

Kasabonika Lake First Nation and D'Silva Parker Associates  
in partnership with  
Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines  
Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association and Ontario Prospectors Association  
proudly present

# Gathering Experience & Sharing Opportunity

## North of 51°

A collection of perspectives on promoting economic development  
by overcoming the challenges, avoiding the pitfalls and realizing  
the opportunities for the creation of a sustainable mineral industry  
in northern Ontario



## REALIZE THE OPPORTUNITIES

Your ideas and experiences can make a difference!

Contact us at: [dsilvaparker@hotmail.com](mailto:dsilvaparker@hotmail.com)

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# Realizing the Vision through the efforts of



Indian and Northern Affairs Canada



Northern Development and Mines



Ontario  
Prospectors Association



Northwestern Ontario  
Prospectors Association

Gathering Experience  
&  
Sharing Opportunity  
North of 51°

Kasabonika Lake First Nation



D'Silva Parker Associates



## Summary

Ontario's North of 51 area represents the least explored region of high mineral potential in the province. In remote northern communities the mineral industry provides one of the few opportunities for sustainable economic development. Mining and exploration are often the major industries in an area and the largest potential sources of socio-economic benefits.

First Nations are expressing a desire to build capacity and participate in the mineral industry in an effort to break the cycle of dependence of northern communities on government funding and to reduce the individual's heavy reliance on community leadership.

The Mineral Industry is demonstrating a desire to explore and develop resources North of 51 but is encountering issues of land tenure, community consultation and impact and benefit agreements that are significantly hindering the exploration phase of the mining sequence.

The Gathering Experience & Sharing Opportunities North of 51 Workshop was presented by Kasabonika Lake First Nation and D'Silva Parker Associates with support from Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association, Ontario Prospectors Association and Northern Development and Mines.

This workshop was held in Thunder Bay at the Valhalla on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004 as a prelude to the Northwestern Ontario Mines and Minerals Symposium.

The workshop gathered various perspectives with regard to experiences in mineral exploration and facilitated open communication in order to overcome the challenges, avoid the pitfalls and realize the opportunities for sustainable economic development North of 51. Participants represented First Nation Tribal Councils, Federal and Provincial Governments, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Prospectors Associations, Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund, Junior Exploration Companies, Major Mining Companies, and many First Nation Communities.

Presentations and discussions examined the topics of:

- **Increasing First Nation Participation in the Mineral Industry**
- **Land Tenure and Access**
- **Community/Industry Consultation**
- **Impact and Benefit Agreements with regard to Mineral Exploration**

Comments, presentations and discussions reflected the open, upbeat and optimistic mood of the participants and indicated an overwhelming willingness to realize the workshop goal of promoting a sustainable mineral industry North of 51.

The participants openly commented on the value of this workshop and recognized the importance of future workshops in order to continue to build relationships, understanding and capacity within both industry and First Nations.

Many First Nations recognize the importance of the mineral industry to economic development in the north and are beginning to proactively pursue economic opportunities associated with mineral exploration and mining.

The mineral industry is recognizing that a special situation exists when exploring in Traditional Lands and is adapting business practices to reduce negative impacts and increase social and economic opportunities for northern communities.

Significant efforts are being made by First Nation and Industry to understand cultural differences, to build understanding and trust and to recognize the common goals and opportunities that exist in the north.

Important partnerships are developing with the recognition that First Nations need industry support to participate effectively within the mineral industry and that industry requires support and cooperation from First Nations to carry out business in the north.

It was widely recognized that during this period of transition to a new economy, initiatives must be driven from within communities and industry and that the role of government should be that of technical and financial support rather than developing and implementing policy.

Throughout the workshop the need for several components to success were repeatedly identified:

- Education (both for First Nations and Industry)
- Communication (open, informed and two-way)
- Experience (with the industry and with the community)
- Planning (proactive planning for success)

First Nations expressed the need for a mandatory set of principles to guide development in Traditional Lands. Those principles are:

- Our Culture and Way of Life shall be protected.
- The Environment shall be protected.
- Aboriginal, Treaty and Constitutional Rights shall be protected.
- Developments in the Traditional Lands must be of acceptable benefit to the people of the First Nation.

The Mineral Industry repeatedly expressed the critical need for the following:

- Certainty of land tenure.
- Timely access to the land during exploration.
- The need to generate profit at the mine development stage.

A listing of group-specific recommendations and action items was generated from input of the workshop participants.

## **Introduction**

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First Nations are expressing a desire to build capacity and participate in the mineral industry in an effort to break the cycle of dependence of northern communities on government funding and to reduce the individual's heavy reliance on community leadership.

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This workshop was held in Thunder Bay at the Valhalla Inn's Scandia Room I and Fireside Lounge on Monday April 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004, as a prelude to the Northwestern Ontario Mines and Minerals Symposium.

The workshop gathered various perspectives with regard to experiences in mineral exploration and facilitated open communication in order to overcome the challenges, avoid the pitfalls and realize the opportunities for sustainable economic development North of 51.

Presentations and discussions examined the issues of:

- increasing First Nation participation in the mineral industry
- land tenure and access
- community consultation and impact and benefit agreements

The workshop was well attended with approximately 50 participants representing First Nation Tribal Councils, Federal and Provincial Governments, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Prospectors Associations, Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund, Junior Exploration Companies, Major Mining Companies, and at least eight First Nation Communities.

An Elders meeting was held at the end of the workshop to facilitate discussions in First Nation Languages.

A poster display highlighted significant mineral initiatives North of 51.

**AGENDA****Monday April 5<sup>th</sup>**

Valhalla Inn: Scandia Room I

- 8:30 - 9:00am            Introductions and Opening Remarks:
- 9:00 - 12:00            Participant Presentations:
- 9:00 – 9:15            Eno H. Anderson (Kasabonika)
- 9:15 – 9:30            Doug Parker (Prospector/Consultant)
- 9:30 - 9:45            Dan Gagnon (Musselwhite)
- 9:45 – 10:00          Jim Garber (Landore Resources)
- 10:00 – 10:15        Claude Jacques (Wemindji)
- 10:15 –10:45          COFFEE BREAK
- 10:45 -11:00        Luc McKay (Shibogama)
- 11:00 -11:15        Michael Cunningham (De Beers Canada)
- 11:15 – 11:30        Mike Taylor (Slam Exploration)
- 11:30 - 11:45        Elsie Macdonald (Webequie)
- 11:45 – 12:00        Peter Moses (Prospector, MNDM)
- 12:00 – 1:00          LUNCH
- 1:00 - 2:00            Participant Presentations:
- 1:00 -1:15            Angus Woodford (Windigo First Nation Council)
- 1:15 - 1:30            Eno H. Anderson (Kasabonika)
- 1:30 - 1:45            Bruno Bond (NRCan)
- 1:45 - 2:00            Breakout Sessions or Focused Discussions





**PARTICIPANTS**

The following participants signed in at the workshop.

