

CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY



04.2022



OUR ACTIVITIES

Sustainability & External Relations
Quarter 1 Update



IN THE COMMUNITY

National Poetry Month
Since 1998, National Poetry Month has been celebrated in Canada each April.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Ryan Boudens, Environmental Coordinator, joined Barkerville Gold Mines in 2018.

LOOK FOR US ONLINE

Look for information on the Cariboo Gold Project, the EA, job postings, our current newsletter and more on our website cariboogold.com



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OSISKO DEVELOPMENT

CARIBOO GOLD PROJECT

OUR ACTIVITIES



CARIBOO GOLD PROJECT

Sustainability & External Relations – Quarter 1 Update

The Sustainability and External Relations (SER) department has a broad scope of work for Osisko Development and Barkerville Gold Mines, which includes, but is not limited to, providing support for the Environmental Assessment of the Cariboo Gold Project, Indigenous Engagement, Community Relations, Community Investment, supporting the Sustainable Workforce Initiative, and much more.



Throughout the first three months of 2022, the SER department has assisted in offering the classroom component of the New Underground Miner Training Program and produced another session of our Community Workshop Series. We participated in a panel at the AME Round-up Conference with our partners Lhtako Dene Nation, reflecting on where we started and where we are going with relationship building and on expectations for the future

for both the project and the communities. Additionally, we signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the District of Wells, which serves as a guidance document for discussions about our shared priorities like revitalizing infrastructure and strong community services; Chris Lodder says, “Wells will not just be a home to the Cariboo Gold Project, it will be a home for our employees, so working together on shared priorities is good for everyone.”

We will release announcements on community investment, sustainability reporting, community workshops, and more in the coming months.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP SERIES

Thank you to everyone who attended our March workshop series. Recordings of the workshops will be uploaded to our website. Watch our Facebook page for details of future workshop series.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list or if there are topics you would like to see in future workshops, please email us at feedback@osiskodev.com.

OUR ACTIVITIES



OPERATIONS



Health and Safety Toolbox – World Day for Safety and Health at Work

World Day for Safety and Health at Work is April 28. This day is part of a global effort to raise awareness and advocate for safe and healthy work sites. The International Labor Organization (ILO) kickstarted the initiative in 2003. This year, the topic is Participation and Social Dialogue in Creating a Positive Safety and Health Culture.

It is no coincidence that the National Day of Mourning is also on April 28. This day is designed to bring awareness to workers who have been killed, injured, or suffered illness due to workplace-related hazards and incidents. The National Day of Mourning is also a day to renew our commitment to improving health and safety conditions to prevent incidents in the workplace.



How do we create a safer, healthier workspace?

We encourage employees to be mindful of health and safety in the workplace. It is important to look at why people do the things they do and why they make the choices they make at work. This will help shift thinking towards supporting workers as they gain awareness of their strengths, weaknesses, and biases connected to their decisions. This will help us to recognize how decisions impact safety. We should promote all employees participating in the health and safety culture.

The pandemic has also played a major role in health and safety incidents at work. The impacts of COVID-19 brought additional physical and mental stressors into the workplace. We cannot limit our definition of health and safety to only the physical. We must also consider emotional health in worksites; workplaces should promote a healthy work-life balance as a way of supporting the health and safety culture.

For more information on World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2022, visit the UN ILO website.

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Article contributor: Bonnie Watkiss – RN

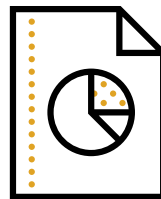
OUR ACTIVITIES



EXPLORATION

Department Update

The first few months of 2022 have been devoted to completing road and core compound maintenance, in addition to drill core assay quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC). Program planning for infill drilling is also in progress, alongside report writing and resource modeling for the Feasibility Study. Additionally, the Exploration department is working on new Geological Models for the Shaft Zone, Mosquito Creek Zone, and Lowhee Zone.



