



UPLift 2025

Uranium | Potash | Lithium

September 8-11

Saskatoon, Canada

Conference Guide

Co-organized by
the Hydrometallurgy Section of MetSoc and
the Canadian Mineral Processors SK/MB Chapter



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Welcome Note from UPLift Co-Chairs

Welcome, UPLift 2025 Delegates,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we extend a warm welcome while we respect the traditional territory of the Treaty Six First Nations and the homeland of the Métis. We honor the First Nations, Métis, and Indigenous ancestors of this land as we gather for the inaugural Uranium, Potash, and Lithium International Conference–UPLift 2025, held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, from September 8–11, 2025.

For the first time, the two societies of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM)–Canadian Mineral Processors (CMP) and the Metallurgy & Materials Society (MetSoc), along with its Hydrometallurgy Section, are joining forces to host this landmark inaugural international event. UPLift 2025 merges the annual regional CMP conference with the legacy of MetSoc’s highly successful decennial U2000, U2010, and U2020 conferences.

Saskatchewan stands as a global leader in potash and uranium production, with lithium rapidly emerging as a key resource. This collaborative initiative–supported by CIM societies, the Saskatchewan Mining Association, industry partners, and academic institutions–has made it possible to organize a world-class event focused on three critical mineral commodities that are vital to the prosperity of Saskatchewan, Canada, and the world.

Beginning Monday afternoon with fireside conversations featuring industry leaders, followed by keynote speakers on Tuesday morning, and continuing throughout the week with technical presentations, UPLift 2025 will offer a rich exchange of knowledge and experience. Sessions will spotlight innovations in uranium, potash, and lithium, provoke thoughtful discussion, and introduce cutting-edge topics such as advanced extraction technologies, operational excellence, and global challenges. The conference is designed to foster cross-disciplinary learning, enabling technical professionals to benefit from each other’s insights–even across different commodities.

We hope this international gathering will inspire continued progress in making our mining and metallurgical industries safer, more environmentally and socially responsible, and committed to sustainability, equity, diversity, and inclusion–especially in today’s complex geopolitical and economic landscape.

We wish you an enjoyable stay in Saskatoon and a truly memorable experience filled with fresh ideas and meaningful connections at UPLift 2025.

Honorary Chair: Mr. Engin Özberk

Co-chair for Uranium: Jeff Adams, Global Director, Hatch

Co-chair for Potash: Todd Steen, Global Director, Hatch

Co-chair for Lithium: Greg Miller, Supervising Process Engineer, Hatch

A welcome note from MetSoc and the Hydrometallurgy Section

Dear UPLift 2025 Delegate,

On behalf of the Metallurgy and Materials Society of CIM (MetSoc) and the Hydrometallurgy Section of MetSoc, I warmly welcome you to the inaugural Uranium, Potash, and Lithium International Conference, held in the vibrant city of Saskatoon—the Paris of the Prairies.

MetSoc and the Hydrometallurgy Section have a long tradition of hosting impactful conferences focused on uranium extraction and processing, including the highly successful Uranium 2000 and Uranium 2010 in Saskatoon, and the virtual Uranium 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This gathering is particularly special, as we have partnered with the Canadian Mineral Processors Society of CIM (CMP) to present a world-class event focused on three mineral commodities: uranium, potash and lithium, all of them vital to Saskatchewan, to Canada, and to the global economy. In this endeavour, we have also been supported by the Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA).

In today's shaky geopolitical landscape, our technical community faces shared challenges across all sectors: improving recoveries, lowering costs, and addressing environmental, social, and governance concerns. UPLift 2025 is designed to foster innovation, spark meaningful dialogue, and create valuable networking opportunities around topics such as new extraction projects and technologies, advanced operational practices, and global industry trends.

As a final note, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the UPLift Organizing Committee and to its Honorary Chair, Mr. Engin Özberk, for their dedication and remarkable effort in bringing this conference to life in under a year.

We wish you a rewarding and enjoyable experience at UPLift 2025.

Warmest regards,

Dimitrios Filippou, Eng., Ph.D.

Past-President and Conference Liaison, MetSoc

Greetings from the CMP Society

Dear Participants of UPLift 2025,

On behalf of the Canadian Mineral Processors, it is my great pleasure to warmly welcome you to the UPLift 2025 Conference. This gathering brings together a vibrant community of professionals, experts, and enthusiasts who share a deep commitment to advancing the mineral processing industry.

