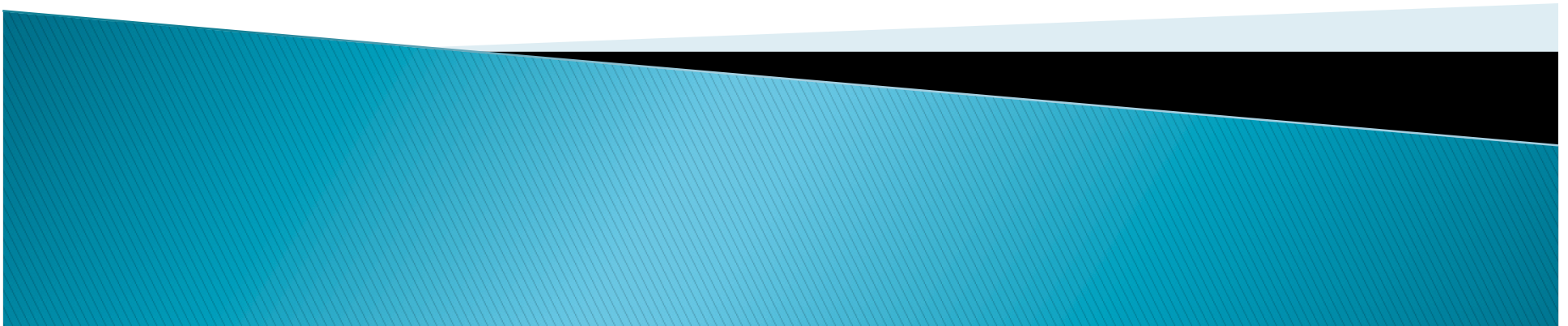


# Access to Crown Lands

Isaac Boates  
Patrick Lévêque  
Samantha Mills  
Alex Myric



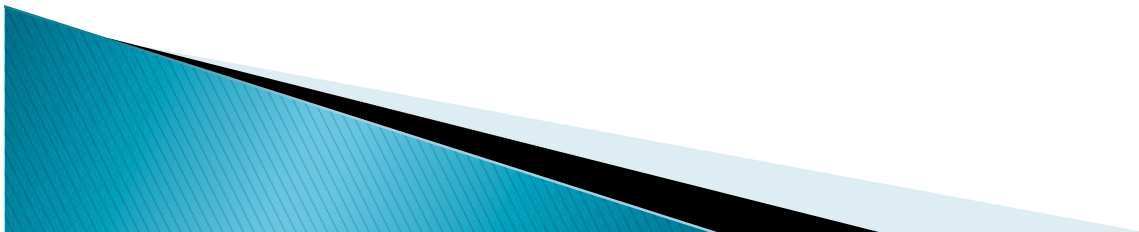
# Outline

- ▶ Background
- ▶ Case 1: Mineral rights and access to crown lands in Flathead River valley, BC
- ▶ Case 2: Crown land purchase by municipality of Sioux Lookout, ON
- ▶ Relevance and Recommendations



# What is crown land?

- ▶ Lands owned by the provincial or federal governments
  - Comes from the British tradition (land that was owned by the monarchy)
  - Important source of revenue for provinces
- ▶ Federal crown lands (41% of Canada)
  - National parks, First Nations reserves, military bases, northern territories
- ▶ Provincial crown lands (48% of Canada)
  - NL highest at 95%; PEI lowest at 2%

