

News views and opinions on the  
mineral exploration scene in Ontario

DECEMBER ISSUE

Date: December 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.*

**TORONTO SYMPOSIUM  
ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS**

The OPA would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers, volunteers and poster and booth presenters for their time and efforts that resulted in another successful event.

The registration exceeded last year reaching 400 paid attendees plus approximately 50 KEGS registrants. We tried some new things with dual talks for two days, a different and expanded food program and expanded posters and booths.

The winners of the early registration prizes were: Allan Willy (leatherman multi-tool from Neville Crosby), Wayne Reid and Brian Booth (Garmin GPS's from Exploration Services and the OPA).

The speakers line up and the posters and booths were very topical and informative. We had OGS publication releases from base programs and Operation Treasure Hunt. Having releases coincide with the event allows explorationists to interface immediately with the OGS staff involved in the fieldwork.

The Honourable Dan Newman, Minister of Mines attended the luncheon. The Minister made some good news announcements including the funding of the OPA that will allow the creation of the Prospectors Fund. He was also able to announce the awarding of Ontario Mineral Exploration and Technologies funding to advance exploration techniques.

We look forward to creating the show again next year and welcome your feedback. If you haven't had a chance to complete the 2001 questionnaire your comments would be most appreciated. You can email or fax the form to [oegs@ontarioprospector.com](mailto:oegs@ontarioprospector.com) or 807-622-4156 respectively.



[We're easy to get a hold of](#)

Contact the Executive Director: Garry Clark

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**ONTARIO EXPLORATION GEOSCIENCE SYMPOSIUM  
ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

To help us continue to improve the event and make it more informative, please complete this questionnaire.

- |    |  |     |    |
|----|--|-----|----|
| 1/ | Did you stay at a local hotel?                         | yes | no |
|    | Was it the Chelsea?                                    | yes | no |
| 2/ | Should we move to larger facilities?                   | yes | no |
| 3/ | Would you accept a higher admission price if we moved? | yes |    |
|    | no   |     |    |
| 4/ | What suggestions do you have for next year? _____      |     |    |
|    | _____  |     |    |
|    | _____  |     |    |
|    | _____  |     |    |

**THE ANNOUNCEMENT WE’VE BEEN WAITING FOR!**

**ONTARIO INVESTS \$3 MILLION TO GIVE STRONG, EFFECTIVE VOICE  
TO PROVINCE’S PROSPECTORS**

TORONTO – The Ontario government will provide \$3,047,700 through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) to complete the restructuring of the Ontario Prospectors Association (OPA), Northern Development and Mines Minister and NOHFC Chair Dan Newman announced today at the Ontario Exploration and Geoscience Symposium.

“This government understands that prospectors are the foundation of a vibrant mineral sector and sustainable resource-based communities,” said Newman. “Our support of this project will invigorate the industry and strengthen mining centres across the North.”

In November 2000, the province provided nearly \$1 million as the first phase of a \$4 million investment. The first investment helped the OPA restructure into a modern, professionally-staffed association to serve the prospecting community. The second, and final, phase of this funding, announced today, will allow the OPA to partner with industry to leverage more investments in promising, grassroots mineral exploration opportunities.

“Our association will provide a unified voice for the grassroots exploration sector. We will also work with investors to create incentives that will stimulate additional grassroots exploration,” said OPA Chair Executive Director (please confirm title) Garry Clark. “We are very pleased that the province continues to support this important initiative of the exploration sector, which injects more than \$120 million annually into Ontario’s economy.”

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The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation continues to work with partners in the North to build strong northern communities. Since October 1996, NOHFC has contributed nearly \$290 million to some 840 projects, generating an additional \$749 million from project partners. These projects have created an estimated 12,260 jobs in Northern Ontario.

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## **NOW WE HAVE FUNDS TO SETUP THE PROSPECTING FUND**

The next step is to incorporate the Prospecting Fund, name three directors, complete an operating plan and schedule, start the search for additional funds and get the funds out to the prospectors.

