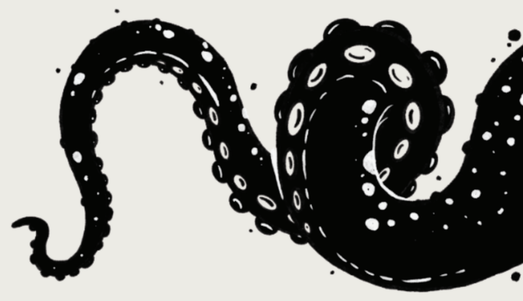


NO MINING WITHOUT MILITARISM & NO MILITARISM WITHOUT MINING



The Mining Injustice Solidarity Network (MISN) is a Toronto-based grassroots collective organizing against Canadian mining violence in the belly of the beast. Mining is a stronghold of global militarism. This poster is both an educational resource and organizing tool to disrupt Tkaronto's role as headquarters for global mining and vital anchor for the mining-military complex. It illustrates the ***'Mining and Militarism'*** cycle—from land theft for mineral extraction to manufacturing weapons used in occupation. Each phase offers knowledge and practical intervention points for community resistance.

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1.
Demand for "Critical" Minerals

Ex: lithium (EVs, batteries), nickel (steel, tools), cobalt (electronics), aluminum (transport). "Critical minerals" are mined metal that states like Canada and Australia deem necessary for everyday life and national security. Ballooning military demand accelerates investment in critical mineral production. States support and partner with mining companies to maintain and expand production of "critical" minerals.

"Critical" for who? The military and large swaths of the corporate sector.

In the face of projected critical mineral deficits globally, the language of "critical mineral" is a new excuse for land theft, military expansion, and invasion. The new arms race has turned mining into global military dominance. In the 2022 Critical Minerals Strategy, Canada categorizes spending on critical minerals as defense spending, blurring the lines between mining and military spending.

2.
Looking for Minerals

AKA exploring. Once a prospector has made a 'mineral discovery', investors pour huge amounts of money into exploration. Junior mining companies try to find minerals, with no regard for communities' existence, in the logic of terra nullius (latin for nobody's land). **Exploration is a high overhead cost, so Canada and Ontario have created tax-avoidant flow-through shares that make investing in juniors a 'tax break' for the ultra-rich: funds that would have gone towards the public good are funneled into exploration. These shares attract investment into the world's largest market for juniors: the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX).**

Juniors lay the groundwork for future mines by IDing viable mineral deposits, often without community knowledge nor consent. Juniors then begin securing land rights (including subsurface rights) and mining licenses, often secretively. They spend to create a ready-to-mine site to sell to a senior mining company, like **Barrick Gold or Rio Tinto.** Exploration can take 5-15 years. **Community resistance is often met with violence: threats, attacks, & assassinations.**

3.
Laying the Groundwork: Making or breaking the mine

The existence of mineral deposits isn't enough to 'sell' a mining prospect to a senior mining company. Investing in a site's profitability means neutralizing risk and removing obstacles-to-profit. These include community unity, Indigenous cultural values and governance, communal or uncooperative property owners, environmental regulations and permits, and trade restrictions such as tariffs or royalty payment laws. Safeguarding these protectors is the best chance to stop mining projects from moving forward.

As projects progress, companies court local communities by promising new infrastructure and economic development during community consultation processes, and giving early gifts. Companies also try to by-pass consultations and approach residents one-on-one. Juniors work with powerful stakeholders in back-room negotiations to draft royalty and secure permits, often with bribes. Companies leverage coercive means like militarization and targeted attacks against uncooperative community members and opposition movements (assassinations, kidnappings). Mining companies will hire private security and collude with local police and army, thereby militarizing communities to enforce company interests.

This phase is critical. Companies work to keep local residents unaware and create divisions to prevent new obstacles-to-profit. Communities can fight back with research, outreach and education. Unity is a community's biggest asset and a project's greatest vulnerability.



4.
The Operational Mine

Senior mining companies (Seniors) purchase ready-to-mine sites from juniors and begin large-scale operations. To make a mine operational, Seniors spend gigantic amounts of investor capital, creating immense pressure to generate a return on investment. Companies build expensive mine facilities: open pits or deep shafts, access roads, power generators, export facilities, and large industrial processing plants that begin rudimentary refining processes on-site.

