

Exhibit No. 104

Consent of R.S. Merrill

Shannon-Kernaghan
Official Reporter

MR. J.D. EBY

QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

380 GRAND-ALLÉE EST — SUITE 200

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

PK-184

QUEBEC & QUE.
Telephone 833-6771

March 10, 1969.

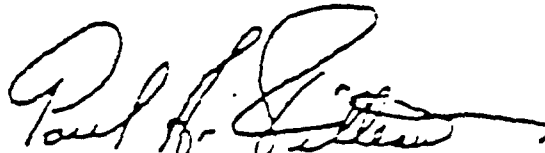
Mr. K.V. Lindell	- Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Limited
Mr. W.W. Dugthred	- Asbestos Corporation Limited
Mr. F.P. Smith	- Bell Asbestos Mines Limited
Mr. R.J. Merrill	- Carey-Canadian Mines Limited
Mr. J.A. Main	- Flintkote Mines Limited
Mr. R.J. Messel	- Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited
Mr. R.S. Coleman	- National Asbestos Mines Limited
Mr. I. Sabourin	- Counsel - QAMA
Mr. Geo. Robinson	- Treasurer - QAMA

MEETING OF THE QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

Dear Sirs:

Please find attached 1 copy(ies) of minutes of the 108 meeting of the Quebec Asbestos Mining Association, held on Tuesday, January 28th, 1969, at the Point Royal Hotel, Montreal, P.Q.

Sincerely yours,



Paul A. Filteau,
General Manager

Secretary.

PAF/dc
Attach.

MINUTES OF THE 108th MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 29th, 1963,
AT THE MONT ROYAL HOTEL, MONTREAL, P.Q.

Present:

Messrs. K.V. Lindell	I.C. Campbell	C. Poirier
R.S. Coleman	R. Dodds-Hebron	P.H. Riordan
J.A. Main	J.O. Eby	Geo. Robinson
R.J. Merrill	W.H. Foster	I. Sabourin
M.J. Messel	J.R.M. Hutcheson	Paul-A. Filteau
W.W. Doughtred	L. Pluze	
F.P. Smith		

W.W. Doughtred, President of the Association was in the chair.
Minutes of the meeting of November 25th were approved as written.

The committee Chairmen were then asked to report to the meeting.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The committee met in Ottawa on January 14th and 15th last.

1. Filtration of asbestos-cement-silica mixes - Mr. F. Neemeth, of the Mineral Processing Division submitted a report containing an analysis of the problem, together with recommendations. On the following day (January 15th), after a discussion of Mr. Neemeth's report, it was agreed that an attempt should be made at developing laboratory apparatus capable of producing a sheet which could be

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5. Magnetic Rating - Presently a C.A.M.A. - A.T.I. Round Robin Test is being conducted under the auspices of the A.T.I. Technical Committee. Mr. Walter Smith of Bell Asbestos Mines has completed his test and observations at the A.C.L. Laboratory and conducted his tour of the other participating laboratories the week of January 13th.

6. Color Test - Correlation tests have been delayed due to difficulty experienced with the Sherbrooke Laboratory Color apparatus; as a result test data was not available for study at the last meeting of the subcommittee (November 27th). Pending receipt of correlation test results, it was agreed that the write-up of the test method should be undertaken and that the procedure be submitted to C.A.M.A. for proper sanction prior to final presentation to A.S.T.M.

7. Miscellaneous - At a special afternoon session on January 14th, two representatives of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics presented an introduction to statistics, which was followed by a lecture by a representative of the Atomic Energy Commission on the application of statistics to the design of experiments. The next day, January 15th, Mr. Sirois of the Mineral Processing Division presented a captivating lecture on the fundamentals of Zeta potential. Mr. Zoldners of the Industrial Minerals Division reviewed certain observations on the testing of cement.

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION AND GRADING COMMITTEE

This committee met on January 22nd and matters of interest to the Directors of the Association were reviewed by the Chairman.