The plan would see the forms available in early April with workshops at the Northeast and Northwest Symposiums. Additional workshops will be considered by request. Forms will be available via the internet ([www.ontarioprospectors.com](http://www.ontarioprospectors.com)), the regional associations and Resident Geologist offices.

The intent would be to have funds out to prospectors for the first part of June.

Suggestions or questions can be set to [oegs@ontarioprospectors.com](mailto:oegs@ontarioprospectors.com), fax 807-622-4156 or phone 807-622-3284.

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## **NEW GEOPHYSICAL ATLAS FOR THE PROVINCE**

In response to client requests for current information regarding the location and description of regional airborne geophysical surveys over Ontario, Jonathan Rudd, OGS Geophysicist, worked to post the Geophysical Atlas on the web. Part of the data came from the work of Paterson, Grant & Watson Limited under their Operation Treasure Hunt contract.

The Geophysical Atlas provides you with the geographic location and technical description of:

- all published OGS airborne magnetic, electromagnetic surveys;
- "Ontario-Canada" regional magnetic and gravity surveys;
- proprietary AMEM data purchased under Operation Treasure Hunt (a project managed by Paterson, Grant & Watson Limited);
- geographic areas sampled for physical rock properties; and
- links to information describing seismic-MT-radiometric (GSC) surveys.

This site provides geographic location and meta-data information only. It is not a source of gridded or profile data. The site provides directions to order these data.

<http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/MNDM/MINES/ogs/gpxatlas/index.html>

Please provide comments and suggested improvements directly to Jonathan Rudd (OGS)

## **ONTARIO SOARS TO TOP RANKING AS WORLD'S BEST DESTINATION FOR MINERAL INVESTMENT**

TORONTO - Ontario's hard work in support of the minerals sector has paid off in the form of a top-place finish in the Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies, Northern Development and Mines Minister Dan Newman said today. Ontario shared the spotlight with Quebec for the highest rank on the Institute's overall investment attractiveness index.

"I am delighted with our province's showing," said Newman. "This is a ringing endorsement from the mining industry for the Ontario government's efforts to build a favourable economic and regulatory climate that will nurture a strong, sustainable, environmentally sound minerals industry today and in the future."

Released December 18, the Fraser Institute's fifth annual Survey of Mining Companies interviewed 162 companies to assess mining jurisdictions in Canada, the U.S. and other countries on their mineral exploration investment attractiveness. The ranking is achieved by comparing policy, regulatory and mineral potential factors that influence investment decisions.

**Both Ontario and Quebec scored 90 points out of a possible 100 in the 2001/2002 Survey.** The other top 10 mineral investment jurisdictions were Australia (87), Chile (86), Brazil (86), Nevada (83), Alaska (80), Peru (73), Mexico (68) and Manitoba (67).

Last year, Ontario was rated as the best jurisdiction in Canada and third in the world for mineral potential and investment attractiveness.

Newman attributed Ontario's improved international ranking to a series of significant policy and regulatory measures that make the province more attractive for mining and mineral exploration. Over the past six years, the government has cut taxes, initiated one of Canada's most aggressive geoscience survey programs, funded mineral exploration research, reduced red tape and supported the activities of prospectors.

"These positive measures have made Ontario a great place to do mineral sector business," said Newman. "We look forward to continue working with the industry to foster economic growth and job creation in the mineral exploration sector."

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### **NEWS FROM THE PORCUPINE PROSPECTORS AND DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION**

The Porcupine Prospectors and Developers Association will rename a significant geological landmark and send a \$200 donation to the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation to honour Paul Coad, an active member, who died recently.

The association, which held its annual general meeting Thursday night, wanted to honour Coad, a respected geologist, active volunteer in the Timmins area and strong proponent of the Porcupine Gold Camp.

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“Among his many accomplishments was his being involved in the concept and planning of the Timmins Gold Mine Tour,” said PPDA president Andrew Tims. “He was also active in the Timmins Science fair, which is why we felt it appropriate we name one of the awards in his honour.”

