

News views and opinions on the mineral exploration scene in Ontario

SEPTEMBER ISSUE

Date: October 2001

THE EXPLORATIONIST
The Newsletter of the Ontario Prospectors Association

The Explorationist Newsletter is brought to you as a 'member service' of the Ontario Prospectors Association. It's purpose is to share news and information amongst it's members and also to act as the association's 'Political Voice'.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Ontario Prospectors Association, including all of it's members and Directors. The writers accept full ownership of their contributions.

**Northern Boreal Initiative –
Community-based Land Use Planning Approach**

The Northern Boreal Initiative (NBI) has a goal to provide several northern First Nation communities with opportunities to take a leading role in the development of new, commercial forestry opportunities, including working collaboratively with the ministry on planning for such opportunities. Proposed locations are north of the area of Ontario that is described in the Area of the Undertaking (AOU) for the Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Lands in Ontario, and the Ontario's Living Legacy (OLL) planning area.

Land use planning is one of the first steps in making wise decisions about potential land uses and resource development. The resulting strategic land use direction will identify

where activities can occur, will provide guidance for future land use and will provide input to the subsequent preparation of resource management plans, for example, forest management plans.

A Community-based Land Use Planning approach has been designed for NBI. This concept will provide the First Nation communities associated with NBI the opportunity to develop a strategic framework for land and resource use. The communities will engage members in consensus-based decision-making and will invite broader consultation to share and seek input from other interested parties. Planning will consider the community level needs as well as broader ecological considerations and provincial level direction.

Community-based Land Use Planning will consider forestry as one of many interests. Communities

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We're easy to get a hold of
Contact the Executive Director: Garry Clark
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will address and find a balance among protection, conservation, traditional and livelihood uses, and sustainable development. NBI has recognized that the preparation of recommendations for parks and protected areas is a priority that will be addressed through the Community-based Land Use Planning approach.

The First Nation communities currently working with NBI are Pikangikum, Moose Cree, Constance Lake, Cat Lake, Slate Falls, and Eabametoong. Communities are in various stages of preparing for planning, gathering background information and describing their land use planning process. As they become ready, communities will define a planning area, planning subjects, anticipated timelines and opportunities for consultation. Community and provincial endorsement of recommendations will be sought to complete the preparation of strategies.

MNR's role in Community-based Land Use Planning is that of a planning partner and facilitator, to bring forward the vision of sustainable development, to ensure ecological sustainability, and to provide for public participation in environmentally significant decision-making. MNR will follow its strategy of Integrated Resource Management (IRM), directing ministry efforts to achieve the optimum sustainable level of benefits from all of Ontario's natural resources, while, at the same time, minimizing conflicts among resource management activities, users and uses. This is consistent with the MNR's strategic direction contained in the document 'Beyond 2000'.

The Community-based Land Use Planning approach is consistent with MNR's intention to proceed in a manner without prejudice to the Aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nation communities and individuals.

Comments should be directed to:

John Sills Manager,
Northern Boreal Initiative

MNR Field Services Division
Ontario Government Bldg., 435 James St. Suite 221A
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7E 6S8
PHONE: (807) 475-1251 FAX: (807) 473-3023

If you would like to respond to the Northern Boreal Initiative please use the above address and include the EBR # PB01E1012 :

OUR RESPONSE

September 30, 2001

John Sills,
Manager
Northern Boreal Initiative
Ministry of Natural Resources
Suite 221a
435 South James Street
Thunder Bay, ON
P7E 6S8

RE: PB01E1012

Dear John,

Thank you for the presentation on the Northern Boreal Initiative. The Ontario Prospectors Association's Board of directors has asked me to send a formal response that outlines some of our concerns and requests that could be added to the process.

- The use of a community based planning method is a welcome step forward compared to the large-scale methods attempted in OLL. By this method we hope to see planners take advantage of the "Provincially Significant Mineral Potential" mineral resource assessment process developed by MNDM and industry. To utilize this you must keep MNDM staff involved throughout the development and delivery of the Northern Boreal Initiative.
- Our industry expects to be formally involved in any additions or establishments of protected areas. One of the commitments of the government in the Ontario's Living Legacy land use strategy was that the mineral sector would be present at any planning session for new pro-

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tected areas.