Mines refine rock on site in a smelting process: heating raw rock in a furnace to its melting point to separate the mineral ore from 'waste.' Next, refining involves a combination of fire, chemical reactions, and destroying rock structure to separate the purity of the mineral ore. Smelting is a refining process for metals. While mineral ores are sent away, communities are left with: toxic waste, increased noise, strangers entering the community to work at the mine, changes in air and water quality, militarization.

Mines are subject to fluctuations in mineral prices, meaning they may close well re-open at different moments, or even expand. When mines close at the end of their lifespan or due to bankruptcy, companies rarely seal them off properly. Communities inherit their toxic legacy, while investors keep profits.

Mining infrastructure allows mines to sell mineral ore and keep prices high. Keeping operational costs low ensures high profits on its sale to repay overhead costs and maintain investor interests. Disruptions to the infrastructure and mining operations increase the cost of the ore product, which is why companies hire private security and collaborate with military or policing. Military presence protects the mine and its profitability. **The mines are rarely dismantled because of their ability to generate enormous profits to purchase impunity.**

5.
Stripping and Refining: Shipping riches out of sacrifice zones

Smelted ores leave their original territories—disproportionately located in Indigenous lands and in the Global South—destined for the refineries owned by corporations largely based in rich industrialized nations. Highly engineered refining processes happen in specialised industrial plants with expensive patented technology.

Corporations in Rich industrialized nations reap the profits of this monopolized, high-value-adding step to sell commercially viable metals to civilian and military clients. Trade secrets, customer lists, and financial data remain confidential and largely unavailable to the public. This arrangement makes it difficult to track which ores are used to build weapons.

Mining companies profit off the destruction of impacted communities, turning Indigenous territories into extractive zones, while locating refineries in wealthier and more stable regional industrial hubs, often in Indigenous territories in the Global North. Refineries often gain political influence and suppress dissent in these towns due to the jobs and the supposed economic value they bring.

Man camps house temporary workers and bring increased risk of sexual assault, particularly against Indigenous women.

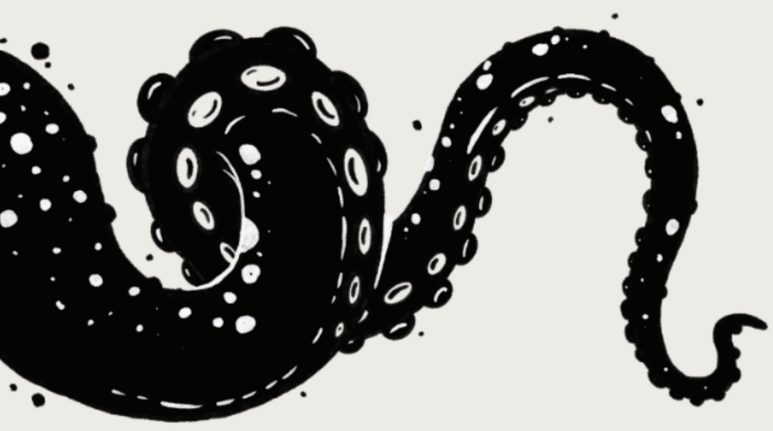
The permanent and ongoing impacts of mining and refining cause long-term contamination of the land and environment, and long-term health effects. Communities and territories that are polluted during both the extraction and refining stages pay the price—often referred to as sacrifice zones.

This phase offers opportunities for resistance since companies ship in ores and ship out refined metals via railways and access roads. Communities have interrupted production and cut into profits by blockading transportation routes and access points.

6.
Forging and Machining Weapons, Shipment to Conflict Zones

The manufacturing of weapons of war from metals makes it clear: **there is no militarism without mining, and no mining without militarism.** Weapons manufacturers depend on a cheap, steady supply of metals to build the technologies of war. The forging and machining of metals into weapons happens in the private sector, making it hard to track which shipments are used for war and occupation. The weapons industry is not required to disclose clients and metal sourcing. Vast global supply chains and multiple end-use applications—mixing war materials with civilian use—further complicate the task of linking a mine to a specific gun, bomb, or other weapon. In some cases, companies will ship military components on passenger flights.

