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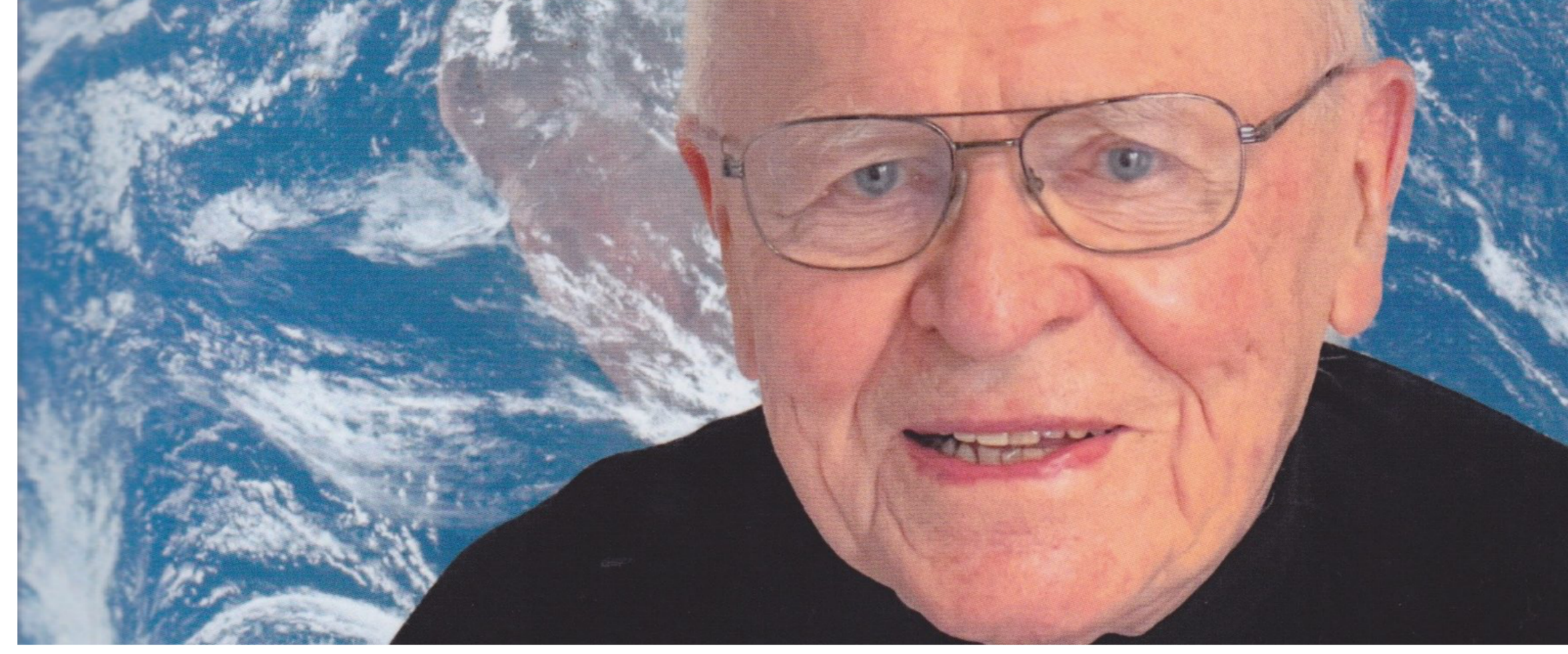


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What shape does hope take in a world we can see is rushing to destroy itself?

Hope is rooted in our spirit. It is not a tangible thing we can put on the table to bargain over. Hope is a vision of the future, former senator Doug Roche writes in his latest book.



Keep Hope Alive: Essays for a War-Free World by Doug Roche, published 2023. Cover design by Khalid Yaqub

OPINION | BY JIM CRESKEY | October 16, 2023



The cover of Doug Roche's new book, *Keep Hope Alive: Essays for a War-Free World*, shows a photo of the author, a smiling 95-year-old internationally recognized peacemaker, in front of an image of our Earth seen from space. In these dark and cynical times, the title might suggest an unrealistic view of human nature. Where do we find this hope?

We are surrounded by unyielding nuclear-weaponized states, galloping climate change catastrophes, and the forced movement of tens of millions of refugees who are fleeing starvation, war, and persecution. And who cannot feel the deep pain of Israel-Palestine, Russia-Ukraine, Yemen, Sudan, and an ever-emerging list of militarized conflicts?

With the calm experience of an elder, Roche, who I am proud to say is a friend of mine, recognizes all of these looming perils, but still has the audacity to offer hope—the hope that we can still survive.



Roche pulls no punches over the depth of the world-ending problems, greater than any time in history. "Being of Irish descent, I have a streak of darkness in me," he writes. "Sometimes I feel that the forces of evil are just too much and that they will triumph over goodness."

