



Marathon Gold Corporation
330 Bay Street, Suite 1505
Toronto, Ontario,

April 14, 2011

Dave Liverman
Assistant Deputy Minister,
Mines Branch, Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6

Dear Dave,

I wanted to thank the Department of Natural Resources for providing *Marathon Gold Corporation* with the opportunity to participate in the Mineral Strategy sessions held in Grand Falls, March 8, 2011 and in St. John's, Friday, April 8, 2011.

The most important points that I would like to reiterate regarding a new mineral strategy policy are as follows:

- (1) The current JEA program is extremely important in assisting junior exploration companies with stretching their exploration dollars and in sending a clear message to the Board of Directors of exploration companies that Newfoundland and Labrador is a mining friendly province and hence a favourable area to focus their present and future exploration activity and development.
- (2) An advanced prospecting course with a certification is required to fill the current shortage of experienced prospectors available to carry out this extremely important stage of exploration work. Such a program could be offered in a modular format through a local collage with perhaps financial assistance to the applicants where applicable.
- (3) The permitting process for early stage exploration needs to be streamlined with an increased efficiency in both timing of processing and in communications between the various government departments.
- (4) A new outreach strategy is needed to ensure a more positive message regarding the mining industry is delivered to both the elementary and senior public schools, especially in the more rural localities. A list of exploration people willing to volunteer time to visit the schools could be assembled and distributed to the school boards, and perhaps a government employee could contact the schools and coordinate the requests from teachers and available volunteers.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice our opinions and we are looking forward to seeing the new mineral strategy policy.

Regards,

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