Critical Minerals Institute Announces CMI Summit 6 at Toronto's Fairmont Royal York and Appoints Constantine Karayannopoulos to Board of Directors

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TORONTO, ONTARIO – June 22, 2026 – The Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) is pleased to announce that **CMI Summit 6: Critical Minerals Diplomacy in a Fragmenting Global Economy** will be held on May 17–18, 2027, at the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto, one of Canada's most distinguished conference venues.

Building on the success of previous summits, CMI Summit 6 will bring together industry leaders, government representatives, investors, manufacturers, policymakers, academics, and subject matter experts from across the global critical minerals value chain. The annual event has become a leading forum for discussion surrounding critical mineral supply chains, industrial policy, geopolitical developments, investment opportunities, and the technologies shaping the future of the sector.

CMI is also pleased to announce the appointment of Constantine Karayannopoulos to its Board of Directors.

Mr. Karayannopoulos is widely regarded as one of the most influential and accomplished executives in the global rare earths and critical minerals sector. A professional engineer

with more than three decades of leadership experience, he was a co-founder of Neo Material Technologies Inc. (formerly TSX: NEM), which grew to become one of the world's leading rare earth and advanced materials companies before its acquisition in a transaction valued at approximately US$1.3 billion. He subsequently served as President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of Neo Performance Materials Inc. (TSX: NEO | OTCQX: NOPMF), helping build one of the world's leading rare earth and advanced materials companies with operations spanning North America, Europe, and Asia. He also served as Co-Founder and Non-Executive Chairman of Neo Lithium Corp. (TSXV: NLC | OTCQX: NTTHF | FSE: NE2), which advanced the world-class Tres Quebradas lithium project in Argentina before being acquired in a transaction valued at approximately US$960 million. Throughout his career, Mr. Karayannopoulos has played a significant role in the development of the modern critical minerals industry and is recognized as one of the sector's foremost strategic thinkers and business leaders.

"Constantine is one of the most respected and accomplished leaders in the global critical minerals industry, and in my view, one of the most brilliant industrial strategists in the world. Throughout his career, he has helped build companies, supply chains, and partnerships that have shaped the rare earths, advanced materials, lithium, and critical minerals sectors around the globe. His experience, insight, and reputation are second to none. On behalf of the Board and our members, I am delighted to welcome Constantine to the Critical Minerals Institute Board of Directors.

At the same time, we are excited to announce that **CMI Summit 6: Critical Minerals Diplomacy in a Fragmenting Global Economy** will be held at the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto. The CMI Summit has rapidly become one of the most important annual gatherings in the critical minerals sector, bringing together industry

leaders, investors, policymakers, and government representatives from around the world. We look forward to welcoming delegates to Toronto on May 17–18, 2027, for what promises to be our most significant Summit yet." – Tracy Hughes, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Critical Minerals Institute

For additional information regarding registration, sponsorship opportunities, speakers, and programming for CMI Summit 6, please visit CriticalMineralsInstitute.com.

About the Critical Minerals Institute (CMI)

The Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) is a global think tank and central hub for the critical minerals ecosystem, connecting companies, capital markets and policymakers. Through its monthly CMI Masterclasses, the biweekly Critical Minerals Report (CMR), the twice-monthly Critical Minerals Report Podcast, bespoke research and board-level advisory services, CMI delivers actionable intelligence on exploration finance, supply chains, industrial policy and geopolitics.

CMI tracks 12 leading national and multilateral critical minerals lists and applies a rigorous comparative process to independently select and rank minerals for its proprietary CMI Watchlist. Minerals are evaluated against one another based on strategic importance, supply chain concentration, geopolitical exposure, substitutability and relevance to defense, technology and economic security. Through its strategic partnership with the Critical Minerals Platform (CMP), CMI offers Platinum members independent mineral pricing, market forecasts, corporate intelligence and global supply chain data.

CMI also hosts its flagship annual event, the CMI Summit, which brings together government leaders, institutional investors, policymakers and industry executives from around the world. CMI

Summit 6, held under the theme *Critical Minerals Diplomacy in a Fragmenting Global Economy*, will take place May 17–18, 2027, at Toronto’s Fairmont Royal York.