Abitibi
Asbestos
Mining
Company
Limited

ANNUAL REPORT 1973

HOWARD ROSS LIBRARY OF MANAGEMENT McGILL UNIVERSITY

McGILL UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1973

The Board of Directors of your Company encloses with this Annual Report, the audited financial statements as at December 31st, 1973, unaudited statements for the six-month period ended June 30th, 1974, and a Proxy statement and Information Circular together with a proxy form and notice calling the Annual and Special General Meeting of Shareholders for the 10th day of October, 1974.

As you will notice from the enclosed material, there have been several changes in the management of your Company since last year. Mr. Raynerd B. Carson who has served as President since August of 1970 has resigned that position, and Mr. Gordon B. Langille has resigned as Vice-President and Secretary. Subject to shareholder approval, Mr. Carson will continue to serve the Company as a Director and as a mining and exploration consultant. Mr. Langille and Mr. Marcel Piché, Q.C., have resigned as directors and are not candidates for re-election.

Brinco Limited by private purchases from other shareholders, a purchase from the Company of 100,000 treasury shares in July, and by reason of expenditures made on the Company's main asbestos property for which, pursuant to agreement, treasury shares have been issued, has increased its shareholdings to 49.76% of the issued and outstanding shares. Brinco expects to acquire imminently another 25,000 shares.

MAIZERETS "A" ASBESTOS DEPOSIT

THE FOLLOWING REPORT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM BRINCO CONCERNING
THE WORK UNDERTAKEN ON THE MAIZERETS "A" ASBESTOS DEPOSIT.

Summary of Previous Work (1966 to 1971)

(Under the direct management of Abitibi Asbestos Mining Co. Ltd.)

Prior to the execution of the Agreement ("Exploration Agreement")

dated as of April 11, 1972, made between Brinco Limited, Abitibi

Asbestos Mining Company Limited, Dydar Holdings Limited and

R. B. Carson, an aggregate of approximately \$2,000,000* had been

spent by Abitibi and other parties in investigations on the "A"

asbestos deposit in Maizerets Township, principally for exploration.

This exploration work included 79 surface diamond drill holes in 101 acres of the property to depths of up to 1,450 ft. on a grid of approximately 200 x 250 ft. In addition, a 200 ft. shaft was sunk and approximately 600 tons of asbestos-bearing rock was bulk sampled from the eastern area of the deposit at the - 200 ft. level. On the basis of test milling and analysis of the bulk samples by the Quebec Department of Natural Resources and an evaluation of the property by an independent firm of engineers, Abitibi announced in 1971 that it believed the asbestos deposit to contain approximately 105 million tons of cross-fibre chrysotile asbestos bearing rock containing approximately 4% recoverable asbestos fibre comprised of Groups 4, 5 and 6 (although the information was insufficient to permit accurate estimates as to the percentage of each grade individually).

^{*} All references to dollars herein are in Canadian dollars.

Abitibi estimated in 1971 that the overall capital cost of placing the deposit into production at an annual capacity of 150,000 tons of fibre would be approximately \$60,000,000, which figure is understood to have included an allowance for initial working capital requirements.

1972-74 Evaluation Programme

(Under the management of Brinco Limited)

Between April 11, 1972 and June 30, 1974, an aggregate of approximately \$3,200,000 had been spent by Brinco in carrying out evaluation work pursuant to the "Exploration Agreement". During this period Brinco has pursued a comprehensive evaluation programme to assess the viability of developing the "A" deposit.

Exploratory Development

Brinco considered it essential to carry out a large scale underground bulk sampling programme in order to assess the quality and magnitude of the Abitibi asbestos deposit. This programme was considered necessary as a basis for its feasibility study of the Abitibi project. Site development to facilitate this investigation was initiated in July 1972.

By March of 1973, a pilot plant had been constructed at the site capable of treating up to 30 tons of fibre-bearing rock per day. The pilot plant utilises commercial scale equipment while permitting a range of process design alternatives. A quality control laboratory was also established on the property.

During 1972, the shaft and underground workings at the -200 ft. level were rehabilitated. Underground development was extended over 1570 ft. into the central and western zones of the deposit. Further underground development is being extended approximately 500 ft. into the eastern zone during 1974.

