

Summer 2021 Newsletter - Project Update -

Artemis Gold Inc. is deeply saddened by the recent discovery of Indigenous children's bodies found at the former residential schools in BC, other parts of Canada and the United States. These heartbreaking discoveries are a painful reminder of a shocking part of our history. Our thoughts are with our Company's Indigenous partners and all Indigenous communities.

Artemis's Blackwater Project Milestones Achieved in H1 2021

Artemis Gold is off to a great start in 2021 reaching many milestones in advancing the Blackwater Project towards construction. The following was achieved in 2021 up to August 10:

- **EARLY WORKS** permit application was submitted to the BC Government in February followed by approval in July 2021. This program entails clearing of key infrastructure areas including haul roads, stage 1 tailings storage facility, camp areas, mine access road and plant-site bulk earthworks. This work is on schedule to commence in early 2022, pending timing for approval of additional permits required for full construction and operation of the mine.
- SCHEDULE 2 AMENDMENT was submitted to the federal government in February. The two key elements include the completion of an assessment of alternatives for mine waste disposal and the development of a fish habitat compensation plan.
- **ORE GRADE CONTROL DRILLING** program was completed in March. This drilling was undertaken to refine the detailed grade schedule and mine plan for the first year of production. Final results released at the end of June will significantly increase confidence in the starter pit design for the first year of operations. Ore grade control drilling will continue throughout the life of the mine.

- **GEOTECHNICAL DRILLING** program was completed in February. This drilling program will support the detailed design of the mine infrastructure.
- **GUARANTEED** MAXIMUM PRICE FOR AN **ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION** (EPC) CONTRACT FOR THE PROCESSING PLANT detailed engineering design was awarded to Ausenco Engineering Canada in March through a competitive bidding process.
- In April in support of ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL **GOVERNANCE** (ESG), Artemis engaged The Terron Group to provide support services targeted to assist with the Company's ESG practices and protocols in accordance with performance standards.
- In April, Artemis announced the terms of a CREDIT **APPROVED TERM SHEET** for up a \$360 million project loan facility. A final debt financing package is on schedule to be completed in H2 2021.
- In May, Artemis closed A BROKERED AND NON-BROKERED EQUITY FINANCING for \$171 million.

For more details on the above activities, please visit our web page new releases at



Next Steps for H2 2021 and H1 2022

For the remainder of 2021 (second half or H2) and first half (H1) of 2022, Artemis will continue with the following activities to advance the project to construction.

- DEFINITIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY final report completion in Q3, 2021. This report is the detailed engineered capital investment plan for the construction and operations of the mine to confirm its economics.
- Finalize FIXED PRICE EPC CONTRACTS for the process plant, power transmission lines and associated infrastructure, which is on schedule to be completed in H2 2021.
- FINAL DEBT FINANCING package targeted for H2 2021.
- MAJOR MINE PERMITS anticipate approval in Q1, 2022. These permits are a joint Mines Act/ Environmental Act Permit application that includes detailed geotechnical information for the mine, reclamation and closure plans, and an assessment of current environmental conditions and management plans to guide in the protection of the environment.
- FINAL SCHEDULE 2 PERMITS anticipate approval in Q1, 2022.
- CONSTRUCTION START Q2, 2022 pending permit approvals and secured financing.

Artemis Signs IBA with Nazko First Nation

We are pleased to announce that on May 27, 2021, Artemis entered into an Impacts-Benefits Agreement with Nazko First Nation, whose traditional territory is in the vicinity of the proposed mine site. This is in addition to the April 2019 Participation Agreement signed with Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation and Ulkatcho First Nation, the two Indigenous nations whose traditional territories overlap the proposed mine site. Additionally, Artemis Gold continues to work towards finalizing agreements with other Indigenous groups in the project region.

Final Results of Grade Control Drilling

The Blackwater Team finalized its pre-production Grade Control drill program end of March, one month ahead of schedule. It was the first drilling completed by Artemis and was designed to de-risk the project at this early stage through delineating high grade ore scheduled to be fed through the mill in the first 6 months of production. A total of 561 holes for 33,216 m of reverse circulation drilling were completed, samples were prepared on site and shipped for analyses to a laboratory in Burnaby. The results were highly encouraging and confirmed the early years economics of the project. This program also helped the team to get a better understanding of the orebody and develop procedures that will be implemented for the continuous delineation of ore through the life of mine. A special thanks to the Lhoosk'uz Dene and Ulkatcho First Nations who supported this program over the past half year, and we are happy to see some of the team members taking permanent roles with the drilling contractor in other parts of Canada. For more details on the drill results, visit our website at www.artemisgoldinc.com/news/2021.



