



Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation

P.o. Box 18

Tofino, BC

V0R-2Z0

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February 24, 2014

Attn: Victoria City Council
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC
V8W-1P6

facsimile
cc: email- bisitt@victoria.ca

Dear Victoria City Councillors,

RE: Requesting Victoria City Council's support in opposing the Fandora Mine

Imperial Metals has received expanded exploration permits for two drill sites on the Tranquil Creek watershed. Tranquil Creek is in the Haahuulthii of the Tla-o-qui-aht Hawiih, home to many important medicinal plants, cultural artifacts such as petroglyphs, and culturally important sites including healing bathing pools. Our Tribal Parks management plan outlines how we envision development while respecting the ecological and cultural values of our territory. Our ambition for tranquil creek includes investment in salmon enhancement and restoration of the healing sites for our people there.

Two years ago Imperial Metals approached us before applying for a mining exploration permit for Tranquil Creek. They wanted a memorandum of understanding. After a brief presentation by Imperial Metals our nation discussed their offer and realized that mining is not an activity that fits our land use plan. However they went to the province and applied for their exploration permit. We have spent considerable resources over the last two years working with the province to forestall mining plans on our territories. Thus you can understand our frustration when the province approved the exploration permit for our territories.

Mining is an ecologically destructive practice. Beyond its immediate impact on the landscape there are many risks that are incompatible with the Tla-o-qui-aht land use vision and the many sustainable industries and opportunities of Clayoquot Sound. In response to the threats posed by mining and the provincial government's apparent disregard for our voice we have issued a strong statement opposing mining and calling for a moratorium on all mining activities in our traditional territories.

Without Prejudice

Many people from Victoria worked with Tla-o-qui-aht in the 80's and 90's to change how forestry is done in Clayoquot Sound. This has connected many Vancouver Islanders to the Tofino area, and its beauty and bounty. We feel we have built a strong working relationship between our communities and the link between our futures is undeniable. We have issued a statement calling for a mining moratorium on our territories and ask that the Victoria City Council act in solidarity with us and join the call for a moratorium.

Sincerely,

Chief Moses Martin
Tla-o-qui-aht Council

Kare ulagmur
Deputy Chief Councilor.