This year marks a special milestone, as we are proud to be partnering with MetSoc for the first time. An exciting collaboration that strengthens our shared mission and brings new perspectives to our collective efforts.

We have an exciting lineup of presentations, discussions, and networking opportunities designed to inspire innovation and foster collaboration across all sectors of our field. Whether you are here to learn about the latest technologies, share your own experiences, or simply connect with peers, this conference offers a unique platform to grow both personally and professionally.

Your participation and enthusiasm are what truly make this event special. We encourage you to engage fully, exchange ideas openly, and take advantage of everything the conference has to offer.

Thank you for joining us at UPLift 2025. Here's to a successful and rewarding conference for everyone.

Rayneth Law

Senior Process Engineer, Molycop, CMP Liason

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Todd Steen, Co-chair for Potash, Global Director, Hatch

Greg Miller, Co-chair for Lithium, Supervising Process Engineer, Hatch

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Simone Florence, Event Coordinator

Program Summary

Leaders Speaking Fireside Conversations

Monday, September 8

Leaders Speaking – Fireside Conversation on Uranium Production in Saskatchewan, Past-Present-Future

Brian Reilly, Senior Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, Cameco Corporation

Jim Corman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Orano Canada Inc.

Pam Schwann, P. Geo., MSc., Pro. Dir. President, Saskatchewan Mining Association

Monday, September 8

Leaders Speaking – Fireside Conversation on Potash Production in Saskatchewan, Past-Present-Future

Sam Farris, President, K+S Potash Canada GP

Lawrence Berthelet, Vice President, Operations - Potash, Mosaic

Karina Gistelinck, Asset President Potash, BHP

Brad Sigurdson, Vice President - Environment, Safety and Regulatory Affairs, Saskatchewan Mining Association

Monday, September 8

Leaders Speaking – Fireside Conversation on Uranium Project Development in Saskatchewan, Past-Present-Future

Gary Haywood, Vice President of Project Development, Paladin Canada

James Hatley, Vice President Production, Canada, Uranium Energy Corp

Adam Engdahl, Vice President Community, NexGen Energy

Cory Belyk, CEO, President, and Director, CanAlaska Uranium Ltd.

Engin Özberk, Honorary Chair, UPLift 2025

Monday, September 8

Welcome from the Minister of Energy and Resources of the Government of Saskatchewan

Honourable Colleen Young, Minister of Energy and Resources

Keynote and Panel Presentations

Tuesday, September 9 - PANEL

Presentation Title: Collaboration for the Energy Transition: The Role of the Global Institute for Energy, Minerals, and Society (GIEMS)

Tom Kishchuk, Executive Director, Global Institute for Energy, Minerals, and Society Inc. (GIEMS)

Joyce McBeth, University of Regina

Graeme Drysdale, Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Greg Poelzer, University of Saskatchewan

Tuesday, September 9

Presentation Title: Now Hiring! Uranium – A Comeback Story in Mining, Milling, and Innovation

Biman Bharadwaj, Principal Metallurgist, Technical Services – Strategic Projects, Cameco Corporation

Tuesday, September 9

Presentation Title: A Historical Perspective of Growing Potash Production in Saskatchewan

Paul Labbe, MICA Regional Director, SaskPolytechnic & FCIM

Tuesday, September 9

Presentation Title: Lithium's journey: From innovation to global dominance – technical, economic, and Canadian involvement

Norman Chow, President, Kemetco Research Inc.

Social Event at the Western Development Museum

Wednesday, September 10

Sponsored by the Saskatchewan Research Council, Peter Lucas Project Management, Respec Company LLC

Step back in time and experience the charm of early 20th-century Saskatchewan at our signature social event, hosted at the Western Development Museum (WDM). Located on Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 territories, and the Homeland of the Métis, the WDM is the largest human history museum in Saskatchewan, housing over 75,000 artifacts.

Friday, September 12

Saskatchewan Research Council Tour

An exclusive behind-the-scenes look at two of Saskatchewan's most innovative research facilities, hosted by the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC). This dual tour offers a rare opportunity to explore cutting-edge advancements in Rare Earth Element (REE) processing and nuclear microreactor technology.

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