

# Northern Mining News

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## From the Editor ...

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, our members continue to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to their teams and northern communities. Collectively, there are seven mines across the Northwest Territories and Nunavut and they have demonstrated leadership throughout this challenge.

Troubling news from Dominion. Owner of the NWT's first diamond mine and partner in our second, has filed for creditor protection and gone into care and maintenance. The economic impact will be huge. The outcome remains unclear, but the company remains optimistic it will emerge and continue to operate. Read our story on the implications.

The North has a rich history of exploration and mining and this week we celebrate mining week in Nunavut. There most certainly is much to celebrate.

**Be safe, be healthy! ... Editor**

***Our Mission:*** To provide leadership on, and advocate for, responsible and sustainable mineral exploration and development in the NWT and Nunavut.



### Chamber of Mines COVID-19 update to members

The COVID-19 crisis is creating significant challenges for all Canadians, most importantly from a health perspective, but also from an economic perspective. Governments across the country are taking steps to get us through this with minimal damage, and it is important that we all do our part.

Our members continue to use diligence in operating their mines to meet public health requirements and to protect workers and communities. Virtually all have reduced their workforces and sent their employees from small vulnerable northern communities home for protection, have put into place detailed health protocols, and have lengthened their work rotations. In some cases, production has been reduced, and operating costs have increased. Diamond prices have fallen and they cannot be sold as the markets have closed. The Ekati diamond mine has stopped production and is in creditor protection.

Exploration has ground to a halt in both territories due to COVID, and as financial markets dry up.

The Chamber of Mines continues to be busy helping to identify actions for governments to take to minimize economic damage – in the short term by quickly helping the northern minerals industry through the crisis, and for the longer term, thinking of ideas on how to repair and rejuvenate the northern economy. The Chamber has had meetings and corresponded with the Governments of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the Federal Ministries of Northern Affairs, Natural Resources, Crown Indigenous Relations, and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, Territorial Members of Parliament and Senators, as well as ongoing involvement with the Canadian Mineral Industry Federation.

We would like to share with our members, and those in the public who recognize the value of our industry, just some of the actions taken by governments and the Chamber to date. We will update this from time to time as we learn more.

- March 23: GNWT ITI announced various supports including extending the deadline for the MIP exploration incentive, and the NWT Mining Recorder's Office has protected mineral claims and leases for 90 days.
- April 6: The Yukon Chamber of Mines together with our NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines shared industry's concerns on gaps in Federal benefits packages in a letter to Federal Northern Affairs Minister Vandal.



*Mines have put in place detailed health protocols to protect workers. Be Beers photos*

- April 7: Joint letter of support from Det'on Cho Corporation and Tlicho Investment Corporation for the Chambers of Mines letter
- April 8: The Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce endorsed the Chambers of Mines letter for supportive actions.
- April 9: The NWT Government recognized the importance of the industry in a media statement supporting the minerals industry and our Chambers of Mines letter: GNWT Supports Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon Chamber of Mines letter submitted to the Federal Government
- April 9: The Senators from all three territories submitted a Senators' letter to Finance Minister Morneau recommending changes to the proposed wage subsidy Bill so that it does not exclude major industries and sectors in the territories, and throughout rural and northern Canada.

The Chamber will continue its efforts in both territories to seek supportive government actions to protect and eventually rejuvenate the minerals industry. See the chamber [COVID-19 update to members here](#).

### **COVID strikes: Ekati mine closure confirms need for government support**

Another blow was delivered to the northern minerals industry when Dominion Diamond Mines [announced](#) it was granted creditor protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) last month. In its release, Dominion stated it intends to use the CCAA process to engage in discussions with its lenders, creditors, equity owner and other stakeholders and to solicit and evaluate strategic alternatives to restructure the company financially and operationally, and position it for long-term success when global economic and industry conditions improve. This comes at a time when the entire northern mining industry is facing tremendous economic pressure because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Dominion's Ekati diamond mine is the flagship of the Canadian diamond mining industry, opening in 1998 as Canada's first diamond mine. The discovery of Ekati in 1991 spurred a wave of exploration across Canada, including new exploration techniques and technologies, leading to the development of diamond mines in four territories and provinces. In 2018, Canada was the third largest global diamond miner. The Ekati mine has provided 32,912 person years of employment, and \$9.3 billion in business spending, with over half the benefits (51% of jobs and 69% of spending) going to northern residents and businesses (*Source: Chamber of Mines data compiled from mines' annual socio-economic reports*). Billions of dollars in various taxes and royalties have also been paid to public and Indigenous governments by the mine.

"We are encouraged that Dominion intends to use the CCAA process to position the company for long-term success when global economic and industry conditions improve," said Chamber of Mines President Ken Armstrong. "We are confident Dominion will explore all opportunities to get the Ekati mine back into production and resume contributing significant benefits to the NWT and Canada."

The remaining six NWT and Nunavut mines continue to operate during the COVID-19 crisis. "Without question this is taking a toll on all of our mines and service/supply companies," said Armstrong. "The mines are operating with reduced workforces which they must fly in by charter from as far away as eastern Canada; to protect vulnerable northern communities from the virus they have sent their local employees home with pay; and they are maintaining costly

and unplanned virus protection measures. We are thankful for the great corporate citizenship they are showing.”

Various government assistance programs, developed to respond, are still not helping the northern minerals industry. Exploration companies, despite investing over \$3.4 billion in the NWT and Nunavut since 2010, remain ineligible for wage subsidies available to other industries. The mines too, are still trying to determine if they are eligible. Service and supply businesses, many of them Indigenous, are also not receiving support as they face hurdles in eligibility requirements for federal assistance. “The impact of Dominion’s announcement underscores the importance of a sustainable minerals industry to Canada’s North. We continue to have direct discussions with the federal and territorial governments urging them to move quickly to support our northern minerals industry, ensuring it is positioned to re-start the private sector economy in the post pandemic period by attracting new investment and providing northern jobs and business opportunities,” says Armstrong.

Click [here](#) for the chamber release.

### **Northern chambers of mines COVID CEWS letter to federal government**

The COVID-19 crisis is creating significant challenges for all Canadians, most importantly from a health perspective, but also from an economic perspective. Governments across the country are taking steps to get us through this with minimal damage, and it is important that we all do our part.

At this point in time, despite significant economic aid packages from the Federal Government, many in the minerals industry, from exploration to development, from service and supply companies to miners are not being covered as other sectors are.

On April 6, to flag our collective concerns and recommendations, the Yukon Chamber of Mines together with our NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines shared its industry’s concerns on the gaps in Federal benefits packages in a letter to Federal Northern Affairs Minister Vandal.

Others have joined in the call to the federal government for changes. [Link to full letter.](#)

### **Nunavut Mining Recorder providing COVID tenure reliefs**

The CIRNAC Nunavut Mining Recorder’s Office has announced prospecting permits and mineral claims reporting requirements have been extended.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CIRNAC Nunavut Mining Recorder's Office recognizes that exploration programs will not be able to proceed this upcoming field season and would like to extend the offer of applying for relief of the reporting requirements contained within the Nunavut Mining Regulations.

If current measures for COVID-19 extend beyond this year, the Nunavut Mining Recorder’s Office will process an additional year of relief on prospecting permits and mineral claims.

The CIRNAC Nunavut Mining Recorder’s Office, has provided templates (below) to request relief of assessment work for prospecting permits and mineral claims.

- [Section 16 Request for Relief - Prospecting Permits](#)
- [Section 51 Request for Relief - Mineral Claims](#)

You do not have to wait until the anniversary date of your tenure to submit a request for relief pursuant to either Section 16 (prospecting permits) or Section 51 (mineral claims). The request can be applied to all prospecting permits and mineral claims regardless of their anniversary date (2020 and beyond). The approval of these requests will result in the extension of the duration of your mineral tenure by 1 year beyond the current anniversary date.

The submission of individual requests is necessary to ensure the accurate and prompt processing of relief by the Nunavut Mining Recorder's Office.

All requests received for relief on prospecting permits and mineral claims will be processed and approved CIRNAC MRO asks that you complete the appropriate template above and submit your request to Karen Dunphy at [karen.dunphy@canada.ca](mailto:karen.dunphy@canada.ca) for processing as soon as possible. Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact Karen by email or phone at 867-222-3051.

### **NWT COVID mineral tenure relief**

The Chamber is also in discussions with the NWT Government and its Mining Recorder on tenure relief. They had quickly put into place a 90-day freeze of all requirements as they develop more detailed relief for such things including claims, leases, permits, assessment requirements.

We will share developments with members as soon as they are available.

### **TMAC to be acquired by Shandong Gold**

- ***Culmination of comprehensive strategic review process***
- ***Ensures commitment to continued investment and future expansion of Hope Bay***

TMAC Resources Inc. has entered into a definitive agreement with Shandong Gold Mining Co. Ltd., through its wholly-owned, overseas subsidiary Shandong Gold Mining (HongKong) Co., Limited. SD GOLD has agreed to acquire all of the outstanding shares of TMAC at a price of C\$1.75 per share in cash.

Transaction value is approximately US\$149 million. The offer price represents a premium of 52% to TMAC's 20-day volume-weighted average price as at May 6, 2020.

Resource Capital Funds, Newmont Corporation and directors and officers of TMAC collectively holding approximately 58.6% of the current outstanding TMAC common shares have entered into voting support agreements to support the transaction.

Jason Neal, President and Chief Executive Officer of TMAC, stated, "The Transaction is the culmination of the strategic review process we announced earlier this year. Over the past several months, SD GOLD has completed a significant due diligence review of TMAC, including a site visit to Hope Bay earlier this year. SD GOLD, as one of the world's largest gold producers,



has the financial strength, technical capability and long-term vision to maximize the value of the Hope Bay camp.”

