



ATLANTIC GOLD

## July 2018 Bulletin

### Atlantic Gold in the Community

Atlantic Gold is a proud supporter of community activities and groups. Below are some of the important events we've recently partnered to support.

#### Canada Day Celebrations in Sherbrooke!



The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's organized a fun-filled, family-oriented Canada Day. Atlantic Gold assisted by sponsoring the fireworks and you may have even seen our name on the back of the volunteer t-shirts.

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## St. Mary's River Days Celebration

This is an annual event held by Sherbrooke Village to celebrate the historical roots of the area. Atlantic Gold is happy to support this important community event. On Sunday, there was a Sawmill/Goldmine Frolic celebrating the long history of gold mining in this area. The Frolic featured woodsmen competitions, gold panning & prospecting, and samples of homemade baked beans and brown bread. Thanks to Sherbrooke Village for hosting this annual event.



## Innovative Partnership with Mitacs

Atlantic Gold was pleased to partner with Mitacs - a national not-for-profit organization that has designed and delivered research and training programs in Canada for 18 years. Working with 60 universities, thousands of companies, and both federal and provincial governments, they build partnerships that support industrial and social innovation in Canada.

Mitacs was founded in 1999 as a Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence, dedicated to supporting applied and industrial research in mathematical sciences and associated disciplines. In 2003, it launched a research internship program designed to increase deployment of highly educated graduates into the private sector. Open to all

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international research training. Fully independent since 2011, Mitacs remains committed to its core vision of supporting research-based innovation and continues to work closely with its partners in industry, academia, and government.

Atlantic Gold partnered with Mitacs and Dalhousie University to explore wetland compensation. Find out more about this important work [here](#).



Atlantic Gold has confirmed the location of all wetlands on lands associated with a proposed mine. If wetlands are impacted by mine development then Atlantic Gold must obtain permits and provide compensation for those wetlands. This photo captures wetland science work being completed by an environmental consultant.

## Notice from CEAA

### Opportunity for Public Comment on the Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) has commenced a federal environmental assessment for the proposed Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project located 95 kilometres northeast of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Agency invites the public and indigenous groups to comment on which aspects of the environment may be affected by this project and what should be examined during the environmental assessment, as detailed in the [draft Environmental Impact](#)

Corp, a wholly owned subsidiary of Atlantic Gold Corporation.

This is the second of four opportunities for the public to comment on the environmental assessment of the project.

All comments received will be considered public. Written comments in either official language must be submitted by **August 20, 2018** to:

Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Project  
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
200-1801 Hollis Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3N4  
Telephone: 902-426-0564  
Email: [CEAA.FifteenMile.ACEE@ceaa-acee.gc.ca](mailto:CEAA.FifteenMile.ACEE@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)

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## Preparing an Environmental Impact Statement - The First Step

Atlantic Gold expects to submit Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for the Cochrane Hill and Fifteen Mile Stream projects within the next year, and respond to Information Requests from CEAA regarding the Beaver Dam EIS submission. “How exactly does a proponent prepare an EIS?” and “What goes into it?” are questions that are often asked. Let us try and answer these important questions for you by explaining the first step when preparing an EIS.

An Environmental Impact Statement is a comprehensive document that examines the impacts on the valued components of a project that are subject to Environmental Assessment. The valued components, or VC's, vary from project to project but are defined by CEAA as “environmental, socioeconomic, human health, reasonable enjoyment of life and property, cultural, historical, archaeological, paleontological and architectural features that may be impacted, whether positive or negative, inside or outside the Province, by the proposed undertaking.”

Essentially VCs are important local conditions that may be affected in some way by what a proponent wishes to do. The EIS then goes on to study each valued component and how it may be impacted by a proposed project.

The first step in understanding impacts is a baseline study which establishes the existing conditions of the valued components. Since there are often many VC's, there are many studies. One example of a VC that people often think of is terrestrial habitat. Biologists and ecologists conduct field work to count and log wildlife, plants, trees and other ecological features of the land. These studies are important as the proposed project can and is often adjusted to minimize the impact on these features, especially if rare or endangered species are found. Once we understand what exists today, then we can calculate the impact the project will likely have on the VCs.

Groundwater is another standard valued component (VC) for projects. To fully understand the impact on groundwater, a hydrogeologist (a specialist in water

modeled to understand how the groundwater interacts with surface water, peoples' wells and other factors. After the baseline and impact study is completed, the consultant places his or her "stamp" on the final report, which is then summarized or included in the EIS. The "stamp" from the professional is very important as it guarantees that the work is done impartially and to a standard acceptable to other experts in the subject.

The EIS is a complex technical document that is based on science and research. The goal is to fully explore and communicate the impacts of a potential project on a variety of factors (Valued Components). The decision of the federal government is based on this report, and proponents work very hard, and spend a great deal of time and resources to make sure the EIS is comprehensive and accurate.

