

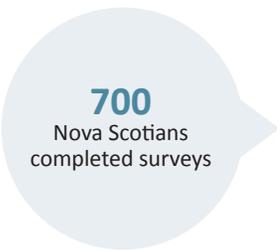
PUBLIC PERCEPTION STUDY

MARCH 2020

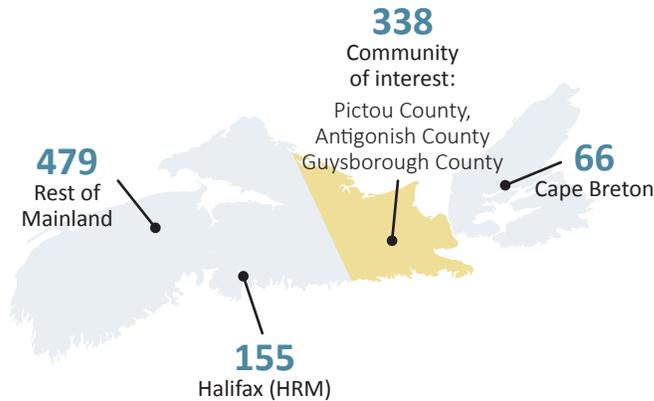
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In January 2020, Atlantic Gold commissioned public opinion research to gauge the opinions of Nova Scotians on the gold mining industry. A random telephone survey was conducted with 700 Nova Scotians over the age of 18. The sample was weighted by age, region and gender to ensure accurate representation of the province's population. The sample included a subset of 'communities of interest': Guysborough, Pictou, and Antigonish counties. The research sample emphasized the area around the proposed Cochrane Hill Gold Mine to ensure results could be broken out for that area and remain statistically significant.

RESPONDANTS



REGION



RESIDENCE



SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

AWARENESS AND SUPPORT

Overall, three-quarters of residents support gold mining in Nova Scotia. Support is slightly higher in the community of interest, with eight in ten residents expressing support. Creating jobs and contributing to the economy are the main reasons for residents support.

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%

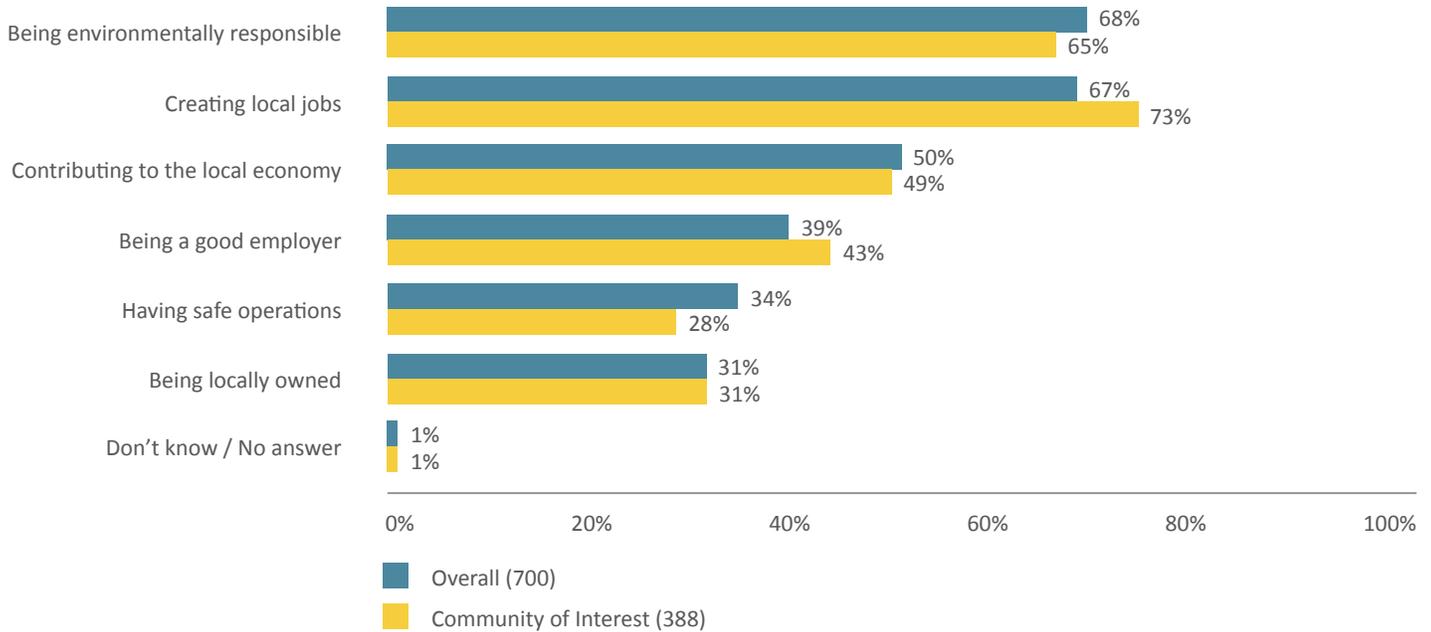
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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.

