

# Rio Tinto



2003 to 2013 Milestones  
Diavik Diamond Mine







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## President's message

In 2013, Diavik completed its first decade of operations and I am very proud to be a part of the Diavik team. Much has been accomplished over 10 years, and the milestones that we commemorate with this publication are a testament to the hard work and dedication of all involved. Our team has consisted of people from across the North, from many different regions of Canada, and from many other countries.

We operate in one of the most challenging environments in the world and yet, time and time again, our people have embraced the challenges and found smart solutions. I am extremely proud of the dedication, professionalism, teamwork, and commitment to success that everyone has demonstrated. I have seen first-hand how our people go the extra distance to make Diavik the best it can be and, therefore, a significant industry leader.

The pages that follow showcase many of our accomplishments since 2003, including our grand opening, which celebrated the work required to set us up as a world-class diamond mine, the extremely difficult and costly ice road recovery program of 2006, all the work to prepare for underground mining, our wind energy project, our numerous safety milestones, and the many other recognitions our workforce has achieved.

The most important milestone is our safety record, which has allowed every employee to go home to their families at the end of their rotation. This is, and always will be, our greatest accomplishment and one that we must continue to maintain during the next 10 years of operation.



Marc Cameron  
President  
Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.









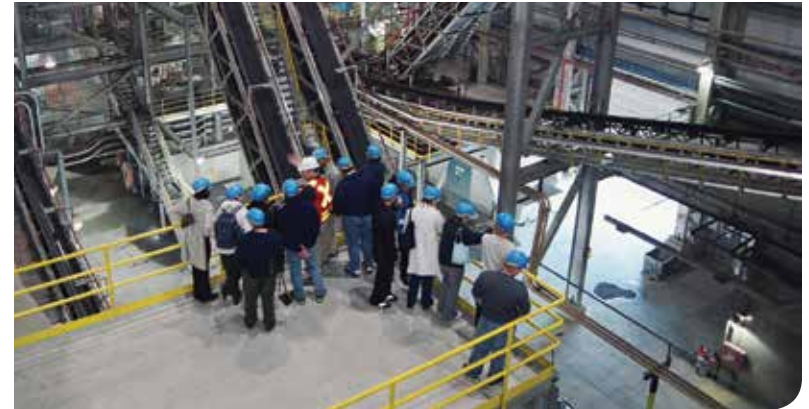
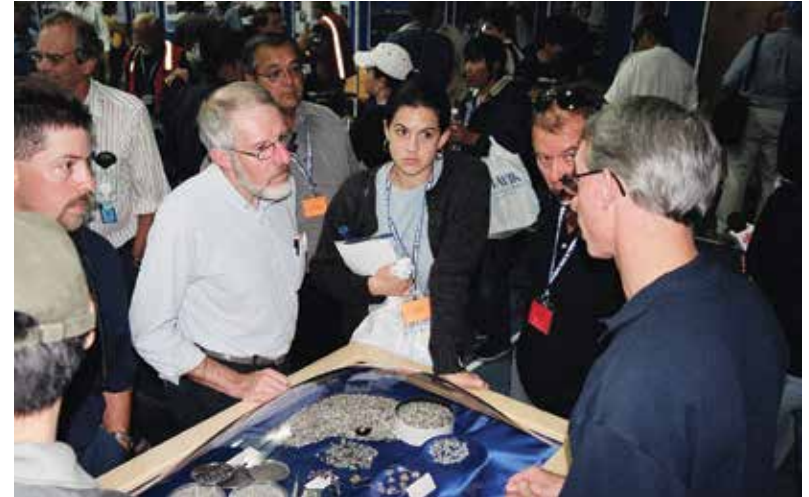
2003

# Commercial diamond production begins

In January 2003, with approximately CDN \$1.5 billion invested for exploration, feasibility studies, community engagement, what at the time was the most extensive environmental assessment in Canadian mining history, permitting and licensing, and three years of infrastructure and A154 dike construction, the Diavik Diamond Mine, a joint venture of Rio Tinto plc (60%) and Dominion Diamond Corporation (40%), transitioned from a construction project to an operating diamond mine.



19 July 2003 –  
Diavik Diamond Mine  
official opening ceremony





## Mine rescue team wins at its first competition

Diavik's mine rescue team, competing for its first time, won the Northwest Territories Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission's mine rescue competition, which included written, bench, fire, obstacle, smoke, first aid, and rope tasks. The team is drawn from the mine's larger site-based emergency response team, which includes over 60 volunteers from across all minesite departments and it is on-call at all times to respond to incidents and emergencies. As well, the North's diamond mines' emergency response teams have a mutual aid agreement in place to assist each other if needed.



## Rough diamond sales begin

Diavik's joint venture partners each sell their respective shares of Diavik diamonds independently. The majority of Diavik's product is gem quality white stones and very much sought after by cutting and polishing firms around the world. The first sales of rough Diavik diamonds, in the summer of 2003, included 346,000 carats sold by Rio Tinto Diamonds for US \$32.9 million to 26 different companies. In its first sale, Dominion Diamond Corporation sold 42,619 carats of Diavik diamonds for \$3.9 million. In a tender sale, joint venture partners Rio Tinto and Dominion would split \$1.3 million generated from a trio of diamonds weighing 151, 150, and 81 carats.





## A154 dike receives northern and national recognition

Named for the two diamond bearing kimberlite ore bodies it surrounds, the A154 water retention structure – the dike built to safely hold back the waters of Lac de Gras – was awarded the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of the Northwest Territories professional award of the merit and the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers national award for engineering achievement. The various design and engineering technologies were well known, but this was the first time they were combined in a construction project in a subarctic lake, allowing open-pit mining of ore bodies which were underwater.







2004

## Workforce celebrates its first safety award

For its low lost time injury rate, Diavik's workforce was awarded the John T. Ryan regional trophy for select mines in western Canada. This was the first time a diamond mine in Canada won this safety award. John T. Ryan trophies, first awarded in 1941, are the Canadian mining industry's most prestigious safety awards. Category participants include western Canadian open-pit metal and industrial minerals mines as well as oil sands operations.







First journey person certifications achieved by Diavik apprentices



## Big addition to ore reserves

The A154 pit was designed around the A154 South kimberlite pipe, but also provided access to part of the adjacent A154 North pipe that had been identified, but not sampled, during initial feasibility studies. In summer 2003, once the A154 pit was in production with A154 South, the mining sequence was modified to access the A154 North pipe ahead of plans in order to mine and process a large bulk sample of A154 North as a proactive strategic initiative. The subsequent laboratory and marketing analysis of the A154 North samples gave highly favourable economic results. As a result of delineation drilling from the floor of the A154 open pit, in 2004, Diavik was able to report eight million tonnes of new underground ore reserves in the A154 North kimberlite pipe (on average, Diavik mines approximately two million tonnes of ore per year). This updated north pipe ore more than offset the 3.9 million tonnes of A21 open-pit reserves removed for further study. In later years, teams would successfully identify an additional 4.6 million tonnes of ore reserves in the A154 South and A418 pipes. These new reserves would be added in to the mine plan, resulting in increased overall production and sales revenues (see page 68 for reserves detail).

## Shorty Brown ice surface constructed

Thanks to the Diavik project management team, local construction contractors, and local fundraising group Facilities for Kids, the Shorty Brown Arena, the Yellowknife Multiplex's second ice surface, was completed nearly two years ahead of the City of Yellowknife's original plan. The project, which boasts Canada's first laser-leveled concrete arena pad, was completed with a cost savings of \$2 million. Diavik also contributed funding and \$2.1 million no-interest financing to the city. The arena, named to honour local hockey supporter and Order of Canada recipient, Clarence (Shorty) Brown, is a venue for sport, trade shows, and other local events.



## Community-based training concludes

With a security officer training course in Kugluktuk, a partnership with security company SecureCheck, an instrumentation training course delivered through Aurora College and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), and a camp cooking course, a partnership of Kitikmeot Employment and Training Partners, Ek'ati Services and NAIT, Diavik would conclude its unprecedented community-based training programs. In all, this initiative, started during mine construction, included 19 courses and over 250 northern participants constructing and improving community infrastructure and gaining trades' skills.





## Underground mine feasibility study begins

To determine the safest and best ways to underground mine the A154 South, A154 North, and A418 kimberlite pipes, required extensive engineering and geotechnical study of the ore bodies and the surrounding rock as well as hydrogeological investigations. The first construction step, a \$90 million investment, was to build the portal and the tunnel, or decline, to allow engineers to go underground and study the three pipes. Underground mining methods chosen would need to take into account that open pits would be overhead and that those pits were made possible by water retention dikes. Underground mining was part of the original mine plan, which was the basis for Diavik's feasibility study, environmental assessment, and permitting.



Prospectors and Developers  
Association of Canada E3  
Environmental Excellence in  
Exploration Award

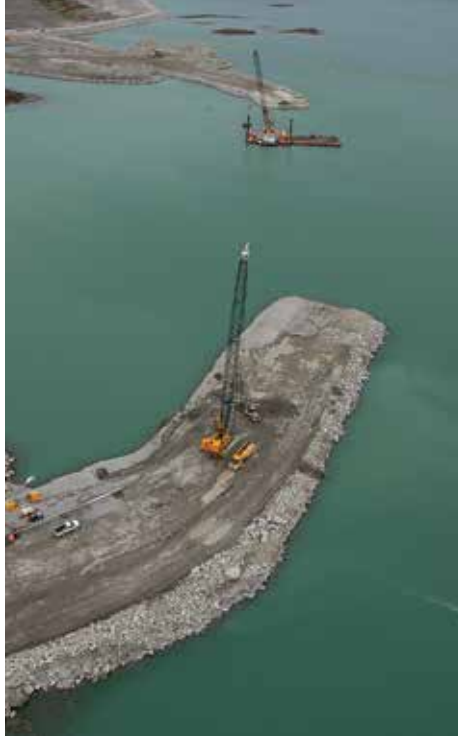




2005

## ISO certifications for environmental management system and product splitting facility

Diavik successfully certified its minesite environmental management system and product splitting facility in Yellowknife to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard. The ISO certification reflects the company's commitment to environmental protection, and to providing its customers with assurance of product and process quality. The certifications were received after implementation of stringent internal standards, and an independent auditor reviewed Diavik's systems. The ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 148 countries, with a Central Secretariat in Switzerland coordinating the system.



A418 dike construction begins





Underground mine main decline construction begins

## Progressive Aboriginal Relations gold designation

Diavik received national recognition from the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), which awarded Diavik gold level certification under its Progressive Aboriginal Relations (PAR) program. At that time, only two other Canadian mines had received this designation and Diavik was the first mine in northern Canada to receive it. The PAR program provides a framework for setting objectives, developing action plans, measuring performance, achieving results, and excelling as a leader in Aboriginal relations. Diavik was described as setting an example of community consultation and participation, and a model for others.



Second John T. Ryan regional safety award



## Northern engineering association civic award

The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (NAPEGG) awarded Diavik its civic award. Diavik was recognized for its significant work to improve the quality of life for northerners; work to build local community infrastructure was cited for the selection. This was the first time NAPEGG has selected a company to receive this honour.



Underground decline tunnel started for A21 pipe bulk sample







Learning centre wins  
Conference Board of Canada  
workplace literacy award



## Inaugural Aboriginal leadership development program

Diavik's Aboriginal development program was launched to provide participants with additional training and skills to help strengthen and advance their careers. Delivered by the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Polytechnic (SAIT), in collaboration with Diavik, the program included 10 modules addressing 16 leadership competencies, and spanned over 160 hours of development training, augmented with mentoring. Course content was built around SAIT's applied management certificate program, and was customized to Diavik. During its five years, over 50 participants completed the program. In 2010, it was expanded to include the North's other diamond mines and, in 2011, it was transitioned to Aurora College and open to all northerners.





2006

# Ice road recovery airlift

With above average temperatures, including the warmest January to March on record, the Tibbitt to Contwoyto winter ice road opened late and never reached full weight capacity. For the safety of all involved, and to protect the environment, the decision was made by managers Diavik Diamond Mines Inc., Dominion Diamond Corporation, and De Beers Canada Inc. to close the road early. But the decision to close the ice road – the resupply life line to the mines – stranded tens of thousands of tonnes of supplies. As a result, Diavik was among companies forced to complete a major airlift, including a 520 tonne production excavator, A418 dike construction supplies, millions of litres of fuel, and other operations' supplies. The excavator was cut into pieces and transported to site by the world's most powerful helicopter, a Russian Mi-26. It was then welded back together at the mine (its car body was cut in half in Germany and flown to Yellowknife). A First Air C-130 Hercules for fuel, two additional leased Hercs, a Canadian North 737 jet, and a Russian Antonov AN12, were used to fly in other supplies. Overall, the airlift cost the North's diamond mines (there were four operating at the time) about \$100 million.





## A418 dike construction complete

Thanks to the hard work of dike construction teams, and a supply of much needed construction materials flown in around the clock under Diavik's ice road recovery program, work crews kept A418 dike construction on schedule. The dike, built with the same technologies as the award winning A154 dike, included dredging, placing 1.1 million tonnes of rock into the lake, silt curtain deployment, a central cut-off wall, curtain and jet grouting to anchor the dike to glacial till and bedrock, returning fish to the lake, pit dewatering, thermosyphon installation at the abutments and at island contacts, and instrumentation. Dewatering of 2.5 million cubic metres of A418 pool water was then completed. Clean, clear water, about three-quarters of the total, was pumped over the dike into Lac de Gras. As water level lowered, silty water was pumped to an on-land sedimentation pond, then transferred to the North Inlet and drawn through the mine's water treatment plant to remove any remaining silt before being returned to the lake. Just like its 3.9 kilometre A154 dike predecessor, the 1.3 kilometre A418 dike performed as planned.



A418 underground bulk sample completed



## Aboriginal business spend surpasses \$1 billion

With this milestone, Diavik was one of only a few companies in Canada to have spent over \$1 billion with Aboriginal businesses. This was achieved by working with numerous northern Aboriginal companies and Aboriginal joint venture companies owned by the Tlcho Government, the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, the North Slave Metis Alliance, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation.



25 million carats





## Lutsel K'e arena complete

To build its arena, the community of Lutsel K'e followed the Diavik infrastructure construction model. Diavik assisted with project planning and worked with contractors who provided their expertise to the project. Then, to test out the new Lutsel K'e community arena, Diavik coordinated a visit by the Kugluktuk Grizzlies youth group. The day's events included a barbeque, presentations by the Grizzlies, and a lacrosse clinic for Lutsel K'e youth.



Mine rescue team ties for first at territorial competition – coin toss gives Ekati Diamond Mine the win







2007

## Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board renews Diavik water licence

After an intense two year public review process, which included various technical and public hearings, the new Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board recommended renewal of Diavik's Type A water licence. The licence was the first of its kind issued by the Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board, which was established under the Tlicho Land Claims and Self-government Agreement. The board assumed responsibility for Diavik's renewal application from the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. With the community-based board's recommendation, the eight year licence was approved by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.



Diavik transports record tonnage over the winter road (157,680 tonnes, included backhauls)



Rio Tinto and Dominion Diamond Corporation invest \$563 million for final phase of underground mine construction



## Arctic Energy Alliance award

Arctic Energy Alliance, a not-for-profit society assisting northerners with energy reduction initiatives, awarded Diavik's Nick Strus its Energy Efficiency Award. Strus, a maintenance planner, reduced minesite haul truck fuel usage. By collecting haul truck usage data, he calculated truck idling times at various temperatures to determine the temperature the trucks could be shut down; an important consideration when winter temperatures at Diavik often drop below minus 40 degrees Celsius. Testing showed that these large haul trucks would start easily when temperatures were above freezing. Then the search for solutions to colder starts began. Strus suggested installation of diesel-fired coolant heaters to keep the engine coolant and driver's cab warm when the engines were not running. These heaters, which burn four litres per hour, versus idling, which burns approximately 50 litres per hour, are mounted on the haul truck engines, allowing trucks to be shut down between zero and minus 20 degrees Celsius.



A154 North underground bulk sample completed



A21 kimberlite pipe bulk sample completed



Underground hydrogeological pump test of Dewey's Fault







2008

## First ore from A418 open pit

In the spring, Diavik work crews began removing ore from the mine's third kimberlite pipe. Known as A418, this pipe is located just south of the A154 pipes. A418 ore was mined as part of ongoing pre-stripping of waste overburden; part of the work being done to prepare the second open pit. This initial ore was low grade, weathered kimberlite capping the pipe and diluted with overlying glacial till.



Diavik transports record number of loads over ice road (4,285 loads, included backhauls)





## Bailey House opening ceremony

Diavik's commitment to local communities continued with its support for the Bailey House men's transition centre in Yellowknife. The \$5.1 million facility, named for Reverend Gordon and Ruth Bailey, long-time Yellowknife residents who opened their home as a safe haven to the homeless and disadvantaged, provides housing for up to 32 men as they make the transition from homelessness to self-sufficient independent living. The project was a partnership of the Yellowknife Homelessness Coalition, federal and territorial governments, the Salvation Army, local businesses, the City of Yellowknife, and Diavik, which managed construction and contributed cash and in-kind services of \$250,000.



Third John T. Ryan regional safety award



## Surface mining of A154 North kimberlite pipe

Surface mining is more economical than underground mining. With this in mind, it is advantageous to try to extract as much ore from surface as possible. By 2008, surface mining the top portion of the A154 North pipe, if economically advantageous, was still a difficult process because of its unique relation to the A154 open pit; the top of the north pipe was designed into the upper northeast portion of the pit wall. The solution was to mine it in two phases. Phase one, in 2007, was done as part of the standard open-pit face benching, which removed about half the exposed pipe. The second and more difficult phase was completed in 2008. Ore that buttressed the pit wall, and cut by a major fault, was mined very delicately to avoid disturbing the host rock behind the kimberlite. A staged mining sequence was designed, where only small portions of ore were blasted and removed, exposing only a small part of the back contact wall, which was then stabilized and drained before another section of ore was mined. This cyclic method was employed successfully and the ore was safely removed, ahead of schedule, at the end of summer 2008. The exposed top of the north pipe was then capped to allow safe mining from underground, and provided what is now the 9290 ore pad, which will be used for life of mine.



50 million carats







## A21 kimberlite pipe sampling

To gain more data on carat value of diamonds from the A21 kimberlite pipe, located under the waters of Lac de Gras, south of existing mining operations, Diavik completed an on-ice large diameter drill sampling program in 2008. This was the third sampling of the A21 pipe. It followed the 2007 program, which included constructing a 1.2 kilometre decline tunnel. This work was timed to coincide with A418 dike construction; doing so would allow teams to utilize heavy equipment. Initial drill core sampling was done in the mid-1990s. In all, 9,635 carats of rough diamonds were recovered from these three sampling programs. This allowed for more data on per carat pricing and assisted with planning. With the sampling program, engineers continued to examine ways to attempt to reduce dike construction costs.

Open-pit mining of A154 North pipe concludes



A154N kimberlite pipe mining highwall stabilization project







2009

## Canada's Top 100 Employer

For its exceptional work atmosphere, financial and family benefits, employee programs and communications, performance management, training and skills development, and leadership in community involvement, Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. was selected as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers. In 2009, Diavik was the only employer in Canada's North selected as a Canada's Top 100 Employer.

## Mine rescue team wins its first regional competition

Diavik's mine rescue team won the overall underground competition at the 9th Western Regional Surface and Underground Mine Rescue Competition held in Fernie, B.C. The team placed first in the fire event, and won the overall underground event with the most total points from the underground obstacle, underground written, smoke problem, bench technician, first aid, and practical skills events. The competition included 10 teams from western Canada and the northwestern United States. The western regional win followed the team's overall win just a few months earlier at the territorial mine rescue competition.



## Mine rescue team wins its second territorial competition





## Response to global market downturn

As market conditions challenged the business, Diavik announced two diamond production shutdowns, a delay of underground mine production, and acceleration of the planned transition to a smaller workforce, primarily by attrition. Ultimately, only one of two six-week shutdowns was required. The shutdown included temporarily placing the underground mine on care and maintenance, and working with employees to coordinate the least possible impact. Key to the success was the drive to put safety as the most important part of every decision.



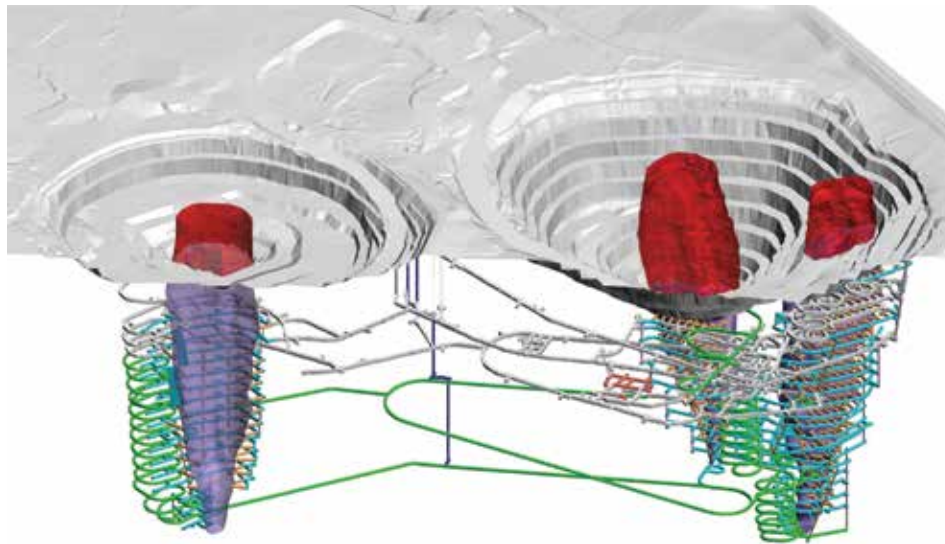
North Inlet water treatment plant twinned and commissioned

## Aven Cottages opens

As part of its continuing approach to partner in local community projects, Diavik supported construction of the new Territorial Dementia Facility in Yellowknife. The Territorial Dementia Facility is open to all Northwest Territories residents and allows them to transfer from long-term care facilities to one specifically designed to meet the needs of people with Alzheimer disease and related dementias. The 28-bed facility is operated by the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors. The Territorial Dementia Centre is a much needed facility which provides specialized care to people living with dementia, and will significantly lessen family stress by supporting affected family members closer to home. Diavik project managed construction, provided financial management, and \$50,000 in funding.



Local spending surpasses \$3 billion



## Slope stability radar

Towards the later stages of A154 open-pit mining in 2008, high water pressure in the northwest quadrant of the pit caused large-scale stability concerns. For safety, the existing survey prism monitoring system was complemented with a higher resolution, real-time system known as a slope stability radar. The system had the promise of supplying the level of monitoring required, but one had never been used in an arctic environment. The on-site technical team, with supplier Ground Probe North America, worked to customize and adapt the system to the arctic climate. The results were positive, as the system was able to provide stable monitoring data. Consequently, open-pit mining could continue, as per the mine plan, in safe conditions.

A154 North first underground development round for blasthole stope mining







2010

## Workforce wins national John T. Ryan safety award

Safety will always be Diavik's most important value. With this in mind, Diavik's workforce of over 1,000 people all played a role and shared in its first national John T. Ryan safety award. Diavik received the national trophy for its 2009 safety performance; specifically its low lost time injury rate of 0.18. This was Diavik's lowest lost time injury rate since production began in 2003.

3 million hours  
without a lost time  
injury



1 million hours  
without a recordable  
injury or medical  
treatment





## Bouwa Whee goes 100 per cent

When Bouwa Whee, part of the Det'on Cho Corporation, secured the mine's catering, accommodation, and camp management services contract, it signaled the successful transition from a Yellowknives Dene First Nation joint venture to 100 per cent Aboriginal. To celebrate, Bouwa Whee staff, management from Det'on Cho, and Diavik hosted an event at the minesite.

## Stanton donation

With a \$60,850 donation to the local CIBC Run for Our Lives Committee and the Stanton Territorial Hospital Foundation by Diavik and participating minesite contractor companies, the foundation announced it had achieved its goal of raising funds needed to purchase a digital mammography machine for the Stanton Territorial Hospital in Yellowknife. This contribution followed Diavik's \$50,000 mammography donation in 2009, and its \$39,500 donation in 2008, which was used to purchase laboratory equipment. Diavik supports the foundation because, like Diavik, its goal is to improve the quality of life for northerners.



Commitment to add 86 apprenticeships through 2020



Underground mine opening ceremony and first underground ore

## Powerhouse crews reach 1,000 days power milestone

Diavik's powerhouse crews marked 1,000 days without a blackout at the Diavik Diamond Mine. The milestone was especially significant considering the mine's remote subarctic off-grid operating environment. For this achievement, Diavik contractor Tli Cho Logistics and Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. staff efficiently maintained and operated not only the two diesel generator-equipped powerhouses, but also the associated transmission lines, several electrical substations, and other power distribution equipment across the site. The team includes heavy duty mechanics, electricians, delta V administrators, steam engineers, instrumentation technicians, supervisors, and electrical and instrumentation apprentices.



A154 open-pit mining completed





## Depressurizing the A154 pit wall

The rock around the A154 open pit is largely granite, but some water from the nearby Lac de Gras still finds its way through. The water in the rock mass surrounding any open pit can become pressurized if it does not flow easily into the excavation. In the A154 pit, as expected, most of the rock depressurized naturally. However, in its northwest area, instrumentation showed water remained trapped, causing pressure build-up. With the pit deepening, these pressures had the potential of creating large-scale instabilities, threatening the safety of pit operations. It was decided that aggressive depressurization was needed and a pumping system, consisting of wells installed deep into the rock, was installed. The effort was successful, and the pressures dropped and mining kept on plan.



A154 North first underground blasthole stope





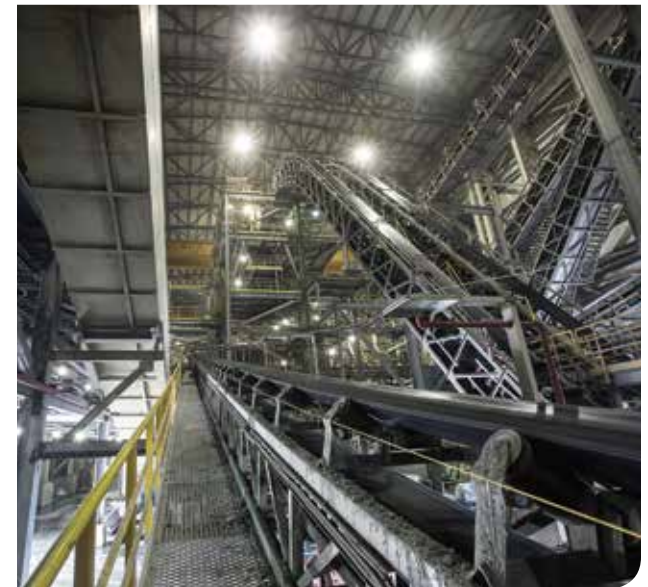
## Mining Industry Human Resources certification launch

A key supporter, Diavik was there at the start when the Mining Industry Human Resources Council began its national underground miner and mineral processor certification programs. Diavik participated in the national pilot study in 2011, and the first individuals to receive their certifications were 10 Diavik underground miners. This certification is a national standard, with participants receiving a passport recognizing their skills, much like achieving a trades certification.



Second recognition as a  
Canada's Top 100 Employer

Fourth regional John T. Ryan  
safety award







## Diavik Operations Centre complete

Diavik Diamond Mine staff from several departments moved into the new operations centre. Known as the 'DOC', the building is linked to other minesite buildings by elevated arctic corridors, and it includes offices, mine dry, crew room, and accommodations. The DOC brought together the various teams which worked to achieve underground production.



Mine rescue team wins its second regional title

## Weather tower donation

With the wind resource study complete, Diavik donated its wind tower to a northern partnership studying the wind resource potential outside of Yellowknife. Project partners on this initiative, which could one day lead to a renewable energy source to assist with reclamation of the Giant Mine site, include Det'on Cho Earth Energy, the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, and Diavik. This partnership is an example of benefits that local partners will receive from Diavik as a result of the development, construction, and operation of the wind farm. In addition to donating and transporting the tower, Diavik will provide in-kind expertise developed during its data study. Collectively, the partners' contributions to this project, including in-kind contributions, was approximately \$450,000.



Aboriginal business spend surpasses \$2 billion



Progressive Aboriginal Relations gold recertification from Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

A154 South completion of open sky mining project



## Major increase in recycled water

Key to a significant increase in recycled water was the 2010 construction of a pipeline connecting the North Inlet and the ore processing plant. With the pipeline, water is drawn from the North Inlet, part of the mine's water management system, instead of directly from Lac de Gras. Previously, only water from the processed kimberlite containment area was recycled back through the process plant. Recycled water amounts increased by 60 per cent, from 3.6 million cubic metres in 2010 to 5.8 million cubic metres in 2012. In terms of how much water it can draw from Lac de Gras, Diavik operates at half the allowed water licence limit.



A154 South underground sublevel retreat mining commences





2012

## Wind farm operational

With successful construction and commissioning of its \$31 million wind farm, Diavik became the global leader in cold climate renewable energy and operator of the world's largest wind-diesel hybrid power facility. The project, the first large-scale wind farm in Canada's North, reduces Diavik's reliance on diesel fuel, lowers its carbon emissions, reduces its winter road fuel haul, and sets a new standard for delivering wind power in extreme cold climates. The wind farm, which includes four 2.3 megawatt turbines operational to minus 40 Celsius, began delivering power to the mine's grid in September. Over its first year, the investment in renewable energy reduced Diavik's fuel consumption by 3.5 million litres and delivered, on average, seven per cent of the mine's power needs. Peak power delivered topped 50 per cent – enough energy to power the underground mine. Prior to construction, Diavik successfully shipped 60 loads of wind farm components up the winter road. Custom designed trailers were required for the epoxy-resin turbine blades and the steel tower sections. The 33-metre blades were the longest loads ever shipped over the ice road. Other components shipped included the nacelles (generators, stators, and hubs). Transport of the last loads included a four-day hold on one of the many ice road portages; a white-out and road snow clearing caused the delay.





## A418 open-pit work concludes and mining becomes all underground

With the conclusion of A418 kimberlite open-pit mining on September 14, Diavik officially completed its transition to an all underground mine. The last work included ramp recovery and mining the last benches down to 9165 in the face of difficult geotechnical conditions and space constraints. The A418 open pit's lowest level, or bench 9165, was just over 250 metres below lake level. The A418 open pit was successfully completed below budget, with more ore recovered than planned, and, most importantly, without a lost time injury or medical treatment. As part of the transition, Diavik worked with open-pit mining contractor, Aboriginal-owned I&D Management to secure future employment for the vast majority of I&D staff.



## A418 underground sublevel retreat mining commences

First million tonnes of underground ore



## Community-based camp workshops combine traditional knowledge and science

As part of its aquatic effects monitoring program, Diavik partnered with local communities to conduct a traditional knowledge program from a seasonal camp on the south side of Lac de Gras. The focus was fish and lake water health, particularly in areas close to the mine. This program was developed based on direction from traditional knowledge holders from each of the five Aboriginal organizations that are a part of the environmental agreement. During the planning sessions, community representatives explained traditional knowledge is best captured and shared visually and, as such, a camera crew was hired to conduct a training session for community youth to film camp activities and learn from their elders. 5 Days, 2 Ways, 1 Camp was the result and it is posted in the media/video section of diavik.ca. This was the third traditional knowledge camp conducted. The programs, which combine traditional knowledge and science, have included fish palatability and benthic studies, and caribou and dust monitoring.



M Lakes and West Island fish habitat projects completed



Last granite blast in A418 pit



75 million carats





Third recognition as a Canada's Top 100 Employer



### Mine rescue team captures third at international competition

At the 8th International Mine Rescue Competition held in Donetsk, Ukraine, the Diavik mine rescue team captured an impressive third place. This was the first time Diavik's mine rescue team competed internationally. Diavik was among 26 teams from 13 countries at the event. The international competition included emergency medical care, apparatus technician, engineering analysis, and performance of rescue action events. In the rescue event, the competition's most challenging, the Diavik team finished in third place, with teams from Australia and the Ukraine taking first and second respectively. The rescue event involved a team entering a simulated coal mine and exploring, changing ventilation, controlling a fire, documenting the state of the mine, and rescuing an injured miner. The chief judge requested a team-signed Diavik hard hat for the State Militarized Mine Rescue Museum in Donetsk.



Mine rescue team wins its third territorial title

Winter road opens with thickest first day ice ever







2013

## Funding to Mine Training Society surpasses \$2 million

Diavik has committed funding to the Northwest Territories Mine Training Society for numerous training initiatives, including underground miner, mineral processor, apprenticeships, and summer students. Diavik did so because, as it knew, to achieve northern employment commitments it would need northerners with mining skills. This effort began in 1997 when it helped create the North's mine training committee, which served as the model for the society. Since 2004, the society has assessed approximately 2,000 people for training suitability, provided training or other employment related assistance for over 1,300 people, and has facilitated employment for over 700 people. As well as funding, which included \$133,000 for an underground miner training simulator, part of the over \$2 million, Diavik supports the society by providing a worksite for practical training and employing graduates.



Fourth recognition as a Canada's Top 100 Employer





## New scholarship fund

In partnership with the Yellowknife Community Foundation, Diavik established the Diavik Community Scholarship Fund with its initial donation of \$25,000. The fund is open to Northwest Territories or West Kitikmeot students, with a priority for Aboriginal students seeking a college diploma or university degree or related trade certification program in the resources industry. Since 2003, Diavik's scholarship programs have awarded over \$2 million through approximately 1,500 individual scholarships to residents of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut's West Kitikmeot region. Scholarships, awarded annually, include those facilitated through the five neighbouring Aboriginal groups, with whom Diavik has participation agreements, as well as scholarships for Diavik employee family members.



Det'on Cho Corporation Prosperity Award

## Capital projects – construction continues

Sustaining capital construction projects continued at the Diavik Diamond Mine. Among the largest recent example is the processed kimberlite containment dam raise. Begun in 2013, this three year, \$28 million project, which includes liner installation and aggregate placement, will raise the 5.6 kilometre dam height by five metres. For the project, managed by Diavik, 30 people were hired for the construction crew, with 93 per cent northern. Other recent capital expenditure projects for the underground mine included the shotcrete (cement for tunnel wall support) batch plant, a third fresh air raise (vertical tunnel), pump stations, and shop. Together these totalled nearly \$60 million in spending.



Wind farm wins Northwest Territories and Nunavut Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists environmental award





## Diavik – a proven underground mine

Preceded by feasibility studies, engineering and technical work to support blasthole stoping, open sky mining of the crown pillar (the top portion of the A154 South pipe), and sublevel retreat mining methods, over \$800 million in capital investment to construct the underground mine, and mining the first development ore in 2010, in 2013 work crews completed the final step in making Diavik a proven underground mine – achieving full underground ore production levels. With this milestone, Diavik is well placed to mine up to two million tonnes of ore each year, and potentially more, for the next decade. This achievement, shared by everyone at Diavik, ensures that the mine will continue to generate training, employment, and benefits for local communities and businesses, governments and organizations, investors, and customers. Much work remains – mine life is 2023 and potentially beyond – but, with everyone at Diavik safely and continuously seeking efficiencies, the future is bright.



Mine rescue team wins its third regional title

Wind farm wins Canadian Wind Energy Association group leadership award



## Diavik Diamond Mine ore reserves

Year end	Million tonnes	Carats/tonne	Million carats
2003	25.6	3.82	97.5
2004 <sup>1</sup>	29.8	3.21	95.6
2005	28.2	3.20	90.3
2006	24.5	3.33	81.7
2007 <sup>2</sup>	21.9	3.51	77.1
2008	20.1	3.15	63.2
2009 <sup>3</sup>	19.7	3.03	59.7
2010	18.0	2.94	52.9
2011	18.9	3.11	58.9
2012	18.3	2.92	53.5
2013 <sup>4</sup>	16.3	2.90	47.2

## Diavik Diamond Mine production (annual)

Year	Waste million tonnes	Ore million tonnes	Grade carats/tonne	Carats millions
2002	9.3	-	-	-
2003	25.9	1.2	3.2	3.8
2004	30.1	2.0	3.9	7.6
2005	26.5	2.2	3.7	8.3
2006	23.2	2.3	4.2	9.8
2007	21.0	2.4	5.0	11.9
2008	20.6	2.4	3.8	9.2
2009	17.3	1.4	4.1	5.6
2010	18.1	2.1	3.1	6.5
2011	9.0	2.2	3.0	6.7
2012	0.5	2.1	3.5	7.2
2013 <sup>4</sup>	0.4	1.9	3.4	6.6

## Diavik Diamond Mine production (cumulative)

Year	Waste million tonnes	Ore million tonnes	Grade carats/tonne	Carats millions
2002	9.3	-	-	-
2003	35.2	1.2	3.2	3.8
2004	65.3	3.1	3.6	11.4
2005	91.8	5.4	3.7	19.7
2006	115.0	7.7	3.8	29.5
2007	136.1	10.1	4.1	41.5
2008	156.6	12.5	4.1	50.7
2009	173.9	13.9	4.1	56.2
2010	192.0	16.0	3.9	62.7
2011	201.0	18.2	3.8	69.4
2012	201.4	20.3	3.8	76.6
2013 <sup>4</sup>	201.8	22.2	3.8	83.3

<sup>1</sup> 3.9 million tonnes A21 pit reserves removed for further study.

8.0 million tonnes new underground reserve identified for A154N and added to mine plan.

1.4 million tonnes additional reserves added to A154S underground.

<sup>2</sup> 0.8 million tonnes additional reserves identified for A154S underground.

<sup>3</sup> 2.4 million tonnes new reserves proved up for A418 underground.

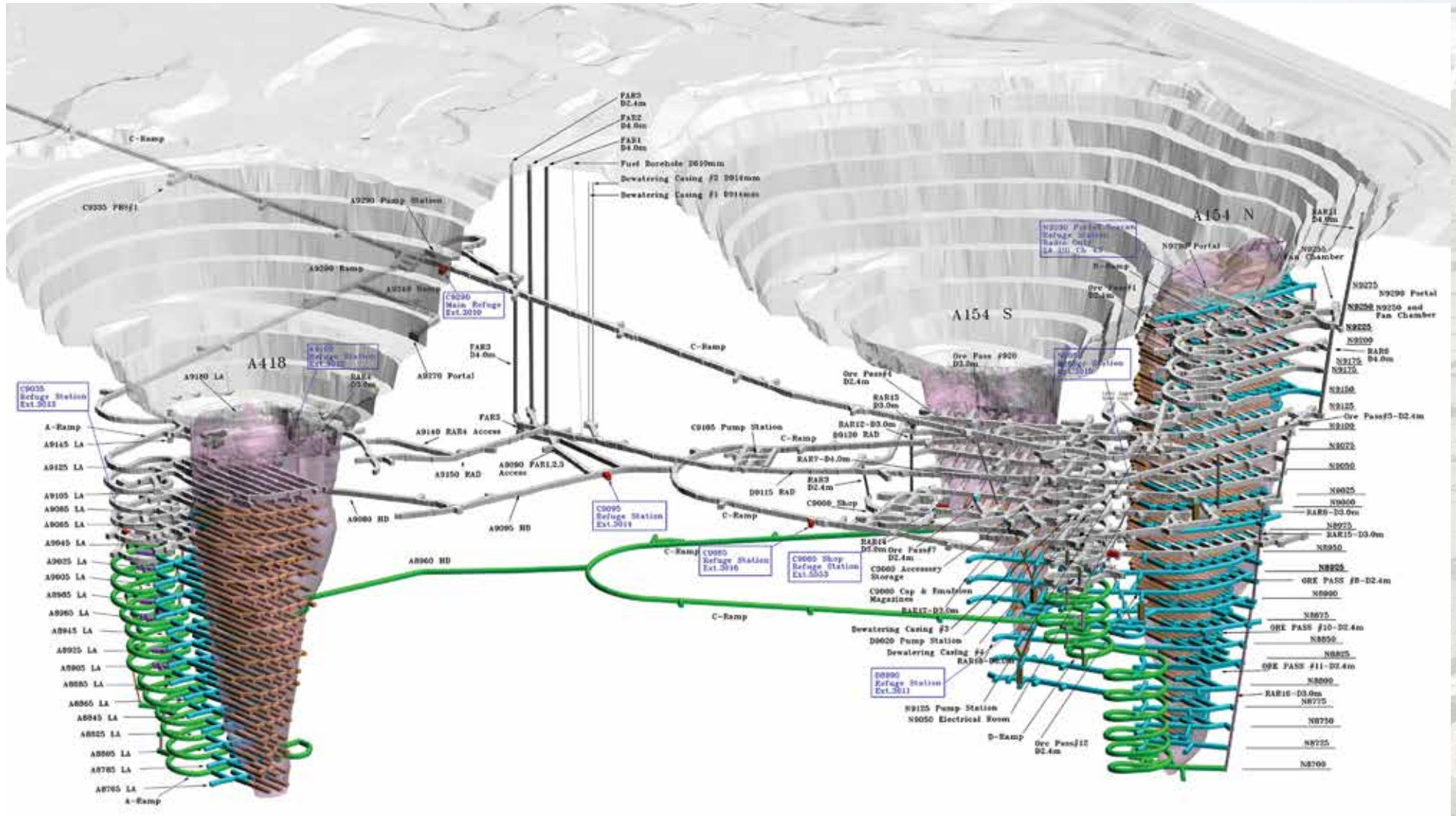
<sup>4</sup> Estimate

Some totals may not add due to rounding.





