

EASTERN SYNOD of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

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October 6, 2008

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty,
Premier
Province of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Michael Gravelle
Minister of Northern Development and Mines
Government Caucus Chair
Room 369, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A4

Dear Premier McGuinty and Minister Gravelle:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. At our recent Synod Assembly in July, delegates approved a resolution calling for a public review of the Mining Act.

Since that Assembly, we are aware that you have convened just such a review. We believe this is an important first step and we applaud your government for initiating this process. However, we are also mindful that there are many issues not included within the scope of this process and a number of communities that were not included in the consultation process. I sincerely hope that this is the first step in an ongoing process of greater scrutiny of how mining operations are conducted within the province.

I am enclosing a copy of a submission which we would ask you to forward to those undertaking this review. I believe that it outlines our concerns and recommendations. We will be watching for recommendations that come from this review. Mining companies do generate wealth and jobs for many people. They also have responsibilities toward the long term interests of the environment and the impact they have on communities.

I know many people in our church and the wider community will be interested in the outcome of these deliberations. Please be assured of our prayers for you and your elected colleagues.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Michael". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Bishop Michael J Pryse, Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
MJP/cd

Enc.

- cc. John Tory, Leader of the Ontario PC Party
- Howard Hampton, MPP
- Ed Stelmach, Premier of Alberta
- Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia
- Gary Doer, Premier of Manitoba
- Shawn Graham, Premier of New Brunswick
- Floyd Roland, Premier of the Northwest Territories
- Danny Williams, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Rodney MacDonald, Premier of Nova Scotia
- Robert Ghiz, Premier of Prince Edward Island
- Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec
- Brad Wall, Premier of Saskatchewan
- Dennis Fentie, Premier of the Yukon Territory
- Paul Okalik, Premier of Nunavut
- Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate, the Anglican Church of Canada
- The Rev. Susan Johnson, National Bishop, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
Canada