

November 25, 2019

MATAWA FIRST NATIONS ARE MORE THAN STAKEHOLDERS IN THEIR TERRITORIES, THEY TELL ONTARIO

Windspeaker – Nov 13

An omnibus bill introduced by the government of Ontario in late October has Matawa First Nations reminding the province of the Unity Declaration passed by their nine chiefs in 2011. “It was a pretty strong statement in terms of our chiefs asserting their rights, in terms of inherent rights and Treaty rights,” said the nations’ CEO David Paul Achneepineskum. “We would continue to assert that and hopefully the province of Ontario will come to our table and meet with us and work with a Treaty partnership.”

https://windspeaker.com/news/windspeaker-news/matawa-first-nations-are-more-stakeholders-their-territories-they-tell?fbclid=IwAR0CiwWNY8IZTty3GTuuKtNwDYV48wW_-vXntR4qV889Zcsayg8CV7ecMmA

TO FIGHT REGIONAL ECONOMIC DISPARITY, ONTARIO NEEDS OPPORTUNITY ZONES (OPINION)

Globe and Mail – Nov 14

The data are striking: Of Ontario’s 865,000 net jobs created between January, 2008, and August, 2019, 75 per cent were concentrated in Toronto and 12 per cent were in Ottawa. There are various reasons for the growing urban concentration of investment, employment and economic output. Some of it may be driven by public policy. But it’s mostly a function of market forces and the knowledge-based economy’s propensity for clustering. The result, which isn’t unique to Ontario, is the marked regional economic disparity that Doug Ford’s Progressive Conservative government has rightly identified as a key policy problem. One option that deserves the Ford government’s attention is the Trump administration’s Opportunity Zone model. The basic policy framework provides preferential tax treatment on capital gains in order to pull investment into roughly 8,700 neighbourhoods and communities that have been designated as “opportunity zones” due to their poor economic performance.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-to-fight-regional-economic-disparity-ontario-needs-opportunity-zones/>

NORONT CONSIDERS BUILDING SMALL-SCALE FERROCHROME PILOT PLANT IN SUDBURY

Sudbury.com – Nov 14

Fifteen months after Sudbury was rejected as the future home of a billion-dollar Noront Resources Ltd. smelter, it appears the Nickel City may yet win a skinny-downed slice of ferrochrome pie. Before building its controversial ferrochrome processing plant in Sault Ste. Marie, Noront wants to test its technology with a small-scale demonstration plant. Greater Sudbury is under consideration as the prototype’s location.

<https://www.sudbury.com/local-news/noront-considers-building-small-scale-ferrochrome-pilot-plant-in-sudbury-1849022>

NAN CHIEFS REJECT BILL 132 TACTICS, ASSERT RIGHTS OVER TRADITIONAL LANDS

NAN Website – Nov 14

First Nation leaders from across Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) have declared their resolve to assert their rights and jurisdiction over their traditional lands by rejecting omnibus legislation being fast-tracked by the provincial government, and controlling development in the Far North. “The message today from our Chiefs to the Government of Ontario is that we are the rights holders and will have final say in anything that happens in their territories,” said Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler. “Our leaders have strongly opposed Bill 132 as it seriously undermines the mining industry obligation to consult with First Nation communities. They have also rejected the disrespectful approach of this government of burying issues fundamental to First Nations in omnibus legislation and creating unreasonable timelines to undermine the right of our communities to adequately respond.”

<http://www.nan.on.ca/november-14-2019>

SUDBURY TO HELP NORONT WITH SMELTER TESTING

CTV News – Nov 14

The proposed billion dollar ferrochrome smelter that the mining firm Noront Resources wants to build in Sault Ste. Marie could be getting some help from experts in Sudbury. A Sudbury company called Express Process Solutions is a subsidiary of Glencore and it specializes in testing the ore and materials needed to run a successful smelter.

