



Journey Together

Port Colborne 2023 >> 2024

Learn how Vale Base Metals is working with the communities to transform critical minerals into prosperity and sustainable development in Ontario

#EnergyTransitionMetals



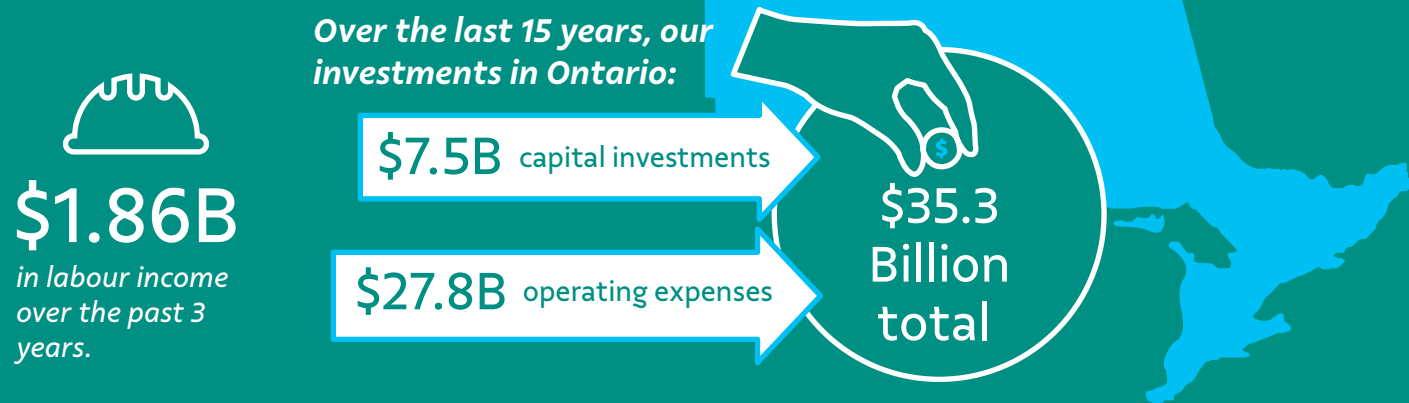
Vale Base Metals

We are a global mining company committed to safely delivering the nickel, copper, cobalt and platinum group metals essential for the world's energy transition. Our workforce of 15,000 is dedicated to transforming these critical minerals into prosperity and sustainable development across the countries in which we operate, including Canada, Brazil, Indonesia, the United Kingdom and Japan.

Our purpose is to improve life and transform the future, together. Applying leading-edge technology to sustainably mine critical minerals that drive mobility and material solutions is at the heart of what we do.

Our economic contribution:

Vale Base Metals is proud to call Ontario home — investing in safe, responsible, and sustainable mining that contributes to a strong Canadian economy.



In 2023:

Vale Base Metals directly employed:

4,582

people across Ontario.



Vale Base Metals paid over:

\$660M

in total wages.



The average Vale Base Metals salary was

86%

higher than the average salary in Ontario.

At our Ontario Operations we produced:

57,833

tonnes of refined nickel.



65,016

tonnes of copper.



A message from Nadeem Khan

“As a member of the Port Colborne team, I feel honored to work with such dedicated and skilled people who put safety first. I joined this team in the summer of 2022, and I have witnessed how our company's purpose of transforming natural resources into prosperity and sustainable development is a way of life. Here in Port Colborne, we are almost 160 direct employees in a centenary industry that celebrated its 105th anniversary in 2023.”



Safety is our top priority, and we strive to ensure that everyone goes home safely after each shift. We also focus on excellence in our production, following the Vale Production System — VPS — a management model that helps us reduce risks and enhance operational efficiency.

Our purpose, values and production system enable us to contribute to Canada's green economy by supplying essential minerals. At our Port Colborne Refinery we produce cobalt and platinum group metals that are used in various high-tech applications, such as electric cars and cell phones.

We also care about our community and the environment, and we show it through our actions.

We participated in Port Colborne's Canal Days, a four-day celebration

of the history and heritage along the Welland Canal. As one of the sponsors of this event, it allowed us to give away 3,000 red pine seedlings, which are native to Ontario and help restore the natural habitat. There, we had the opportunity to talk to the community and listen to their stories, which was very rewarding.

Last September, we hosted an Open House, where we welcomed the public to learn more about our operations and goals to be greener. We also presented a \$200,000 donation to Port Colborne's Fire and Emergency Services. The donation will provide training and equipment to local emergency response teams, ensuring they are prepared to handle any situation safely and effectively.

Nadeem Khan
Head of Port Colborne Operations



We are proud of our work at the Port Colborne Refinery, where we produce essential minerals for the green economy, while ensuring safety and efficiency.

On the cover: Material from the Port Colborne refinery being produced in one of the last stages to be shipped to clients.