1.	Douglas Parker	D'Silva Parker Associates
2.	Barbara D'Silva	D'Silva Parker Associates
3.	Freda McDonald	Community Elder
4.	Jim Garber	Landore
5.	John Mason	MNDM
6.	Peter Moses	MNDM
7.	Donald R. Boucher	DeBeers
8.	Angus Woodford	WINDIGO
9.	Dan Gagnon	Placer Dome (CLA)Musselwhite
10.	David Peerla	NAN
11.	Eno H. Anderson	KLFN
12.	Leo Owsiacki	MNDM
13.	Jim Berry	INAC
14.	Elsie MacDonald	Webequie
15.	Fred Ice	Beaverhead Linecutting
16.	Joyce Atcheson	Wawatay News
17.	Simon Semple	KLFN
18.	Edward Anderson	KLFN
19.	George Anderson	KLFN
20.	Gilbert Anderson	KLFN
21.	Leighton Anderson	KLFN
22.	Andy Fyon	MNDM – OGS
23.	Noah Ooshag	Matawa
24.	Jeremiah McKay	KLFN Elder
25.	Harvey Yesno	NADF
26.	Gerald Lewis	Shoal Lake #39 FN
27.	Ed Mandan	Shoal Lake #39 FN
28.	Rod Winnepetonga	Wunnumin Lake
29.	John Kamenawatamin	Windigo FN Council
30.	Mitch Diabo	KCDC-KLFN
31.	Raymond Beardy	Windigo FN Council
32.	Bruno Bond	Natural Resources Canada
33.	Micheal Fox	NADF
34.	Luc McKay	Shibogama
35.	Harry McKay	Kingfisher Lake
36.	Charlie Beaver	Wunnumin Lake
37.	Enus McKay	Big Trout Lake
38.	Doris Odjick	INAC
39.	Micheal Grant	MNDM
40.	Catherine Peltier	NRCAN-AASC Division, MMS
41.	Lewis Nate	Eabametoong FN
42.	Andy Yesno	Eabametoong FN
43.	Martha Papah	Eabametoong FN
44.	Harold Demetzer	INAC
45.	Jon Del Ben	Consultant
46.	Garry Clark	OPA

### **Facilitator's Notes**

The following summary notes were taken by Barbara D'Silva during the presentations:

#### **Douglas Parker**

Employment creates educational opportunities and involvement.

Crown Land versus Traditional Land

CLEAR LAND TENURE

Remoteness North of 51

Surface rights similar to traditional lands with regards to Ontario Mining Act – a possibility?

Map Staking – An issue for Prospectors.

#### **Dan Gagnon**

Trying to mine gold for profit.

Working with 9 communities, 2 Tribal Councils and 2 Companies.

What is given to community?

Skills and job opportunities - minimum 30% - a challenge

Trying to get education up to management levels.

Some other employment: Windigo Catering, Nursing Shibogama, Fly with Wasaya

Commissary- First Nation business opportunities: remedial work, re-seeding, treatments, recycling tires/oil, etc,...

"If the Prospector never goes out to look for a mine there will never be a mine. Access is a must!"

Communities must provide: Fiscal responsibility – spend wisely.  
Prepare for employment – job readiness.  
Accountability – paper trail.

Key to Success: Understanding, Communication and Mutual Respect.

Access to land – fine line

- 1) Find out about area, traditional land, trapline areas then,...
- 2) Contact EDO, Chief and Council. Visit community and council to explain project.
- 3) Majors versus Juniors – Big differences.

**Jim Garber**

Junior companies raising money for each phase of project.

Junior and Major Companies need to ask for lots of advice from First Nation communities, other mining and exploration companies and MNDM.

Making mistakes but trying to build understanding – Respect for Land

Trying to create employment.

Cannot invest in Capital Projects ie. Buildings, etc

Cannot guarantee % employment.

Has learned that “no comment back” means that there is no concern.

Represents only certain aspect of the exploration community.

Has received assistance from others such as: Dan Gagnon at Placer Dome and MNDM.

**Claude Jacques**

From Wemindji a Cree community in Quebec

Was a Prospector in the early 70's

Has a history in exploration and mining community:

- Staking for diamonds
- Monitoring and participating in seminars
- Offering Prospecting workshops

James Bay Development Corp.

Hired Geologist/ Administrator – Mary, an aboriginal from Peru.

Joint ventured with diamond junior Metal Ex.

Still a private corporation. Quite active in Quebec - 4<sup>th</sup> largest claim holder in Wimindji area

Next phase- going public or optioning of gold properties to raise funds

In 2002 optioned some gold properties to Globe Ex.

**Luc McKay**

From Kingfisher and Wunnummin, downstream of Musselwhite on the Pipestone River.

Concerned with environmental impact on waterways. Provides information on what is happening at Musselwhite Mine.

Part of Musselwhite Community Advisory Committee:

Environmental Committee

Implementation Committee – NEW

- Deals with revenue sharing.
- Having difficulties maintaining employment % due to lack of education and required skills.
- Some issues with Agreement.
- Mining companies understanding of First Nations.
- Within FN overlapping trapline areas and traditional lands.
- Problems with communication and technology.
- Reduced employment after development due to lack of education. Require Grade 12 or better. Need to work on a better educational system. To succeed must be educated.
- Community must know what community wants before getting involved in Impact and Benefits Agreement.
  - o Hiring and other issues involved in the community
  - o Employment
  - o Business opportunities
  - o Consultation
  - o Environmental policy and procedures.

Must be interested enough to participate – willingness to participate.

Sign on for at least a 5year commitment to the process. It is a slow process.

Moving forward with a positive outlook.

**Michael Cunningham**

Health and Safety and Environment – ISO 1400 Certified

Employment and Experience

Diamonds are forever/ Education is forever.

What we have learned from working successfully with First Nations in Canada:

General Comments:

Communication and consultation is most important – must follow through.

Develop relationship – Trust

For FN communities: It is sometimes painful to follow through on promises.

There is some risk, chances to be taken.

Land use planning and mapping is important.

For Industry: What are Treaty and Aboriginal rights in area?

Develop strong policy on Environment, dealing with FN/aboriginals, etc,...

Know Corporate goals and Community goals.

Companies must prepare themselves financially to deal.

Majors deal differently than Juniors. Exploration different than Mining

Sensitive to local differences between and within communities

Government: Investing in communities means investing in Resources and Sustainable Development

Currently operating as silos within each government level – must work together and share resources at all levels of expertise.

Need to separate the business of Politics from the business of Business.

Silos versus spider web of expertise and funding resources

Closing comments: Identify your partner and seek a good partnership.

Mining is not Exploration.

Mining and Exploration is not Forestry or Hydro-electric development.

All levels must work better to educate. Limited access to resources currently.

Further comment on Land Access provided by Michael Cunningham after presentation.

Under the Ontario Mining Act (OMA), mineral claims must be “worked” and assessment reports filed in order to maintain claims in good standing. Companies are increasingly required to undertake Community consultation with respect to their proposed work program on traditional lands. Companies know this and the government knows this- Companies must have ‘social license’ to conduct business not just government ‘license’. However, the provincial government under the OMA does not appear to recognize this fact, as demonstrated by the timelines to file work. Consultation with one, two or three FN communities to develop the consensus required to get a ‘social license’ takes time and the OMA does not recognize or accommodate this.

### **Elsie MacDonald**

Lands and Resources Policy developed.

Wanted to gain more knowledge before going forward.

3 Key Considerations:

- Safe guard Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.
- Community must have revenue from traditional land resources.
- Encourage development with FN involvement.

Community developed Graph:

- Reserve
- Protected traditional area
- Mutually shared area

Stewardship will continue of Winisk River Waterway Park.

Looking for buffer zone to protect community.

Need to develop policy on exploration or development.

