

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## International Minerals Innovation Institute Recognizes Executive Leadership Transition

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**Saskatoon, SK:** With the upcoming retirement of Executive Director Al Shpyth at the end of June, the International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII) is recognizing his outstanding contributions to the organization and the broader minerals sector. Al's retirement was previously announced in December 2024, and IMII, along with its members, now takes the opportunity to formally thank him for his leadership and lasting impact.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to express our deep appreciation to Al Shpyth for his many contributions and stellar leadership over the last decades in the industry," said Steve McLellan, Board Chair of IMII. "I know the members of IMII and, in fact, the entire minerals sector of Saskatchewan owe a great deal to Al for his commitment and service. We wish him the very best in his retirement."

In recognition of Al's commitment to environmental stewardship and innovation, IMII is proud to announce the creation of the **Al Shpyth Scholarship for Environmental Excellence**. Beginning in 2025, the \$1,000 annual scholarship will be awarded to a post-secondary student in Saskatchewan enrolled in environmental studies or demonstrating a strong environmental focus. The scholarship, offered annually through 2028, will support students pursuing careers in the minerals industry while promoting environmental responsibility.

As part of the leadership transition, IMII is pleased to announce that Lesley McGilp will assume the role of Executive Director in late June. Lesley brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the position, and the Board is excited to work with her to continue advancing IMII's projects and mandate.

"I am very pleased to announce that Lesley McGilp will take on the role of Executive Director of IMII in late June," McLellan continued. "We are all very excited to work with her to build on our successes and further advance innovation in Saskatchewan's minerals sector."

For more information about IMII, visit [www.imii.ca](http://www.imii.ca).

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### About IMII:

The International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII) is the trusted hub for expertise and innovation in Saskatchewan's minerals industry, driving transformative change, inspiring actionable solutions, and building a sustainable and globally respected minerals sector in the province. As a member-based organization governed by industry, post-secondary education, and government, we unite to accelerate technological innovation, develop a representative workforce, and promote thought leadership. Together, we drive progress and shape the future of the minerals sector.