Arctic Mineral Exploration

What is Exploration? Why do we Explore?

Exploration is the act of discovering something new, exploring a uncharted island could be an example, but even just going to the park is a example as long you're going to <u>find</u> something, not if you're going just to go there. Exploration could be defined as the activity of searching and finding out about something. Also, exploration always has different perspectives, a good example of that is the "Columbian Exchange". Now, why do we explore, because it's in the human spirit to explore and we want to learn new things, and there are multiple motives to explore for example wealth or with Christopher Columbus, it was to find a cheap trade route to India, there are motives to almost all kinds of exploration some more examples are Fame / Glory, Curiosity and even revenge.

Arctic Mineral Exploration?

Arctic Mineral exploration isn't just done by 1 explorer it's done by multiple, by people or even companies. They explore the minerals of the Arctic, and the resources in the ground, they find rare and valuable resources which they can further explore. In this presentation I will be talking about the Motives, Changes and perspectives of Arctic Mineral Exploration. Mineral exploration is important in many ways like to find new resources.

Motives For Mining in The Arctic:

- Wealth, Companies that mine there can sell the resources for lots of money.
- Curiosity, They might find something new, it's scientific reasons they want to discover things.
- New sources of resources and valuable minerals.

Changes That Resulted From Arctic Mineral Exploration

- Better understanding of the geography, geology of the Arctic, both under the sea and the land.
- Military tensions have been rising in the Arctic and as a result it has become more militarised.
- Previously uncontested borders are now being debated.
- An ice free northwest passage has become a reality.
- As a result of exploration the Arctic Council has been to developed to ensure a multinational discussion concerning the industrialization of the arctic.
- Native communities have better access to external markets and modern goods and services and sources of income.

Perspectives

Perspective: People that want to drill.

- As a ice free northwest passage has become a reality they will be able to drill and transport the oil and resources to market making everything more cost effective.
- One of the last untapped oil (potentially $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the world's supply.) and mineral reserves, so we have to mine them not only for power but for the economy to stay intact too.
- Technology helps us do it safely and environmentally sustainably.
- It will benefit native communities.

Perspective: People against.

- Industrial and Military causes increases pollution in the Arctic ocean.
- Drilling can cause tensions to grow to a dangerous height which could escalate and in a worst case even lead to war.
- Local communities could suffer from the pollution and the increase population could negatively affect their culture.

<u>The Big Idea</u>



The mineral exploration in the Arctic is a case of modern exploration, in this case I do agree with the central idea, as there are different perspectives to this topic. In this case, this will definitely changing the Arctic and the people living there by drilling, and has changed the Geopolitics of the Arctic drastically. Also, this shows two perspectives the big companies and people who support them and the people who do not want them to drill. This also shows that there are both negative and positive sides to the perspectives. It shows what both sides will do to achieve their goal, the people who want to drill are making tensions rise and the people that do not want to drill are trying everything they can to stop it. All of this clearly shows it has changed people and places.



The End!