Yumin Chen, Chairman of Shandong Gold Group Co., Ltd., the controlling shareholder of SD GOLD, stated, “Hope Bay is a highly prospective high-grade gold camp which requires substantial investment to optimize production and extend mine life and maximize the value of the camp to the benefit of all stakeholders. We look forward to completion of the Transaction and the opportunity to invest in the project for years to come as the generational potential of the camp is unlocked. We have been impressed by TMAC’s strong relationships with its local stakeholders and responsible management of environmental and safety aspects of mining, and intend on demonstrating the same commitment as the owner and future developer of Hope Bay’s assets. We look forward to working closely with all stakeholders and local communities in Nunavut to deliver a world-class operation that will benefit the regional economy for generations to come.”

Stanley Anablak, President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, stated, “KIA supports the Hope Bay Project and all of the benefits it has brought and will bring to Kitikmeot Inuit and subject to KIA conducting its own due diligence would be supportive of a sale of TMAC to SD GOLD if KIA determines the proposed sale satisfies KIA’s mandate. KIA’s mandate is to manage Inuit Owned Lands and resources to protect and promote the social, cultural, political, environmental, and economic well-being of Kitikmeot Inuit.”

### **Benefits to Canada**

SD GOLD is among the world’s largest gold producers by market capitalization, with the financial strength and experience to invest in the Hope Bay camp. SD GOLD is committed to the long-term success of Hope Bay and the local communities in the region. As part of this transaction, SD GOLD plans to:



*TMAC announced it will be acquired by SD Gold. Pictured is TMAC’s Doris site at Hope Bay. TMAC photo*

- Complete the feasibility study with respect to the expansion of Hope Bay mining and processing, following on the prefeasibility study recently completed by TMAC, and be able to execute and fund the significant capital expenditure required
- Maintain the significant contracting benefits to those serving Hope Bay, including the continuity of existing significant contract business to local, Inuit-owned firms
- Maintain the flow of royalties, fees and taxes to Inuit and Territorial governments, necessary to provide public services to Nunavut residents
- Continue to grow Inuit employment at Hope Bay
- Continue to invest in skills training for Inuit employees
- Provide ongoing and long-term employment opportunities, including highly skilled jobs, at Hope Bay
- Maintain a commitment to the highest standards of environmental sustainability and to the health and safety of its workers
- Support organizations in the local communities via charitable, social, recreational, and community development programs within Nunavut
- Expand SD GOLD's existing office in Toronto – going forward, this regional office will oversee new project development of SD GOLD in the Americas
- Ensure the continued commercial orientation and standards of corporate governance practiced by TMAC

See the [release](#) for more detail including transaction summary, TMAC board of directors recommendations, timing, and interim financing. See the US\$15 million private placement release [here](#).

### **Agnico Eagle reports first quarter 2020 results**

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited reported a quarterly net loss of \$21.6 million, or net loss of \$0.09 per share, for the first quarter of 2020. This result includes non-cash foreign currency translation losses on deferred tax liabilities of \$44.2 million (\$0.18 per share), mark-to-market derivative losses on financial instruments of \$22.1 million (\$0.09 per share), non-cash foreign currency translation losses of \$3.8 million (\$0.02 per share), costs relating to the temporary suspension of operations of \$2.3 million (\$0.01 per share) and various other adjustments of \$5.2 million (\$0.02 per share). Excluding these items would result in adjusted net income of \$56.0 million or \$0.23 per share for the first quarter of 2020. For the first quarter of 2019, the company reported net income of \$37.0 million or \$0.16 per share.

Included in the first quarter of 2020 net loss, and not adjusted above, is a non-cash stock option expense of \$6.6 million (\$0.03 per share).

In the first quarter of 2020, cash provided by operating activities increased to \$163.4 million (\$204.8 million before changes in non-cash components of working capital), as compared with the first quarter of 2019 when cash provided by operating activities was \$148.7 million (\$170.8 million before changes in non-cash components of working capital).

The increase in cash provided by operating activities during the first quarter of 2020, compared to the prior year period, was mainly due to higher gold sales volumes and higher realized gold

prices, partially offset by higher costs at the Meadowbank Complex and Meliadine mine which were still ramping up operations during the quarter. *(All amounts expressed in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted)*

The decrease in net income during the first quarter of 2020, compared to the prior year period, was mainly due to non-recurring losses on deferred taxes due to non-cash foreign currency translation, primarily due to the weakening of local currencies during the first quarter of 2020, unrealized losses on derivatives and higher production costs and amortization at the Meadowbank Complex and Meliadine mine, partially offset by higher gold sales volumes and higher realized gold prices.

"The first quarter of 2020 was challenging given the global COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our gold production and unit costs in March as operations were reduced to minimum activities at all five of our Canadian mines. Throughout this crisis the health, safety and well-being of all our employees and the communities that we operate in have been our top priority and remain a key focus as we have begun to carefully restart and ramp up our Canadian operations", said Sean Boyd, Agnico Eagle's Chief Executive Officer.

### **COVID-19 impacts**

In March, the company sent home its Nunavut-based workforce and reduced its mining activities at Meliadine and Amaruq. In addition, the company's operations in Quebec were temporarily suspended for three weeks in March and April 2020. Post the end of the first quarter of 2020, Agnico Eagle's Mexican operations were also put on temporary suspension. The Quebec operations progressively restarted on April 15, 2020 and the Mexican operations are expected to restart in early June 2020. Other than a three-day shutdown of underground operations in March, the Kittila mine in Finland has remained in full operation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

See CEO Sean Boyd's blog post [Unprecedented times, Unprecedented response](#) from April 10.

[See full release for tables](#) and detailed information.

### **Meadowbank update**

Production costs per tonne in the first quarter of 2020 increased when compared to the prior-year period primarily due to the timing of unsold inventory, higher contractor and maintenance costs, lower throughput levels and higher stripping costs as the Complex transitioned to the Amaruq satellite deposit. Production costs per ounce in the first quarter of 2020 increased when compared to the prior-year period due to the reasons described above, partially offset by higher gold production.

Minesite costs per tonne in the first quarter of 2020 increased when compared to the prior-year period primarily due to higher contractor and maintenance costs, lower throughput levels and higher stripping costs as the Complex transitioned to the Amaruq satellite deposit. Total cash costs per ounce in the first quarter of 2020 increased when compared to the prior-year period due to the reasons described above, partially offset by higher gold production.



Gold production in the first quarter of 2020 increased when compared to the prior-year period due to higher grades, partially offset by lower throughput as the Complex transitioned to the Amaruq satellite deposit.

The ramp up of production activities at Amaruq in the first quarter of 2020 continued to improve over the fourth quarter of 2019. Daily production targets have been achieved periodically, but operations during the first quarter of 2020 were hampered by lower equipment availabilities as well as the reduction of staffing levels related to COVID-19 measures implemented in Nunavut in March.

The company continues to work with the Nunavut authorities and communities to have Nunavut based employees return as soon as conditions permit. In the interim, the company will focus on optimizing the operations with the workforce available. The full release also includes details on:

- Building up ore stockpiles
- Water management
- Meliadine Mine
- Updated Production Plan
- Water Management Strategy



*Higher gold sales volumes were largely a result of the increased production due to the commencement of commercial production at Meliadine during May 2019. Pictured is the Meliadine process plant. Agnico Eagle photo*

For Agnico Eagle's May 4 election of directors release click [here](#).

## **Mountain Province announces first quarter results**

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. [announced production and sales results](#) for the first quarter ended March 31, 2020 from the Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine. All figures are expressed in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

The company also reports that it has drawn US\$25 million from its revolving credit facility amid the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. As reported previously in the press release dated March 17, 2020, the company's formal sales in Antwerp have been suspended until further notice because of the global lock down of nonessential services. In addition, and at the present time, the Gahcho Kué Mine and Plant continue to operate albeit the virus has impacted operations and performance due to a decision to send home employees and contractors from remote Northwest Territories communities and those at higher risk of serious complications from COVID-19. The site has implemented numerous precautionary measures over the past few weeks to ensure, as far as possible, a safe working environment for all employees and contractors travelling to and from site as well as at the support offices in Yellowknife, Calgary, and Toronto. As such, the drawn funds will be used for general operating expenses.

The company, along with its JV Partner, De Beers Canada Inc. are reviewing all capital and exploration expenses and will be halting most long-term and noncore projects during this time. The JV partners are also assessing all possible operating scenarios and potential impacts on 2020 production outlook and will provide further details to the market accordingly.

### **Q1 Highlights**

(all figures reported on a 100% basis unless otherwise stated)

- 9,356,785 total tonnes mined, a 2% decrease on comparable period (Q1 2019: 9,528,018).
- 1,029,579 ore tonnes mined, a 70% increase on comparable period (Q1 2019: 605,027).
- 902,506 ore tonnes treated, a 4% increase on comparable period (Q1 2019: 870,949).
- 1,655,121 carats recovered at an average grade of 1.83 carats per tonne, 4% higher than comparable quarter (Q1 2019: 1,584,552 carats at 1.82).