Ongoing conflicts only increase the demand for metals, which re-starts the mining process. Mining for defense weapons is dominated by many of the highly financialized major stakeholders—mostly asset managers like **Blackrock and Legal & General.** The line between mining and weapons becomes one of degrees and highly entangled steps. Demand for weapons justifies invading Indigenous territories to create new mines. In some cases, mined metals will be used as the very weapons deployed to subdue communities resisting mining. **Linking the weapons used to create mines with the weapons forged from mines reveals: there is no mining without militarism, and no militarism without mining.**



MINING INJUSTICE SOLIDARITY NETWORK

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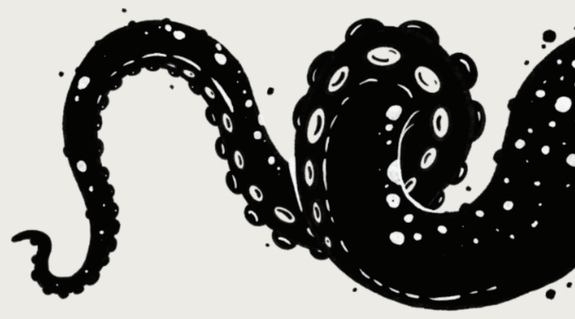
PRACTICAL INTERVENTIONS FOR COMMUNITY RESISTANCE



Demand for Critical Minerals

Hyperconsumption: buying and replacing cars, phones, etc. made with minerals deemed 'critical.'

Increased state military spending, and militarized state presence in our communities

Campaigns to reduce military budgets, defund police, abolish military arms deals to fight mining abuse at its root. See World Beyond War Canada.

In June 2025, land defenders from around Turtle Island set up an encampment at Queen's Park in Toronto to protest the announcement of Ontario's Bill 5 and Canada's Bill C-5. Both bills seek to forgo Indigenous consultation and fast track infrastructure projects, especially mines, in the name of national security.

Green transition for who? Promoting 'green,' hyper consumption and tech-based solutions—rather than degrowth, cyclical or traditional economic alternatives—is a form of greenwashing. Greenwashed consumption has increased the amount of minerals needed, hypocritically ramping up harmful mining practices

Green tech = more mining = more carbon emissions. Since 2010, 'green energy' technologies have increased the average amount of minerals needed for each unit of power generation by 50%. Electric solutions drive up global demand for minerals, such as copper, lithium, cobalt, and graphite, which at current rates of consumption will increase x4 by 2040. Metals & mining are responsible for more than half of greenhouse global industry emissions, which is 12% of overall global emissions. Critical minerals are not low-carbon solutions.

Today, mining companies in Guatemala hold land titles bought during the armed conflict, and hire ex-military personnel as security staff. Between 1960 and 1996, the State killed over 200,000 people of mostly Maya descent, while displacing 1.5 million people. Guatemalan dictators financed their genocide by selling evacuated lands to prospectors: transnational mining, fossil fuels and agribusiness. A military base was hosted on **INCO's** Fenix mine property.

Mining Policy is War Policy. The Canada-U.S. Joint Action Plan on Critical Minerals Collaboration seeks "to advance joint initiatives to address shared mineral security concerns — helping ensure the continued economic growth and national security of both Canada and the U.S," aka to protect mining-to-militarism supply chains. Canada supplies 13 critical minerals to the US. In October 2025, Canada announced a Canadian-led initiative with the G7 to boost critical mineral access for select foreign partners in the name of 'collective defence.'

Increased military budgets imply more mining. Canada ranks 16th highest for military spending globally, with 2022's defence budget making up 7.3% of the overall Federal Budget. Canada is sixth-highest among all NATO allies, at $35 billion for military spending in 2022 — a 75 per cent increase since 2014.

Looking for Minerals

Roped off holes, sounds of drilling, mystery men in communities, removing rock samples

Global Mining is ¾ Canadian, and the companies lobby our governments. Canada hosts 1,400 mining and exploration firms and the value of Canadian mining assets totalled C$336.7 billion in 2023. C$220.4 billion (aprox. ⅔) is abroad, across 95 countries (2021). 40% of the world's publicly traded mining companies are listed on the TSX and TSXV, the majority of which are juniors.

