

October 28, 2021

To Premier John Horgan, Environment Minister George Heyman, and Mines Minister Bruce Ralston:

The Kamloops Area Preservation Association has been urging the BC Government to modernize the BC Mineral Tenure Act since 2013. However no government action has been taken. The time has come for the government to launch an Advisory Committee to gather input from stakeholders, First Nations and the public in order to determine how to best modernize BC's Mineral Tenure Act. We need a broad-based public engagement process to review its regulations, policies and procedures, including establishing common sense restrictions on where mineral claims and mining leases are allowed and ensuring that provincial, municipal and First Nations governments, private land owners and the public have a meaningful role in decisions about mineral tenure.

In spite of previous revisions, there is still much work to be done in modernizing BC's Mineral Tenure Act. A comprehensive report published in September 2013, "Modernizing BC's Free Entry Mining Laws for a Vibrant, Sustainable Mining Sector", points out the problems of the present legislation and draws on best practices from around the world and on-the-ground experience in BC to recommend the following approach to updating BC's Mineral Tenure Act in the interests of all British Columbians.

[https://www.wcel.org/sites/default/files/publications/WCEL\\_Mining\\_report\\_web.pdf](https://www.wcel.org/sites/default/files/publications/WCEL_Mining_report_web.pdf).

We believe that it is essential for the government of British Columbia to take immediate and decisive action on this important issue. In our view, the revised Act **MUST** enshrine the rights of communities throughout BC to stop mining projects that will threaten citizens' health and their environment.

We look forward to your leadership and support in gathering information from all stakeholders about the changes that need to be made in drafting new legislation for BC's Mineral Tenure Act.

On behalf of Kamloops Area Preservation Association:

Anne Neave, director