



AGNICO EAGLE

Agnico Eagle Mines: Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project

NOTES

Traditional Knowledge Consultations

(Including: Meetings with Elders, CLARC, Baker Lake HTO, and Focus Groups for Youth and Women)

February 3-5, 2016 - Baker Lake, Nunavut



Facilitated by: Page Burt
Outcrop Nunavut
Rankin Inlet, NU.



**AGNICO EAGLE MINES:
Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project
NOTES
Traditional Knowledge Consultations**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

These meetings, held in Baker Lake in February 2016 were designed to serve as a follow-up to a three-day meeting with Elders held in Dec. 2014, and site visits held with the HTO and elders groups in July and September 2015. That consultation resulted in a Report on Traditional Knowledge regarding the area around the Amaruq and Whale Tail Lake Project and the subsequently-approved Amaruq Access Road connecting the Meadowbank Mine with the Amaruq exploration camp and future satellite deposits. The 2016 meeting with the Elders was intended to allow them to discuss ideas and opinions developed since the 2014 meeting, and to add information to and correct information on two maps prepared based on the material discussed in 2014- 2015 and locations and placenames added to printed maps and to files on Google Earth. During the months after the 2014 meeting, several Elders were taken out to the proposed road route and to a number of sites located by the team of professional archaeologists working on the archaeological baseline for the access road and the Whale Tail Pit Project.

In addition, the team, which consisted of Ryan Vanengen of Agnico Eagle Mines, and Page Burt, Outcrop Nunavut and Nanuk Enterprises of Rankin Inlet, organized four additional meetings to collect input on traditional knowledge, as well as data on community opinions and knowledge from three different groups. A meeting was held with 17 students in Grades 9 – 12 at the High School on February 3. Another meeting was held February 3 in the evening with 8 women selected pretty much at random from the community. And on February 4, a meeting was held with the Kivalliq Inuit Association's Community Land and Resource Committee (CLARC) during the day and with the Baker Lake Hunters' and Trappers' Organization (HTO) in the evening. On February 5, a full day meeting was held with the original group of Elders consulted in Dec. 2014, plus several additional Elders. All Elders consulted had living experience in the area between the Back River and the current Meadowbank Mine.

Page Burt facilitated all five meetings. Ryan Vanengen of Agnico Eagle attended three of the meetings (CLARC, HTO, and Elders' Meeting) to provide information from the company and to assist with note-taking. Karen Yip (Community Liaison Officer for Agnico Eagle Mines) and Alexander Alooq assisted with note-taking and facilitation of the youth meeting. Alexander Alooq and Michael Haqpi assisted with interpretation and note-taking in the women's meeting.

All translation was consecutive, which allows for better note-taking. In the Elders' meeting, most members of the group wore the translation equipment headsets as many have hearing problems. The interpreter, Alexander Alooq, brought the translation microphone to whichever Elder was speaking, so that all with headsets could hear, in amplified form, whatever was being said by the Inuktitut speaker. He simply spoke into the microphone when interpreting any English, which also enabled the Elders to hear the translation of all English in amplified form.

This report contains the notes from each meeting, as well as the questions used to guide the consultation.

Summary of the Elders' Meeting

Eleven Elders attended this meeting. Nine had been in the meeting in 2014, and two had been added to the group due to our learning that they had skills and knowledge about the area, but had not been available in 2014. Enthusiasm was high, and they were extremely helpful. The Notes delineate the questions asked and the responses given. They discussed the site visits in 2015, and freely shared their advice. They spent about 2 hours looking at the maps, adding new material, making a few corrections to older material, and correcting the Inuktitut on the maps.

The major concerns expressed in this meeting were that, if at all possible, no archaeological sites should be disturbed; that the road should be routed to avoid all sites. That said, some agreed that some sites are of more common such as recent camping sites, and therefore are of less value. The field trip to the sites was discussed briefly to share info with those who had not gone on that trip. They discussed the importance of these isolated places on the land to the memory of those who had gone before and to those who follow, and can, in the old sites and structures, learn of the past of their ancestors.

