

Canadian Mining Companies in Latin America: Community Rights and Corporate Responsibility

A conference organized by CERLAC (the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean at York University) and MiningWatch Canada

**May 9 – 11, 2002
Toronto, Ontario, Canada**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

NOTE: All activities *except the evening event on Saturday, May 11*, will take place in:

**Junior Common Room of McLaughlin College, Room 014 McLaughlin College
on York University campus at 4700 Keele Street, Toronto**

York campus maps: <http://www.yorku.ca/yorkweb/maps/index.htm>

The Saturday evening event will take place downtown. See venue information below.

This program will be continually up-dated; check back for confirmation of items TBA.

The organizers gratefully acknowledge the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC); the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW); the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA); and, all from York University: the Office of the VP Research & Innovation, The Centre for Research on Work & Society (CRWS), and the Departments of Political Science, Social Science, and Sociology.

Thursday, May 9

9:15

Opening remarks

Viviana Patroni, Director, CERLAC, York University

Introduction: The Context of "Corporate Social Responsibility"

Ricardo Grinspun, CERLAC, York University

10:00

Panel 1: Community Involvement in Consultation Processes (Peru)

Chair: Nedjo Rogers, Environmental Mining Council of BC

***The World Bank Resettlement Directive &
Corporate & Community Relations in the Antamina Project***
David Szablowski, Doctoral Candidate, Osgoode Law School

The Conflict over Tambogrande in Peru:

Mining, Agriculture, and the Right to Consultation

Franciso Ojeda Riofrío, Human Rights Secretary of the Peruvian National Coordinator of Communities Affected by Mining, and President of the Front in Defence of Tambogrande

10:45 Break

11:00 Discussion on Panel 1

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

Thursday, May 9 – cont.

1:15

Panel 2: Organizing Dissent (Bolivia)

Chair: Sara Seck, PhD candidate, Osgoode Law School

Bolivia's Amayapampa and Capasirca Mines:

The Double Movement of Society and its Repression

Alejandra Roncallo, PhD candidate, Political Science, York University

From the Ashes:

The Difficulties of Organizing Self-regulated Mining Activity under Neoliberalism

Pedro Gómez Rocabado, Researcher, Centro de Promocion Minera (CEPROMIN), Bolivia

3:00 Break

3:15

Panel 3: The Environmental Impact of Mining and Petroleum Extraction (Chile & Ecuador)

Chair: TBA

Mining in Chile: The Emergence of Environmental Conflicts,

The Path towards the Recuperation of Rights

César Padilla, Observatorio Latinoamericano de Conflictos Ambientales, Chile

Petroleum Exploitation in Ecuador: An Unknown History

Luis Merino, Acción Ecologica, Ecuador

5:00 - End

Friday, May 10

9:30

Panel 4: The Impact of Canadian Investment (Colombia, Nicaragua, Mexico)

Chair: Ken Luckhard, National Representative, International Department, Canadian Auto Workers (CAW-Canada)

Canadian Investment in Large-scale Mining: the Colombian Case

Francisco Ramírez, union leader; President, Sintramineralco (Colombian State Mine Workers Union)

The Impact of Canadian Gold-Mining Companies in La Libertad and Bonanza, Nicaragua: a Community Perspective

Anneli Tolvanen, independent researcher

Impacts of Canadian Mining Investment in Mexico: A First Approximation

Adriana Concepción Estrada, Associated Researcher, FUNDAR, Center of Analysis and Research, Mexico

Friday, May 10 – cont.

11:00 Break
11:15 Discussion of Panel 4
11:45 Discussion: Pulling Together the Case Studies
12:30 Lunch (on your own)
1:45

Roundtable: Critical Perspectives on Corporate Social Responsibility

Chair: Darryl Reed, Co-ordinator, Business & Society Program, York University

Community Rights and Corporate Responsibility

Keith Stewart, Toronto Environmental Alliance

Power and Partnerships: a Critique of the MMSD Process

Joan Kuyek, National Coordinator, MiningWatch Canada

The Consultation Process in Peru: An Action Plan with Multiple Stakeholders

Manuel Glave, Research Associate GRADE (Group of Analysis for Development)

3:15 Break
3:30 Discussion
5:00 End

Saturday, May 11

9:30

Roundtable: Policy Implications for Canada

Chair: Joan Kuyek, National Coordinator, MiningWatch Canada

Title: TBA

Government representative - invited

North American Community: Anything More than a Euphemism?

Canadian Foreign Policy, 'Deep Integration' and the Americas

John Foster, North-South Institute

Canadian Corporate Conduct in the Americas: Trade Union Perspectives

Judith Marshall, Steelworkers Humanity Fund

The Growth of Mining Investment in Peru: The Presence of Canadian Companies and the Role of International Cooperation

Jose De Echave, Head of the Mining and Communities Program at the Lima-based NGO CooperAccion

11:00 Break
11:15 Discussion

1:00 Closing Remarks

Viviana Patroni, Director, CERLAC, York University

Joan Kuyek, National Coordinator, MiningWatch Canada

Saturday, May 11 – cont.

