

Future Materials Alliance

For Canada's North and West



 **energyfutureslab**

BMAC | Battery Metals Association of Canada

 **INDIAN
RESOURCE
COUNCIL**
IRC Inc.

The Transition Accelerator  L'Accélérateur de transition

The Concept

The Energy Futures Lab (EFL), the Battery Metals Association of Canada (BMAC), the Transition Accelerator (TA), and the Indian resource Council (IRC) are building a coalition of stakeholders, rights holders, and title holders united behind a common purpose of integrating Western and Northern Canada into the national and global critical material value chain.

This is a nation-building initiative that epitomizes the understanding that the status quo approach is not working and we must collaborate across multiple jurisdictions and constituency groups to once again get big things done.

The imperative

Canada is facing a threat we have not seen in decades, forcing our nation to grapple with a quickly evolving global security order, increased trade protectionism and neomercantilist activities detrimental to Canadian interests. Immediately improving our economic strength and terms of trade is paramount to our continued way of life. A 'Team Canada' response that incorporates the North and the West is necessary.

Developing this sector in the interests of Canadians requires a long-term commitment that must last across successive governments and short-term, cycle-driven capital markets. What is necessary is a durable coalition of like-minded stakeholders, rights holders and titleholders that have developed and will maintain a shared vision of Western and Northern Canada's role in this quickly evolving global supply chain.

The underlying logic of the Future Materials Alliance is that purposeful and coordinated action is necessary for the West and North to more quickly and comprehensively integrate into the national and global critical material supply chain. We can go further and faster if we work together.



A need identified

While both Ontario and Quebec have established emergent industrial clusters that are poised to supply the critical minerals and other materials that will form the basis of our future economy, Western and Northern Canada have seen far less progress despite having all the ingredients to match and augment these investments.

This is notwithstanding that the economic, security, social, and environmental benefits of integrating the West and North in the national supply chain are numerous, including:

The promotion of Indigenous economic reconciliation and projecting northern sovereignty



Reinvigorating economic productivity and resilience



Helping ensure robust climate and environmental standards



Strengthening Canadian economic and energy security through growth and diversification



Improving competitiveness through supply chain optimization



Bringing about a more vertically integrated value chain that improves Canada's terms of trade



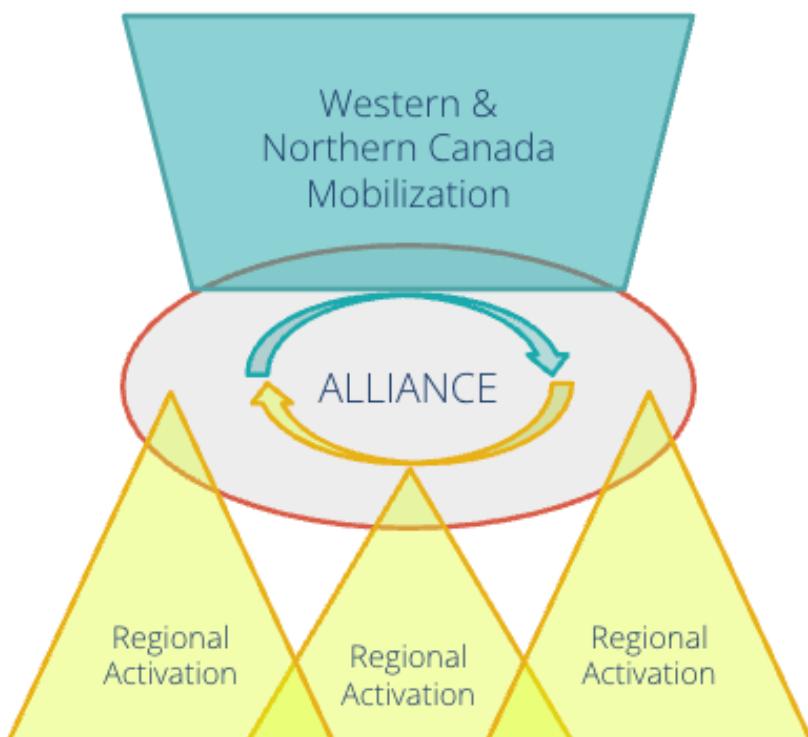
Our theory of change

If we are serious about “building big, building bold, and building now,” all orders of government must work with this community of motivated organizations and leaders to create an enabling environment that attracts investment and maximizes the benefits of this significant economic opportunity.

Greater speed can be unlocked by aligning around a shared purpose and direction — one that enables decisive action while advancing Indigenous, environmental, local community, and national security objectives.

