

EU-Canada Raw Materials Stakeholders Forum



15 NOVEMBER 2018, 14H00-17H00

MARIVAUX HOTEL, BOULEVARD ADOLPHE MAX 120, 1000 BRUSSELS

Priorities



For our first meeting, the following main topics were discussed

- Increasing Investments
- Environmental and social licence to operate and responsible sourcing
- Permitting Procedures
- Short and medium term innovation

Investment



- The EU and Canada are very close to each other. We share DNA in people, companies, business approach / reputation and in our communities. Together we are the best equipped to advertise the quality of the industry by working to the high standards. Make friends.

The CETA agreement will help by contributing to:

- Appropriate policies / strategies that demonstrate security of investment in the mining sector and creating long-term stability for investments
- Assure that leveraging of the appropriate standards, transparency, governance, contribute to (political / regulatory) stability, social acceptance, and public perception of foreign capital for exploration and mining.
- Balance the investment in Europe & Canada in exploration / mining projects and equipment / service suppliers

Investment 2



- Harmonisation of standards to benefit responsible sourcing. Also allowing to improve access to secondary resources as to primary resources (downstream metal companies)
- The development of a venture capital ecosystem in Europe that can improve credibility and trust for investment in mining, where Europe can benefit from positive reference to Canada. (NB. Ecosystem including technical abilities, investment conference(s), public/academic support, tax incentives for high-risk capital,). Better / more sustainable climate for money is required; voted confidence and investor appetite in micro-cap.
- Potentially, a central- / EU-supported investment fund or special framework, according to European standards, credibility, and public trust
- Whatever is structured on a European level is only effective if accepted / supported / ratified by the individual member states.

Environmental and social licence to operate and responsible sourcing



- Need for sustainability relevant product information – C2C
 - Industry taking the lead
 - Avoid duplications of systems
- Try to establish level playing field between EU and Canada
- Make use of battery momentum – to change the public perception
- Before it's yours, we mine it – changing public perception is crucially important,
 - **Involving** all stakeholders to participate in the debates and policy making
 - **Stimulate** multi-stakeholder dialogues
 - **Emphasize** mining's beneficial role in SDGS, Climate Change, Technological progress etc
- Mining industry already incorporates many Circular Economy concepts, no conflict.

Permitting procedures

- **Mineral endowment and wealth distribution**
 - Perceived fundamental bias in the EU that permitting will be disadvantageous for the local community, and in favour of the central government and/or the investor
 - ❖ Exchange of Best Practices, publications and case studies from EU/Canada incl value chains
- **Technical capacity building in authorities**
 - ❖ Need to foster quality technical capacity in permitting authorities and thereby strengthen confidence in decisions
 - ❖ Seminars/conferences on for example:
 - How to successfully integrate indigenous rights into legal frameworks/permitting procedures
 - Cooperation between administrative structures to build confidence and technical capacity
 - How to better deal with the multitude of permits and strengthen/shorten time frames?
 - How to deal with environmental legislation as moving goalposts (in Europe), tendency of gold-plating?
- **Social capacity building between communities and regions**
 - ❖ Twinning of mining regions establishing more social connections and long-term trust

Innovation



Challenges

- Joint calls for cooperation
 - Miss-alignment of topics and deadlines; structure
 - Canada can only participate in H2020 if it is explicitly mentioned; EU partners have to justify Canadian participation
 - EUREKA!: low funding rate for EU organisations (30%)
 - Low Technology Readiness Level (TRL) projects are difficult to fund (no funding for travel and exchange)
- Identify specific Canadian organization that can facilitate collaboration in areas of joint interest
 - Need for innovation capacity building in Canada (examples, CLEER-proposal in Canada and EIT RawMaterials in Europe)

Innovation 2



Proposal for common innovation areas

- The smart mine: digitalization, automation – from exploration to operations
- Mutual recognition of professional qualifications (architects as role model)
- Education and professional development, incl. mentoring
- Sustainable supply chains, part. for low carbon technology: Mobility and Energy Transitions
- Share learnings: e.g., EU Circular Economy; CA investment environment and mining
- Exploration agreement: learn from existing collaboration between Canada and Sweden
- Align common Accelerators for Innovation in raw materials (e.g. EIT RawMaterials, ERAMIN 2, NRC Canada)
- joint vision on Standards: for example, responsible sourcing, ISO standard for Rare Earths (TC298)