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Winter 2010



The **Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association**
in conjunction with the **Ontario Prospectors Association**
are pleased to announce the
Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium
"A Golden Track Record"
April 7th & 8th, 2010
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay



Thanks to Andreas Lichtblau, Regional Resident Geologist of Kenora-Red Lake for providing the above photo of Goldcorp Inc.'s drilling of the Bruce Channel.

The Claim Post is the official newsletter of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association.

The purpose of the Claim Post is to provide a forum for our members to discuss current events and exchange information.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association including all of its members and Directors. The writers accept full ownership of their contributions.

The Claim Post is published bi-annually in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

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NWOPA President's Letter, Winter 2010

There is an old adage that: "There are two things that you don't want to see made, the first is hotdogs and the second is legislation." I can heartily agree with this adage now.

In the Autumn of 2009 Bill 173: The Act to Modernize the Ontario Mining Act was given royal assent. Our world is changing... the Modernized Mining Act takes that archaic dinosaur of a Mining Act and will remodel it into a tech-savvy behemoth in a relatively short time geologically speaking. First to go is land based staking, gone in southern Ontario now and in approximately 5 years time to disappear from our neck of the woods. Map staking is the way of the future and Prospectors shall need to embrace it.

That being said the "devil" is now officially at our doorstep. Another round of consultations is about to begin to develop the Regulations for the Modernized Mining Act. These Regulations are the "devil in the details" that Minister Gravelle spoke about earlier in the process and that the NWOPA General Meetings last fall were preparing Prospectors for. MNDMF has done its work and has prepared a "Workbook" for our use. It is highly important that every Prospector receives this Workbook, reads through it, attends the information sessions, asks questions, completes the Workbook and returns it to MNDMF before the consultation period ends on April 30, 2010.

Every Prospector should be aware of and discussing the Workbook.

By the time the next Claim Post is produced the Regulations will be well into the formatting stage. The Northwestern Ontario Mines and Minerals Symposium on April 6, 7 and 8, 2010 promises to be a great opportunity for our community to continue the discussions and to look at some of the exploration highlights of the past and coming years. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Let's continue on a golden track to prosperity.

Barb D'Silva

President, NWOPA

NWOPA OBJECTIVES

To represent and further the interests, serve the needs, and support the aspirations of the individual prospectors in Northwestern Ontario.

WANTED!

Digital photographs or photos which can be digitized of NW prospectors to be included in a "Digital Photo Album" for display at the NW Ont. Symposium: Contact: Barb D'Silva at barbdsilva@live.ca or Allen Raoul at georaoul@gmail.com

NWOPA MINING REPS REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING

LOCAL CITIZEN COMMITTEES:

- DRYDEN: WABIGOON DRYDEN FOREST
- NIPIGON AREA: NIPIGON EAST FOREST
- SIOUX LOOKOUT: CARIBOU-LAC SEUL FOREST
- THUNDER BAY: DOG RIVER-MATAWIN FOREST

CONTACT: Karl Bjorkman kbjorkman@xplornet.com Tel. 807-929-1093

John Halet jhalet@tbaytel.net Tel. 807-475-4142

NWOPA 2009 Christmas Party – The Best to Date!

This year's annual Christmas Party was a great success. With close to 200 people in attendance, the Marco Polo room at the Da Vinci was filled to capacity. After a delicious meal was served, hoards of prizes were given out. With help from the Maverick Entertainment DJ, many laughs were had with a number of crowd-involving games. As the night progressed, the karaoke crooners came out and sung a few tunes, and laughs were had by all. This year's gold prize was also the biggest yet. Celebrating the prize's 7th year running, Peter Young noted that there were 134 entries, with a guessed price ranging from a low of \$422 to a high of \$3000. In the end, Peter Sansekovich, who was not in attendance, won the prize of \$135. At the 2008 Christmas party, Peter bet that the price of gold on December 4, 2009 would be \$1158. The closing price of gold that day was \$1162. Congratulations Peter! We look forward to next year's Christmas party, and we thank all of our kind sponsors for the great gift donations.