The local association will step up and ask the Ontario Prospectors Association to address some of their concerns as a member of the organization. Although the group voted to stay with the OPA, they are concerned and frustrated about a number of issues. The PPDA would like the provincial association to:

- Issue monthly reports to explain what they are doing and what they have accomplished.
- Rotate the OPA presidency yearly to a member from each group, so each group has a voice.

The provincial organization represents six regional prospectors groups in the province and they each have a voting member on the OPA board.

The Porcupine Prospectors and Developers members held elections for their executive positions Thursday. Andrew Tims returned as president of the group with Bill Waychinson returning as vice-president and Dean Rogers returning as treasurer. The new secretaries are Blair Needham and Ken Tylee.

**The Porcupine Prospectors and Developers will be hosting the Northeastern Ontario Annual Symposium in April. For further information or to volunteer check their website via [www.ontarioprospectors.com](http://www.ontarioprospectors.com).**

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## NEWS FROM THE NORTHERN PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

The Northern Prospectors Association with other user groups have succeeded in having two bridges upgraded. These River crossings provide access to 20 townships. When informed they would be removed Garfield Pinkerton, a Northern Prospectors Association member took up the cause rallying game and fish clubs, hunting groups, tourist operators, prospectors, mining and exploration companies and the local snowmobile club.

What transpired was a strong voice that worked with the Kirkland lake Resident Geologist office and the local MNR staff. The solution came with the cooperation of MNR and the Resident Geologist staff which resulted in obtaining funding from the MNDM to replace the Montreal River Crossing in Charters Township and to upgrade the crossing of Calcite Creek.

Garfield credits all who participated especially Kirkland Lake MNR and MNDM staff and the MNDM who ultimately funded the project.

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## NEWS FROM NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

Dave Christianson has been appointed Director Emeritus. **NWOPA will host the Northwest Annual Symposium in April. For more information or volunteer check their website via [www.ontarioprospectors.com](http://www.ontarioprospectors.com).**

## **FURTHER NEWS ON ROAD / BRIDGE ACCESS**

The OPA recently met with Bob McColm, Forest Roads and Water Crossings Initiative, Project Co-Coordinator in regard to potential changes to the way roads and water crossings are removed or decommissioned. Abraham Drost, Northwest RLUG and Garry Clark discussed the possibility of a method were the OPA and other stakeholders could take over the access. The door seems to be open and the time seems right to further the discussions. The magnitude of the project will definitely require further study and the selection of potential areas to preserve would need definition. Further news will follow but suggestions and ideas are welcomed.

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## **MAYBE THERE IS HOPE FOR DEALING WITH NEW PROTECTED LAND DISCUSSIONS**

### **BOWATER GAP ANALYSIS TO DEVELOP NEW PROTECTED AREAS**

The OPA was made aware that a plan for additional Protected Lands over and above the OLL and Room to Grow sites had been initiated for the Bowater Sustainable Forest License (SFL) north of Thunder Bay. On enquiring we were told that Bowater had approached the Partnership for Public Lands (PPL) trying to get a determination of how much land and what areas were required to create certainty of wood supply. The Bowater business plan is to add capacity to two lumber mills and the request was made to allow them to better plan for the future. The plan was not to cut more trees but to better use the wood and fibre. The discussions lead to the MNR's participation. The MNR and the PPL laid out their methods of determining the GAPS in protected areas within each of the site districts covered by the Bowater SFL. This resulted in the definition of 14 sites covering 50,000 hectares. These sites have not been approved by Bowater and were selected without regard to the mineral potential or tenure.

At this point the OPA started questioning the MNR on what was happening and why haven't we been involved. The response was they were coming to us next and a meeting was set-up for Toronto December 10<sup>th</sup> at the MNR offices at the Whitney Block.

In attendance were:

Charlie Lauer, Acting/Assistant Deputy Minister, MNR  
Michael Gluck, Senior Planning Analyst, MNR  
Tim Gray, Executive Director, Wildlands League  
James Faught, Executive Director, Federation of Ontario Naturalists  
Gregor Beck, Director, Federation of Ontario Naturalists  
Julee Bowen, GIS Coordinator, Partnership for Public Lands  
Garry Clark, Executive Director, Ontario Prospectors Association  
Abraham Drost, MNDM.

