The Explorationist Newsletter is brought to you as a 'member service' of the Ontario Prospectors Association. The purpose is to share news and information amongst its 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 its members and Directors. The writers accept full ownership of their contributions.

FALL 2005

The Ontario Prospector and Explorationist have just come through one of the best years in a decade. There are numerous exploration programs occurring and some new discoveries being made.

In the background some problems are starting to rear their heads. Changes to the Provincial Parks Act, the soaring dollar, fuel costs and a looming labour shortage are all issues the OPA is following though our effecting change on some of these issues are obviously slight.

We see the Parks Act changes as one issue were we should be able to influence the politicians. Our principle concern isn’t with the material within Bill 11 introduced to the house but with the statement that a “non-legislative” policy is being developed for buffers around parks. Bill 11 will effectively move conservation areas into the same status as Parks but what are these buffer zone going to be? If there is a wide range of “non-legislated” policies on buffer zones will the District Managers be in control and consistency for the Province be pitched out the window. The OPA’s concern is as a explorer if I’m working beside a Park in Timmins will the rules be the same in Thunder Bay. We have faced these “buffer zone” problems in the past and usually they go away once we spend vast amounts of time fighting them. Again this time we need to lobby the Government to insure consistency on land access.

The MNDM has introduced a Mineral Development Strategy for the province that could go a long way to help stabilize the exploration business. There are some very good parts to the strategy that the OPA has been advocating for numerous years.

A new method of operating on Surface Rights owned lands in Southern Ontario is being proposed which should prevent some of the past conflicts. There is also a proposal to review access across river parks. Explorationists crossing river parks could save large amounts of money in exploration programs.

The Toronto Symposium is moving along greatly. You probably have received some information via email from Susan on the event. December 13th and 14th will be packed with displays and presentations. We have 49 speakers lined up with Discover Abitibi Initiative, Lake Nipigon Region Geoscience Initiative, Ontario Geological Survey and Industry presenters. We have set up 7 Cu-Ni-PGE presentations from across the Province and Raglan. There will also be displays and talks by MNDM that will introduce the Far North Initiative, the new Geoportal (method of online research of assessment work that incorporates new search and display possibilities), the Provincial Gateway (a new search engine for introduction to the MNDM legislation, regulations and operations) and the Resident Geologist program exploration updates.

NOTICES

New Explosives Source: Bill Dedrick, Pass Lake 807-977-1717

New Helicopter Service: Modak Aviation Inc., Dryden Airport, Dave Robertson, 807-221-7276

ONTARIO EXPLORATION CORPORATION FUNDING AVAILABLE TO PROSPECTORS SEE APPLICATION FORMS ON OPA WEBSITE OR AT MNDM OFFICES

We're easy to get a hold of
Contact the Executive Director: Garry Clark
By e-mail: gjclark@ontarioprospectors.com
Phone: 807-622-3284 Toll Free: 866-259-3727 Fax: 807-622-4156
The Ontario Prospectors Association needs your assistance! We are accepting nominations for the 1st Annual Ontario Prospectors Association Award. The award can be for any aspect of prospecting and exploration. Nominations are being accepted until November 11, 2005. Please send your nominations to the Committee Members (one or all) listed below:

John Halet, Email: jhalet@tbaytel.net
Telephone: 807-475-4142

John McCance, Email: bigjohn@kingston.net
Telephone: 613-634-1821

Gordon Salo, Email: gordon.salo@sympatico.ca
Telephone: 705-866-1437

PROPERTIES FOR OPTION?
AT THE DECEMBER SYMPOSIUM IN TORONTO THE OPA WILL HAVE A BOARD TO DISPLAY PROPERTIES FOR OPTION
TO GET YOUR PROPERTY POSTED JUST SEND A COPY TO THE THUNDER BAY OFFICE
1000 Alloy Dr.
Thunder Bay
P7B 6A5
OR email to: gclark@tbaytel.net
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: December 1, 2005

READERS COMMENTS
I am always interested in prospecting statistics and therefore the results reported in the August 2005 issue of The Explorationist (Table 4) are very interesting. Five new showings or anomalies out of 15 properties - a pretty good success rate - BUT the analyses are of no use, unless corresponding widths are reported. Are these widths known and can they be reported in the next issue? I would be interested. After all, one can obtain almost any grade with the "right" selection of sample.