NWOPA 2009 Christmas Party – The Best to Date!

A Big Thank You to All Our Sponsors:

Accurassay Laboratories
Activation Labs
ALS Chemex
Barrick-Hemlo Operations
Benton Resources Corp.
Chaltrek Geological Supplies Inc.
Cobra Drilling/North Star Drilling
Da Vinci Centre
dpDiamond Blades
Excalibur Motorcycle Works Ltd.
Fladgate Exploration
Freewest Resources Canada Inc.
GeoVector Management Inc.
Goldcorp Inc.
Home Hardware Store Atikokan
Jiminex Inc.
KBM Sales
Kennecott Canada Exploration Inc./Rio Tinto

Landore Resources Inc.
Mega Precious Metals
Mengold Resources Inc.
Metals Creek Resources Corp.
North American Palladium Ltd.
Ponty & Company
Premier Gold Mines Limited
Sabina Silver Corporation
Sage Gold Inc.
Sharpstone Geoservices Ltd.
Stares Contracting Corp.
Valhalla Inn
Walts Dry Goods Atikokan
Wire Rope Industries Distribution



Attendance at the OEGS in December 2009 by Suzanne Halet

In December, I attended the Ontario Exploration Geoscience Symposium. I was fortunate to meet some of the board members from the other Prospectors Associations, especially those from the Sault & District Prospectors Association, as well as the Porcupine area. I spent some time talking with Delio Tortosa about their present budget, as well as ours, and some projects that they would like to do over the next year (field tours and computer education for prospectors). It was nice to meet some of the other representatives from those districts. The Sault Association had a pretty big table set up with pictures of their members, as well as a large collection of rocks on their table from various properties their members had donated. I suggest to the members of NWOPA that we begin a small collection of samples from various local properties to create contents sufficient for future display booths at symposiums.

I spent some time talking with Lisa McDonald, Chief Operating Officer of the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada about NWOPA and our upcoming Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals symposium. I grabbed some "e3 plus Principles and Guidance" workbooks from PDAC, and brought them back to Thunder Bay to share with the directors of NWOPA. I also spoke with Jason Wilson who is their program director, community & resource development officer at the PDAC. He gave a really good talk called "Working Together, Research and Relationship Building", regarding building relationships with Aboriginal communities. I was thinking that he might be a good candidate to invite up to future NWOPA symposiums to speak or even provide a workshop.

Another lecture highlight was Rob Merwin's talk on Ontario's New Mining Act. He discussed the release of the new Ontario's New Mining Act Workbook on Development of Regulations. During the OEGS, the workbook was released to the public.

On Wednesday, a Ministry of Labour representative named Shaun Carter gave a talk on safety expectations for those working in the bush. We must never forget how important it is to understand and follow the safety guidelines and regulations when working in the bush. All it takes is one accident to put you out of work permanently. To keep exploration going, we must have a healthy and safe workforce.

Finally, I would say the most well attended talks at the OEGS conference was the final segment featuring the Ring of Fire related projects. Bob Middleton and Jim Atkinson's talks brought in a full house. Even though many people were starting to pack up and catch their flights out of Sudbury, just as many stayed put and were intrigued to hear the latest news on the Ring of Fire! Many hopeful eyes watched as Bob Middleton cast an exciting story of the massive Chromite deposit that could very well rejuvenate Northwestern Ontario.



NWOPA GENERAL MEETINGS

Thurs., Feb. 18 & Mar. 18, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.
Confederation College (Room C242), Thunder Bay
(in case of a strike at the college, the alternate site will be the Mary
J.L. Black Library Auditorium)

The Mining Act Modernization Secretariat
will be hosting
"Modernizing the Mining Act (MAM)"

On Thursday, February 18, an initial meeting will be provided to the NWOPA membership to discuss MAM progress and introduce the MAM Workbook and its contents. Questions will be reviewed that the Secretariat is seeking input on and will identify other avenues of providing input on these questions.

