

OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION

Ring of Fire Mining Development

Date	Details/source
8 Jul 11	<p>".... "The law can be passed by the Province of Ontario, but this does not promise industry free access to our lands," Metatawabin said, noting that NAN will maintain its former statements that uncertainty and unrest are imminent. NAN said its First Nations have not been properly consulted on Bill 191, despite the Ontario's continued attempts to state otherwise. Despite the opposition, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) touted the legislation, saying First Nation approval of land use plans is now required by law, a first in Ontario history. An MNR press release said First Nation communities can now identify and approve the areas in the Far North that require protection as well as those areas suitable for economic development. "With the Far North Act, we have accomplished something ambitious, something exceptional," said Natural Resources Minister Linda Jeffrey. "Together we are entering a new era of social prosperity, economic certainty and environmental protection in the Far North. It is our responsibility as global citizens to make wise land use decisions for this vast and unique part of the province and the world." The government said land use plans are key to developing the Far North, including the region known as the Ring of Fire, which contains one of the world's largest deposits of chromite. The Ontario Prospectors Association on Oct. 2 expressed strong opposition to Bill 191, saying "the OPA believes the present form of the Far North Act will cripple exploration and related economic development in Ontario's Boreal Forest lands, an area recently demonstrated once again to hold vast deposits within the Ring of Fire, chromite (stainless steel) and copper, nickel and platinum group elements (auto pollution controls) discoveries." In his recent annual report, Gord Miller, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, makes it clear that there are serious flaws in how Ontario currently oversees the mining industry. The report's chapter on mining focuses on the new Mining Act and the problems occurring in the area of Northern Ontario that industry has dubbed the Ring of Fire. While recognizing improvements under the new Mining Act, the commissioner said that the environmental concerns of non-governmental organizations and the public are not adequately reflected in the new law (Source: republicofmining.com, 8 Jul 11, http://www.republicofmining.com/2011/07/08/ontario-mining-act-and-far-north-act-upsets-aboriginal-groups%E2%80%A6any-many-others-by-gregory-reynolds/)</p>
7 Jul 11	<p>"KWG Resources Inc. subsidiary Canada Chrome Corporation received formal acknowledgement from the Registrar of Shortline Railways of receipt of its application for a licence to construct and operate a shortline railway under Ontario's Shortline Railways Act, legislation which governs provincial railways in Ontario. "This is one small step in a long journey", said Canada Chrome Vice-President Bruce Hodgman, "but it is a seminal one and we look forward to working with Ontario and its railway regulators on moving forward our proposed Ring of Fire Railroad". (Source: company news release, 7 Jul 11, http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/July2011/07/c3799.html) Ontario's <i>Shortline</i></p>

	<p><i>Railways Act, 1995</i> downloadable (PDF) http://bit.ly/oy5nFh)</p>
	<p>".... Wildlands League will be collaborating with communities and tribal councils in the Far North of Ontario, who live on or near four (4) major rivers over the next two (2) years to advance watershed planning. The four major rivers, the Albany, Winisk, Attawapiskat and the Severn watersheds are four (4) of only 12 left in North America south of 55 degrees that remain undammed and unregulated (although there is a diversion on the Albany River near its headwaters upstream) thus making them ecologically significant. The Ekwan is another river community members have expressed concerns about too. This project will support tribal councils and indigenous communities, who are often most impacted by water quality and water quantity changes, "to develop culturally-appropriate, community-based approaches to watershed stewardship," including "advancing mutually-supported river-system goals." Wildlands League is committing more than 13% of its budget this year to providing support and capacity to advance watershed protection for the maintenance of healthy ecosystems. This means 13% of its budget is going directly to First Nations. This is an important feat. Although there are legal mechanisms in place that say that activities like mineral resource development will be done, "in a manner consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and treaty rights in Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>, including the duty to consult and accommodate and to minimize the impact of these activities on public health and safety and the environment," increasingly, third party interests are being established in First Nation traditional territories without the knowledge of the communities or consideration of environmental protection. Claim staking continues under the old Mining Act free-entry system as the new regulations under the newly-reformed Mining Act will not be available until April 2012. These claims will then be grand-fathered and will not be affected by any community-based land use planning by First Nations under the Far North Act. Exploration continues in places like the Ring of Fire, which is considered by some to hold one of the world's largest chromite deposits in the lowlands of Hudson's Bay. It is expected that the activities in the Ring of Fire will have a direct impact on at least three (3) of the major rivers including the streams, creeks, rivers and tributaries in the Ogoki, Kapiskau and the Ekwan watershed catchment areas. While a coalition of environmental organizations has called on the federal government to set up a joint-review panel to ensure that mining development is monitored closely and that these activities adhere to environmental standards, the silence has been deafening thus far.... " (Source: blog post, 7 Jul 11, http://noopemig.blogspot.com/2011/07/noopemig-water-wet-wild-and-free.html)</p>
	<p>"Noront Resources Ltd. is pleased to report initial metallurgical results for the Eagle's Nest deposit, part of the Company's McFaulds Lake Project in the James Bay Lowlands, Ontario. During the 2010 drill program, a series of holes were drilled into the Eagle's Nest nickel, copper and PGM deposit in order to obtain samples for metallurgical testwork Mr. Paul Semple, P.Eng and Noront's Chief Operating Officer noted "These positive results confirm the metallurgical assumptions made during the NI 43-101 Preliminary Assessment report and the metallurgical characteristics are similar to most other Canadian nickel copper deposits. Further testwork will focus on finalizing equipment sizes and the optimization of grade/recovery relationships based on further discussions with interested</p>

	smelters." " (Source: company news release, 7 Jul 11, http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/356431)
	<p>"Ring of Fire transportation corridors were a hot topic during the Ring of Fire Infrastructure Conference June 22-23 in Thunder Bay. "We had the head of Cliffs Natural Resources, the head of Noront Resources and the head of KWG Resources sitting together talking about their separate visions for the transportation corridor," said Michael Gravelle, minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry. "It was a very positive, amicable session, but they do have some differences. What came out of that was they recognize they have to come together on this as well. Certainly they will be crucial on making that decision." Gravelle indicated there would only be one transportation corridor to the Ring of Fire. "There clearly is an understanding by all three companies despite their different visions that there needs to be one vision for the transportation corridor, so I am optimistic that we will be coming to a decision on that as soon as we can," Gravelle said. He believes the environmental assessment process will likely take about two years. "We heard the companies this morning talk about potentially if all things move forward in a positive way to begin construction of some sort by 2013," Gravelle said. "Again, that is their ambitious timeline." Gravelle said the next job is to make some decisions on the best route for the transportation corridor Michael Fox, president of Fox High Impact Consulting, called for a First Nations position paper from the Ring of Fire communities during his June 23 presentation at the conference. "The best thing I think is to actually have all the communities here affected by the Ring of Fire come up with their own community position paper and share their lands and resource policies or their consultation protocols so we can find that common denominator so we can actually do planning with the communities as required under the Far North Act," Fox said. He also discussed power line right of ways and power development opportunities across the Far North; First Nation community land use planning processes under the Far North Act; and a handful of other topics "We need to roll up our sleeves together, understanding that in order for this project to be successful, that kind of cooperation is absolutely necessary," Gravelle said. "It is becoming more and more clear to me that certainly the First Nation communities want to embrace the mineral development opportunities but they are also very clear about the fact they want to be sure it is done right and that they see benefits to their communities." Gravelle said long-term planning is needed to get the Ring of Fire development right. "Unquestionably, this is just an extraordinarily big opportunity for the next 100 years, for generations to come," Gravelle said. "We need to get it right, that is why we have set up a Ring of Fire coordinator, why we are setting up a Ring of Fire Secretariat, and why we are working so hard with all the partners, the First Nations and the companies, to make sure we move forward together. That is crucially important." Gravelle envisions the Ring of Fire mineral development area evolving on the same regional scale as some of Ontario's other historic mineral deposits in Red Lake, Kirkland Lake, Timmins and Sudbury." (Source: <i>Wawatay News</i>, 7 Jul 11, http://www.wawataynews.ca/archive/all/2011/7/7/ambitious-timeline-ring-fire_21640)</p>
	<p>"Cliffs Natural Resources workers from the Ring of Fire mineral exploration area were still off the job as of June 30 but plans are being made to meet with company representatives. "On June 16, representatives from Cliffs management visited the camp and offered us a package that would effectively make us all seasonal workers on the organizational</p>

