

Comments on Bill 76 from Margaretta Sander, Earltown NS [REDACTED]

Gold mining has never made any jurisdiction wealthy – some of the poorest countries in the world have become major gold producers and remain some of the poorest in the world (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso), Canadian Mines have a terrible environmental and social record internationally & view Nova Scotia as a rural backwater to be manipulated

there are many environmentally, socially, healthy types of work that build communities while mineral resource development destroys them. Why spend \$\$ on possibly fruitless mining and ignore the growing rural prosperity that keeps jobs & money locally such as:

carbon credits. The estimated carbon credit value of the forest in the Warwick Mountain/Cobequid closure area (approx 30K hectares) is \$28 million up front and the annual revenue from those woodlands is estimated to be \$5.2 million per year for 100 years plus at least 27 permanent jobs in sustainable forestry to maintain it & many more jobs & income in related businesses throughout the Province. This approach to forestry does not require a huge up-front investment and the substantial fiscal returns are quickly available.

Maple products and maple water: another global growth industry reliant on mature forests of the kind prevalent in Nova Scotia. Maple product exports in Quebec and the USA have exploded and the potential is incredible for a local industry that does not destroy, but enhances, quality of life for residents, wild life and future generations. These two clean, locally-sourced industries could provide many clean, safe and secure permanent jobs for local residents and we would like to see the Province pursue this type of economic development instead of the 19th c. view of using natural resources until they are exhausted such as trees, coal, fish, wildlife.

Haskap fruit production in NS -growing with lots of potential for long term investment & growth There are roughly 80 commercial Haskap Orchards in NS, with a projected market value for 2018 crop of \$350,000, 2019 of \$750,000, 2020 of \$1,700,000, 2021 of \$3,000,000 and 2022 of \$5,000,000. Using a similar multiplier as the grape industry...the total economic impact back to the Nova Scotian economy based upon added value impacts from the Haskap industry alone is estimated to be roughly \$10,000,000 in 2020 and \$25,000,000 in 2022.

The Christmas tree industry is worth over **\$30 million per year**, 3,500 producers, 500 permanent jobs & 2,500 seasonal employees in 2017. It's a growth industry having a "sell-out" in 2017

Tourism - 9% growth in \$2017, 2.7 billion, people want to see natural beauty, not open pit mines and polluted water, industrial waste lands, tourism works in rural areas

Organic Farming: growth industry - 359 farms now, many more wanting to enter the market

Blueberries \$70 million in exports

Invest in growing these already successful ventures, keep the jobs local, keep the taxes and revenues local, don't fracture communities and the natural beauty of Nova Scotia

Currently, companies involved in resource development "**self insure**" their activities, and then fight tooth and nail to downplay the damage to reduce remediation costs..which the province (us taxpayers) pay for in the end) If mining continues we request the government to **require third party insurance...** for **resource development, transportation**, and other companies whose activities threaten the environment.

The due diligence and financial self interest of third party insurance providers (eg Lloyds... etc.) would identify and require operation practices that reduce the risk just as every home or business owner must carry.

**PLEASE REPLACE BILL #76 WITH THE AMENDMENT SUBMITTED TODAY BY SuNNS –
SUSTAINABLE NORTHERN NOVA SCOTIA - SUPPORT THE RURAL ECONOMY WITH THE
OBVIOUS GROWTH POTENTIAL IT HAS - AS DESCRIBED ABOVE - KEEP WATER AND ALL
NATURAL RESOURCES SAFE AND HEALTHY**