### **Q1 2020 Production Figures**

	<b>2020 Q1</b>	<b>2019 Q1</b>	<b>YoY Variance</b>
Total tonnes mined (ore and waste)	9,356,785	9,528,018	-2%
Ore tonnes mined	1,029,579	605,027	70%
Ore tonnes treated	902,506	870,949	4%
Carats recovered	1,655,121	1,584,552	4%
Carats recovered (49% share)	811,009	776,431	4%
Recovered grade (carats per tonne)	1.83	1.82	1%

### **Q1 2020 Diamond Sales**

In Q1 2020, 659,318 carats were sold at an average value of \$99 per carat (US\$75 per carat) for total proceeds of \$65.4 million (US\$49.2 million) in comparison to 643,739 carats sold at an

average value of \$94 per carat (US\$71 per carat) for total proceeds of \$60.7 million (US\$45.8 million) in Q1 2019.

The company's sales, as previously stated, have been halted indefinitely. In the meantime, alternative sale strategies are being explored and will be considered if deemed viable.

Stuart Brown, the company's President and Chief Executive Officer, commented:

"During this unprecedented time, the health and safety of our people, their families, and the communities in which we operate remains our top priority. Our JV partner, De Beers Canada Inc., in consultation with the Government of the Northwest Territories has implemented numerous precautionary measures over the past few weeks to ensure the safest working environment possible for all employees and contractors across all working sites and offices. In addition, work from home policies, where applicable, have been implemented. We have halted all long-term, non-core capital and exploration projects to reduce foot traffic and travel to and from site. We have also changed our crew rotation from two weeks to four weeks to further reduce travel. Furthermore, we continue to follow public health guidelines for COVID-19, such as physical distancing protocols to the best of our abilities. We are extremely proud of our workforce and during this difficult time I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work, dedication, and continued support.

### **Osisko Metals provides corporate update and maintains current PEA schedule**

Osisko Metals Incorporated continues to advance the [Preliminary Economic Assessment for its wholly-owned Pine Point Project](#), slated for release in Q2 2020 in collaboration with BBA Inc., WSP, Tetra Tech and Golder Associates Inc. The company is currently focused on project optimization including material sorting methodology trade-off studies.

The company is following the guidelines and advice of the Public Health Agency of Canada as well as regulations from provincial and territorial governments with respect to the COVID-19 virus. All personnel have been safely working from home since March 16th.

The 2019-2020 Pine Point winter exploration campaign has concluded due to spring break-up and compliance with guidelines of the Public Health Agency of Canada. The exploration camp has been placed on care and maintenance following travel restrictions and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Results of the winter drill program are being processed and will be released as soon as possible. The company will be able to rapidly restart exploration and environmental baseline work campaigns that are planned for this year, once restrictions are lifted.

Robert Wares, Executive Chairman & CEO, commented "Along with our consultants, we continue to diligently advance the PEA of Pine Point and will continue to develop the project throughout 2020. Current market conditions have temporarily reduced demand for base metals, but weak spot markets will result in further deterioration of the zinc supply chain in the longer term through new mine closures and suspended development projects. We believe that Osisko Metals and the Pine Point project are best positioned to leverage this future opportunity in the zinc markets."

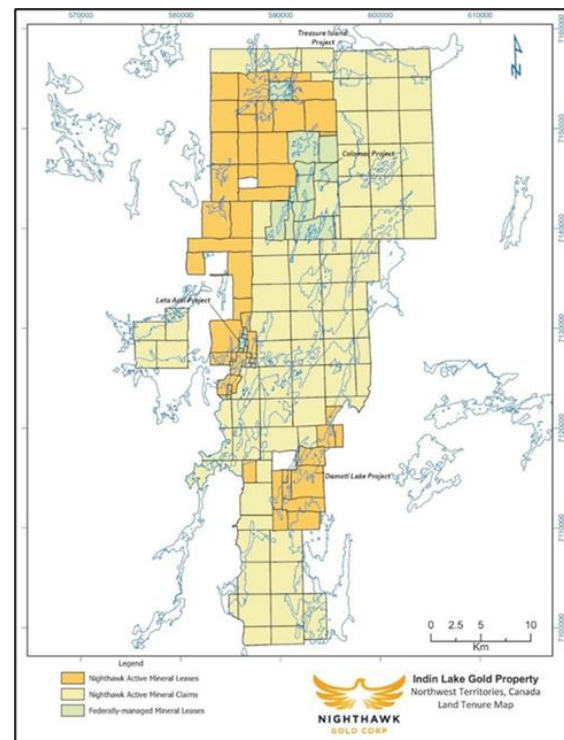
The company also wishes to announce that Mr. Paul Dumas has stepped down from his position as Executive Vice President Finance and Director of the company to devote his efforts on several private businesses. However, he will maintain a role as Special Consultant to the company. Mr. Dumas was co-founder and CEO of the company from 2008 to 2017 (previously named Bowmore Exploration Ltd) and since June 2017 was instrumental in the successful reorganization to create Osisko Metals. Mr Dumas was also key in the completion of over \$75 million in financings as well as the successful negotiation of the repurchase of the Pine Point NSR, amongst other things. The company would like to thank Mr. Dumas for his contributions over the years and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

### Nighthawk metallurgy continues to show strong gold recoveries for Colomac

Nighthawk Gold Corp. is pleased to provide an update of the latest heap leach testwork from ongoing [preliminary metallurgical studies on the Colomac Gold Project](#). Four bulk drill core samples collected in 2018 were previously submitted for SAGDesign, gravity concentration, flotation, bottle roll cyanide leaching, and column heap leach testing. Standard metallurgical test results for those samples were reported earlier (see release dated March 19, 2019) and are referenced in this release which covers the 2018 bottle roll and column heap leach testwork findings.

Dr. Michael Byron, President & CEO commented, "Metallurgical studies completed to-date have continued to show that Colomac rock performs exceptionally well in terms of its grind characteristics, gold recoveries, purity, and responsiveness to all standard gold recovery technologies. Although our ongoing heap leach bottle roll and column tests are still at a preliminary stage, results show a favourable response to the deposit's heap leach potential.

"Standard metallurgical testing on four Colomac 2019 samples is almost complete. Additional heap leach testwork is also underway, which will then give us a total of ten bottle roll and nine column leach tests and will shed considerable insight into the ongoing assessment of the deposit's heap leach and primary processing potential."



#### Testwork Highlights:

- Testing to-date has shown that Colomac rock is amenable to all standard gold recovery technologies including, flotation, gravity separation, and heap leaching.
- Minimal variation in rock hardness is noted for all test samples indicating a relatively homogeneous host rock across both sills.



- Utilising a combination of gravity and cyanide leach recovery processes, testing has shown that gold recoveries for all samples tested to-date when ground to a size of 80% passing 106 microns, range from 96.3% to 98.0%.
- Current column leach tests on the four 2018 samples posted gold recoveries that varied from 54.9% to 69.7% and averaging 59.4% for the 206 day run, representing an average increase of 9.6% in recoveries when the leach time was extended for an additional 3 months (~100 additional days)(Table 2 in release).
- Current bottle roll leach tests on four samples (minus half (½) inch crushed material ran for 10 days) posted gold recoveries between 31.5% and 49.6% with an average gold recovery of 44.3%. Samples of lower-grade and higher-grade material collected in 2016 and 2017 returned recoveries of 81.8% and 57.5% respectively (see press release dated May 22, 2018).
- Cyanide heap leach results show considerable variability between testing methods and grade of material processed but fall within an expected performance range for crushed material (recoveries between 31.5% up to 81.8% in all samples tested to-date).

For details on metallurgical, heap leach, and future test work, and tables, [see full release](#).

See Nighthawk [advances converting Indin Lake gold property mineral claims to mineral leases release here](#).

### De Beers production report for Q1 2020

De Beers reports Canada production decreased by 19% to 0.8 million carats, primarily due to the closure of Victor, which reached the end of its life in Q2 2019. Gahcho Kué production increased by 4% to 0.8 million carats due to strong plant performance.

Other production details by country include:

**Botswana:** Production decreased by 5% to 5.6 million carats, driven by a 7% decrease at Orapa due to challenges related to commissioning of new plant infrastructure and maintenance, while production at Jwaneng reduced by 4% due to planned lower grade.

**Namibia:** Production increased by 6% to 0.5 million carats due to planned higher grade at the marine operations.

**South Africa:** Production increased by 97% to 0.8 million carats as the final ore from the open pit is mined prior to transition to underground.

### Sales

Rough diamond sales totalled 8.9 million carats (8.3 million carats on a consolidated basis) from two sales cycles, an increase compared to Q1 2019 (7.5 million carats from two sales cycles; 7.2 million carats on a consolidated basis)<sup>2</sup>, driven primarily by the fact that the early part of 2019 saw lower demand due to higher polished stocks. Sales volumes increased year-on-year despite adverse demand impacts in Q1 2020 from COVID-19, with customers given the option to defer some allocations in the second sales cycle, offset by a shift in demand towards lower value goods. The third sales cycle of 2020 was not held due to COVID-19-related restrictions on the movement of people and product, and customers were provided with flexibility to defer all their allocations from Sight 3 until later in the year.



### Full Year Guidance

In response to the impact of COVID-19 on mining operations, wholesale trading activity and consumer traffic in key consumer markets, production guidance has been revised to 25-27 million carats (previously 32-34 million carats), subject to continuous review based on the disruptions related to COVID-19 as well as the timing and scale of the recovery in trading conditions. [See release.](#)

### Gold Terra expands gold mineralization at Sam Otto South

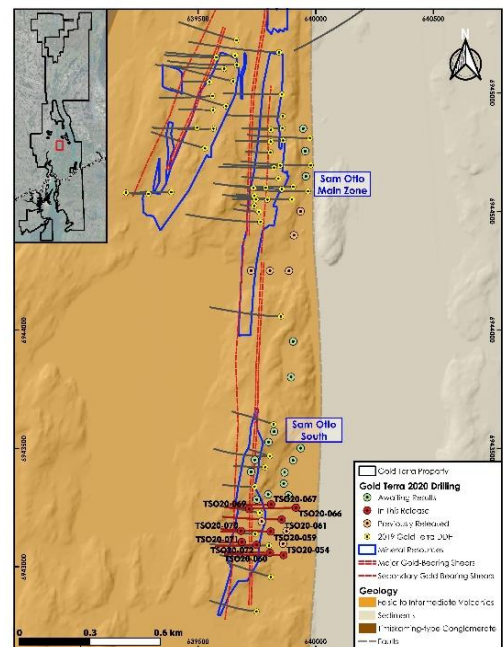
Gold Terra Resource Corp. announced [results of 10 holes from Sam Otto South](#) (see map below) on its 100% wholly-owned Yellowknife City Gold project in the Northwest Territories.