On Thursday, March 18, an actual workshop will be provided for the membership where the issues regarding MAM can be discussed in detail and an opportunity will be given to have a better understanding of the issues and challenges related to MAM.

Facilitators - Paul Nielsen/Bob Chataway, NWOPA Directors
Come out and let's discuss the issues!

ENJOY A BEVERAGE AND SNACK!

Notice of Annual General Meeting

NWOPA Elections

The annual meeting of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association will take place on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. prior to the technical session at the Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium, Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay. The agenda for the meeting shall include: presentation of the Association's financial statements, a President's report, by-law change(s), and the election of Officers and Directors. The NWOPA board is comprised of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and 5 Directors.

Nominations are now being accepted for Directors. Any two members in good standing may nominate and second any other qualified member for office.

Nominations may be sent to the Nominating Committee:

c/o Mary Louise Hill

Department of Geology, Lakehead University

955 Oliver Road,
Thunder Bay, Ontario

P7B 5E1

e-mail: mary.louise.hill@lakeheadu.ca

Or

May be dropped off at the MNDMF office

Attention: Cyndee Komar, NWOPA Secretary

The objective of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association is to represent the interests and needs of the individual prospector.

Please attend the annual meeting and cast your vote!

Registration for the Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium opens at 11 a.m.
All members must be registered prior to attending the Annual Meeting.

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO PROSPECTORS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL AWARDS

Nominations are requested for the following awards to be presented at the Awards Luncheon on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at the Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium in Thunder Bay:

1. The **Lifetime Achievement Award** is presented to someone based on their cumulative work, discoveries, options and contributions to the prospecting, exploration and mining community of northwestern Ontario.
2. The **"Bernie Schnieders" Discovery of the Year Award** recognizes an exceptional discovery in northwestern Ontario during the previous calendar year, may involve more than one individual or company.
3. The **Developer of the Year Award** recognizes an outstanding northwestern Ontario developer or development during the previous calendar year.
4. The **"Dan Calvert" Distinguished Service Award** recognizes an individual who has provided exceptional service to NWOPA and/or the prospecting, exploration and mining community of northwestern Ontario.

Please contact one of the following by Monday, March 1, 2010 with nominations:

**Mike Maclsaac
Tel. 807-345-4990**

**Mark O'Brien
Tel. 807-475-1106**

**Russell Kwiatkowski
Tel. 807-767-7555**



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April 7 & 8, 2010
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

Delegate Registration

Before or on March 19th - \$100.00
Before or on March 19th - 2010 Members \$40.00
After March 19th - \$120.00
After March 19th - 2010 Members \$60.00
Students - \$30.00

Exhibits

Prospector Poster Display
\$20.00 with Delegate Registration
Booth Display
\$200.00

Workshop – April 6 - Rare Metals and Rare Earth Elements – Viking Room - 7 to 10 pm

Limited to 50 participants
Workshop Fee: \$25.00

Registration benefits:

2010 OPA Membership,
Refreshment breaks, Technical Presentations and Exhibits

Above prices include applicable taxes

Accommodations

The **Valhalla Inn**, located in Thunder Bay, offers convention rates for delegates attending the Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium to take advantage of these rates

contact the hotel directly

807.577.1121 or 1.800.964.1121 and Quote “800211”.

For more information please contact:

www.ontarioprospectors.com

1.866.259.3727 (807.622.3284)

oeqs@ontarioprospectors.com

SHORT COURSE:

“RARE ELEMENTS AND RARE EARTH ELEMENTS”

NWOPA is proud to present an evening of knowledge and entertainment on a “rare” topic

Speaker 1: Rare Metals vs. Rare Earth Elements: Different Exploration Environments

Mr. Craig Ravnaas, P.Geo. Kenora District Geologist, MNDMF

The Superior Province is host to >200 rare-element (Li, Cs, Rb, Be, Ta, Nb, Ga, Tl and Ge) mineral occurrences that can be hosted within a variety of rock types. Previous work by Breaks, Selway & Tindle (2005) have group these into four geological settings. Discussion of these settings and implications for exploration will be discussed.