Regards
Lionel Kilburn, Prospector

EDITOR RESPONSE
Lionel thanks for the comments. I spoke with the OEC and this year when they produce the results they will be more precise in their reporting.

MNMD Seeks Input On Proposed Mineral Strategy

SUDBURY – The Ontario government is strengthening the province’s mineral sector by seeking public input on a proposed mineral development strategy.

“Our goal is to enhance global competitiveness while, at the same time, fostering responsible mineral development that will provide sustainable benefits for all Ontarians,” said Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci.

The ministry has posted information about its proposed Mineral Development Strategy for Ontario on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry and ministry website. Copies of the discussion document have been mailed to First Nations chiefs and councils, Aboriginal groups, mining municipalities and a wide range of stakeholder groups. Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Bill Mauro is also leading a series of discussion sessions with stakeholder and Aboriginal groups at locations around the province.

“Sessions to date have been well-received and informative,” said Bartolucci. “I urge northerners, whose communities depend so heavily on the health of this vital industry, to review the discussion document and share their ideas with us before consultations close on November 30.”

While a mineral development strategy would apply to the entire province, the mineral industry is particularly important to the Northern Ontario economy. The proposed strategy is part of the government’s Northern Prosperity Plan for building stronger northern communities. The plan has four pillars: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

The complete document can be found at www.ene.gov.on.ca/envregistry/026228ep.htm

The Ministry is seeking input, feedback and comments from mining mineral development industry and other stakeholders. The consultation period closes at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 30th, 2005.

We encourage you to read this document and provide your feedback and comments to:
John Malecak – Senior Policy Advisor
Corporate Policy Secretariat
Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
99 Wellesley Street, West, Room 5630
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3
Phone: (416)327-8285 Fax: (416)3270634 Or e-mail to mineral.strategy@ndm.gov.on.ca
SOME COMMENTS ON THE STRATEGY

October 14, 2005
Attention: Brian Smithies
Dear Mr. Smithies


Thank you for your presentation to the Ministers Mining Act Advisory Committee on Oct 12, 2005.

I would like to take this opportunity to identify in writing a couple of errors on page 13 of the Strategy. First the use of the word “for” in notice for staking has lead to some confusion from the prospecting community. Some have interpreted this as having to give notice before staking. This was never the intent of MMAAC. I respectfully suggest “for” should be replaced with “of”. Secondly, MMAAC did not recommend map staking to the Minister. I request that the phrase “such as map staking” be deleted from the Strategy.

As chair of MMAAC I have received several phone calls and emails regarding the above, the OPA membership are questioning why MMAAC would recommend prior notice for staking and map staking, which it did not. I trust this is an honest mistake and look forward to seeing an amended Strategy.

Another point not related to MMAAC but a point, which needs to be reviewed. On page 11 in the right hand box it refers to the 6000 known abandoned mines. This is a gross exaggeration. MNDN should update the abandoned mines database. I know from experience that hundreds of these so call abandoned mines are much less hazardous than most of the highway 400/69 rock cuts. I participated in the assessment of abandoned mines in the Tweed West area in the fall of 2000 and have inspected over 1000 of these so called abandoned mines. I would recommend that MNDM review the recommendations of the field inspectors and update the abandoned mines database. Also I have always objected to the term abandoned as it casts a black shadow over our industry.

This Strategy is an opportunity to shift the image of mining and exploration in Ontario.

Yours truly,
N. W. Rayner & Associates

Wally Rayner P.Geo.

CC: MMAAC
   Garry Clark
   Phil Bousquet
   Lorne Burden
   Mike Leahy

BELOW IS A JOINT LETTER FROM THE PROVINCIAL MINES MINISTERS TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

This is thought to be one of the first times that all the Ministers agreed to a joint submission. Much of this material parallels the PDAC submission to the Mines Ministers.

