

Ministry of Northern Development and  
Mines

Ministère du Développement du Nord et  
des Mines



Mines & Minerals Division

Division des mines et des minéraux

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Dear CFREF Selection Committee,

On behalf of the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) please accept this letter as strong support and endorsement for Metal Earth, the mineral exploration research initiative of Laurentian University's Department of Earth Sciences Mineral Exploration Research Centre (MERC), and its application for funding from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

The OGS, located on Laurentian University's campus, has had a long-standing relationship with MERC and the Department of Earth Sciences including collaborating with faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and grad students. These types of collaborations have led to further understanding of metallic mineral deposits and metal endowments in many areas across Ontario including the Ring of Fire – a large chromite deposit located in Ontario's Far North.

Areas of on-going collaboration with Laurentian University include (but not limited to) the Ring of Fire, the Sudbury Igneous Complex, the Wabigoon Subprovince and the Abitibi greenstone belt. Along with research collaborations, the OGS is prepared to provide in-kind contributions and support in terms of mentoring, information sharing, and geochemical analyses. Continued research will build scientific capacity and economic growth potential within Canada especially in regions such as the Far North.

Specific areas where the OGS can strengthen the CFREF program would include access to: 1) U-Pb dated zircons for further isotopic research; 2) our various geochemical databases (minimum value \$2.7 M); 3) geophysical data, (minimum value \$20M); and 4) rock properties data. The geophysical data is published and the OGS will facilitate access to this data as required. In areas in which CFREF field research overlaps with the OGS mapping program, logistical support will be available (our camps in remote areas with air support). We anticipate a great deal of formal and informal knowledge transfer between CFREF researchers and OGS staff as the CFREF program evolves.

The OGS is excited and looking forward to working collaboratively with Laurentian University's Department of Earth Sciences Mineral Exploration Research Centre under the Metal Earth initiative.

Sincerely,

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