The Superior Province does not currently host any rare earth element (La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Th, Yb, Lu, Y) deposits such as the Mountain Pass of California, Mt. Weld of Australia or LongNan Jiangxi of China. However, these rare earth elements can be hosted within peralkaline felsic intrusive rocks, carbonatites and rare pegmatites of the Superior Province. Discussion of these varied settings and implications for exploration will be discussed.

Speaker 2: Pegmatite Zoning and Exploration

Mr. Peter Vanstone Retired Chief Geologist, TANCO

The exploration and mapping of economic minerals hosted with granitic rare-element deposits can be done several ways. Academics use the microprobe to identify and classify minerals, but in the field, basic mineralogy can be used to define potential economic zones. We will discover the world of pegmatites through simple prospecting for key minerals to define the type and potential grade of the pegmatite.

Speaker 3: Northwest Ontario: Known RE or REE Zones and Potential Areas

(Staff of Resident Geologist Program, MNDMF)

Craig Ravnaas, Kenora

Carmen Storey, Red Lake

Gerry White, Thunder Bay North

Dorothy Campbell, Thunder Bay South

A 10-minute discussion (maximum) of the known fields and potential areas for discoveries will be discussed and a table from each district will have display samples.

Valhalla Inn: Scandia Room

April 6, 2010: 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Cost: \$ 25.00

Must Be A NWOPA Member to Attend

Please register using the NW Symposium "Delegate Registration Form"

Sponsored by:



2010 Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium “A Golden Track Record”



April 7 & 8, 2010
Hotels & Motels, Thunder Bay
(Close proximity to Valhalla Inn)



Valhalla Inn
1 Valhalla Inn Road
1.800.964.1121
Group Booking #800211

Travelodge Hotel Airplane
698 W. Arthur Street
1.800.465.5003

Best Western Crossroads Motor Inn
655 W. Arthur Street
1.800.265.3253

Victoria Inn
555 W. Arthur Street
1.877.842.4667

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MINES & MINERALS SYMPOSIUM

“A Golden Track Record”

April 7 & 8, 2010

Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

DELEGATE REGISTRATION

****PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY****



MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____ **If contact information has not changed fill in Membership Number and Name and proceed to registration and payment information**

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ @ _____

Symposium Registration* On or before March 19	@	\$100.00	
Symposium Registration* After March 19	@	\$120.00	
Symposium Registration* (2010 OPA MEMBERS) On or before March 19	@	\$40.00	
Symposium Registration* (2010 OPA MEMBERS) After March 19	@	\$60.00	
Student Registration*	@	\$30.00	
Awards Luncheon Thursday, April 8 12 noon Scandia Room	@	\$30.00	
Workshop: “Rare Earth Elements” Tuesday, April 6 7:00 –10:00pm Viking Room, Valhalla Inn Limit of 50 participants	@	\$25.00	
GST is included in prices GST #86378 8766 RT0001	TOTAL		

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	
The Ontario Prospectors Association supports local prospecting associations in mining communities across Ontario. These organizations represent the local voice of the OPA and its members as a whole on local issues.	
Please check the group of your choice (one only) Please register me as a member of the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA) or as indicated below: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Boreal Prospectors Association (BPA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northern Prospectors Association (NPA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Porcupine Prospectors & Developers Assoc. (PPDA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sault & District Prospectors Association (SDPA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern Ontario Prospectors Association (SOPA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sudbury Prospectors & Developers Assoc. (SPDA)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non Affiliated	<input type="checkbox"/>

***INCLUDES 2010 OPA Membership & Regional Association, Entry into Technical Sessions & Exhibits and all coffee breaks**

You will be included in the 2010 OPA Membership Directory **IF** you **do not** want to be **Please Check Here**

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Cheque _____ VISA _____ MC _____

Card # _____ Expiry: Month _____ Year _____

Cardholder _____ Signature _____

Cheques should be made payable and mailed with this application to: **Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA)**
c/o Susan Warren, 1000 Alloy Drive, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6A5

Fax a copy of this application to the OPA at 807-622-4156 to ensure your registration.