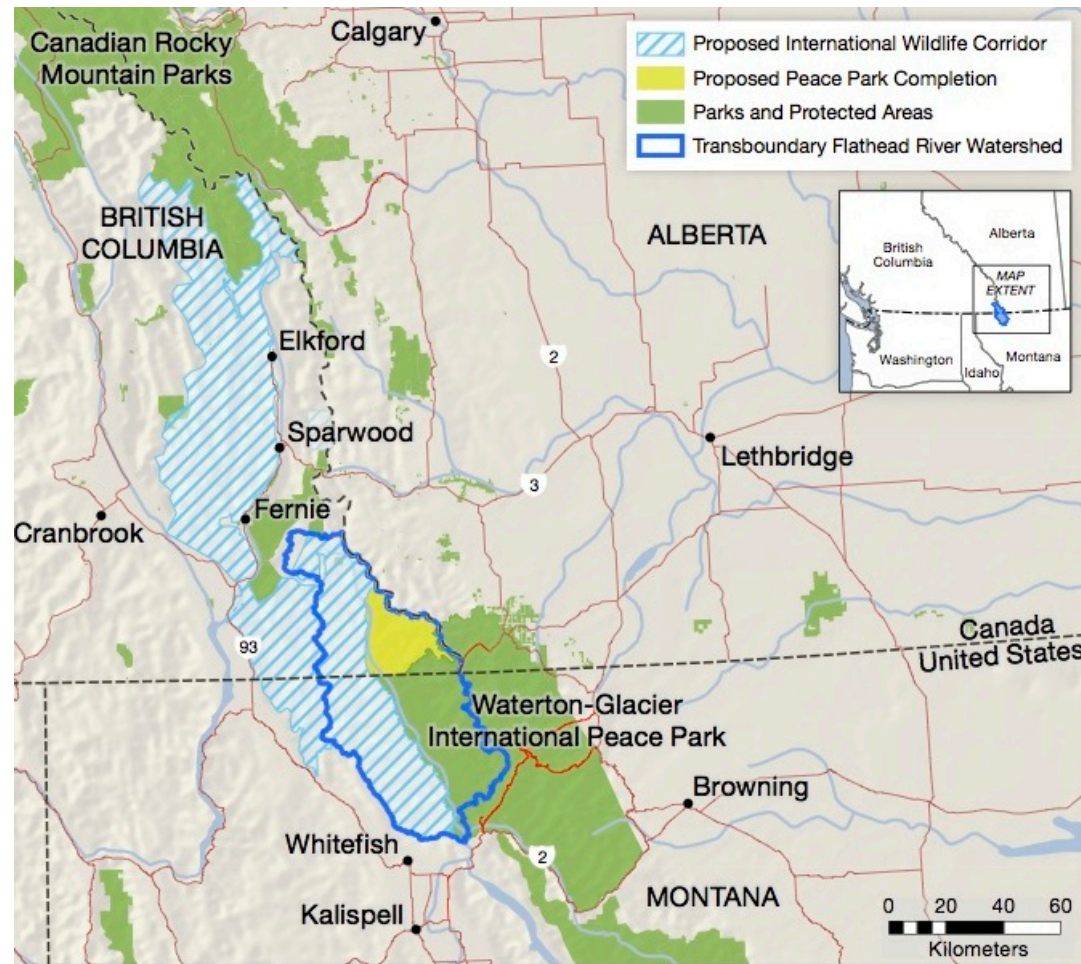


# Crown lands policy in NL

- ▶ Department of Environment and Conservation
- ▶ Crown Lands Registry
  - created in 1849 to manage records
- ▶ Squatter's Rights
  - Individual or group may be eligible for crown grant
    - In possession of land without title for 20 years
- ▶ Personal Use – Cottage licences
- ▶ Commercial and industrial Uses
  - Any within municipalities must have approval of the Municipal Council
  - Includes commercial, resource, agriculture, aquaculture



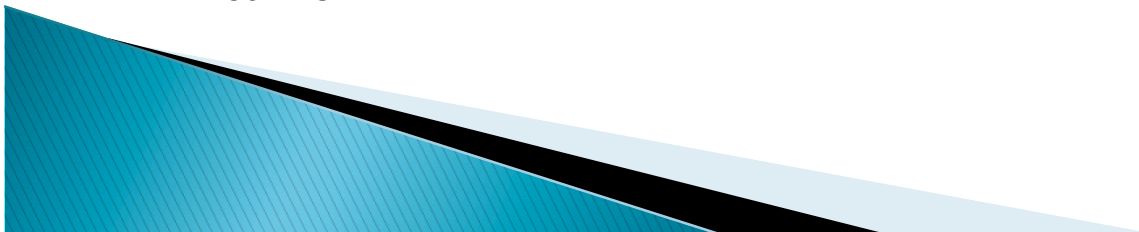
# Case 1: Mineral rights and access to crown lands in Flathead River, BC.



Source: [http://www.flathead.ca/files/map-5\\_waterton\\_park.jpg](http://www.flathead.ca/files/map-5_waterton_park.jpg)

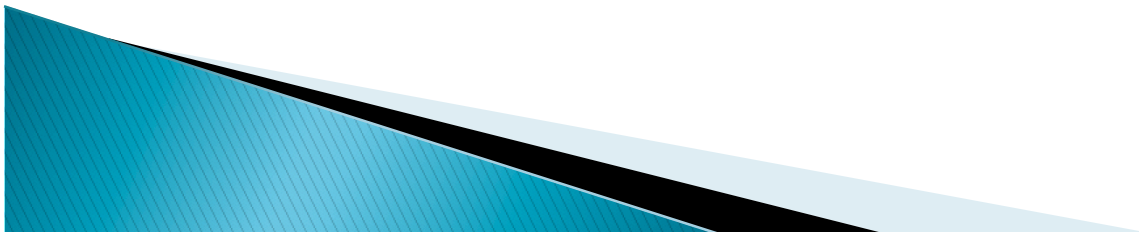
# Case 1: Mining rights and crown lands, Flathead River, BC