We discussed caribou migration patterns, fish habitat, a bit of wildlife information, and had a short discussion of changes being seen in weather patterns. We also had a short discussion on water quality, and concern was expressed regarding dust (and anything else) going into the water, as well as their very real concerns about the water treatment system for the community of Baker Lake. Ryan Vanengen described an idea for improving water treatment, as a part of Agnico Eagle's requirement to replace fish habitat being affected by the Whale Tail Pit with habitat improvement elsewhere. AEM's idea is to assist the community of Baker Lake in possibly creating a passive wetland treatment that will much improve their water treatment system, plus will assist in restoring fish habitat in downstream lakes and cleaning up the outflow into Baker Lake. This was received with clear enthusiasm and the suggestion by a Hamlet Council Member that Ryan be invited to present this idea to Council.

When asked if they had any further advice for Agnico Eagle Mines regarding this project, they repeated their recommendations that Elders be involved more in providing advice on any decisions that involve the effects of development on the land, wildlife and historical sites in the area. They are willing to be involved and to share their opinions and thoughts.

Summary of the CLARC Meeting

Six members of the CLARC, plus one staff member, attended this meeting. The plan was to ask a number of questions similar to those used in 2014 with the Elders, to get as much traditional environmental knowledge as possible from these people. However, they had a very different agenda, which was to present a list of five concerns to Agnico Eagle. This list of concerns was developed by the Baker Lake Hunters & Trappers Organization, and was verbally presented by Joan Scottie. (The list, in Inuktitut and English) is attached to this report as an Appendix.)

They are most concerned with:

- Consultation with community and Elders prior to obtaining permission to build this road.

- Dust along the Baker Lake to Meadowbank road (there was a long discussion regarding dust and dust control)
- Consultation of Elders about specific sites along the Amaruq Road and the routing of the road and the location borrow pits.

Since virtually no traditional knowledge information was discussed in this meeting, perhaps another attempt could be made when we could be assured of KIA staff participation.

Summary of the HTO Meeting

A meeting with several members of the Baker Lake HTO was held in the evening on Feb. 4. A similar problem occurred with this meeting; the participants wanted to present their five main concerns that Agnico has previously responded to and spent the CLARC session discussing (see Appendix). In the time available, we were unable to get to the traditional knowledge information they might have been able to provide.

Summary of the Youth Focus Group

The Youth Focus Group, held on Feb. 3 at the High School, immediately after school, was fully attended; we had 17 enthusiastic participants. Rather than focusing heavily on traditional knowledge with this group, we focused on trying to determine what the students know about the mining industry, jobs in the industry, and how to communicate with this age group.

We concluded that the youth of Baker Lake:

- Prefer to communicate in English.
- Although many have relatives that work at Meadowbank, they know virtually nothing about the mining industry, and not much about the variety of jobs available in the industry.
- Some have used the road and a few (boys, and one girl) hunt and fish regularly, but most are not really “into” traditional knowledge, though it was clear they would like to know more.
- Most are beginning to be concerned about careers, so are likely receptive to information that may lead to jobs.
- The best way to communicate with these youth is via Facebook and email.

Summary of the Women’s Focus Group

The women’s focus group met in the evening on Feb. 3. It was a cross section of women from the community, from young women in their 20s to some in their 50s. One is very involved in seniors’ issues and wellness. None currently work for Agnico Eagle, but a couple had done work out at site in the past (counseling and two as housekeepers). They were very willing to talk. They were able to list both positive and negative effects due to the development of the Meadowbank project.

In general:

- Positive effects (of the Meadowbank Mine) range from financial benefits to better preparedness to work and for careers, better knowledge of safety at work and on the land, better access to the land for hunting (due to the road) and search & rescue, better knowledge of how to look after the environment (which they said is badly needed in Baker Lake and on the land), and an appreciation of all the things Agnico Eagle is doing for the community.
- Negative effects include concerns about dust and truck traffic, increased use of alcohol, some relationship problems, difficulty in getting enough time off for emergencies at home (mostly bereavement), being absent from the family for long periods of time, and difficulties in getting help at home, plus a concern about historical sites potentially impacted due to mine/road construction.
- No one had a problem with women working at the mine, but said it takes time to learn the jobs and how to work. Advice often shared with young women was to “finish school, learn your job, and leave your attitude at home.” Advice to young men going to work there: “learn your job and be patient, you can’t learn it all at once – don’t quit, but work through problems”.
- They would like to see more Inuktitut interpretation services made available to employees, especially when they are having medical problems, or being reprimanded.
- They all felt some sort of orientation for the employee and for the family is needed when people first go to work for Agnico Eagle.

