





Community Open Houses in Ross River and Watson Lake

by Jenifer Hill

In early February, Selwyn Chihong held Open Houses in Ross River and

Watson Lake to meet with community members to talk about the proposed Selwyn Project. There were seven employees from Selwyn Chihong at the meetings, along with two of the technical consultants helping us to design and develop the Project. Approximately 85 community members attended the Ross River meeting, and almost 100 joined us in Watson Lake; it was nice to see some of our site employees at the meetings too.

Understanding whether a project makes sense

The Selwyn Project is still in early-stage development, which means we're working to understand how to design and build the project. To do this, we look at the quality of the minerals in the ground and how technically and scientifically feasible it is to build a mine in the location of the deposits. We also consider the costs and benefits of

the project, in terms of dollars and also the environmental and socio-economic effects.

Designing a project to reflect community input

An important part of this process involves local communities. We want to develop a project that reflects community input from early on in the development process. That means we want to hear about what communities consider most important as we consider the options for different elements of the project design.

Developing our understanding of important community issues

We heard loud and clear that water and wildlife management, tailings management, access to training and jobs and opportunities for local businesses are very important issues for community members. We couldn't agree more and will hold a series of workshops to look at these areas in more detail. These workshops will include representatives from Selwyn Chihong (and our team of consultants) and the Kaska Nation. These workshops are being planned to start this year.