

THE MANITOBA MINERALS GUIDELINE:

BUILDING *RELATIONSHIPS AND*  
CREATING *OPPORTUNITIES*

*Guiding* Principles

for *Success*

*between the*

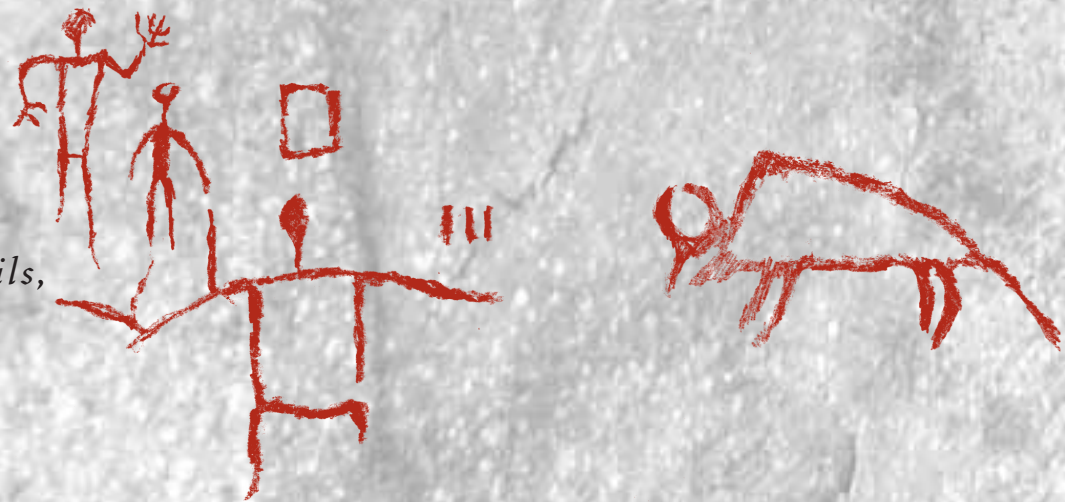
*First Nations,*

*Metis Nation,*

*Northern Community Councils,*

*the Minerals Industry and*

*the Province of Manitoba*



THESE GUIDING PRINCIPLES WERE DEVELOPED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE SUPPORT OF ELDER FRANK WESLEY AND ELDER SANDY BEARDY:

- Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
- Cross Lake Mineral Exploration
- Manitoba Energy and Mines  
(now Manitoba Industry, Trade and Mines)
- Manitoba Prospectors  
and Developers Association
- Manitoba Heavy Construction Association
- Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak
- Manitoba Metis Federation
- Manitoba-Saskatchewan Prospectors  
and Developers Association
- Mining Association of Manitoba
- Northern Association of  
Community Councils



Manitoba has been in the mining business for hundreds, if not thousands of years. In fact, no one can say for sure when minerals were first extracted from the Manitoba terrain, but it is known who initiated the activity. Aboriginal people who settled in Manitoba used to quarry red ochre/hematite from the Red Cliff area on what is now called Black Island. This deposit became a valuable resource for many tribal rituals, as the red rock was crushed to make a pigment used in body decoration and rock art.

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## B A C K G R O U N D

In May 1998, a process was initiated by the Province of Manitoba's Energy and Mines department (now Manitoba Industry, Trade and Mines) to bring together representatives of First Nations, Metis Nation, Northern Communities and the Manitoba Minerals Industry to begin a relationship building process. The purpose of this process continues to be to strengthen the links between parties, learn about common aspirations, cultural values and communication needs, and to create a climate for mutually beneficial opportunities related to the building of a strong minerals industry\* within Manitoba. The document is a guide to facilitate relationship building between those involved in, or affected by minerals activity within the province. The document is divided into three sections entitled Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives and Recommended Actions.

*\*minerals does not include oil and gas*



## MISSION STATEMENT

These guiding principles reflect a commitment to building and sustaining positive long-term relationships between the First Nations, Metis Nation, Northern Community Councils, the Minerals Industry and the Province of Manitoba.

The initiative is an investment in the future and well-being of communities and the industry. It creates an opportunity to establish a balance between the needs of industry, communities and the environment. The parties will benefit from equity in communication and decision-making and the creation of new opportunities for sustainable growth and human development.



## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of this initiative is to build long-term relationships based on mutual trust, respect and understanding with regards to rights, culture, values and traditions. These guiding principles will not result in any infringement of the exercise of the existing Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights and jurisdictional autonomy. Within these guiding principles existing third party rights will be respected.