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Bowater representative - absent

The meeting dealt in part with mineral values potentially impacted by the Bowater exercise. 14 sites have been provisionally identified through the MNR/PPL gap analysis process. These are both park and CR additions and stand-alone sites. MNR and MNDM had produced a compilation of the 14 sites on a base of bedrock geology and mining land tenure and dispositions. The compilation map was available at the meeting in addition to gap analysis maps. These maps were the basis of all discussions.

A review of the 14 sites indicated a direct impact of 3 sites with existing mineral tenure, 3 sites with mineral tenure on strike and 1 site overlying a greenstone belt. The remaining 7 sites were indicated to cover granitic terrains (at the map scale used).

Discussion centred on the need to cover the Gaps in the site district which would finalize the protected areas and bring conclusion to the process. The PPL stated that if the Gaps were filled in the site districts they would sign off on this being the end of the process. The OPA held to the line that MNDM and Industry had created a process of assessing Mineral Potential (PSMP) and it needs to be used in determining new protected lands. The use of PSMP needs to be used earlier to prevent maps with potential protected sites outlined being publicly circulated. These maps create uncertainty for the exploration industry and harm the economics of the province.

The OPA stated that the 7 sites in the granitic terrains could be assessed using PSMP to verify the mineral potential of the areas. If the mineral potential was determined as not significant, they could be signed off and the Protected status could move forward. This was agreed to by the PPL and a search for the funding for this was to be completed by the MNR. A. Drost stated that the MNDM was completing PSMP on the 378 OLL sites. This was stressing the human resources and the delivery of normal services to the industry. A. Drost reiterated that there was little possibility that the analysis could be performed until the 378 OLL sites had been addressed. The OPA made it clear that the 378 OLL sites were priority and that these 7 sites were not to be forced into the process. The concept of hiring external geological consultants to complete the analyses under supervision of the MNDM was discussed and thought to be the solution. The problem is the funding that OPA did not want to come from the MNDM.

The PPL/MNR/OPA agreed to review the other 7 controversial sites and move boundaries and areas to mitigate impact on the exploration industry. This would be completed to create new target areas that would then be PSMP assessed to verify the mineral potential.

The OPA expressed the need to be at the discussions of new Protected Areas early. Being at the table to provide input would help prevent uncertainty from maps with blobs coming public too early. It was also expressed by the OPA that they want to work within the process not always having to be fighting the process.

The general feelings from the meeting was the acceptance of PSMP by all sides, the need to work together to get things completed without controversy and the need to promote each others desires as equally as possible.

## Proposed Changes to the Explosives Act Contained in Bill C-42

The Public Safety Act, Bill C-42, was tabled in Parliament on 22 November 2001, and has as its chief aim increased security for Canadians following the 11 September terrorist attacks in the US. It includes changes to a wide variety of Acts of Parliament, and one new Act. Amendments to the Explosives Act are included in it.

The proposed amendments all relate to increasing the security of Canada's explosives supply, and have three main objectives:

1. to assist Canada's ratification of the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-America Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition Explosives and Other Related Materials.
2. to introduce new controls over the acquisition and possession of explosives, and
3. to monitor consumer-quantity sales of explosives precursors such as ammonium nitrate, that are of criminal and terrorist interest.

Additionally, increased penalties are sought for offences under the Act, which will be in line with those provided for in other modern legislation.

Regulatory controls required for the ratification of the OAS Convention include a system of export and in-transit permits which will complement the import permit system already in force, controls to address the newly created prohibitions against illicit trafficking and manufacture of explosives and ammunition, provisions to address explosives and components security and requirements for record keeping and exchange of information to assist in the tracing, identification and prevention of illicit trafficking and manufacture.