	<p>chart, in exchange for EI (Employment Insurance) benefits,” said Ralph Baxter, a Cliffs worker. “This means we will become Cliffs employees with no benefits and we will make a mere \$140 per day for a 14-hour day. This is less than a McDonald’s wage and is a complete insult to us and our families who are working under these extreme conditions.” The group of about two dozen First Nation and non-Native workers walked off the job-site over the June 18-19 weekend as a protest over poor wages, deteriorating working conditions and inadequate health and safety infrastructure, according to a release they issued The workers said health and safety issues were a serious concern due to an absence of infrastructure for helicopters to land at the camp in the evenings in case of accident or illness. “We are literally putting our lives in their hands every time we board a plane to go to work and they will not respond to any requests for support or offer us better pay,” said Jesse Nadon, another Cliffs worker. A Cliffs media spokeswoman said the company would respond to questions on the issue but had not done so by press time The Cliffs workers had asked all First Nation communities and municipalities in northwestern Ontario to support their protest.” (Source: <i>Wawatay News</i>, 7 Jul 11, http://www.wawataynews.ca/archive/all/2011/7/7/cliffs-workers-still-job_21646)</p>
<p>6 Jul 11</p>	<p>".... Debut to JV with KWG to analyze Canada Chrome till samples - KWG agreed to provide access to the valuable geotechnical database covering a 330 kilometer north-south transect through the base-metal-rich and diamond-bearing area from the Ring of Fire to Nakina. The database was created as a result of a mechanized-auger soil sampling program conducted by Golder Associates that collected nearly 6000 soil samples from 811 borings on claims staked by KWG subsidiary Canada Chrome Corporation. Debut will process the glacial till horizons at its cost under a reciprocal joint venture agreement, to recover heavy and indicator minerals. Diamond discoveries following from the analysis of these samples will be the property of Debut while metal discoveries resulting from the work will be the property of KWG. The analysis is expected to be completed in the next number of months at a budget of \$1 million" (Source: company news release, 6 Jul 11, http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/July2011/06/c3663.html)</p>
	<p>"The subject of mining taxes may not be on the minds of Sudburians in these long, hot days of summer. But the president of an organization looking out for 110 municipalities, including Sudbury, says mining taxation hits northern residents right where it hurts -- on their property tax bills. The Federation of Northern Ontario Federation of Municipalities says the Government of Ontario has collected more than \$500 million in Ontario Mining Tax revenue in the last five years, and that money is all leaving the North. Kapuskasing mayor and FONOM president Alan Spacek said this is a "very good time" to ask candidates running in the Oct. 6 provincial election. "It has a real impact on the average homeowner-taxpayer," said Spacek. Ratepayers face higher tax bills to support municipal infrastructure such as roads, which are subject to wear and tear because of mining companies. This is not the first time some northern mayors have asked the province for a percentage of the Ontario Mining Tax. But now the Ontario Mining Association has joined that call. In a news release Tuesday, OMA president Chris Hodgson said his association wants local municipal and First Nations communities to "have a greater share in the benefits of mining through the existing levels of mining tax."" (Source: <i>Sudbury Star</i>, 6 Jul 11, http://www.thesudburystar.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3201642)</p>

	<p>"The final piece of the puzzle fell into place Tuesday when the province announced \$1.5 million to make Lakehead University's faculty of law a reality. Outside Port Arthur Collegiate Institute, the home of Northern Ontario's first law school, MPPs Michael Gravelle (L-Thunder Bay-Superior North) and Bill Mauro (L-Thunder Bay-Atikokan) read a speech together to make the announcement. "We are very pleased to announce today the McGuinty government has approved Lakehead University's proposal to create a new faculty of law and offer a law degree program . . . which will be the first-ever law school in Northern Ontario and the first law school in the province in 42 years," they read to a cheering crowd The program will have a strong focus on aboriginal law, as well as on legal issues related to practising law in rural and remote communities and natural resource management. Nishnawbe Aski Nation Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose said he believes the school will help aboriginal youth get a higher level of education, and that will help Northern communities. "Since the beginning, we have had the support of the nation chiefs to develop a law school curriculum to address the unique needs of First Nations and Northern communities," said Waboose. "We believe a law school that is more accessible to First Nations is an important investment in the future of NAN youth and communities," he said, adding the school will also benefit natural resource developments such as the Ring of Fire" (Source: <i>Chronicle-Journal</i>, 6 Jul 11, http://www.chroniclejournal.com/content/news/local/2011/07/06/school-law-go)</p>
5 Jul 11	<p>"Northern municipalities want an equitable share of the rich mining tax revenue currently collected by the provincial government. The Province has collected over half a billion dollars in Ontario Mining Tax revenue over the past 5 years. Alan Spacek, President of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) stated, "Northern Ontario is a vast storehouse of mineral wealth. In recent years, Northern Ontario has returned record levels of revenue to the provincial government. Northern Ontario is once again a major economic contributor." Tom Laughren, Vice President of FONOM and Mayor of Timmins noted, "Unfortunately for Northern municipalities, much of the wealth generated by mining leaves the region in the form of corporate profits, Federal and Provincial corporate income tax, and resource specific taxes or fees such as the Ontario Mining Tax. This has created significant hardship for all Northerners. We are facing increasing cost pressures related to the provision of vital local services and an additional source of revenue would be of great benefit to our people." One glimmer of hope is in the form of a key recommendation contained in the Ontario Mining Association's (OMA) March, 2011 report Action Plan for Ontario: Taking Advantage of a Critical Window on Opportunity. Chris Hodgson, President of the OMA stated "The OMA would also like to see local municipal and First Nation communities have a greater share in the benefits of mining through the existing levels of mining tax." President Spacek agrees. "We support entering into respectful discussions between municipalities, First Nations and the Provincial Government, culminating in the sharing of Ontario Mining Tax revenues with municipalities and First Nations."" (Source: FONOM news release, 5 Jul 11, http://www.fonom.org/?q=node/207)</p>
5 Jul 11	<p>"Peat Resources Limited has renewed its permits on 19,000 hectares of peatlands in the Upsala area of northwestern Ontario and has received a Letter of Authority from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to carry out surveys and resource evaluations of peatlands in the McFaulds Lake (Ring of Fire) region The McFaulds Lake peatlands are of</p>

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<p>special interest because of their proximity to Ring of Fire mineral exploration activity. Proposals for development of these base metal deposits point to the need for over 50 MW of power at the remote mine sites and up to 300 MW at a ferrochrome processing facility at a location to be determined in northern Ontario. Peat Resources Limited is in discussion with the mining companies, provincial government authorities including the Ring of Fire Secretariat and First Nations of the region. The company is urging consideration of the use of peat fuel to supplement the energy needs of these mining and ore processing developments as well as the introduction of peat-fuelled combined-heat-and-power systems in remote (off-grid) First Nations communities. The company's small-scale peat fuel production operation in Stephenville (Newfoundland) serves as a demonstration facility for these remote applications...."</p> <p>http://www.marketwatch.com/story/peat-resources-in-ontario-2011-07-05?reflink=MW_news_stmp</p>

