

**ATLANTIC GOLD**

October 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.

**NOVA SCOTIA
MI'KMAW
SUMMER GAMES**

Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Summer Games 2018

Congratulations to all participants, volunteers and organizers of the Mi'kmaq Summer Games held August 19-26 in Eskasoni. The mission of these games is, "To inspire youth and young adults to believe in themselves, achieve their dreams and unite with all indigenous communities to share and learn Mi'kmaq culture and traditions."

Since 2010, these games have provided opportunities for young people to gather together in friendship and sport, creating lifelong memories.

Atlantic Gold was happy to support the 2018 Mi'kmaq Summer Games and its mission.



Together on Emergency Preparedness

The closest Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency (HRFE) Fire Station to our Touquoy site is Middle Musquodoboit's Station 38, which is comprised of both career and a very dedicated contingent of volunteer firefighters. We are proud to have several of those volunteer firefighters from Middle Musquodoboit and other communities as Atlantic Gold staff members.



As part of our commitment to continuous improvement of our safety procedures and the communities surrounding our operations, Atlantic Gold has commenced developing a memorandum of understanding with HRFE. This agreement will ensure that, on the occasion where our community is faced with an emergency event, our staff are trained on how best to respond with the common goal of ensuring the safety of our workers and community members.

In August, members of the Atlantic Gold Emergency Response Team had the opportunity to complete hands-on training with the staff of HRFE at Station 38 (pictured). Since that training session, HRFE has visited Atlantic Gold staff at the Touquoy mine site to exchange knowledge and learn from each other, with more visits scheduled in the future.

Atlantic Gold sponsor Women's Rugby Team - win silver at Canadian Rugby Championships

Atlantic Gold is extremely proud to sponsor Rugby Nova Scotia's Senior Women's Keltics team. This past July, the team traveled to Saskatoon to represent Nova Scotia



medal after just narrowly losing to the Ontario Blues.

We are so proud to support this team and we congratulate them on their extraordinary play this season. **Go Keltics!**



Breakfast with Community Leaders

Atlantic Gold representatives were honoured to attend a breakfast hosted by Sherbrooke Village with Premier Stephen McNeil, local politicians and community leaders from the Sherbrooke area. It was wonderful to hear about the historic village's current activities and exciting future plans. Of particular note was the announcement by Richard Oland of a donation of 660 acres to support [RICHES](#). After the breakfast, Jim Millard from Atlantic Gold toured the Village and participated in an impromptu temperance rally where museum staff had some fun demonstrating the social mores of 1867.

Atlantic Gold's Projects

Planning, developing, building, operating and reclaiming a closed down mine is a complex technical and social process. In this section, we provide information

Understanding Community Liaison Committees

Mining projects require strong communication with the local community through all stages of the mine - planning, development, operation, and reclamation. One of the main vehicles for communication is the Community Liaison Committee (CLC), sometimes known as a Citizens Liaison Committee.

A CLC is a committee where local community members, the proponent (representatives of the company wishing to build and operate the mine) and others who are considered stakeholders regularly meet to talk about the Project. The Mi'kmaq are also invited to attend and participate in the CLC, although they may wish to use a more direct method of communication with the proponent as they are rightsholders (meaning they have unique rights). Unlike other industries, all mining projects require the formation and ongoing involvement of a CLC.

Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) published [guidelines](#) for the operation of a CLC, which talks about how CLC's should function:

Effective CLCs maintain good public relations, foster environmental stewardship, and act as a vehicle for transparent and ongoing communications between community, stakeholders, and the proponent on matters pertaining to current and planned development in the community.

Each CLC has a terms of reference (TOR) which varies from project to project so that the unique elements of each mine project and community are respected. However, the main goals of a CLC, as defined by NSE, are:

- to act as an advisory body to a project proponent by providing input on existing or potential concerns of the community with respect to the project plan and activities; and
- to respect community interest by providing an avenue for the mutual exchange of information between the proponent and the community with respect to any existing or potential environmental effects of the project plan and activities.

CLCs are often a condition of an Environment Assessment Approval and are required prior to operations starting. Many projects opt to have the CLC in place well before operations begin, but each project is unique. Atlantic Gold has

been completed. This provides an important link between our company and the communities in which we will be operating. Topics that CLCs cover can include: operations, mine planning, reclamation, discussions of community impacts, traffic and economic development. The CLC does not have any decision-making power but is the place where the community and the proponent can come together to share information and exchange perspectives.

The members of the CLC are tasked with talking with neighbours, co-workers, and others within their local areas to share information they have learned at the meetings and to listen to questions or issues that need to be brought back to the CLC. Members are not advocates for the project, but instead help facilitate communications between all parties.

Atlantic Gold has two active CLCs for Touquoy (which includes Beaver Dam) and Cochrane Hill, and is in the process of striking a CLC for Fifteen Mile Stream. The meetings are not open to the public, but meeting notes are approved by the CLC and available on the [Atlantic Gold website](#).