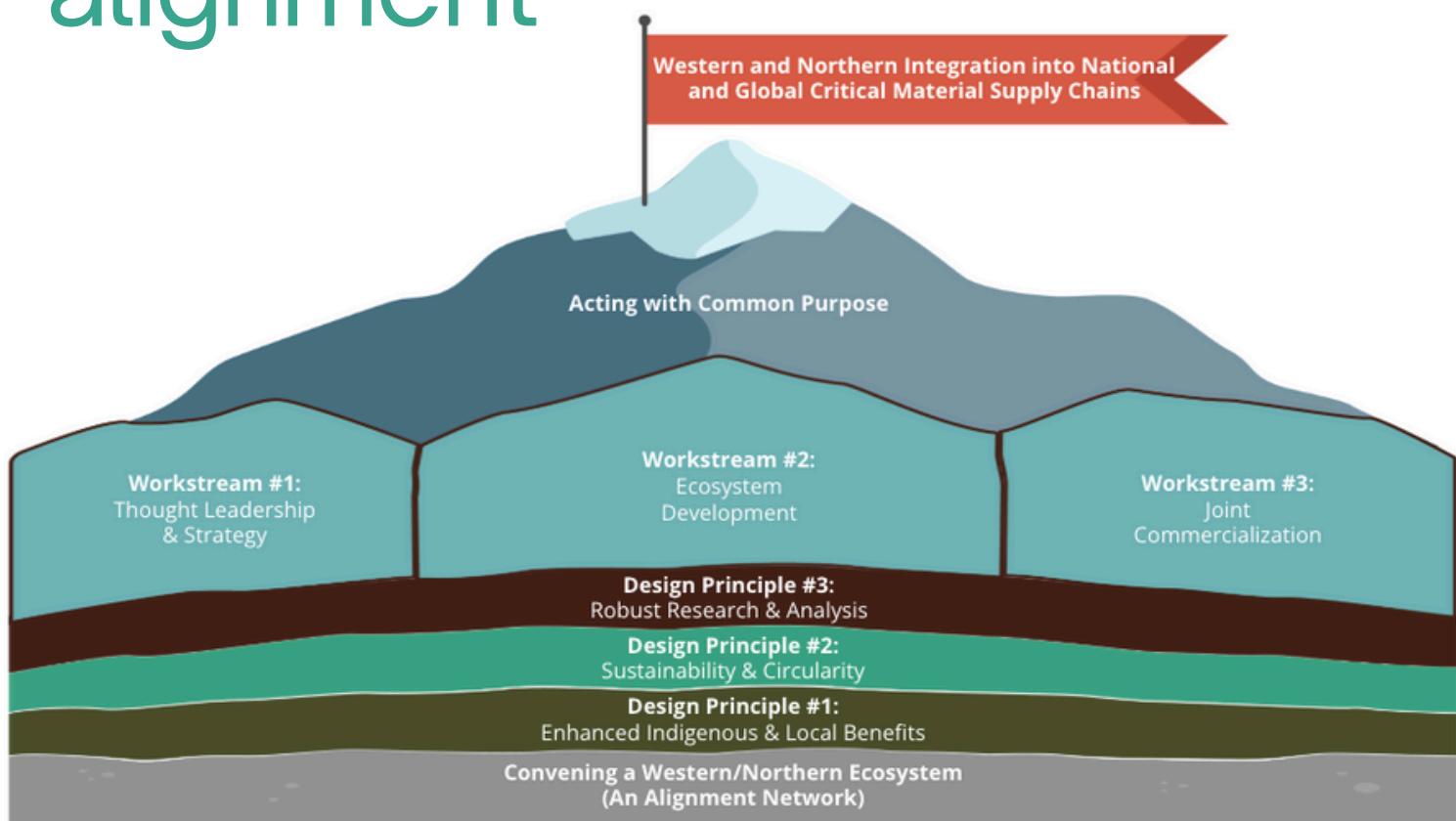
Progress accelerates when project proponents, communities, and regulators are better resourced and supported, reducing the transaction costs that arise when actors operate in isolation.

Building on three years of preliminary work by the Energy Futures Lab, the Battery Metals Association of Canada, and the Transition Accelerator on a Western Canadian Battery Hub, and now joined by the Indian Resource Council, we are proposing a new, expanded three-year intergovernmental, multi-stakeholder, rights- and title-holder initiative. Informed by robust analysis, this effort will establish a shared critical materials vision for the West and the North and align partners around the actions needed to achieve it.



- 1 Identify and mobilize industrial clusters that will play a significant role in establishing a Western/Northern supply chain.
- 2 Build and activate a Western/Northern multi-jurisdictional coalition as well as regional coalitions based on these industrial clusters.
- 3 Develop and implement strategies that align place-based regional interests with broader Western and Northern Canadian interests.

Strata of alignment



The Potential

The Project partners have been engaging with a nascent coalition for the last 2 years and have identified several areas of potential collaboration, including:

Supply chain optimization (i.e. shared infrastructure)	Emission reduction and environmental excellence
Prioritizing policy requirements	Pursuing circular opportunities
Improving regulatory performance	Coordinated investment promotion
Centering Indigenous economic reconciliation	Navigating increasingly volatile trade dynamics

If you believe this is an important initiative and would like to inform the development of the Future Materials Alliance and play a role in its implementation, or if you have any questions, contact

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