



Midwest-Canada Critical Minerals Workshop

Hosted by:

MLC Midwest-Canada Relations Committee, MLC Energy & Environment Committee, and the Consulate General of Canada in Chicago

Embassy Suites by Hilton Chicago Downtown River North | Chicago, Illinois
November 14-15, 2024

Preliminary Agenda

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Meet-and-Greet Reception (Optional)** [Rivernorth AB Room]

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 [All General Sessions will take place in Rivernorth CD Room]

6:30 – 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast** [Mezzanine]
Enjoy a free and fresh made-to-order breakfast. Note, there is no separate breakfast for this meeting, space is shared with other hotel guests.

8:00 – 8:15 a.m. **Welcome and introductions**
Ontario MPP Ernie Hardeman, Co-Chair, MLC Midwest-Canada Relations Committee
TBD, Officer, MLC Environment & Energy Committee
TBD, Title, Consulate General of Canada in Chicago

8:15 – 9:45 a.m. **Defining Critical Minerals and Their Uses**
An introduction to the topic. What does the United States and Canada define as “critical” minerals, why are they important, and what are they used for?
Charles Bopp, Resource Geologist, Illinois State Geological Survey

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. **Sponsor Recognition/Remarks**
We will recognize some of the workshop’s sponsors at this time and hear from them.
TBD, Title, Organization

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 CONT. [All General Sessions will take place in Rivernorth CD Room]

10:30 – 12:00 p.m. Critical Minerals Locations in the Midwest and Canada
This session will geographically center the conversation and inform attendees about where these critical minerals are located in the region.
Jamey Jones, *Science Coordinator, Earth Mapping Resources Initiative, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch [Rivernorth AB Room]

1:00 – 2:15 p.m. Critical Minerals Processing and Manufacturing
Covering how and where critical minerals are processed once they are out of the ground and their manufacturing purposes once they are processed.
Jack Lifton, *Co-Chairman, Critical Minerals Institute (CMI)*

2:15 – 2:30 p.m. Sponsor Recognition/Remarks
We will recognize some of the workshop's sponsors at this time and hear from them.
TBD, *Title, Organization*

2:30 – 3:45 p.m. Funding Opportunities to Support the Supply Chain
Federal policies and legislation are investing in critical minerals. This session will look at how funding is currently being provided, how it should be provided, and how state and provincial governments can also help develop the industry.
Olivia Alves, *Senior Associate, Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)*
Tracy Hughes, *Executive Director, Critical Minerals Institute (CMI)*

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Case Study
Highlight jurisdictions in the region that have already developed a comprehensive critical minerals strategy.
Jocelyn Douh ret (*virtual*), *Director of Mining Policies Office, Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests*

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Reception [Rivernorth A Room]

7:00 p.m. Dinner [Rivernorth B Room]

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15 [All General Sessions will take place in Rivernorth CD Room]

- 6:30 – 8:00 a.m.** **Breakfast** [Mezzanine]
Enjoy a free and fresh made-to-order breakfast. Note, there is no separate breakfast for this meeting, space is shared with other hotel guests.
- 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.** **National and Regional Security Impacts of Increased Production**
Taking a look at the geopolitical impacts of increased critical minerals mining, processing, and manufacturing in North America.
Abigail Hunter, Executive Director, Center for Critical Mineral Strategy,
SAFE
- 9:30 – 9:45 a.m.** **Sponsor Recognition/Remarks**
Jeff Reed, Government Relations Director – Midwest Region, American
Honda Motor Company
- 9:45 – 10:15 a.m.** **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.** **Roundtable Discussion**
This will be an opportunity for legislators to share thoughts and discuss aspects of the critical minerals supply chain in their states like mining, production, manufacturing, etc.
Facilitators: TBD, Officer, MLC Energy & Environment Committee; and
North Dakota Rep. David Monson, Vice Chair, MLC Midwest-Canada Relations Committee
- 11:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.** **Closing Remarks**
North Dakota Rep. David Monson, Vice Chair, MLC Midwest-Canada Relations Committee
TBD, Officer, MLC Environment & Energy Committee
TBD, Title, Consulate General of Canada in Chicago
- 12:00 p.m.** **Adjourn**

The Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC) and the Consulate General of Canada in Chicago would like to thank American Honda Motor Company, Stardust Power, Natural Resources Canada, and the Government of Québec for their generous support of the Midwest-Canada Critical Minerals Workshop.