



Vale Exploration Canada Inc.

November 9<sup>th</sup> 2015

Dr. Harold Gibson  
Mineral Exploration Research Centre  
Laurentian University  
Sudbury, Ontario.

Dr. Gibson,

Vale would like to express our support for the submission of the Letter of Intent for the Canada First Research Excellence Fund application for Metal Earth. Metal Earth is a proposal which is set to apply innovative concepts and technologies towards understanding metal distribution and endowment variations in the Earth's crust with an early focus on the Precambrian.

It is our belief at Vale that innovation and technology in mining, and specifically in mineral exploration are the keys to discovery and further understanding of the geological environment in which we explore. The Metal Earth Initiative will focus on precisely the types of concepts and at the scales which are the most difficult for individual companies and researchers, allowing a wider and deeper perspective.

Vale is keenly interested in understanding and evaluating the detailed facets of the Metal Earth Research Program to determine partnership and support opportunities which match the Program and Vale's interests and needs.

Sincerely,

Joel Hrominchuk, M.Sc. P.Geo  
Exploration Technology and Innovation Manager  
Exploration and Research Department  
Vale