

Larry W. Carlyle
2 Soapberry Lane
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 5W5

Dawson Regional Planning Commission
PO Box 8010
Dawson City
Yukon, Y0B 1G0

February 26, 2014

RE: DAWSON LAND USE PLAN CONSULTATION

Dear Sir or Madam,

Over 40 years ago when I was taking my geological training, I learned that only one out of every 1000 mineral showings has the mineral grade and size to actually become a mine. This statistic is still true.

It requires huge investments of technology, time and money to find that one deposit which is a mine. Finding this extremely rare mine also requires the ability to explore the greatest area of land possible. The land use planning process is incrementally removing the Yukon's land base from exploration. Mineral exploration and mining are the biggest private sector components of the Yukon economy. Land use planning has become nothing more than Protected Areas Strategy Part Two. Many of us remember what devastation that caused to Yukon's economy.

Until such time as it becomes possible to teleport mineral deposits to a "safer" and/or "more environmentally acceptable" area (as some people seem to think), they need to be developed where they occur. Access is thus required for mineral exploration and mine development. If access to mineral properties is denied, that places them into a defacto park. This is essentially a regulatory taking and those mineral property owners should be duly and appropriately compensated for their loss.

It seems to me that the Commission is proposing land withdrawals and legislative/regulatory restrictions which selectively target mineral exploration and mine development beyond that of other users of the land. Environmental impacts of most mineral exploration is no greater than those of trappers, outfitters, wilderness tourism operators, outdoor clubs and the general public. This is exceedingly unjust and probably illegal.

I would like to commend the Commission for using a process to develop alternatives in an attempt to qualify and quantify the various values for the Dawson Regional Land Use Planning Area. This is something not even attempted during the North Yukon nor the Peel Land Use Planning Processes; as a result, those processes are perceived as being biased toward preservation. Unfortunately, much of the data used to do the qualifying and quantifying at Dawson is inaccurate and out of date. For example, the oil and gas resources within the Kandik River area are significantly undervalued. Minfile data are significantly outdated.

It seems to me that Alternative D would cause the least damage to the mineral exploration industry within the Dawson area.

Sincerely,
Larry W. Carlyle