



## COVERSHEET

<b>Minister</b>	Hon Shane Jones	<b>Portfolio</b>	Resources
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – March 2025	<b>Date to be published</b>	19 May 2025

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
April 2025	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – March 2025	Office of the Minister for Resources
7 April 2025	Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – March 2025 CAB-25-MIN-0103 Minute	Cabinet Office

### Information redacted

**YES / NO** (please select)

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reason of international relations.

## **RESTRICTED**

Office of the Minister for Resources

Chair, Cabinet

### **Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – March 2025**

I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Toronto, Canada from Saturday 1 March to Friday 7 March 2025 to attend the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) convention and the associated International Mines Ministers Summit (IMMS).

#### **Report**

- 1 I represented the New Zealand Government at the PDAC convention and the IMMS to promote New Zealand as a high-quality place to do business and to represent New Zealand for the first time at the IMMS. The purpose of my travel was to promote the Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040, engage with governments and investors, and promote how the Fast-track Approvals Act supports the Minerals Strategy.
- 2 The PDAC convention is the largest annual mining convention in the world, and the most influential, with a total of 27,353 attendees in 2025 from 135 countries. Our presence at the convention signalled to the world that New Zealand has moved from 'open for business' to 'doing business'.
- 3 Attending the convention provided a valuable opportunity for me to support New Zealand extractives and services companies attending and exhibiting at PDAC, speak at scheduled events, and meet provincial and federal Canadian counterpart ministers. Through these engagements, I outlined our Government's approach to mining and the opportunities for investment through the Mineral Strategy for New Zealand to 2040 and its goal of doubling our minerals exports to NZ \$3 billion by 2035, our Critical Minerals List, and our Fast-track Approvals Act 2024: a 'one-stop-shop' for approvals.
- 4 I represented New Zealand at the IMMS, along with ministers responsible for mining from around the world including; Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Australia, Canada, Germany, France, Sweden, Ghana, Italy, Chile, Nigeria, Tanzania, Mongolia, Peru, Kazakhstan, Democratic Republic of Congo, The Dominican Republic, and the European Union. The summit included industry leaders from the largest global mining companies, and civil society.
- 5 Attendees spoke about the challenges for exploration mining companies accessing capital, managing price volatility, dealing with regulations, and for governments managing social licence and environmental/indigenous consultation. I spoke on New Zealand's regulatory and policy settings, which

**RESTRICTED**

was well received and generated a high level of interest. The Fast-track Approvals Act and New Zealand's established and mature Treaty of Waitangi consultation and partnership processes piqued particular interest from attendees. I later discussed the New Zealand mining proposition with leaders, including Canada's Federal Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson, and PDAC President, New Zealander, Dr Raymond Goldie.

- 6 I had bilateral engagements with Marc Serré MP, Federal Government Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, and Brian Jean, Minister of Energy and Minerals of Alberta. Secretary Serré and I discussed the global environment for the mining sector; Canada's long history in mining and the approach of the Liberal Government; Canada's current trade challenges with the United States; and the New Zealand Government's focus on development of, and investment in the mining sector. With Minister Jean, we discussed the energy and mining sectors in Alberta and their efforts in cutting red tape and developing technology for the sector. He mentioned Alberta's willingness to share knowledge that might be helpful for the New Zealand Government's mining development interests.
- 7 I met with Federal Minister Wilkinson again at the Sudbury Mining Cluster reception. Sudbury is home to the world's largest integrated mining industrial complex and this reception was a key networking event. At this event I met Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Mr Vic Fideli, and Ontario's Minister of Mines George Pirie to discuss the resources sector further.
- 8 I provided an opening address and questions and answer session at an industry investor breakfast which attracted around 40 analysts and fund managers. I spoke and presented on the New Zealand Government's approach and focus on bringing investment into the resources sector, and addressed questions on how the Fast-track legislation works. I provided clarity and addressed concerns around questions of sovereign risks by highlighting New Zealand's adherence to the rule of law, history of strong adherence to contract law, and our transparent government. The event attendees showed great interest and engagement in New Zealand gold mining and antimony resources.
- 9 I met with the President and CEO of OceanaGold, Gerard Bond and CEO of RuaGold, Robert Eckford and their Chairman, Oliver Lennox-King. Both companies are currently operating in New Zealand with great success. We spoke on many points such as the Fast-track Approvals Act, and what was important for the New Zealand Government to understand when it comes to investment, and investor confidence.

- 10 International relations

**RESTRICTED**

## International relations

- 11 I also met with the Global CEO Aluminium of Rio Tinto Jérôme Xavier Péresse, where discussions took place regarding the global direction of the resources sector, and the Tiwai Point Aluminium Smelter which Rio Tinto operates. New Zealand remains an attractive place for investment for Rio Tinto.
- 12 I spoke at and attended a business-to-business event co-hosted by New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) and Seequent, a global geotechnical and software company founded in New Zealand, which today is a global geoscience powerhouse supporting 8 of the 10 largest global mining companies. I gave the opening address and spoke on the New Zealand Government's pro mineral position, and our current policy and legislative position which reflects this.
- 13 I met New Zealand and other exhibitors at PDAC, both through walks in the exhibition halls and through the events, supporting New Zealand export companies in the mining sector.

- 14 International relations

## Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Resources

**RESTRICTED**