September 30, 2005
The Honourable Ralph Goodale,
Minister of Finance

The Honourable John McCallum
Acting Minister, Natural Resources Canada

Dear Ministers:

I am writing to you on behalf of my Provincial and Territorial colleagues responsible for mining across Canada.

As you are aware, some 150 mining communities located in the rural and remote regions of almost all provinces, along with a significant number of Aboriginal employees and businesses are dependent on mineral resource development and mining. Many of these communities are seriously vulnerable due to declining mineral reserves which, if depleted, will require costly community and other adjustment programs.

At the same time, there is an unprecedented opportunity for Canada to benefit from the burgeoning global demand for mineral commodities. With demand for minerals reaching historic proportion, Canada must be strategically positioned to take advantage of the mineral wealth of provinces and territories for the benefit of all Canadians, but particularly for those living in rural, remote and northern communities. We must ensure that we implement policy frameworks that support new discoveries and new mine development in an environmentally sound manner.

Over the past three decades, Canada has seen an alarming decline in operating mines and mineral re-
serves. The rate of new discoveries has not kept pace with production. Even with implementation of the Investment Tax Credit for Exploration (ITCE) in 2001, the inventory of new discoveries, although increasing, is not sufficient to meet projected demand growth. Clearly, if Canada is to maximize the benefit of forecasted demand growth over the next 10 to 20 years, we must re-double our efforts to discover new resources now.

At our recent Federal/Provincial/Territorial meeting in New Brunswick, we unanimously agreed that a comprehensive approach is needed to encourage exploration and mining. Many provinces and territories have already enhanced funding for geoscience and implemented fiscal measures to encourage exploration. We now urgently request the federal government to take similar action in the following areas:

**Investment in Geoscience** – While the Targeted Geoscience Initiatives (TGI) have had some success in applying federal-provincial partnerships in geoscience funding to meet specific objectives, the depth and breadth of Canada's geoscience database continues to suffer from decreased funding to geological surveys. The high quality geoscience database is arguably one of Canada's principal competitive advantages in attracting exploration investment but it is now being compromised by continued lack of resources over a broad spectrum of geoscience. Ministers unanimously agreed that additional long term strategies are needed to increase the resources dedicated to, and the scope of, our geoscience programs. The best model for providing these resources is the Cooperative Geological Mapping Strategies (CGMS). We request the federal government provide funding for CGMS in the coming budget.

**Tax Measures** – Recognizing the need for a broad based approach to improving the fiscal framework for exploration and new mine development, Ministers unanimously support the following:

- **Re-Instatement of the ITCE**
  This 15% exploration tax credit continues to stimulate exploration. Although it has resulted in new discoveries, more time is needed to achieve even more results. We believe this program must be renewed to keep Canada at the forefront of world exploration and request re-instatement of the program in the coming budget.

- **Modernization of Canadian Exploration and Development Expenses (CEE and CDE)**
  The regulatory framework for exploration and development has evolved over the past 20 years to now include requirements for environmental review and community consultation. Furthermore, the use of existing underground infrastructure to pursue mining exploration programs at depth is now more critical than ever. However, the corresponding taxation framework related to CEE and CDE eligibility has not been adjusted to reflect current practice. We believe modernization of CEE and CDE requirements is fundamental to a thriving exploration and mining sector and request the federal government take immediate steps to modernize the type of expenses eligible for these instruments.

- **Deep Drilling Tax Incentive**
  As near surface deposits within mature mining camps become exhausted, it has become increasingly important to explore for new deposits at depth. This is particularly important for sustaining smelters and refineries and the communities they support. Ministers believe that a 20% tax credit for deep drilling will encourage on-site and off-site base metal exploration and promote industry and community sustainability. We request the federal government introduce a new deep drilling tax incentive in the coming budget.