If you live near Trafalgar, Malay Falls or Sheet Harbour and are interested in participating in the Fifteen Mile Stream Community Liaison Committee, please contact communityrelations@atlanticgoldcorporation.com or call 902-391-4653.

Fifteen Mile Stream Gold Mine Project

Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) has issued the "Guidelines for the Preparation of an EIS" which outlines the minimum information requirements for Atlantic Gold as it prepares the EIS for Fifteen Mile Stream (FMS). Before the Fifteen Mile Stream project can proceed,

For those interested in the details provided in the Guideline document, Part 2 of the Guidelines establishes the specifics for the EIS that Atlantic Gold will submit. The EIS must include sections on:

- Introduction and Overview
- Project Justification and Alternatives Considered

This 45-page Guideline document was developed after CEAA and other regulatory agencies, such as Nova Scotia Environment (NSE), reviewed the Project Description. CEAA also considered comments from the public on the Draft Guidelines. Now that the Guidelines are finalized, Atlantic Gold must meet or exceed all requirements in the Guidelines when submitting an EIS before CEAA can consider making a decision on the project.

Concerns

- Engagement with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and Concerns Raised
- Impacts to Potential or Established Aboriginal or Treaty Rights
- Effects Assessment
- Follow-up and Monitoring Programs
- Responses to Nova Scotia Environment Requirements

Valued Components:

The key ingredient of any EIS, and the section on which the Guideline document provides the most direction, is in the effects assessment where the Valued Components (VCs) are analyzed. VCs are identified based on a review and evaluation of the environmental effects of a Project. When residual environmental effects from the Project are expected, those VCs are identified for consideration in the cumulative effects assessment section of the EIS.

In other words, the EIS will consider and fully explore the impacts (both negative and positive) of the proposed gold mine on any identified environmental, social or cultural aspects of the local area.

With 45 pages of guidelines, final EIS's are often over 1000 pages long and include summaries of detailed scientific studies that explore the specific impacts on the Valued Components. Atlantic Gold, through the EIS, is required to, "Demonstrate that all aspects of the project have been examined and planned in a careful and precautionary manner in order to avoid significant adverse environmental effects" (Section 2.4 of FMS guidelines).

[Click here to download the Guidelines \(45 pages\)](#)

The final EIS will be submitted to CEAA in the winter of 2019. More updates will follow as the EIS progresses, including opportunities for the public to provide comment on the Project.

Over the last several months, Atlantic Gold has continued to meet with multiple stakeholders and rights holders. Although no public meetings have been held, we continue to engage with government, community groups, individuals and the Mi'kmaq.

You can always reach out to Atlantic Gold by phone to our community phone line 902-391-4653 or by email to communityrelations@atlanticgoldcorporation.com.

Project Updates

Touquoy

Operations at our Touquoy Mine location continue to be positive and gold production is ahead of forecasts for the year. We continue to employ over 240 full-time staff on site and approximately 40-70 full-time contractors as well.

In an effort to highlight the good works done on the Touquoy Mine site everyday, Atlantic Gold has begun to showcase employees on our company website. Click [here](#) for profiles of Charles (a Haul Truck Operator), Ryan (an Environmental Engineer-In-Training) and Vicki (a Security Officer) and a look at their important contributions to our mining activities. There will be more profiles published in the weeks ahead so please continue to visit the page.

Beaver Dam

Atlantic Gold is working on submitting a revised EIS in December 2018 to respond to information requests from CEAA.

We are also seeking information from people who use the land near the proposed haul road, between the Moose Land Road and Hwy 224. Atlantic Gold wants to better understand how people use this land, and how they access it.

For example, do you walk your dog, camp, hunt, log or access another property from this road?

This information will help Atlantic Gold develop a road access plan that will accommodate existing and potential future users of the road.

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Atlantic Gold took the first step in the Environmental Assessment process by submitting a Project Description document on September 28, 2018. Draft EIS Guidelines are now open for [public comment](#) and will be received by CEAA until October 29th.

The Cochrane Hill Community Liaison Committee (CLC) had its first meeting in August, and met again on October 1st. The meeting notes will be posted on our website once approved by the committee. The first meeting provided an orientation to members on the role of a CLC, and gave a high-level overview of the Project.

Atlantic Gold also continues to conduct exploration, scientific and engineering studies of the area and as such, community members may see some drilling in the area. This work has all been permitted by the necessary regulatory authorities and has landowner permission.

Atlantic Gold continues to gather information and collate data for an Environmental Impact Statement that will be submitted in Winter 2019. Meetings to gather feedback from the public will occur in February 2019 and will be announced once details are finalized.

Atlantic Gold continues to recruit members for this Project's 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](#). The first meeting will be this fall.

 [Atlantic Gold Corporation Website](#)

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communityrelations@atlanticgoldcorporation.com

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