



**Table 2 – Known mining waste failures and spills above 1 million litres in Canada over the last decade 2008-2017 (not exhaustive)**

Year	Mine (Corporation)	Location	Volume	Environmental Impacts	Fines or Sanctions
2014	Mount Polley Mine (Imperial Metals, copper-gold)	B.C.	25 000 Million litres	Polley Lake, Hazeltine Creek, Quesnel Lake; 10km of terrestrial and aquatic habitat destroyed; drinking water and local fisheries affected; copper, selenium, arsenic, manganese, etc.; long-term impacts unknown.	None yet <sup>1</sup>
2013	Obed Coal Mine (Coal Valley Resources & Sherritt International Corp.)	Alberta	670 Million litres	Apetowun Creek, Plante Creek, Athabasca River; contaminated water and sediment made up of coal, clay, sand, various metals and other substances; arsenic, mercury and cadmium; affected waterways for tens of kilometers downstream; drinking water, fisheries and farmers affected; long-term impacts unknown.	\$4.4 million <sup>2</sup> (guilty plea)
2013	Quebec Lithium (now Jien International)	QC	50 Million litres	Fiedmond River; spring fisheries; mostly liquid mine wastewater.	None know <sup>3</sup>
2013	Casa Berardi Gold Mine (Hecla Mining)	QC	62 Million litres	Kaakakosig Creek; solid and liquid mine waste; undocumented, unreported impacts.	None known <sup>4</sup>
2011	Lac Bloom Iron Mine Cliff Resources	QC	Multiple spills, including one of 50 million litres	Affected waterways for tens of kilometers downstream (up to 14 lakes affected), but few details documented or reported on actual impacts.	\$7.5 million (guilty plea) <sup>5</sup>
2008	Opemiska Mine (abandoned mine)	QC	11 Million litres	50m section of Hwy 113 destroyed and Obatogamau River impacted for tens of kilometres downstream.	None <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mountpolleyontrial.ca/law-suit/>, [www.mountpolleyreviewpanel.ca/final-report](http://www.mountpolleyreviewpanel.ca/final-report), [http://mssi.nrs.gov.bc.ca/1\\_CIMMountPolley/BCMEM-report-3\\_04-web.pdf](http://mssi.nrs.gov.bc.ca/1_CIMMountPolley/BCMEM-report-3_04-web.pdf), [www.bcauditor.com/pubs/2016/audit-compliance-and-enforcement-mining-sector](http://www.bcauditor.com/pubs/2016/audit-compliance-and-enforcement-mining-sector), [https://miningwatch.ca/sites/default/files/toward\\_financial\\_responsibility.pdf](https://miningwatch.ca/sites/default/files/toward_financial_responsibility.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&n=D21F267E-1>, <https://www.aer.ca/about-aer/media-centre/news-releases/news-release-2017-06-09>, <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/10/17/news/companies-charged-over-2013-coal-tailings-pond-spill-alberta-energy-regulator>, <https://albertawilderness.ca/obed-spill-charges/>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence\\_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-08-13-88030-01](http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-08-13-88030-01), <http://affaires.lapresse.ca/economie/energie-et-ressources/201303/19/01-4632634-deversement-a-la-mine-quebec-lithium.php>, <http://gaipresse.ca/nouvelles/important-deversement-de-residus-miniers-a-la-mine-quebec-lithium-35941.html>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence\\_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-10-13-99060-34](http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-10-13-99060-34)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence\\_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-09-11-97035](http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-09-11-97035), <http://www.lapresse.ca/environnement/pollution/201209/22/01-4576586-mine-de-fer-du-lac-bloom-deversements-a-repetition.php>, <https://fr-ca.actualites.yahoo.com/environnement-c%C3%B4te-nord-cliffs-ressources-naturelles-sous-enqu%C3%AAte-195209901.html>, <http://forumredevancesminieres.gouv.qc.ca/pdf/presentation-ugo-lapointe.pdf> (diapo 6 & 7)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence\\_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-10-08-99020-01-1](http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/ministere/urgence_environnement/urgence.asp?dossier=7110-10-08-99020-01-1), <http://forumredevancesminieres.gouv.qc.ca/pdf/presentation-ugo-lapointe.pdf> (diapo 6 & 7), <http://www.lapresse.ca/environnement/200809/08/01-651219-bombe-environnementale-a-retardement.php>, [http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/abitiibi/2008/07/02/005-digue\\_chapais.shtml?ref=rss](http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/abitiibi/2008/07/02/005-digue_chapais.shtml?ref=rss), <http://www.quebecpeche.com/video/video/316/D%C3%A9versement-de-Chapais>