- Our industry would also expect the application of the provisions in the Provincial Policy Statement of the Planning Act that related to mineral resources and development to the Northern Boreal Initiative. MNR committed to apply these provisions to Crown land planning when it accepted Recommendation 89, part 1, of the Lands for Life Round Tables' Consolidated Report.
- Our prime concern is that this distribution of a "Resource" to specific communities remains restricted to the wood/fibre potential. We trust this will not establish a precedent for handing "Mineral Rights" to communities that have a traditional use of the land base. The potential north of the NBI area for forestry is minimal and the communities there must not be given rights to large tracts of subsurface mineral potential in compensation for the lack of trees.
- Access developed for harvesting the wood/fibre must be open to the mineral industry to further assist in the exploration of these areas. When these areas are more easily accessed the communities as well as the population of Ontario would benefit from the development of the mineral resources. We anticipate your full cooperation in ensuring that our ability to access and develop the minerals in the Northern Boreal Initiative area shall not be impaired as a result of the proposed initiative.

We appreciate being informed on the process and look forward to an expanded working relationship that will increase the economic potential of the area and the future well being of its inhabitants.

The Sudbury Prospectors and Developers
Association

Summer is almost gone and the majority of our members are still in the field working feverishly to

find that next mine. Others are catching up on diamond drilling programs that were cancelled because of the high fire hazard experienced in the province over the summer.

Although many members are still away, our first meeting of the season (September 18th) was well attended. The attraction at the meeting featured a talk by DeBeers exploration geologist Casey Hetman from Vancouver. The superb talk included 70 slides that provided a step-by-step pictorial of diamond exploration and evaluations in Canada and abroad. Judging by the questions after the presentation, I would say that it certainly was a hit with everyone in the audience. Numerous (+10) DeBeers geologists were also in the audience and eagerly answered the many questions forwarded to them. An excellent variety of kimberlite and eclogitic rock specimens were brought for display and study.

There were no outstanding grievances from the members at this time. This may be due to the fact that our group has an advantage by being located at the center of the MNM complex. When a query or problem occurs, our members can easily go and discuss their concerns with the appropriate party on a one to one basis. This clearly is an advantage for our members!

The platinum- palladium properties in the River Valley area are the hot items in the news releases these days. Hopefully one or more of them from this area will become an economic deposit. Time will tell!

Good luck to all.

President SPDA
Roger Poulin

**IF YOU HAVE A LETTER OR CONCERN
PLEASE SEND IT TO THE EXPLORATION-
IST TO SHARE WITH ALL THE MEMBER-
SHIP.**

**If it requires some research please send in the
idea and we will get someone to check it out.**

The Laurentian University SEG student chapter is hosting the Second Annual Workshop in Mineral Exploration; PGE EXPLORATION, on the 26, 27, and 28th of October 2001.

The symposium, which includes 16 speakers, will include 2 days of seminars and 1 day of field trips in Northern Ontario. It will take place at the Willet-Green-Miller-Center Auditorium, on the Laurentian University Campus, in Sudbury, Ontario.

Information for On-line Registration is available at;

<http://laurentian.ca/geology/SEG>

Or by mail:

Natalie Lafleur,

8th floor, Willet Green Miller Centre,

933 Ramsey Lake Road

Sudbury, Ontario, P3E 6B5

By fax: 705-671-3878 Tel: 705-671-1151# 2366

Association of Geoscientists of Ontario

MNDM, MNR and Forest Management Groups Conflict

The following may have some relevance to those undertaking exploration activities within a particular Forest Management Area.

