



Protest at the 2022 Prospectors and Developers Association (PDAC) convention in Toronto. Photo: Val Croft.

Highlights of 2022

International campaigns – Holding government and industry accountable for mining abuses abroad

Exposing the dangers of Dundee’s copper-gold mine in the páramos of Ecuador

At the request of mining-affected communities in southern Ecuador, we commissioned independent experts Terraé to review the environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the Loma Larga project, set to be built in high-altitude wetlands, or páramos. Terraé called the project an arsenic time-bomb, given the central role the páramos play in storing and distributing water throughout the region. In September, we traveled to Ecuador to share Terraé’s findings with affected communities. We published a summary of the report in English and Spanish, designed a pamphlet to disseminate key concerns, and issued a press release to call international media attention to the issue.

Shining a United Nations spotlight on toxic spills at Barrick Gold’s Veladero mine in Argentina

Following an appeal by the local group in Jáchal, Argentina, *Asamblea Jáchal No Se Toca*, the UN Special Rapporteur on Toxics and Human Rights published a letter alongside several other UN bodies expressing concern about toxic spills at the Veladero mine. We developed a timeline in English and Spanish documenting the spills and community resistance,

published a press release on the letters, and secured coverage in the Financial Post, eventually obliging a response from Barrick Gold.

Documenting forced evictions at Barrick’s North Mara gold mine in Tanzania

In September, we traveled to Tanzania to meet with communities affected by the North Mara mine. We published a report detailing serious human rights abuses, including ongoing high levels of violence by mine police and forced evictions of neighbouring Indigenous Kuria peoples. We issued a press release to launch the report, and a follow-up release in October after a lawsuit was filed in Ontario courts against Barrick Gold. We launched a new web site to provide important context to the latest lawsuit, securing extensive media coverage in the Financial Post, Globe and Mail, and beyond.

Advocating on behalf of Indonesian communities facing down Baru Gold

Women from the small Indonesian island of Sangihe won an important legal battle against the Canadian company Baru Gold in 2022, when Indonesian courts suspended the mine’s environmental permit due to lack

of consultation. We issued a press release to call attention to this important victory and issued a follow-up when the company ignored the court order and continued to operate. We drafted an open letter to the CEO

denouncing Baru's failure to respect the court decision and raising concerns about its intention to operate an open-pit heap-leach mine on such a small island.

Regulatory effectiveness – Strengthening laws that uphold environmental, social & economic standards

Advancing a mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence mechanism in Canada

Based on model due diligence legislation we helped draft as part of the steering committee of the Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability (CNCA), NDP MP Peter Julian launched bill C-262 in March – a private members' bill that would require that Canadian companies assess the risk of human rights abuse and environmental harm throughout their operations and supply chains and take action to prevent it. If harm occurred, C-262 would grant victims access to Canadian courts to seek justice and remedy. Our statement was broadcast by CPAC and we were quoted in major media outlets across Canada. With CNCA, we also monitored the development of Bill S-211 on modern slavery, denouncing that this reporting-only legislation will actually cause harm and emphasizing the need for strong, mandatory due diligence legislation.

Mapping the mining boom in Quebec and calling for a moratorium

With the coalition Québec Meilleure Mine, which MiningWatch co-founded, we helped map the mining boom taking place across southern Quebec. We're supporting ten regions of Quebec representing 162 municipalities as they urge the provincial government to declare a moratorium on new mining claims and to review the *Mining Act* and its guidelines for the designation of "Territories Incompatible with Mining."

Fighting against "polluting privilege" and lowering nickel standards in Quebec

In February, we submitted comments to the Quebec environment ministry to express our strong opposition to a proposal to weaken air quality standards for nickel. In April – against the advice of 18 Quebec

public health departments, the City of Quebec, and many citizen and environmental organizations – the province decided to quintuple the permitted daily emissions of nickel and its carcinogenic compounds. We issued a joint press release with Québec Meilleure Mine to denounce this decision and its implications for public health.

Pushing for best practices in mine waste safety

In May, MiningWatch and US-based Earthworks published an updated set of guidelines for improving the management of mine waste disposal facilities (tailings dams), which are failing with increasing frequency and severity. Based on consultation with over 200 stakeholders and experts across five continents, the revised "Safety First: Guidelines for Responsible Mine Tailings Management" shows that an industry-led tailings standard, the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management, will not keep communities and ecosystems safe. We issued a press release and secured important media coverage of the updated report, which was endorsed by 157 scientists, Indigenous peoples, community and civil society organizations.

Supporting Indigenous-led impact assessments

In support of five First Nations in Ontario, we called on Minister Guilbeault to retract the draft terms of reference for the Ring of Fire Regional Assessment and restart the process with First Nations as full partners in a co-designed process. We launched a letter-writing campaign to press for a comprehensive and rigorous regional assessment that is co-designed and co-implemented by First Nations. The federal government has now begun this process. We also supported Long Point First Nation in asking the Quebec government for resources to conduct their own Indigenous-driven and cumulative impact assessment of Sayona Mining's activities on their territory.

Movement building and community support – Working in solidarity to effect change

Making cross-border connections between people protecting water from Pan American Silver

In May, we traveled to Guatemala for the first Regional Summit of People Affected by Pan American Silver, a 4-day exchange between communities affected by the company's operations in Guatemala and Argentina. We coordinated logistics for the Argentine delegation and led media work, garnering extensive coverage of the summit's joint statement in Argentina and internationally. We published a blog to highlight the contradictions between Pan American Silver's claim of mining for the energy transition and its track record of violating Indigenous self-determination at several mine sites across the Americas, and to support allies as they brought these concerns to the company's annual meeting.

the 2022 Esker forum to bring much-needed attention to the issue, following up with the launch of the "Don't mine our eskers" campaign. We're continuing to strengthen a regional movement demanding reforms to Quebec's *Mining Act* to allow the government to revoke mining claims in the interest of the public.

Building relationships with communities at Barrick's gold mine in the Dominican Republic

In November, MiningWatch staff went to the Dominican Republic to hear testimonies from people living beside Barrick Gold's Pueblo Viejo mine. The mine's massive tailings impoundment is full, which is extremely concerning for the community only 500 metres from the dam and all others downstream who have no access to an emergency plan should a tailings failure occur. The seven-day fact-finding delegation garnered important local media coverage and was a key space for strategic planning for future advocacy, technical, and legal support as the company plans to build a second tailings impoundment and communities fight to be relocated in a manner that upholds their human rights and dignity.

Fighting to 'de-claim' the eskers in Quebec

In May, we sent an official request to the Quebec Minister of Energy and Natural Resources to revoke all 5161 mining claims on the eskers in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, in an effort to protect the exceptionally pure quality of water and to safeguard plant and animal species that depend on these unique geological structures. We used our presence at

Calling out greenwashing at the world’s largest mining convention

In June 2022, we coordinated with our allies during the annual Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) conference in Toronto to amplify the voices of communities caught in the crosshairs of mining for energy transition metals. We translated a statement from the Governing Council of the Shuar Arutam People (PHSA) denouncing Solaris Resources for using PDAC to promote its Warintza project in spite of community opposition. We issued a press release after Canadian Ambassador to Ecuador Sylvie Bédard was applauded for her efforts to promote Indigenous consent while dramatically expanding mining in the country, at a time when members of the Confederation of Indigenous

Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) were being violently repressed.

Going to court in support of the Gitxaʼa Nation’s legal challenge to BC’s “Free Entry” system

The Gitxaʼa Nation has filed an unprecedented legal challenge against BC’s colonial-era “free entry” mineral claim staking regime. BC has made no visible progress modernizing its *Mineral Tenure Act* despite its commitment under its *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. Along with partners in the BC Mining Law Reform network, we successfully applied for intervenor status, participating in a joint press conference the day arguments were heard in court for the right to intervene. The case will be heard in the BC Supreme Court in April 2023.

Communications & advocacy – Getting the word out, reinforcing credibility, ensuring relevance

Responding to Canada’s Critical Minerals Strategy

In December, Canada released its Critical Minerals Strategy as a roadmap to domestically secure energy transition metals. Reviewing the strategy in detail, we found little more than “business as usual” – an opportunity to give more public money to mining companies to encourage mineral exploration and development in the face of decades of environmental deregulation. We posted and disseminated our position, securing widespread national media coverage.

Ensuring that mining’s impacts on biodiversity got on the radar at COP15

When the 15th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biodiversity (COP15) came to Montreal in December, we used it as an opportunity to make the connection between industrial mining and biodiversity loss. We hosted three side events, on mining in the Amazon,

the staking boom in Quebec, and the race to mine the deep seabed, coordinating with allies across Canada and globally to raise the profile of these important issues at a moment when the world’s spotlight was on Canada.

Maintaining our reputation as a go-to voice in Canadian media on mining issues

Twenty-two years of documenting harm by Canadian mining companies, providing important contextual analysis, acting in solidarity with affected communities, and articulating much-needed reforms has earned MiningWatch a strong reputation as a reliable and knowledgeable voice on issues related to one of Canada’s most powerful industries. This year, we were interviewed for over 150 video and print pieces across Canada and globally and provided background context for dozens more.

