

Dear concerned friend,

## **Re: Call for Action - Mining Act Review**

I am writing to you to give you an update on our efforts aimed to stop the uranium exploration activities in Eastern Ontario, and to ask for your help.

We are entering a new phase where MPPs will become involved, and it is important that they are made aware of our position.

### **The Review of the Mining Act**

Most of you know that the government began a process this summer that aimed to "modernize" the Mining Act. We firmly believe that participation in this process, and influencing the redevelopment of this legislation is our best opportunity to ensure the health and safety of our communities.

When the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines began its consultation process in August, OCAMU members were instrumental in the forming of a broad collective of groups from across Eastern Ontario under the ***Coalition for Balanced Mining Act Reform*** (CBMAR).

That ***Coalition*** includes of a large number of community groups like OCAMU and FUME and CMAG, municipalities including Ottawa, Kingston and Haliburton Highlands, Environmental and Field Naturalist Groups, the Federation Of Cottagers Associations (FOCA), politicians from all levels of government, and municipal officials working through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

CBMAR prepared ***Three MODEST Proposals*** (3MPs) that present a practical and balanced way to correct the most fundamental problems with the Mining Act – by giving land owners, municipal governments and citizens the right to control where mining can take place.

So far, those ***Three MODEST Proposals*** have been very widely endorsed and more groups are in the process of passing formal resolutions to indicate their support.

Full details of the Three Modest Proposals can be found at:

<http://ato.smartcapital.ca/miningactreform>

(Background note on the Three Modest Proposals)

### **Recognition of the *Three MODEST Proposals***

The 3MPs were so strongly endorsed during the public consultations on the Mining Act that that CBMAR was given a special meeting with officials to present the case.

Officials at the Ministry are now in the process of drafting proposed changes to the Mining Act, and a new Bill will be presented to the Provincial Legislature soon.

Given the past bias in the government and among officials towards the wishes of mining firms, and the massive lobbying effort that mining firms and associations have been mounting to preserve their privileges, it is likely that the changes that officials propose will fall far short even of those **Three MODEST Proposals**.

Consequently, it is important that Members of the Provincial Parliament are made aware both of the strong reasons why the **Three MODEST Proposals** of the **Coalition for BALANCED Mining Act Reform** are essential MINIMUM changes, that they constitute sound public policy, and that they enjoy strong public support. That way, there is a chance that MPPs will do what they can to ensure that the final version of the legislation does include those essential changes.

## **1.0 What you can do**

Please contact your MPP (in writing and/or by telephone) to voice your support for the **Three MODEST Proposals** that were prepared by the **Coalition for BALANCED Mining Act Reform**. Please encourage your MPP to provide his/her full support.

You can find a list of contact information and a template that can be used to send an email or written letter to your MPP at: <http://ato.smartcapital.ca/miningactreform>

It would be even more helpful if you were to meet with your MPP to present a fuller rationale for those proposals, and to outline the extent of the existing support for them. We would be most willing to help you in that regard, by providing additional information, or by accompanying you to any such meeting that you are able to arrange.

Thanks, immensely, and don't hesitate to contact us at [BalancedMiningActReform@gmail.com](mailto:BalancedMiningActReform@gmail.com) or [know.uranium@gmail.com](mailto:know.uranium@gmail.com) if you need anything further.

Yours Sincerely,

David Gill

For the Coalition for BALANCED Mining Act Reform

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