- ▶ How crown lands are managed in BC
  - Land Act
  - Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act
  - University Endowment Lands Act
- ▶ 94% of the province is crown land
- ▶ Province owns all minerals, even on private land

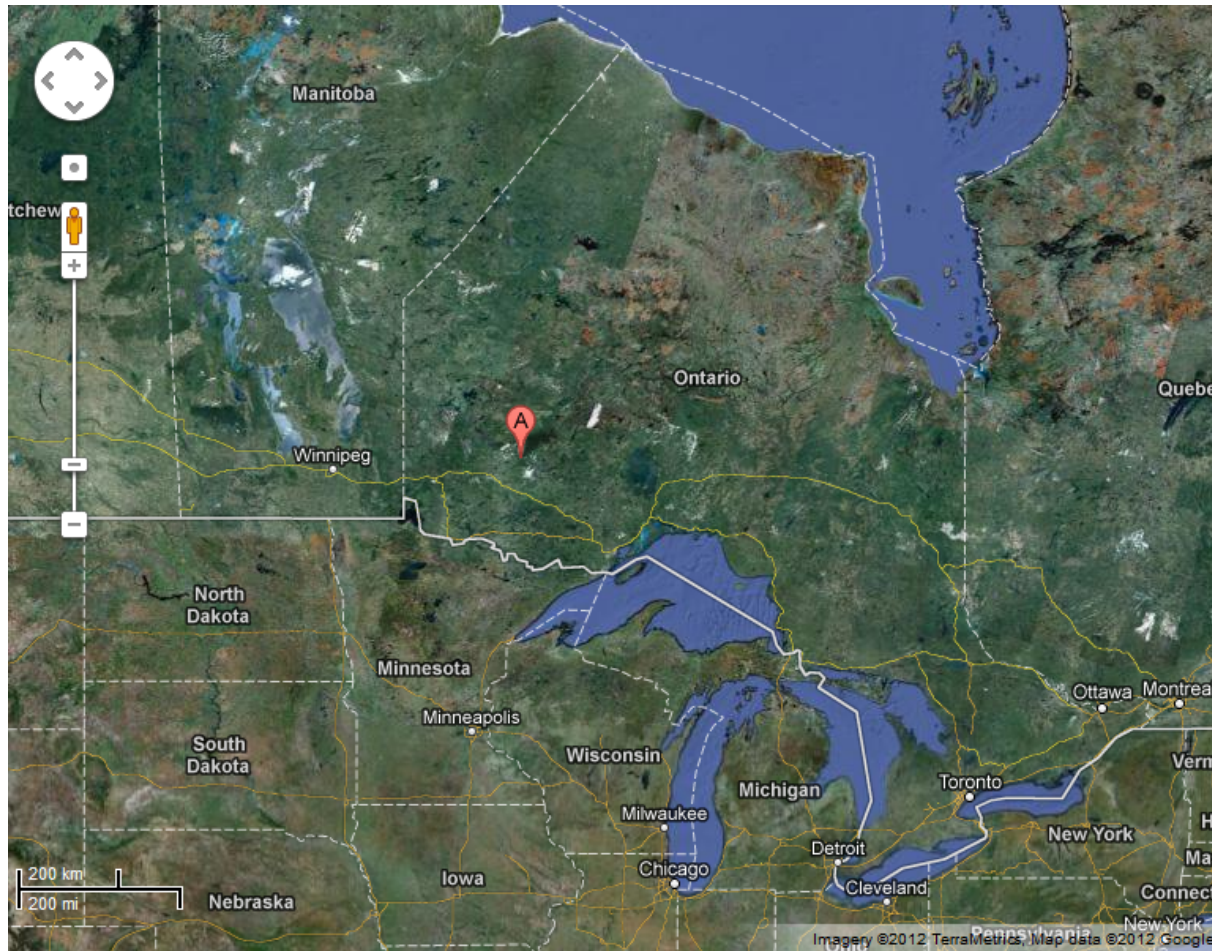


# Case 1: Mining rights and crown lands, Flathead River, BC

- ▶ Who has an interest in Flathead River?
  - Mining companies, Access British Columbia Society
  - Conservation groups
- ▶ Conflict between mining interests and conservationists
  - Significant mining potential
  - Possible UNESCO status
- ▶ Province decided on conservation
- ▶ Cline Mining Corporation currently suing province for lost revenues (\$500 million)