Require appropriate approach:

- Full revelation of project – complete disclosure- develop mutual trust.
- Contact with community to establish relationship.
- True meaningful consultation
- Respect for Rights
- Respect for Special Status.
- Recognition of sacred areas, cultural and physical
- Compensation for loss of Rights
- Opportunities for Partnership
- Impact and Benefit Agreements

Need an independent body to facilitate resolving any outstanding issues. Community gets stuck within obstacle and slows process. Independent body would identify different approaches to overcome obstacle and finds solutions to complicated issues.

Grade 12 Education requirements, an obstacle to employment of First Nations.

First Nations and Ontario Government need to resolve these issues.

### **Peter Moses**

Worked 30 years in the Pulp and Paper Industry and 25 years as a Prospector.

Father of four children

Importance of Education: Hwy 11/17 communities were remote at one time but fortunate to have employment opportunities. Peter is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Prospector. Peter recognized the opportunity to gain employment or a dollar to keep his family fed and thriving. He has successfully optioned 32 properties in 25 years generally in easily accessible areas.

Need to Consult: Company to community and community to company.

Understand tools available – Financial resources \$  
Equipment  
Employment opportunities  
Educational opportunities

Moved along with change.

Recognized need and provided service or acquired education required to fulfill need.

Education is very important to get better jobs for First Nations.

### **Bruno Bond**

From Natural Resources Canada's newest branch Aboriginal Affairs Division.

Catalyst and facilitator in Aboriginal Mining Issues

Developed out of Mines and Minerals Conference for Ministers Focus for Action.

Will provide online maps and videos on developing mines and socio-economic facts.

Creating information tool kit with PDAC, INAC, NRCan, etc,...

Attending Mines Ministers Conference in July, 2004 at Iqaluit, Nunavut

Hopes to help develop community driven sustainable economic development.

## **Angus Woodford**

Musselwhite Agreement is departure from paternal agreements of the past.

Listed Short-term and Long-term goals

Discussed goals and working towards them.

Post activities of mining operations ie. Golden Patricia

Compensation – some but it didn't go far.

Employment – some

Capacity building – minimal

Concerns addressed: Education, job connection programs ie. Windigo Catering – 4 qualified chefs.

Exciting to see growth in students as they progress through the training. Development is encouraging.

Must position First Nations for post “Placer Dome days”.

Must build on capacity that is available currently.

Out reach workers and EDO must work together to branch out into other communities ie. Sioux Lookout Hospital, etc,...Chefs, support workers, etc,...

Should be in state that community is flourishing when Musselwhite closes down.

Developing Labour Pool to access for other projects.

400 employees at Musselwhite, mostly non-aboriginal

18% from Windigo traditional area

Other FN communities have remaining percentage employment.

Windigo sharing with other First Nations.

## **Eno H. Anderson**

25 licensed Prospectors in community.

Attend workshops, symposiums and forums.

Acquired some mining prospects.

All development requires partnership – One can't do it alone.



MNDM – valuable expertise

Early approached by mining company.

Developed step by step approach.

Short-term agreements. (6 -10 months or single phase)

No long term lock in.

Demographics need to be studied and worked on.

Prospectors have KPA to help with marketing, land and resources development, etc,...  
Resource Planning Board hired facilitator to help develop land use plan and implement land use strategy.

Report on mineral activities in traditional areas.

Mineral Sector Business Plan.

KCDC constructed, Hired new General Manager – Mitch Diabo.

Holistic attitude to life, including mining and minerals development, planning working relationships and employment.

### **Andy Yesno**

Will be doing a presentation at Symposium on Wednesday April 7, 2004.

Need to understand each other – First Nations and Mining community.

First Nations want to break away from welfare economy with government.

Others must understand the language of First Nation community:

Transitional group in every community- ½ Native language ½ English  
Youth represent 50-60% of population.  
Demographics

People just come north for the day.

Don't have time to stay and watch the community process.

Can't give answers in one day.

Indian Act never translated.

Industry needs to familiarize itself with the Indian Act and James Bay Treaty #9 1905 – 1906 also never translated.

Even though some small communities are still attached to the land, they used to roam all over, doesn't mean that traditional and historical uses have discontinued.

All have rights and must thoroughly understand each other's rights.

North American First Nations lived on an economy based on survival.

They took from the land to live.

They changed to a barter economy for about 300 years with the fur trade industry.

Treaty made First Nations dependant on government for survival but they still continue traditional hunting and gathering rights.

Wealth creation in white man's world, no longer a survival economy

Youth changing. It is a transitional period to new economy.

**Presentation notes provided by Doug Parker**

Educated as a Geologist, Environmental Engineer and Environmental Assessor.  
Have 25 years experience in Mineral Exploration and Mining.

Worked for Government, major mining companies and junior exploration companies and as an independent consultant. Worked as a prospector, line cutter, claim staker, mine geologist and exploration geologist.

I am a principle in D'Silva Parker Associates. Together with my partner, Barbara, we facilitate involvement and understanding of the environmental impacts of exploration and mining with the goal of promoting sustainable development.

Key to promoting sustainable development is recognizing that environmental impacts can be both negative (undesirable) and positive (desirable). In Canada, environmental assessment considers both bio-physical and socio-economic impacts.

Bio-physical = LAND (rocks, trees, flora, fauna, air, water, life, Earth)

Socio-economic = PEOPLE (community, culture, health, happiness, quality of life)

The Land and the People.

The resources of the Land and the well being of the People, that is why we are all here today.

I sincerely thank you all for coming. I look forward to hearing what you have to say.

I would like to make some personal comments on the topics of discussion for this workshop.

Overcoming Challenges, Avoiding Pitfalls and Realizing the Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Development North of 51.

**Increasing First Nation Participation in the Mineral Industry**

The biggest challenge here is Education and Experience. The mineral industry is complex and ever changing. The minerals industry is generally poorly understood or misunderstood by society, not just by First Nations but by everyone.

To understand the industry a person has to be involved in the industry, and then a person is often only involved in a small part of the industry and so does not see the BIG picture.

In Canadian society, very few people are directly involved in the mineral industry. This is because exploration and mining operations tend to be remote, where people are away from their homes and community for long periods of time. The work is often specialized requiring specific skills that people do not commonly possess and the work

is often difficult labour, sometimes in the bush, sometimes in an industrial setting or deep underground. Not surprisingly this does not appeal to a lot of people.

The more people understand the mineral industry, the more opportunity there is to benefit from it.

There will be a few individuals in every community for whom mining will get into their blood and they will thrive in the industry.

But for others, and most importantly for the communities, there are the opportunities for spin-offs to the economy. Service providers, accommodation, transportation, and suppliers are needed throughout exploration. With mining comes the opportunities for well paid long term employment, construction, maintenance, even major infrastructure development (power, access, secondary industry).

Mine related infrastructure development was critical in the economic development south of 51. Most roads, rail lines, power corridors and many towns developed as a result of mining activities. Even today more than half of all goods shipped by rail and boat are directly related to the mineral industry.

There are many opportunities to increase First nation involvement through employment opportunities.

### **The Issues of Land Tenure and Access**

My personal biggest challenge is the relationship of Crown Lands and Traditional Lands.

Crown Lands in Ontario are defined on maps that can be accessed by anyone.

Traditional Lands are seldom shown on maps, often overlap, are commonly defined by trap lines held by families whom sometimes live in communities distant from the traditional land, thus Traditional Lands although adjacent to one community may be controlled by a different community.

The Ontario government has specific policies and legislation governing the use of crown land. The Ontario Mining Act is specific in its regulations governing exploration and mining activities on crown lands.