Drilling programmes have been carried out to investigate the physical properties and extent of the unconsolidated overburden overlying the deposit. Diamond drilling during 1974, amounting to approximately 10,000 ft., will explore certain zones of the "A" deposit and those adjacent areas necessary for production facilities.

Evaluation of the Deposit

Between March and December 1973, twenty-six bulk samples were mined over 1570 ft. of mineralized cross-cuts in the central and western zones of the deposit. Pilot plant milling yielded 120 tons of fibre and analysis of the results enabled a determination of the extent to which the bulk samples correlated with the values indicated by diamond drilling in adjacent areas.

Brinco at the same time developed a computerised model of the deposit based on data obtained over approximately 80,000 ft. of surface diamond drilling. By comparing the mined bulk sample results to the model, an accurate assessment may be made of the potential tonnage and recoverable value of the asbestos-bearing rock throughout the deposit as a whole.

On this basis, Brinco currently estimates the deposit to contain 100 million tons containing 3.5% recoverable asbestos fibre. To develop this deposit, it would be necessary to excavate approximately 38 million cubic yards of unconsolidated overburden and, in addition, to mine approximately 120 million tons of waste rock. This estimate of mineralized rock is less than the earlier estimate calculated by consultants to Abitibi Asbestos in 1971 of 105 million tons with 4.0% recoverable fibre, which provided for the mining of approximately 178 million tons of waste rock and the excavation of 45 million cubic yards of overburden. However, while Brinco is not yet in a position to finalise the potential tonnage of the deposit until completion of feasibility studies, it should be noted that the lower estimate stems in part from a different approach to fibre evaluation and in part from a slightly smaller open pit design.

Fibre Quality and Marketing

Of the total of 160 tons of fibre produced during 1973, a considerable amount of this volume has been distributed to potential customers throughout the world. The greater proportion of the fibre produced was Groups 4 and 5, with lesser quantities of Groups 6 and 7 fibre. Both laboratory and commercial scale tests have confirmed that the Abitibi fibre is of superior quality with filtering and strength properties well suited to the requirements of the asbestos cement industry.

A tightening supply situation for chrysotile asbestos has developed in 1974 and is projected to persist into the foreseeable future. It would appear that substantial volumes of high quality fibre could be readily absorbed by current world demand.

In June 1974, Brinco and Marubeni Corporation, a Japanese trading corporation (Marubeni), entered into a letter of intent. The letter of intent contemplates that subject to Brinco making a production decision with regard to Abitibi's asbestos properties and to confirmation of availability of asbestos fibre in the grades and quantities desired, Brinco would cause Abitibi to enter into a contract with Marubeni. Under the contract, Marubeni would act as the exclusive distributor in certain areas of Asia for asbestos fibre produced by Abitibi and would purchase substantial tonnage on terms attractive to the Company. The agreement is subject to approval by the Board of Directors of both corporations.

Feasibility

Brinco is currently working towards completion of a detailed study of the feasibility of developing the Abitibi deposit. Mine planning with the aid of a computerised model of the deposit is currently being carried out by RTZ Consultants Ltd. to establish the optimum mining strategy and production capacities. Further pilot plant test work is being carried out to determine a process design that will maximise the recovery of fibre. Bulk sampling and diamond drilling is continuing to more accurately outline the asbestos deposit.

The joint venture consulting organization of SNC Services Limited and Canadian Bechtel Limited will provide Brinco with detailed capital construction cost estimates. As a result of Brinco adding to such estimates its estimates of project costs, owners costs during construction, interest during construction, start-up costs, working capital and other costs, a total capital cost will be available for financial analysis. While Brinco is not yet in a position to make a reliable estimate of such total cost, it is expected that the total cost will be significantly higher than the 1971 Abitibi estimate due, in part, to inflationary trends.

Brinco's preliminary financial analyses indicate that the potential viability of the project is sufficiently encouraging for Brinco to continue its feasibility and pre-production programs during the balance of 1974.

OTHER PROJECTS

McArthur Township Claims

The Company's option on these asbestos claims has been extended to May 1975, and a diamond drilling program is planned by the Company for this fall. These claims are no longer subject to the Agreement dated as of April 11, 1972 between Brinco, the Company, Dydar Holdings Ltd. and R. B. Carson.