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Evening event in downtown Toronto

Location: Koffler Institute of Pharmacy Management, University of Toronto Room 108, 569 Spadina Avenue (between Bloor and Harbord)

U of T campus map: <http://www.osm.utoronto.ca/map>

DEVELOPMENT OR DESTRUCTION?

Canadian Mining Companies in Latin America: Community Rights and Corporate Responsibility

Chair: Viviana Patroni, Director, CERLAC

Panel discussion: Conference recommendations

- * David Szablowski: summary of conference
- * Alan Young (MiningWatch): response to MMSD report
- * Various other speakers including representatives from Latin America, as named above.

List of Conference Panelists

Adriana Concepción Estrada Ochoa is a Masters student in Mesoamerican Studies at the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM). She conducts research on poverty, development, conflict, and environmental concerns, focused mainly on indigenous and gender issues. She is presently an Associated Researcher in the Center of Analysis and Research (FUNDAR). Earlier this year Adriana presented a paper on “Oil Exploitation in the Maya Biosphere Reserve. Environmental Justice in the Global Era” in the IV Central American Anthropology Congress.

Jose de Echave is head of the Mining and Communities Program at the Lima-based NGO CooperAcción (Responsable, Programa de Minería y Comunidades). The mission of CooperAcción is to promote a balance between the exploitation of natural resources and the needs of sustainable development of the country and local populations. The program for which Jose is responsible works with several communities in Peru that are affected by commercial mining and metallurgical operations. Jose is also responsible for the publication of a mining bulletin, *Actualidad Minera del Peru*. His work on mining issues has been published in magazines and newspapers, and in a number of CooperAcción publications.

John Foster has a long career in the voluntary sector in Canada as an agency executive, program staff officer, board member and volunteer. He currently chairs the international Coordinating Committee of the Social Watch, is vice-chair of the Canadian Consortium for International Social Development, and a member of the Board of GreenPeace Canada and of Common Frontiers. He is formerly an executive

member of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, and former chair or board member of several ecumenical coalitions, including the Task Force on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility with which he was involved from its founding in the early 1970s. Dr. Foster has written extensively on issues of social justice, human rights, international relations and civil society. He has edited three books, the most recent of which is *Whose World Is It Anyway? Civil Society, the United Nations and the Multilateral Future*. He is currently supervising the VOICES project of the North-South Institute, focused on the relations between civil society organizations and major multilateral bodies.

Manuel Glave Testino is the Principal Researcher with GRADE (Group of Analysis for Development) in Peru, and was the National Coordinator for the MMSD Project in that country. Manuel holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Illinois and is Associate Professor in the Economics Department of the Catholic University of Peru. He is a specialist in rural development, in environmental economics and natural resources, and in the analysis of agrarian and environmental public policy, with experience in Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Guatemala. He was President of the Permanent Seminar for Agrarian Research (SEPIA) from 1997 - 1999. One of his recent publications is *Natural Resources and Development: A Canadian-Latin American Dialogue*, co-edited with Donald Breaun of the University of Toronto (Lima: Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social, 2000; in Spanish). He has recently been developing a series of studies on mining and local development in Peru, with a particular focus on the processes of involuntary relocation.

Pedro Gómez Rocabado worked for the Minera Catavi company of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (COMIBOL), for two years as a miner and fifteen years in various other capacities. As a union activist, he has served as Secretary of Relations and Secretary General of the “Combined Union of Mining Workers of Catavi” (1981-86); as a worker in the Social Security System and as a member of the Federation of System Workers (1987-96), and, from 1997 to the present, as Project Coordinator in the Centre for Mining Development (CEPROMIN). In the latter position, he has undertaken training and research work in various mining districts throughout Bolivia. Pedro has extensive experience in mining from a community perspective and will provide an informed opinion on the current situation in the districts of Capacirca and Amayapampa, as well as on the status of Bolivian mining since the implementation of neo-liberal policies.

Ricardo Grinspun is associate professor of Economics at York University and a Fellow of York’s Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC). He specializes in questions of development and international trade, hemispheric integration, and globalization in the Americas. His most recent research is on the linkages between international trade rules and global poverty. He is a former director of CERLAC and has directed several large-scale international development projects. He is co-editor and co-author of four books, the latest one on the participation of civil society in Central American integration. He is also author of more than 40 scholarly articles and technical reports.

