

Canada considering if critical mineral exports to China should be limited: Wilkinson

MIA RABSON
The Canadian Press

Natural Resources Minister Jonathan Wilkinson said the new critical minerals strategy published Friday doesn't specifically bar Canadian mines from exporting critical minerals and metals to countries like China.

Nor will it prevent companies from taking advantage of any of the \$3.8 billion in promised investments if they intend to ship the metals produced to non-democratic countries.

But Wilkinson said the federal government is looking at whether new policies are needed to limit where Canadian critical minerals can be exported.

"That is something that we are obviously live to and are discussing internally," he said.

The 58-page strategy is the culmination of several years of consultations and is intended to help Canada take advantage of what Wilkinson repeatedly calls a "generational opportunity."

In 2020 the World Bank predicted that demand for critical minerals - dozens of metals and minerals like lithium and copper that are used in batteries and clean energy generation - will soar by 500 per cent by 2050.

Currently China is the powerhouse performer in the field as the top producer of a number of elements and the leader when it comes to refining and processing most of them for use in battery production and other technology manufacturing.

The need to solidify supplies of these minerals among Canada's allies took on new urgency this year after the Russian invasion in Ukraine and the ensuing energy crisis in Europe, which has heavily depended on Russia for natural gas and oil.

Wilkinson said that was a strategic mistake that should not be repeated with critical minerals.

"Western countries are increasingly concerned about being dependent on a small number of non-democratic jurisdictions for critical mineral supply and processing," he said.



CP FILE PHOTO

A tapper taps nickel-copper matt in the flash furnace of Vale SA smelter complex in Copper Cliff, Ont., in this 2010 file photo. Canada's new \$4 billion critical minerals strategy will at first focus on the six categories of metals and minerals with the biggest potential for growth.

Earlier this fall, Innovation Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne announced a policy to review and limit the investments of state-owned enterprises in Canadian critical mineral projects. Three Chinese companies have been ordered to divest their Canadian holdings so far, and at least one of those sales has now happened.

On Dec. 2, Australian firm Winsome Resources signed a \$2-million deal to buy the stake China-based Sinomine Rare Metals Resources held in Vancouver-based Power Metals. That includes the rights to export lithium, cesium and tantalum at the Case Lake Project in Ontario.

That project is still in development. But Sinomine is also the owner of the Tanco mine in Manitoba, which a year ago began producing lithium again. All of it is being shipped to China for processing.

Pierre Gratton, president of the Mining Association of Canada, said export controls would be "a very heavy stick," but given the huge demand all over the world he does not expect it would be a major problem to find

other customers.

"None of us in our industry are blind to the fact that the world is changing," Gratton said.

"I think I've heard deputy prime minister (Chrystia) Freeland say we're re-entering some kind of new Cold War. And that is definitely going to change investment and trade flows; it already has. And we'll just have to see how it evolves."

Gratton had high praise for the new strategy Friday, calling it a thorough and articulate road map that will help drive investment to the Canadian mining industry.

"It's a pretty exciting time for the industry," he said. "It's hard not to feel pretty optimistic about this."

The strategy has five broad objectives - economic growth, climate action, advancing reconciliation, ensuring a diverse workforce and global security.

Canada has deposits of most of the 31 critical minerals on its list, but is choosing in its strategy to initially focus on the six with the greatest potential for growth.

Steep surcharges for mailing parcels may dampen Holiday spirits

CAITLIN YARDLEY
The Canadian Press

Canadians and small businesses sending parcels this holiday season may be surprised to see a steep surcharge on domestic shipping due to the high price of diesel.

One small business owner from Surrey, B.C. said she was shocked by the cost of a recent shipment with Canada Post.

Deb Baldry creates reusable face masks and bags made out of sustainably sourced material such as cork for her business, Deb's Bags.

While Baldry is satisfied with Canada Post as a service, she said "it's the costs associated with it, it's shocking and all of us makers are trying to find something else we can do."

This week, Baldry shipped a \$75 bag for \$18.97, including a fuel surcharge of \$5.12.

The Canadian postal service's package surcharge rose to nearly 40 per cent last week on domestic parcels and fell slightly to 37 per cent this week.

The fuel-based surcharge has been a standard company practice for more than 20 years and is based on the average price of diesel as measured by Kalibrate Technologies Ltd., said Phil Rogers, spokesman for Canada Post in an emailed statement.

"Fuel surcharges are applied year-round as a standard industry practice for parcel shippers," he said.

Baldry is among the many who started operating her small business full-time during the pandemic.

Rogers said that Canada Post services thousands of small businesses across Canada that saw a particular spike in e-commerce after the pandemic.

"We expect that to continue this holiday season," he said.

However, Baldry said she has shifted her business model to accommodate for the postal fees, opting to sell the majority of her merchandise at local markets rather than online.

"I actually dread when people purchase things from my website," said Baldry.

Despite the higher-than-normal prices, Canada Post anticipates a busy holiday season as Rogers said the postal service has hired 4,500 additional staff and 1,550 more vehicles to accommodate the holiday shipping surge.

Deadlines for domestic shipping vary on priority, but regular parcels shipped in Canada should be sent between Dec. 9 and 19 to arrive in time for Christmas.

Even sooner is the deadline to ship internationally, which varies depending on the country.

