

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Alan Ehrlich
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February 28, 2011

Dear Mr. Ehrlich,

Please find attached a report entitled **“Independent Environmental Oversight”** which I am submitting to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board to inform the Giant Mine Remediation Environmental Impact Assessment. The aim of this report is to enrich the discussion surrounding an appropriate monitoring and oversight regime to govern the Giant Mine Remediation by providing an informed comparative analysis of diverse forms of independent oversight bodies.

This report is entirely the product of independent research and was compiled using our own resources. We are thus grateful to the Social Sciences Research Council of Canada and the Law Foundation of British Columbia whose support of our research has enabled the preparation of this report. This work was undertaken at the request the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, the City of Yellowknife, and Kevin O'Reilly of Alternatives North.

I would welcome the opportunity to present the findings of this report in person to the Review Board if I am available during the dates set for public hearings. I hope this research will make a contribution to the environmental assessment, will raise awareness about diverse forms of independent oversight, and can prompt further discussion about preferred approaches.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Affolder', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Natasha Affolder
Associate Professor
Faculty of Law
University of British Columbia