ELDERS' SESSION
NOTES from Consultation – Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Projects

Feb. 5, 2016, Friday, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Iglu Hotel Conference Room

AGENDA

- Prayer and introductions of all participants, including research team.
- We met December 2014 regarding your knowledge about the area to the NW of Meadowbank, between the Back River and MB Mine. You shared your knowledge generously and it has been appreciated. Agnico Eagle has ensured that the resulting report has become a guiding document for all work to be done in that area. The company deeply appreciates all the work you did last year in contributing to knowledge of the area, and has taken your suggestions seriously.
- Ryan will report on the project in general and on follow-up to the report that has occurred this year.
- Last year, we wanted to include a couple additional people in the group, but they were not available when we met, so we have invited them to join us this year. These include:
 - Tom and Hattie Mannik (could not attend, out of town)
 - Phillipa Iksiraq (attended, valuable info and insights)
- Because not much traditional knowledge was discussed the previous day with the CLARC, we invited Andrea Philips to attend this session as well, as youth rep. Her principal, Gary Kennedy agreed readily. She is a real asset to a group.

PRESENT:

Winnie Ikinilik

Thomas Anirniq

Thomas Iksiraq

Hugh Avatituuq

Norman Singaqti

James Kalluk

Andrea Philips (Youth rep., invited to participate)

William Noah

David Toolooktook, Sr.

Interpreter: Alexander Alooq

Facilitator: Page Burt, Nanuk Enterprises and Outcrop, Rankin Inlet.

Agnico Eagle rep: Ryan Vanengen

Regrets: Joedee Joedee (He called and said he had a bad cold and did not want to expose these Elders to it. We agreed readily; some are frail and respiratory illnesses are now a real risk.) For any further meetings, Joedee should remain on the list.

¹Edwin Evo was not in the group in 2014, but probably should have been. He has spent a lot of time in the study area. He speaks English well, has been involved as a tourism operator, and with the HTO, and is a deep thinker. He has recently lost his eyesight, but still can contribute sound info. He should be added to the group.)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GROUP

Today, we will not be repeating the work we did last year, but would like to **add to** the knowledge and ask a few more questions to get more input from you regarding placenames and your advice on further ways to ensure that IQ is used in the development of this road and associated deposit sites.

- This morning, we will get your general input.
- We will not concentrate on placenames in the am, but if you have further info re wildlife or Inuit use of the area, we will put it onto maps.
- We have maps prepared based on consultations in 2014 and were updated in October 2015 following consultation at the mine site on September 8, 2015, and would like all to look at the maps and correct anything we have gotten wrong.
- We will again have lunch together here at the Iglu Hotel.
- In the afternoon, we will finish up our discussions and, during the last hour, will add any further names or info you would like to contribute.
- We again have release forms that we will ask you to sign, so we can use the info you have provided.
- We are also recording at least part of the session this time. The recording will be saved and stored by Agnico Eagle Mines. It will not at this time be transcribed, but we will work from notes made today to create a report. It may be transcribed in the future.
- Any questions about the procedure. Does anyone object to our recording this session?

When we convened, William Noah and David Toolooktook Sr. were present. They said they just wanted to see who was attending and to see that the HTO was properly represented in this group. Both left, apparently satisfied, before the session began.

Ryan Vanengen presented a brief summary of the status of the Whale Tail Pit project and the Amaruq Exploration Access Road: This project will open up a new deposit area for Meadowbank Mine, about 54 km from the main site. Agnico Eagle will be building an all-weather access road to the deposit area over the next 2.5 years, to be completed by 2018 and are working on permitting to allow mining of a pit and possible underground mine. Details and timing of this project are not certain, depends on consultation, feasibility and licensing approvals.

