



# Communication

## June 30, 2011 Update of Activities from the MANS Office

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Hello MANS membership, as you may have noted we have not generated a newsletter since our April AGM and in an effort to implement a more timely method of sharing information with you, we are replacing the monthly newsletters with bi-monthly updates, which will be sent to your email and posted on our website home page. These updates will provide insights into what is happening at the office, what our committees are working on, meetings we attend and what we are doing to overcome challenges that face our industry.

First though, I would like to introduce our 2011-2012 Board of Directors.

Pat Mills  
*President*  
National Gypsum Canada

Paul Smith  
*Past President*  
Mountain Lake Resource

Laurie Vaughan  
*Treasurer*  
Merrex Gold

Scarth MacDonell  
Lafarge North America

John Amirault  
Amirault Ventures

Paul White  
Nova Construction

John Wightman  
Goldfield Group

Steve Weeks  
S. W. Weeks Construction

Gavin Isenor  
Dexter Construction

Ian Palmeter  
Atlantic Cat

Jeff Newton  
Georgia-Pacific Canada

Gordon Dickie  
Shaw Resources

Keith Phinney  
Consulting Engineer

Fred Bonner  
TBL Resources

Lauchie MacLean  
Golden Caribou

Jeff Sullivan  
Gallant Aggregates

John O'Sullivan  
Rainbow Resources

Richard Ratcliffe

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Since the AGM some of our committees have changed as well and the following is a list of committees/chairs and a brief description of their purpose and goals.

### **Finance/Administration Committee – Chair: Laurie Vaughan**

Purpose: provide financial reporting to the Board of Directors; provide recommendations to ensure MANS financial wellbeing.

**Operations Committee - Chair: Steve Weeks**

Purpose: review issues concerning open pit mining and quarrying and to make recommendations to the board of directors;

**Goals:** Fuel Tax Rebate, Pit & Quarry Guidelines, Blaster Training, TIR/Crown Quarries, Natural Resources Strategy (DNR).

**Land Access Committee - Chair: John Wightman**

Purpose: ensure that the province's mineral resources are accessed, assessed and utilized to their full potential and in a way that is most beneficial to Nova Scotians;

**Goals:** automation of Registry and Assessment Reporting; Mineral Incentive Program adopted in Nova Scotia and continued consultation regarding 12% protected area.

**Environmental Committee - Chair: Scarth MacDonnell**

Purpose - to serve as a liaison between MANS members and provincial regulatory bodies to advance the collective causes of mining and exploration companies related to environmental issues within Nova Scotia.

**Goals:** enhance relationships at Department of Environment and establish two way dialogue on critical issues affecting mining and exploration companies; review new legislation proposed by government with a focus on improving the legislation and impact on MANS membership and developing educational/training materials for MANS members regarding environmental issues within Nova Scotia.

**Communications Committee - Chair: Linda Deschenes**

Purpose: provide communications on issues of interest and concern relevant to all sectors of the mining industry.

**Goals:** MANS communication policy; update website with information about exploration, production, reclamation; create educational component on website; proactively engage media regarding the mining industry.

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**Meetings MANS Attended**

May 27, 2011

***NSRBA Yearly Joint Environmental Meeting***

Attendees: NSRBA, NSE, TIR, DFO, HRM, DNR, MANS

**Purpose:** Discussion surrounded the following topics: Status of Pit Compliance Strategy; Environmental Specifications; Update by TIR; Status of Provincial Wetlands Conservation Policy; Status of Asphalt Plant Permit Review; Watercourse Alterations Audits and Update on Natural Resources Strategy.

June 3, 2011

***Water Sustainability & Natural Resource Sectors - Phase II***

Attendees: NTREE, MANS, Dalhousie University, NS Power, NS Environment, CBU, Union of NS Indians, Bras d'Or Lakes Environment Planning, Northern Pulp NS, Unama'ki Institute of NS, NS Agriculture, Ecology Action Centre and the National Council Air/Stream Improvement.

**Purpose:** This meeting was part of a national initiative from the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy looking into the sustainable use of water by the natural resource sectors, namely energy, agriculture, forestry and mining. The meeting focused on forecasting of water use trends related to the natural resource sectors; potential implications of water pricing on water use and potential collaborative governance approaches.

June 16, 2011

***Protected Areas' Announcement***

Purpose: the announcement of the next steps to reach the goal to legally protect 12 per cent of Nova Scotia's lands by 2015.

As a result of this announcement, I met with the Department of Environment and received a copy of the new map along with the shape files (GIS). MANS members were notified of this and copies of the map and shape files were sent to those who had concerns regarding their claim groups. Should you be interested in receiving the map and/or shape files please forward your request to the office.

June 27, 2011

***Fuel Tax Rebate Program- DNR***

Attendees: Deputy Minister Duff Montgomery, Mike MacDonald, Allan Davidson, Diane Webber, Pat Mills, Linda Deschenes

**Purpose:** To discuss MANS goal of extending the fuel tax rebate to mining and quarrying. A summary table of fuel tax rebate programs across the country was presented and discussed along with the impact of this programs implementation in Nova Scotia.

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## **Events**

June 8 – 10, 2011

***Mining Society AGM***

The 124<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Mining Society was held this year in Ingonish. Merrex Gold and Atlantic Cat sponsored a Welcome Reception on June 8<sup>th</sup> and technical session followed on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

The theme of the AGM was “Moving Forward-Meeting Modern Mining Challenges” and presentations represented Innovation and Technology; Exploration and Operations and Sustainable and Alternative Energy.

June 16, 2011

***MANS Networking Mixer***

MANS mixer was organized by the Finance/Admin. Committee and held at Finbars Pub, Sunnyside Mall, Bedford. This event was very well attended and offered an opportunity for our membership to get together and invited guests to get to learn more about MANS.

*Thanks to and courtesy of Atlantic Cat complimentary hors d'oeuvres were provided.*

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## MANS Website

Our website continues to undergo changes and we now have a login link for “Members Only” in order to review Board of Directors meetings minutes.

The Communications Committee has been, and will continue to be, instrumental in creating a vibrant, informative and educational forum for visitors to our website. The MANS website receives over 18 thousand visits per month and will serve as a platform to showcase exploration, reclamation and production efforts and achievements in Nova Scotia. Not only will it provide information regarding all facets of our industry, it will also be equipped with educational components, links to other industry websites, and MANS membership profiles

Once again, I encourage our membership to get involved and forward to the office, URL’s, logos and company bio’s that include highlights, successes, challenges and economic impacts on the province.

Knowledge is power gained through education, and our website can serve as an effective tool in helping change the perceptions of our industry for those who access our site.

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### **Board of Directors Meetings**

Board Meetings begin at 9:00am

Thursday, July 21, 2011  
Thursday, August 18, 2011  
Thursday, September 15, 2011  
Thursday, October 20, 2011  
Thursday, November 17, 2011  
Thursday, December 15, 2011  
Thursday, January 19, 2012  
Thursday, February 16, 2012  
Thursday, March 15, 2012

### **Executive Committee Meetings**

Executive Meetings begin at 8:30am

Wednesday, July 6, 2011  
Wednesday, August 10, 2011  
Wednesday, September 7, 2011  
Wednesday, October 12, 2011  
Wednesday, November 9, 2011  
Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
Wednesday, January 11, 2012  
Wednesday, February 8, 2012  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012

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### **Upcoming Events**

September 22, 2011      MANS Networking Mixer at Finbars in Sunnyside Mall, Bedford  
4:30 – 6:30pm

**HAPPY CANADA DAY**

