



NOTE NO. 2022/1122/BGRAD-HOM

The Embassy of Canada presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and has the honour to attach a letter from the Ambassador of Canada H. E. Giles Norman addressed to Her Excellency Prof. Dr. Zorana Z. Mihajlović, Minister of Mining and Energy of the Republic of Serbia.

The Embassy would greatly appreciate if the letter could be forwarded to the Minister's office.

The Embassy of Canada avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia the assurances of its highest consideration.

Belgrade, 19 January 2022



Embassy of Canada



Ambassade du Canada

Kneza Miloša 75  
111711 Belgrade  
Republic of Serbia

January 18, 2022

H.E. Prof. Dr. Zorana Z. Mihajlović  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Mining and Energy  
Government of the Republic of Serbia  
Belgrade

~~Your Excellency,~~

*Dear  
Zorana!*

Thank you for your very detailed and helpful letter of December 29th. And thank you too for your good wishes. I too very much hope 2022 will bring us health and safety!

Please allow me to respond to your call for support in enabling further development of Serbia's renewable sector, as well as to speak to your leadership in fashioning forward-looking legislation in the mining sector.

Canada has large coal reserves and has a history of using coal in electricity and steel production. In 2019 coal accounted for 7.4% of Canada's electricity production but coal's role in energy production will end in 2030.

Canada's provinces recognized the need to implement energy transition plans and programs, decarbonize energy production and diversify their energy portfolio. The complexity of these processes required crafting appropriate legislation, ensuring financing, developing R&D capacities, providing job security and respecting quickly emerging socio-political and environmental standards. Today, hydro and nuclear, backed by wind and solar power, dominate Canada's electricity sources. In 2018, hydro and nuclear sources together have powered 75% of the electricity generated across Canada.

Internationally, Canada is committed to support other countries in their efforts to diversify and decarbonize their energy sectors by sharing our experience, expertise and technology. In 2018, our country committed up to CAD275 million to the World Bank to support Energy Transition and Coal Phase-Out programs across the world, while with the UK we co-chair the Powering Past Coal Alliance PPCA an international organization which helps its members to implement long-term, efficient decarbonisation programs. I am hopeful Serbia will soon join the PPCA, as that would enable closer cooperation between our two countries in designing and implementing decarbonisation programs.

Canada 



I trust that, in the process of developing the strategic documents and plans for the future of its energy sector, Serbia can find some benefit from Canada's experience and expertise in increasing energy efficiency, diversifying energy sources and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It would give me great pleasure to discuss with you and your team how we might cooperate in this area.

Since my arrival in Serbia, I have also had the pleasure of cooperating with you as you lead in fashioning modern, sustainable legislation in the mining sector. The adoption of the Law on the Use of Renewable Energy Sources and its applicable bylaws is an important milestone for Serbia. It promises to accelerate the investment cycle and build a modern, sustainable and diversified energy sector to the benefit of citizens and the industry. All countries benefit from having legal frameworks that encourage future development in the mining and energy sector, consistent with international standards and best practice and consonant with our environmental commitments and responsibilities.

There can be no green transition of the energy sector without production of essential inputs, including critical minerals. Canada is home to some of the largest reserves of critical minerals including nickel, cobalt and lithium and we aim to be amongst a group of countries that will lead the global race for the responsible development of the renewable energy sector. I trust that Serbia shares that vision with Canada.

Canada prioritizes dialogue and cooperation over conflict. I will use every opportunity to encourage key stakeholders to chart a path toward mutually beneficial solutions. Together, we need to show leadership to empower responsible development in the mining and energy industry, by emphasizing the importance of the rule of law and investor certainty.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss future cooperation between Canada and Serbia in the mining and energy sectors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Giles Norman".

Giles Norman  
Ambassador