Certainty of land tenure and access are critical for mineral exploration to take place. Mineral exploration is a pre-requisite for mining. Without clear land tenure there will be no mineral exploration, without mineral exploration there will be no mine development and no economic benefits.

In areas south of 51 there seem to be few conflicts with claim staking and mineral exploration on traditional lands. I believe that is a reflection of two things:

- 1) That there is minimal disturbance and impact by these activities and
- 2) Multiple land use is common south of 51. Everyone uses the land and shares it.

The biggest difference north of 51 is the remoteness. It is very noticeable and unusual and possibly disturbing to have activity start in one area, stop suddenly only to start somewhere else.

And with exploration there are always rumours about riches discovered and mines starting.

South of 51 most people do not pay much attention to claim staking and exploration. Everyone waits for the announcement that an ore body has been found and mine development is being planned because this is when significant economic opportunities begin.

It is interesting that while there are challenges with land tenure and access going on north of 51, similar challenges are arising in Ontario's far south, where much of the surface of the land is privately owned yet mineral rights are still available for staking. Here the Mining Act provides that after claim staking has been completed, the claim holder must notify the surface rights holder of the intent to enter upon the land for the purposes of mineral exploration and that the claim holder will compensate the surface rights holder for any damages caused. A similar system could be effective in the north; however, because Traditional Lands are not publicly defined there is no certainty in whom to notify and whom to compensate.

Map Staking has been proposed as a mechanism of acquiring mineral rights without having to enter upon the land. While map staking does present a logical solution for far south areas of Ontario, the remoteness north of 51 presents opportunities for communities and local businesses to benefit from claim staking, as it exists currently.

Contract claim staking is often the bread and butter for prospectors. Prospectors within communities would benefit by being able to contract staking services to industry and by being able to stake their own claims at less cost than let's say a contractor from Vancouver. If map staking were to be implemented north of 51, it would mean that someone in Vancouver could acquire mineral rights near Kasabonika at the same cost as someone in Kasabonika.

### **Consultation and Impact Benefit Agreements**

With respect to consultation and impact benefit agreements in regards to mineral exploration simply stated, impact and benefit agreements cannot be negotiated until the potential impact and benefits of a mine development are being considered and understood. This is at the pre-feasibility or feasibility stage of development. Not before. Certainly not before discovery and very advanced exploration. In order to simplify negotiation for Impact and Benefit Agreements efforts should be made to develop workable industry standard agreements.

In the matter of consultation, meaningful consultation requires understanding. Education and experience is the key to understanding and meaningful consultation.

Many small and some large communities lack the skilled human resources needed to undertake meaningful consultation or more often have more pressing issues to deal

with than some exploration company, who wants to drill a hole right NOW before the ice melts.

Prospectors and many small companies lack the funding, human resources and time to undertake meaningful consultations with the communities.

It is however important that relationships are developed in order to inform the community of when and where activities will be occurring so that conflicts in land use and disturbance of sensitive sites can be avoided and so that companies can be made aware of goods and services available in the community. It is this initial contact that is critical to establishing a relationship of trust and understanding.

## Conclusion

I would like to make one final comment on the topics of discussion for this workshop: Overcoming the Challenges, Avoiding the Pitfalls and Realizing the Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Development North of 51.

That is that *realizing* is not only recognizing the opportunities (that is just the first step), but *realizing* is also making them real.

Making sustainable economic development happen north of 51, empowers individuals, improves the quality of life and maximizes the benefits from the resources of the land for all the people.

In closing I want to sincerely thank all those whose efforts are making this workshop happen:

My partner Barbara D'Silva, Eno H. Anderson and Kasabonika Lake First Nation, our supporters, NADF, INAC, MNM, OPA and NWOPA, as well as all of the presenters, who have made efforts to come and share their experiences and everyone else who has come from far and wide to participate in this workshop.

Thank you and Meegwetch.

**Presentation notes provided by Eno H. Anderson; Deputy Chief and Prospector****Kasabonika Lake First Nation**

## WELCOME

I would like to extend a very special welcome to all participants in this workshop. It is a pleasure to see representatives of First Nations, large and small companies, prospectors, and various organizations and associations coming together to share their views on issues, concerns, opportunities, and working to establish better relationships and partnerships in the minerals industry. I also hope that all participants will take advantage of the Minerals Symposium being held in this very same hotel this week.

I would like to focus my comments on the theme of our Workshop -Gathering Experience and Sharing Opportunity. The best way I can do this is by sharing with you the experience and lessons learned in the Kasabonika Lake First Nation.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the contributions made to our community efforts from our own community members, other organizations, the private sector, Canada, and Ontario. To enter into and advance in the minerals sector, like all other development initiatives -requires partnerships -one cannot do it all alone.

Kasabonika is remote fly-in First Nation located about 450 kilometres northeast of Sioux Lookout, Ontario. For a few months in most winters we are able to utilize a winter road network.

Our community has a population of approximately 820 on-reserve residents. Kasabonika is a community strong in its traditions and ties to our lands. While maintaining our strong ties to our traditions and lands, our people have also looked to the future, especially for their children and their needs of tomorrow.

The people of Kasabonika believe that minerals activities, if properly approached and managed, can bring new hope and opportunity for our people. In order to ensure that minerals activities in our territory would be properly approached and managed Kasabonika established a set of principles to guide our development activities. Those principles are:

1. Our Culture and Way of Life shall be protected.
2. The Environment shall be protected
3. Aboriginal, Treaty and Constitutional Rights shall be protected
4. Developments in the KLFN territory must be of acceptable benefit to the people of the Kasabonika Lake First Nation.

## THE FIRST STEPS

### Positive First Contacts

Kasabonika was very fortunate to first be approached by minerals companies that respected our principles, our rights, our ties to the land, and our First Nation government. Those companies, before undertaking any exploration activities on our lands, first approached our community leadership and asked for our consent. There was no adverse conflict in our first meetings, and we were able to focus on the issues of mineral exploration, how we wanted to do business with one another, the benefits of exploration, what impacts there might be and how they could be addressed, and what agreements must be reached before activity could take place.

### Resourcing the Process

Kasabonika was fortunate to be dealing with large companies. As one company moved forward with discussions it was able to help contribute some reasonable resources that would help the community get the expertise and resources it needed to participate in the process. The government of Canada was also able to help fund the pre-negotiations process and community consultation. Ontario was able to provide valuable expertise, and continues to provide such for our community.

**A Step-by-Step Approach** One of the key decisions taken by Kasabonika was to pursue and only agree to a step-by-step approach towards mineral exploration -and not sign a long term Memorandum of Understanding at the outset. What I mean by this approach is that we only agreed to short term agreements with companies at each stage or season of the exploration process. Our first agreements with a company were for 6 to 12 months or a single phase of exploration -our current agreement is for a few years of drilling activity and is more elaborate, but even it is only for a step in the exploration process. This approach allows us to not get locked into anything long term before our people have the time and resources to understand what they are agreeing to, and allows for a proper community education and consultation process. This approach also helps ensure that our people will be better trained to reap the benefits of exploration and to see how our relationship really works with the companies.

It is natural for companies to seek as much security of investment as they can get and will naturally want the longest term agreement possible when it comes to access and use of the lands. However, even they cannot negotiate all things at the front end. For example, they cannot fully negotiate a long term impact benefits agreement until they have completed all of their exploration work and know if they are going to proceed with advanced exploration, and possibly actual mine development.

On the basis of our experience I would recommend a step-by-step approach of the mineral exploration process be considered.