Properties in the Area of the Main Deposit

The Company has maintained in good standing and acquired additional asbestos claims in Maizerets, Soissons and Chaste Townships,

Abitibi District, Quebec. Diamond drilling is presently planned to be carried out by Brinco this fall on a magnetic anomaly situated approximately a mile to the south of the existing "A" deposit.

Non-Asbestos Prospects

The Company has transferred its 26% interest in twelve mining claims in the Skeena Mining Division of British Columbia to Nordore Mining Co. Ltd., which agreed to spend in 1974 at least \$500,000 on such claims. If such amount is expended, Nordore may elect on or before March 31, 1975 to bring such claims to production on or before December 31, 1975. If such \$500,000 is not expended in 1974, or Nordore fails to make such production election or to bring such claims to production by the end of 1975, the Company will reacquire its assigned 26% interest. Abitibi is entitled initially to receive 2% of the net profits from the sale of mineral products derived from such claims after commercial production until Nordore recovers its capital expenditures and thereafter 10% of any net profits. Nordore has commenced the exploration and development of these claims.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Montreal, September 10, 1974

W. D. Mulholland President

R. B. Carson Director

(UNE VERSION FRANÇAISE DU RAPPORT ANNUEL DE LA COMPAGNIE SERA BIENTÔT DISPONIBLE AUX BUREAUX DE LA DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE, UN WESTMOUNT SQUARE, MONTRÉAL.)

Riddell, Stead & Co.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

P.O. Box 431, Royal Trust Tower, Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1L1

AUDITORS' REPORT

To The Shareholders Abitibi Asbestos Mining Company Limited

We have examined the balance sheet of Abitibi Asbestos Mining Company Limited as at December 31, 1973 and the statements of administrative expenses and deficit, deferred exploration and development expenditures and source and application of funds for the year then ended and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. Our examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records and other supporting evidence as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion and according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the company, these financial statements are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the company as at December 31, 1973 and the results of its operations and the source and application of its funds for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Toronto, Ontario March 1, 1974 Riddell, Stead 96.

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1973

ASSETS

	1973	1972
CURRENT ASSETS Cash Share subscription receivable Accounts receivable	\$ 103,210 48,600 151,810	278,318 205,449 13,058 496,825
MINING PROPERTIES 97 mining claims in the Townships of Maizerets and Soisson in the Province of Quebec,	127,872	127,872
at cost (Note 1) Other properties, at cost	21,856 149,728	23,057 150,929
DEFERRED EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES at cost (Note 2)	5,042,295	3,623,253
FIXED ASSETS, at cost less accumulated depreciation of \$27,721 (1972 - \$18,794)	8,588	13,616
	\$ 5,352,421	4,284,623

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1973

LIABILITIES

	1973	1972
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 125,625	147,685
DUE TO BRINCO LIMITED (Note 1)	86,948	
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
CAPITAL STOCK (Note 1) Authorized 10,000,000 shares, par value \$1 each		
Issued and to be issued 4,874,447 shares (1972 - 4,425,010) Discount	4,874,447 1,512,500 3,361,947	4,425,010 1,512,500 2,912,510
CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS (Note 3)	2,425,862	1,751,707
DEFICIT	(<u>647,961</u>) 5,139,848	(<u>527,279</u>) 4,136,938

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Director

\$ 5,352,421

4,284,623

Director

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1973

	1973	<u>1972</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE Depreciation Legal and audit Management fees Consultants' fees Office and general expenses Salaries Shareholders' information Telephone Transfer agents' fees and expenses Travel Interest income	\$ 2,214 42,526 10,000 20,000 12,968 4,700 2,383 4,439 5,187 6,071 110,488 5,321	1,636 45,763 10,000 9,643 3,420 22,102 7,080 8,190 7,121 114,955 8,592
	105,167	106,363
General exploration expenditures, including cost of properties abandoned during the year and related expenditures	<u> 15,515</u>	34,733
during the year and related expenditures	120,682	141,096
Deficit at beginning of year	527,279	386,183
DEFICIT AT END OF YEAR	\$ 647,961	527,279

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF DEFERRED EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1973

	1973	(Note 2)
EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR Mining Pilot plant Camp construction and operation Salaries, travel and management fees Marketing and feasibility studies	\$ 339,068 583,453 100,503 255,541 154,792	186,779 801,311 232,811 161,923 9,932
	1,433,357	1,442,756
Balance at beginning of year (Note 2)	3,623,253	2,186,713
	5,056,610	3,629,469
Deduct		
Expenditures on properties abandoned during the year	14,315	6,216
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 5,042,295	3,623,253