We have had an exciting and busy start to 2022. Work is ongoing from the 2021 Regional Program, which included efforts at the QR Mill site. Crews are currently working to complete the Drilling Assessment Report. Data interpretation and the digitization of the Historical Assessment Report are also in progress. Planning for the 2022 Regional Program is underway as well.

In February, our Geologists attended short courses that were offered through the BC Association for Mineral Exploration's Round-up Conference.

EMPLOYEE STATISTICS:

As of March 2022, Barkerville Gold Mines has 168 employees on-site.

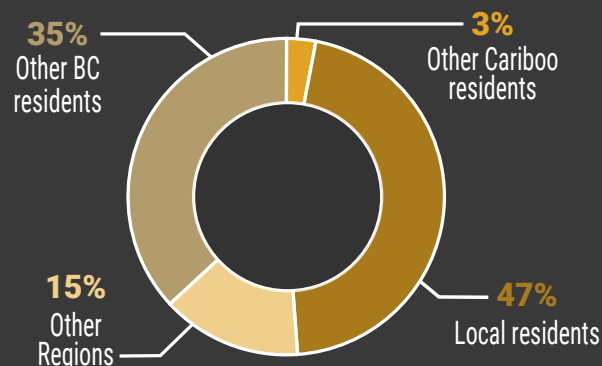


29%



71%

Employees by Locations



Look for information on the Cariboo Gold Project, the EA, job postings, our current newsletter and more on our website cariboogold.com.



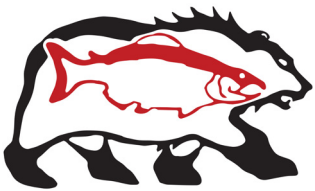
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IN THE COMMUNITY



LHTAKO DENÉ NATION

Chief and Council Elections

In early February Lhtako Dene Nation announced that there were three candidates for Chief and eight candidates for Council (three seats to fill) for the upcoming election on March 22. Elections are held every two years, but this year is the first staggered election under the community's new election code. In October 2019, the community voted in favor of adopting the Lhtako Dene Election Code which would be used to hold the election of Chief and Council instead of the election rules in the Indian Act and the Indian Band Election Regulations.

Results posted on March 23, stated that Chief and Council will remain unchanged from the previous term as Lhtako Dene Nation re-elected Chief Clifford Lebrun and Councillors Raymond Aldred, Tim Mitchell, and Wanda Aldred. So, under the new Lhtako Dene Election Code (2019) Chief will serve a four-year term with the Councillor who received the most votes, and the remaining Councilor positions will be up for election again in two years. When Chief is up for election again, all four positions revert to a four-year term.

Thank you to those who put themselves forward for election and to all those who voted – and congratulations to Chief Clifford Lebrun and Councillors Raymond Aldred, Tim Mitchell, and Wanda Aldred.

Article contributor: Jon Longe, Lhtako Dené Nation Liaison



IN THE COMMUNITY



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 24–30, 2022

Every April, Volunteer Canada leads the National Volunteer Week celebration. It is a great opportunity to recognize and celebrate the work of volunteers. The week is also a time to highlight the organizations and opportunities to volunteer in our community.



Formal volunteer acknowledgment in Canada started in 1943 as a way to celebrate the significant contributions of women on the home front to aid in the war effort. In 1990, Canada made it official, and the last full week of April was proclaimed National Volunteer Week. Since then, National Volunteer Week has become a time for Canadians to recognize the contributions of volunteers, raise awareness of the value of volunteering, and thank volunteers for their time, energy, commitment, and care.

This year's theme is ***Volunteering is Empathy in Action***

Empathy is a quality that can help people relate to others and build awareness around different experiences. Volunteering can also help us develop empathy as we begin to see the world through the eyes of others. Additionally, volunteering connects people from diverse backgrounds and life experiences.

Across the nation, volunteers create caring, collaborative, and compassionate communities. Volunteers give their time, skills, experience, and passion to help others, without expecting anything in return. From opportunities to develop new skills to finding deep and meaningful personal connections, the magic of volunteering is that it creates social and economic value for all.