Community

Connecting with the community
at Canal Days Festival



Take our Kids to Work Day

The National Take Our Kids To Work Day by hosting a number of opportunities for kids to get first-hand experience with different aspects of the mining process in Port Colborne Operations.

Our Port Colborne team immersed visiting students in a day-long learning experience, delving into the intricate processes that transform raw rocks into the final products sold in the market. The event provided valuable insights into the complexities of the mining sector, fostering a better understanding of our industry's contribution to the supply of critical minerals.



Canal Days

Port Colborne's annual 4-day Canal Days festival is the city's signature event, held over the Civic Holiday weekend in August and Vale Base Metals participated as a top sponsor. More than 18,000 people from the area participated in events, including ship tours, concerts, food, fireworks, and a Boat Parade of Lights.

Booths and displays throughout the grounds gave us the opportunity to connect with our community and visitors alike. This year, the "swag bag" included live 3,000 red pine seedlings grown at our Sudbury greenhouse. The recruitment team was also on hand to discuss job opportunities with Vale Base Metals, both at our local operations and beyond.



18,000  people attended Canal Days.

3,000  red pine seedlings grown and handed out.

Safety and environment

ISO Sustainability

ISO 14001 is the internationally recognized standard for environmental management systems (EMS). It provides companies with a framework for designing and implementing an EMS, and continually improving their environmental performance. After our Newfoundland and Labrador sites were certified in early 2023, our Ontario and Manitoba operations followed suit in August and November 2023.

One of the Environment Department's goals is to develop a culture of continual improvement with respect to the environment at our plants and mines, by increasing awareness and engaging employees at all levels at our Port Colborne Refinery.



\$200,000

Vale Base Metals leaders presented a \$200,000 donation over two years to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and specialized HAZMAT training to Port Colborne's Fire & Emergency Services.

A Always go indoors

C Close all doors and windows

T Turn off furnace, air conditioners or other air intakes

and at work — by taking actions to better prepare and protect themselves in the event of an emergency.

Critical to emergency preparedness is having a plan in place to deal with potential risks — like earthquakes, floods, and storms — and to regularly practice and test emergency evacuation plans at home, as well as on the job site. Information on preparing emergency kits was also shared, so that families would have the means to respond should disaster strike.

Chlorine Elimination Project

Since 2020, Vale Base Metals Port Colborne has been actively engaged in numerous initiatives aimed at enhancing safety and minimizing environmental hazards associated with chlorine usage in our refining operations. We have successfully eradicated the use of chlorine in the Cobalt Process and are now striving to eliminate it from the Precious Metal Refinery Process. As of now, we have accomplished 85% of the detailed design and anticipate initiating the procurement process in the second quarter of 2024.

Port Colborne Community Based Action Plan (PCCAP) Update

Vale Base Metals has announced the completion of several reports pertaining to the Community Based Risk Assessment (CBRA) in 2023. These reports, now accessible on VBM's official website, are open for public feedback. The journey through the CBRA process has been extensive. The company firmly believes that the constructive insights derived from these reports are rooted in robust scientific principles. This marks a pivotal step in Vale Base Metals is ongoing commitment to transparency and scientific rigor.



Annual Open House

In September, Vale Base Metals was thrilled to invite members of our Port Colborne community to learn more about our operations and contributions to the industry.

Visitors were invited to learn more about VBM at a series of booths that showcased all aspects of our business, with a particular focus on the Port Colborne site. Themes included our environmental activities, low carbon initiatives, ongoing safety measures, and our commitment to "circular mining" — an approach that helps reduce waste. Representatives from our HR department were on hand to discuss job opportunities at VBM, both at our refinery and across our operations.

Held at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre — a community sports and recreation complex, and health centre in which we are proud to be the named sponsor — we offered local residents' free access to the pool, indoor skating rink, and a "family gym & bounce" session on the same day.

Hazmat Training & Equipment Donation

This year's Vale Base Metals Open House in Port Colborne gave us the opportunity to announce a multi-year commitment to improving safety in the community. VBM leaders presented a \$200,000 donation over two years to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and specialized HAZMAT training to Port Colborne's Fire & Emergency Services.

Nickel Beach improvements

For more than two decades, Vale Base Metals has leased our beautiful stretch of Lake Erie shoreline —

long known locally as Nickel Beach — to the City of Port Colborne, for the enjoyment of our community. Although it had been common for visitors to park their cars right on the beach itself, Ontario's Ministry of the Environment banned the practice in 2023, to protect the endangered Fowler's Toad, and other lakeside wildlife.

In response, VBM has offered to lease a nearby plot of unused land to the City for the construction of a new parking lot. Additionally, as part of our \$1.25 million commitment to the City, we have funded the construction of a series of portable toilets near the parking lot, to further improve the visitor experience.





Contact Us:

If you have questions or concerns about Vale Base Metals' Port Colborne Operations, please contact our Community Concerns Line at: 289-478-VALE (8253) or you can email us at ontario.operations@vale.com.