March 14th, 2025

C2M2A — Progress Report #12

Thank you to all for your continued and enthusiastic interest in the Canadian Critical Minerals & Materials Alliance. We are pleased to report on the significant initiatives undertaken since our last Report #11 dated Dec 3rd, 2024, which proved to be an 'exciting' year in the critical material space. However, the geopolitical and trade dynamics anticipated for 2025 certainly present uncertainties, volatility, challenges & opportunities. Here's to Canada's successful industrialization of its critical materials sector.

Welcome to C2M2A's newest members!

- Baymag is Canada's sole producer of magnesium oxide with its headquarter in Calgary, Alberta, a mine site in British Columbia, and a production facility located in Alberta. Baymag is a member of the Refratechnik Group of companies. Baymag's products are utilized for various markets including environmental waste/wastewater treatment, building products, fertilizers, various industrial applications, and animal feed. The company is focused on supporting critical minerals development in Canada in battery manufacturing and recycling as well as rare earth processing, all of which are important to accelerate Canada's industrial transition to a low-carbon economy. To further support the critical minerals development in Canada, Baymag has recently acquired ownership in, PMAP Inc., which specifically addresses mine tailing pond water treatment while recovering critical minerals.

- Green Graphite Technologies: Green Graphite Technologies (GGT) is commercializing its patented, cost-effective, and sustainable purification technology to transform mined and recycled graphite into lithium-ion battery (LiB) grade graphite (i.e. anode active material) for electric vehicles (EV) and energy storage systems (ESS). Proven out at the pilot scale, GGT has launched an equity fundraising effort, seeking CAD$15 million (expected closing - June 2025) to build a graphite purification demonstration plant to showcase the technology's scalability and cost-effectiveness, along with product performance from multiple graphite feedstocks (natural flake graphite, spent LiB graphite, battery manufacturing waste). This demo plant will lay the foundation for the first of multiple commercial manufacturing plants starting in 2028-29, addressing the massive supply gap of locally sourced, high purity graphite to serve battery manufacturers in this rapidly evolving EV market. GGT's head office is in Montreal, with pilot operations in both Montreal, QC, and in Kingston, ON

Funding Opportunities

- The Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) will start accepting expressions of interest (EOI) and full applications this month! The CMIF is providing a total of up to $1.5 billion until 2030 for clean energy and transportation infrastructure projects to enable critical minerals development in Canada. This second call for proposals will provide up to $500 million in contribution funding under two streams: “Preconstruction” -- Funds preconstruction activities required to advance projects toward a shovel-ready state, and “Shovel Ready” -- Funds the deployment of shovel-ready projects. This call will focus on a subset of the critical minerals identified in the Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy that support key value chains for the transition to a green and digital economy and support our national security.
- Mining Innovation Commercialization Accelerator (MICA) Funding is available for projects (TRL 5 +) and will support up to 30% of eligible project costs with a maximum of $500K in MICA funding support per project. There is a renewed focus on Critical Minerals production. Register to join on Friday March 14th, at 1pm EST the **Call for Proposals #4 Webinar**

Recent Speaking Events & Conferences

- Electric Autonomy Canada Innovation and Technology Conference (Toronto, February 6th): Marilyn moderated the panel discussion on ‘Riding the Waves of EV Supply Chain Volatility for Critical Minerals’ with colleagues from AutoForecast Solutions, Pivot Research, Vale Base Metals and SGS Canada.

- PDAC – Canadian German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (Deutsch-Kanadische Industrie-und Handelskammer): Marilyn delivered a keynote address and served on the panel discussion on Purchasing & Financing (Toronto, March 4th)
- Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI) & Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN): Marilyn will be a panelist on Mid-Stream Talent Opportunity DiscoveryX conference in Toronto on April 16th & 17th, 2025. https://www.discoveryxconference.ca/home
- CIM CONNECT 2025 -- Invited to present ‘Energy Transition Materials – The Imperative of Establishing Canada’s Midstream Processing’, set for May 4th through 7th in Montreal.

- Critical Minerals Institute Summit IV, May 13th & 14th in Toronto, Canada, with theme of *The War for Critical Minerals and Capital Resources*,

- Rare Earth Industry Association (REIA): REIA will be holding its Annual General Meeting followed by its two-day annual conference in Montreal, June 18th & 19th, 2025.

- EU-Canada Strategic Partnership on Raw Materials: Strengthening the EU-Canada Critical Minerals Value Chain: "Meeting the Demand for Skills" -- Invited to participate in its work, including serving on a Canadian and European panel (March 2025).

- Lithium ISO Plenary & Working Meetings: Canada is to host the 5th ISO/TC 333 Plenary along with its Advisory and Working Group meetings from October 20th through 22nd in Boucherville, Quebec. This three-day event is expected to bring together approximately 100 delegates including industry, academic and government experts from major lithium producing regions of the world to collaborate on the development of international lithium standards. Natural Resources Canada & National Research Council are providing the meeting facilities, with the Standards Council of Canada and CSA Group providing organizational and administrative support. To support this international event and to help demonstrate Canada's lithium opportunity, industry has been asked to play a key role of sponsoring hospitality related to these meetings, thus a prime opportunity to demonstrate Canada's growing Lithium production and research capacity to global industry leaders.

