

Leadership Message

This is NorthWest Copper's third year tracking and reporting our environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance. NorthWest Copper has established and reported our ESG systems beyond many same stage exploration companies operating in British Columbia. Since the formation of NorthWest Copper, we have supported the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which has been reinforced by the provincial *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* – making reconciliation a cornerstone for resource development. We believe the future of mineral exploration and resource development to meet the global demand for critical minerals will depend on ensuring people benefit directly from the wealth generated from their lands and empowering them to oversee the stewardship for future generations.

In 2023, NorthWest Copper continued to focus on building our relationships with local communities and Indigenous leadership to demonstrate our commitment to reconciliation and to set ourselves apart from others in the mineral exploration sector. We prioritized implementing a collaborative approach to project planning early in the year to create economic opportunities for local communities and to ensure our environmental practices would meet Indigenous stewardship standards and traditional land use. Ensuring the cultural importance of the areas we explore are understood and respected by our management team and all employees.

In 2023, our exploration goal was to advance our understanding of the geology at our projects, better define resource potential, and to deliver value to local communities and our shareholders. We shared information and engaged on a regular basis to ensure the Indigenous communities and leadership were aware of our planned field activities as well as our interactions with other Nations, government, and other communities of interest. In May, planning for an exploration drill program was delayed, and we ultimately conducted limited field work in 2023 due to market conditions and corporate governance changes.

While there was no exploration drilling completed in 2023, the NorthWest Copper team undertook some care and maintenance at both the Lorraine and Kwanika-Stardust projects including the removal of our camp at the Lorraine project which was under threat from wildfire. Approximately 1 week of time was spent at Kwanika-Stardust reviewing and analysing core left on site. There were also 5 site visits to East Niv for marketing purposes. The limited fieldwork in 2023 is reflected in our greenhouse gas (GhG) calculations and reporting and in our staff size and composition.

In preparation for 2023 exploration program, we also reviewed our Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plans (WMMPs). These were prepared by registered professional biologists working in partnership with Indigenous communities to reflect current regulatory policies as well as represent a broad spectrum of wildlife species of importance to support biodiversity and traditional use. In 2024, these WMMPs will be updated based on planned activities to ensure any sensitive wildlife species are monitored and actions are taken to mitigate any potential impacts.

As we move into our fourth year as NorthWest Copper, we will continue to focus on continual improvement – working collaboratively to address the interests and goals of Indigenous communities, defining targets – leading to discovery and adding value, and to improving our policies and procedures to address our ESG objectives and commitments. We are committed and optimistic for what the future may hold for local communities, our shareholders, and society. We believe with the right relationships, commitments to the environment and people, and timing - good discoveries can lead to successful projects. We are focused on creating value through exploration and contributing to local economies while protecting the environment and cultural land use.