Canada funds the ideological foundations for extraction. The Canadian International Institute for Extractive Industries and Development (CIIEID) promotes university policy research for rewriting foreign subsoil laws to enable mining abroad. **The Canada International Development Agency** funded CIEID at 3 Canadian public universities. CCIIED (now rebranded CIRDI) promotes a "Sustainable Economic Growth" strategy that labels Canada's mining interests abroad as sustainable development.

Canada supported the 2009 post-coup Military Gov in Honduras, which reversed environmental laws that threatened Canadian gold profits and curbed mining exploration. While the international community decried the new dictatorship, Canada's then-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for the Americas advised against the return of the democratically elected Zelaya. Canada immediately began negotiating a trade deal with the new dictatorship, which increased trade and mining investment between the two countries.

Military, police, and paramilitaries protect private investment, suppress protest, and create displacement. As the Colombian Peace process declined in the 2000s, **the Canadian International Development Agency**, partnered with a Colombian law firm and a think-tank at the University of Calgary, to help re-write Colombia's mining code. Canadian mining companies increased their assets in Colombia from $30 billion to $210 billion between 2005 and 2015. The Harper government pushed the Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) in 2011, enhanced military & RCMP training there to support the "War on Drugs" Colombia became one of the deadliest countries for land defenders.

Ontario taxpayers are subsidizing exploration. The Ontario Government launched the **Ontario Junior Exploration Program** (OJEP) in 2021, and since then, has funneled $48 million into exploration. OJEP provides up to $200,000 CAD per exploration project to cover 50% of eligible expenses.

Government digital platforms for "free entry permits" refuse to uphold Indigenous consultation law in Ontario & Quebec. In a few clicks & a swipe online, miners can undertake exploration activities, such as rock scouring and scraping. In Quebec, 499 tons can be tested for deposits without any consultation. BC also tried to implement free entry permits, but communities challenged this system, requiring consultation before staking claims.

In Ontario, the government pays and maintains a Geological Survey to attract exploration on Indigenous land. This survey highlights spots where 'critical minerals' may be 'discovered' and is funded by the Ministry of Energy and Mines.

Pension funds offer a huge source of funding for Juniors. Everyday Canadians have created campaigns advocating for divestment. They have also highlighted the complicity of Canada's BiG-5 Banks in funding mining. Canadians should continue to demand more accountability to ensure their money is not being used to fund mining.

Advocates demand adherence to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and the right to say no at the stage of exploration. Exploration without FPIC is consistently found to be illegal across jurisdictions.

In 2019, Mitchikanibikok Inik First Nation challenged Quebec's mining act, which allows for exploration companies or individuals to register mining claims online and bypass Indigenous consultation and consent processes. In October 2024, the court ruled that free entry violates the province's duty to consult and accommodate First Nations.

Xinka peoples in Guatemala were lied to when Tahoe Resources arrived, as their land was being bought up for a supposed greenhouse megafarm. Later, communities found out it was a mining company.

Land defenders exposing exploration sites are at risk for violence, and even targeted assassinations. On May 14, 2025, land defender Misael Mata Asencio was shot dead in the Sierra Santa Cruz, Guatemala, where Montreal's Central America Resources is exploring. Working with a 54 community alliance, Asencio led tours exposing bore holes left by exploration drilling. Victor Colindrez of the 54 communities was killed on Dec 14, 2025.

Junior mining companies often take advantage of ongoing conflicts to gain access to land, using critical minerals and the green transition to justify exploration.

Laying the Groundwork

Roped off work sites, with security guards that prevent community members from entering. More unknown men arrive, bringing construction materials. Sounds of construction, like drilling, intensify. Communities may notice more pollution in the air and nearby water sources from construction.

A MISN member visited a community in Guatemala where the sound of drilling made conversation almost impossible, foundations of houses were cracking. The company was manipulating community members into one on one meetings that they then framed as consultation, regardless of whether these community members voiced opposition or concerns.