Media

- Gabriel Freidmen, G&M re outlook and Canadian priorities in critical material space... for future piece
- Darius Sieckus, National Observer re: Critical Minerals Opportunities (behind a potential paywall)
  - Canada's Critical Minerals and why Trump wants them
  - Ontario PCs pledge $500 million for processing critical minerals but spending questions loom
- Sam Samson & Gurleen Kaur Buttar, CBC National News -- interviewed as part of 'Why Trump wants Canada's critical minerals'
- Aya Dufour, CBC Sudbury -- Interviewed as part of 'Why critical minerals are a bargaining chip in the Canada-U.S. trade war'
- CBCNewsNetwork – Ian's interview with Natasha Fatah Sunday March 9th

- CBC's ABOUT THAT with Andrew Chang – Canada's Critical Minerals: Ian appears in broader piece https://youtu.be/TKQhpLIutdw?si=8i2fDMZv1K4yY-z8 Thursday March 13th

Standards Initiatives

- Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and the CSAGroup with the engagement of experts based across Canada continue to represent Canada's interests in advancing current and anticipated global critical materials standards:
  - ISO/TC 298 - Rare Earths: Work Group programs are progressing well. At the last Plenary ISO TC 298 agreed to make its best efforts to host the 10th Plenary in Burmingham, UK in September 2025.
  - ISO PC 348 – Sustainability & Critical Materials: An Ad Hoc Group (AHG-1) was formed to redefine the scope of the PC. AHG-1 will provide a recommendation to the PC on a revised scope for the next Plenary meeting (occurring virtually) May 21st, 2025.
  - ISO/TC 333 – Lithium: See note above re Canadian-to-be hosted Plenary & Working Group meetings.
  - ISO/TC 345 – Critical materials other than lithium & rare earths: Canadian experts expressed an interest in participating in potential standardization projects with respect to graphite, specifically related to standard analytical methods with respect to sulphur content, in-cell performance, and electrochemical analysis.

Partner Highlights

- C2M2A & The Canada Cleantech Alliance (CCTA) announced their collaboration to support cleantech companies in the critical mineral and materials sector. C2M2A brings solid network and expertise in mineral production through their conversion to applicable materials that support a strong industrial strategy to meet Canada's mineral production, their processing and conversion to enable its advanced manufacturing potential in the sector. Peter McArthur, Board Chair of the CCTA says "As the advocate for cleantech across Canada CCTA will greatly benefit from this expertise as we head into changing times in 2025.". C2M2A will benefit from the reach of the CCTA and advocacy across the cleantech sector as its innovative technologies & applications, many of which are enabled by unique critical materials, in support of Canada's and global partners economic future"

- C2M2A continues to liaise with external organizations, sharing thoughts, comments and interesting pieces. Examples include American Critical Minerals Association on US-Canada Trade Issues; Canadian Chamber of Commerce Critical Minerals Council, EU-CANADA Strategic Partnership on Raw Materials

- CIM's "Marvelous Metals Project" -- Surveys show that Canadian children know little about minerals and metallurgy and generally do not consider a career in the industry. The Historical Metallurgy Standing Committee of CIM's MetSoc has launched an innovative educational project to raise awareness among Canadian children about minerals, and metallurgy. The committee is

developing a comic book that will inform young Canadians about our industry's critical importance and rich history whilst also suggesting rewarding career paths. Comics have apparently proven to be effective learning tools. The project highlights: Target audience: Children aged 7-14; Format: ~32-page comic/graphic art publication featuring engaging stories and characters and Reaching children via more than 20,000 schoolteachers. The attached brochure outlines sponsorship opportunities,

- 'Canada-A Trusted Partner in securing North America's Industrial and Energy Future' Accelerate ZEV, of which C2M2A is a founding partner, has prepared a sub-site to underscore the opportunity to create a continental supply chain that builds economic and security advantages for both the US and Canada and illustrates the real risks tariffs present.
- CSAGroup's 2024 report on "Recovering and Recycling Lithium and Rare Earth Elements from Waste" was co-authored by Canadian Metallurgical Leaders in this space, several who are represent C2M2A's members.
- Canadian Sustainability Disclosure Standards – New Canadian Sustainability Standards Board - CSSB (CSDS 1 and CSDS 2) standards were released in January 2025. While not applicable to private companies, it will likely become mandatory for Public Issuers as these disclosure standards are adopted by Securities Regulators across Canada and elsewhere. CSSB will continue to release additional disclosure standards to align with the work of the International Sustainability Standards Board which is housed under the International Financial Reporting Standards.

Thank you to C2M2A members and collaborators for your strong support. C2M2A continues to represent members at key industry events, engage the industry through workshops, webinars and networking events, and support the development of Canada's critical materials supply chain with our influence. If you share this vision for a strong and sustainable Canadian critical materials sector, across the multiple supply chains, please, join us. https://c2m2a.org/membership/

.

Ian M London PEng., MBA
Executive Director

Marilyn Spink, P.Eng., FCAE, ICD.D
Director, Operations