Key Activities and Issues Report for January 23, 2019 Laurentian Vision Partners Meeting

State-level developments:
WMMPB has established working groups related to its priorities for the 2019 legislative session: rising pit water concerns in the Canisteo and Hill Annex open pit mine complexes and the St James pit, extending the life of the Hill Annex Mine State Park, and improvements to Highway 169.

Industry Developments:
People are carefully watching Western Mesabi mining industry developments, which greatly impact the Keewatin to Cohasset area and the broader region, especially with regard to reactivation or other activities involving the former Magnetation facilities and new developments on and near the former Butler site.

Strategic and Critical Minerals:
WMMPB passed and distributed a resolution recommending establishment of northeastern Minnesota as a district to protect and better make available for production its strategic and critical minerals.

Land Use Planning involvement: WMMPB continues involvement in comprehensive planning by local government units, tax forfeit land classification, use of mine lands when not being actively mined, and other actions in the western Mesabi corridor, especially from the perspective of protecting mineral resources so they are available for future production.