In the fall of 2015, Agnico Eagle took 12 HTO and CLARC members, and some of those in this Elders' group, on a tour of the esker and the site, accompanied by the archaeologists doing the field work on the road route. They visited some of the most important archaeological sites along the road route, but could not visit all of them. Their comments were noted and changes made to the road route to avoid almost all sites identified by the archaeologists. Michael Haqpi was involved in all the archaeological work and visits to the sites with the Elders.

NOTES FROM QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

1. Based on the work we all did together last year, visits to the site, and meetings during the past year, are there any general topics you would like to discuss this year?

Allow time for people to bring up topics.

David Owingayak: Are you saying you are starting the road this winter, stopping for the summer?

Ryan Vanengen: Yes, starting this winter as it is easier to deal with the stream crossings and building bridges when the ground is frozen. Intent is to get the first third of the road done using rock from the waste rock piles at Meadowbank, no borrow pits. Then, will stop for the summer of 2016. Will start again next October when the ground freezes, that time using material from a couple borrow pits, esker material. Will work through most of the winter and see where we are in the spring of 2017. May stop for the summer (of 2017) again, or may be able to continue. Hope to have the road completed by 2018.

Ryan Vanengen: We are building this road to enable us to do more exploration in the Amaruq area and to transport workers more safely (than flying them by helicopter). Currently, we don't know if this will be a mine, but it is promising. Hopefully all current Meadowbank mining jobs will continue at the Whale Tail Pit. Our goal is to keep all our current workforce, especially those from Baker Lake. We would like to continue work in the Meadowbank area beyond 2018, to prolong the life of Meadowbank Mine. Ore will be mined at the Amaruq/Whale Tail area and trucked to the processing plant at Meadowbank, will not be moving the processing plant. Keeping this mine going, and with a workforce from Baker Lake and the Kivalliq, is important to our company. We appreciate the input we have received from this group as to how to reduce the impacts of mining on the land and wildlife.

William Noah: I came to this session to make sure that there were people attending from the HTO and that the people who attended have real knowledge of the area. I am satisfied about that. I was born in the Back River area in 1943 and my family lived there many years. As a grandfather, I am supposed to be responsible to teach my grandchildren about how to catch char in rivers. The rivers around Baker Lake do not hold many char, and the terrain does not permit much hunting with kakivaks. Our elders are all aged now, and can't do much to improve fishing. We can't really improve fishing areas around Baker to fish for char. If we want to teach our children or grandchildren to use fish spears, we have to do it in the Back River. We have been doing visits to the Back River for 10 years now. There is only one place where a plane can land. Seeking sponsorship from KIA, NTI, and others. (William left after this. He was invited in 2014 to be a part of this group but did not attend.)

Dave Toolooktook, Sr.: I also came to make sure that this group included members of the HTO and people who know the area. (He left after this.)

James Kalluk: Was wondering about the storage cache that was mentioned yesterday at the CLARC meeting. Those rocks may have been a cache for storing summer skins for pickup later when there is snow.

Philippa Iksiraq: In the past, our ancestors built all their own resources. Some caches were built to store fish, some for dried meat, some for caribou skins. Those structures we don't want disturbed or touched. In the past, when starting Meadowbank, we provided information to the company on IQ. The mining company said they would not disturb sites, but they did disturb them. We hope that more of these historic sites will not be disturbed and that Agnico Eagle follows the instructions given by the Elders. The information gathered from our ancestors is important. We were taught to respect the environment and told not to go into certain areas. In some areas there were things we were told not to touch or disturb.

Hugh Avatituq: We would be pleased if none of the historic sites were disturbed or moved when you construct this road. The road follows some of the trails our ancestors travelled, and it is important that their sites are not disturbed.

Edwin Evo: Some of the camps and tent rings were before my time, made by our ancestors. Would like to add my concerns – we heard that the road will go through wolf-denning areas. We don't want these disturbed.

Ryan Vanengen: A few of the planned borrow pits are in an esker which parallels the road. The road does not go directly through these eskers and denning areas. The esker has been studied by the wildlife consultants and all borrow areas have been moved to avoid any wolf denning areas.

James Kalluk: I grew up in that area. I remember that there was a lot of wildlife there. Travelling was pretty tiring but it was where we lived. There were also many fish. I fished there in 1950. I can't recall all the fishing spots, but there were places where there were many fish. It is getting harder to find fish to harvest now.

Edwin Evo: There were many fish in the area from the Back River to Meadowbank.

Ryan Vanengen: Any ideas about how to improve habitat for fish near the community of Baker Lake?

Ideas were not forthcoming at this point in the discussion.

Edwin Evo: How many quarries?

Ryan Vanengen: Seven quarries along the road. Most are on the north side of the road, in a long esker system. The road parallels the esker, and is not on it and in some cases set south from it. Side roads will allow access to the esker material.

Winnie Ikinilik: The young people who go out on the land with their parents learn a lot. Before the existing road was made there were trade routes, ways people travelled to come to Baker Lake to trade, from the Back River area. Tent rings indicate many places where people camped. When the Meadowbank Road was made, some of the tent rings were covered by the road. The Elders want the tent rings to remain, not be disturbed. I have a feeling that the company will not take the advice given.

Ryan Vanengen: We hired a professional archaeologist (Jennifer Tischer's group, Nunami- Stantec) who walked or flew over the entire road route. She identified many archaeological sites. Each has been catalogued and assigned a number, and all have been photographed and described in the archaeological report. The road is designed to avoid all archaeological sites, except those on Borrow Esker #2. To my knowledge, on this esker the archaeologists identified two tent rings and two meat caches. Culture and Heritage group will advise as to what to do with these structures.

Edwin Evo: Ryan, what they are getting at is that these sites mean a lot to our grandchildren. They can say, "Our grandparents were there". We don't want these sites destroyed. We are trying to educate our youth.

David Owingayak: I would like to comment on the archaeological sites at "Esker 2", these specific structures. We have mixed feelings about some artifacts or structures. For example, one of my parents' graves located by the sand pit was moved so that the community could get gravel. I found it disturbing that the grave was moved. It is not right to move artifacts that we feel are important to us. But we have mixed feelings about some of these. The long ago ones and those with many structures should be avoided. Before they could get straight pieces of wood, Inuit used bones to peg skins out to dry on the ground. Those with wood pegs are later. Perhaps others could give opinions of what they think.

(During a short break, AEM shared photos of the sites at Borrow Esker #2; David confirmed the findings of the archaeologist and shared his opinion about the sites. Amongst the smaller group, they all agreed the tent rings were not old and that the other features were low value. Andrea, the youth representative, shared the idea of making the archaeological mitigation work in 2016 an educational experience for the youth – this was well received by AEM and will be shared with the archaeologist).

Edwin Evo: My parents and I were on the way to the Herman River, north of the Amaruq site. Just north of Amaruq, there are lots of boulders. While we were travelling, we saw a wolverine disappearing in the rocks. The mother wolverine ran away, but we looked in the rocks and found 2 pups. Later we found another adult wolverine and pups. These wolverines were denning in boulder/rocky areas. Eskers are denning areas for many animals, not only wolves but foxes and wolverines as well. It is important that the environment people do a study to find wolverine denning areas.

After this, we broke for lunch and then got into the questions. At various points, people added to or corrected the maps prepared by Golder. There is likely a font problem on those maps, will try to figure out what happened there, but they had numerous corrections to the Inuktitut.

2. For the following topics – have you seen any changes in the past 5 years? Want to make any further comments on how you see these?
 - Caribou numbers and migrations, general health and indications of disease

Hugh Avitataaq: My opinion is that the caribou are now coming from the Quoich River area. There used to be many migrating north of Baker Lake – we used to be able to catch them closer to town. Now seem

to go north of Meadowbank. Seems to be a lot less close to town, and less to be found east of the community.

James Kalluk: When we used to see or catch caribou, they seemed to be larger, in all age classes. Now, they seem smaller. We don't see very many large caribou today. They are smaller in stature.

Edwin Evo: There is a big lake to the south of Amaruq, a long lake. Caribou pass by here and then go past Meadowbank. There is a crossing spot with lots of hair washed up on the shores.

Thomas Anirniq: There used to be a more heavily used migration route when caribou migrate from the NW to here. Caribou tend to turn back now. Closer to Baker Lake, the caribou seem smaller.

Edwin Evo: I used to get caribou past Amaruq by skidoo. Getting them to make mikku (dry meat).