<p>30 Jun 11</p>	<p>"Anglo Swiss Resources Inc. is pleased to announce that the purchase of the Lansdowne House Ring of Fire Property, located in northwestern Ontario, from INV Metals Inc. is now completed. See news release June 16, 2011. The Company issued 11,950,774 common shares equal to \$1,466,360 to INV Metals Inc. as payment for a 100% interest in the project. INV Metals retained a 1% NSR (net smelter royalty) in the property with the exception of two claims both of which are subject to a 2.5% NSR payable to PGM Ventures (up to 1.5% of the 2.5% NSR may be purchased for \$500,000 per 0.5% NSR). In addition, there is a 1.5% NSR on one of those two claims payable up to a maximum cap of \$2.5 million to INCO. The shares issued to INV Metals are subject to a resale restriction until November 1, 2011. The Lansdowne House Property ("the Property") is located approximately 80 km southwest of Noront Resources Ltd.'s Eagle One Discovery in Northwestern Ontario. It hosts an Ultramafic Complex, which contains a historic resource of 14.6 million tons grading 0.58% copper, 0.37% nickel and 0.03% cobalt plus significant associated Platinum Group Element ("PGE") values. Although the resource is viewed as reliable and relevant based on the information and methods used at the time they do not satisfy the requirements set out by National Instrument 43-101. Neither Anglo Swiss nor its Qualified Persons have done sufficient work to classify the historic estimate as a current mineral resource and are not treating the historic estimate as a current mineral resource. The historic resource should not be relied upon" http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/anglo-swiss-completes-purchase-of-lansdowne-house-124776233.html</p>
	<p>"KWG Resources Inc. is pleased to announce that its subsidiary Canada Chrome Corporation, together with Greenstone Economic Development Corporation, have today filed an application with PPP Canada for consideration of funding support of up to \$496 million for the construction of a railroad to the Ring of Fire mining discoveries in the James Bay Lowlands of Northern Ontario. On May 4, 2011 PPP Canada launched Round Three call for proposals of the P3 Canada Fund, encouraging provinces, territories, First Nations and municipalities to consider the P3 model for their public infrastructure needs. The P3 Canada Fund is a merit-based program designed to generate an increase in P3 public infrastructure. Eligible projects can receive up to 25% of the direct cost of construction for a P3 project. Canada Chrome Corporation has undertaken preliminary engineering and construction cost estimates to build a railroad from a junction with the Trans-Canada line of the Canadian National Railway at Exton, Ontario. The project is presently estimated to cost \$1.984 billion. The co-applicants made the submission for themselves and a joint venture anticipated to be formed with the Municipality of Greenstone and a First Nations Regional Economic Development Corporation to be created by the Matawa and Mushkegowuk First Nations." http://kwgresources.com/news/2011/index.php?&content_id=284</p>
	<p>"Canada Chrome Corp., a subsidiary of KWG Resources of Montreal, and Greenstone Economic Development Corp. have applied to PPP Canada for as much as \$496 million with which to fund building a railway to the Ring of Fire mineral discoveries in the James Bay Lowlands. The co-applicants made the submission for themselves and a joint venture anticipated to be formed with the Municipality of Greenstone and a First Nations Regional Economic</p>

	<p>Development Corp. to be created by the Matawa and Mushkegowuk First Nations. Canada Chrome has undertaken preliminary engineering and construction cost estimates to build a railroad from a junction with the Trans-Canada line of the Canadian National Railway at Exton, ON. The project is presently estimated to cost \$1.984 billion. Mineral exploration in the Ring of Fire may lead to the next generation of chrome, base metals, platinum group and diamond mines. The Big Daddy chromite deposit owned by KWG and Cliffs Natural Resources is one of them. In May 2010 the resources estimate included 23.2 million tonnes that grade 40.66% Cr₂O₃ in the indicated category and 16.3 million tonnes grading 39.09% Cr₂O₃ in the inferred category"</p> <p>http://www.canadianminingjournal.com/news/infrastructure-funding-sought-for-railway-to-ring-of-fire/1000501662/</p>
29 Jun 11	<p>".... Future investment is expected as large chromite deposits are mined in the Ring of Fire area located in the James Bay Lowlands. The Ring of Fire is the only chromite deposit in North America and could be the largest in the world. Cliffs Natural Resources is currently in the planning process of a project to extract the resource. Capreol, Timmins, Thunder Bay, and Greenstone are potential sites for a smelter related to the chromite project, which would create 500 jobs during construction and 500 jobs during operation" (Source: Industry Canada's <i>Ontario Economic Overview: June 2011 Update</i>, full report available (PDF) at http://bit.ly/kCDuNH)</p>
	<p>"James Bay Resources Limited is pleased to announce that an application has been approved by the TSX Venture Exchange to extend the term of the 3,723,925 warrants issued by the Corporation on July 24, 2008. The Warrants were scheduled to expire on July 24, 2011 but will now expire on July 24, 2012. The Warrants were issued as part of the Company's initial public offering that was completed on July 24, 2008. For further information on the original issuance of the Warrants, please refer to the press release of the Company dated July 31, 2008 filed on SEDAR James Bay is a well-financed Canadian mineral exploration company with 21,872 hectares of 108 royalty-free, 100-percent owned claims in the McFauld's Lake area of the James Bay Lowlands. The Property is located west-southwest of the "Eagle One" Ni-Cu-PGE discovery made by Noront along the "Ring of Fire", an emerging and potentially world-class base metal camp" http://www.marketwatch.com/story/james-bay-resources-extends-the-expiry-date-of-certain-outstanding-common-share-purchase-warrants-for-one-year-2011-06-29?reflink=MW_news_stmp</p>
	<p>".... Lakehead University business dean Bahram Dadgostar said there are plenty of countries, including China and India, that are looking to Ontario for its resources, but without the labour pool or proper resources to get it from point A to point B, they'll go elsewhere. That goes ditto for companies looking to invest from within the North American market, especially in places like the Ring of Fire and other mining opportunities. We don't have a connection to the North, we don't have those things," Dadgostar said. "We have to look at what infrastructure is required to attract industry. People around the world are looking for opportunities, but they go where (they can make the most money)." In other words, companies won't build railways and roads, he said" http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/152585/Economic-warning</p>
28 Jun 11	<p>".... Cliffs' Chromite project represents the start of Ferroalloys, a new business for Cliffs - Upon completion, Cliffs will be the only North American chromite mining and processing operation Ferrochrome Production Facility: Site location</p>

