

Dominion Community Newsletter

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Safety Achievement

Welcome to the spring edition of our community newsletter, as we look forward to longer days and warmer weather ahead.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our teams at the Ekati mine on a recent impressive safety achievement.

During the last fiscal year, we achieved one of the best safety performances in several years.

One of the ways we measure safety is through the All Injury Frequency Rate (AIFR), which includes lost-time injuries, restricted work duties, and medical treatment cases. Last year, the Ekati mine achieved an AIFR of 0.77, which is a significant improvement over the previous year.

We are extremely proud of this achievement, which could not have

happened without the commitment of all our employees and contractors, both at the mine site and in our Yellowknife operations.

We remain committed to our safety culture, which enabled us to reach this important milestone.

As you enjoy the changing season, we want to remind everyone to be aware of your personal safety and look out for the safety of your family, friends, and colleagues.

As we like to say at Dominion, safety is not about protecting you **from** something, it's about protecting you **for** something.

Sincerely,



Brendan Bell, CEO



Consultation for Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy

Communities have an opportunity to participate in public consultations for the federal government's Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy. Please see further information at www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/poverty-reduction/consultation. Participants will have until June 2017 to participate in the online consultation.

Jay Project Update

The Jay Project is continuing to progress well, with the permitting process still underway.

Dominion has filed updated water licence and land use permit applications, which is the next step in the environmental approval of the project.

Public hearings took place for the licence applications in Yellowknife in December, with strong participation from a variety of community groups.

The next steps involve the ongoing review of the draft water licence, with

a decision by the responsible Minister thereafter. Dominion believes the mine life extension provided by Jay positions us well for the future.

There is ongoing engagement with the communities through the Traditional Knowledge Elders Group (featured on page 3), leadership tours, and meetings on specific aspects of the project, e.g. fisheries impacts and offsetting.

Please see page 6 for a list of the community engagement and other meetings.

Environmental Update

Fisheries Offset Project

What is “Fish Offsetting”?

“Offsetting” involves replacing fish that were lost from a particular area as a result of development.

According to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, “offsetting activities support and enhance the sustainability and the ongoing productivity of fish that are part of, or support, a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery”.

Dominion Diamond has undertaken a series of meetings in the communities to discuss options for a fisheries project for inconnu fish, also known as coney.

Traditional Knowledge holders indicate that both coney and whitefish once lived and reproduced in the Yellowknife River. Whitefish continue to thrive there today, but coney disappeared in the mid 1900s.

Dominion would like to reintroduce coney into the Yellowknife River to fulfill requirements for fisheries offsetting for the Jay Project.

The company has been working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), as Dominion is required to apply for a Fisheries Act authorization for the Jay Project.

We have been working on the development of an Offsetting Plan,

which will be submitted to DFO.

DFO was invited to attend the community meetings, which have taken place with the North Slave Métis Alliance, the Fort Resolution Métis Council, the Kwe Beh Working Group, the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Deninu Kue First Nation, and in the communities of Behchokò, Whatì, Gamètì, Łutsel K'è, Wekweètì, and Kugluktuk.

Dominion has been collecting data from the Yellowknife and Cameron rivers every year since 2014 to better understand how to re-establish the population of coney in that area. The data includes:

- Habitat (river and water characteristics)
- Spawning locations and timing
- Egg locations

Dominion wants to continue working with the communities to investigate other options for fisheries offsetting that might complement or provide a contingency for the coney project, including local fish habitat enhancement projects.

If you would like further information about the community sessions, please contact Nick Ballantyne at nicholas.ballantyne@ddcorp.ca.



Inconnu (coney) fish. Photo Credit: Paul Vecsei

Dominion is pleased to report that the Sable Project is proceeding well, and is ahead of schedule. The winter construction planned for the filter

dike was completed, and the teams have finished placing frozen core material for the Two Rock dam at the Sable Project site. This summer, we

Sable Project Update

expect to continue dewatering at the site. Thanks to Nuna Construction, we have these beautiful photos of the site construction in progress.



Community Engagement

Traditional Knowledge Elders Group Workshop

The Traditional Knowledge Elders Group (TKEG) held its third meeting January 23-24, 2017 in Yellowknife, facilitated by Iris Catholique and John Bekale.

During the workshop, the group:

- Reviewed information on the Jay Fisheries and Fish-Out Project

(for more information on this project, please see the article on the previous page)

- Continued the discussion on the Jay Road construction and design, including the esker crossing and caribou crossing

- Reviewed TKEG recommendations on the use and location of the cultural camp
- Reviewed and approved the TK Framework
- Finalized the Terms of Reference



About TKEG

Dominion Diamond established the TK Elders Group to gather information that will be aligned in planning and decision-making at the Ekati mine. This was one of the measures in the Report on the Environmental Assessment for the Jay Project.

Although the focus is on the Jay Project, the knowledge gathered may be applied to the Ekati mine site to further mitigate impacts on caribou, water, land, air and fish as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

Ekati Plus Post-Secondary Scholarship Recipients

Dominion Diamond is proud to fund the Ekati Plus Post-Secondary Scholarship for Northerners who want to make a positive difference in their communities and work for a bright future.

Our two recent scholarship recipients are Shelagh Byatt and Gavin Wilkes. In this edition, we are pleased to feature Shelagh!

Shelagh Byatt

Shelagh is from Fort Simpson, NWT and is working towards her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario.

Shelagh says, "My interest in health care and desire to become a nurse was sparked after my third year at university.