Joan Newman Kuyek is the National Coordinator of MiningWatch Canada, a pan-Canadian initiative supported by environmental, social justice, Aboriginal and labour organisations from across the country. It addresses the urgent need for a co-ordinated public interest response to the threats to public health, water and air quality, fish and wildlife habitat and community interests posed by irresponsible mineral policies and practices in Canada and around the world. As National Coordinator, Joan functions as CEO with responsibility for the successful implementation and management of policy, programs and finances. Prior to taking on this challenge, she lived in the mining town of Sudbury, where she was community organizer for more than thirty years. She has worked all over Canada and in other countries as a popular educator and organizer. In addition to numerous articles and books, Joan is the author of *Fighting for Hope: Organizing to Realize our Dreams*, a manual for community work.

Judith Marshall is a labour educator and writer who has worked for many years in the field of international cooperation and solidarity. She spent 8 years in Mozambique working in the field of workplace literacy and wrote a book recounting these experiences entitled *Literacy Power and Democracy in Mozambique*. For the past 11 years she has worked in the Steelworkers Humanity Fund where she coordinates the education and southern Africa programmes. She also represents the Steelworkers in Common Frontiers, a network focussing on trade and economic integration in the Americas. Her work in promoting worker exchanges between mining unions in the Americas and organizing a Commission of Inquiry on Corporate Conduct in the Americas which took place as part of the People's Summit in Quebec last April have given her many opportunities to reflect on corporate conduct and new forms of governance in the Americas.

Luis Fernando Merino is a biologist and a collaborator with the NGO Ecological Action of Ecuador. He has directed neighbourhood organizations in Quito, and is a founder of the Unitary Neighbourhood Coordinating Organization of Ecuador. He has participated in the legislation of environmental protection bills for the city of Quito, and was coordinator of the Higher University Extension Institute of the Central University from 1996 to 2001. Luis is a member of the Environmental Commission of the Municipality of Quito and a member of the Commission for Rural Districts of Quito.

Cesar Padilla Ormeño is an anthropologist, trained in the University of Amsterdam, and founder of the Latin American Observatory of Environmental Conflicts in Chile (OCLA). Since its founding, he has served in OCLA as National Coordinator from 1992-95; as International Coordinator and head of the section on mining and the environment from 1995 to the present; and as Coordinator of the National Network on Mining and the Chilean Environment from 1999 to the present. He was also a founder of the Latin American Network on Environmental Conflicts in 1995.

Francisco Ojeda Riofrio is the President of the Front in Defense of Tambogrande (Frente en Defensa de Tambogrande). The Front is a citizens' group that has formed in response to the proposal of the Canadian mining company, Manhattan Minerals, to develop a gold mine in Tambogrande, in northern Peru. Francisco is also Human Rights Secretary for the Peruvian National Coordinator of Communities Affected by Mining (Coordinadora Nacional de Comunidades Afectadas por al Minería del Perú: CONACAMI). CONACAMI is a national organization created by and for communities affected by mining and includes the involvement of representatives from thirteen departments in Peru.

Francisco Ramirez Cuellar is a trade unionist and President of the Union of the State Mining company of Colombia (SINTRAMINERCOL). Francisco Ramirez toured Canada in April and May 2000, participating in a series of events organized by MiningWatch Canada, the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), the Canadian Autoworkers (CAW) and the Inter-church Committee on Human rights in Latin America (ICCHRLA; now known as KIAROS). At that time, he underlined the connections between displacement caused by paramilitary violence in Colombia and the incursion of foreign capital, and he called for a halt to foreign investment in Colombia's mining sector until the labour rights and human rights of workers are respected.

Alejandra Roncallo is a doctoral candidate in Political Science at York University writing her thesis on neo-liberal economic restructuring in Bolivia and the "New Mining," from a perspective sensitive to the role of ethnic and gender relations. Alejandra will present on the conflict between Da Capo Resources Ltd. of Vancouver (later Vista Gold Corp.) and the miners and peasants of North Potosi, discussing how the demands of the various social agents involved were articulated during the course of this conflict.

Keith Stewart has a Ph.D. in Political Science from York University and a long-standing interest in international solidarity and environmental issues. He is currently the Smog and Climate Change

Campaigner for the Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA), a non-profit environmental advocacy organization. TEA and Accion Ecologica, an Ecuadorean environmental group, have collaborated for five years on a project opposing the expansion of the petroleum frontier in the Ecuadorean Amazon.

David Szablowski is a member of the Ontario Bar. He is a CERLAC Research Associate and a member of the Peruvian Section of the Latin American Network of Legal Anthropology. He has an Honours M.A. in English Literature from Edinburgh University, an LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Osgoode working on issues of transnational law and governance.

Anneli Tolvanen is an educator and translator. She worked in Nicaragua from 1995 to 2000, during which time she took a particular interest in the experience of the community of La Libertad and she wrote some articles on the activities there of the mining company Greenstone. In August 2001, Anneli was contracted by MiningWatch Canada to carry out a series of interviews in La Libertad and Bonanza to assess the impact of Canadian mining companies on those communities. Anneli has spent the winter translating and transcribing those interviews. Anneli's other great passion is supporting children's storybook libraries in various communities in Nicaragua.