Several years ago I wanted to undertake a small stripping program of an area less than that of an advanced exploration program. I was told at this time by MNDM that I would have to contact the Ministry of Natural Resources to determine if there was any concern over the timber values. Upon contacting them I was requested to submit a map of the area for review. Later, after not hearing from them I called back and was told to contact the Forest Management unit to determine who holds the timber rights and to see if they wanted the timber. It was also suggested that I flag out the area and pay an upfront fee of several hundred dollars for an MNR inspector to come to the site and evaluate the timber values. After making further calls I was finally told which company held the timber rights. This company after several weeks later stated that the timber values and the small amount would not pay for them to cut and haul it out. The MNR then suggested that I could remove the timber myself but that I would have to cut, load and arrange for all marketable timber to be sent to specific mills based on the tree species. It apparently did not matter that the logging company stated that the timber was not economically viable to remove. It was also determined that I would have to pay, upfront, a predetermined stumpage fee. After paying this fee I was told that I would be issued a permit to cut shortly. Several months later I got this permit and contacted MNR thinking I could proceed. I was then told that I could not cut or remove any timber until ticket books were issued. I finally received these several weeks later, unfortunately by the time this occurred (4 months after my initial request) the party initially wishing to fund this work lost interest and spent his money elsewhere.

A year later MNR called me and asked for me to forward them the ticket books as my one year permit had expired. I requested my upfront stumpage fee be returned then returned the ticket books.

I should point out that I have undertaken exploration in other districts in which there was very little MNR concern of a minor stripping activity.

Several weeks ago I noticed that a road had been constructed on these same claims,

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APGO Update

October 3, 2001

You are receiving this e-mail as a benefit of being an AGO member.

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1. Minister Approves Final Registration Regulation

The Honourable Dan Newman, Minister of Northern Development and Mines announced on October 2, 2001 that he had approved the final regulations governing membership registration in the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (APGO). The final regulation, which will be published in the Ontario Gazette on October 13, 2001, allows APGO to proceed with the formal registration process. The full press release can be viewed at http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/MNDM/pub/newrel/nr01/097_01e.asp

2. APGO By-laws

Feedback from the consultation has been incorporated into revised By-laws which will be passed by APGO Council on October 16, 2001. Most of the commentary received was positive with a number of individuals pointing out needed corrections. The reaction to the proposed "Distinguished Member" designation was not positive hence Council has decided to drop this item for the time being and will consult further with the APGO members next year on an appropriate means of recognizing outstanding service to professional geoscience. The Seals and Stamps have been re-designed with the assistance of a graphic artist to create a distinct design that will be readily recognized as a member of APGO. The final by-laws, which are not substantially different from those circulated in the consultation, will be posted on the AGO website by October 19, 2001.

3. Expected Release of Application Packages for Registration

Now that the final Registration Regulation has been approved, APGO staff is working at completing the application package which is expected to be released by early November. All AGO members paid for 2001 will

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A Town Most Historic

Cobalt has won the contest as the most historic town in Ontario. How fitting. How perspicacious of the panel. How absolutely... wonderful.

The "Town That Silver Built" surpassed Kingston and Petrolia to capture the distinction. The contest was designed by TVOntario as a means to celebrate and raise awareness of Ontario's history. Announced on Studio 2 in early April, the closing of applications was May 11, and, the final announcement was made on June 7, supplemented by a short documentary on Cobalt and the runners up.

Three eminent historians made up the panel to choose the most historic town. Desmond Morton, professor at McGill, cited that the impact Cobalt had on Ontario's history was both economic in nature and global in scope. The Cobalt rush did not just open up mining frontiers but changed Ontario's uncertain economic future that was largely based on agriculture at the turn of the century.

Dorothy Duncan, executive director of the Ontario Historical Society, noted that Cobalt's history is both readily accessible, and, has been preserved with integrity. Ron Brown, the third member of the panel and author of Ghost Towns of Ontario, agreed. The decision was unanimous.

Cobalt literally sprang to life in 1903 with the discovery of silver along the railway. The decision to extend the railway north from North Bay was made in 1902 by, then Premier, Ross – a result of strong lobbying from C.C. Farr, founder of Haileybury. Farr, who named Haileybury after his old school in Great Britain, needed new settlers to expand the agricultural base in the New Liskeard basin, and, the government wanted to open up "New Ontario". It was a good fit but who was to foretell the riches that lay beyond.