	<p>studies on-going anticipated need for 1-2 km site (brownfield preferred) - Power cost and grid stability are key drivers for selection - Canada relies on hydroelectric power which offers clean electric energy with long-term price stability - Power constraints elsewhere are driving up cost curve Feasibility study will be completed in 2012, leaving the environmental assessment (EA) and permitting process as the determinants of start-up timing - Investigations of environmental baseline conditions underway - Submitted a "Project Description" in May – First step in EA process - Permits needed for construction and operation may be issued by governmental agencies only after the EA is successfully completed Cliffs chromite mine will be world class, positioned in a AAA country and with very low mining costs - Cliffs is working to develop an efficient transportation network and build a state-of-the-art furnace operation to supply world markets with both chromite ore and ferrochrome - Ferrochrome processing is critical to access North American and European markets that don't have processing capacity - Significant value and access to growth markets will be generated from the chromite ore delivered to Asian customers - With a very large potential resource, Cliffs has the ability to expand its position in the market through time" (Source: <i>Cliffs 2011 Analyst and Investor Day Presentation</i>; full report at http://ir.cliffsnaturalresources.com/secfiling.cfm?filingid=1193125-11-175231, Ring of Fire development section (PDF) at http://bit.ly/kH0bv5)</p>
	<p>"Noront Resources Ltd. is pleased to report final assay results from the 2010 /11 winter exploration program at the Company's McFaulds Lake Project in the James Bay lowlands, Ontario Noront's President and CEO, Wes Hanson, states: "The exciting discovery of pervasive nickel mineralization and establishing the geometry of the AT-12 ultramafic dike are very significant events. Preliminary estimates suggest that AT-12 averages 0.30 to 0.35% nickel, comparable to many nickel projects currently being evaluated for economic exploitation. The Company believes AT-12 may be amenable to bulk mining methods, which would significantly increase the life of our Eagle's Nest advanced development project and could potentially increase that projects throughput rate. Establishing the geometry of the AT-12 ultramafic dike, specifically the plunge, will assist in our efforts to identify higher grade nickel-copper sulphide mineralization at the lower contact of the dike where irregularities allow pooling of the nickel-copper sulphide mineralization as observed in the cluster of drill holes at the north-northeastern limit of the dike where it intersects surface." The Company completed 16 holes (8,006 metres) during the winter field season The majority of the drill holes identified pervasive nickel mineralization within the ultramafic dike hosting the AT-12 mineralization The Company is planning a follow up exploration program during the upcoming winter season. The Company plans to collect composite samples of the AT-12 nickel mineralization for metallurgical testing Two holes tested the flanks of the Thunderbird iron-titanium-vanadium discovery. Both holes intersected iron-titanium-vanadium mineralization as planned but vanadium grades were lower than the initial drilling while titanium grades were significantly higher. Thunderbird remains a compelling target given market interest in vanadium. The Company is considering additional field work at Thunderbird The Eagle's Nest Feasibility Study is in progress with a planned completion date of Q1, 2012. The Company is evaluating options to reduce the capital and operating costs presented in the Preliminary Assessment dated October 2010. Results</p>

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<p>of the metallurgical testing from Eagle's Nest are anticipated in the coming weeks. Field crews are currently mapping, sampling and completing fish and bird studies along the proposed road corridor from Pickle Lake to Eagle's Nest. As part of the Company's consultation process, a number of meetings and open houses are planned during the summer. The objective of these meetings is to present Noront's proposed development plan in the Ring of Fire to the First Nation communities. The company continues to meet with government and other industry representatives to coordinate efforts on infrastructure development to the Ring of Fire Drilling at Blackbird resumed in May with two drills focused on expanding the Blackbird chromite resource along strike and down dip. Ten to twelve thousand metres of drilling is planned over the summer field season. The Company's objective is to double the total chromite resource in advance of a Pre-Feasibility Study slated for completion in H1, 2012 On June 17, 2011, the Company staked six mineral claims comprising 32 units on open ground that lies directly to the north of Noront claims 4226694 and 4226662 (and directly south of Fancamp Exploration Limited's claims 3012257 and 3012258). These two 16-unit claims were formerly claims 4221148 and 4221149 of MacDonald Mines Exploration Ltd. Another exploration company active in the Ring of Fire has announced that they have staked these claims. The Company has filed notice with the Mining Records Office contesting the validity of the staking by the other company. Noront also staked another 16-unit mineral claim, further to east. This claim lies directly to the north of Noront's claim 4226616 and lies on the west shore of McFaulds Lake, and was formerly claim 4212366 of MacDonald Mines Exploration Ltd " http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/348587</p>
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<p>24 Jun 11</p>	<p>Ontario Ring of Fire co-ordinator, Christine Kaszycki, said companies will have to work together to deal with transport issues linked to the Ring of Fire. CBC Radio reported no consensus was reached regarding how to access the Ring of Fire during a two-day conference in Thunder Bay. (CBQ-FM Thunder Bay)</p>
	<p>Ontario Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, Michael Gravelle, is quoted saying, “The decision on the location (of processing facilities) is ultimately production-driven, and will be made by the (mining) companies based on factors including sustainability, cost and profitability We expect the decisions we make on transportation, infrastructure and other considerations will support those production and community decisions.” (<i>Chronicle-Journal</i>, clipping available at http://scr.bi/ksvlzA)</p>
	<p>"The Matawa First Nation communities have been offered up to \$9.6 million over three years to develop core capacity to participate in the Ring of Fire initiative. “The funding was intended to support whatever specific community needs were identified,” said Christine Kaszycki, Ontario’s Ring of Fire coordinator. “There are a range of things that are available and the communities have the opportunity to submit a funding request and through that identify the approach that they would be taking as part of their proposal.” The Ring of Fire has been a hotbed of mineral exploration activity in recent years, home to a potentially large deposit of chromite, a mineral used to make stainless steel. The area is located in the James Bay lowlands near the traditional territories of Webequie and Marten Falls. The five remote fly-in communities of Eabametoong, Marten Falls, Neskantaga, Nibinamik and Webequie have been offered \$1.5 million over three years, the three communities along Hwy. 11, Constance Lake, Ginoogaming and Long Lake #58, have been offered \$450,000 over three years and Aroland has been offered \$750,000 over three years. “It’s a scaled approach in terms of the amount of funding available, reflecting the higher costs of travel in the remote communities and also reflecting the potential degree of impact of the (Ring of Fire mineral development) proposals that are on the table right now” Kaszycki said. She said costs for technical support, negotiations and travel to meetings will be supported. In addition costs to foster meetings among the communities to build their own relationships and strategies, and to support internal community processes are among the needs that would be covered by the funding. The support would come from provincial, federal and industry funds A Lakehead University professor has suggested a Ring of Fire endowment fund for future generations in northern Ontario. “Natural resources in a sense are like a gift – it’s like winning a lottery,” said Livio Di Matteo, a professor of economics at Lakehead University. “When you win a lottery, it’s great to spend some of it and have a good time. But at the same time if you want to prepare for tomorrow, it’s also a good idea to save a large portion of it and then only spend the income.” Di Matteo said Ontario’s forest and mining sectors provided about 20 to 25 per cent of the provincial government’s revenues from 1870 to 1920. “If at that time some of that money had been set aside in an endowment, today with the forest sector undergoing a downturn there would probably be resources available for further diversification (and) other infrastructure development,” he said. Di Matteo said Norway has invested about 90 per cent of its royalties and tax revenues from its oil resources into a sovereign wealth fund. “It doesn’t distort</p>

	<p>their own economy, which is actually already doing quite well,” Di Matteo said. “The income from that fund will provide a stream of benefits for spending on health and education and infrastructure for decades down the road once the resource runs out.” "</p> <p>http://www.wawataynews.ca/archive/all/2011/6/24/matawa-communities-offered-96-million_21589</p>
	<p>Lakehead University economist: ".... Development of the Ring of Fire will require transportation infrastructure and the Ring of Fire Conference held in Thunder Bay yesterday discussed proposals for transportation infrastructure. Of course, the proposals have a familiar ring – building new all-weather roads as well as building a new rail line. These are expensive pieces of transportation infrastructure and will provide access to the Ring of Fire and immediately adjacent areas. There are many First Nations living in Ontario’s Far North who rely on winter roads for bringing in supplies and these ice roads have become increasingly fragile with the shorter winters brought about by climate change. A railroad or road to the Ring of Fire would not necessarily meet the needs of all remote First Nations. One solution that would be cost-effective in meeting the needs of First Nations as well as providing a means to transport heavy equipment and supplies for mining companies lies in an old technology that is receiving some updates – Lighter Than Air Vehicles, also known as airships Is this approach feasible? After all, there have been similar claims in the past about new airship technology and airships have yet to stage a major comeback. However, their utility in accessing remote regions is indisputable and maybe its time to look into their potential more deeply. Think of the money that would be saved by not having to build major road or rail lines in areas with muskeg or permafrost. Think also of the potential for manufacturing jobs in Thunder Bay to build and maintain airships as well as the transport jobs from locating an airship hub near rail and port facilities. This is something that should at least be investigated given the potential benefits to the region’s economy."</p> <p>http://netnewsledger.com/?p=7958</p>
23 Jun 11	<p>Ontario Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, Michael Gravelle, told a Ring of Fire transportation conference that other governments, not just Ontario, will have to contribute to developing any transportation infrastructure into the Ring of Fire area. (CBQ-FM Thunder Bay)</p>
	<p>Noront presentation highlights: Out of total 2012 budget of \$17.6 million for , approximately 6% (\$1,056,000) is earmarked for “First Nations Consultation” - estimates “site start up commissioning” for 2016 - aims to work with First Nations to “Work cooperatively with the local First Nation communities to develop a regional land use plan that benefits all stakeholders and recognizes the environmental sensitivity of the James Bay Lowlands” – estimated transport infrastructure costs: Pickle Lake to Webequie, 200 kms, \$180 M, Webequie to site, 95 kms, \$15M - (Noront Corporate Presentation dated 23 Jul 11, downloadable (13.4MB PDF) at http://ringoffirenews.files.wordpress.com/2011/07/copy-of-154.pdf)</p>
	<p>"Competition among municipalities might be a good thing when it comes to attracting a ferrochrome processing plant to the region, says the province’s mining minister. Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry Michael</p>

	<p>Gravelle, speaking on the second day of a Ring of Fire infrastructure conference at the Valhalla Inn Thursday, said he ran into some trouble earlier this year when discussing a possible location for the smelter. "If I was specifying that it should be in one community I would be certainly in a position where it would be difficult for me to maintain the kind of credibility I need to continue our work with Cliff's (Natural Resources) and with the other companies," the minister said Thursday. Thunder Bay's mining exploration manager John Mason said he welcomes the competition from Sudbury, Greenstone and Timmins. "Competition's a key thing. It brings out the best in everybody," Mason said. While only on the job for two weeks, Mason said even though Cliff's has outlined Sudbury as a base case location, Thunder Bay offers a port and rail access. The fact that Thunder Bay was used as Cliff's first office in the region and conferences for the Ring of Fire continue to take place in the city shows that it's in the running. "Thunder Bay is not a mining town but it's a regional service centre, a regional mining service centre and that's the vision for the community," Mason said. Greenstone Coun. Jay Daiter said even though his municipality is fighting hard for the facility, it's important that Northwestern Ontario focus on the regional benefits that the Ring of Fire development can bring. "There's an interesting sort of a shift around the ability to recognize what's good for the region," said Daiter"</p> <p>http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/151907/Still-in-the-running</p>
	<p>"Having a northern focus for government ministries is something that Northern Ontario has needed for a long time," says Celia Ross, NDP candidate in the upcoming provincial election. "But the region is broader than Thunder Bay and Sudbury." After attending this week's summit on implementation of the McGuinty government's Northern Growth Plan, Ross fears that Sault Ste. Marie and much of the rural region of the north is not getting on the provincial government's agenda. "Communities need to be at the heart of this process," says Ross. "Northerners need economic planning and development which will support healthy people and healthy communities. But the provincial government seems more interested in generating revenues through exploitation of our resources, such as in the Ring of Fire, than in strengthening our regional capacities". Ross conveyed her concern to the minister of northern development, mines and forestry, Michael Gravelle, in Sudbury on Thursday" http://local2.ca/ssm/viewarticle.php?id=1568 http://www.sootoday.com/content/news/full_story.asp?StoryNumber=52736</p>
	<p>".... The Ring of Fire infrastructure conference has brought "a wide range of different parties together," said Christine Kaszycki, the province's Ring of Fire co-ordinator and assistant deputy Northern Development, Mines and Forestry minister. "First Nations, municipalities, provincial and federal government agencies, and environmental groups as well, to really begin doing some collective thinking, particularly the infrastructure requirements in the far north," are in the city for the conference, she said. Kaszycki said the goal is to get a grip on the key considerations for the project, identify common ground and start thinking about short-, medium- and long-term goals It's early in discussions, but Kaszycki said the most active companies in the Ring of Fire development have different proposals for transportation infrastructure "The companies will be talking about their proposals (today) and looking to see if there are some collaborative approaches." Meanwhile, mining camp workers employed by Cliffs and who walked off the job late last week held a</p>

	<p>quiet demonstration outside the hotel. Representative Harry Baxter Sr. said they were there to show conference delegates, companies and the public that all is not well in the Ring of Fire. Baxter said the workers “have no benefits, no safety standards, no insurance.” He said more than two dozen camp workers walked off the job, protesting what Baxter said were unsafe conditions and a pay cut to \$140 a day. Baxter said the pay is inadequate for those who live in the remote North where expenses are much higher than elsewhere. They are taking their concerns to a First Nations chiefs meeting at the Valhalla Inn on Friday, he said. Cliffs spokesmen have said the camp manager resigned amid the walkout and will be replaced. The other workers, they said, are welcome to return to their jobs. They also said the company would meet with the workers to discuss their concerns.”</p> <p>http://www.chroniclejournal.com/content/news/local/2011/06/23/ring-fire-session-jam-packed</p>
22 Jun 11	<p>"While companies might be willing to invest in roads and railways to the Ring of Fire, an official with Cliff's Natural Resources says it will ultimately be provincial infrastructure. The province is holding a two-day conference on infrastructure requirements for the proposed mining development. Ring of Fire co-ordinator for the province Christine Kaszycki said it's the first time for industry, First Nations, government and environmental groups to get together to figure out what's needed and when. "At this point what we're hoping to derive is an understanding of what the key considerations are as they begin to plan," Kaszycki said Wednesday afternoon in a leaky, crowded ballroom at the Valhalla Inn. "We've got a lot of folks here who have a lot of different perspectives and experiences so that should help us in that regard." Transportation infrastructure is one key item on the table More than a dozen Cliff's workers were protesting in the rain outside of the conference Wednesday. Boor said he's hoping for a quick resolution to the dispute that saw workers walk off the job last week. The company is starting to have talks with every worker individually to listen to concerns. Boor said a lot of information the workers have is incorrect and admits the company should have spoken with workers earlier. "We hadn't had enough of a dialogue going before," said (Cliff's senior vice-president of global ferroalloys Bill) Boor."</p> <p>http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/151735/Making-a-plan</p>
21 Jun 11	<p>Cliffs' senior VP of ferroalloys, Bill Boor, quoted saying he is contacting workers who left the work site to “discuss their problems directly with them.” Boor is also quoted saying “Their concern is that they're going to now get taxed, and therefore their take-home pay will be reduced. We're going to pay competitive wages, and in fact in this issue, we're going to make sure people's take-home pay does not go down. If that means we have to pay more because somebody who was a registered contractor, for example, is now subject to taxes, we're going to take that on.” (<i>Chronicle-Journal</i>, clipping available at http://scr.bi/j8e87c)</p>
	<p>"KWG Resources Inc. advises that its subsidiary Canada Chrome Corporation has acquired by staking, two 16-unit mineral claims adjoining to the south of the Fancamp Exploration Ltd claims 3012257 and 3012258. The north-eastern corner of the eastern-most claim is within Koper Lake. As such, the new claim encompasses that portion of the western shore of Koper Lake that has been the logistics hub for activities in the area. The claims are outside of the areas of</p>