Thomas Iksiraq: Yes, we do go up there to hunt when we are able. There are very good caribou in that area; they are very fat. It is harder to travel now) Closer to Baker Lake, the caribou do seem to be fewer. Even though we can get caribou close to town, we long for "our" kind of caribou, the ones that are larger and fatter are more tender. We can tell when we look at them..... I think it is a different herd – perhaps Qaminuriaq? The closer ones are probably disturbed more, and don't grow as well.

Philippa Iksiraq: Not only the caribou migration routes have changed, but the routes traveled by the people have also changed. People can travel very far now. Wolves and caribou were usually close together. Today, wolves seem farther away, and farther from the caribou. Reminder for IQ – caribou trails are easy to identify, and show where the caribou have migrated for years. Also, people erect stones to identify where caribou cross rivers.

(Note from Page: When doing my environmental baseline work for Diavik, I had my Inuit field assistant spend her evenings mapping caribou trails on overlays on airphotos for the wildlife crew, using info from the deeply incised trails to show migration routes from past years. It became important to know these as the activities disrupted the migration and the caribou changed their routes. Maybe this type of mapping is routinely done now, but it was a new idea at that time.)

James Kalluk: My father knew the routes. He travelled on foot for many years, harvesting caribou in the early mornings for winter use. He was very sleepy, but walked anyway. We depended on those caribou.

Andrea Philips: I think it is important that the Elders who know this talk with the youth. The boys especially want to be out on the land and want to learn this. Some girls do, too. Will people be able to use this new mine road, or will they have to find their own ways beyond the end of the existing road?

Ryan Vanengen: The Baker Lake to Meadowbank road isn't accessible after Km 85 (because it then goes through the heavily trafficked mine area). The road to Amaruq will start at Vault Pit on the mine site. We have been told that hunters travel along the road and then branch off to hunt or follow lakes. Hunters aren't allowed in the mine area for safety. The Amaruq road will be part of the mine site, so hunters won't be able to access it. They can't go on it, but can cross it.

James Kalluk: Younger people may be shooting more sick caribou. Older, more experienced hunters can assess the animals and pick the good ones.

David Owingayak: Yes, IQ says to pick the healthy animals.

- Musk ox in area – numbers, general health

DID NOT GET TO THIS.

- Bears

DID NOT GET TO THIS.

- Wolves and wolf denning

They talked briefly about wolves in the context of the caribou herds, but not specifically.

- Fish populations

In the context of talking about improving the sewage treatment system for Baker Lake, they mentioned that Airplane Lake (near Baker) used to have good fish populations and everyone fished there. The fish are no longer any good due to the sewage that leaks into this lake.

- David Owingayak: Although there are many concerns often expressed about the mine, they do a great job of keeping a clean site and the people of Baker Lake could learn from the respect for cleanliness and the environment.
- Food birds

DID NOT GET TO THIS.

3. Climate and weather

[NOTE from Page: We discussed this in some detail last year but it was at the end of the workshop and all were tired. The same thing happened this year; we were able to obtain only a little info, due to fatigue.]

- Do you want to continue this discussion?

They did want to talk about weather (always do), but were running out of energy.

- Changes you have observed over the last 20 – 25 years?

- Rainfall in summer
- Rainstorms and thunderstorms – more or less than 20 yrs ago?
- Snowfall in snow season
- Amount of snow accumulation on ground
- Change in the character of the snow
- Movement of weather patterns
- Prevailing winds – direction, severity or changes in direction
- Anything else?

Thomas Anirniq: Water levels everywhere have dropped. Everything is using water.

Barnabas Oosuaq: While we are speaking of water, there used to be more moisture on the ground. The land is now very dry.

James Kalluk: I agree with Barnabas, the land has changed due to the earth's tilt. Things have moved. We used to be able to navigate by the sun and stars, but now it is more difficult. The constellations even have moved to new spots.

4. Some had a visit to Meadowbank Mine and sites along the proposed road route this past summer. Do you want to share stories of that trip with the rest of the group?

[NOTE from Page: Some stories emerged at different points, and are included in the notes.]

In general: They were happy that some Elders were taken out to the sites, but more would have liked to go, and the time was very short. They need more time to be on the ground, to assess/figure out where they are and recognize the area, in order to tell stories about it. One day-trip with short visits and just flying over the land doesn't give them enough time to reflect and speak. (Helicopter flying is disorienting, especially to Elders, and people need to land, get their bearings, and then walk around a bit or just sit and look. Then they will talk.)

- Allow time for sharing: make notes of comments.
- **To Thomas Anirniq:** Were you able to locate the grave site you were concerned about when we met in Dec. of 2014?

Thomas Anirniq: He said (in the HTO meeting, I think) that they took him to a grave site but that it was not his mother's grave). He says he knows where the others are and would like to go there and put up crosses so the sites can be recognized as graves. (Something for Agnico Eagle to consider – take him up there in the summer, find these and put out crosses.)

Thomas Anirniq: When we lost family members in the past, we moved from the area and had to continue on without them. We needed to let them rest in peace. If we did not move, our lives would not go well. Today, mourning seems to take longer.

Norman Singaqti: My seven siblings passed away in the same area. Brothers and sister, step-mother, all. They are buried not far apart, in a low valley, near (?) Depot Lake. (Not sure of lake name.)

Philippa Iqsiraq: My family and I lived near Qikiqtaqtuq and Upingirvik lakes, and then moved to live near Amaruq.. (Note from PB: I *think* I have these lake names right. This area is to the west of Meadowbank, about 50 km west, from map.)

- How about the wolf denning area? Did you find dens? See wolves or wolf scats? Was the area recently used?

They saw some evidence of wolf dens but did not have much time on the ground. They emphasized that the wildlife research team should spend time and identify den sites. Wolves and wolverines were of the most concern.

- Old campsites along the esker? Did you find any evidence of this?

Some, but not all of the Elders attending went on the visits (July and September 2014) to the road area. As I understand it, they visited some of the more important sites identified by the archaeology team, but not by any means all sites, as those are scattered all along the road.

[**Note from Page:** The two upright stones at **LhLa-5** (5.5.1, p. 59 of the report) are likely a drying rack. Have seen many of these at Bathurst Inlet. Thongs are strung over the two rocks and meat or fish hung over the thong to dry. I note the text does say that the Elders thought this a drying rack as well. If it is a drying rack there *may* be a tent ring or siniktarvik (sleeping shelter) in the area as drying racks were often attended to keep foxes from stealing the meat.]

- Did this trip and discussions out on the land remind you of any other special places or concerns you would like mentioned to Agnico Eagle?
5. When finishing up the report last year, we found mention of an area of special spiritual significance located between Baker Lake and MB Mine (indicate on map). This was mentioned in the original TK work done for the mine. Do any of you know about this area or want to comment on it?

WANTED TO GET TO THIS, BUT DID NOT.

[**Note from Page:** I suggest removing this area from the map as it came from the earlier TK work and is distracting to people reading the report, yet we don't have any concrete information on it. Or purposely check with someone like Hattie Manik.....Possibly Karen could do this?]

6. One thing we did not discuss much in 2014 was water quality.
- How do you decide whether the water you are using is good or not?

James Kalluk: Our ancestors were able to determine whether the water was good to drink or not. They used the temperature of the water, whether it was murky or clear, looked at it to see what was in the water.....

- Do people from Baker Lake go out and get water from the river for personal use? Why is this water considered “better”?

[**Note from Page:** I asked this but no one answered it. Might not have been translated sufficiently, as everyone was trying to talk at once. In Rankin people, not only Elders but many people, do go to the Meliadine River to get water. They prefer it to water that has had chlorine and fluoride added.]

- Does any of the water used in Baker Lake come from rivers flowing through the MB area or is it all taken from the Thelon watershed?

David Owingayak: Today there is more salty water coming into Baker Lake. In 1949, the level of Baker Lake was high and the flow of the Thelon River was strong. There was no sandbar (at the river’s mouth). Today the water levels are much lower. The water is much more salty where it used to be fresh and clean.

Philippa Iksiraq: When we moved here in 1957, the water was clear and clean and the water level was high. Today some parts of the lake seem yellowish. We (the community) get water from the lake, in front of the community.