The parties recognize the importance of developing guiding principles related to the following objectives:

- keeping the commitment strong
- information sharing
- open consultation
- creating opportunities and building capacities
- protecting environmental integrity
- policy review and development



**OBJECTIVE 1.0:** *Keeping Commitments Strong*

The parties are committed to working together to achieve environmentally sound and socially responsible economic development. The parties will demonstrate a willingness to work responsibly towards sustainable development within the context of socio-economic realities.

The parties are committed to identifying and resolving barriers, both real and perceived, in the government regulatory and business environments.



**OBJECTIVE 2.0:** *Information Sharing*

The parties recognize that access to and sharing of information is a key to the environmentally sound development and management of Manitoba's mineral resources.

This information is necessary to create a common understanding of how each party's interests, including community well-being, the minerals industry, government, the environment, natural resources, and the economy are interrelated.

The parties will ensure effective decision-making through the sharing of accessible, accurate, equal and timely information. It is recognized that some information may be subject to confidentiality and intellectual property considerations.



**OBJECTIVE 3.0: *Open Consultation***

The parties will work together to establish appropriate forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes.

The parties will endeavour to ensure due process, notification and appropriate and timely participation in the matters of government and corporate policy and program development and decision-making.

**OBJECTIVE 4.0: *Creating Opportunities***

The parties are committed to ensure that all Manitobans continue to receive the benefits derived from its mineral endowment. The parties are committed to working together to create opportunities that provide greater control and self-reliance for northern, First Nations and Metis Nation individuals, families and communities.

Through improved communication, the parties can build a better relationship that will ensure greater community participation in the development of education, employment, business, land and environmental management opportunities.

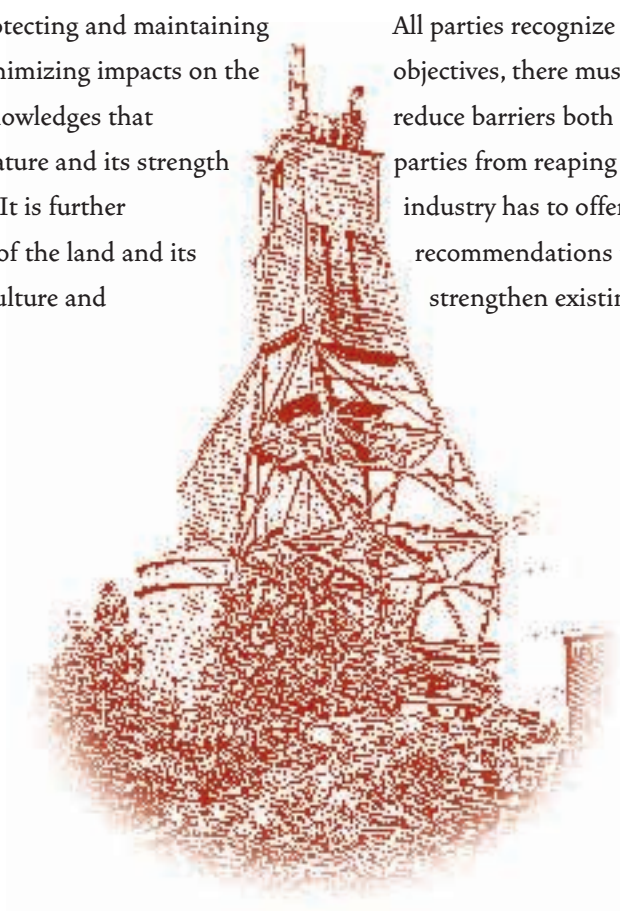
The initiative aims to build a positive business climate that reduces uncertainty, attracts mining investment and maintains existing mineral operations, fosters a stable fiscal regime to attract investment, exploration and development, and builds and maintains community and cultural well-being of all parties involved.





**OBJECTIVE 5.o:** *Protecting Environmental Integrity*

The parties are committed to protecting and maintaining environmental integrity, and minimizing impacts on the environment. The initiative acknowledges that traditional culture is linked to nature and its strength is drawn from that relationship. It is further acknowledged that stewardship of the land and its resources is an integral part of culture and community life.



**OBJECTIVE 6.o:** *Policy Review and Development*

All parties recognize that in order to implement these objectives, there must be a commitment to work together to reduce barriers both real and artificial that often prevent all parties from reaping the full benefits that the minerals industry has to offer. This may include the development of recommendations to a specific party to modify, amend or strengthen existing policies where necessary.



