

CHRIS TAYLOR
CEO
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Dear Sir,

I was stunned to discover the comments you made in the *Mining Stock Daily* podcast and relayed in the local newspaper *Le Populaire du Centre*, regarding the Limousin, the land you tread to find gold. Your description of our region being « in the middle of nowhere », underpopulated, poorly connected and « unsuitable for agriculture » not only demonstrates a deep ignorance of our territory but also constitutes a free insult to the women and men who live, work and innovate there every day.

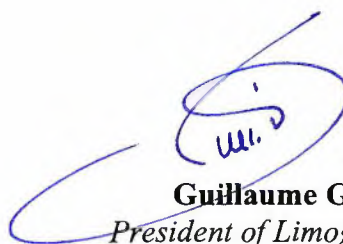
First of all, Limousin is not « in the middle of nowhere » : it is in the very heart of France. A land of history, character and resistance and nowadays it is also a land of excellence. Here we raise one of the most prized cattle breeds in the world : the Limousine. It is a source of pride for our agricultural sector and a showcase for high-quality and sustainable farming, a model poorly developed in Canada but often admired. Limousin is « unsuitable for agriculture » ? Your claim is actually false.

Secondly, Limousin is also a land of innovation. *Ester Technopole* in Limoges gathers researchers, startups and companies around innovating technologies, particularly in ceramics, healthcare, and electronics sectors. We are also home to the *Office International de l'Eau*, which hosts some of the world's leading experts in the field, including Canadian researchers. Our expertise and know-how extend far beyond our borders.

Finally, Limousin is a land of exceptional craftsmanship. Today, is there anyone ignoring the famous Limoges porcelain or our high quality leather, both selected by the most renowned luxury brands ? These skills are the soul and the legacy of our territory, transmitted and perfected for generations.

Your remarks are contemptful, inaccurate and unworthy of a leader seeking to establish in our region. You cannot take advantage of our resources while denigrating those who live here. We expect an economic stakeholder like you to respect inhabitants, if you want to be respected in return.

Sincerely yours,



Guillaume GUERIN,
President of Limoges Métropole