If a company and a community develop a sound working relationship -that should provide security and comfort for both parties, and lead to a maximization of benefits for them and other governments as well.



## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Kasabonika places a very high priority on community participation and education - including in the minerals sector. It is our belief that the more information, knowledge and understanding our people have of development and lands and resources overall, as well as of specific development initiatives such as mineral exploration, the more open they will be to a fair consideration of development projects, and creating opportunities for our people. It is also important to develop an understanding of the local economy, its sectors, opportunities and constraints, unemployment, education, demographics, human resources, and social services issues. With these understandings we can better approach a good future for our children.

Kasabonika developed a community education and participation program to deal with development issues. Included in our program were:

1. A brochure and on-going newsletters on development issues, minerals and related lands and resources issues -including traditional harvesting.
2. Community meetings and regular radio broadcasts. Special community meetings and workshops.
3. Participation with our youth in the education system
4. A discussion paper outlining our current status on lands and development issues and including sector by sector recommendations on how we may proceed.
5. A comprehensive community survey on all development issues and related infrastructure such as roads and energy, and ownerships issues -through which our community members gave our leadership a sense of direction. This survey was done after the basics of our community education and participation were in place and members could provide informed input -so our people would know of the trade-offs that were to be considered.

## **DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT- LOCAL PROSPECTORS**

In order to help ensure that Kasabonika takes proper advantage of mineral exploration activities we have supported the development of 25 licensed prospectors in Kasabonika. This allows our prospectors to work with other companies, stake their own claims, market options on their properties and seek other arrangements with companies. In order to help develop and market options on those claims our local prospectors have founded a Kasabonika Prospectors Alliance that allows for a sharing of investments, benefits and training. It also allows them the resources and capacity to participate in minerals and lands and resources planning, and cost effective marketing of their properties.

## **LOCAL PLANNING/PARTICIPATION**

In order to get community members directly involved in setting the direction of the development process and utilize their expertise the Chief and Council established an advisory body -The Resource Development Planning Board. The Board is comprised of a cross section of community members including the Head Trappers from our community.

A facilitator was hired to help train the Board and develop a broad strategic development plan. The facilitator was also available to conduct meetings with the Board, Council, other Governments, and Minerals Companies.

The Board meets, discusses all issues, and reviews various studies and reports and makes recommendations to Chief and Council on all development issues including minerals exploration and development.

## **STUDIES -SETTING A DEVELOPMENT VISION AND COURSE**

It is important for a community to undertake appropriate studies on development issues and equip itself with the best information possible. As mineral exploration activities began to surface in our territory .Kasabonika commissioned a series of studies in an orderly manner to acquire the information needed. Those studies included:

1. A general overview of economic development issues and how best to proceed.
2. A report on Mineral Exploration and Development Activities in our traditional territory and the region to get a scope and understanding of what was happening and what to expect over the short and medium term
3. Once a decision was made to pursue mineral exploration activities a Minerals Sector Business Plan was developed.
4. In order to ensure a comprehensive approach to development in our area, and given the new opportunities and issues emerging with new mineral exploration activity in our territory we realized that we would have to up-date and re-do our community economic development plan. To this end, a new and comprehensive CED study was completed.
5. One of the recommendations flowing out of the CED study, and particularly given the opportunities presented by minerals activities in the area, was to restructure our Kasabonika Community Development Corporation (KCDC). Recently, we hired a new General Manager for KCDC and the complete restructuring and re-alignment of functions and assets is currently taking place. We are now reaping more benefits from the current mineral exploration activities in our territory.

6. Our next step will be to become more actively and broadly involved in minerals exploration.

### **COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH**

Kasabonika decided to take a comprehensive approach to minerals activities in our area. Our people have always taken a holistic view to all things in life and minerals should not be any different. This is why we have worked to include all sectors of our community in our planning and decision making, and have restructured ourselves to ensure all of our people can participate - and all can share in the ownership of the issues -it is their future.

### **REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS**

A key consideration in our approach to minerals development has been to arrive at some realistic expectations from mineral exploration activities. Over the last ten years there has only been one new mine developed in Ontario. This is after the staking of hundreds of claims and the drilling of thousands of holes in the ground throughout Ontario. Given these prospects, we have shifted our focus from actual mine development to exploration activity and implementing our principles, agreements and benefits at each step along the way. We are taking advantage of these steps in the process and leaving the decision of an actual mine development, if one ever occurs, for the people to make at that time, with the best information they then have available.

There are reasonable benefits and few and manageable environmental risks at the early stages of mineral exploration if properly approached. After that, and if the exploration proceeds to an actual mine development, factors such as the type of mineral being developed, the nature of extraction, processing and transport, site location, environmental controls, benefits, etc. will be factors of consideration. The community only needs to make a decision on an actual mine development -when the possibility is for real.

### **TAKE THE LEAD**

First Nations and their members need not sit back and watch others lead the way in minerals and other sectoral activities in our territory. We must demonstrate leadership and open our doors for partnerships and capacity building in the remote north of Ontario. We can and should become the developers and suppliers of services on our lands and with our own resources.

I respectfully encourage all to do their own planning, capacity building, and seek working arrangements and partnerships that are favourable to their people, and respect their principles. If we do these things and take a step-by-step approach, we have nothing to fear but fear itself.

Meegwetch

**Elders Meeting Notes**

The following notes from the Elder's Meeting were provided by Jon Del Ben.

Following the Workshop and in advance of the Symposium participation, a meeting of First Nations Elders was convened to allow for an open Elders discussion. There were about 20 participants at the Elders meetings and they were able to discuss issues in their own language. As can be seen by the discussions, the Elders did not just look at individual developments or agreements, but took a broader, more holistic view on development issues, and how such should be approached.

It should be noted that there was a time limit on this meeting, and the Elders would surely have said much more in certain areas if given more time.

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

The Elders not only looked at community consultation in terms of individual mineral developments – they also examined community consultations on the broad scope of development issues.

- There should be a broad community consultation or hearings to give an opportunity to individuals, including trappers, women, youth, and others to express their own issues, concerns, and views.
- The need for such a broad community consultation should be brought to the NAN Chiefs and a discussion and process initiated so they can get community input and direction from the people – providing for a solid mandate.
- Only the communities can confirm if they are giving a mandate to proceed in certain directions.
- Community consultations would provide a community driven process and a strong base on which to proceed, and enter in to related discussions and possibly negotiations.
- A community driven process will provide for great unity and less conflict. This could help resolve many conflicts that are currently on various tables.
- Want to see a federal geologist at meetings on mining and to give his/her advice – that is a federal obligation to First Nations.

**IMPACT BENEFITS AGREEMENTS**

The Elders provided their wisdom and views on the broader scope of development issues and not just individual minerals development initiatives.

- Whether it is an Impact Benefits Agreement (IBA) on an individual mineral development or other developments such as roads or electricity grid

extensions into the north, there should be studies conducted. The studies should not only look at the business viability and financial benefits of individual and regional projects. They should carefully examine the social issues, the benefits and problems that could occur and what can be done to maximize the benefits and minimize the problems. These studies and related discussions could help communities to prepare for development.

- There is a need to make current IMA's such as that for Musslewhite available and in translated form to the people can understand what an IBA is about.

## **DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**

First Nations need the time, resources and support to develop development policies.

- While there would be much in common amongst different First Nations on development issues and policies - the First Nation development policies should be based on their own individual First Nation understandings and needs

## **ABORIGINAL & TREATY RIGHTS**

The Elders offered the following views on Aboriginal & Treaty Rights.

