

Ardoch & Sharbot Lake Protest Uranium Mine Site

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Yesterday, Saturday July 14th, 2007, on behalf of the Ottawa Algonquin First Nation, we traveled to the Uranium Mine protest site near Ardoch, Ontario. Photos from the protest site are included with this article. The OAFN supports the initiative since it will have an effect on not only the residents in the Ardoch area, but everyone in Eastern Ontario, both native and non-native.



It was refreshing to witness that both Ardoch (Randy Cota & Paula Sherman) and Sharbot Lake (Doreen Davis) are working together on this endeavour. Its comforting to see Ardoch (AAFNA) receiving the recognition they so deserve as the viable community representing the Ardoch area Algonquins. I applaud both their efforts. The Elders spoke of their concerns regarding this uranium mine. They weren't only concerned about themselves, but for the generations to come. Their greatest disappointment was the lack of interest from the governments.



If allowed to proceed, uranium mining will have an affect on everyone for generations to come. Let's give our children a chance! We encourage you to support the efforts of both the Ardoch and Sharbot Lake Algonquin communities by whatever means you can. Contact your local M.P., local M.P.P., your local media and state your support; donate what you can to the protesters. So far neither government is willing to address the issue. Is it because it concerns native people?

Text for a sample message, prepared by AAFNA, is below:

Dear Mr. McGuinty,

I am writing to you to ask that our government take urgent action and immediately stop the exploration and development of uranium mining in populated and environmentally sensitive areas of Eastern Ontario.

I am also asking for a complete moratorium on uranium mining in all of Ontario and an extensive overhaul of the Ontario Mining Act. As it stands, the Act allows mining companies to conduct prospecting and exploration activity without meaningful consultation or consent from First Nations, municipalities or property owners. I do not agree with this!

Signed _____