In the heyday of the camp, there were more than 100 operating mines in Cobalt and the town swelled to accommodate a population in excess of 12,000. Railway workers were hard to keep on the job since they left to stake claims and make their fortune.

While the town has suffered some devastating fires, the semblance of Cobalt's rich history shines through; not just on the Heritage Silver Trail, but in the town itself, and, in the works of some of Canada's premier artists. The town is also in the midst of a two-year study by Parks Canada to declare the Cobalt Camp a National Historic Site. Being the most historic town in Ontario should definitely help. These ideas are also endorsed by Gino Chitaroni – prospector, entrepreneur, Councillor for the Town of Cobalt, and, a director of the Northern Prospectors Association.

'Come spend a day and discover a century' is one of the logos for the Cobalt area – it now seems more appropriate than ever. Good luck to Cobalt, may the designation yield spin-offs that were previously only dreams.

**THESE ACRONYMS WERE GLEANED FROM A RECENT OPA BOARD MEETING
THE EXPLORATIONIST CONTINUALLY WORKS TO EXPLAIN ALL ACRONYMS BUT
SOME WILL ALWAYS SLIP INTO TEXT.**

AGM : ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AMO : ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO
AMMO:ASSOCIATION OF MINING MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO
APGO: ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS OF ONTARIO
CNQ: CANADIAN QUOTATION SYSTEM
DFO: DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS
DPFZ: DESTOR PORCUPINE FAULT ZONE
EBR: ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS
ELO: EXPLORATORY LICENSE OF OCCUPATION
FMP: FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
GSC: GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA
MAC: MINING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
MASHA: MINES AND AGGREGATES SAFETY AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION
MMAAC: MINISTERS MINING ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MNDM: MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES
MNR: MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MOE: MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
MOL: MINISTRY OF LABOUR
NAN: NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION
NOHFC: NORTHERN ONTARIO HERITAGE FUND CORPORATION
NPA: NORTHERN PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION
NSR: NET SMELTER RETURN
OGS: ONTARIO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OGSAB: ONTARIO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ADVISORY BOARD
OLL: ONTARIO LIVING LEGACY
OMA: ONTARIO MINING ASSOCIATION
OPA: ONTARIO PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION
OPAP: ONTARIO PROSPECTORS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
OSC: ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION
PDAC: PROSPECTORS AND DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
PGE: PLATINUM GROUP ELEMENTS
PGM: PLATINUM GROUP MINERALS
PPDA: PORCUPINE PROSPECTORS AND DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION
PPL: PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC LANDS
PSMP: PROVINCIALLY SIGNIFICANT MINERAL POTENTIAL
RSA: RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT

Ontario Exploration and Geoscience Symposium
“ONTARIO: THE SOURCE OF THE WORLD’S COMMODITIES”

December 10th, 11th & 12th, 2001
Macdonald Block, 900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dear Participant,

Once again it is time for the annual OEGS Symposium in Toronto. The Ontario Prospectors Association is planning a series of workshops, speakers, booths and posters designed to draw the Ontario exploration community together and share in the latest knowledge and exploration successes.

We have reviewed the comments provided by last year's delegates and hope to improve on our successful first experience. This year we will highlight the Ontario Geological Survey results of field work, Resident Geologist Program recommendations for exploration, technical innovations and company exploration results and successes from around the Province.

(Speakers confirmed: North American Palladium, River Gold, Freewest, Hucamp Mines, Band Ore, Avalon, APGO, CNQ, NE-NW Resident Geologist Program, OGS Field Programs, and OPA New Prospecting Fund)

We welcome you to attend and to participate, space for displays is available and speaker opportunities are still available for you or your organization to present your findings. The OPA looks for your support and your participation.

Exploration around the Province has located new showings and new intersections of the commodities that the world is now focused on. These commodities include diamonds, platinum group metals, tantalum, gold and industrial minerals.