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1. Sherbrooke Laboratory - Work is being pushed on the Zeiss particle size analyser and the "image-shearing" device. The Committee is convinced that the project is well worth-while and should be pursued vigorously as practical.

Fibre Inspector - The Fibre Inspector is taking on the task of calibrating the various companies' colour machines as requested by Companies to do so.

2. Random Production Sampling for C.S. Test - Some refinements to present procedures of random sampling for C.S. Test were approved. The use of rubber balls in the racks of the C.S. machine will be investigated for use in the testing of floats.

3. Fibres Containing Additives - It was agreed that the "Monthly Shipping Test Report", as produced by each C.A.M.A. Member Company will, effective January 1969, show the sub-grade identification of shipments containing additives. These will be identified by the letter "S" for C.J.M., and the letter "F" for A.C.L., at the moment. As reported previously these will not, at the moment, be sampled by the Fibre Inspector for either the yearly inter-mine testing, or for Random Production Sampling for C.S.

4. Fibre Strength Unit - The Committee recommends (to the Technical Committee) that the new modified F.S.U. procedure should be adopted, and that a good standard cement is desirable. It was pointed out that a standardized cement is available from C.J.M. with controlled evaluation. Such a service could eventually be centralized at the Sherbrooke Laboratory.

5. New Test Methods, Asbestos Classifications & Ottawa Research - Considerable time was spent reviewing this subject and a good summation for desirable future action obtained. The basic fibre data

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required and suggested methods to be investigated were established. These are to be checked, and then, presented to Ottawa for discussion. A further step may be to request acceleration of these investigations which are felt, by this Committee, to be necessary and important if better classification methods are to be found soon, or if mill automation is to be attainable.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Following the last meeting, copies of the dust counting procedure used by our ventilation engineer were distributed to all companies. There is nothing confidential in this write-up; it is not necessarily the best method, it is merely a description of the procedure used by our engineer.

Two meetings of the committee were held to review the demands of the syndicates concerning a new labour contract. Demands are for flat increases, but there is considerable variation in the amounts asked.

The resolution on the transfer of the Mine Rescue Equipment to the Department of Natural Resources is delayed pending a meeting of Counsel with a local Thetford Mines Notary, who prepared the original deed.

"Conseil du Patronat" - The General Manager attended as an observer a meeting on January 20th, at which time the structures of the "Conseil du Patronat du Québec" were officially established. The primary objectives of this Council are to insure a permanent liaison between management groups, a better coordination of their activities and interventions before public authorities, and to promote the economic

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social and professional interests of management. One of its first tasks is to set up proper channels of communication and consultation between the Provincial Labour Department and the Council. It is hoped from now on no legislation will be submitted by the Department prior to consultation with the Council.

Membership for a management Association is \$200.00 per year. Association delegates must be persons actively engaged in the management of a business or company; they can be accompanied by a permanent officer of their Association as an adviser. On a motion duly seconded, it was resolved that the O.A.M.A. apply for membership in the Council.

CARRIED.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that there had been two meetings of the Committee since the last meeting of the Association. Further meetings are scheduled for January 29th with U.K., Australian-New Zealand and Continental Conferences. In addition, in view of the fact that it seems unlikely that any effective arrangement can be made with the Continental Conference and because the tentative agreement with the Arctic Line is not acceptable to all members, meetings have been arranged with two non-conference carriers who are interested in carrying asbestos to the Continent this coming year.

The Chairman reported that the Canadian section of one Inter-American conference had raised its rates by 10%, effective with the opening of navigation.

The labour situation on the St. Lawrence river is still a cause for concern and, combined with the procrastination of the Federal Government in passing legislation governing the operation of shipping conferences, has resulted in an overall deterioration of lines service to Canadian ports.

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LEGISLATION AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The Governments are looking for new sources of revenue, which means increased taxation, commented the Chairmen. Presently under consideration by the Federal Government is a capital gains tax.