This drilling targeted the expansion of the known mineralization in the 'main zone' and the new 'hanging wall zone' at Sam Otto South. All 10 holes intersected gold mineralization, indicating the potential to add to the current inferred mineral resource dated November 4, 2019 (the "Mineral Resource Estimate"), as detailed in the technical report prepared in accordance with National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"), available under our profile on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). To date, Gold Terra has released the assay results of 18 holes from its 36 holes drilled this winter at Sam Otto with assays pending.

Highlights include:

- 1.33 g/t Au over 9.77m and 0.99 g/t Au over 8.24m (TSO20-060)
- 2.50 g/t Au over 5.75m (TSO20-071)
- 1.80 g/t Au over 6.30m (TSO20-067)

President and CEO David Suda stated: "We are confirming the continued expansion of gold mineralized zones at Sam Otto. In addition to expanding known mineralization, we are successfully drilling new zones which bolster our confidence in the possibility of adding gold ounces to the next resource update of Sam Otto."



[Click here](#) to enlarge. Gold Terra image

The company has recently concluded its winter drilling program with the completion of two deep holes testing an induced polarization anomaly (from the recently completed geophysical survey) coinciding with the interpreted northern extension of the main structures that host the past producing Con and Giant mines (production of 14 million ounces of gold).

All core has been cut, sampled, and shipped for assay. The core displays zones of shearing and alteration similar to the Campbell Shear mineralization of the Con mine.

See [release](#) for table and details on:

- Technical summary
- Technical appendix
- Corporate update

## **Two major safety awards for De Beers' Gahcho Kue and Victor mines**

De Beers Group is proud to accept two prestigious mine safety awards announced by the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) in recognition of exceptional safety performance at Gahcho Kué Mine and Victor Mine during 2019.

Gahcho Kué has received the national 2020 John T. Ryan Award in the Select Mines category for having one of the lowest injury frequency rates among operating mines in Canada.

This is the fourth safety award received by Gahcho Kué, including the 2016 and 2019 Workplace Health and Safety Award from the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and the 2017 Hatch-CIM Mining & Metals Project Development Safety Award.

During 2019, Gahcho Kué reduced the number of injuries by 38% compared to 2018 and had zero lost time injuries during the year.

For the third consecutive year, Victor Mine which is now in the closure phase, has won the 2020 eastern regional John T. Ryan Award in the Select Mines category. This recognition was received for safety performance as the mine completed production through the first half of last year. Victor also received the eastern regional John T. Ryan award in both 2017 and 2018 and the mine won the national John T. Ryan award for Select Mines in 2015 and 2016. At Victor, 97% of all days worked during 2019 were “triple zero” with no first aids, no medical aids, and no lost-time injuries.



*De Beers' Gahcho Kué and Victor mines have both been awarded John T. Ryan safety trophies. De Beers photo*

Mpumi Zikalala, Managing Director of De Beer Group Managed Operations said: “To have both of our Canadian operations recognized as being among the safest mines in the country is an outstanding achievement and reflects the strong commitment to zero harm by all our employees. During its life of mine, Victor Mine has been exemplary in its commitment to zero harm, maintaining this until closure. I have all the confidence that the Gahcho Kué team will continue to be the mining safety leader in Canada.”

Gahcho Kué mine in the Northwest Territories is a joint venture between De Beers Group (51%), the Operator, and Mountain Province Diamonds (49%).

Victor, located in the James Bay lowlands of Northern Ontario, is 100% owned by De Beers Group.

[See the release here.](#)

## **Fortune Minerals provides NICO project update**

### ***Technical improvements are continuing through Covid-19 social distancing restrictions***

Fortune Minerals Limited is providing an [update of current work to advance the NICO](#) Cobalt-Gold-Bismuth-Copper Project (“NICO Project”) in Canada during the Coronavirus pandemic. Fortune is complying with government protocols, including temporary closure of the company’s head office, prohibiting non-essential travel, and employees are social distancing and working remotely from their homes. Technical work has advanced on the NICO Project during this period, primarily by employees with some assistance from engineering consultants. Fortune has also received financial assistance through government programs available to it, and has outstanding applications pending for additional support. The company is also reducing costs where it can to preserve cash until confidence returns to the capital markets, which it normally depends upon for its source of working capital.

The NICO Project was assessed in a Feasibility Study prepared by Micon International Limited in 2014, based primarily on the company’s Front-End Engineering and Design study led by Aker Solutions and a proposed project financing with Procon Group which was not completed. The Mineral Reserves for the NICO Project total 33.1 million tonnes, averaging 1.03 grams of gold per tonne, 0.11% cobalt, 0.14% bismuth and 0.04% copper (see news release, dated April 2, 2014). Cobalt and bismuth are both metals identified on the United States and European Union Critical Minerals Lists. Minerals considered critical have essential use in important industrial and security applications, cannot be easily substituted by other minerals, and their supply chain is threatened by geographic concentration of production and/or geopolitical risks.

For more detailed information about the NICO Mineral Reserves and certain technical information in this news release, please refer to the Technical Report on the NICO Project, entitled "Technical Report on the Feasibility Study for the NICO-Gold-Cobalt-Bismuth-Copper Project, Northwest Territories, Canada", dated April 2, 2014 and prepared by Micon International Limited which has been filed on SEDAR and is available under the company's profile at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).

After assessing a contemplated 30% expansion of the NICO Project in 2019, Fortune has refocused the development strategy using a plan similar to the one used in the 2014 Micon Feasibility Study. See the [release](#) for more detail including information on:

- Updated mineral resource model
- Underground stope design
- New mine plan and schedule
- Refinery sites
- Tlicho road

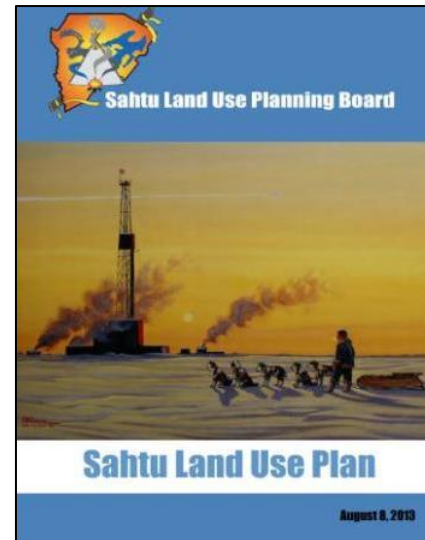
## 5-year review amendment of Sahtu land use plan, approval submission

The Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB) has adopted the 5-year review amendment application by a motion on April 30, 2020, in compliance with subsection 48(1) of the MVRMA.

The board submitted the amendment application, as adopted, to the SSI, the GNWT, and CIRNAC for their review and approval on May 1, 2020, as per subsections 48 (2) and 43 (1) to (4) of the MVRMA.

The adopted amendment application consists of two volumes where: Volume 1 is the main body of the SLUP, including Appendices 1 and 2; and Volume 2 is “Appendix 3: GIS Protocols, Methodology, and Physical Limits Zone Descriptions”. As Appendix 3 is a part of the SLUP, the Board is seeking approval on both volumes. It is the Board’s intent that these volumes will be kept separate in the final approved plan.

The adopted application and submission letter are available on the Board’s website [here](#). All amendment-related correspondence and meeting materials are also available on the public registry.



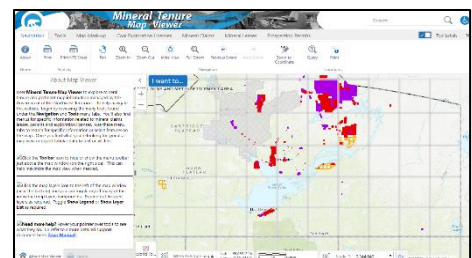
## NWT Mining Recorder now providing community notices of mineral staking

In a non-COVID related development, beginning April 1, 2020, the Government of Northwest Territories Mining Recorder’s Office (MRO) has begun a new process to issue notices of new applications to record a mineral claim. The intent is to enhance the mineral tenure issuance process and provide a higher level of transparency and community awareness.

Indigenous Governments and Organizations (IGOs) can subscribe to receive Notices for their identified area of interest.

The MRO will inform mineral claim applicants of the IGOs that have been sent Notices related to their application to record a mineral claim. The notice will contain the following information:

- The name of the pending mineral claim(s).
- The identification number (tag) of the pending mineral claim(s).
- The number(s) of the NTS 1:50,000 map sheet(s) on which the pending mineral claim(s) are located.
- A digital link to the MRO’s Mineral Tenure Viewer (web map).
- The digital map coordinates for the location of the pending mineral claim(s), which will be the same coordinates as recorded in the Mineral Tenure Viewer.



Click [here](#) or image to open the mineral tenure map which shows current data on mineral properties in the NWT.

