

COMMUNITY UPDATE

MARCH 2020



Atlantic Gold is pleased to provide this community update regarding our proposed Cochrane Hill Gold Mine project. We are a gold mining company currently operating just outside of Middle Musquodoboit, with three other potential mine sites in various stages of the federal environmental assessment process. As a St Barbara Limited company, Atlantic Gold works with communities to reduce our environmental impact while creating responsible and sustainable economic opportunity from our mining activity.

HELPING COMMUNITIES GROW AND THRIVE

We are deeply proud to create prosperity and opportunity for families in rural Nova Scotia. We help build communities by providing good paying jobs, volunteering, legacy contributions, and in-kind support of local groups, events, and initiatives. To understand the extent of this impact we engaged global auditing and accounting firm KPMG, which found:

- » Between 2022 and 2030 we will spend \$533M in Nova Scotia through local suppliers and indirect economic activity for the proposed Cochrane Hill project.
- » Construction will generate \$98.2M in value added for Nova Scotia's economy, support 731 direct jobs, and generate \$9.0M in provincial government revenues and \$2.9M in municipal government revenues.
- » During operations the project will generate \$24.2M in value annually, support 321 direct jobs in the province, and provide \$12.9M in provincial government revenues and \$0.7M in municipal government revenues annually.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR WORK

In 2018, we registered the Cochrane Hill project with the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) process to assess its impacts and opportunities. Strict regulations ensure development is done in a responsible way and includes public participation. This regulatory certainty is critical to balance environmental protection with job creation in rural Nova Scotia:

- » Atlantic Gold invested \$21M+ in 2018 at our Moose River mine to ensure good environmental stewardship, including effluent treatment, water monitoring, and tailings management.
- » Our company has remediated over 50,000 tonnes of historic tailings unrelated to our operations. For reference, the provincial government is paying \$48M to clean up two sites in Nova Scotia, and Atlantic Gold is doing this clean up with no cost to taxpayers.
- » Moose River mine has 90 water monitoring stations and the water is tested regularly. Results are shared with the regulator.
- » Before our work begins, we are required by law to provide government with a reclamation bond. For the Moose River Gold Mine, that bond is over \$10M.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

In January 2020, Atlantic Gold commissioned public opinion research to understand how Nova Scotians feel about mining. A random telephone survey was conducted with 700 Nova Scotians over the age of 18. The sample included a subset of 'communities of interest': Guysborough, Pictou, and Antigonish counties. We found that a clear majority of Nova Scotians support gold mining in our province. We also recognize that Nova Scotians need to know more about our extensive efforts to protect the environment through and beyond the lifespan of our mines.

8 OUT OF 10

support gold mining in NS



76%

Overall

80%

Community of Interest

Top Reasons for Support	Nova Scotians	Community of Interest
Creates jobs	60%	73%

Nova Scotians Agree that Gold Mining in Nova Scotia:	Nova Scotians	Community of Interest
Contributes to the economy	66%	69%
Provides employment opportunities for local residents	63%	68%
Makes safety a top priority	60%	66%

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about the Cochrane Hill Gold Mine project, or any of Atlantic Gold's current or proposed projects, contact us at communityrelations@atlanticgold.ca.

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