th Year of Operation — Team Power Solutions](#)

Sector News

Rio Tinto and Star Diamond are heading towards a production decision on their diamond mine in Fort a la Corne. This would be the largest diamond mine in the world and see the production of gem-quality diamonds; many of which would be large, high quality, and rare/fancy colors.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has seen sanctions placed on Alrosa – a Russian diamond mining company – by jurisdictions such as the [US](#) and [EU](#). Russia produces 30% of the world's rough diamonds, and 90% of this comes from Alrosa's Russian operations. Further, major diamond buyers such as [Tiffany](#) and [Signet](#) (which owns the Kay Jewelers, Zales and Jared store chains) have decided to not source from Russia. Russian diamonds are receiving a similar categorisation as “blood diamonds.”

Given a major portion of the world's supply has just effectively disappeared, the need for new sources has significantly dramatically increased. As such, that portion of the potential Saskatchewan mine's feasibility has dramatically increased.

SIMSA is in constant contact with Rio Tinto in regards to their use of our member database in a similar manner as BHP, should a positive production decision be made.

You've already [heard](#) that buyers scrambling for supplies of potash and uranium are looking to ~~Canada~~ Saskatchewan to fill gaps caused by the war in Ukraine – now maybe diamonds will be next?

Upcoming Events

Register for Upcoming Events [HERE](#)

- **Lunch & Learn: SR&ED with Advance-Tek Consulting – April 22, 2022**
At this event you will learn about what funding is available through the Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program, as well as what details are needed to ensure a successful claim.
- **Presentation Workshop with Susie Ashfield - Speak2Impact – May 17 & 19, 2022**
A two-day workshop where only 8-persons can attend. Each person must do a 10-minute presentation in front of the rest of the group, and then have Susie work with you. The event will be run over 2-days, at 3-hours per day – a total of 6-hours.
- **SIMSA AGM – May 25, 2022**
Our AGM will be in-person this year at Wanuskewin Heritage Park. Bronwyn Eyre will be the keynote speaker.
- **Speed Networking Event at Global Petroleum Show (Calgary) – June 8, 2022**
At the event, a group of energy producer and/or pipeline company procurement persons will be positioned around a room. You will have 5-minutes with a procurement person to make your pitch, ask questions, and then you must move onto the next company/procurement person. Crescent Point and TC Energy are already confirmed as attendees, more are expected.
- **Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum – June 20 & 21, 2022**
This event is going back to its original format including tradeshow and attendance from outside of Saskatchewan.
- **Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum – September 28, 2022**
Save the date for the 8th Annual Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum at the Delta Hotel in Regina, SK. Crescent Point and TC Energy are already confirmed as attendees, more are expected.

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