The Notices are an information sharing process to create awareness and provide opportunity for dialogue between IGOs and mineral claim applicants. The Notices do not allow for claims to be refused; this is an interim adjustment to the mineral claim issuance process in advance of the Mineral Resources Act coming into force.

For additional information regarding this process, please contact:

Valerie Gordon, Mining Recorder/Manager, (867) 767-9210, ext. 63175, [miners@gov.nt.ca](mailto:miners@gov.nt.ca).

### **De Beers announces women's support initiatives**

#### ***Donates \$200,000 to women's support organisations***

De Beers Group [announced a \\$200,000 donation across its four producer partner countries](#) of Botswana, Canada, Namibia and South Africa to assist women's shelters and support organisations to respond to an increase in gender-based violence resulting from the COVID-19 situation. The donation adds to the more than \$5 million De Beers Group has already committed to its producer partner countries to support COVID-19 response efforts.

The donation will be split equally across Botswana, Canada, Namibia and South Africa. It adds to the contributions De Beers Group has already announced in its host countries to support the COVID-19 response, which exceeds \$5 million across monetary and in-kind support, spanning the procurement of medical supplies, logistical support, vulnerability assessment support plans, food security for vulnerable households, water supply to communities, COVID-19 awareness and education, and local clinical support.

As lockdown and social distancing measures introduced around the world exacerbate the risk of gender-based violence, there has been a global increase in cases reported, including in the countries in which De Beers Group operates.

With some gender-based violence support services currently closed, and those that remain open under increasing demand, De Beers Group's funding will support the capacity of women's shelters and organisations in host communities to meet the increase in immediate needs, as well as beyond lockdown periods. De Beers Group is working with local stakeholders in each country, including its long-term partner, UN Women, to tailor an approach that is appropriate to local contexts.

Bruce Cleaver, CEO, De Beers Group and UN Women HeForShe Thematic Champion, said: "As the world faces unprecedented health and economic challenges caused by the COVID-19 virus, many women and children are also being exposed to a significantly increased risk of gender-based violence, while having limited ability to access support services and finding those services are under extreme pressure.

In addition to the contributions De Beers Group is making as a business to support its host countries and communities, Mr Cleaver will donate 30 per cent of his salary over the next three months to charitable organisations supporting vulnerable people in southern Africa.

See the [full release](#) for more details and the backgrounder.



### ***Donates \$70,000 to women's shelters in Canada***

De Beers Group will be providing a total of nearly \$70,000 (US\$50K) to be shared among four shelters in the communities surrounding their Gahcho Kué and Victor operations.

In the NWT, the YWCA NWT and the Yellowknife Women's Centre (YWC) will receive funds to manage logistics to move families to shelters, and to purchase food and other supplies for families who had to leave behind their household possessions.

This follows the group's early April contribution of cash donations to each of the six Indigenous Impact Benefit Communities associated with Gahcho Kué Mine as well as providing food hampers to YWC and the Yellowknife Sobering Centre.

### ***De Beers announces four scholarships for women***

De Beers Group is pleased to announce that [scholarship applications are now open for Canadian young women](#) applying for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and STEM-related baccalaureate programs at Canadian post-secondary institutions this fall.

The company is offering four new scholarships as part of its US\$504,000 commitment to support at least 40 Canadian young women get into STEM programs between 2018 and 2021 working in partnership with UN Women's HeForShe movement. Worth US\$2,175 each, the one-year scholarships will be offered through a partnership with Scholarships Canada.

"There is no better way to leave a lasting, positive legacy than to invest in education and demonstrate that women are equal to the task when it comes to science, technology, engineering and math," explained Mpumi Zikalala, Managing Director of De Beers Group Managed Operations, which includes operations and offices in Canada. "We are proud to have supported 29 young women in enrolling to universities across Canada and narrow the gender gap in STEM programs, and we look forward to exceeding our goal by the end of this current program."

In addition to the new scholarships, at least eight young women who received funding through Scholarships Canada for the 2019-2020 school year are eligible to apply to renew their funding for a second year.



De Beers has announced four scholarships. Contact [terry.kruger@debeersgroup.com](mailto:terry.kruger@debeersgroup.com) for details. De Beers photo

Applications are accepted online at [debeersgroup.scholarshipscanada.com](https://debeersgroup.scholarshipscanada.com) until 11:59 PM ET on June 1, 2020. Special preference for the scholarships is given to Indigenous and other young women from northern Ontario, southern Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

De Beers Group has also funded six scholarships at the University of Calgary, open to female undergraduates in Earth Science and Engineering. Application information is available through the University.

Four additional awards are also available at the University of Waterloo for female undergraduates entering their first year in Earth Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Geological Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. University of Waterloo scholarships are awarded based upon academic performance and student financial needs.

The STEM scholarships are just one component of the De Beers Group and UN Women partnership and a commitment by De Beers Group to invest US\$3 million over three years in programs that support young women and girls in Botswana, Canada, Namibia, and South Africa.

### **Nunavut Mining Week – minerals a part of territory’s past, present... and future**

Nunavut has a rich history of exploration and mining. Modern mining commenced in the territory with the Rankin Inlet nickel mine which began production in 1957. Since then, several mines have been built, and today, Nunavut boasts four operating mines, three gold and one iron.

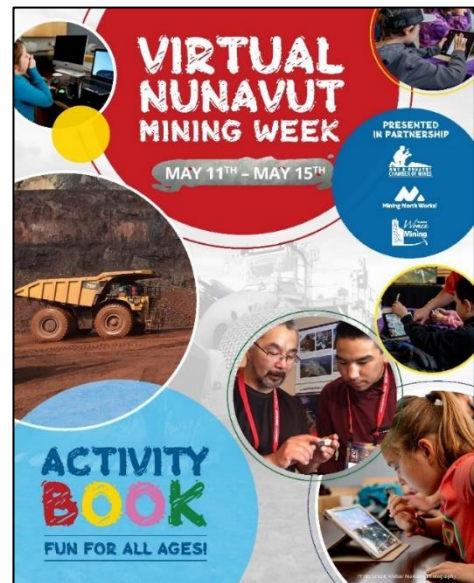
To commemorate its mining industry, the territory’s Nunavut Mining Week begins Monday, May 11.

“Mining week is an opportunity to reflect upon Nunavut’s rich mining history, to learn more about the minerals industry, and to look ahead to the future of exploration and mining in the territory,” said NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines President Ken Armstrong.

“Mining is an extremely challenging business. Perhaps never more so than today. Despite the challenges faced by our industry, we have seen many successes and remain optimistic about the minerals industry’s future and its ability to continue to deliver benefits to Nunavummiut,” he added. “Amid the COVID-19, pandemic, I would like to acknowledge all the excellent work industry is doing, together with government and Inuit Organizations, to protect workers and communities.”

For Nunavut mining week, new [on-line Nunavut mining booklet](#), with several fun and informational activities for Nunavut youth, has been developed.

Produced through a partnership of the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines Mining North Works! public awareness program, Yukon Mining Alliance, Yukon Women in Mining, and Mining Matters, the booklet provides a resource activity youth can complete at home.



Click [here](#) or on the image above to download the Nunavut mining week activity booklet for youth.

We encourage you to join the Nunavut Mining Week celebration and we look forward to your on-line submissions!

To learn more about all things mining, explore [Mining North Works!](#) which includes the [Explore for Your Career catalogue](#) profiling several Nunavut mine workers.

The minerals industry offers over 150 different types of employment. The website also features the Mining North Works for Nunavut [video](#).

### ***Nunavut Mining Background***

Over the past decade, Nunavut's mineral resources industry has experienced a resurgence. Nunavut currently has four operating mines making the mineral resources industry the largest private sector part of the territory's economy. The value of the territory's mineral production has grown to \$1.3 billion in 2019 from zero production in 2009. With this growth, employment and business benefits have been created for Nunavummiut.

#### **Nunavut's operating mines**

- Meadowbank (Agnico Eagle Mines) – gold
- Meliadine (Agnico Eagle Mines) – gold
- Mary River (Baffinland Iron Mines) – iron
- Hope Bay (TMAC Resources) – gold

#### **Nunavut mines production 2019 (Source: NRCan)**

- Gold: 14,473 kilograms worth \$850,710,000
- Iron ore: 5,205,000 tonnes worth \$463,242,000
- Silver: 3 tonnes worth \$2,027,000

#### **Value of minerals produced 2019 (Source: NRCan)**

- \$1,315,978,000
- 2.7% of Canada's mineral production

#### **Employment 2018 (Source: NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines)**

- Nunavut jobs: 689 (16%)
- Southern jobs: 3,648 (84%)

#### **Business Spend 2007-2018 (Source: NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines)**

- Nunavut: \$4.0 billion
- Southern: \$4.6 billion

#### **Business Spend 2018 (Source: NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines)**

- Nunavut: \$765.9 million
- Southern: \$795.7 million

#### **Economy (Source: Nunavut Bureau of Statistics)**

- Mining is 23% of Nunavut's GDP
- Largest private sector contributor to economy

Note: Natural Resources Canada figures sourced from its website [here](#)

#### **National facts and figures (Source: Mining Association of Canada)**

- In 2018, Canada's mining industry contributed \$97 billion, or 5%, to Canada's total nominal GDP
- The industry's direct employment was 409,000 jobs and an additional 217,000 indirect jobs
- Largest private sector employer of Indigenous peoples providing over 16,500 jobs

- Canada ranks among the top 5 countries in the global production of 15 minerals and metals, many of which are integral to the low carbon technology needed for a greener future
- Valued at \$105 billion in 2018, mineral exports accounted for 19% of Canada's total domestic exports
- Average annual pay for a mining worker in 2018 was \$123,000

### **Nunavut Impact Review Board announces new executive director**

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) announced Karen Costello will be the NIRB's next executive director, effective June 1, 2020.

