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Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
Delegation, January 2021

Good Morning

The Municipality of Temagami covers just over 1900 square kilometres and is situated at the north end of the District of Nipissing bordering the District of Timiskaming. While our full time population is between 800 and 900 (depending on which source you use), seasonally our population explodes as we have a multitude of lakes within our boundary. There are also four Provincial Parks and other tourist draws from the Temagami Tower to the White Bear Forest to the Old Growth Trails on Lake Temagami.

Historically, employment was through mining, forestry, and a significant number of provincial personnel mostly employed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. While prospecting still occurs from time to time, similar to most other historic mining areas, there are no active mines in operation. The same can be said for the forestry. While there is a group working on improvements to the state and harvest of the Temagami Forest, the industry will most likely not be restored to its former glory. As for the government workers? Well even if there was a policy change, the majority of government buildings are no longer standing.

So we are not all 'doom and gloom' Council has been working on planning for the future of Temagami. In 2020 we completed a Strategic Plan and Service Delivery Review and are now working on implementation plans to put the contents of these into action. One area where both were in agreement is enhanced economic development. To that end, Council is considering different models for economic development up to and including an economic development corporation. While our Staff are good in working with people who may want to start up business operations in Temagami, we do not have any dedicated personnel wholly focused on economic development. Whether through a municipal position or through a corporation, more directed focus on economic development will certainly see more activity in this area.

As we work through our next steps, key to this will be involvement of the various programs offered through your Ministry. While it may not have directly resulted in increased economic activity, hosting further opportunities where your representative, along with their federal counterpart, can have conversations with our entrepreneurs with facilities offered by the Municipality was well received locally. While the facilities may be electronic for the time being, this was a very worthwhile day.

One area of concern that has been brought to the Council table deals with mining claims. Our understanding is that there are legacy items that need to be cleaned up and then certified before claim areas are open for other individuals or firms to start their prospecting activities. We have also been told that there seems to be a delay in clearing these claims and having them available for

new prospecting initiatives. Anything that can be done to shorten the time between where one prospector has completed their activities and the claim is once again available for prospecting activities would be appreciated. Even if the chances of a sizable mining operation is remote, there are spin off benefits even during the prospecting stage.

Within our border we also have a former mine, the Sherman Mine. The basic infrastructure that still exists makes this site prime to host light industrial activities whether part of the mining industry or not, it would also ensure that we can have industrial uses in the same general location given that our industrial park is in close proximity. We are not familiar with the closure plan that was put in place for this parcel of land or if different uses would even be possible but having this land return to productive use is a key foundational block of future economic development planning.

Thank you for your time.