- Aboriginal and Treaty Rights should be respected and essentially included in dealings with the private and public sectors.
- New legislation is needed to address aboriginal governance issues; especially, lands and resources issues.
- First Nations need to develop policies on how to govern their lands and resources.
- All options should be explored.
- An Elders Conference is needed.

## **ELDERS CONFERENCE**

- There should be another Elders Conference to talk about the good and bad, positives and negatives of development.
- The conference should also talk about the lack of co-operation amongst First Nations. Is the lack of co-operation due to business or land interests and issues, or simply a negative attitude towards the process? What are the causes and how to get better co-operation?

- If questions are posed to the Elders they can help give a direction.
- **Over-lapping lands** issues needs to be address and process for dealing with such issues.

## MAP STAKING

Map staking and its implications, as discussed by the government of Ontario, are not fully understood in the communities.

- First Nations need to know and understand what map staking is about.
- There is a need to hear from First Nations in other provinces that have allowed map staking – to learn of their experiences, and how it has affected their lands, their relationships with companies and governments, and their own prospecting.
- How does it affect First Nation land use and planning?

## EDUCATION

Education is key to addressing development issues, securing benefits, and minimizing impacts.

- People with practical training and experience should be involved in the planning to bring forward their own experiences. They can help others.
- If some cannot work in mining, forestry or other current developments they should have other opportunities, education and training created to help them succeed.
- There is a need to develop material for community discussions and education on these development issues.
- There is a need for more youth participation in the discussions, at the NAN and Community levels, so they can ensure the proper training is there and at the right time to help prepare a better future for them.
- There is a need to understand the **Mining Act**, the process of mining, and how it impacts on traditional lands. These understandings are needed so First Nations can properly address specific development issues on their own, and in co-operation with one another.
- Consultants often tell First Nations there will be no or very little damage to the land if a development is properly managed. What does properly manage mean? Need to understand what they are saying, and at times get a second opinion.

## **PROSPECTORS FUNDRAISING**

- There is a need to know more about the mining sequences and how funds are raised to undertake exploration.
- The Elders would like to see more discussion on these issues.
- Who will research, and organize the meetings that must also include discussion on how to manage our lands and resources.

## **LEADERSHIP**

- It is up to the First Nations to provide leadership on specific development issues and projects.
- NAN should be concentrating on supportive Policies, Development Planning as determined by community consultations, an Elders Conference, and a NAN Chiefs meeting. NAN should not be doing programming and administration work on development, and specific development projects.

**Discussion Notes**

The following lists were compiled from comments recorded by all participants during the Breakout Sessions. The Breakout sessions examines Issues and Solutions under the headings of: Increasing First Nation Participation in the Mineral Industry; Land Tenure and Access; and Community Consultation and Impact and Benefit Agreements (in the context of mineral exploration).

**Land Tenure and Access****Issues:****Solutions:****MAP STAKING**

NO Map Staking.

**NORTHERN BOREAL INITIATIVE (NBI)**

MNR planning new parks within the NBI. Are First Nations aware of this?

Clarify NOW. Make intentions known.

**PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS**

Restricts the use of land from everyone.

Perspective: Sterility.

Existing and new parks should be negotiated before creation.

Do holistic land use planning (energy, spiritual sites, minerals, forests, gathering, animals, etc.)

**ACCESS TO LAND**

Industry cannot always gain access.

Acquire FN consent especially in sensitive areas.

Create communication/dialogue process.

Decision to seek social license to proceed.

Create land use plans for land values and special sites. Establish mutual TRUST.



**Land Tenure and Access: Continued****Issues:**

Traditional Territory versus Crown Land

**Solutions:**

Government should take responsibility.

Deal with the issues: Proactive leadership.

Recognition of issues and positive solutions.

**DIFFERENT VIEWS OF LAND OWNERSHIP**

FN: "My family trapped there and I am steward."

Government support of tool kit created for industry and FN communities to educate on protocols.

Industry: Find it hard to do business regardless of law.

Industry will have to deal with FN in area.

Long term strategic investment.

**TRAP LINES**

Direct Trapper involvement in Resource Development Planning Boards to discuss compensation and environmental concerns.

**MAPPING/POLICY AND PLANNING**

Community driven process of Land Use Planning.

Values identification, data gathering, input, mapping.

**NEED BETTER LAND USE DECISIONS**

Stay at Table. Talk through differences.

**COMPLEX CULTURAL DIFFERENCES**

Elder vs Youth "view of life"

## **Community Consultation and Impact Benefit Agreements with Regard to Mineral Exploration**

### **Issues:**

### **Solutions:**

### **RESOURCES**

Concern of First Nations and Industry

Resourcing of FN to engage in consultation.

Increase accessible funding for external expertise, newsletters, board honorariums, etc,...

Junior versus Major Company

Usually don't see Major until there is a find.

Resources available for consultation

Government role in resourcing when small company involved in initial consultation.

### **TIME TO CONSULT**

### **FLEXIBILITY**

Company's or Community's timeframe?

Independent body to liaise between FN and Company to assist if needed.

Timelines for assessment work requirements should be enabling not restrictive.

Lengthen timelines for Company in consultation for assessment credit requirements, Report of Work, Due Dates

### **TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Use NAN's Land Consultation Handbook

Industry short time frame.

Company develops Community Strategy when planning project.

### **Community Consultation and Impact Benefit Agreements with Regard to Mineral Exploration : Continued**

#### **Issues:**

Community requires more time to become informed and knowledgeable enough to make decisions.

#### **Solutions:**

Use all forums of communication: radio, newsletter, TV, council meetings and community meetings.

#### **MINING ACT**

Requirements for consultation.

Assessment credit to be given for Consultation and relationship building activities within FN areas.

None until Advanced Exploration stage under Ontario Mining Act.

Staking versus Exploration Stage  
When does consultation happen?

Before Staking?

Before Exploration?

#### **COMMON GROUND**

Work to establish MUTUAL TRUST.

#### **LANGUAGE**

Interpretation mutually beneficial.

Interpretation required.

Translate Ontario Mining Act and other documents.

Shortage of service to Industry

Community to offer interpretive services to industry.

Simplified language - laymen's terms

Develop a Glossary of Terms.

**Community Consultation and Impact Benefit Agreements with Regard to Mineral Exploration : Continued**

**Issues:**

**Solutions:**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**

Develop protocols. Best Practices.

Legacy issues from past exploration and development

Industry must assure community that industry will not operate as in past. Establish mutual TRUST.

Disturbances to Environment

Compensation to Communities for lost values  
ie. trapping, hunting, gathering and others.

Wildlife Habitat and Foraging Areas

**EDUCATION**

More education and technical services in community.

Institutional Partnerships ie. local college, university, extension services, distance education through community schools and mineral learning institutions.

Company

Create FN Mineral Development

Lack of Community Cultural Awareness

Cross Cultural Awareness Workshop Need to develop a relationship prior to negotiation.

Stay and visit with community to learn about culture.

### **Community Consultation and Impact Benefit Agreements with Regard to Mineral Exploration : Continued**

#### **Issues:**

#### **IMPACT BENEFIT AGREEMENTS**

IBA is complex.

Not all FN Communities share:

- a) industry understanding
- b) understanding of IBA, etc,...
- c) mining sequence knowledge.

#### **Solutions:**

Willingness to negotiate.

Create standard template. IBA models exist.

