

DUMONT NICKEL KICKS OFF 2026 WITH AMBITION, REGIONAL ROOTS AND A STRATEGIC VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF QUEBEC

Amos, February 25, 2026. In a global geopolitical and economic context marked by the instability of supply chains, the rise of economic sovereignty issues and the sustained rise in the price of nickel on international markets, Dumont Nickel is entering 2026 with a clear, responsible vision that is resolutely focused on the future.

A strategic mining project anchored in the heart of Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Dumont Nickel remains one of the most advanced, structuring and promising nickel and cobalt projects in the world. More than ever, it is a concrete response to North American and European needs for critical minerals, which are essential to the energy transition, manufacturing industry and the country's economic security.

A global context that reinforces Dumont's relevance

The recent rise in the price of nickel reflects an inescapable reality: the global demand for reliable, responsible sources of supply located in allied jurisdictions continues to grow. In this context, Dumont stands out as a leading project, capable of helping to reduce dependence on non-allied countries, while respecting the highest environmental and social standards. Dumont Nickel remains today the only North American project recognized by the European Economic Commission, and one of the most advanced in the world in the category of ready-to-develop projects.

" Canada's new defence industrial strategy, combined with Quebec's bill on projects of national interest, sends a clear signal: build industrial sovereignty based on our strategic resources. Securing our strategic supply chains has become a priority. Due to its size, maturity and roots in Quebec, the Dumont Nickel project is fully in line with this vision. Dumont Nickel represents a tangible response to this vision: an advanced, low-carbon project capable of sustainably securing strategic supplies from here and ensuring the autonomy of Canada and Quebec in critical minerals. " said François Vézina, Chief Operating Officer at Dumont Nickel.

Clear and structuring 2026 objectives

The objective remains unchanged: to move Dumont towards the investment decision and to concretely prepare for the next phase of the project. Dumont adopts a clear and responsible roadmap for 2026:

- The finalization of the financial package with governments, private investors and industrial partners;
- Conclusion of guaranteed supply agreements (oftakes) for concentrate;
- Collaboration and strengthening regional anchoring and community mobilization
- Progress on technical updates requested as part of the government process;
- The launch of detailed engineering in the third quarter of 2026, the first stage of construction.
- Construction will begin in 2027.

A project deeply rooted in his region

DUMONT NICKEL

A major project for Abitibi-Témiscamingue for more than ten years, Dumont Nickel is now reaffirming its roots in the region. Many local businesses, economic organizations, elected municipal officials and Indigenous communities reiterated their support, recognizing the Dumont project as a structuring engine for employment, economic vitality and the industrial future of the territory.

"The strength of the Dumont project lies in the exceptional mobilization of its region. We have received more than 120 letters of support in recent months that show that our project meets the expectations of the community. We are moving forward with the region, for the region, and we remain deeply committed to building a project that reflects its values, vision and potential, while respecting communities and the environment," explained Valérie Pomerleau, Vice-President, Public Affairs and Communications.

Publication of a first newsletter: ADN – Actualité Dumont Nickel

In order to strengthen transparency, dialogue and the link with the population, Dumont Nickel is officially launching its quarterly newsletter: *ADN – Dumont Nickel News*.

This new publication will:

- share project progress and next steps;
- Enhance regional benefits;
- Showcase our ESG commitments and concrete initiatives on the ground.
- Follow our activities in the region and upcoming events;
- maintain an open dialogue with citizens and stakeholders.

Citizens and stakeholders are invited to subscribe now via the [Dumont Nickel website](#).

Launch of a volunteer brigade: Brigade 28

Dumont Nickel is also proud to announce the creation of Brigade 28, its new community engagement program. Inspired by the atomic number of nickel, this initiative aims to provide concrete support to the communities of Abitibi-Témiscamingue through the voluntary involvement of employees in social, environmental and educational projects. Brigade 28 embodies Dumont's desire to act on the ground, in line with its human values, its regional roots and its responsible approach to development.

Operating on a voluntary and supervised basis, Brigade 28 will make it possible to mobilize teams around promising local initiatives, in collaboration with local organizations. Dumont also invites regional organizations to make their needs or projects known, in order to identify structuring engagement opportunities adapted to the realities of the territory.

An essential project for today and structuring for **more than 50 years.**

Dumont remains one of the most strategic mining projects for consolidating the country's nickel supply chain: a structuring, responsible project, supported by committed partners and supported by a region that believes deeply in it. In 2026, Dumont Nickel is moving forward with rigour, pride and determination, with and for the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region.

"Dumont is not just a mine, it is an economic, social and regional project capable of making a lasting contribution to the prosperity of Quebec and Canada. 2026 will be a decisive year, 2026 will be our year. We move forward with



determination, transparency and trust. Dumont belongs to its region and will become, with it, a major economic pillar for future generations. " concluded François Vézina, Chief Operating Officer at Dumont Nickel.

About Dumont Nickel

Dumont Nickel is a Quebec-based critical minerals company that focuses on extracting nickel and cobalt needed to produce batteries for electric vehicles and, more broadly, for the energy transition. Dumont is one of the largest fully licensed and start-ready nickel deposits in the world.

For more information, please contact:

Valérie Pomerleau
Vice-President, Public Affairs and Communications
vpomerleau@dumontnickel.com
(819) 856-5678