Members in 2022

1. Alternatives North
2. Bathurst Sustainable Development
3. Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA)
4. Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
5. Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
6. Development and Peace
7. Friends of the Earth Canada
8. Friends of the Stikine Society
9. Innu Nation
10. Inter Pares
11. Kairos - Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives
12. Mixedwood Forest Society
13. Nature Canada
14. Northwatch
15. Ontario Public Service Employees Union) Social Justice Fund
16. Polaris Institute
17. Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)
18. Quebec Native Women
19. Rivers Without Borders
20. Sierra Club of Canada
21. Steelworkers Humanity Fund
22. Unifor Social Justice Fund
23. United Church of Canada
24. Watershed Sentinel Educational Society
25. Yukon Conservation Society (YCS)

Board of Directors in 2022

- Co-chairs: Elysia Petrone Reitberger, Thunder Bay, Ontario
Donna Ashamock, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug
- Treasurer: Jean Symes, Ottawa, Ontario
- Secretary: Esperanza Moreno, Montreal, Québec
- Directors: Natalie Clifford, Halifax, Nova Scotia
Justin Connidis, Kingston, Ontario
Tracy Glynn, Fredericton, New Brunswick
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Isabelle Ménard, Montréal, Québec
Alexandra Pedersen, Kingston, Ontario
Hilu Tagoona, Baker Lake, Nunavut

Staff in 2022

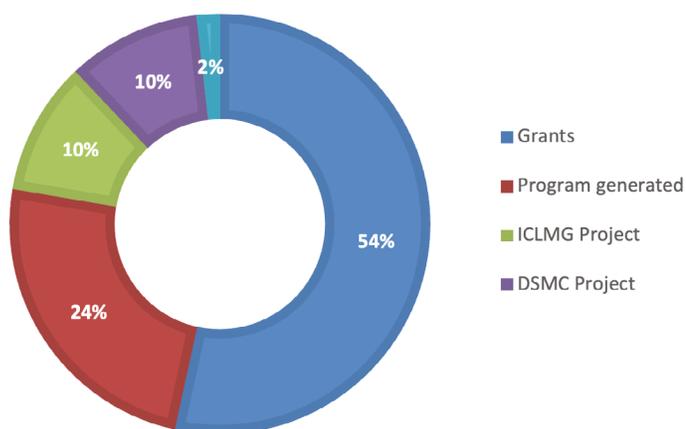
- Catherine Coumans, Asia-Pacific Program Coordinator
Val Croft, Communications Coordinator
Kirsten Francescone, Latin America Program Coordinator
(left in June)
Viviana Herrera, Latin America Program Coordinator (as of July)
Alexandra Kazakova, Fundraising & Operations Coordinator
(Interim)
Jamie Kneen, Canada Program Co-Lead
Rodrigue Turgeon, Canada Program Co-Lead

MININGWATCH CANADA / MINES ALERTE CANADA

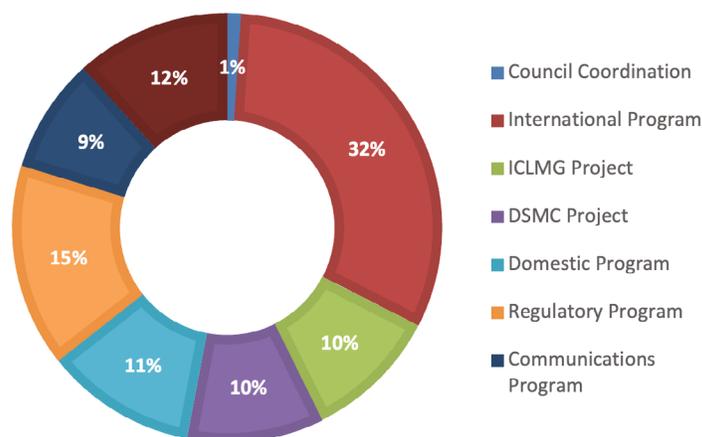
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2022

	2022	2021
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 543,916	\$ 398,293
Short-term investments	118,298	118,298
Accounts receivable	19,848	91,030
Due from Canary Research Institute	173,279	131,903
Prepaid expenses	14,277	13,084
	869,618	752,608
CAPITAL ASSETS		
	4,935	1,029
	\$ 874,553	\$ 753,637
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 69,188	\$ 32,675
Government remittances payable	17,192	10,467
Deferred revenue	474,838	383,083
	561,218	426,225
NET ASSETS		
Reserve fund - internally restricted	213,123	207,000
Legal fund - internally restricted	25,000	25,000
Unrestricted net assets	75,212	95,412
	313,335	327,412
	\$ 874,553	\$ 753,637

TOTAL REVENUE \$1,206,807



TOTAL EXPENSE \$1,220,884



(Please note that the audited financial statements are available on request.)

MiningWatch Canada is thankful for support from the following organizations:

The 11th Hour Project of The Schmidt Family Foundation
 Boreal Songbird Initiative
 Canadian Union of Public Employees
 Echo Foundation
 Fidelity Gift Fund
 Ford Foundation
 Inter Pares

New Venture Fund
 Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
 Public Service Alliance of Canada
 Unifor Social Justice Fund
 United Church of Canada
 Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project

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