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YCM Suggestions for Agenda

A. Industry Rights

Guaranteed permanent right to:

1. explore
2. stake
3. develop
4. mine
5. export
6. make a profit

B. Industry Responsibilities

1. to find and operate mines
2. to provide work

C. Means of Achieving A.

1. Land Claims (Re A1,2)
 - a. settlement equitable to all parties
 - b. mineral rights to be retained by crown
 - c. no needless impediments to exploration
- 2. Restore universal multi-use principle (ie no major land withdrawals) (Re A1,2)
3. Environmental constraints (Re A1,3,4)
 - a. appropriate to area and land use
 - b. supervised by mining personnel
4. Consultation with industries: coordinated through Chambers of Mines
5. Senior Mining Official
 - a. recruited from industry
 - b. acceptable to Chambers

On the recommendation of the Directors, the following Resolution is presented for ratification at the Annual General Meeting of the Yukon Chamber of Mines

RESOLVED THAT:

(1) The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, in his role as the equivalent of a provincial Minister of Mines of the Yukon, is requested to make a clear statement of a positive development policy, similar to that adopted in March, 1977 by his British Columbia counterpart, namely:

We view our responsibility as government as that of encouraging the private sector to explore, develop and mine our mineral resources.

(2) The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development be restructured to allow for the appointment of a senior mining official with a role analogous to that of a provincial Deputy Minister of Mines. It is essential that the appointee be a qualified mining professional with extensive experience in the Yukon's mining industry.

The proposed official should be accountable directly to the Minister for all aspects (including policy and planning as well as operational functions) of mining legislation, (including occupational health and safety and environmental impact).

(3) To fulfil the above, it is essential that the (federal) senior mining official remain in control of the operation of the Mine Safety Ordinance, and that mines as defined therein continue to be exempt from conflicting Territorial WCB health and safety legislation and regulation, as is currently the case in British Columbia and Alberta.

(4) It is also essential that work done on mineral claims continue to be exempt from the Territorial Land Use Regulations, and any environmental legislation contemplated by the Territorial Government, and that this exemption be extended to mineral exploration and development work done off mineral claims.

Recognizing that the mining industry should be subject to appropriate environmental control, it is recommended that the senior mining official, after consultation with the industry, develop guidelines under the existing authority of Section 72(1) of the Yukon Quartz Mining Act and employ persons knowledgeable of and accountable for mining to enforce those guidelines.

(5) The Yukon Quartz Mining Act should continue in force and the Yukon Minerals Bill should be abandoned.

(6) The Yukon Quartz Mining Act should be amended to delete Subsection 12(2) which works to the disadvantage of both large and small operators by failing to fulfil the Crown's responsibility to establish a viable system of mineral rights relevant to modern needs.

(7) The Government of Canada give assurance that it intends to resume its policy of providing, in the economic interest of Canada, an infrastructure in the north, including provision of an adequate supply of electrical power.

DISPOSITION: On November 17, 1977, the Yukon Chamber of Mines (adopted/ ~~passed~~) the above resolution.

R.A. Granger, President