The second principal target of the amendments to the *Explosives Act* is the acquisition and possession of explosives. Presently, anyone in Canada may purchase and possess explosives without any background security check. It is proposed that all those who handle explosives, from manufacturers and importers through truckers and users, will undergo a background security check and will then be issued an "exemption certificate" (i.e. permission to possess explosives.) This system has operated without problem in Quebec for thirty years, where those individuals wishing to handle explosives apply to the police (Sûreté du Québec) for an explosives permit which is issued after the appropriate check. We envisage a similar system for the rest of Canada, with the Explosives Regulatory Division of NRCAN issuing the exemption certificate following a check performed through the RCMP database. This exemption certificate would surely be supported by most Canadians (who probably assume such checks already exist.) The exemption certificate database is intended to be shared with law enforcement and intelligence agencies to help identify individuals who pose a risk. The system will be designed to have minimal impact on legitimate users.

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The third issue is that of access to ammonium nitrate (AN), a commonly used agricultural fertilizer in which is also the principal constituent of most commercial explosives. Most AN is supplied to farms in bulk, but a small quantity (less than 1%) is available for retail sale, typically in 25kg bags. It is this bagged market we wish to address by requiring vendors to keep sales records and request proof of identity from unknown purchasers (a small minority.) We are also in touch with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms who control explosives in the US. They have recently met with representatives of the fertilizer industry in Washington, in order to discuss controls with them.

These new controls will close gaps and place Canada in a position of leadership, as the US explosives industry representatives are only at the stage of recommending to their government the introduction of possession certificates. The net result will be that Canada's explosives and component supply will be more securely protected against terrorist penetration. Additionally, these new controls will place Canada in a position to meet or exceed UN and G8 requirements that are expected to come in the near future.

Contact: Chris Watson,  
Chief Inspector of Explosives/ Director, Explosives Regulatory Division  
Natural Resources Canada  
Tel. 613-995-8251  
Fax 613-995-0480  
email [cwatson@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:cwatson@nrcan.gc.ca)

*The OPA has been following the changes to the Explosive Act through the work of Dave Christianson from NWOPA. Dave has made some good progress on getting the Minister to send in comments to the review process. Dave was extremely impressed by the speed the Ministers staff proceeded on the issue.*

*The biggest concern is the loss of ease of the prospector to access explosives as a needed tool of the trade. We will continue to pursue this issue and encourage your comments.*

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### **A CALL TO ARMS**

The mining exploration community is in desperate need of a few good 'men' to volunteer some of their time working on LCCs , Local Citizen's Committees , for MNR Forestry Districts in the Lakehead Region.

The work is exciting, stimulating and highly rewarding. Imagine being in a position where you could successfully prevent a road from being closed, or a bridge from being dismantled; thus allowing prospectors and explorationists access to freshly exposed rocks. Imagine how impressed your friends will be if this leads to a new discovery, especially if it is yours. One of the major bonuses of your job will be to have a first hand look at brand new Forest Management Plans (FMPs). You will see where future clear cutting will be and will know

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where all of the roads will go plus many more benefits that we won't go into now. Below are listed the MNR office numbers for an area that you might be interested in. Give them a call and tell them that you would like to work on the LCC planning team and they will direct you to the proper contact person. Once you are on, contact either myself:

John Halet NWOPA Director (807) 475-4142 <a href="mailto:jhalet@tbaytel.net">jhalet@tbaytel.net</a>	or Abraham Drost Regional Land Use Geologist-NW (807) 475-1368 <a href="mailto:abraham.drost@ndm.gov.on.ca">abraham.drost@ndm.gov.on.ca</a>
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and we will give you all the support that you need.

MNR District Offices	Area Codes (807)	
Atikokan 597-6971	Dryden 223-3341	Fort Frances 274-5337
Geraldton 854-1030	Ignace 934-2233	Kenora 468-2501
Nipigon 887-5000	Red Lake 727-2253	Sioux Lookout 737-1140
	Terrace Bay 825-3205	

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### A HORSE NAMED EMERITUS

This is basically a true story although a wee bit of *Christianson* has been added just to kick it up a notch.

Back in the late fifties I worked in several logging camps across NW Ontario. Oat-eating machines were still key to the moving of cut trees from the bush to landings. Watching cutter and beast perform their bush ballet would rival any 'professional' Ballerina act anywhere. With some there was no sound excepting the cracking of branches, swishing of snow and ringing of chains. Others included sounds that no modern day choreographer could conceive. I recall one Frenchman from Gaspé who used to sing to his horse all day.....love songs from the Gaspé I'm sure.... and the horse loved them (or hated them) cause he sang right back in whinnies and snorts..... it was poetry in motion, and I've never forgotten it.