In Puebla Mexico, Nahua and Totonaco Indigenous communities shut down the Minera Gorrin's Ixtacamaxtitlan gold mine in 2024, which is owned by Canadian company **Almaden.** Almaden began exploration in the territory of 15 Indigenous communities in 2001, lying about the existence of Indigenous peoples and the environmental impact of the exploration phase. The government canceled the license prior to beginning open-pit mining due to the company's failure to consult Indigenous communities and lies about environmental impacts. The Ejidos Union, which are communal lands owned by Indigenous communities, played a key role in pointing out differences in the amount of drilling compared to what Almaden reported to shareholders. Additionally, the Ejidos union reported damage to aquifers and livestock. When Almadan tried to claim damages from the Mexican government for the loss of what would have been an annul production of 108,500 ounces of gold and 7.06 million ounces of silver yearly, the court dismissed the case due to the various lies.

Traditional governance systems unify communities and fend off division planted by mining companies. The Xinka Parliament in Guatemala played a key role in organizing communities across their territory against Canadian owned Pan American Silver's Escobal mine by filing legal petitions to force the company to comply with its duty to consult in 2018. After organizing visits across their territory to hear from different communities, the Xinka Parliament denied consent in May 2025. This comes after years of threats, assassinations, and violence against land defenders, with the company even going as far as to deny the presence of Indigenous people in Xinka territory.

Governments and mining companies will engage in disingenuous consultation processes to fast track projects. In what is being termed as "Drive-by-consultation", Doug Ford's government recently air-dropped documents to the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation about the Ring of Fire project in Ontario.

Unenforceable empty promises: Corporate Social Responsibility. Gain approval from local communities by promising jobs and economic development. Promising new infrastructure-building schools, new roads, etc.

In the territory of the Ipili people in Papau New Guinea, Canadian mining company **Barrick Gold** operates the Porgera mine. Barrick hired private security companies to work with local law enforcement to protect the mine. In 2014, security forces targeted 119 women protesting the mine in the early 2010s , using excessive force and sexual violene like gang rape. Until recently, there have been very few recourses to hold these companies accountable in Canada, and current measures only allow for civil suits from international victims.

Canadian Embassies, with the support of Global Affairs Canada, help Canadian companies streamline mining projects by changing guidelines on exporting policy and negotiating with government officials. In Guatemala, the Canadian government has played an active role in trying to push the "Escobal Mine" project through, despite resistance from Xinka communities. Canadian officials lobby at the OAS, and have allegedly interfered in IACTHR proceedings, in favour of mining companies.

Forging and Machining Weapons, Shipment to Conflict Zones

While shrouded in confidentiality, some information can be found in export and import ledgers, government arms export permits, tax records.

Weapons built with mined metals return to the mine as militarized presence, and ex-military personnel as mine security. Police and militaries protect the mines that build their guns and tanks.

In February 2024, 200 workers, union members and activists blocked entrance to **TTM technologies** in Toronto. Frustrated by the government's failure to enact an arms embargo, protestors imposed an arms embargo. World Beyond War found that TTM, formally **Viasystems Toronto Inc,** "exported circuit boards from their Canadian location destined for consignees **Elbit Systems** & **Artem Technologies Ltd,** two Israeli companies." Furthermore, WBW found that Viasystems, obtained export permits under a category that includes "Bombs, torpedoes, rockets, missiles, other explosive devices and charges and related equipment and accessories [..] and specially designed components." Other TTM applications include parts for integrated radio communication systems for ground forces; display and communications systems for American made F-15 and F-16 fighter jets. Finally, Viasystems applied for permits to export circuit boards to be used in the "Lizard guided kit", which allows for the conversion of "general purpose bombs to precision strike munitions". Protestors slowed down work that day, in an effort to prevent the export of items to the Israeli government.

Pressure for demilitarization, transparency in arms industry. In November 2024, Canadians organized a nationwide protest to expose Canada's role in the production and maintenance of F-35s. Protesters targeted various components needed for **Lockheed Martin's** war plane, which Israel uses to bomb neighborhoods, schools, and refugee camps in Palestine and Lebanon. Protesters targeted **Ben Machine** products in Vaughan Ontario, which is the only factory in North America capable of producing electro-hydraulic actuation systems. In Ottawa, protestors target Gastops for their critical role in manufacturing F-35's engine sensors. This action forms part of a call for a full, two-way Canadian arms embargo on Israel.