<https://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/sudbury-to-help-noront-with-smelter-testing-1.4686628>

KITCHENUHMAYKOOSIB INNINWUG SEEKS TO PROTECT 1.3 MILLION HECTARES

TbNewsWatch – Nov 16

The federal government has given K.I. First Nation \$300,000 to work toward establishing an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area. Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuug, 600 kilometres north of Thunder Bay, wants to prevent development within the watershed surrounding Big Trout Lake and its traditional homelands. Chief Donny Morris says that comprises an area of 1.3 million hectares. "We will be able to practise our hunting and traditional things in this park...We just have to work to implement some rules, policies, how we're going to run this protected area," Morris told Tbnewswatch in an interview. He said the federal funding to lay the groundwork will be provided in stages over three years.

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/kitchenuhmaykoosib-inninuwug-seeks-to-protect-13-million-hectares-1851360>

NORTHERN SUPERIOR AND NESKANTAGA FIRST NATION EXTEND EARLY EXPLORATION BENEFITS AGREEMENT, TPK GOLD - SILVER - COPPER PROPERTY, NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Junior Mining Network – Nov 19

Northern Superior Resources Inc. and Neskantaga First Nation are pleased to announce a three year extension of their Early Exploration Agreement for Northern Superior's Ti-pa-haa-kaa-ning gold-silver-copper exploration property located in Northwestern Ontario.

<https://www.juniorminingnetwork.com/junior-miner-news/press-releases/782-tsx-venture/sup/69885-northern-superior-and-neskantaga-first-nation-extend-early-exploration-benefits-agreement-tpk-gold-silver-copper-property-northwestern-ontario.html>

PREMIER GOLD MINES: FINAL LTRA SIGNED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HARDROCK PROJECT

Junior Mining Network – Nov 20

Premier Gold Mines Ltd. is pleased to announce that Greenstone Gold Mines Inc., 50/50 venture between Premier and Centerra Gold Inc. has signed a Long-Term Relationship Agreement with Aroland First Nation, Animbiigoo Zaagi'gan Anishinaabek, and Ginoogaming First Nation, collectively the First Nations with respect to the development and operation of the Hardrock Project located in the Geraldton-Beardmore Belt in Ontario, Canada.

<https://www.juniorminingnetwork.com/junior-miner-news/press-releases/1309-tsx/pg/69958-final-ltra-signed-for-the-development-of-the-hardrock-project.html>

NORONT CLOSES c\$2.06 MILLION NON-BROKERED PRIVATE PLACEMENT AS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT RE-AFFIRMS ITS RING OF FIRE COMMITMENT

Junior Mining Network – Nov 20

Noront Resources Ltd. has closed a non-brokered private placement for gross proceeds of \$2.06 million from the issuance of flow-through shares and units. In its 2019 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review, the Government of Ontario re-affirmed its commitment to developing Ontario's mining and exploration industries.

<https://www.juniorminingnetwork.com/junior-miner-news/press-releases/1040-tsx-venture/not/69960-noront-closes-c-2-06-million-non-brokered-private-placement-as-provincial-government-re-affirms-its-ring-of-fire-commitment.html>

CAPACITY-BUILDING FUNDING FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

PDAC – Nov 22

In support of PDAC's priority to promote engagement between Canada's Indigenous communities and the mineral development sector, PDAC has developed a comprehensive catalogue of all available federal, provincial, and territorial government capacity-building support programs that can serve to facilitate Indigenous engagement with the mineral development sector, and to contribute to active participation in related activities. There is no similar comprehensive compendium of cross-jurisdictional programming in Canada currently available to the public. Organized by jurisdiction

and spanning all stages of the mineral development cycle, the programs listed below outline all available programming and funding for consultation capacity, skills & job training, and economic development.

<https://www.pdac.ca/priorities/aboriginal-affairs/capacity-support>

CAN FIRST NATIONS POWER AUTHORITY TRANSFORM THE ENERGY INDUSTRY?

National Observer – Nov 24

After hundreds of years of outside governments and industry cashing in on Indigenous lands and resources with few benefits reciprocated, one organization is setting new precedent that could transform the energy industry.

Armed with the backing of dozens of First Nation members and corporate partnerships, an initiative to create renewable energy projects led by Indigenous groups is aiming to make millions of dollars in Alberta and Saskatchewan. With the growing demand for cleaner energy and power, Indigenous groups are open for business and ready to bring it to market.

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2019/11/24/news/can-first-nations-power-authority-transform-energy-industry>

ELI BAXTER EMAILS

Submitted – Nov 24 and 25 (attached)