	<p>interest provided for in KWG's agreements with Spider Resources Inc., and UC Resources Limited. The companies are also pleased to announce the appointment of Bruce Hodgman as a Vice-President of Canada Chrome Corporation." http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2011/21/c8065.html</p>
<p>20 Jun 11</p>	<p>"Over two dozen First Nation and non-native workers employed by Cliffs Natural Resources have walked off their job-site in the Ring of Fire Mining Camp this weekend. Protesting poor wages, deteriorating working conditions and inadequate health & safety infrastructure, workers at the camp are taking an indefinite stand against the Cleveland-based mining giant, Cliffs Natural Resources. Workers describe an average week's work in the Cliffs Mining Camp as moving out bulk samples of Chromite, weighing up to 200 tons or 400,000 pounds. This labour intensive work is carried out by hand and manpower exclusively and involves manually loading rocks into 15 gallon pails and onto airplanes. "On Thursday June 16th, representatives from Cliffs' management visited the Camp and offered us a package that would effectively make us all 'SEASONAL' workers on the organizational chart, in exchange for EI benefits" says Ralph Baxter "This means we will become Cliffs employees with no benefits and we will make a mere \$140 per day for a 14 hours day. This is less than a McDonald's wage and is a complete insult to us and our families who are working under these extreme conditions," he continued. Workers from the Cliffs Mining Camp describe the working conditions as both physically and mentally intensive. The Camp is completely isolated from civilization in the remote wilderness of Northern Ontario. Workers agree to leave their families and live in isolation, often experiencing extreme weather conditions, for up to 4 weeks at a time Cliffs' workers are also citing health & safety issues as a serious concern as there is currently no infrastructure for helicopters to land at the Camp in the evenings in case of accident or illness Following the resignation of the frustrated Camp Manager last week, First Nation and non-native workers decided to show their support by also leaving the work site. Cliffs' workers are now asking all First Nation communities and Municipalities in Northwestern Ontario to support their protest and to hold Cliffs Natural Resources accountable to being a fair and equitable employer in Canada. In addition, they are looking for support to prevent Cliffs from importing outside workers during the dispute"</p> <p>http://netnewsledger.com/?p=7878</p>
	<p>"About two dozen non-unionized workers have walked off the job in a remote mining camp in northern Ontario — in an area known as the Ring of Fire — in protest of what they call unsafe conditions and unsatisfactory compensation. The workers put out a statement late Sunday saying they had stopped working over the weekend. They are independent contractors who were in the process of becoming staff of the U.S. company mining for chromite there, Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. However, the group has balked at what is says is an offer of \$140 a day to work 14 hours daily, while being away from home and working 28 days straight with two-week breaks in-between. Ralph Baxter, who said he is representing workers in the camp about 500 kilometres north of Thunder Bay, Ont., also expressed frustration with regard to conditions that include a lack of landing lights for helicopters, should one be needed at night to transport a worker seriously injured in the remote location. The company had no comment on the situation when contacted</p>

	Monday morning.” http://www.canada.com/news/national/Ontario+mINE+workers+walk/4975204/story.html
	“KWG Resources Inc. is pleased to announce that M. J. (Moe) Lavigne, KWG's Vice-President of Exploration & Development has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Greenstone Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Lavigne is a resident of Thunder Bay and is also a Vice-President of KWG's subsidiary Canada Chrome Corporation, which is examining the feasibility of constructing a railroad from Exton, Ontario to the mineral discoveries 340 kilometers north in the Ring of Fire area of the James Bay Lowlands” http://www.stockhouse.com/News/USReleasesDetail.aspx?n=8212213
19 Jun 11	"Protesting poor wages, deteriorating work conditions and inadequate health and safety infrastructure, more than two dozen Cliffs Natural Resources workers have walked off the job in the Ring of Fire. In a release issued late Sunday night by Firedog Communications, the workers says they are taking an "indefinite stand against the Cleveland-based mining giant." "On Thursday, June 16th, representatives from Cliffs' management visited the Camp and offered us a package that would effectively make us all seasonal workers on the organizational chart, in exchange for EI benefits" said Ralph Baxter "This means we will become Cliffs employees with no benefits and we will make a mere \$140 per day for a 14 hours day. This is less than a McDonald's wage and is a complete insult to us and our families who are working under these extreme conditions." Workers, who describe camp conditions as both physically and mentally intensive, are away from their families and homes for up to four weeks at a time. Baxter said while they're not expecting luxurious surroundings, they want fair wages. "We understand that the conditions in mining camps will be basic but there is a common industry expectation that workers are compensated and paid accordingly based on the employment conditions. This is not the case here. Cliffs offers no isolation pay, inadequate travel pay, no employment benefits and offers poor bonus incentives. We are without question the poorest paid workers in the mining industry."" http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/151145/Ring-of-Fire-workers-walk-off-job
17 Jun 11	".... (Ontario Minister of Northern Development and Mines Michael) Gravelle told reporters that a Ring of Fire infrastructure conference will be held in Thunder Bay next week to discuss how to build transportation links to area, which includes a massive chromite deposit that Cliffs Natural Resources, among other companies, plans to develop. "Right now, we have two or three different visions on how we should be developing it," he said. "We want to see if we can come to some agreement on how this should be done. It's a priority on the part of the government. This is a tremendous opportunity for generations to come ... for all northerners." Two of those visions are a road and a railway line. KWG Resources, a junior mining company that owns close to 30% of one of the chromite deposits and controls the best land route into the region, has a public-private-partnership rail proposal in the works. The railway would cost an estimated \$2 billion and need about two years for environmental studies. Another three years would be needed for construction. KWG Resources has already spent about \$15 million on engineering and environmental studies. Part of the proposal suggests that aboriginal communities would eventually own and operate the railroad. A railway to the site

	<p>would be about 350 kilometres, start at Exton in northwestern Ontario, and head north to the Ring of Fire area" http://www.thesudburystar.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3175462</p>
<p>16 Jun 11</p>	<p>"Anglo Swiss Resources Inc. is pleased to announce the purchase of a 100% interest in the Lansdowne House Property from INV Metals Inc. for common shares of Anglo Swiss equal to \$1,466,360. The number of common shares to be issued will be determined by the volume weighted average price of the common shares over a five-day trading period ending on the date that is two business days prior to the closing of the transaction. The purchase is subject to TSX-V approval and is expected to close on or about June 30, 2011. The Lansdowne House Property is located approximately 80 km southwest of Noront Resources Ltd.'s Eagle One Discovery, in Northwestern Ontario. The Lansdowne House Property hosts an Ultramafic Complex, which contains a historic resource of 14.6 million tons grading 0.58% copper, 0.37% nickel and 0.03% cobalt plus significant associated Platinum Group Element ("PGE") values. This historic resource estimate was not compiled within the definitions and standards outlined in National Instrument 43-101, and the Company cautions that this resource estimate cannot be relied upon. Dave Constable, CEO of Anglo Swiss stated that, "The Lansdowne House Property has a historic copper-nickel-cobalt-PGE resource and a modern airborne survey has defined strong untested conductors at the base of the Ultramafic Complex. The Lansdowne House Property also contains four surface gold showings along a seven kilometre-long regional shear and has potential for chromite, base metal and vanadium-titanium mineralization. Together with our expanded Kenville Property in the Nelson, B.C. area, Anglo Swiss is building a diverse exploration asset portfolio." The Lansdowne House Property ("the Property") consists of a single block of 66 contiguous unpatented mining claims accessible by winter roads, and float planes or helicopters. The area was first explored in the early 1900's and had steady exploration since the 1930's. Several generations of airborne geophysics were completed over the region. A total of 107 drill holes were drilled on the property; including 47 (5,389 meters) by INCO from 1970-74. The historic resources occur in seven gabbro-hosted lenses in the upper levels of the Ultramafic Complex and include higher-grade intersections, such as 0.94% copper and 0.78% nickel over 16.8 meters. Broad zones of anomalous PGE values were also encountered, including 1.13 g/t platinum over 24 meters and 0.31 g/t platinum over 229.8 meters. FNX Mining Company Inc. ("FNX") acquired the Property through their 2005 purchase of Aurora Platinum Corp. Subsequently FNX flew an airborne electromagnetic and magnetic survey over the Property, which detected strong untested conductors at the base of the Ultramafic Complex. The higher-grade copper-nickel-PGE deposits frequently are found at the base of ultramafic complexes, where the sulphide minerals settled and accumulated during cooling of the ultramafic sequence. Drilling of these basal conductors will be a priority for Anglo Swiss. In addition to its copper-nickel-cobalt-PGE potential, the Property contains four surface gold showings along an east-southeast trending regional shear structure. The gold showings contained surface grab samples grading up to 23.8 g/t gold. The surface gold showings have never been drill tested. The Lansdowne House Property also has the potential to host chromite, VMS base metal and vanadium-titanium mineralization" http://www.dailymarkets.com/stock/2011/06/16/anglo-swiss-buys-ring-of-fire-property/</p>

	<p>"Rencore Resources Ltd. is pleased to announce that a National Instrument (NI) 43-101 Technical Report has been completed for its Ring of Fire Claims located in the western portion of the Ring of Fire Area, west of Webequie, Ontario. The report was completed by John C. Archibald, B.Sc. (Hons.) Geol., P.Ge. ("Archibald") of Toronto, Ontario Archibald recommends an exploration program totalling CAD\$2.7 Million. The program includes an estimated 2500 metres of 'NQ' drilling to test the sixteen airborne anomalies that were found in the Ring of Fire Claims. The costs for doing this will be dependent on the ground conditions, the weather and the speed that the drilling progresses. These costs also include the expenses of carrying out regular meetings and correspondence with the area's First Nations Peoples (two groups for this area) and the negotiation and fulfilment of the terms of memoranda of understanding and exploration agreements with these First Nations"</p> <p>http://cnrp.marketwire.com/client/ecosbolsa/release.jsp?actionFor=1459715</p>
14 Jun 11	<p>"Mining companies and Aboriginal leaders are coming together in Thunder Bay this week. A two-day Ontario Mining Forum is discussing the latest developments from across the province. Co-chair Michael Fox said it's important for share-holders and First Nations communities to be informed about mining activity in Northern Ontario. He said the mining sector in the North continues to evolve, but in order for growth, planning is key. Fox added that a hot topic during the forum is the Ring of Fire mining development and its ferrochrome processing plant. He said the people pushing these major projects need to identify how First Nation communities will be affected. Fox said the two-day forum will help educate and inform people working in the mining sector."</p> <p>http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/Default.aspx?cid=150492</p>
13 Jun 11	<p>Lakehead University economist: ".... A regional government for the Northwest can begin its work by planning and implementing transportation infrastructure to access the Far North and the Ring of Fire, design a regional energy grid and more competitive electricity prices, stop treating Crown Lands as a scarce resource and opening more up to cottage development, and help invest in water treatment plants, schools and training facilities, and medical facilities in First Nation communities. Functions to be devolved onto a northern regional government may include economic development, environment and energy, municipal affairs, natural resources, social services, transportation, culture and tourism " http://netnewsledger.com/?p=7799</p>
	<p>"The Community Economic Development Commission announced Monday the addition of John Mason as project manager for mining exploration. Mason said during an afternoon news conference that he's excited about the growth potential and job creation opportunities that lie ahead. "The activity is monumental right now, both exploration activity and mining activity," Mason said. "Those are really the two related disciplines that will be my target audience. Those companies bring tremendous wealth and economic development in general to Northwestern Ontario." The Community Economic Development Commission's CEO, Steve Demmings, said Mason's mining expertise adds dramatic strength to the CEDC as a whole. "We're in a position where everything in the ground, or on top of the ground, is in demand by India and China," he said. "They are the developing countries, they have 33 per cent of the world's population and</p>

	<p>things like chromium, silver, iron and ore are all very important to developing economies.” ” http://www.tbnewswatch.com/news/Default.aspx?cid=150338</p>
10 Jun 11	<p>"The Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC) is pleased to announce the appointment of John Mason as Project Manager, Mining Services. The appointment follows an extensive search. John Mason has 36 years of service with the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry and has published numerous geological reports. He is well known for his in-depth knowledge and skills in the Ontario and Canadian exploration and mining sector and for his exceptional ability to market Ontario's vast mineral potential. Mr. Mason is a Registered Professional Geoscientist with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Geology degree from Lakehead University. He will assume his official duties at the Thunder Bay CEDC on Monday, June 13, 2011" http://netnewsledger.com/?p=7752 General statement of job duties (City of Thunder Bay memo, 9 Sept 10): http://bit.ly/iBpfmR</p>
	<p>".... The race to develop the ring is already furiously underway. International mining companies have staked more than 9,000 claims covering 480,000 hectares. All-weather roads, bridges and a railway line are being planned to transport the precious ore south. A coalition of environmental groups is calling on Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government to create a federal joint review panel — a body of experts that would closely monitor the mining — to ensure development adheres to environmental standards In the year since Premier Dalton McGuinty made the Ring the touchstone of his throne speech, the Liberals have established a co-ordinator, Christine Kaszycki, to guide the players — prospectors, international mining firms, federal and provincial governments, northern mayors and First Nations — competing in an area of Ontario that now feels like the Wild West. Everybody wants a piece of the Ring. It's now up to the federal and provincial governments to rule on the development proposals Anna Baggio, director of conservation land use planning for the Wildlands League, a chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. The League is part of a coalition asking federal Environment Minister Peter Kent to strike a joint review panel, coordinated with Ontario, to oversee the chromite development rush. "This is a huge endeavour and we have no experience in chromite mining in Canada," says Baggio. "It will involve permanent changes to the Far North's sensitive ecosystems and to local communities. "The risks are enormous — ecosystems, the Attawapiskat and Albany watersheds, pollution. There needs to be some full accounting here." Railway bridges would have to be built to cross both the Albany and the Attawapiskat rivers. "Let's have one access, not two, three or four," she argues" http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/article/1006854--rafting-down-the-albany-river-to-the-ring-of-fire?bn=1</p>
	<p>"KWG Resources Inc. has received the final report from Xstrata Process Support on its Big Daddy chromite metallurgical testing. The report confirms that the samples collected from four bore holes of the Big Daddy chromite deposit are amenable to refining at relatively modest energy consumption resulting in high yields of refined ferro-chrome product. The report observes: "The results indicate a material that is highly reducible considering its high chromium content and which, during smelting, produces a high grade alloy at high chromium recovery, providing essential operating parameters are satisfied Under conditions such as those summarised above, the Big Daddy ore can be</p>

	<p>expected to return chromium recoveries of 92-93% into a high carbon ferrochrome alloy grading around 58-60% Cr, with 6-8% C, 1% Si and the balance iron. Smelting power requirements, while subject to issues such as operating conditions, furnace configuration and size and selection of process technology, are relatively modest considering the grade of alloy produced. Estimates in the range of 3.5 -3.8 MWh per ton of alloy produced result from the various models tested. The metallurgical test work performed indicates that the Big Daddy chromite ore is highly suitable for the manufacture of high carbon ferrochromium or for use as a sweetener ore to blend with lower Cr: Fe chromite ores to manufacture charge chrome. The likely grade of alloy produced from this ore is 58-60% Cr. High Cr recoveries are obtained when smelting at normal FeCr furnace operating temperatures using burned lime as flux and suitable solid reductant. The reducibility of the ore is relatively high by comparison with previously tested ores of similar Cr: Fe ratio. No issues were identified which would give cause for concern about the suitability of this ore as a high quality metallurgical feedstock for the manufacture of ferrochrome alloys. The ore can be marketed to prospective customers as being suitable for direct smelting in existing ferrochrome furnaces without any further beneficiation.""</p> <p>http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2011/10/c4746.html</p>
9 Jun 11	<p>"KWG Resources Inc. announces that earlier today, it acquired 7,000,000 common shares and 7,000,000 warrants (each warrant entitling the holder to purchase one common share for \$0.10 on or before June 9, 2013) in GoldTrain Resources Inc. Following the acquisition, the Offeror's holdings represent approximately 16.88% of the issued and outstanding common shares of the Issuer and approximately 35.5% of the outstanding warrants. The shares and warrants were acquired under the exemptions set out in Sections 2.14 and 3.14 of National Instrument 45-106 - Prospectus and Registration Exemptions. The Offeror's direct and indirect holdings in the Issuer as described above were acquired for investment purposes without any current intention to increase or decrease such holdings. The Offeror takes a long-term view of the investment and reserves the right to formulate other plans and take such actions with respect to the investment in the Issuer as may be determined from time to time"</p> <p>http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2011/09/c4609.html</p>
7 Jun 11	<p>"Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. today announced that it has priced its recently announced offering of common shares. The Company has agreed to sell 9,000,000 common shares at \$85.63 per common share through an underwritten offering. In connection with the offering, the underwriters have been granted an over-allotment option to purchase an additional 1,350,000 common shares. Cliffs intends to use the net proceeds from the offering to repay borrowings under the Company's previously announced bridge credit facility that was used to fund a portion of the Company's recent acquisition of Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited. Any remaining net proceeds will be used for general corporate purposes" http://ir.cliffsnaturalresources.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=583372</p>
6 Jun 11	<p>"Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. today announced that it is offering to sell, subject to market and other conditions, 9,000,000 common shares through an underwritten offering. In connection with the offering, the underwriters have been granted an over-allotment option to purchase an additional 1,350,000 common shares. Cliffs intends to use the net</p>

	<p>proceeds from the offering to repay borrowings under the Company's previously announced bridge credit facility that was used to fund a portion of the Company's recent acquisition of Consolidated Thompson Iron Mines Limited. Any remaining net proceeds will be used for general corporate purposes"</p> <p>http://ir.cliffsnaturalresources.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=583017</p>
	<p>".... The Ring of Fire is a massive area approximately 500 kilometres northeast of Thunder Bay that's widely believed to contain mammoth deposits of chromium, nickel, copper, platinum, and palladium. According to some estimates, the Ring of Fire contains enough chromite, a mineral not previously found in North America that's used to make stainless steel, to supply world markets for the next 100 years. Some predict Thunder Bay will boom like Sudbury, Ont., did following the discovery of nickel. The economic benefits of the Ring of Fire are tantalizing, but in order to access them, the parties involved will need to accommodate the constitutionally protected rights of Métis and First Nations peoples. The Ring of Fire itself is located on the traditional territories of a number of First Nations, and the access route needed will cut through them. Both mining industry representatives and aboriginal stakeholders, not to mention provincial and federal government decision-makers, will need legal advice and guidance on their respective rights. They include treaty and constitutional rights, land claims, and the law as it relates to mineral and resource development, all of which are precisely the topics Lakehead's faculty of law will focus on. This guidance can't come too soon. The lack of development of the Ring of Fire so far has been attributed, at least in part, to blockades set up by First Nations"</p> <p>http://www.lawtimesnews.com/201106068484/Commentary/Speaker-s-Corner-Ontario-needs-a-northern-law-school</p>
	<p>"MacDonald Mines Exploration Ltd. is pleased to announce the presence of a volcanogenic massive sulphide mineralization (VMS) target on the Butler 3 Zone within its Butler Lake Property in the James Bay Lowlands of Northern Ontario. The Company is currently conducting a DPEM geophysical survey with plans to resume drilling on the Butler 3 Zone in August 2011 once these results have been interpreted"</p> <p>http://www.stockhouse.com/News/USReleasesDetail.aspx?n=8196479</p>
2 Jun 11	<p>"Critics say the biggest hurdle former energy minister George Smitherman will face trying to secure a Ring of Fire ore processor for a northern Ontario town will be his own energy policies. The Municipality of Greenstone has hired Smitherman to try to convince Cliffs Natural Resources to build a chromite processor on the outskirts of Nakina and Aroland First Nation. But New Democrat Howard Hampton says one of the biggest issues for manufacturers in northern Ontario are high energy costs — and it was during Smitherman's tenure that electricity rates went through the roof. It would cost Cliffs Resources a billion more dollars over their projected 30-year period to set up shop in Ontario instead of in neighbouring Manitoba, he says. Other foreign miners such as Xstrata have already shut down Ontario smelters and moved their operations to Quebec — another lower-cost province. Smitherman says both Greenstone and area First Nations insist that the resource be refined where it is extracted, adding that any move to ship the ore out would meet intense opposition" http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/greenpage/123020993.html</p>
	<p>"Noront Resources Ltd. is pleased to announce the closing of the previously announced strategic investment by</p>

Baosteel Resources International Co., Ltd., part of The Baosteel Group, one of China's largest steel producers. Baosteel has acquired 20,234,967 Units of Noront at a price of \$0.86 per Unit. Each Unit consists of one common share and one half of one common share purchase warrant (each whole warrant a "Warrant"). Each Warrant shall be exercisable to acquire one common share of Noront at an exercise price equal to C\$1.16 for a period of 24 months following the closing date. Net proceeds of the common share portion are approximately C\$17.4 million and Baosteel's ownership interest in Noront post transaction will be 9.9%. Exercise of the Warrants would increase Baosteel's equity ownership interest in Noront to 14.15%, with additional aggregate proceeds to Noront of approximately C\$11.7 million Proceeds of the strategic investment will be used to fund the fiscal 2012 Budget of \$C17.6M. Key objectives for the coming year include:

- completion of a feasibility study on the Eagle's Nest nickel sulphide deposit in Q1, 2012;
- expansion of the Blackbird chromite resource in Q1, 2012;
- exploration for additional nickel sulphide mineralization including Eagle 2;
- completion of a pre-feasibility study on the Blackbird chromite deposit including an initial analysis of ferrochrome production;
- on-going consultation with local First Nations communities and
- permitting of the project with the relevant federal, provincial and regional government agencies.

Noront has proposed a socially and environmentally sustainable project development plan for the high-grade Eagle's Nest nickel sulphide deposit. The Company plans to continue collaborative consultation with local First Nations communities and other companies in the Ring of Fire to develop a comprehensive, sustainable development plan for this region" <http://norontresources.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=117>