Every year, Toronto hosts the world's largest Prospectors and Development Conference, which attracts mining companies and governmental organizations from all over the world. During PDAC, mining companies set their public relations, coming up with ways to sell people and governments on mining, particularly 'responsible mining, labor and environmental practices'. In reality, PDAC helps facilitate relationships between companies and investors. Countries even pay to be title sponsors so they can engage in discussions on how to streamline mining permits and operations to attract more development. Canada is always one of the two country sponsors.

Despite imposing an arms embargo against Israel in 2024, Canadian producers continue to export goods to Israel by first shipping parts to the United States. Canadian companies export military goods to the United States, with very little permitting, regulation or tracking of final destination. For every other country, Canada requires permits and takes precautions to ensure there are not elevated risk of use for war crimes and human rights violations. However, this is not the case for the US, which means many companies simply ship goods through the United States destined to the Israeli government to circumvent the arms embargo.

On July 29, 2025, the Arms Embargo Now coalition dropped a bomb shell report revealing ongoing exports to Israel, despite the Government insisting otherwise. The report reveals 47 shipments of military components from manufactures in Canada directly to Israel between October 2023 and July 2025. In April 2025, a single shipment of bullets contained 175,000 bullets. Nine days after the Foreign Affairs minister pledged to block munitions Ordnance and Tactical Systems (GD-OTS) in Quebec. Seven Canadian cities exported goods to **Elbit systems**, which is Israel's largest weapons company. Finally, 64 commercial passenger flights leaving Canada transported military components through Frankfurt, Paris, New York, Abu Dhabi, and New Delhi. These weapons continued to be exported because of a record number of permits authorized prior to the January 2024 pause.

In May 2025, Amnesty international almost certainly confirmed that the United Arab Emirates is re-exporting Chinese weaponry to the Sudanese Rapid Response forces (RSF) that has been used in two Sudanese cities, Darfur and Khartoum. Amnesty International identified Chinese GB50A manufactured by **Norinco Group** or **China North Industries Group Corporation Limited)** guided bombs and 155mm AH-4 howitzers. UAE's re-export violates the UN arms embargo.

Organizations like the **Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC)** act as prime contractors, helping Canadian companies secure contracts with foreign governments, particularly the U.S. Dept. of Defense. A prominent example is the contract awarded to **General Dynamics Ordnance** and **Tactical Systems-Canada**, a major supplier of propellants for 155mm artillery shells to the US military.

Stripping and Refining

In Canada, refineries are typically located in working class and/or Indigenous communities in the north, who also do not benefit from the refining process. Much like the communities of origin, refining communities experience exposure to toxic chemicals and limited investment in basic infrastructure and other community investments. In both places, companies invest just enough to secure labor. Building solidarity between these two groups offers important possibilities of resistance.

Refining processes require a diversity of chemical compounds, some of which are highly toxic, and heavy metals are released into the environment as fine particles. Communities near refineries are often affected by illness related to this pollution.

In 2013 community members in Attawapiskat blockaded the De Beers diamond mine demanding a better impact benefit agreement. De Beers filed an injunction and protestors took the blockade down under threat of arrest.

Marten Falls First Nation is creating environmental assessments of proposed roads to facilitate mining in Northern Ontario's Ring of Fire. Transportation infrastructure is key for the rapid expansion of mining in the area, marketed as necessary for 'green technology' and electric batteries. With the passing of Bill 5 in Ontario and C-5 federally, First Nations in the region worry about the government's ability to fast track projects and implement exemptions from regulatory processes, like environmental assessments. The lack of infrastructure has played an important role in keeping mining projects at bay in the Ring of Fire, and environmental assessments like the one performed by Marten Falls First Nation could play a key role in stopping infrastructure needed for mining.

In 2010, claimants in Port Colbourne won in a class action lawsuit against **INCO,** who operated a nickel smelting plant from 1918-1984. Ontario's superior court awarded the claimants $36 million in damages to 7,000 residents for over 60 years of elevated nickel levels that undermined property values. Residents' health has been affected, yet remains understudied; this point was not argued at trial. However, in 2011, INCO won the appeal due to evidence suggesting that INCO operated consistently with other industrialized operations in the area. The court reasoned that the evidence did not show the smelter had created elevated risks beyond "normal" industrial operations.