Until recently Karen has been serving as the Director of Operations and Community Services with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Many participants in the NIRB's processes will know Karen from her past work in Nunavut with the Nunavut Regional Office of CIRNAC from 2005-2017, including her frequent participation in the NIRB's public hearings and related processes on behalf of CIRNAC. As a registered professional geologist (P.Geo) Karen brings a wealth of technical knowledge to her new role and is well-positioned to come up to speed very quickly on Nunavut files and all that's currently in front of the NIRB, noted NIRB Chairperson Kaviq Kaluraq in the April 15 announcement.

Karen has extensive experience as an executive in the federal public service, including spending more than ten years as a manager or director with responsibilities for directly managing human and financial resources on behalf of her department. She has been a leader within her department and the federal public service for many years and has significant experience working directly with communities throughout Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Karen has a healthy respect for Inuit culture and a keen awareness of the importance of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit for the NIRB and Nunavummiut. She is excited about the opportunity to work with the NIRB and looks forward to relocating to Cambridge Bay with her husband Ed, reconnecting with colleagues and getting to know everyone better in the months and years to come.



*Karen Costello joins NIRB as executive director effective June 15. NIRB photo*

As previously announced, the Board's outgoing executive director, Ryan Barry will continue to be on active duty until May 1, 2020 and will be working closely with the board and staff to ensure a smooth transition for Karen as the incoming executive director. The NIRB is confident that Karen will help lead the organization to continued success in the years to come and looks forward to circulating her updated contact information with an invitation to connect following her commencement in June.



### Member news releases

- 8 May 2020 [TMAC announces US\\$15 million private placement](#)
- 8 May 2020 [TMAC to be acquired by SD Gold](#)
- 7 May 2020 [Major safety awards for De Beers mines in Canada - Gahcho Kué and Victor](#)
- 7 May 2020 [Fortune Minerals provides NICO project update](#)
- 7 May 2020 [Newmont relinquishes option on Astro project and terminates the Mackenzie Alliance](#)
- 6 May 2020 [Mountain Province Diamonds announces first quarter 2020 results](#)
- 5 May 2020 [Blue Star Gold announces results of annual general and special meeting](#)
- 4 May 2020 [Agnico Eagle announces election of directors](#)
- 30 April 2020 [Agnico Eagle reports first quarter results, impact of COVID-19](#)
- 30 April 2020 [De Beers donates \\$200,000 to assist women's support organisations](#)
- 29 April 2020 [Nighthawk advances Indin Lake gold property mineral claims to 21-year mineral leases](#)
- 28 April 2020 [Blue Star Gold announces senior management change](#)
- 27 April 2020 [De Beer Group announced four scholarship for women](#)
- 23 April 2020 [De Beers production report for Q1 2020](#)
- 23 April 2020 [Nighthawk's latest metallurgy continues to show strong gold recoveries for Colomac](#)
- 22 April 2020 [Dominion Diamond Mines obtains initial order of protection under CCAA](#)
- 22 April 2020 [Gold Terra expands gold mineralization at Sam Otto South](#)
- 20 April 2020 [Silver Range Resources Ltd. announces amendments to its shares for services agreement](#)
- 20 April 2020 [Mountain Province Diamonds announces first quarter 2020 results](#)
- 15 April 2020 [Auryn delivers positive preliminary economic assessment for Homestake Ridge gold deposit](#)
- 14 April 2020 [Blue Star announces meeting update, adopting environmental, social & governance policy](#)
- 10 April 2020 [Unprecedented times, Unprecedented response: Agnico Eagle blog](#)
- 9 April 2020 [Agnico Eagle announces annual meeting of shareholders, notice of first quarter results](#)
- 6 April 2020 [Osisko Metals provides corporate update and maintains current PEA schedule](#)

### Calendar of events

- The 2020 WSCC mine rescue competition and annual miners picnic, both held annually in Yellowknife, have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Nunavut and Northwest Territories will be going on-line for mining week celebrations.
  - In Nunavut, mining week gets underway Monday, May 11. To engage youth, the Chamber of Mines, working with various partners, has posted a [Nunavut mining week activity booklet here](#).
  - In the NWT, mining week is tentatively scheduled for June 14-20 and will include various on-line and virtual products. More details to follow!

### Welcome new members

Please join us in welcoming the newest Chamber of Mines members!

- **Outcrop Communications**, located in Yellowknife, NT, has roots in all three of Canada's territories providing communications, marketing, and event management support to the industry. The company's projects include contracted organizer of the Nunavut Mining Symposium since its inception 22 years ago. Contact CEO Jen Hayward, [info@outcrop.com](mailto:info@outcrop.com); 867-766-6700.
- **Cryopeak LNG Solution**, located in Richmond, BC, provides LNG transport solutions including procurement, transportation, and onsite equipment and support. Cryopeak is ISO 9001 certified, is a member of the Z276 technical committee, and has an approved Emergency Response Action Plan (ERAP) under Transport Canada. Contact Administrative Assistant Kitty Li, [kitty.li@cryopeak.com](mailto:kitty.li@cryopeak.com); 604-278-4430.



### Exploration & development news briefs

**Auryn Resources Inc.** announced [positive results from an independent preliminary economic assessment](#) (PEA) and an updated resource estimate for its 100% owned 7,500 hectare Homestake Ridge gold project located in the prolific Iskut-Stewart-Kisault gold belt in northwestern British Columbia, Canada (Figure 1). The PEA demonstrates the project's potential to become a high-grade, small footprint, underground gold mine with positive economics and upside potential from both a rising gold price and prospective expansion. The PEA presentation can be viewed by clicking [here](#), and a visualization of the life of mine model can be viewed [here](#).

The company cautions that the PEA is preliminary in nature in that it includes Inferred Mineral Resources which are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be characterized as mineral reserves, and there is no certainty that the PEA will be realized. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

**Blue Star Gold** announced effective April 27, CEO [Steve Wilkinson, is no longer with the company](#). The board would like to thank him for his service and contribution to Blue Star. The board is pleased to announce that Peter Kuhn, previously the General Manager, has been appointed as Interim CEO. The company is pleased that Peter has accepted this position and the Board looks forward to working with him in that leadership role.

**Blue Star Gold** announced all [resolutions were passed by the shareholders](#) of the company at its annual general and special meeting held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. A total of 62,822,842 common shares were voted representing 47.62% of the issued and outstanding common shares represented at the Meeting.

Dr. Georg Pollert, Robert James Metcalfe, Kenneth R. Yurichuk, Judy Baker and Klaus Georg Schmid were re-elected as directors of the company. Smythe LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants were re-appointed as auditors of the company.

The amended stock option plan and new articles of incorporation were approved and the issuance of up to 3,000,000 bonus shares to Dr. Georg Pollert pursuant to loan agreements entered into with the company on December 19, 2018, March 10, 2019 and May 7, 2019 was approved by the disinterested shareholders of the company.

**Blue Star Gold Corp.** announced further to its news release dated March 23, 2020, it will host its annual general and special meeting by teleconference only, as a result of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the health and safety of the company's shareholders, management and service providers.

The AGSM is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at 11 am PST (2 pm EST, 7 pm BEST (London, United Kingdom) and 8 pm CEST (Berlin, Germany)).

The company encourages its shareholders to vote their common shares (the "Shares") before the proxy cut-off date of Monday, April 27, 2020 at 11 am PST and reminds its shareholders that no votes will be accepted at the AGSM.

Additionally, the company announces that it has implemented an environmental, social and corporate governance policy (the "ESG Policy"). The ESG Policy was implemented by the company to confirm the company's commitment to sustainable and responsible practices as a junior gold exploration company and to address the company's environmental protection policies, social issues and governance practices on an annual basis.

Furthermore, the company has established an environmental, social and governance committee and appointed Robert James Metcalfe, Dr. Georg Pollert and Judy Baker as members of the ESG Committee.

A copy of the ESG Policy can be found on the company's website [www.bluestargold.ca](http://www.bluestargold.ca). See [release](#).

**Dunnedin Ventures Inc.** announced that, following the receipt of all necessary approvals, effective April 1, 2020, the company's [name will be officially changed to Kodiak Copper Corp.](#), and Kodiak's common shares will start trading on the TSX Venture Exchange under the ticker symbol "KDK" on the basis of five pre-consolidation common shares for every one post-consolidation common share. See Dunnedin's news release dated February 13, 2020 for more details on the company's name change and the Consolidation.

**Evrin Resources Corp.** has been advised by its partner, Newmont FN Holdings ULC, a subsidiary of Newmont Corporation, that it is [relinquishing its option to earn up to an 80% interest in the Astro Project](#), NWT, Canada and terminating the Mackenzie Alliance.

Evrin President & CEO Paddy Nicol stated, "We would like to thank Newmont for their exploration expertise and financial support over the past three years. Exploration work totalling US\$3.2 million allowed for the evolution of the Astro project from a regional greenfield generative concept (the Mackenzie Alliance) to a ten kilometre long structural corridor with outcropping gold mineralization. This partnership has helped contribute to our understanding of the Astro project and the Misty Creek Embayment. Evrin is evaluating specific untested targets and the extensive regional potential before determining the next steps for exploration at Astro."

The Astro Project is a 288 square kilometre green-field exploration property located in the Northwest Territories along the Yukon border close to the Canol Road. The

property contains outcropping gold mineralization in a ten kilometre long structural corridor. Mineralization is developed within and flanking the hornfelsed aureole of the Border pluton. Identified gold mineralization consists of gold-arsenic-antimony bearing quartz veins and gold-bismuth skarn and disseminated sulphides. Gold is hosted in multiple lithologies and displays a strong structural control along high-angle northwest-striking faults and fractures.