These guiding principles were developed by representatives from the following organizations with the support of Elder Frank Wesley and Elder Sandy Beardy:

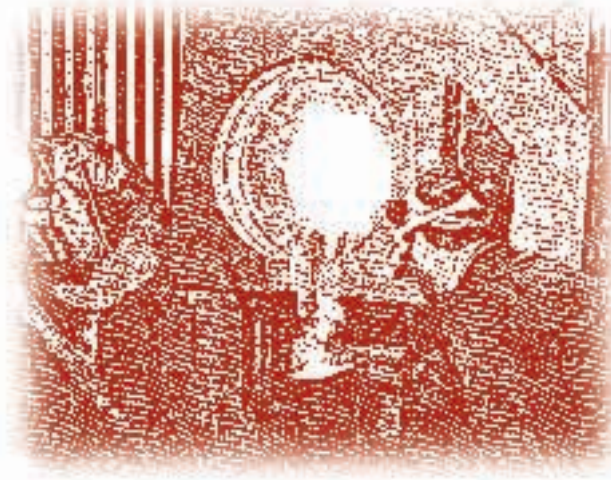
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- Manitoba-Saskatchewan Prospectors and Developers Association
- Mining Association of Manitoba
- Northern Association of Community Councils

## R E C O M M E N D E D   A C T I O N S

### OBJECTIVE 1.0: *Keeping Commitments Strong*

The parties will endeavour to keep these commitments strong through:

- establishing clear principles statements that reflect mutual understanding and expectations
- the integration of mineral management with natural and human resource needs
- public participation in decision-making
- the protection of unique, distinct and sacred areas





**OBJECTIVE 2.0: *Information Sharing***

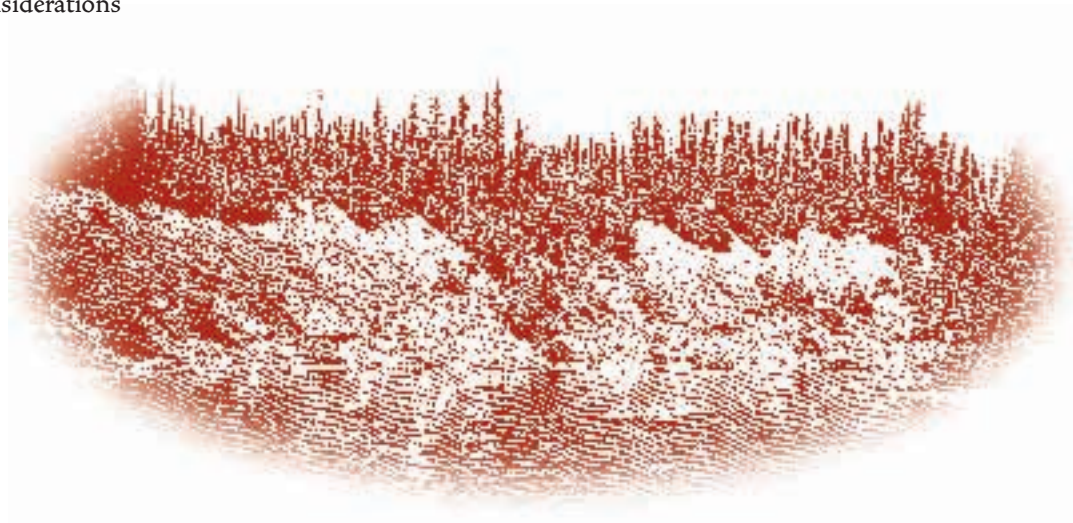
The parties will further encourage information sharing through:

- the development of an effective communication plan
- open forums for public participation
- joint social and scientific research activities
- access to information and policies, recognizing that some information may be subject to confidentiality and intellectual property considerations

**OBJECTIVE 3.0: *Open Consultation***

The parties will ensure open consultation through:

- culturally sensitive approaches or dialogue and consultation
- cross cultural training, education and facilitation
- development of information packages
- development of consultation strategies



OBJECTIVE 4.0: *Creating Opportunities*

The parties will seek to maximize economic and social benefits through:

- joint identification of funding sources
- education and skills training in the potential workforce
- new approaches to recruitment
- stay in school strategies
- cultural awareness
- technical and instrumentation training
- trade and scientific training
- identifying business opportunities
- access to investments and joint ventures
- resource management



OBJECTIVE 5.0: *Protecting Environmental Integrity*

The parties are committed to work towards protecting environmental integrity and minimizing the impact on the environment through:

- building awareness of the significance of the environment to First Nations and Metis Nation peoples
- practice of culturally viable sustainable economic development
- community involvement in the development of natural resources
- maintaining healthy and diverse eco-systems
- adopting sound environmental management practices
- providing healthy and safe work environments
- respecting culturally based processes
- addressing the rehabilitation of lands due to mineral exploration or development







Cross Lake  
Mineral  
Exploration



*Manitoba-Saskatchewan Prospectors  
and Developers Assoc.*



*Manitoba Keewatinowik  
Okimakanak Inc.*

Manitoba  
Industry, Trade  
and Mines



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