In order to supplement information on the mining industry, it is proposed to distribute new forms so that each company may file statistical data on taxes, contributions etc. payed during the years 1967-68, with the Association's Auditors, Riddell, Steed, Graham and Hutchinson.

As soon as representatives of all member companies are appointed to subject committees, a meeting will be called to study local taxation matters.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The proposal tabled at the last meeting was reviewed by the Chairman of the Committee. Following comments from several doctors, it was resolved to terminate contract with Ediss and negotiate a personal contract with John Gossip. This may call for a notice of three (3) months.

ADOPTED.

A reporter from the Canadian Press is presently preparing a series of articles on the asbestos industry in Quebec. The advisability of reviewing these articles before publication was underscored. There was good latent possibility present; counsel suggested having such opportunity.

INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

A great number of pertinent papers, statements and clippings have been circulated since the last meeting. The Chairman questioned the proposal concerning the allocation of research expenditures, whereby companies would share the expenses on the basis of $\frac{1}{4}\%$ of sales, according to figures prepared by Riddell, Stead, Graham & Hutchison. It was not clear whether this formula was meant to establish the actual budget estimates or an additional fund. Dr. Merrill indicated an additional fund was meant; so did Mr. Lindell. Reference was made by Mr. Lindell to a Montreal Club unofficial meeting of some C.A.M.A. members (Messrs. Doughtred, Lindell, Smith, Merrill, Coleman, Sabourin attending, Messrs. Fessel and Main having been forcibly prevented from attending).

Dr. Wright thinks he may not be able to maintain the scientific committee together, if insufficient funds are available. The Chairman pointed out that the members of the Scientific Committee are being solicited from various quarters and that their advice and prestige have been so far most valuable to the Institute and the Association. Their leaving the Scientific Committee would therefore be a great loss and this should not be allowed to happen. The industry has a serious problem and cannot leave the matter to others; it must fight its own battle. For instance, General Motors is holding a meeting on brake linings this very day (January 28th); results could be damaging to the industry, should it be demonstrated that dust from the linings as an air pollutant affects human health.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Chairman tabled a report in which he reviewed the major projects now in progress at the Jeffrey Mine (C.J.M.), Asbestos Corporation, and Lake Asbestos of Quebec Limited.

The Chairman pointed out that the current British standard for dust and industrial environment is two (2) fibres per c.c.; it is expected

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that the U.S. standard will shortly be revised to twelve (12) fibres per c.c. or two (2) mppcf. Johns-Manville proposes to use a provisional standard of 6 fibres per c.c. measured by a membrane filter.

At the present time there are no dust counts taken in town -Asbestos and Thetford Black Lake Areas- as an environmental control measure.

NEW BUSINESS

Laval Geology Garden - It seems that letters have been sent by Laval University to member companies soliciting a contribution towards the financing of the Laval Geology Garden. The matter was left with each company.

Treasurer - Financial unaudited statements for the year 1968 were circulated to directors and associates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was formally adjourned.

1969 ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION

The meeting was brought to order and the President called on the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Election of Officers for 1969 - The Chairman of the Nominating Committee reported that his Committee had been unable to arrive at a decision as to a slate of Officers and that therefore the Committee wished to tender its resignation.

The President then asked for nominations from the floor. As none were being made, it was then suggested that the Directors meet alone to discuss the matter; A.C.L. and C.J.M. Directors elected to abstain.

At the resumption of the meeting it was moved and seconded that Mr. R.J. Fessel be appointed "pro tem" Chairman of the meeting of Directors.

CARRIED.

At this point the following nominations were proposed and seconded, President, K.V. Lindell, Vice President, R.J. Merrill, Treasurer, George Robinson, Counsel, Ivan Sabourin, General Manager and Secretary, Paul-A. Filteau.

It was also moved that nominations be closed. All in favour.

This slate of Officers was then unanimously carried with all seven Directors present.

Appointment of Auditors - Proposed and seconded that Riddell, Stead, Graham and Hutchison be appointed Auditors of the Association for 1969.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 25th, at a place to be decided by the President.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned.