

SEPA Update *by Maurice Albert*

Selwyn Chihong Mining Ltd. has initiated discussions with Kaska negotiators for both Ross River Dena Council and the Liard First Nation to develop a Socio-economic Participation Agreement (SEPA). This agreement is meant to replace the Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) that was signed previously and which is currently in effect.



The SEPA will be the foundation agreement between Selwyn Chihong and the Kaska Nation, promoting a cooperative and mutually respectful relationship related to all phases of the Selwyn Project. It will also provide a legally binding framework for Selwyn Chihong and the Kaska to engage in an ongoing relationship. The SEPA acknowledges it is in everyone's interest to share the benefits of the Selwyn Project and find ways to mitigate and accommodate adverse environmental, social and cultural impacts. Selwyn Chihong and the Kaska Nation have already entered into a Traditional Knowledge Protocol and this will be recognized in the SEPA.



Identifying training, employment and business opportunities

The SEPA will also identify training, employment and business opportunities for work during construction and operation of the mine, as well as business related to the Project, including the concentrate haul from the mine to Stewart BC; camp operations; and the provision of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to fuel the electrical power plant. The SEPA will also provide for revenue-sharing

arrangements to ensure Kaska governments have a new source of revenue to provide services for members.



Protecting the environment

Selwyn Chihong is committed to developing the proposed Selwyn Project to the highest environmental and social standards. The SEPA will identify how we will manage environmental risks and the role Kaska members will play in monitoring company performance. Creating and sustaining healthy, safe environments for communities and employees, protecting wildlife and ensuring the safe management of water are high priorities for everyone. The SEPA will address these and other important issues, and will help us take the appropriate measures to monitor and minimize adverse impacts. Reclamation is an important part of mine design and development, and will be done on an ongoing basis throughout the lifetime of the Selwyn Project, and beyond.



Involving the Kaska Nation in mine design

The SEPA will include ground-breaking features such as the involvement of the Kaska Nation in mine design and development. As participants on joint Selwyn Chihong / Kaska working groups, Kaska members will have insight into mine planning activities and the opportunity to provide input into the plans as they are being formulated. A SEPA that builds a strong, mutually respectful relationship between Selwyn Chihong and the Kaska Nation will stand the test of time and ensure long-term benefits for everyone.