IBA from Industry viewpoint can only be discussed at pre-feasibility to feasibility stage. **IBA should not be an Exploration Issue!**

### **Increasing First Nation Participation**

#### **Issues:**

#### **EDUCATION / EXPERIENCE**

Lack of knowledge - General and Specific  
ie. Mining and Exploration.

Knowledge without Education.

#### **Solutions:**

Is a pre-requisite.

"Never too Old" Upgrading to Grade 12" and on-the-job mix.

INTERNET education for upgrading. Grade 12 Equivalency.

Methods to incorporate practical experience.

Elementary educational system  
"social passing"

"Grades 4/7 curricula kits ""Mining Matters"

Trained teachers and local delivery.

**Increasing First Nation Participation: Continued****Issues:****Solutions:****CREATE AWARENESS**

"Discover Prospecting" -  
Community driven educational  
partnership. Program parallel to  
Forest Firefighter process.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION.

**RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

Long term development.

Industry comes and goes.

Active in Area Letter to Chief &  
Council to explain their intentions  
and desire to meet with  
community.

Properties change hands.  
Relationship building short term.

Introductory Letter to EDO &  
Community.

**BARRIERS**

Governments are barriers to First Nations

First Nations are to become  
Sovereign Nation.  
Industry and First Nation Training  
and Workshops ie. "Discover  
Prospecting".

Working with Industry.

Language / Translation

Listing of translators available  
within Community.

**TRAINING**

Lack of training in community

Industry could assist First Nations  
with lobbying.

"Chicken and Egg" situation.

Committed individuals to train over  
the long term.

**Increasing First Nation Participation: Continued****Issues:****Solutions:****REGIONAL CAPACITY**

Voices in lobbying.

KPA/OPA/NWOPA

Community Prospectors trained and licensed.

Boreal Prospectors Association (BPA)

Creation of a Regional Prospectors Association

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDER**

Community Provision of Services to Industry.

Industry working in Traditional Land Use Areas

Start to create a Community Workforce to provide service to Industry.

Shortage of Equipment

Protocol Agreement to supply equipment from "Colleges, Universities and Schools of Mining."

Reduces costs to Industry working in area.

Few economic spin-offs initially.

Make Services Capacity mobile.

Services transferable from community to community and from project to project.

Contractor vs Self

Depends on Business Model.

Service Model

Supply fuel, camp construction, trucking, etc.

**FUNDS**

Partnerships: First Nations + Industry +/-Government

**GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

Lack of available information in Community and knowledge to use materials.

**POSTER DISPLAYS**

The following posters were displayed at the workshop.



# Kasabonika Lake First Nation

## A Journey of Mineral Discovery

### VISION

Increase First Nation involvement in the mineral industry.  
Break the cycle of dependance on government funding.  
Empower the individual.  
Improve the quality of life.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our culture and way of life shall be protected.  
The environment shall be protected.  
Aboriginal, treaty and constitutional rights shall be protected.  
Development of traditional lands must benefit the people.

### ACTION

In Kasabonika's Journey of Mineral Discovery:

The vision is regional.

The guiding principles are paramount.

The approach is proactive.

By acting as initiators, organizers and educators, Kasabonika is empowering the people to understand and participate in the mineral industry and is guiding itself and leading others toward its vision and ensuring that the natural wealth of the traditional lands benefits the people.

# Sustainability Concept



Knowledge, skills, capability, and wealth flows back to the community and spreads throughout the region.

# Realizing the Vision

Organizers of Several Workshops that Promote Communication and Partnerships between the Mineral Industry, Government and First Nations including " Gathering Experiences & Sharing Opportunities"

Initiators of the Boreal Branch of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association and Proponents of the Boreal Prospectors Association

Signatories to Agreements with Mining Companies for Exploration on Traditional Lands

Signatories of Regional Land Use Agreements with Other Communities

Developing a Regional Staging Area for Exploration in the North

Regional Land Use Planning through Active Participation in Regional Organizations

Partners with the Ontario Prospectors Association in the Conception and Development of the "Discover Prospecting Seminars"

Consultation and Information Sharing within the Region through Radio Broadcasts, Newsletter Publications and Public Meetings



Values Mapping  
Skill-specific Education  
Community Consultation and Education  
Resource Development Planning Board  
Agreements with Exploration Companies  
Goods and Services Provided to Mineral Industry  
Employment within Mineral Industry  
Prospector Certification and Licensing  
Youth Trapper & Prospector Mentoring Program  
Development of Kasabonika Prospector Alliance  
Geoscientific Compilation of Traditional Lands  
Identification of Priority Exploration Targets  
Claim Staking and Property Marketing  
Attracted Government Services  
Active Exploration

Current developments within the community and throughout the region.

Kasabonika Lake First Nation in partnership with the Ontario Prospectors Association  
are pleased to present

# Discover Prospecting

A Series of Prospecting Seminars to be Delivered to Northern Communities



## Invitation to Participate

CURRENTLY SEEKING:

COMMUNITIES INTERESTED IN HOSTING A SEMINAR  
FIRST NATION PROSPECTORS INTERESTED IN BECOMING TRAINERS  
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM  
PROSPECTING EQUIPMENT, EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND TEACHING SUPPLIES

## Your Support is Greatly Appreciated

THIS INITIATIVE HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY FEDNOR, ONTARIO MINISTRY OF  
NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AND MINES, PLACER DOME CANADA,  
FALCONBRIDGE/NORANDA, PROSPECTORS AND DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION  
OF CANADA, ONTARIO PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION, KASABONIKA LAKE FIRST NATION  
and D'SILVA PARKER ASSOCIATES

Contact us at: [dsilvaparker@hotmail.com](mailto:dsilvaparker@hotmail.com)

# Kasabonika Lake First Nation and the Kasabonika Prospectors Alliance



## Welcomes Proposals to Explore

Our Traditional Lands are virtually unexplored and yet cover priority Diamond, Au, PGE and Ni-Cu exploration targets within the high mineral potential of the Sachigo Subprovince.

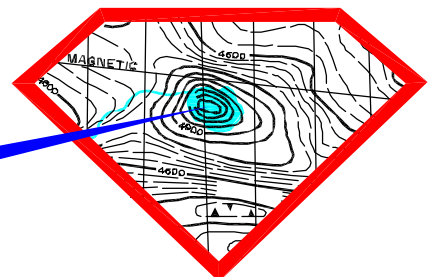
Our members are gathering experience and sharing opportunities.

We are actively pursuing partnerships, grubstakes and options.

Mineral exploration is just now beginning and discoveries are already being made.

Quality Diamond Properties Available.

Priority Diamond Target



Contact Eno Anderson ([enoha@kasabonika.ca](mailto:enoha@kasabonika.ca)) about the possibilities.

Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association  
announces the formation of the

# Boreal Branch

of the  
Ontario Prospectors Association

The Boreal Branch has been established to facilitate  
the creation of the Boreal Prospectors Association in 2005



## Boreal Prospectors Association

Promoting a Sustainable Mineral Industry North of 51°

Contact us at: [BorealProspectors@hotmail.com](mailto:BorealProspectors@hotmail.com)

## **Conclusion**

The Gathering Experience and Sharing Opportunities Workshop was successful in bringing together a wide spectrum of perspectives that contributed significantly to discussions on the topics of:

- **Increasing First Nation Participation in the Mineral Industry**
- **Land Tenure and Access**
- **Community/Industry Consultation**
- **Impact and Benefit Agreements with regard to Mineral Exploration**

Comments, presentations and discussions reflected the open, upbeat and optimistic mood of participants and indicated an overwhelming willingness to realize the workshop goal of promoting a sustainable mineral industry North of 51.