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1973

	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u> (Note 2)
SOURCE OF FUNDS Issue of capital stock Advanced by Brinco Limited Other	\$ 1,123,592 86,948	2,000,000 - 8,567
	1,210,540	2,008,567
APPLICATION OF FUNDS Administrative expenses less non-cash charge Deferred exploration and development expenditures less non-cash charges Acquisition of mining properties Purchase of fixed assets, net General exploration	102,953 1,426,643 3,899 1,533,495	104,727 1,441,910 17,385 5,635 18,175 1,587,832
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN WORKING CAPITAL	(322,955)	420,735
Working capital (deficiency) at beginning of year	349,140	(71,595)
WORKING CAPITAL AT END OF YEAR \$	26,185	349,140

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED NOTES TO 1973 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. AGREEMENT WITH BRINCO LIMITED

By an agreement dated April 11, 1972 Brinco Limited ("Brinco") purchased 800,000 treasury shares of the company at \$2.50 per share. Brinco paid \$500,000 in cash and the balance by way of exploration and development expenditures on the company's asbestos properties.

Under the terms of the agreement, Brinco at its sole discretion is entitled to expend additional amounts on the properties for which the company, at its option, can allot and issue additional shares at \$2.50 each or make payment in cash.

During 1973 Brinco expended \$1,210,540 on additional exploration and development in consideration for which the company issued 211,999 shares and agreed to issue an additional 237,438 shares at \$2.50 per share. These financial statements reflect the issue of the 237,438 shares. The balance due of \$86,948 is included on the balance sheet under the caption, "Due to Brinco Limited".

Prior to July 14, 1976 Brinco may make a production decision in respect of the properties, whereupon the company would be obligated to issue to Brinco, at \$2.50 per share, a sufficient number of treasury shares to place Brinco in ownership of 51% of all of the shares of the company then outstanding. In the event the production decision is made, Brinco, as may be required by lenders who provide senior financing, will undertake certain obligations including giving completion guarantees and guaranteeing any additional funds needed in the event of project over-runs. In addition, if required for the purpose of arranging senior financing, Brinco will undertake to lend additional moneys up to \$1.5 million against the receipt of subordinated debentures of the company

2. STATEMENT RECLASSIFICATION

The company has, with retroactive effect, reclassified a loan payable of \$100,000 (U.S.\$93,063) as a reduction of deferred exploration and development expenditures since the loan, the proceeds of which were used for exploration and development, is repayable (without interest) only out of profits derived from the mining claims in the Province of Quebec or from the proceeds of sale of the said mining claims.

CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS

The excess of the proceeds over the par value of the shares issued and agreed to be issued to Brinco, which amounted to \$674,155, has been credited to contributed surplus.



Riddell, Stead & Co.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

P.O. Box 431. Royal Trust Tower, Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ontario M5K 1L1

To The Shareholders Abitibi Asbestos Mining Company Limited

The accompanying balance sheet as at June 30, 1974 and statements of administrative expenses and deficit, deferred exploration and development expenditures and source and application of funds for the six months then ended have been prepared by us from the books and records of Abitibi Asbestos Mining Company Limited and from other information given to us. In accordance with the terms of our engagement we did not perform an audit of the accounts and accordingly are not in a position to express an opinion on the financial statements.

Kiddell, Stead Vo.

August 14, 1974

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30, 1974

(Unaudited)

ASSETS

	1974	<u>1973</u>
CURRENT ASSETS Cash Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$ 79,101 6,525 900 86,526	97,738 66,504 2,941 167,183
INVESTMENT IN AND ADVANCES TO SUBSIDIARY		290
MINING PROPERTIES 97 mining claims in the Townships of Maizerets and Soisson in the Province of Quebec, at cost Other properties, at cost	127,872 31,856 159,728	127,872 23,094 150,966
DEFERRED EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES, at cost	5,633,644	4,512,469
FIXED ASSETS, at cost less accumulated depreciation of \$32,221 (1973 - \$20,294)	4,856	14,557
	\$ 5,884,754	4,845,465

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30, 1974 (Unaudited)