Drill core of volcaniclastic and brecciated rocks of the Blackwater deposit exhibiting mineralization.

Summer Environmental Field Programs Underway

On June 21, 2019, the Blackwater Gold project was awarded an Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) #M19-01. The EAC is one of several mechanisms for regulating major projects in BC and describes the type of infrastructure and activities that are acceptable as well as mitigation measures to prevent or minimize any adverse environmental effects. Artemis is currently engaged in meeting the requirements listed in the Table of Conditions (TOC), which were developed as part of the EAC. The TOC outlines the mitigation measures for any potential adverse effects that are measurable and enforceable. Each of the 43 conditions listed in the ToC require a plan, program, or other documents prior to construction. The Blackwater team is forging ahead developing many of these plans and collecting baseline data that includes ongoing environmental field monitoring. The summer field programs will be supported by staff from a number of First Nations. We are sharing a few stories of the environmental field programs underway this summer.

FISHERIES STUDIES

This summer, Palmer Environmental will be onsite collecting fisheries data in support of environmental permitting for the Project. The biologists will be studying fish in the main creeks that drain the mine area and a nearby lake. Biologists will use various methods to study and sample the fish species present in and near the mine area. Underwater cameras will be used in creeks to monitor the in-migration to spawning areas, and out-migration to rearing areas. A fish fence, and hoop nets, will be installed to capture and count migrating fish and collect measurements on condition (for example length, weight, age class). Other sampling methods include electrofishing and minnow trapping. These methods allow biologists to estimate the fish density and understand fish distribution and migration patterns. Spawner surveys will also be conducted by flying a drone to identify any 'nests' in the stream gravel bed. Other data being collected along with fisheries data include water chemistry, stream flow and temperature. The data collected will further enhance the understanding of the aquatic ecosystems in and near the mine area such that fish and fish habitat downstream of the proposed mine can be monitored and maintained in the future.



WILDLIFE AND WETLAND SURVEYS

ERM is conducting wildlife and wetland surveys around the mine site and along the proposed transmission line this summer. Surveys will focus on amphibians, bats, birds, habitat for species at risk, and wetlands. Observed wildlife species, their observed location, and characteristics of both upland and wetland habitats will be recorded and analyzed as part of the ongoing baseline data collection.



ENVIRONMENTAL DATA COLLECTION

Avison Management Services staff have been busy this year continuing with compliance monitoring and baseline environmental data collection programs at Blackwater. They have been engaged with environmental monitoring for the exploratory drilling programs undertaken through the winter, and in several rounds of monthly and quarterly water quality sample collection from streams, lakes, and underground aquifers both in the project area and in the receiving waters downstream. Avison is also collaborating with other consultants on fisheries-related habitat studies and enhancement projects, and hydrometric monitoring of key streams and lakes in the area.

Submitted by Scott Klassen, Avison Management Services. Artemis Gold, through our Sponsorship and Donation Program is pleased to sponsor the following groups in Q1 and Q2 2021:

- Indian Residential School Survivors Society
- Lakes District Pony Club
- Evelyn Dickson Elementary School
- Burns Lake & District Chamber of Commerce
- Village of Fraser Lake Canada Day Celebrations
- NVSS Varsity Vikes Football
- Nechako Nordics Ski Club
- National Indigenous Peoples Day:
 - Lhoosk'uz First Nation
 - o Nadleh Whut'en First Nation
 - o Nazko First Nation
 - o Saik'uz First Nation
 - Stellat'en First Nation
 - O Ulkatcho First Nation

HAVE A LOOK!

Check out the VRIFY INTERACTIVE BLACKWATER PRESENTATION page that is now live from the Blackwater Project information page on our website at www.artemisgoldinc.com/blackwater-project.

Check out our **CAREERS SECTION** on our website at <u>www.artemisgoldinc.com/careers</u>.

*Note – as the Blackwater Project is still in the permitting stage, the majority of the construction procurement and employment opportunities will not occur until early 2022.

To be listed in our **BUSINESS DIRECTORY** please add your information to <u>www.artemisgoldinc.com/blackwater-</u> <u>community/business-directory</u>.

*Note if you have submitted your business information to the project office, this information has been migrated over.



Students from Evelyn Dickson Elementary School learning through outdoo education. Photo credits Tori Silver, teacher.



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