

Groups from Outaouais and Laurentides will march in solidarity with Lac-des-Plages to support local opposition to Lomiko Metals' La Loutre mining project.

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY AUGUST 3, 2023

Duhamel and Lac-des-Plages – August 2nd, 2023. Illustrating the growing mobilization, hundreds of people from surrounding areas are expected in the Outaouais Lac-des-Plages municipality this coming Sunday, August 6, to demonstrate their opposition to Lomiko Metals Inc. La Loutre mining project. This initiative of the citizens' committee opposing the La Loutre mining project is a march of solidarity. Participants are invited to assemble at the municipal beach of Lac-des-Plages at 10:30 am.

This march aims first and foremost to demonstrate to the government and private investors that the La Loutre mining project of the Vancouver-based company Lomiko Metals Inc. does not have the support of communities living nearby. In addition, this gigantic mining project would be located in the heart of a very rich corridor of biodiversity between the Outaouais and the Mont-Tremblant National Park, which should be protected from industrial development. Citizens of the six municipalities surrounding the mining project will take part in the march. The invitation is also extended to anyone in neighboring regions who would like to participate.

The event also marks the <u>first anniversary</u> of a vast citizen movement in our province demanding an end to the mining boom that continues to affect Quebec today. It is important to remember that this movement, which prompted the Quebec government to launch a wide ranging <u>consultation on the mining policy framework</u> last May, originates from the Petite-Nation in Outaouais. The Coalition québecoise des lacs incompatibles avec l'activité minière <u>(Coalition QLAIM)</u>, was founded in the wake of this movement and today it brings together more than 135 lake associations representing more than 40,000 residents in five regions of Quebec

<u>In only one year</u>, these citizen efforts resulted in a visual campaign proclaiming that "the community is incompatible with mining activities" with these signs installed in more than thirty municipalities in the Outaouais, Laurentides and Mauricie regions. Discussions are underway with other municipalities and organization interested in participating in the campaign.

Quotes:

"As an elected member of the City Council, the population of Lac-des-Plages has indicated that there is no social acceptability for such a mining project. This is why our council has already passed a resolution opposing the La Loutre mining project", Paul Bourgeois, municipal councillor in Lac-des-Plages responsible for the environment file.

"We live in a desperate situation where a destructive project in our region could open the door to large-scale mining development in southern Quebec. It's coming faster than you think. It is time to put a stop to it before it is too late", Claude Bouffard, coordinator of the citizens' committee opposing the La Loutre mining project.

"By producing one-third of the briefs submitted for public consultation on a new mining policy framework, the lake associations in the QLAIM Coalition have demonstrated that they are very concerned about the impact of the current mining regime on their communities. We do not know when the minister will make public her conclusions, but one thing is certain, in the meantime the citizen movement continues to grow in all the regions. This solidarity march, organized by citizens, is a very clear example of this", Louis St-Hilaire, spokesperson for the QLAIM Coalition.

Organizations supporting mobilization of citizens:

- Coalition QLAIM
- Coalition Québec Meilleure Mine
- Eau Secours
- Regroupement de protection des lacs de la Petite-Nation
- Regroupement des associations de lacs de Mont-Blanc
- Regroupement des associations pour la protection des lacs et cours d'eau des Hautes-Laurentides
- Creuse pas dans mon Caxton
- Regroupement de protection des lacs d'Amherst
- SOS Grenville sur la rouge

- 30 -

Source: Coalition Québec meilleure mine

For your information:

• Claude Bouffard, spokesperson, opposition committee for the La Loutre mining project, ldp@protectionpetitenation.com, 819-712-8394

- Louis St-Hilaire, spokesperson, Coalition QLAIM, coalitionglaim@gmail.com, 514-591-9167
- Paul Bourgeois, elected municipal official, responsible for the environmental dossier at Lac-des-Plages, paul.bourgeois.ldp@gmail.com, 613-402-1899

References:

- Infolettre sur la marche
- Vidéo promotionnelle de l'événement