# Case 2: Crown land purchase, Sioux Lookout, ON

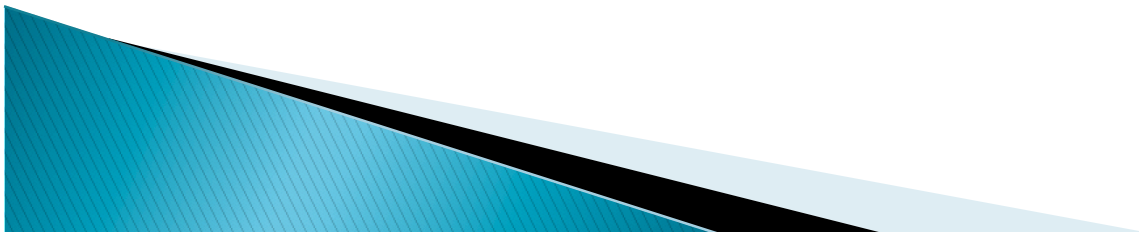


Source: Google Maps



# Case 2: Crown land purchase, Sioux Lookout, ON

- ▶ Rural town in northwestern Ontario
  - “Hub of the North” (town motto)
  - Population ~5,000 (large aboriginal youth pop.)
  - Geography similar to Central–West (boreal forest, lots of lakes)
  - Diverse economy
    - Institutions (health, education, government), tourism, mining, forestry, regional services
  - 2012 revenue ~\$30 million (big airport revenues)
- ▶ Town land–use plan → identified need for new housing due to expected population growth.



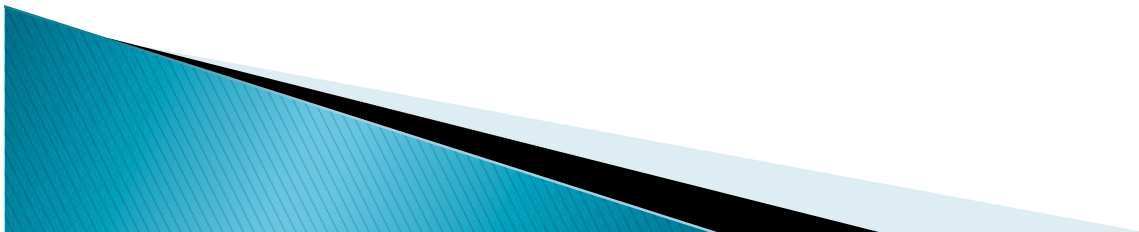
# Case 2: Crown land purchase, Sioux Lookout, ON

- ▶ In 2010 town purchased ~300 acres of crown land to build residential developments.
  - 20 acre lot at \$98,000
    - Paid up front
  - 279 acre lot at \$643,000
    - To be paid over five years (5 X \$128,600)
  - Market value for land
  
- ▶ Ministry of Natural Resources
  - Main gov't body responsible for crown lands
  - *Guide to the Acquisition of Crown Land to Support Municipal Economic Development* (2009)



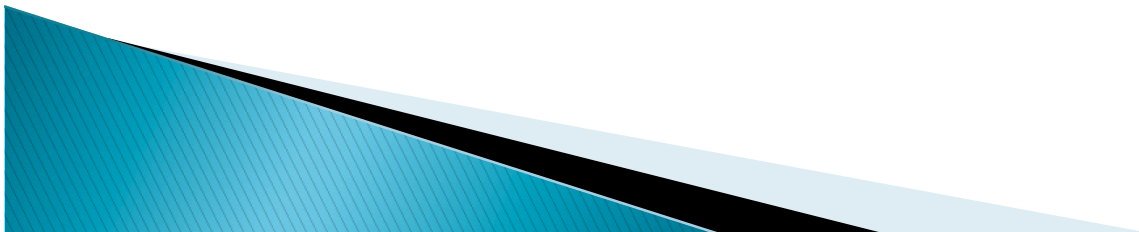
# Relevance to Central–West

- ▶ Case 1: Mining vs. conservation, BC
  - Significant mining activities in both regions, can lead to conflict for access to crown land.
  - In future development, Central–West will have to find its own balance between development and conservation.
  
- ▶ Case 2: Land purchase, Sioux Lookout, ON
  - Communities in Central–West need land for growth and development.
  - Purchase at market price seems to be standard, which can be difficult for small communities.



# Recommendations

- ▶ Case 1: Mining vs. conservation, BC
  - Determine what mining rights are present in the region so that planning processes can avoid conflict as much as possible.
  
- ▶ Case 2: Land purchase, Sioux Lookout, ON
  - An NL Provincial Guide for the purchase of crown land for municipal development
  - Work in partnership with provincial gov't to find alternatives to purchasing land at market price



# Questions