A confirmation will be sent to you either by email or fax, **once payment has been received.**

For more information visit us at www.ontarioprospectors.com or www.nwopa.net or email us at oegs@ontarioprospectors.com

REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 26th

AFTER THIS DATE THEY WILL BE PROCESSED ONSITE

Cancellations will be charged a \$60.00 administrative fee. No refunds issued after March 19, 2010.

Register before March 19th and have a chance to win a GPS unit



Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium
"A Golden Track Record"
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 Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario



BOOTH APPLICATION FORM

PROSPECTOR (\$20.00)

Delegate Registration is Additional and MUST accompany this Booth Application Form

- approximately 4 feet of table space with velcro friendly backboard

EXHIBITOR (\$200.00)

**Fee includes one symposium/booth registration and
 OPA/Regional Association membership.**

- Table with velcro friendly backboard (4' x 8') or space for your own free standing unit.

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR REQUIREMENTS AT TIME OF YOUR REGISTRATION

GST is included in above prices – GST #86378 8766 RT0001

REQUIREMENTS PLEASE CHECK:

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| POWER OUTLET | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | |
| DISPLAY BOARD | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | |
| TABLE NEEDED | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | |
| PROVIDING OWN FREE STANDING UNIT | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | Dimension of unit _____ |
| ROCKS OR CORE SAMPLES AT YOUR DISPLAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | |
| POSTER DISPLAY ONLY (NO ROCKS OR CORE) | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | |

WIRELESS HIGH SPEED INTERNET IS AVAILABLE

NAME/TITLE OF DISPLAY: _____

NAME OF PERSON ATTENDING EVENT: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ EMAIL: _____ @ _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/PROVINCE: _____ TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

NAME & EMAIL OF PERSON WHO RECEIVES MEMBERSHIP & REGIONAL ASSOCIATION CHOICE (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE): _____ @ _____

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION: BPA NPA NWOPA PPDA SDPA SOPA SPDA

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/PROVINCE: _____ TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Cheque _____ Visa _____ MC _____ Expiry: Month _____ Year _____

Card #: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Cardholder: _____ Signature: _____

Cheques should be made payable and mailed with this completed application and delegate registration if applicable to:

Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA)
 c/o Susan Warren

1000 Alloy Drive, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6A5

For more information please call 807-622-3284, fax 807-622-4156, Email oeqs@ontarioprospectors.com

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SPACE IS LIMITED.....RESERVE EARLY!



2010 Northwestern Ontario Mines & Minerals Symposium
"A Golden Track Record"
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario
April 7 & 8, 2010

SPONSOR SCHEDULE

SILVER SPONSOR:	\$1-\$299	\$ _____
PALLADIUM SPONSOR:	\$300-\$400	\$ _____
GOLD SPONSOR:	\$401-\$500	\$ _____
PLATINUM SPONSOR:	\$501-\$699	\$ _____
DIAMOND SPONSOR:	\$700+	\$ _____

SPONSOR BENEFITS INCLUDE: SIGNAGE AT THE EVENT, POWERPOINT PRESENTATION AT THE TALKS and RECOGNITION IN THE PROGRAM

SPONSORS LOGO'S SHOULD BE EMAILED ASAP TO: treasurer@nwopa.net

OFFICIAL SPONSOR NAME _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-Mail _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY CHEQUE, VISA OR MASTERCARD

Cheque _____ VISA _____ MC _____

Card #: _____ Expiry: Month _____ Year _____

Cardholder: _____ Signature: _____

Donations made by credit card can be faxed to 807/475-1112 or mailed to NWOPA (address below). Cheques should be made payable to "NWOPA" and mailed with this form to:

NWOPA
PO Box 10124
Thunder Bay ON P7B 6T6

Deadline for sponsorship is *Friday, March 26, 2010*

For more information, contact Cyndee Komar @ 807/475-1414 or cyndee.komar@ontario.ca