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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Timmins Chamber invests in exploration project**

March 25, 2004 (TIMMINS). The Timmins Chamber of Commerce has put its money where its mouth is to support the innovative Discover Abitibi mining exploration project. President Steve Kidd announced that the Chamber board approved an additional \$500 donation towards fulfilling the massive project's private sector contribution requirement. "This is a terrific initiative for our region", said Kidd. "We're leveraging more than \$10M in government funding, but the private sector needs to show its support with some of its own investment in order for us to access the entire amount".

Discover Abitibi is a Timmins Economic Development project that was launched last year. Its goal is to encourage exploration in the region by funding innovative technologies and projects that will facilitate the search for new mineral deposits. "So far, this has pumped more than \$##M into the economies in Timmins and Kirkland Lake, and we haven't even calculated the spin off values yet", said TEDC Chair Dave McGirr.

"We strongly urge Timmins and Kirkland Lake businesses to follow the Chamber's lead and make a donation towards Discover Abitibi. It has enormous potential, not just from the current projects, but from the new methods and technologies it will leave behind as its legacy", said Kidd. The research undertaken as part of this project will ultimately be used by exploration companies across North America.

Businesses or individuals wishing to make a donation to Discover Abitibi can call the TEDC at 360-8486.