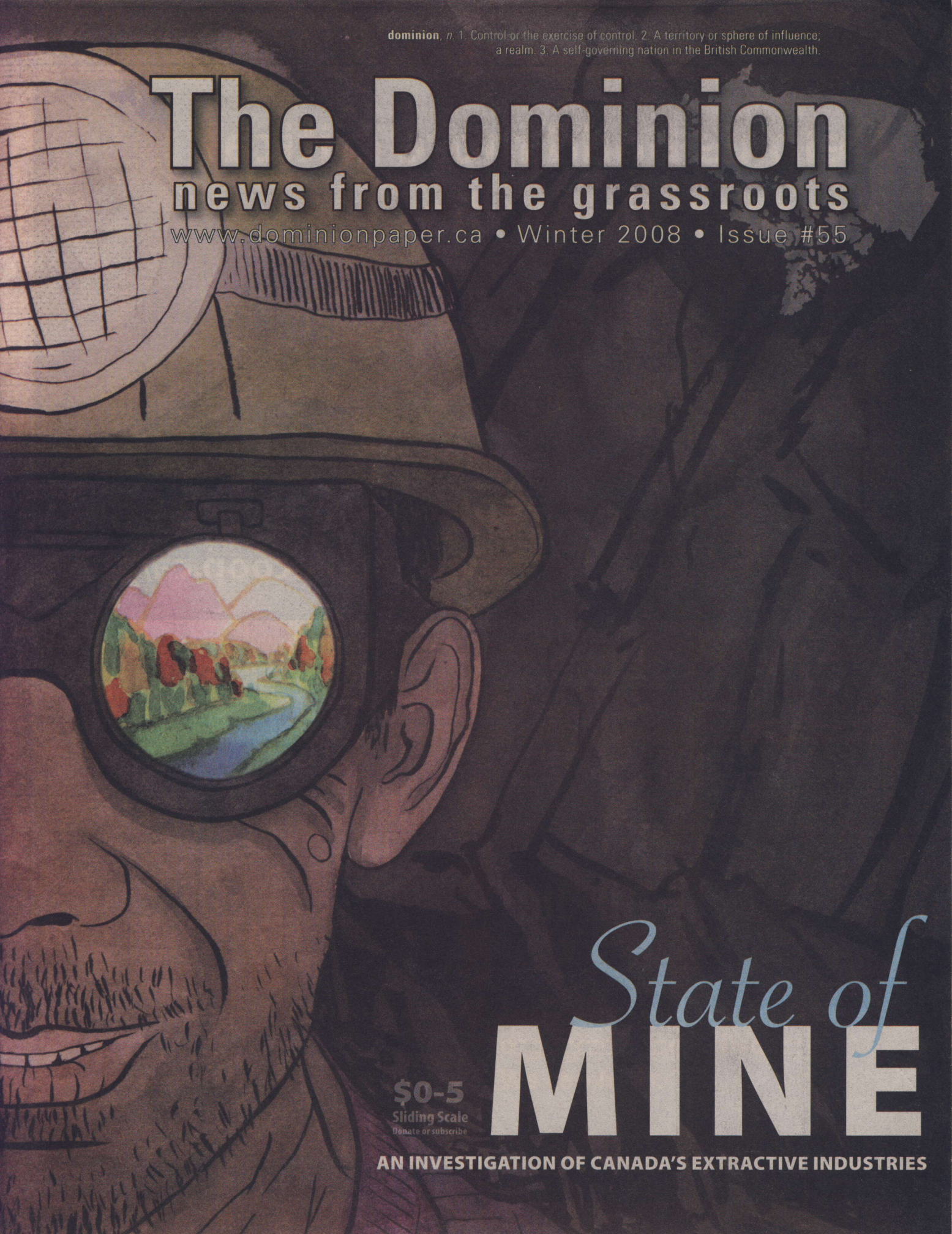


dominion, *n.* 1. Control or the exercise of control. 2. A territory or sphere of influence; a realm. 3. A self-governing nation in the British Commonwealth.

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AN INVESTIGATION OF CANADA'S EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES



Nickel mine threatens life source

First Inco, then Skye Resources, and now Hudbay plan nickel project on Izabal's shores

Photos & text by James Rodriguez, MiMundo.org

Guatemala's largest fresh water body is located just a few miles from its Atlantic Coast. The enormous Lake Izabal measures 45 kilometres in length, 20 kilometres at its widest, and has a surface area of 589.6 square kilometres (366 square miles).

The lake's lengthy perimeter has been populated for generations by several Maya Q'eqchi' communities. Fishing activities are of significant importance to the Indigenous communities' nutrition, culture and general lifestyle.





Known today as the Fenix Project, the production grounds of Inco's infamous and historic Exmibal nickel mine are located on the edge of Lake Izabal. The mine, operated by the Guatemalan Nickel Company (CGN), which is a local subsidiary of the Canadian mining firm HudBay,

is just a few miles outside the town of El Estor. On its web page, CGN confirms that "water from the lake will be used. The quantity is not known at this moment, yet such data is irrelevant since the water will only be used to cool the equipment and then it will be recycled."

