

White Lake Mine, HBMS

National Orphaned/Abandoned Mines Initiative (NOAMI) Advisory Committee

The NOAMI Advisory Committee was formed in 2002 at the request of Canadian Mines Ministers that a multi-stakeholder advisory committee be set up to study various issues and initiatives relating to the development of partnerships in the implementation of remediation programs across Canada.

Significant work has been accomplished in a number of areas and the following provides an update for these activities.

Assessing Liabilities and Funding Options Workshop – Ottawa, ON

Background

A key objective for NOAMI is “to identify funding approaches and document preferred options that could be adapted to the needs of each jurisdiction to fund the remediation of orphaned/abandoned mine sites across Canada”.

Castrilli Report

The report, *Potential Funding Approaches for Orphaned/Abandoned Mines in Canada* (Castrilli 2003), reviewed and recommended a variety of funding options for consideration in the cleanup or management of liabilities related to orphaned/abandoned mines (OAMs).

The Workshop

A multi-stakeholder workshop on *Assessing Liabilities and Funding Options* (ALFO) was held in Ottawa on November 2 and 3, 2005. The objective of the workshop was to further develop and discuss funding approaches and related issues for OAMs with other Canadian stakeholders. The workshop was professionally facilitated and attended by over 70 participants from industry, Aboriginal Canadians, non-governmental organizations, and provincial/territorial and federal governments. A keynote presentation was made on the findings of the funding approaches report. Key themes of technical standards for site assessments, accounting for and reporting on liabilities, assessing community and health impacts, and funding options were examined through

case studies and panel presentations, and further discussed in plenary sessions. A roll-up discussion summarized the highlights for each theme, and identified gaps and future priorities for NOAMI.

Inventory of Orphaned/Abandoned Mines in Canada

The report *Capacity Building for a National Inventory of Orphaned/Abandoned Mines in Canada* (Cal Data, 2005) reviewed Canadian, US and international efforts to inventory orphaned/abandoned mines. Recommendations were made for an inventory that would include all inactive mineral sites, is web-based and has a map interface. The system would act as a portal to existing inventories maintained within the provinces, territories and federal agencies. Use of a map interface would allow ease of use without expert knowledge of inventory data systems.

NOAMI Portal

Various options were explored to determine the most suitable host for the NOAMI Internet map site. The Mineral and Mining Statistics Division of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) was selected to host the portal. NRCan maintains several sites using MapGuide-based technology, which deal with mineral producers and related areas, such as Aboriginal communities. These sites can be visited at:

☞ http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/maps/intro_e.asp

☞ <http://www.nrcan-mcan.gc.ca/aboriginal/aboriginal-maps-e.htm>



MAP from NRCan site: Mapping Federal-Provincial-Territorial Mining Knowledge

A mandate has been given to NRCan by NOAMI to develop a working model of the database populated with OAMs for several jurisdictions. Subsequent phases would integrate datasets for the other provinces and territories to produce a nation-wide inventory.

Proceedings of the ALFO workshop, the Castrilli and Cal Data reports, and other publications can be downloaded from our web site at ☞ <http://www.abandoned-mines.org>

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