FACTORS IMPACTING SUPPORT

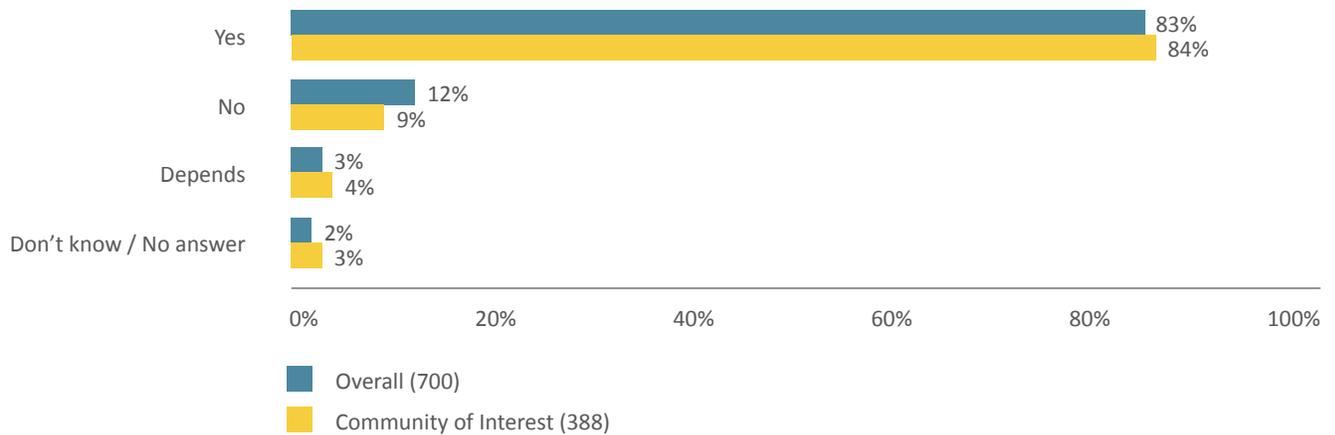
Over eight in ten residents would be more inclined to increase their support gold mining in Nova Scotia if a gold mining company were able to demonstrate there would be no negative effects on the environment. Meanwhile, one in ten residents would not change their attitude. Across communities and demographics, attitudes are highly consistent.

Factors Most Important if a New Industry Were to Open in Community Aided Key Mentions



Q3: If a new industry were to open in your community, which of the following factors would be most important to you? Please indicate your top three factors, in order of importance.

More Inclined to Support Gold Mining in Nova Scotia if Company Could Demonstrate There Would Be No Negative Effects on the Environment



Q11: If a gold mining company were able to demonstrate that there would be no negative effects on the environment, including the surrounding water, fish and other aquatic life, and the forest surrounding the mine, as a result of operations, would you be more inclined to support gold mining in Nova Scotia?

Atlantic Gold commissioned this study because are committed to helping rural Nova Scotia thrive. By creating high-paying jobs, people can build their lives here and return from working away – all while we protect the environment for generations to come.