We believe that these actions when combined represent a comprehensive response to the urgent challenge to replenish Canadian mineral reserves and will leave all Canadians well positioned to realize the significant social and economic benefits of mine development into the future.

Sincerely,

KEITH ASHFIELD  
Minister Natural Resources, New Brunswick

cc: The Honourable Andy Scott, Minister of Indian and Northern Development Canada  
The Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, Ontario  
The Honourable Brendan Bell, Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Northwest Territories  
The Honourable Edward J. Byrne, Minister of Natural Resources, Newfoundland and Labrador  
The Honourable Eric Cline, Q.C., Minister of Industry and Resources, Saskatchewan  
The Honourable Pierre Corbeil, Ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, Québec  
The Honourable Archie Lang, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Yukon  
The Honourable Richard Neufeld, Minister of Energy and Mines, British Columbia  
The Honourable Jim Rondeau, Minister of Industry, Economic Development and Mines, Manitoba
Recent events have caused one eastern Ontario aggregate producer to question the government of Ontario’s intentions with respect to the previous government’s Lands for Life initiative.

As a part of the province’s highly publicized “Lands for Life/Living Legacy” initiative, which took place in 1999 and involved the designation of new protected areas in the province, the government attempted to calm the mining industry’s fears by entering into “Living Legacy Contracts” with individuals and/or companies in the industry who might be affected by these new designations. Essentially, these contracts assured these parties that even though a proposed protected area would be in near proximity to or engulf their mining claims/leases, the parties’ mining rights would not be adversely affected.

As represented by the government, one of the purposes of the Living Legacy Contracts was to provide:

- “assurances that any … negative impact [resulting from the creation of a protected area] will be avoided and that the claim holder will be entitled to exercise the same mining rights as if its mining properties were located elsewhere in the Province of Ontario.”

Among other things, the Living Legacy Contracts guarantee to the claim holder that:

1. the claim holder shall be entitled to “conduct and carry out exploration and other mining activities on its mining properties in the same manner as if the properties were located elsewhere in the Province of Ontario”; and
2. the claim holder shall be entitled to “enjoy security of tenure, access, the right to enter into lease agreements and any other rights under the Mining Act that may be necessary in order to conduct exploration and other mining activities on its mining properties”; and
3. The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (“MNDM”) and the Ministry of Natural Resources (“MNR”) “will place before Cabinet for its consideration proposals for any new laws that may be necessary to give effect to the spirit and intent of this agreement.”

Cause for Concern: A Recent Case Study

One such party who had staked and leased claims adjacent to a newly designated conservation reserve (the “Aggregate Producer”) entered into a Living Legacy Contract in 1999 as described above with the government, as represented by the Minister of Northern Development and Mines.

In 1999 the Aggregate Producer applied for an aggregate permit for the site in accordance with the Aggregate Resources Act (the “ARA”); the application was accepted but the permit was denied. On a second application made in 2001, MNR sought revisions to the plan and imposed conditions regarding the applicant’s ability to sell quarried material for aggregate usage.

In May 2003, the Aggregate Producer made a third application for an aggregate permit, complete with all the revisions requested by MNR, but refused to restrict its ability to sell quarried material for aggregate usage.

In March 2004, the Aggregate Producer applied for a mining lease from MNDM pursuant to the provisions of the Mining Act. After much delay, the Aggregate Producer was forced to serve a Notice of Claim in October 2004 in an effort to move MNR to approve the survey with respect to such lease. Ultimately, the surveys branch approved the survey in late December 2004 and a twenty-one (21) year lease for mining and surface rights for the Site was issued in February 2005.

Two years after its third application, in May of 2005, the MNR Minister notified the Aggregate Producer that its application for an aggregate permit was denied because the Minister did not consider the issuance of the permit to be in the public interest. The
Minister’s reasons in their entirety are as follows:

“The site which is the subject of the aggregate permit application has a high concentration of significant features and is within an area that has been identified as ecologically significant. The adverse impact of a quarry operation on these environmental values, coupled with strong public opposition, outweigh the limited economic opportunities the quarry might provide. The stated purposes of the Act are the management of the aggregate resources of Ontario and the minimization of adverse impact on the environment. This requires the proper balancing of environmental, social and economic considerations and my decision reflects this.”