Greening the mining process, such as Rio Tinto's low-carbon aluminium smelter in Quebec. **Rio Tinto** is building a low-carbon Aluminum smelter in Sagueney, Quebec. When combined with hydropower, Rio Tinto claims the smelter will produce 1/7th of greenhouse gases per tonne of aluminum compared to the industry standard. In an effort to become "the world champion of green aluminum", Quebec is offering a $15 million CAD subsidy to decarbonize value chains and meet demands for aluminum used in transportation, construction, and consumer goods. However, aluminum smelting contaminates the air with dust that turns the snow black in the winter and makes it difficult to open windows in the summer. Smelting also releases raw bauxite material, which is toxic and corrosive. In 2022, bauxite dust turned the snow red. Today, residents living in Saguenay have the highest rates of cancer in the province. Rio Tinto has not addressed any of these issues.

The Operational Mine

Interrupts everyday life and traditional economies. More noise, more contamination, more dependency on the mine for jobs and basic services. Following an increase of jobs during the construction of the mine, operating mines require less labor, leading to a job crash. Tailings ponds and slag pipes. New roads and transportation infrastructure to ship materials out. New illnesses: UTI's, heavy metal poisoning (nausea, diarrhea, abdominal pain, chills), respiratory illnesses (COPD, pulmonary fibrosis)

Asbestos (lung cancer and mesothelioma), diesel engine exhaust (lung and bladder cancer); cystaliline silica (lung cancer and silicosis); radon (lung cancer); arsenic (lung, skin and bladder cancer)

In February 2025, six communities living near the Pueblo Viejo mine in the Dominican Republic set up barricades to disrupt **Barrick's** ability to create a second tailings dam. Despite being in negotiations, Barrick tried to move forward. Protestors created barricades to prevent machinery from entering.

Personnel move from the military to the mining industry. Mynor Padilla is an example of a military Colonel who transitioned into Head of Security of **HudBay Minerals**' (Toronto) Fenix mine. In this case, Padilla is part of an army committing genocide, and later is found guilty for the murder of Maya Q'eqchi' land defender Adolfo Ich Chaman. Choc v. HudBay Minerals has become a leading case in holding Toronto companies accountable for negligence leading to murder abroad.

Companies are not held accountable for environmental contamination. In February 2025, a tailings dam holding waste from Sino-Metals Leach Zambia's copper mine collapsed. The spill dumped 1.5 million tonnes of toxic metals into the Kafue River basin, contaminating water sources, killing livestock, and destroying livelihoods. Community members complained of headaches, coughing, diarrhoea, and other health issues in the wake of the spill. While Sino-Metals Leach has promised compensation, many have yet to receive anything as of September 2025. Furthermore, damage to livelihoods will require more extensive and long term compensation.

Mining companies use sexual violence to subdue protests. Rape and gang rape are common tactics weilded by militarized security forces against women. Between 2003-2011, Vancouver based **Skye Resources,** now acquired by Hudbay Minerals, operated the El Estor mine in Eastern Guatemala. During this time, mine personal raped 11 Q'eqchi women, along with opening fire on protesters.Mines also bring an increase of new men into the community, who often target Indigenous women. 11 of these women have received some compensation through the Choc v. HudBay trials.

Mining companies do not close mines properly. In Canada, Dene communities in Yellowknife living near the Giant Mine's gold mine that operated between 1948-2004 have documented the history of arsenic pollution and elevated risks of cancer and other health issues that persist today due to the company's failure to mitigate contamination during the operation of the mine. The company also failed to properly close down the mine.

The front side of the poster lays out the mining-military cycle, giving an overview of each stage. The back side of the poster shares facts and community experiences at each stage, corresponding to 7 themes connecting mining to militarism (each theme is identified by its icon). For example, the theme of Canadian complicity exists in every stage of the cycle, taking on different forms. Following the icon in each stage demonstrates how Canadian complicity moves the mining-militarism cycle forward, often in conjunction with other motives. Some examples have more than one icon, such as the "Mining policy is war policy" example in stage 1. Examples with 2 icons show how various themes work together or oppose one another, such as in the "Marten Falls First Nation" example in stage 5.

What does it look like? | Stories of Resistance | Canadian Connection | Militarism | Greenwashing | Corporate Tactics

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