## Focus on Fifteen Mile Stream

The Project Description is the first step in the CEAA process, that will eventually lead to a decision by the Federal Government regarding the Fifteen Mile Stream proposed gold mine. The [Project Description](#) is an overview of the project and is used by CEAA to determine if a complete Environmental Impact Statement is required. On July 16th, Atlantic Gold was notified that a full Environmental Impact Statement will be required, and CEAA is now seeking comments on the [Draft EIS Guidelines](#) that Atlantic Gold must follow when preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Atlantic Gold intends to submit the EIS in March of 2019 and will be holding public meetings to provide additional details about the proposed mine.

Here are some interesting tidbits from the Project Description about the Fifteen Mile Stream Project. The full document can be found on the [CEAA website](#).

- The Project Area is primarily comprised of disturbed areas from clear cutting and historical mining activities.
- The nearest domestic well is 12.5 kilometers away from the site, based on information from the provincial database.
- An open-pit mine will be developed that will be approximately 0.6 and 0.4 km wide and will have a maximum depth of 150 m. At the conclusion of mining, the pit will eventually refill with water and become a small lake that will provide healthy fish habitat.
- About 1.3 km of the Seloam Brook stream channel will be realigned. The current alignment of the stream was impacted by historical mining operations and tailings from years gone by. The proposed new realignment will help to rectify this situation and will result in new and enhanced fish habitat.
- There have been two archeological studies to date with another planned in 2018. In the event that Mi'kmaw archaeological finds are encountered

Scotia Museum and The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq. Should the proposed project site change or expand, additional research will be conducted.

- Prior to the completion of mining activities, the local community and Mi'kmaq will be consulted on what their expectations are on final land use for the area and these wishes will be reflected in a final Reclamation Plan. After mining is finished, the final Reclamation Plan will be implemented. Reclamation will include regrading and re-vegetation so that conditions can be made safe and stable and in accordance with regulation and community and Mi'kmaq expectations. Monitoring of site conditions and water quality will continue as deemed necessary by the Province and local community stakeholders.

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## Engaging with Stakeholders and Rights Holders



Atlantic Gold will be holding a number of community meetings in the fall or winter for the Cochrane Hill and Fifteen Mile Stream projects. These events will be widely publicized so keep an eye out for them. In addition, Atlantic Gold will also be engaging with the Mi'kmaq on Atlantic Gold projects.

To find out more about the duty to consult with Indigenous groups as part of an Environmental Impact Statement, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency has provided some guidance on their website.

[Duty to Consult](#)

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The Touquoy mine is named after Damas Touquoy, who is pictured sitting in front of his home/office in Moose River in 1897. More about the history of mining can be found on the Art Galley of Nova Scotia's [virtual museum website](#).

E. R. Faribault. Geological Survey of Canada Photo #5295.

## Updates on Projects

### Touquoy

Operations at our Touquoy mine location continue to be productive and Atlantic Gold now has over 240 full-time staff working on the site and anywhere from 46-70 full-time contractors as well.

Since commercial production started and thanks to the hard work of our dedicated staff, Atlantic Gold has sold 40,452 ounces of gold for the first 6 months of 2018. The monthly benefits to the local economy based on operational activities is approximately \$4.3 million per month.

We have also made some very interesting discoveries of artifacts from previous mining in the Touquoy area. Historical mining equipment and horseshoes have been recovered and those items are submitted to the the [Moose](#)

### Beaver Dam

Atlantic Gold is working on responses to the Information Requests from CEAA regarding the Environmental Impact Statement submitted in June 2017. CEAA compiles questions for the proponent to answer based on the public's questions and comments on the proponent's submission. We are taking our time to answer these questions and consider the comments carefully and plan to have the responses ready this fall.

Atlantic Gold is also reaching out to property owners near the proposed haul road and mine site to discuss the projects. If you feel you may be impacted, please contact us.

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## Cochrane Hill

Atlantic Gold plans to submit the Project Description in August. The public comment period on the Project Description will occur shortly after and we will issue a notice to the public when that occurs. Over the summer, Atlantic Gold and its contractors will be conducting field work, such as breeding bird studies, taking samples of the soil and bedrock to better understand its composition, water modeling, and other technical and environmental work.

The Community Liaison Committee (CLC) will have its first meeting over the summer. A CLC is a group composed of local residents, business owners and others who provide a conduit between Atlantic Gold and the community. We would like to thank all those who volunteered to sit on the committee.

## Fifteen Mile Stream

The Project Description for Fifteen Mile Stream was submitted to CEAA on May 22nd. CEAA then sought public comments on our submission until June 21st. On July 16th, CEAA determined that a federal environmental assessment is required and issued draft Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. This is the second of four opportunities throughout the Environmental Assessment process for the public to provide comment to CEAA.

Atlantic Gold is recruiting members for the Community Liaison Committee who will act as conduits between Atlantic Gold and the community. If you are interested in serving on the committee, live in the local area, and are interested in learning more about the proposed mine, please [email us](#).

If you have questions or comments,  
feel free to get in touch!

Community Phone Line: (902) 391-4653

Email: [Community Relations](#)

Visit our community website  
at <http://www.atlanticgoldcorporation.com/community/>

If your community group would like a presentation on Atlantic Gold activities  
in your area, please contact us.

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communityrelations@atlanticgoldcorporation.com

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