LIABILITIES

	1974	<u>1973</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$107,459	63,352
DUE TO BRINCO LIMITED (Note)	310,811	563,766
LOAN PAYABLE		100,000
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
CAPITAL STOCK (Note) Authorized 10,000,000 shares, par value \$1 each		
Issued 5,011,985 shares (1973 - 4,425,010)	5,011,985	4,425,010
Discount	1,512,500 3,499,485	$\frac{1,512,500}{2,912,510}$
CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS	2,632,169	1,751,707
DEFICIT	(<u>665,170</u>) <u>5,466,484</u>	(545,870) $4,118,347$
	\$ 5,884,754	4,845,465

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND DEFICIT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1974

(Unaudited)

		Months June 30, 1973
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES Depreciation Legal and audit Management fees Office and general expenses Salaries Shareholders' information Telephone Transfer agent's fees and expenses Travel Less interest income	\$ 1,100 2,642 5,000 3,582 2,005 414 1,294 2,358 1,672 20,067 2,858 17,209	800 2,822 5,000 7,310 1,472 (2,130) 2,474 2,160 1,765 21,673 3,082 18,591
Deficit at beginning of period	647,961	527,279
DEFICIT AT END OF PERIOD	\$ 665,170	545,870

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF DEFERRED EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1974 (Unaudited)

		Six Months Ended June 30,		
		1974	1973	
Mining	\$	80,820	215,751	
Pilot plant		31,377	346,674	
Camp construction and operation		46,606	72,757	
Salaries, travel and management fees		129,638	105,949	
Marketing and feasibility studies	-	302,908 591,349	48,085 789,216	
Balance at beginning of period	5	,042,295	3,723,253	
BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD	\$ 5	,633,644	4,512,469	
	=			

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED STATEMENT OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1974 (Unaudited)

		Months June 30, 1973
SOURCE OF FUNDS Issue of capital stock Advanced by Brinco Limited	\$ 343,845 223,863 567,708	563,766 563,766
APPLICATION OF FUNDS Administrative expenses less non-cash charges Acquisition of mining properties Deferred exploration and development expenditures less non-cash charges Purchase of fixed assets	16,109 10,000 587,949 768 614,826	17,791 37 788,516 2,441 808,785
DECREASE IN WORKING CAPITAL	47,118	245,019
Working capital at beginning of period	26,185	348,850
WORKING CAPITAL (DEFICIENCY) AT END OF PERIOD	\$(20,933)	103,831

ABITIBI ASBESTOS MINING COMPANY LIMITED

NOTE TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1974

(Unaudited)

AGREEMENTS WITH BRINCO LIMITED

By an agreement dated April 11, 1972 Brinco Limited ("Brinco") purchased 800,000 treasury shares of the company at \$2.50 per share. Brinco paid \$500,000 in cash and the balance by way of exploration and expenditures on the company's asbestos properties.

The agreement, as amended in May, 1973, provides for conversion of expenditures by Brinco in excess of the \$1,500,000 into additional shares of the company on the basis of one share for each \$2.50 of such excess, or under certain conditions, reimbursement may be made to Brinco in cash.

As at June 30, 1974 Brinco had expended \$1,751,760 on additional exploration and development in consideration for which the company has issued 586,975 shares at \$2.50 per share. The balance due of \$284,323 is included on the balance sheet under the caption, "Due to Brinco Limited".

Prior to July 14, 1976 Brinco may make a production decision in respect of the properties, whereupon Brinco has agreed to acquire sufficient additional treasury shares at \$2.50 per share so that the total number of shares purchased under this agreement, as amended, will represent 51% of the then outstanding shares of the company. In the event the production decision is made, Brinco, as may be required by lenders who provide senior financing, will undertake certain obligations including giving completion guarantees and guaranteeing any additional funds needed in the event of project over-runs. In addition, if required for the purpose of arranging senior financing, Brinco will undertake to lend additional moneys up to \$1.5 million against the receipt of subordinated debentures of the company.

- (b) By an agreement dated June 25, 1974 Brinco agreed to purchase 100,000 shares at \$1.50 per share. The proceeds of this share issue are to be used as follows:
 - (i) to reduce accounts payable,
 - (ii) to make payments on properties currently held or under option and
 - (iii) for general corporate purposes.

The shares were issued July 11, 1974.





