

CRITICAL MINERALS SEMINAR SERIES

Environmental assessment, extractivism and the rise of critical minerals in Canada

Thursday, March 20, 2025 1:00-2:45pm EST

WEBINAR (Online Only)
Please register to attend:
https://tinyurl.com/yc89cukt

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Governments and the mining sector in Canada view the global demand for critical minerals as "generational opportunity," positioning Canada as a leader in sustainable mining that respects Indigenous rights. These same governments are also fast-tracking project approvals and streamlining environmental assessments (EA) in response to industry demands. Drawing on the case of a recently approved, Indigenous-opposed critical mineral mine in Kaska Dena territory, Yukon, and broader research on EA in Nunavut and British Columbia, this seminar explores how EAs rationalize harms to endangered species, overstate economic benefits, and sidestep Indigenous opposition. The panel considers how the global rush for critical minerals is reshaping an already strained regulatory system and what opportunities may exist for intervention given the current conjuncture.

SPEAKERS:



Emilie Cameron Associate Professor Department of Geography & Environmental Studies Carleton University



Rosemary Collard Associate Professor Department of Geography Simon Fraser University



Jessica Dempsey Professor Department of Geography University of British Columbia

DISCUSSANT:



Gabrielle A Slowey Associate Professor Department of Politics York University