The Aggregate Producer’s view is that the government’s decision is in breach of the Living Legacy Contract and intends to take legal action seeking a review of the denial of the permit and compensation for damages resulting from the delay in issuing the permit. It is expected that this legal action will determine the effectiveness of the “Living Legacy Contracts” and the extent to which Ontario’s mining industry can rely on the assurances given in these contracts.

Fasken Martineau acts on behalf of the Aggregate Producer on this matter.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE CIM BULLETIN-Directory Edition

A PROSPECTOR AT HEART

Wing, Allan John
Sept. 29, 2005

Allan John Wing passed away peacefully at home on September 27th. He was born on August 24, 1926 and grew up in Rosslyn Village. In his teen years he worked with his father in the family blacksmith shop until enlisting in the Canadian Army. Following the Armed Forces he joined Great Lakes as a carpenter and then continued in the carpentry trade on his own, building houses. His business expanded into general contracting when he formed A.J. Wing Construction Ltd a well respected firm doing business in Northwestern Ontario for over 50 years. Allan held positions as the Chairman and President of the Thunder Bay Construction Association in the early 70s. Later, the company evolved into A.J. Wing & Sons Construction Ltd. His livelihood was construction but his passion was mining. Allan continued to actively stake mining claims until his illness.

Together with his wife Barbara, they raised five children and always had an open home for more. Allan’s family was of great importance to him. He supported and encouraged his children and grandchildren in all their dreams and aspirations. He was mild mannered and took an interest in everyone he met. He was a very loyal friend. Allan and Barbara were among the founding members of Pinegrove United Church and he remained committed to his church until his passing.

Allan had diverse interests including a lifelong love of reading and sports. He played hockey, winning the Gandier Memorial Trophy as MVP while playing with the Rosslyn Dynamiters in the Thunder Bay Rural Hockey League for two consecutive years. Following this, he remained active in the sport through coaching and as the President of the Westfort Hurricanes Jr. A team. He enjoyed sailing and he achieved a 2nd place finish in the Canadian Sailing Championships, Windmill class, in a boat that he built and crewed. This boat was a common sight at the Wing family camp on Arrow Lake. Allan was a member of Connaught Lodge #511 AF, Khartum Shrine Temple, Winnipeg, MB, the Lakehead Shrine Club Cycle Group, and the Scottish Rite 32 degree. As well, he was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Kakabeka Falls and Rural District Branch #225.

Allan was predeceased by his wife of 49 years, Barbara; daughter Joan, parents Winnifred and Albert Wing, brother Gilbert Wing and grandchildren Skyler Wing and Benjamin Pettifer.

Allan will be sadly missed by his children Murray (Janice) Wing, Bruce (Brenda) Wing, Don Wing (Gwen Dubois-Wing), Allison (Lenard) Arbour, Greg (Donna) Wing and Jim (Jan) Pettifer. He was a devoted grandfather to Shannon, Sheldon, Chelsea (Rob Stewart), Jaret, Tanis, Allan and Savannah Wing; Madeleine and Elizabeth Arbour; Wanita Moonias, Karen (Ian) Smith, and Matthew and Brian Pettifer. He is also survived by his sister June (Dennis) Perrier. Allan will be greatly missed by his companion and special friend Joyce Johnston.

Allan was well known to the mineral explorers of Northwestern Ontario. He was an active supporter of
prospectors and junior companies and assisted in the re-establishment of the Northwest Ontario Prospectors Association in the late 1980’s.

DISAPPOINTMENT

The Canadian Mining Hall of Fame board met in September and selected six inductees for 2006 recognition. Arthur Cockshutt was not included in the six.

I am very disappointed with this outcome but remain confident that Arthur Cockshutt was an outstanding Canadian mining man deserving of peer recognition. That said, I am sure the Cockshutt nomination received fair consideration by Hall of Fame board members.