Surface sampling of gossans at the Radio, Ultraviolet and Microwave prospect returned significant gold results including chip-channel sampling of 17.7 grams per tonne ("g/t") gold over 30.0 metres. Another prospect, Infrared, displays a 2 kilometre by 500 metre soil anomaly that has not yet been linked to a bedrock source.

The Astro project is the result of a successful two-year, US\$1.8 million generative "Mackenzie Alliance" with Newmont Mining Corporation who designated the project under the option phase of the Alliance. In 2019, Newmont funded a US\$1.4 million exploration program that included an airborne geophysical survey and eleven reverse-circulation (RC) scout drill holes. The project is fully permitted through 2023.

The Astro project is located within the territories of the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim agreement and Evrim is committed to developing a positive mutually beneficial relationship based on respect and transparency.

**Silver Range Resources Ltd.** announces that, in the interest of preserving its working capital in these uncertain times, it has [amended its "Shares for Services Agreement" with Paladin Geoscience Corp.](#), a private company controlled by Michael A. Power, Silver Range's President and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the amending agreement, Paladin, which provides geological and other consulting services to Silver Range, will now receive a minimum of 50% and, at Paladin's sole discretion, up to a maximum of 100% of its monthly consulting fee by the issuance of Silver Range common shares.

All shares will be issued at a deemed price per share equal to the market price of Silver Range's shares as traded on the TSX Venture Exchange (the "Exchange") calculated at the end of each month in which such services are provided minus 50% of the discount permitted under applicable Exchange policies. The shares will be issued semi-annually and will be subject to a four month and one day hold period commencing upon the date of issuance. Any consulting fees not paid for by the issuance of Silver Range shares will be paid in cash. The amending agreement is subject to Exchange acceptance.

Mr. Power recently sat down with Proactive Vancouver to discuss the company's high grade focus while highlighting two drill ready targets in Nevada, Skylight and Coldsprings. The interview is available [here](#) and, on the company's Youtube channel along with a growing number of project specific presentations.

### Chamber of Mines' Social Media

Follow via live [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) links.



*Established 1967*

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Email: [info@miningnorth.com](mailto:info@miningnorth.com)  
Website: [www.miningnorth.com](http://www.miningnorth.com)

## Mines and promising Northwest Territories projects

The following table describes leading mineral development projects in the NWT.

Project Name	Owner(s)	Commodity	Description	Status
<a href="#">Ekati Mine</a>	<a href="#">Dominion Diamond Mines ULC</a> , and Dr. Stewart Blusson	Diamonds	Canada's first and largest diamond mine, 310 km. NE of Yellowknife. Open pit and underground. Mine life potentially to 2034. Workforce in 2019, 1,186. The Ekati mine consists of two joint ventures, the core zone joint venture and the buffer zone joint venture, in which the company has interests of 88.9% and 72.0%, respectively. Reserves at 31 January 2017 were 68.9 million tonnes at 1.5 carats per tonne for 105.4 million carats. Inferred mineral resources were 20.6 million tonnes at 1.0 carats per tonne for 19.8 million carats. Additionally, Fox Deep indicated and inferred resources of 51.0 million tonnes at 0.4 carats per tonne for 18.7 million carats.	Media release 22 April 2020 Dominion Diamond Mines obtains initial order of protection under Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act
<a href="#">Diavik Mine</a>	<a href="#">Rio Tinto</a> (operator) & <a href="#">Dominion Diamond Mine ULC</a>	Diamonds	Canada's largest producer of diamonds, 300 km NE of Yellowknife. Mine life to 2025. Became all underground mine in 2012. Workforce in 2018, 1,113. New A21 open pit development budgeted at US\$350m over 4 years. A21 grand opening celebrated August 2018. Reserves at Dec 31, 2018 were 11.5 million tonnes at 2.4 carats/tonne for total of 27.4 million carats.	Media release, 1 October 2018 Diavik Stars of the Arctic dazzle in rough diamond tender
<a href="#">Gahcho Kué Mine</a>	<a href="#">De Beers Canada Inc</a> (51% and operator) and <a href="#">Mountain Province Diamonds Inc.</a> (49%)	Diamonds	Located 280 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT. Open pit mine with life of 12 years. Mine reached commercial operation in Q1 2017. Workforce in 2018, 527. Plan is for three open pits to mine 5034, Hearne and Tuzo ore bodies producing average of 4.5 million carats/year. Mining started with 5034 orebody and production from Hearne began in April 2018. Reserves at December 31, 2018 (production commenced Q3 2016) were 31.1 million tonnes at 1.54 carats per tonne for 47.9 million carats. Initial mine plan extends to fiscal year 2028.	Media release 7 May 2020 Two major safety awards for De Beers mines in Canada - Gahcho Kué and Victor  Media release 6 May 2020 Mountain Province Diamonds announces first quarter 2020 results  Media release 30 April 2020 De Beers group donates \$200,000 to assist women's support  Media release 27 April 2020 De Beer Group announced four scholarship for women  Media release 23 April 2020 De Beers production report for Q1 2020  Media release 20 April 2020 Mountain Province Diamonds announces first quarter 2020 production and sale results and partial drawdown of credit facility
<a href="#">Prairie Creek</a>	<a href="#">NorZinc Ltd.</a>	Zinc-lead-silver	Proposed underground mine 120 km W of Ft. Simpson. Estimated mine jobs: 220 All permits now in place to construct and operate the mine. Feasibility Study completed in 2017 supports 15-year mine life. Subject to completion of financing, and 2.5-year	Media release 25 February 2020 NorZinc announces intention to terminate SEC reporting obligations  Media release 4 February 2020 NorZinc provides schedule update and plans for 2020

			<p>construction phase, production proposed for mid-2020.</p> <p>In 2017, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board recommended approval of the proposed all season road.</p> <p>Over the past eight years Canadian Zinc has successfully completed numerous environmental assessments related to exploration and development of the Prairie Creek Mine. Canadian Zinc has obtained all the significant regulatory permits and social licences required to complete construction and development and undertake mining and milling at Prairie Creek, including construction and use of a winter access road to the mine site.</p>	
NICO	Fortune Minerals Limited.	Cobalt-gold-bismuth-copper	<p>Proposed open pit and underground mine located 50 km NE of Whati. Estimated mine jobs: 150. Mine life, 20 years. In March 2018, The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board has recommended that the Tlicho all-season road be approved. The approval is subject to measures designed to mitigate potential environmental, social, and cultural impacts. The Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Transportation and Tlicho Government received this conditional approval on March 29, 2018, enabling construction of the 97-kilometre Tlicho Road to connect the community of Whati to the territorial highway system.</p>	Media release 7 May 2020 Fortune Minerals provides NICO project update
Kennady North	Mountain Province Diamonds Inc.	Diamonds	<p>Kennady North project comprises 13 leases and claims immediately to north and west of 4 leases controlled by the Gahcho Kué Joint Venture (see above). Project aims to identify a resource along the Kelvin – Faraday kimberlite corridor of between 12 and 15 million tonnes at a grade of between 2 and 2.5 carats per tonne and to identify new kimberlites outside of the corridor. The Kelvin – Faraday corridor is a target for further exploration. Potential quantity is conceptual as there has been insufficient drilling to define a mineral resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in target being delineated as a mineral resource.</p>	Media release 31 March 2020 Mountain Province Diamonds announces amendments to revolving credit facility
Indin Lake	Nighthawk Gold Corp	Gold	<p>Nighthawk controls over 90% of the prospective Indin Lake Greenstone Belt in this historic gold camp with a total ground position now comprising 930 sq km, approximately 220 km north of Yellowknife, NT. The Indin Lake Greenstone Belt is one of Canada's most underexplored gold</p>	Media release 29 April 2020 Nighthawk advances conversion of Indin Lake gold property mineral claims to 21-year mineral leases

			camps. The property contains 14 known gold deposits and showings, 3 are historic mines (eg Colomac)	Media release 23 April 2020 Nighthawk's latest metallurgy continues to show strong gold recoveries for Colomac
Pine Point	Osisko Metals Incorporated	Lead-zinc	Proposed open pit mine east of Hay River, NT. 10 open pits mined sequentially with 321 jobs. PEA quotes 13-year mine life. Osisko Metals has begun active exploration to advance the project. The objective of the 2018 drill program is to upgrade approximately 50 million tonnes of unclassified near-surface historical resources (Cominco Ltd.) to NI43-101 Inferred Mineral Resources as quickly as possible in areas amenable to open pit mining.	Media release 6 April 2020 Osisko Metals provides corporate update and maintains current PEA schedule
Courageous Lake	Seabridge Gold Inc.	Gold	Proposed open pit mine 240 km NE of Yellowknife. 6.5 M oz proven and probable reserves in 91.0 million tonnes at 2 g/t (2016 Annual Report). Positive PFS July 2012. The FAT deposit is one of Canada's largest undeveloped gold projects. Seabridge is currently focusing on their KSM mine and other BC projects.	Media release 30 March 2020 Seabridge Gold to acquire 3 Aces project in Canada's Yukon Media release 25 March 2020 Seabridge Gold reports on its COVID-19 response
Selwyn Project (Howard's Pass Project)	Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd.	Zinc, lead	Proposed base metal mine in Yukon on NWT border and access is through NWT. Agreements signed with NWT (Sahtu) Indigenous land corporations. The project will process multiple open pit mines over an approximate 10+ year mine life and includes a mineral processing plant, tailing management facility and the required on-site infrastructure. The mine is being designed to process 38,500 tonnes per day (tpd) of ore which, after processing, is expected to result in 2,500 tpd of zinc and 600 tpd of lead concentrate, which would be trucked to the Port of Stewart for export. Selwyn Chihong estimates the proposed mine will create approximately 1500 jobs during construction and approximately 750 during operation.	Selwyn Chihong Mining's proposed upgrade of a road to its lead-zinc mining project in Yukon's Selwyn Mountains will undergo an environmental assessment. Parks Canada has referred the 79km Howard's Pass Access Road (HPAR) to Environmental Assessment under the MVEIRB, which accepted the referral in July 2015. The HPAR was developed in the 1970s and runs from the Nahanni Range Road to the NWT-Yukon border. Passing through 2 national parks. Yukon media reported in Feb 2016 that Selwyn Chihong has decided to slow their project down due to the current low zinc prices and will not to take the project to the permitting stage this year. According to External Affairs VP Maurice Albert, SC has opted for a traditional drilling program and hopefully add another 10 years to the mine life.
Nechalacho	Avalon Advanced Materials Inc.	Rare earth metals	Proposed underground mine 100km SE of Yellowknife. Estimated mine jobs: 200. The company remains optimistic that rare earth demand will recover sufficiently to advance the project.	Media release 30 October 2019 Avalon receives final payment from Cheetah Resources for acquisition of [some of the] Nechalacho resources