The participants openly commented on the value of this workshop and recognized the importance of future workshops in order to continue to build relationships, understanding and capacity.

Many First Nations recognize the importance of the mineral industry to economic development in the north and are beginning to proactively pursue economic opportunities associated with mineral exploration and mining.

The mineral industry is recognizing that a special situation exists when exploring in Traditional Lands and is adapting business practices to reduce negative impacts and increase social and economic opportunities for northern communities.

Significant efforts are being made by First Nation and Industry to understand cultural differences, to build understanding and trust and to recognize the common goals and opportunities that exist in the north.

Important partnerships are developing with the recognition that First Nations need industry support to participate effectively within the mineral industry and that industry requires support and cooperation from First Nations to carry out business in the north.

It was widely recognized that during this period of transition to a new economy, initiatives must be driven from within the communities and the industry and that the role of government should be that of technical and financial support rather than developing and implementing policy.

Throughout the workshop the need for several components to success were repeatedly identified:

- Education (both for First Nations and Industry)
- Communication (open and informed)
- Experience (with the industry and with the community)
- Planning (proactive, plan for success)

First Nations expressed the need for a mandatory set of principles to guide development in Traditional Lands. Those principles are:

- Our Culture and Way of Life shall be protected.
- The Environment shall be protected.
- Aboriginal, Treaty and Constitutional Rights shall be protected.
- Developments in the Traditional Lands must be of acceptable benefit to the people of the First Nation.

The Mineral Industry repeatedly expressed the critical need for the following:

- Certainty of land tenure.
- Timely access to the land during exploration.
- The need to generate profit at the mine development stage.

### **Recommendations:**

The following is a listing of group-specific recommendations and action items that were identified by the workshop participants.

#### **First Nations**

- Develop Community policy on mineral exploration and development.
- Develop realistic expectations from exploration, if a mine is found then more benefits will follow, but mines cannot be found without exploration.
- Consider the impacts of parks and protected areas in traditional lands to economic development including exploration and mining.
- Undertake land use planning. It should be community driven, holistic and consider all values.
- Demonstrate proactive leadership; learn about mining and exploration. Plan to succeed and strive for job readiness.
- Consider cultural differences within community ie. Youth / Elder.
- Strive for mutual trust with explorers.
- Create mineral exploration and development companies.
- Establish a willingness to negotiate.
- Rely on IBA only after pre-feasibility, not an exploration issue.
- Promote education at all levels of community, never too old to consider. Education is forever.
- Institute internet upgrading for grade 12. Consider experience and life skills as grade 12 equivalency for diploma.
- Make grade 4 and 7 curriculum earth science kits available in community schools and train teachers how to use the kits.
- Encourage Prospector Training and link with other activities. Possibly paralleling Forest Firefighter Program or Mentoring Program involving trappers and prospectors. Encourage and support "Discover Prospecting".



- Create listing of services and goods available to company in community ie. Interpreters, translators, prospectors, labourers, excavator, airport, hotel, store, mechanics, outpost camps, boats, etc.
- Encourage community members to become active in mineral exploration.
- Consider becoming provider of goods and services to industry. Make these services mobile and transferable from FN to FN and project to project. Target exploration companies and existing mines.
- Prepare a business plan to maximize benefits.
- Be aware that prospectors and junior exploration companies lack the resources for extensive consultation and financial compensation and are usually under time constraints. May not be able to visit community or may have to visit community during exploration program.
- Identify community members with an interest in the mineral industry and encourage them to become involved with community and industry matters over the long term.
- Important to cooperate and share with other First Nations.
- Recognize that culture, economy and way of life are in transition.
- Resolve overlapping lands and traditional land issues.
- Consult with First Nations, prospectors and claim stakers who have experienced map staking to identify pros and cons.
- Research funding mechanisms for exploration.
- Consider short - term agreements with companies for each phase of exploration.
- Support and actively participate in the development of the Boreal Prospectors Association, an Association under the Ontario Prospectors Association promoting mineral exploration north of 51.

## Industry

- Demonstrate proactive leadership, develop community strategy, initiate contact with FN. Present letters to Chief and Council and EDO. Follow-up if no response received.
- Try to give sufficient lead time for FN response and discussion.
- Stay at the table and talk through differences.
- Ensure that you follow through. Do what you say you will do.
- Make efforts to use local goods and services and offer employment and training opportunities whenever possible.
- Community members may appreciate a property tour during the exploration program.
- Contact FN about sensitive sites and respect and protect these areas.
- Create template for communication/dialogue process.
- Establish mutual trust and maintain it.
- Use all forms of communication to consult with community ie. Radio, TV, newsletters, council meetings and community meetings.
- Consider translating information. Community may have interpreters available.
- Develop Best Practices and strong environmental protocols.

- Reassure FN that environment and safety are important and ensure contractors follow through on commitments.
- Consider realistic compensation for disturbance of traditional activities.
- Learn about local culture, develop relationship before negotiation, spend time in the community and become aware of differences between communities; needs, understanding, capacity.
- Establish a willingness to negotiate.
- Develop an IBA template and/or gather examples.
- Initiate IBA only after pre-feasibility.
- Assist FN in government lobbying efforts for training and capacity building.
- Support and actively participate in the development of the Boreal Prospectors Association; an association under the Ontario Prospectors Association promoting mineral exploration north of 51.
- Provide surplus exploration equipment to FN.

### **NAN**

- Support communities but do not administer policy.
- Encourage economic development initiatives in communities through mineral exploration and development.
- Foster cooperation among First Nations.
- Organize an Elders conference and Chiefs meeting.

### **MNDM**

- Do not implement map staking in the north without consultation with First Nations.
- Develop support tools for industry and FN.
- Consider exclusion of time for assessment requirements during consultation process.
- Consider assessment credits for consultation.
- Translate Mining Act (or summaries).
- Develop multi-lingual Glossary of Terms.
- Support the development of the Boreal Prospectors Association; an association under the Ontario Prospectors Association promoting mineral exploration north of 51.

### **MNR**

- Clarify intention to develop parks and protected areas in the north (Northern Boreal Initiative).
- Parks and protected areas should be developed only after land use planning has identified all values.

**NRCAN**

- Develop support tools for industry and First Nations.
- Federal geologist should participate actively in mineral issues on behalf of FN.

**Government (First Nation, Ontario and Canada)**

- Define significance of Traditional Lands.
- Develop support tools for industry and FN.
- Increase funding for external expertise and board honourariums.
- Support Junior Companies involved in consultation.
- Support the development of an independent body or board to liaise between FN and explorer.
- Support education, training and capacity building initiatives and encourage partnerships with institutions, industry, government and FN.
- Promote education at all levels for community.
- Institute Internet upgrading for grade 12 and consider experience and life skills as grade 12 equivalency for diploma.
- Make grade 4 and 7 curriculum earth science kits available in communities and train teachers how to use the kits.
- Encourage Prospector Training ie. Possibly paralleling Forest Firefighter Program or Mentoring Program involving trappers and prospectors. Encourage and support "Discover Prospecting".
- Investing in Community means investing in resources and sustainable development.
- All levels of government must work more closely together.
- Facilitate the development of a Social License to explore.
- Translate Indian Act, Treaties and all other relevant materials.