In one camp north of White River (glm's stomping grounds) there was a little Pollock blacksmith. Little only in height. In stature he was harder'n a horse's arse. I watched him kill a full grown horse dead with one punch to the nose. The horse didn't like his new shoes (or maybe it was the blacksmith ticklin his balls) and he broke his foot.

I used to spend a lot of time helping the Pollock, (forgot his real name) doing his thing with his animal 'Skidders'. ( I liked them more than the clunky old BlueOx machines for sure).

At that time I weighed 90 pounds soaking wet with an erection so you can imagine how I looked holding the reins of a full grown Clydesdale ! I tried my hand at 'driving' the beasts several times but I guess it was my *Gee...Haw...go-where-you-like* attitude that prevented me from mas-

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tering any of the real skills (truth is I was scared sh'tless of them and they probably knew it).

One day not long after I started working in the skidder shop (next door to the Pollock's place), this great big horse with feet half the size of a BlueOx engine, wandered right into my shop. When I informed the Pollock that one of his 'skidders' was loose, I got the story. Half in Pollock and half in mixed Gaspé French, English/Finn and some Clydesdale I'm sure, he told me about the old English cutter who had croaked a while back and named his horse Emeritus. Apparently it was the dying Englishman's wish that the Pollock keep his horse till it died. Emeritus was to be kept 'free' and in the style of a 'partner'. The Pollock was also the Englishman's only heir so I guess his 'keep' was paid for.

One of the stalls in the Blacksmith's shop was home to Emeritus (it was heated in winter), the others slept in the barn.

During the two years that I was there I heard many stories about Emeritus, (witnessed a few of the events as well). When the crews went to work in the morning the men were herded to their strips in buses and the horses were herded by Emeritus. Same in reverse at night when the day's work was done. His official job was 'special hauler' and he did the job of skidding a few dead horses and injured workers out of the bush. I think I recall him dragging more than one truck out of the ditch as well.

Although I wasn't there when the following took place, I can picture it happening. Apparently a Finnlander cutter went nuts one Spring (they have this thing about Spring) and the Blacksmith's services were called in to tie him up so he wouldn't hurt himself or anyone else until 'it' wore off (something to do with Hoffman drops I think). The Pollock horse-tied him and put him in Emeritus' stall where he was adequately 'protected' until the fog cleared.

Over the years I've heard other 'stories' about Emeritus and how he 'ruled' camp. I'm sure that some were stretched and some were bullshit, but none of them were bad. One of the stories that was bullshit I'm sure recanted how Emeritus died. He had an affinity for Lutefisk and the Finlanders used to feed it to him at Christmas time. In those days, we had real Lutefisk, the stuff that was dry cured in Lye and had to be soaked/overhauled over a period of 8 days before it was safe to boil and eat. Apparently, Emeritus ate some Lutefisk before it's time.....or did someone who was jealous of his lazy life, feed it to him ?

## **Poppa NWOPA 2002**

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**DO YOU HAVE A PROPERTY TO SELL OR OPTION? THE OPA WEBSITE COULD HELP. POST PROPERTIES BY SENDING THEM INTO THE WEBMASTER [webmaster@ontarioprospectors.com](mailto:webmaster@ontarioprospectors.com)**

## **PROSPECTORS + CONTRACTORS AND SNOMOBILE TRAILS**

**The OPA , PDAC and CDDA lobbied for exemption from Snowmobile Trail permits and was successful with specifics being defined in Regulation. We had reported this success in previous months and have posted the win on the website.**

The only task left was to design a form for the Contractors who were not going to use their own letterhead based form. The data required on the form is outlined in the Regulation (next page). The MNDM form is available on the OPA and MNDM website and at all MNDM offices.