## Mines and promising Nunavut projects


The following table describes leading mineral development projects in Nunavut.

Project	Owner(s)	Commodity	Description	Status
<a href="#">Meadowbank Gold Mine</a>	<a href="#">Agnico Eagle Mine Ltd.</a>	Gold	In operation since 2010. Produced its three millionth ounce gold in 2018. Open pit mine located in the Kivalliq Region, 300 km west of Hudson Bay and 70 km N of Baker Lake. Mine jobs: 1,311 PYs 50km from Meadowbank mine site Amaruq project adds 7 years to mine life; commercial production achieved September 2019.	Media release 4 May 2020 Agnico Eagle announces election of directors  Media release 30 April 2020 Agnico Eagle reports first quarter results, new production and unit cost guidance issued to reflect impact of COVID-19  Media release 10 April 2020 Unprecedented times, Unprecedented response: Agnico Eagle blog
<a href="#">Mary River Iron Mine</a>	<a href="#">Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation</a>	Iron	In operation since September 2014; Open pit mine 936 km N of Iqaluit. Mine jobs: 1,411 PYs Production from Early Revenue Phase (ERP) began September 8, 2014. The company has proposed a Phase 2 project with increased production and shipping. AANDC Minister has approved application for exemption from NPC negative conformity determination, July 2015.	Media release 17 April 2019 Baffinland employees ratify a partnership agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers – Local 793  Media release 16 April 2019 Baffinland supports successful technical meetings for phase 2 permitting process
<a href="#">Hope Bay</a> (Mine began commercial production May 15, 2017)	<a href="#">TMAC Resources Inc.</a>	Gold	Gold mine 130 km S of Cambridge Bay. TMAC's property covers the majority of the Hope Bay Greenstone Belt. Workforce in 2018: 516 PYs First gold poured in first quarter 2017 and achieved commercial production in second quarter 2017.	Media release 8 May 2020 TMAC announces US\$15 million private placement  Media release 8 May 2020 TMAC to be acquired by SD Gold
<a href="#">Meliadine Gold Mine</a> (commercial production May 14, 2019)	<a href="#">Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.</a>	Gold	Meliadine mine declared commercial production on May 14, 2019. 25 km NE of Rankin Inlet. Estimated construction jobs: 1,000 Mine jobs: 1,099 PYs IIBA signed June 2015. Total capital cost ~\$830m, below \$900m forecast; mine life ~15 years. On February 15, 2017: Agnico Eagle approved Meliadine and Amaruq projects for development with production beginning in 2019. The high-grade Meliadine gold project has (by Dec 2018 figures) 3.75 million ounces of gold in proven and probable reserves (16.7 million tonnes at 6.97 g/t) and a large mineral resource.	Media release 23 October 2019 Agnico Eagle reports third quarter results
<a href="#">Back River</a>	<a href="#">Sabina Gold &amp; Silver Corp.</a>	Gold	Approximately 60km from Hackett River; adjacent to the Wishbone Greenstone belt. Consists of George and Goose Lake deposits and holds significant gold resources. Estimated construction jobs: 1,600 Estimated mine jobs: 900 Sabina's Feasibility Study on its 100% owned Back River Gold Project presents a project designed on a fit-for purpose basis, with the potential	Media release 31 March 2020 Sabina Gold & Silver announces financial results for the year ended December 31, 2019  Media release 17 March 2020 Sabina Gold & Silver provides update on Corporate office and Back River site operations

			to produce ~200,000 ounces a year for ~11 years with a rapid payback of 2.9 years (at a US\$1,150 gold price and a 0.80 exchange rate). Initial CAPEX of \$415 million. EA complete	
Kiggavik	Orano Canada Inc.	Uranium	Proposed uranium mine 80 km W of Baker Lake. Estimated Construction jobs: 750 Estimated mine jobs: 600	25 July 2016, INAC, on behalf of responsible ministers for authorizing if Kiggavik Project should or should not proceed, accept NIRB's determination it not proceed at this time.
Chidliak	De Beers Group	Diamonds	Located 120kms NE of Iqaluit, Nunavut, and 180 km S of Pangnirtung. 74 kimberlites discovered with 8 potentially economic on 317,213-hectare site. Positive Phase One PEA, updated May 2018 highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•After-tax payback of 2.2 years</li> <li>•Life of mine 13 years</li> <li>•Resource at CH-6 and CH-7 exceeds 22 million carats</li> <li>•Pre-production capital requirement ~\$455m, incl \$95m for access road from Iqaluit, \$55m in contingency</li> <li>•Pre-tax NPV(7.5) of \$1069 million and a pre-tax IRR of 38.6%</li> <li>•After-tax NPV(7.5) of \$679 million and an after-tax IRR of 31.1%</li> <li>•Average LOM strip ratio of 6.6:1 (average across the combined CH-6 and CH-7 open pits); Mining to a depth of 300 mbs at CH-6</li> </ul>	Media release 4 July 2019 New kimberlite discoveries may add to future of Gahcho Kué Mine
Naujaat Diamond Project	North Arrow Minerals	Diamonds	7 km from tidewater; 9 km from Repulse Bay, Melville Peninsula; 7,143 hectares of contiguous mineral claims. Largest kimberlite in Nunavut.	Media release 27 February 2020 North Arrow reports exploration underway at LDG joint venture diamond project, Lac de Gras, NWT
Committee Bay Gold Project	Auryn Resources Inc. (purchased North Country Gold Corp.)	Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High grade gold endowment</li> <li>• Existing exploration infrastructure</li> <li>• 217,600 hectares with district scale discovery opportunities</li> </ul>	Media release 27 February 2020 Auryn closes additional CAD\$4.9M in non-brokered private placement


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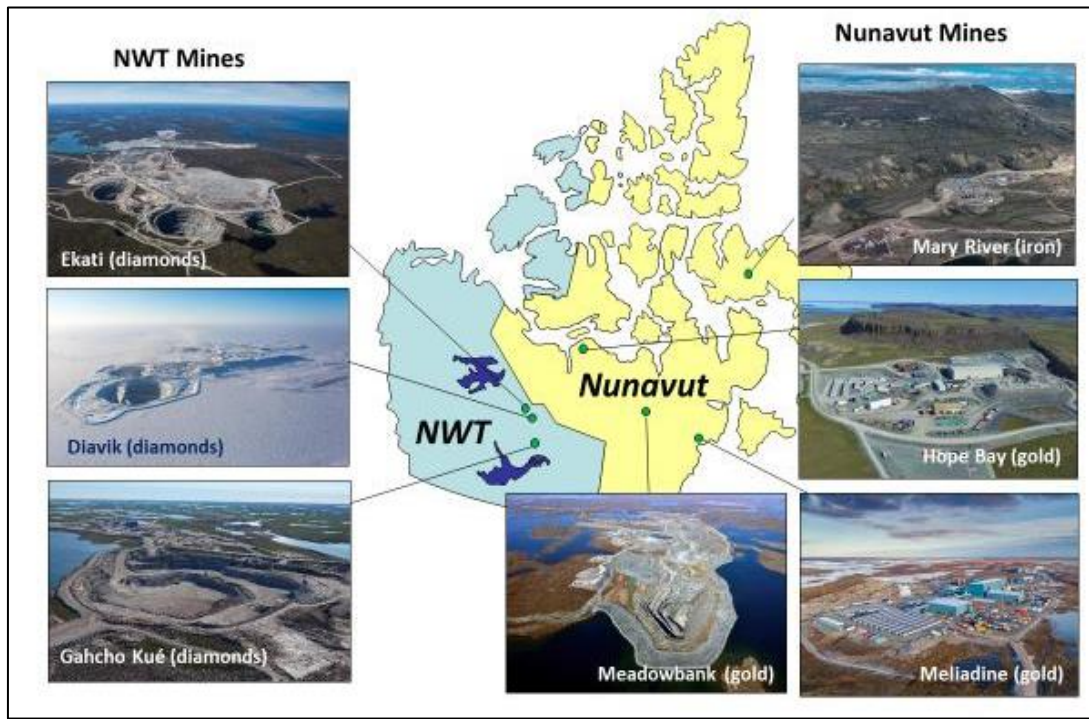
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## Project maps

### *The northern mining industry's 7 operating mines*



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