

# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 No. 1

November, 1997

The Manitoba Prospectors and Developers Association Inc. ("MPDA Inc.") was incorporated as a non-profit, all volunteer organization in 1994. Our mission statement is:

*"To act as an advocacy group for the concerns and interests of our members and to educate the public of the value of mining to Manitoba."*

Our activities continue to focus on **Land Use, Environmental/Sustainable Development Issues, Aboriginal Land Issues, Government Regulations/Assistance Programs, Public Education and sponsorship of the Exploration Discussion Group.**

Our President, Hugh Wynne, has been elected a Director of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and will therefore be able to present our positions on issues to that national body.

Your **Directors** have held 10 meetings in the past 12 months - on Dec.4, Jan.6, Feb.5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, and Nov.5. Members are welcome to attend Directors' Meetings.

Hugh Wynne and other Directors met with the Minister of Energy and Mines and of Northern Affairs

on March 17 to discuss our positions on **Land Use, Sustainable Development, Treaty Land Entitlements, Mineral Exploration Assistance Program ("MEAP"), Assay Credits and Map Staking**

Written or verbal submissions were made to Government of Manitoba regarding the following MPDA Inc. positions on issues affecting our members:

- Opposition to **single-use land designations** which prohibit mineral exploration.
- Concerns regarding possible introduction of new **Sustainable Development** legislation unfavourable to exploration and development.
- Need for resolution of **Aboriginal land use issues** impeding mineral exploration.
- Qualified support for **map staking** in areas where exploration permits are currently available.
- Suggested improvements to the **MEAP application and approval process** and to some other Marketing Branch initiatives.
- Equitable resolution of **assay credits** problems arising from the sale of the former Government laboratory.

*(cont'd on back)*

## DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- mining occupies approximately 34 square kilometers of Manitoba, which is less than 6% of the area occupied by the City of Winnipeg.
- the value of mineral products in Manitoba each year is about \$1 billion, and approximately \$40 million is spent on mineral exploration.
- about 6,000 people in Manitoba are directly employed in mining and earn over \$225 million a year and at least another 15,000 depend on mining.
- direct revenue to government from mining in Manitoba averages over \$45 million annually and all other indirect taxes at least doubles this figure.
- Manitoba's mineral industry is the 2nd leading primary resource industry after agriculture.
- prospectors cause no more impact on the environment than do hunters or campers.
- mineral explorers cause less impact than cottagers.
- roads, railways, and airports occupy much more land in Manitoba than mines.
- there are 15 head frames in Manitoba compared to 284 primary grain elevators of equal size.
- the third largest city in Manitoba, Thompson, was built to mine nickel and copper.
- most northern towns, roads, railways and airports were built solely for mining e.g. Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Thompson, Flin Flon, Snow Lake.
- the mining and prospecting associations of Canada have their own, self imposed and enforced codes of environmental protection.
- prospectors and geologists choose their profession because they love the wilderness and protect the land where they live and work.

Doug Fogwill and Bill Ferreira represent MPDA Inc. on the **Mineral Exploration Liason Committee ("MELC")**, which is composed of Government, University and Mining Industry representatives.

The MPDA Inc. booth at the annual Manitoba Mining and Minerals Convention features school educational materials and the mineral properties of some members. It has been suggested that fascilities for showcasing members' properties should adjoin the MEM booth at PDAC Conventions, held in Toronto each March.

Marjorie Reynolds, our **Education Committee Chair**, made **26 presentations** on rocks and minerals to **800 students** in 9 schools this year. The presentations (Kindergarten to Grade Seven) comprised a wide display of specimines, discussions of uses and take-home samples. Many letters of appreciation were received from students and teachers.

At the request of the **Manitoba Museum**, the Education Committee's Marjorie Reynolds, Arnold Mickelson and Jim Brown presented a rock and mineral display and demonstrated **gold panning** (with supporting video presentations) at **36 sessions** of the **Klondike Gold Exhibit** between November 1996 and January 1997. On the closing day of the exhibit a panel discussion on Bissett area Gold Mining, entitled "Memories of San Antonio", was chaired by Don Anderson. The Manitoba Museum was very pleased with the service provided by our members.

During **National Mining Week** several of our members tended a display sponsored by CIM, MAMI and MPDA Inc. at The Forks. This display attracted much public interest.

MPDA Inc. sponsors the monthly **Winnipeg Mineral Exploration Discussion Group ("WMEDG")** meetings, held at noon on the first Wednesday of each month at the Airliner Inn, 1740 Ellice Avenue. Nine **talks** were presented at these informal luncheons, topics being: Enzyme-leach, rare earths and RadarSat exploration techniques, Prairie-type gold and Eastern European/Asian deposits, Exploration '97, the Bre-X bust, assay laboratory accreditation and preparation of property submissions. These meetings provide opportunities for discussion and networking within the community interested in mineral exploration. The **WMEDG** organizing committee is Jim Brown John Lee, Doug Fogwill and Don Anderson - Please contact any of these Directors regarding attendance or offers of talks.

**DIRECTORS:** W. Ferreira, H. Wynne, D. Anderson,  
S. LeSavage, J. Lee, D. Fogwill, J. Brown

**Education Committee Chair:** M. Reynolds  
**Membership Committee Chair:** A. Mickelson  
**Newsletter Editor:** J. Lee

#### **REMINDERS:**

- MPDA Inc. Directors Meetings each month, immediately following WMEDG Meetings. All members welcome.
- MPDA Inc./Winnipeg Mineral Exploration Discussion Group - meets first Wednesday of each month. Members and non-members welcome.
- Members fees are due on November 20, 1997.

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

We ask you to help achieve MPDA Inc's goals by renewing your membership/becoming a new member/recruiting new members. We need your support to continue the progress made since we incorporated 3 years ago. Our membership application/renewal form is attached.