

March 9, 2026

Tara Bailey, Project Manager  
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
600-55 York Street, Toronto, ON M5J 1R7

Dear Ms. Bailey,

On behalf of Confederation College, I am writing to express our strong support for the advancement of First Mining Gold's Springpole Gold Project. The College is deeply committed to fostering workforce development, supporting regional economic growth, and strengthening the long-term sustainability of communities across Northwestern Ontario. The opportunities presented by the Springpole Gold Project align closely with these priorities.

The Project stands to create meaningful employment pathways for learners and graduates, including skilled trades, environmental management, and resource-sector careers. These opportunities will directly support our mandate to deliver high-quality training that meets labour-market needs and enhances the competitiveness of the regional workforce.

We also recognize the substantial infrastructure improvements associated with the Project, including enhancements to access routes and potential energy transmission upgrades. These improvements would strengthen transportation efficiency and connectivity for the entire region—factors that directly support student mobility, community access, and the operating environment for education partners and employers throughout Northwestern Ontario.

The Springpole Gold Project is expected to stimulate significant economic activity, foster apprenticeship and training opportunities, and contribute to community resilience across our region. As Northwestern Ontario continues to work toward long-term economic stability, industry partnerships of this scale play a vital role in supporting current and future generations

Given the clear educational, workforce, and regional development benefits, Confederation College encourages the Government of Canada to approve the environmental assessment and enable this Project to move forward. We view Springpole as a catalyst for economic opportunity and an important contributor to the continued prosperity of Northwestern Ontario.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Carol Cline  
Associate Vice President Workforce Development  
Cc: Honourable Julie Dabrusin Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature