



The floundering Yukon mineral investment climate is further emphasized by the 2019 Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies:

Investment Attractiveness Index:	2015 – 79.16	Ranked 12 <sup>th</sup> of 109
	2019 – 75.56	Ranked 23 <sup>rd</sup> of 76

In 2019, the Yukon is behind Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia in Canadian Jurisdictions.

Policy Perception Index:	2015 – 76.66	Ranked 39 <sup>th</sup> of 109
	2019 – 76.40	Ranked 32 <sup>nd</sup> of 76

Best Practices Mineral Potential Index:	2015 – 80.83	Ranked 4 <sup>th</sup> of 109
	2019 – 75.00	Ranked 22 <sup>nd</sup> of 76

The June 12, 2020 announcement by Minister Pillai of an increase of \$1.1 million to the Yukon Mineral Exploration Program (YMEP) to raise its total to \$2.5 million shows the present government is, at best, conflicted or just simply doesn't know what it is doing.

It is very worth noting that Mineral Exploration and Development provide year-round employment for most Yukon trades, professions, and businesses; whereas, tourism provides economic input for rarely more than the five summer months. Mineral Industry jobs pay high wages, while tourism jobs pay much poorer wages.

Tourism officials, tourism operators and preservationist groups, primarily funded by United States based "charitable" trusts and foundations, always trash the mineral industries for creating a boom and bust economy. We have seen how new legislation and regulations imposed by various jurisdictions have reduced the economic impact of tourism. Legislation, regulations, and metal prices have a similar effect on the mineral industries. The devastation of COVID further demonstrated that boom and bust exists for tourism as well.

These same groups also trash the mineral industries for their need to develop roads to create a mine. Roads, they claim, disrupt wildlife habitat and allow more access for hunters, trappers, and further exploration; however, at the same time, they glory in the better access for tourist travel and wildlife viewing. Seems to be a conflict of interest to me.

Again, these same groups always claim that the cost for remediation of former mine sites is so large it makes mining untenable. This is an invalid claim. The remediation of mine sites is why the bonding and remediation fund processes have been established. The recent debacle concerning the Wolverine Mine demonstrates that this system is not working as intended. Legislation needs to be strengthened to ensure mining companies unable to maintain bonding and remediation commitments should have their operations immediately and legally closed, at least until they can fulfil those commitments.

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