

Yukon Land Use Planning Council
201-307 Jarvis Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2H3

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To members of the YLPC

I am writing to you as, unfortunately, I can not attend the workshop you are holding this week. I work for YTG as mineral assessment geologist and have been involved in this field for the past five and a half years. I am part of a team of three geologists and our work consists of gathering and compiling information on mineral values to bring to different land-use planning tables. Our main areas of activities have been towards supporting the YPAS and Land Claims negotiation processes. We also provide input on YTG's behalf into community development plans.

The purpose of our work is to provide factual information on existing and potential mineral resources to support balanced and informed decision-making. Our products range in scale from evaluation of specific areas to regional assessments that portray the relative mineral potential of large tracts of land. We are currently working towards producing a mineral potential map of the whole Yukon. We approach this work in incremental steps, and we have covered about two thirds of the Yukon so far.

I am hoping that such work will be included in the values the council will be collecting. Mineral values are part of the endowment of the land and can contribute towards sustaining healthy communities. Integrating the results of this work into a multi-disciplinary approach may help provide options so that all needs of the community are met and therefore can contribute to alleviate potential land-use conflicts.

This kind of information is not always easy to understand. Our geologists are at your disposal to explain the process, the results of our work, and hopefully discuss with you how mineral assessments can be used by the Land Use Planning Council.

Reading one of your posters, I noticed that existing mineral resources were going to be included in your data gathering. Current land-use planning methodologies don't limit themselves to the inventory of known mineral occurrences but also incorporate the concept of potential for mineral resource. Mineral commodities are hidden in the ground and cannot be counted like wildlife or trees. Prudent planning should take into account the potential for finding undiscovered mineral deposits.

I would like to propose that we make a presentation to the Council outlining the purpose, methodology of our mineral assessment process and an overview of our products and results up to date. Please contact us at your convenience to discuss this further.

I hope this meets with the Council's goals and interests. I am including a summary of our methodology and look forward hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Danièle Héon
Mineral Assessment Geologist
YTG-Economic Development
Mineral Resources Branch
Phone: 667-5398, fax: 393-6232
daniele.heon@gov.yk.ca

you can also contact:
Anna Fonseca
Same address
393-7188
anna.fonseca@gov.yk.ca

enclosure

cc: Shirley Abercrombie, Anna Fonseca