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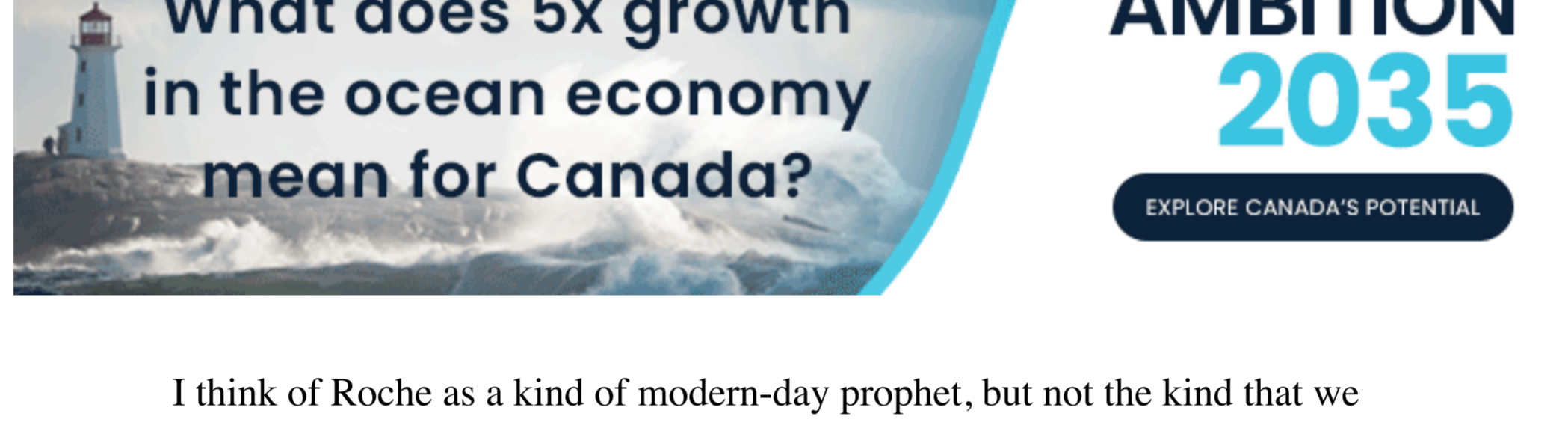
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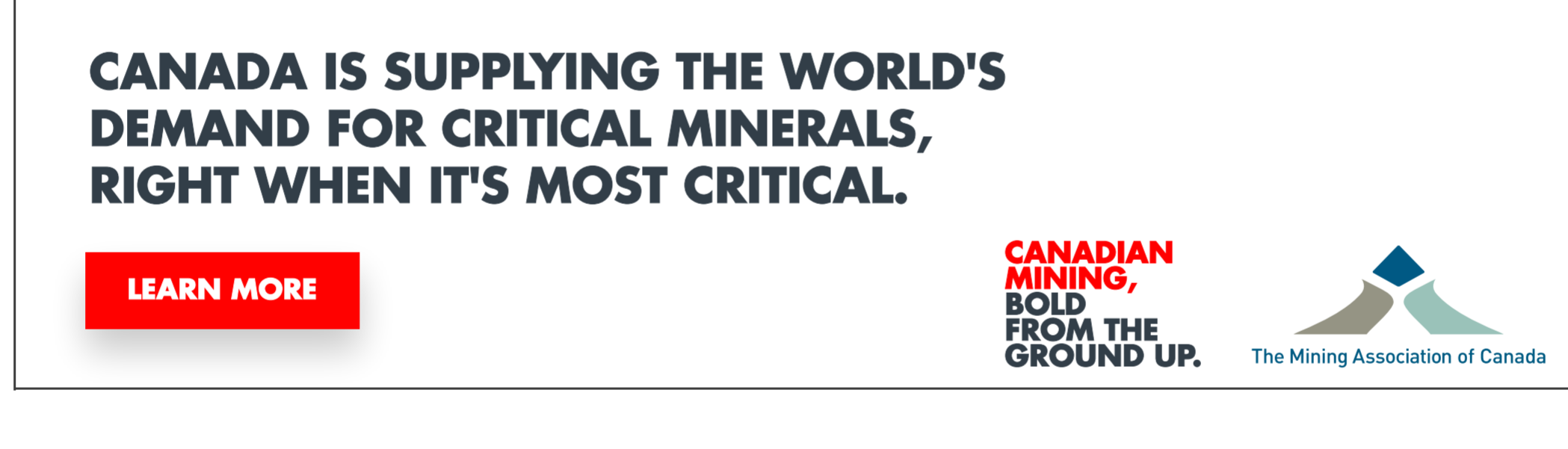


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