For more than a century, the world has demanded an increasing number of mineral commodities and Ontario's mineral development industry and Geological Survey have set about finding and supplying them. Silver Islet and the Cobalt camp produced extreme silver wealth moving Ontario into position as a world mining giant. Later Cu-Ni demand was flourishing and again the Province produced in Sudbury and elsewhere. In the war years and after, iron demand was met by Atikokan, Temagami and Kirkland Lake. More base metal discoveries and developments like Kidd Creek fed the smelters in Canada for world consumption. Always, Ontario has contributed significantly to meeting the demands of the world for gold.

Recently, the focus of the world has been diamonds (Wawa and James Bay lowlands), platinum group metals (River Valley and Lac Des Iles) and rare earth elements (Armstrong Area and Lilypad Lake). Once again the world demands and Ontario explorers respond by accessing the geological wealth and home grown expertise of the Province.

I look forward to your support of the Ontario Prospectors Association's Ontario Exploration and Geoscience Symposium. The Provinces explorers will be represented and we believe you will benefit from attending.

INFORMATION ON BOOTHS, SPEAKERS, POSTERS and SPONSORS:
www.ontarioprospectors.com or oegs@ontarioprospectors.com
Garry Clark and Susan Warren 807-622-3284

See you there.
Garry Clark, Executive Director

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automatically receive a full application package which will include copies of the Act, Regulations and By-laws, the application form and information on how the application form must be completed.

4. Expected Launch of New Website and Newsletter

A completely revamped website is currently being developed that will be hosted at the new domain www.apgo.net. This site, which will include detailed information about the registration process as well as updated and expanded material from the AGO site, will be live concurrent with the release of the application packages. AGO members will continue to have access to the members-only area until June 30, 2002. The popular "Update" newsletter is being re-designed and will be re-launched in December 2001 with expanded coverage.

5. New Telephone System at APGO office

A new telephone system has been installed at the APGO office that provides each staff member with voice mail capabilities. You can now call after-hours and leave a message for any of the staff by calling 416-203-APGO (2746) and following the instructions.

It has been a very long haul but we are very close to the finish line. The release of application packages will mark a new stage in the continuing development of APGO into a world-class professional geoscience association. Your support has been critical to making this happen.

We will keep you informed of developments on a regular basis.

Bill Pearson, Ph.D.
President

If you do not want to receive the AGO e-mail updates or you have received this e-mail in error, please send an e-mail to info@apgo.net requesting that your e-mail address be removed.

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through a freshly cut grid on which we were undertaking geophysical surveys. Apparently a logging company had gone ahead and without any consultation with me (the claimholder) and proceeded to bulldoze and build a road over the strike extension of my showing. I contacted the Forest Management Group and was told that it should be the responsibility of MNDM to inform the claimholder of forest harvesting operations in the area as the Forest Management Group had informed their office of their planned activities. I expressed surprise at this as I did not feel that this was MNDM's mandate nor did I believe Ron Gashinski's office was adequately staffed or funded to do this.

I have subsequently contacted the logging company and their field representative who indicated that should economic minerals be determined or suspected they would not be concerned if I were to dig up their road after they do their logging. Of course I will try to get this in writing. They also graciously agreed to curtail their operations with heavy equipment until we completed our geophysical surveys.

Late last winter the Sudbury Local Citizens Committee tried to push through a letter to MNR indicating that the mining industry acts irresponsible to the other users of crown land and should require permit approval from MNR for all sorts of activities including even linecutting. This letter was severely toned down as a result of representation from both the aggregate and mining sector.

The examples above emphasize that both MNR, MNDM and Forest Management Groups need to work together to streamline communications between users of crown land to allow for an efficient and provincially consistent procedure for effective resource evaluation and extraction. It certainly would help to prevent some of the misunderstandings described above and others that no doubt will continue to arise.

Bob Komarechka

ASK THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We would like to introduce "Ask the Executive Director" to the Explorationist. This section will allow membership to ask to have subjects researched and presented for all the Membership. Please contact me with your suggestions.

Contact: Garry Clark:

gjclark@ontariopropectors.com

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P7B 6A5

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