The exemption is to allow us to perform exploration unaffected by the cost of the Trail permit. But the user still must conduct themselves within the laws of the province and obey the trail speeds and signs. Things to also be aware of and to mitigate are safety issues:

1. Be aware of other trail users. If you are off and on the trail performing line work or working a specific area erect signage warning of people working.
2. If completing geophysics that involves cables stretching across trails use in addition to the signage, have an additional person on the trail to lift the cable or control the traffic. The high quality snowmobiles using the trails are most likely equipped with carbide runners and would cut most cables.
3. If a skidder or dozer is to use the trail or cross the trail, contact the local association so they can warn their members. They will also want to discuss how the trail is to be put back to normal once the project is over.
4. If you are using hip chain, break it before you cross. The string is light and easily broken but seems to get tangled on everything it touches.

This list is not complete by far but the principles behind using the trail are that this is a privilege. When you get to use a groomed trail that saves you time and energy just exercise common sense and safety.

### **HERE ARE THE PERTINENT PARTS OF THE ACT AND REGULATION**

(long version [http://192.75.156.68/DBLaws/Regs/English/010185\\_e.htm](http://192.75.156.68/DBLaws/Regs/English/010185_e.htm))

2.1 (1) No person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle upon a prescribed trail except under the authority of, and in accordance with, a trail permit for the motorized snow vehicle issued under subsection (2) or except on lands occupied by the owner of the motorized snow vehicle. 2000, c. 30, s. 3.

"trail" means the whole of any trail established and maintained by a recreational organization for the use of motorized snow vehicles;

"prescribed trail" means a trail or part of a trail on which a trail permit is required by section 2.1 of the Act and that is operated or maintained by or on behalf of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs, and includes such a trail or part of a trail that is on Crown land or other public land, but excludes any Crown land or other public land where the operation of motorized snow vehicles is prohibited by law.

Subsections 2.1 (1) and (4) of the Act do not apply to a person belonging to a class of persons listed

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in Column 1 of the Table only in the circumstances set out opposite the class in Column 2 of the Table and only if the person carries with him or her while driving the motorized snow vehicle on the prescribed trail the documents listed opposite the class in Column 3 of the Table.

Item	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
11.	(a) Licensed prospectors and their helpers 18 years old or older.	<p>While staking or working claims within a claim area, or while traveling directly to or from a claim area, if the trail is the only access route from the closest road to the claim area or is the only safe access route to the claim area.</p> <p>While working for a mining or exploration company, a contractor or field service supplier, within a claim area, or while traveling directly to or from a claim area, if the trail is the only access route from the closest road to the claim area or is the only safe access route to the claim area.</p>	<p>(a) An original valid prospectors licence or a legible copy of it and either,</p> <p>(i) mining claim tags, or</p> <p>(ii) a claim map or a legible copy of a claim map, showing the property or part of the property on which the trail is situated and a claim abstract or a legible copy of a claim abstract for the claim area.</p>
	(b) Licensed prospectors' helpers, under the age of 18, accompanying a licensed prospector.		(b) None.
12.	Employees of a mining or exploration company, and the employees of any contractor, driller, claim staker, land surveyor or geotechnical surveyor that is engaged by such a company, or any field service supplier of any of these persons.	Within the mining or exploration project area or while traveling directly to or from the project area, if the trail is the only access route from the closest road to the project area or is the only safe access route to the project area.	A valid trail permit exemption form issued by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines or a letter prepared within the previous 240 days on stationery bearing the mining or exploration company's letterhead, setting out,
			(i) the company name, address and phone number and the date on which the letter was prepared,
			(ii) the contractor name, address and phone number for each contractor working on the project,
			(iii) the name and employee identification number, if any, for each employee working on project for both the company and the contractor.
			(iv) the description of the location of the project, including the name of any municipality within which the project is located, and
			(v) the signature, name, title, address and phone number of the person who prepared the letter.



# OFSC TRAIL PERMIT EXEMPTION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location (Township/Area): \_\_\_\_\_

Employee(s) (using trail): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include Employee number if available) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Exemption period:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Ministry Representative)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

The employee(s) listed above are using the OFSC trail for mineral exploration or mining-related activities.