The quality of support received for the nomination was of the highest order. Please accept my heart-felt thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Grant Nuttall

Editors Note: OPA had supported this submission. Please accept our regrets that we were not successful. Possibly we can pursue this next year.

THE DEBATE CONTINUES

From: Dan Ziehlke
Sent: November 1, 2005 2:08 PM
To: Garry Clark
Cc: Bill Burbidge; Steve Masson; Kelly Gilmore
Subject: Map Staking

Dear Mr Clark,

I am emailing you to inquire about the Ontario Prospectors Association's position is on map staking, which has now been implemented in a number of provinces, including Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, P.E.I., Quebec, B.C and Alberta, with partial map staking in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Other provinces are making plans to implement map staking, with Manitoba planning to bring it in province wide within 3 to 5 years.

The Manitoba - Saskatchewan Prospectors and Developers Association (MSPDA), was formed in Flin Flon in 1964 to provide a voice for the northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan prospectors. We are against map staking and plan to oppose this as computer based map staking will tend to cut out prospectors without computers as well as no high speed internet services. Also, map staking will result in a number of other problems.

We would like to hear from you on your position on this and are willing to provide you with our list of concerns about this policy, if you are interested.

Thank you for considering this matter, as it will affect us all if this goes Canada wide.

Sincerely,
Daniel V. Ziehlke, P.Geo.
President
MSPDA

RESPONSE

Dan

The OPA has a standing motion on the books against map staking. What has been occurring in Ontario is a new Mineral Development Strategy that is looking at possible implementation of Map Staking in Southern Ontario where the majority of the Crown land has separate Surface Rights holders. The Mineral Development Strategy is out for comment until the end of November. The feeling we get is that the changes to the Mining Act would just be for Southern Ontario but there is always the concern of the thin end of the wedge getting started.

There are numerous reasons to go either way and the OPA would like to see a truthful debate of the issue. It is evident other Provinces are headed this way but is it the right way?

Good to hear from you, please keep in touch. This is an issue that will not go away.

Garry Clark
Executive Director
Ontario Prospectors Association

REMEMBER YOU CAN LIST YOUR PROPERTIES FOR OPTION ON THE OPA WEBSITE FOR FREE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.ontarioprospectors.com
**SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

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**Symposium Registration**

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**Student Registration**

Includes entry to symposium and 2006 OPA membership

| @ | $75.00 |

**One Day Only**

| @ | $130.00 |

*Includes 2006 OPA Membership & Regional Association Membership*

**Regional Associations**

The Ontario Prospectors Association supports local prospecting associations in mining communities across Ontario. These organizations represent the local voice of the OPA and its members as a whole on local issues. Please check the group of your choice (one only):

- Boreal Prospectors Association (BPA)
- Northern Prospectors Association (NPA)
- Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Assoc. (NWOPA)
- Porcupine Prospectors & Developers Assoc. (PPDA)
- Sault & District Prospectors Association (SDPA)
- Southern Ontario Prospectors Association (SOPA)
- Sudbury Prospectors & Developers Assoc. (SPDA)
- Non Affiliated
- No Membership

**Payment Information**

Cheque: Visa: MasterCard: 
Card #: Expiry: Month: Year: 
Cardholder: 
Signature: 

Cheques should be made payable and mailed with this application to: **Ontario Prospectors Association**

c/o Susan Warren, 1000 Alloy Drive
Thunder Bay, ON  P7B 6A5

Fax a copy of this application to the OPA at 807-622-4156 to ensure your registration.

A confirmation will be sent to you either by email or fax once payment has been received.

For more information visit us at www.ontarioprospectors.com or email us at oegs@ontarioprospectors.com.

Pre-registration deadline is November 18, 2005.

Registrations received before deadline will be applicable for Early Bird Registration prizes!

Registrations received after deadline date will be processed on site.

No refunds will be issued after November 18, 2005. Cancellations will be charged a $20.00 processing fee.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE ONTARIO EXPLORATION & GEOSCIENCE SYMPOSIUM