

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**The Mining Association of Nova Scotia commends government for purchase of lands**

The Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS) commends the Nova Scotia government's recent purchase of 4,400 acres of private land throughout the province to be added to the province's Crown lands.

MANS recognizes that Nova Scotia's historic shortage of Crown lands represents a challenge for the province's legislators and public servants to expand our share of publicly-owned land for the enjoyment and education of all Nova Scotians.

"The mining community of Nova Scotia understands the importance of Crown land and encourages the provincial government to sustain its efforts to add to its public holdings," said Paul K. Smith, president of MANS. "There are few who appreciate the value of Nova Scotia's rich landscapes and spectacular shorelines more than MANS members. And there are few who promote sustainment and stewardship of Nova Scotia's natural heritage more enthusiastically than our members."

MANS looks forward to partnering with provincial government representatives to review the economic assessment report of the lands to determine the minerals potential prior to assignment to "protected status."

MANS is a provincial organization representing over 100 member companies in all areas of mining: exploration, discovery, development, production and reclamation as well as consultants and suppliers to the industry. The industry is directly and indirectly responsible for some 6300 jobs, approximately \$490 million of the provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and provides among the highest paid jobs in the province. The industry's total payroll is about \$100 million per year and contributes \$2 million in municipal taxes annually.

The association is committed to the continuous development of the province's economy through the employment of Nova Scotians, the commercial viability of our natural, underground resources, the reclamation, remediation and regeneration of resource extraction sites, and the rectification of viable legacy mine sites when resource extraction is completed.

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