# Diavik mine design and as built, October 2013







## Thanks to all at Diavik for your contribution in 2013 and for your future efforts.

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 CLARENCE PYKE

**Q**  
 KEN QUACKENBUSH  
 DALE QUACKENBUSH

**R**  
 CHARLES RABESCA  
 EDWARD RABESCA  
 KERRY RABESCA  
 MATTHEW RABESCA  
 BORIS RADETIC  
 LUKE RAE  
 LEON RALPH  
 ROBERT RANDLE  
 STEPHEN RAPTIS

CHAD RAY  
 PATRICK RAY  
 PERRY RAY  
 MATTHEW REED  
 CHRISTIAN REID  
 ELVIS REID  
 MARK REID  
 DEWAYNE REMPEL  
 RICHARD RENAUD  
 SCOTT RENNIE  
 KELLY RHODES  
 STEPHEN RICE  
 AUSTIN RICE  
 ROBERT RICHARD  
 JAMIE RICHARD  
 ANDREA RICHARDS  
 CORRINE RICHARDS  
 GARRET RIFFEL  
 PETER RIGGS  
 BRADFORD ROBERTS  
 ROCKY ROBERTS  
 TIMOTHY ROBERTS  
 BRUCE ROBERTSON  
 JACK ROBERTSON  
 MORGAN ROBERTSON  
 SCOTT ROBERTSON  
 DELPHIS ROBICHAUD  
 DAVID ROBINSON  
 TERRANCE ROBINSON  
 SHAUN ROBLIN  
 BRAD ROGERS  
 CLAYTON ROGERS  
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 CALVIN ROMIE  
 FREDERICK ROMIE  
 GREGORY ROONEY  
 TYLER ROPSON  
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 STEPHEN ROSS  
 GIDEON ROSSOUW  
 GEZA ROSTA  
 MARTIN ROTH  
 STEPHEN ROWLES  
 RICHARD ROY  
 CHRIS RUGGLES  
 CEDRIC RUSIKE  
 LARRY RUST  
 THOMAS RYAN

**S**  
 WANDA SABOURIN  
 GERARD SALMONSON  
 DAVID SAMS  
 JOEL SAMSON  
 DONALD SANDERSON  
 RENEE SANDERSON  
 RUBEN SANDERSON  
 DOREEN SANGRIS  
 MELANIE SANGRIS  
 PETER SANGRIS  
 ERICSON SANGUEZ  
 JAMES SANGUEZ  
 JEAN SAULNIER  
 CRAIG SAYINE-CRAWFORD  
 JAMES SCHELL  
 ERIC SCHOFIELD  
 JULES SCHOFIELD  
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 KYLE SCHUMAN  
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 MARK SEREDIAK  
 SAPAN SETH  
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 HERMAN SHORT  
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 ALAN SILCOCK  
 TRUDY SILVER  
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 PERCY SIMBA  
 BRADLEY SIMMONDS  
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 GRAHAM SIMMS  
 RICHARD SIMON  
 SEAN SIMON  
 KRISTOPHER SIMON  
 JAMES SIMON  
 DAVID SIMPSON  
 TRACEY SIMPSON  
 MICHAEL SJOSTROM



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 WILLIAM SMITH  
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 KENNA SNOW  
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 SHANE SPENCER  
 CORY SPERLE  
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 BYRON STAGG  
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 DUSTIN STEINKEY  
 GORD STEPHENSON  
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 BOYCE STRICKLAND  
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 DANIEL STUBBERT  
 RAYMOND STUCKLESS  
 PERRY STYAN  
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 CARSON SUTTON  
 MICHAEL SWAIN

**T**  
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 NATHANIEL TAM  
 DARREL TAYLOR  
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 LEONARD TUCKEY JR  
 SASHA TUMA  
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 WILF TURCOTTE  
 FEZILE TYOLO

**U**  
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 GEORGE UNKA  
 BRIAN UPWARD

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 JEFFERY VAN LINDEN  
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 LIEZL VAN WYK  
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 LOUIS VON ALLMEN  
 PHILIPPE VON ALLMEN  
 DAVID VOWEL  
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 IAN WAITE  
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 BILL WALLS  
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**Y**  
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 CALVIN YIP  
 ROGER YOUNG  
 BRADLEY YUKON

**Z**  
 LAWRENCE ZAWACKI  
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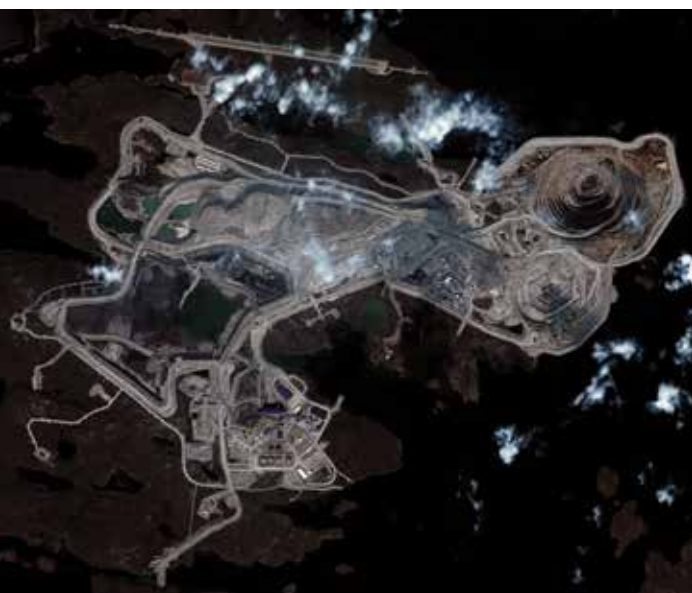
2002



2003



2004



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2007



2011



2012



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