

**MEDIA NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Issued by:
Sudbury Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union,
Local 598/CAW**

**First Nickel Inc.
New Contract Ratified**

A ratification meeting was held July 29, 2010 and the employees, who have been off work since October 2008 when the mine closed, voted in favor of the new collective agreement by 96%.

The new deal includes full recall rights for all the remaining employees, wage increases in the third year, COLA maintained, nickel bonus and a return to work schedule starting as soon as funding is secured. The employees are happy to hear that the mine will resume production in the very near future and these workers now have an opportunity to return to work.

This contract was one of the hurdles that needed to be tackled for the mine to resume production and will add about 5 to 6 years to the mine life. This is great news for the employees and the community.

This is the 5th consecutive collective agreement reached successfully in the last eight months. The Union will now be entering negotiations with employees of the University of Sudbury, dates to be determined shortly.

For further information, please contact Richard Paquin at 673-3661, Ext. 23 or by cell phone at 698-4622.