"I was fortunate enough to win a position at my local health centre as a summer student with the Health Promotion department.

"I also began volunteering with the Fort Simpson Volunteer Fire Department as an EMT and fire fighter.

"The experience I gained through the combination of these positions allowed me to identify not only where my passion lies, but also where my personality and strengths allow me to be most efficient. It is my hope to participate in the continued development of an inclusive healthcare and social system, one where a person's socioeconomic standing does not determine the level of care.

"When I finish my nursing program I am excited to return home to the Northwest Territories to combine and apply the knowledge that I have gained and to further develop the strong ethical beliefs and values I have acquired as a member of my community."



Shelagh Byatt, nursing student at Trent University.

Community Engagement

Trail Blazers Project in Lutsel K'e

Congratulations to the Trail Blazers crew in Lutsel K'e, who worked hard last summer to make areas outside of the community more accessible to residents and tourists. In particular, the group cleared the traditional

trails to Lady of the Falls. The brush-cutting projects provided access to historical locations for picnics, biking, quading, walking and sightseeing. The project created short-term employment opportunities in the

community and reinforced the importance of safety awareness in a job setting.

Dominion supported the project by providing safety equipment, including safety vests, hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, and steel toe boots. This is in line with the company's commitment to promoting a safety culture.

The Trail Blazers participants took safety and training courses which could be transferrable to other employment opportunities.

Dominion also provided money towards the feast to celebrate the safe completion of the project.



Thank you to the Trail Blazers crew for your hard work to make significant community areas more accessible.

Safe Day Everyday Gold Award

Dominion Diamond has received the Safe Day Everyday Gold Award from the Association for Mineral Exploration BC and Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) for the second year in a row.

The award was presented for the highest number of hours without a lost time incident in 2015. During the exploration phase at the Jay Project and Sable Project, a total of 468,000 hours were accumulated by employees with Dominion and seven contract companies – Major Drilling, Foraco Canada, Golder Associates, Aurora Geosciences, Nuna Logistics, Advanced Medical Systems, Ross Industries, and McCaw North.

Access to the two exploration areas was enabled through the construction of winter ice roads by Dominion crews at the Sable Project, and Nuna Logistics crews at the Jay Project.

Last year, Dominion received the award for completing a large-scale drilling program at the Ekati

Diamond Mine in 2014 with zero recordable injuries.

CEO Brendan Bell said, "I am extremely proud of our team at the Ekati mine for maintaining such a high commitment to safety. It

is through the dedication of our contracting companies and their commitment to safety that we earned this achievement. This is a reflection of the importance we place on safety across all aspects of our operations."



Left to right: Dylan Arnold-Wallinger, AME Environment, Health & Safety Committee; Rick Woodward, Superintendent, Geosciences for Dominion Diamond Corporation; Bill Mercer, Chair, PDAC Health & Safety Committee; and Kory Hnidan, Safety Supervisor, Team Drilling accepting on behalf of Cameco Corporation Exploration Department. Photo Credit: AME/Velour Productions

Community Programs



John Rombough Painting Workshop: Dominion Diamond was excited to host Łutsel K'e artist John Rombough at the Ekati mine in February to conduct a painting workshop and to sell some of his beautiful paintings. An enthusiastic group of employees and contractors participated in the class. The finished works of art were impressive!



United Way NWT: The United Way is committed to building strong communities through poverty reduction, social and health support services, and improving educational opportunities for children. Dominion is honoured to partner with this worthy organization.



Youth Handgames (Yellowknife Catholic Schools): Dominion was a major sponsor of the youth traditional handgames tournament held in Yellowknife in February. The event involved approximately 250 youth from Dettah, N'dilo, Fort Providence, Behchokǫ, and Yellowknife.



Literacy Program: Dominion is pleased to partner with Aurora College on their Literacy Outreach Centre. We recognize the importance of community-based adult literacy programs, which help those with low literacy skills learn in a safe and comfortable environment. This project has special significance to Dominion, as we also recognize the value of working with individuals who need some extra support in reaching their goals. In addition to supporting the Literacy Outreach Centre, Dominion has a full-time **Adult Educator at the Ekati mine site**, who works with employees and apprentices to improve their language, math, computer, and general life skills.



Activities and Events

Activity / Event	Date
WLWB Public Hearings for Jay Project Water Licence in Yellowknife	Dec 13-15, 2016
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the North Slave Métis Alliance	Jan 16, 2017
Water Licence draft distributed for public review and comment	Jan 19, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Kwe Beh Working Group	Jan 19, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Community of Behchokò	Jan 19, 2017
Traditional Knowledge Elders Group meeting in Yellowknife	Jan 23-24, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Community of Gamètì	Jan 26, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Community of Łutsel K'e	Jan 30, 2017
Public Workshop in Łutsel K'e to discuss the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program, Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program, Caribou and Roads Mitigation Plan, and the Environmental Impact Report	Jan 31, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Deninu Kue First Nation	Feb 1, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Fort Resolution Métis Council	Feb 2, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Community of Wekweètì	Feb 9, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Feb 22, 2017
Jay Project Fisheries Authorization Meeting with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation	Feb 28, 2017
Traditional Knowledge Elders Group meeting at the Ekati mine	Apr 26-27, 2017

Note: All forward-looking dates are subject to change.



Dominion Diamond is on Facebook!

Please visit and "like" our Facebook page. You can find us at www.facebook.com/DominionDiamondCorporation.

We are excited to provide information about the company, our operations at the Ekati mine, and our contributions to the communities. We hope you enjoy it!

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