Here in Wells, we have many amazing volunteers to celebrate. Please make sure to reach out to local volunteers and acknowledge their efforts. If you would like to be a volunteer, get involved with one (or more) of our wonderful Wells organizations! Your participation shapes the community towards a better future. Visit wells.ca to learn more about these groups

- Island Mountain Arts
- Sunset Theater Society
- Wells and Area Trails Society
- Wells Best Seniors
- Wells Legion – Royal Canadian Legion #128
- Wells and Area Community Association (including the Community Garden and the Recycling Depot)
- Wells Community Foundation
- Wells Historical Society
- Wells Recreation Society
- Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Wells Wheels ATV Club
- Wells Snowmobile Club
- Friends of Barkerville Society

For more information, visit Volunteer Canada's website at volunteer.ca/nvw



IN THE COMMUNITY

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

Since 1998, National Poetry Month has been celebrated in Canada each April and aims to celebrate poetry in all its forms and to remind the public that poetry matters, and poets have an integral role to play in our culture. The League of Canadian Poets (LCP) organizes Canada's celebrations, under an official theme for each year. The theme for 2022 is *Intimacy*. Visit LCP's National Poetry Month blog at poets.ca/npm for more information.



Osisko Development and Barkerville Gold Mines is a supporter and sponsor of arts and culture events and organizations locally. We also encourage our staff to participate however, or whenever they can. In fact, we have employees who are involved in the arts from dance to theatre, music to literary arts, and more. To us, it is important to build relationships between industry, arts and culture, tourism, and the community in general.

Although the theme for National Poetry Month is *Intimacy*, we would like to venture off topic and explore the connection between poetry and the local mining history of the Wells-Barkerville area. The following article, ***Mining the Poetry of Gold***, is an excerpt from a larger piece written for National Poetry Month by Brendan Bailey entitled ***The Spell of Wells: Living Poetry in the Cariboo Goldfields***. The full article will soon be available on our website cariboogold.com.

Mining the Poetry of Gold

Osisko Development's Cariboo Gold Project is built on the legacy of the mining communities that came before it, dating back to nearly two centuries. That legacy is also deeply tied to community and the arts. To understand the journey of the mining community to present-day Wells, BC, and to take note of it being national poetry month, why don't we turn to the gold rush poetry of the past for a perspective.

Poems teach us about the world in which we live. Poets tend to see the world around them with the clarity of an emotionally photographic eye focused from the outside inward. They then formulate that image into a spectrum of vocabulary, a palette of adjectives, and a flow of syllabic patterns that anchor their observations with the reader. So, at this point, you may still be asking yourself just what in the world poetry has to do with mining?

Well, it is more than you might assume. The path of history, and the path of miners, can be collected and observed through the writings of mining society.

Many European miners who arrived for the California Gold Rush in 1849 (eventually known as "Forty-Niners") had taken the journey due to displacement from their homelands. These Forty-Niners introduced us to this unforgettable lyric thought to have been placed to a traditional Mexican melody: *"In a cavern in a canyon excavating for a mine dwelt a miner forty-niner and his daughter...Clementine."*

In the late 1850s, focus began to shift from California to a formerly secret gold belt located further north in a Hudson Bay Company trading territory called New Caledonia – mine claims and boomtowns were left in their wake along the now-famous "Gold Rush Trail" to gold discoveries in and around Barkerville in 1862. The Cariboo Gold Rush had officially begun, and it was about to become the epicentre of a new colony called British Columbia, and home to some very prominent poets, including James Anderson, author of *Sawney's Letters and Cariboo Rhymes*, British Columbia's first known volume of published poetry, and Rebecca Gibbs, author of *The Old Red Shirt*. These poets, and many others, shared wit, humour, frustration, and sadness and brought a great deal of insight into the realities of mining life.

Fast forward to the 1930s, when ambitious and tenacious prospector Fred Wells and his Cariboo Gold Quartz Company partners had built up a thriving Mine and began developing a community to encourage workers to settle in the area and bring or start families. Fred also fostered a flourishing arts and culture sector within the community that was, in many ways, carried over from the Barkerville heydays.