More than half of Canadians facing food budget constraints, Salvation Army poll suggests

The Canadian Press

A new survey suggests the rising cost of living has forced more than half of Canadians to cut costs in myriad ways including by choosing cheaper, less healthy foods and skipping medications.

The Salvation Army released the data today as part of its Christmas fundraising campaign.

Research by Edelman Data & Intelligence suggests a growing number of Canadians are worried about inflation costs, with 52 per cent of those polled reporting food-related budget challenges over the past year. That's up from 39 per cent the year before.

Among the tough spending choices of respondents, 41 per cent said they bought cheaper, less nutritious food; 21 per cent skipped or reduced the size of a meal; and/or 11 per cent skipped buying a regular medication.

PUBLIC NOTICES



8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages.....	403.529.8260
Gas Emergency.....	403.529.8191
Water & Sewer Emergency.....	403.502.8042
After Hours Special Services.....	403.526.2828

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED DECEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 7, 2022 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL

920 ROSS GLEN DRIVE SE (Lot 7, Block 36, Plan 8211521) PLDP20221065. Garage.



COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/INSTITUTIONAL

1750 GERSHAW DRIVE SW (Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0512589) PLDP20220966. Change Of Use (Retail And Consumer Services).

1421 BRIER PARK CRESCENT NW (Lot 7, Block 2, Plan 0611657) PLDP20221010. Industrial Support Services (Addition).

746 DIVISION AVENUE NW (Lot 25, Block 13, Plan 703HE) PLDP20221043. One Fascia Sign.

80 2410 DIVISION AVENUE NW (Lot 1, Block 21, Plan 0110766) PLDP20221046. One Fascia Sign.

102 520 2 STREET SE (Lots 35 & 36, Block 5, Plan 1491) PLDP20221072. Change Of Use (Offices).

HOME BUSINESS

852 A BRAEMAR STREET SE (Lot 15, Block 38, Plan 56507) PLDP20220610. Home Business Minor. Transportation Network Company.

1564 11 AVENUE NE (Lot 15, Block 4, Plan 47JK) PLDP20220995. Home Business Minor. Production Services (Music).

18 SOMERSET WAY SE (Lot 25, Block 4, Plan 0612243) PLDP20221002. Home Business Minor. Photography and Equipment.

98 SUNDOWN ROAD SW (Lot 4, Block 32, Plan 0412173) PLDP20221014. Home Business Minor. Bakery.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca.

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

2023 TRANSIT TERMINAL PARKING PASSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Located at the corner of 4 Street SE & 6 Avenue SE
Current rates are available on the City of Medicine Hat website:

<https://www.medicinehat.ca/en/roads-parking-and-transportation/transit-parking.aspx>

Parking passes are available for purchase at City Hall Cashiers.

Payment options are cash, cheque or debit.
Fees in effect until December 29, 2022.

Prices are subject to change in 2023.



www.medicinehat.ca

PROTECT WATER LINES FROM FREEZING

The following actions should be considered to protect your water lines during the cold weather months:

- Repair broken windows and ensure windows/vents are closed during the winter.
- Insulate water pipes in unheated areas, including crawl spaces.
- For sinks located against a non-insulated outside wall:
 - Open the vanity door to allow warm air to reach the water pipes.
 - A light bulb placed near the water pipe may generate enough heat to keep the water flowing.
 - Heat tape wrapped around the pipe may keep the pipe from freezing.
- Residents of mobile homes should check the condition of the heat tape on their water service and water meter.
- Protect an unheated indoor water meter with an insulated box and water pipes should be wrapped in insulation using heat tape.
- Outside water faucets and underground sprinkler systems should have the water supply shut off inside the house at the isolation valve for the faucet/hose bib.
- Sprinkler lines and faucets should be drained/blown out.
- A thin stream of cold-water (as thick as a pen) running continuously from at least one faucet will help prevent a frozen water service.
- If you plan to be away from home over the winter period, close the main water isolation valve located next to the water meter in your home.
 - You should leave the heat on in your home and have someone check inside your home daily while you're away.

A frozen water service or a burst water pipe is an inconvenience and expense that most people would like to avoid. Please take all possible precautions to prevent this happening in your home or business.

For more information, refer to www.medicinehat.ca/frozenwaterlines or contact City Assets Environmental Utilities at 403-529-8176.

TAX INSTALMENT PAYMENT PLAN (T.I.P.P.)

Sign up before December 31, 2022 to avoid the 2% filing fee.

WHAT IS T.I.P.P.?

T.I.P.P. is a monthly tax instalment payment plan to make consecutive monthly payments for taxes by automatic electronic funds transfer from your bank account.



Monthly payments start January 1 in each year and are made on the first day of every month. Monthly payments for January to June shall be equal to 1/12 of the annual tax levy from the previous year (estimate is used as current year tax bill is not complete). Monthly payments from July to December shall be equal to 1/6 of the outstanding balance for the current year as of June 30.

WHY USE T.I.P.P.?

TIPP breaks the annual tax payment into monthly payments to make budgeting easier. Payments are automatic, convenient and reliable, ensuring that your tax bill is paid even if you are on vacation, out of town on business or unwell. TIPP is not subject to discount or penalties as long as monthly payments are made.

HOW DO YOU SIGN UP?

- Visit www.medicinehat.ca/tipp
- Email tax@medicinehat.ca
- Call 403-529-8111



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Sale \$49.95/Dozen
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