

## President's Report – December 2021

- Met weekly with Sarah Ben and Jan to discuss minor operational issues.
- Developed staff vaccination policy with Ben.
- Met with Jan P, Karen Clyde and Mike Etches (ENV Yukon) to flag WCCSC's interest in being closely involved with development of McIntyre Creek Park.

### Summary:

- ENV Yukon is at early stages – scoping and determining key stakeholders
  - We discussed importance of area for year round active recreation, explained our interest in stronger form of tenure, our interest in our ability to develop our network and services within the park area, our concerns about possible mineral development and our keen interest in being involved as a key stakeholder from the very early stages. We mentioned that we would flag our interest with Ministers of Environment and Community Services at our next opportunity to meet with them.
  - ENV thanked us for informing them and committed to include us as the project moves forward.
- Met with Jennifer Russell at EMR Yukon (Mineral Development) to discuss mineral development rules on our trail network.

### Summary:

- There is a Yukon-wide prohibition on staking placer claims within municipal boundaries under the Placer Mining Act. No placer claims exist under our trail network.
- Our trail network is underlain with quartz mining claims staked in 2008, mostly by the Coynes.
- After staking happened, City lobbied Yukon Government for a permanent prohibition on quartz staking within Whitehorse. Yukon Government put in place a 10 year moratorium which expires on July 19, 2022. (OIC 2012/145).
- Coynes performed the necessary value of work on their claims in 2018 (on land that did not intersect with the trail network) Work was filed with EMR and the claims, including those under the trail network, are now in good standing until 2024/25.
- If claims lapse in 2024/25 and a prohibition order is still in place, claims will not be able to be renewed.
- New “Class 1 mining activity” rules apply to notifying First Nations (but not others) of any quartz mining exploration activities throughout Yukon.
- If Coynes want to work their claims, will need to notify Mining Recorder, who will check on any competing interests in land and notify First Nations.
- Our LOO would be treated as an “interest in land” and EMR would request that the miner post security to make sure the land is restored after exploration.
- Class 1 could include driving mining equipment on our trails, building new trails, setting up camps, trenching with hand tools and some heavy equipment, clearing land and setting up temporary dwellings.

- In Peel Watershed, after planning process established non-mining zones, existing claim holders were offered “relief from assessment work” on other claims in exchange for relinquishing their claims in the non-mining zones.
  - Jennifer was not clear on whether our LOO had the same effect on limiting mining activity and recognized that YG issues leases to NGOs elsewhere in Yukon (Wildlife Preserve, Haines Junction rodeo grounds etc.)
  
- Met with Sue Mogensen (Brown Dog Consulting in Ottawa – consultant for Nordiq Canada) and Sue Meikle (local consultant) on policy governance implementation support/facilitation. Options to be discussed during meeting.
  
- Reached out to Bill Cullen, Manager at Atco Electric in Whitehorse, to follow up on request to explore purchase of Atco parcel. He was on leave and will get back to me when he returns in December. He was going to discuss my initial request with the person responsible for the parcel, who works in Calgary offices.