Although the Cariboo Gold Quartz Company ceased operations in 1967, and "older sister" Barkerville had been reallocated from an active townsite to a public historical site, museum, and park in 1962, the connection between mining and the arts has not ceased. Since then, Island

Continue on next page →



IN THE COMMUNITY

Mountain Arts (IMA) (1977) began arts programs, including the ArtsWells Festival of All Things Art (2004-present) and Barkerville welcomes an average of 65,000 visitors each season. As a result, countless artists, writers, composers, and performers have cut their teeth or joined the enduring Cariboo poem, the combined stanzas of outdoor recreation, artistry, and industry prevalent in the rhythmic culture of this destination community.

Former Barkerville Theatre Royal performer, songwriter, and recording artist Ross Douglas has written several enduring songs about the history of Wells-Barkerville and his own experience in the community in the 1990s. However, one ballad in particular, "Wells," describes the town's origins with the eloquent affection and humour of a fortunate 1930s blue-collar labourer, "Wells; where my future's in the ground and when I chance to look around there's more and more to meet the eye. Wells; I feel your attributes take hold just like the gold that's in this mountain and the silver that's shining in the sky."

From the Forty-Niners of California, the Boys of '63 (as Anderson referred to his Barkerville peers), the Trail of Ninety-Four in the Klondike, to the present day, many artists, poets, labourers have been fascinated and inspired by Wells-Barkerville and the Cariboo mountains over the generations since. As a present-day poet, I have been privileged to be

among them: "So here's to you, Wells, where even in thick dark of winter, the gold nuggets in your pan always gleam, where the miners chase leads in the hard rock, and the artists breath life to their dreams."



Brendan Bailey as the character of James Anderson, whom he portrays in Barkerville Historic Town & Park during the summer interpretive season.

So, what does poetry have to do with mining? It reflects the humility and humanity, in industry. It puts a face and heart to those that have sometimes been assumed not to have one. After all, they are people making their way through life just like you and I – working towards betterment while making the best of each day they have.

Article contributor: Brendan Bailey, writer, actor, "Goldpan Poet", and Wells resident

NOTE: Sources include a decade of Brendan Bailey's personal research, the **Cariboo Literary Institute Discourse** written and researched for Barkerville Historic Town & Park by the author, and Richard Thomas Wright's **Barkerville and the Cariboo Goldfields**, Heritage House, 2013.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Ryan Boudens



Ryan Boudens – Environmental Coordinator, Ryan grew up in Pembroke, Ontario. After completing his Master's in Science in 2015, he made a road trip out west to kayak the rivers of B.C. and look for work. In 2018, he was hired at Barkerville Gold Mines as an Environmental Technician. In this role, Ryan was responsible for implementing sampling programs, equipment calibration and management, administrative duties, and data management. Ryan fell in love with the vibrant and eclectic town of Wells. He especially enjoys the wilderness, adventure, and recreational opportunities. The diversity of the landscape and wildlife in this area are a real draw for him.

Since then, Ryan has moved on to the position of Environmental Coordinator. In this role, Ryan assists with the planning

and supervision of environmental operations. He also supports reporting and permitting regimes. He enjoys his role in the Environmental Department because of the opportunities to explore the surrounding areas near Wells and the QR Mill site. Ryan has received Level 3 First Aid training and is a member of the Mine Rescue team.

In his free time Ryan enjoys white water kayaking, hiking, snowmobiling, fishing, and hunting. A fun fact about Ryan is that at the age of 16, he competed in the Freestyle Kayaking World Championship for Canada's Junior Team. He is also a third-generation hounds-man – his family has been hunting with hounds for more than 60 years.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have questions about the Cariboo Gold Project?
Are we being a good neighbour?

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at our Community Relations Office:
4270 Sanders Ave., P.O. Box 250, Wells, BC V0K 2R0
Phone: 778-414-8493
E-Mail: feedback@osiskodev.com

