DPA Title III Funding: A Unique Opportunity for Companies and Investors

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In recent years, both Canada and the United States of America have been working together to strengthen domestic industries, such as in critical minerals and semiconductors supply chains. These commitments were reaffirmed by both countries in a joint statement by President Biden and Prime Minister Trudeau in early 2023.

Over the last year, both Canada and the United States have heavily invested in critical minerals development and battery and electric vehicle manufacturing. Canada has introduced <u>The Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy</u>, which, amongst other initiatives, offers more than \$1.5 billion (CAD) in funding opportunities and incentives to support critical mineral research, exploration and project development, while the United States has committed \$250 million (USD) in <u>Defence Production Act Title III</u> funding to companies based in Canada and the United States for mining and processing critical minerals.

In addition, both Canada and the United States will facilitate investment to promote secure semiconductor supply chains. This has begun with Canada concluding a Memorandum of Understanding with IBM to expand domestic research, development and manufacturing opportunities through a cross-border semiconductor manufacturing corridor. Canada further aims to provide up to \$250 million (CAD) for semiconductor projects from the Strategic Innovation Fund, while the United States has announced \$50 million (USD) in *Defense Production Act* funding for Canadian and United States companies to advance packaging for semiconductors and printed circuit boards.

Both Canada and the United States are also establishing an advanced technology data and security dialogue in order to deepen collaboration between the countries on shared priorities in quantum information science and technology.

With Canada and the United States continuing to work together to create new funding and incentive opportunities, Canada and United States-based companies and investors can be on the forefront of what the <u>International Energy Agency</u> anticipates will be significant growth in the demand for critical minerals in the coming years.

Aird & Berlis will continue to monitor further developments. If you have any questions, we encourage you to reach out to your regular contacts at Aird & Berlis or to the authors of this article.



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Fiona has extensive experience advising international businesses entering the Canadian market. To date, she has advised more than 100 companies expanding into Canada. Fiona advises clients in this space all day, every day. She has been practising for more than a decade and is a regular speaker and writer on market expansion matters. Fiona is proud to have been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in Canada, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* and *Benchmark Litigation Canada*.

A proactive and comprehensive approach is required to succeed in a new market. Fiona manages teams of other lawyers and patent agents to provide her clients with a full range of legal services to help their businesses grow. She acts as project manager to ensure her clients receive seamless legal services in all relevant areas.

Fiona takes great care to understand her clients' businesses and deliver advice that is tailored to meeting their specific needs. Her responsiveness, dedication to clear communication and hands-on approach show that she is personally invested in the success of her clients.