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## Mine halted despite A-G office's advice

Taxpayers owe \$30 million after inspector told to ignore uranium project

BY SCOTT SIMPSON  
VANCOUVER SUN

British Columbia taxpayers are on the hook for \$30 million after senior civil servants in the Energy and Mines Ministry, acting against advice from the attorney-general's office, halted a uranium

mining project near Kelowna by instructing B.C.'s inspector of mines to ignore it.

The events, as detailed in a B.C. Supreme Court document obtained by *Vancouver Sun* political columnist Vaughn Palmer, took place three months after the B.C. Liberals, under Gordon Campbell, announced a ban on uranium

mining in the province on April 24, 2008.

As a consequence of the ban, and the actions of government, the Blizzard uranium project was effectively killed.

A lawsuit launched by Blizzard mining claim holder Boss Power was supposed to go to trial in B.C. Supreme Court this month, with Boss contending

in a filing with securities regulators that the province "acted unlawfully" by refusing to process a notice of work document that would have allowed the company to proceed with exploratory drilling on its uranium property.

CONTINUED ON A3

### A SMALL FORTUNE

B.C. pays to keep the facts quiet. » A3



## GADHAFI'S GONE: LIBYANS REJOICE THE DEATH OF A DICTATOR



SUHAIB SALEM/REUTERS

**LIBERATED AT LAST:** Libyans celebrate at Martyrs' Square in Tripoli Thursday after word came out that former leader Moammar Gadhafi was killed in a field three kilometres from his birthplace after being captured by a group of 10 rebels from Misrata.

### OPINION

## Let the difficult reconstruction begin

The force that tied together the disparate threads of the rebellion died along with Libya's dictator of 42 years

JONATHAN MANTHORPE  
VANCOUVER SUN



Now the hard part begins. The eight-month campaign by rebels backed by NATO air power to oust Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi took longer and was more

costly than many expected. But Gadhafi's death on Thursday in a last-ditch stand by his few remaining loyalists in his hometown of Sirte clears the way for the physical and political reconstruction of Libya.

It will not be easy. Gadhafi's 42 years of personal rule means the country has few useful institutions on which to build.

And it is clear that the

umbrella organization under which the rebels have fought, the National Transitional Council (NTC), includes many factions and ambitions.

Those tribal, regional, political and religious agendas have been muffled by the common aim to be rid of Gadhafi and his poisonous regime.

That unifying force died in the ditch with Gadhafi. It will be a wonder if the rebel leaders can

keep to their planned agenda for the creation of a new Libya without serious ructions.

And Libya's income from oil exports, estimated at over \$30 billion a year, can be both a blessing in the financing of reconstruction and a curse, for the avarice and lust for power it can breed.

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### INSIDE

Dictator's death likely an execution. » B1

Rebellion uncovered a brutal leader. » B2

Mission nears end for Canada. » B3

### CRIME

## Rival gangsters pack courts

Four cases prompt big police presence

BY KIM BOLAN  
VANCOUVER SUN

Members of the Gang Task Force were used to boost security at the Vancouver Law Courts Thursday as four separate gang cases went ahead with rivals appearing on different floors.

Eight members of the uniformed GTF arrived for a bail revocation hearing for accused drug trafficker Sukhveer Dhak. One floor below, a cocaine conspiracy trial continued for Dhak rival Jarrod Bacon.

Supt. Doug Kiloh, of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit, said the GTF officers were on hand because "there is clearly unresolved conflict between gangs."

"Do we have concern when we bring them together? Yes, and clearly that poses a public safety risk," Kiloh said. "Even at the Bacon trial, there is going to be conflict internally there."

Kiloh said that when any case like that of Bacon and co-accused Wayne Scott has wire-taps being played, things can be tense because of what one party says about the other.

Earlier this week, a tape was played in court of Scott saying Bacon's parents were aware of his criminal enterprise, and profited from it.

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