

Community Relations Programs, Objectives, and Achievements 2022

The NorthWest Copper team focused on working to improve its relationships with communities of interest by increasing the frequency of information sharing, working collaboratively with Indigenous communities to understand and incorporate values and interests into our project planning, and establishing different approaches to keeping communities up to date on our activities.

Throughout 2022, NorthWest Copper engaged and worked closely with five Indigenous communities: Takla Lake First Nation, Tsay Keh Dene Band, Nii Gyap Hereditary Chiefs – Gitksan Nation, the Nak'azdli Whut'en Nation, and later in the year the McLeod Lake Indian Band. This included the implementation of existing exploration agreements, negotiation of new agreements, in-person and virtual meetings, ongoing communications, sharing and review of key project documents, leader-to-leader meetings, and site visits.

At the beginning of the year, we reached out to provide an overview of our proposed exploration activities planned at our East Niv, Arjay, Lorraine-Top Cat, and Kwanika-Stardust projects. For the Arjay and Lorraine multi-year area-based permits, we engaged early with three Indigenous communities to address concerns and interests prior to submitting the permits to the government. Once permits were submitted for regulatory approval, NorthWest received letters of support from Tsay Keh Dene and Nii Gyap Hereditary Chiefs. Approval of these permits enabled NorthWest Copper to conduct a successful drill program at the Lorraine project in the summer of 2022.

NorthWest Copper introduced the monthly activities update in the spring of 2022 to keep Indigenous stewardship teams and leadership informed of the Company's fieldwork, studies, and engagement with government and other Indigenous communities. The monthly update was well received, and NorthWest Copper had positive feedback for its efforts to keep communities and leadership informed. NorthWest Copper also had two articles featured in the Tsay Keh Dene Tracker, a quarterly community newsletter for Tsay Keh Dene Band members.

In 2022, NorthWest Copper conducted Archaeological Overview Assessments (AOA), for each of the operational projects, as well as sought Indigenous input on Archaeological Chance Find Procedures for our exploration sites.

Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plans were prepared and updated for each of NorthWest Copper's operational projects in 2022. These WMMPs were prepared by professional biologists and reviewed by the Indigenous stewardship teams and their advisors.