[**NOTE from Page:** These Elders did not address whether they go to the Thelon or any other river to get water, but I heard later from a teacher that people DO go out to the Thelon to get water that has not passed through the town treatment plant. They also commonly go to the Prince River bridge for drinking water.]

Thomas Anirniq: The water goes through a cycle, water is pumped out of the lake, delivered to the houses, used, pumped out and dumped in the sewage area (to the north of town, uphill from the town, but on another watershed). It goes down and flows back into the lake, then back to the pickup area.

Many nodded and view this as a concern.

- How can you decide whether the water in an area is good to use or not?

Thomas Anirniq: The salinity level in Baker Lake is higher, and more tides come in. We get high tides from the coast. The lake level is lower, and there is less water in the rivers. Ships used to come through the south channel (in Chesterfield Inlet waterway), but no longer can do that. The summers are longer, the weather has changed. In the 1960s and earlier, the summers were much shorter. (Winnie was nodding, obviously agreeing.)

- How do you get water in winter?

James Kalluk: Water flows constantly, even in winter. (He must mean in some places, because all small streams and some shallow ponds freeze completely.)

James Kalluk: Would like a clarification of IOL and Crown Land.

Ryan asked Page to explain.

[**NOTE from Page:** I explained some of the history when the land claims were being settled, that people were allowed to choose lands..... That Crown Lands belong to “the Queen in Right of Canada”, i.e., to the government of Canada, and indirectly to all people in Canada. And that Inuit-Owned Lands belong to ALL INUIT, together, but the IOLs in each region are administered by the RIA or Regional Inuit Association, so, in this area, by KIA. And that these lands were chosen by Inuit who were selected to participate in regional meetings, and could propose lands to be picked. Lands were chosen based on traditional use, importance to local people, sacred spots, access to wildlife for sustenance, or on monetary value, such as mineral potential, potential for dam sites for hydroelectric power, etc. Also mentioned that rights to these IOLs are in two categories, Surface Rights and Surface and Subsurface Rights. They are different colours on the map of IOLs in Nunavut, which should be in the KIA office and probably the Hamlet office as well. Those with subsurface rights are probably the lands with high mineral potential, and the potential to bring in revenue to Inuit.]

- How do you decide whether that water is good, or not?

Omitted this as well.

[Discussing water quality provided an opening for Ryan to bring up a proposed project that can be used to offset loss of fish habitat due to damming Whale Tail Lake.]

FISH HABITAT OFFSETTING NOTES

Ryan Vanengen: Did a short PPT presentation on the present sewage treatment system for Baker Lake and the lack of reliable wetland treatment. He then said that since Agnico Eagle will be placing a dam in Whale Tail Lake, they are required to replace some fish habitat, but that it does not have to be at the mine site. He said their staff have long been concerned about the sewage disposal for Baker Lake and how the passive wetland site is clogged up and no longer working well. In the spring, sewage runs over the surface, down into two lakes, then via a creek into Baker Lake just north of town. The water intake for town is just off the community, in the lake and is less than 2 km from the outflow. That isn't good, as the currents in the lake are often east to west, and there is concern about the quality of the water entering the system.

Agnico Eagle is willing to work with the Hamlet of Baker Lake on improvement of the sewage treatment system. The water specialists have looked at the system currently in place and have some suggestions. The place where the sewage is dumped is full and not effective. AEM will work with the GN and the hamlet; it may be that moving the dumping point to the east, to the other side of the landfill, where there is a much larger sedge wetland, may improve the system. This could be modified slightly to slow

the drainage and the plants would clean the water much better. This would allow the few small lakes in the system to clean themselves, and over time, and improve the fish habitat. In time, the water going into Baker Lake would be cleaner, and would reduce the potential risks of contaminating the drinking water of Baker Lake.

Ryan showed maps and aerial photos of the system and area. People were fascinated and engaged.

David Owingayak: I think this is a *good idea*, and it is close to my heart, not only the sewage treatment but the new landfill. The mining people cleaned up the old dump. It is very nice now and we can use it safely. They did a really good deed for Baker Lake.

We dump things all over. BLCS just dumps wherever.... We need to push to clean things up.

The landfill to the north of town is awful! When it burns, the smoke comes into town and people, especially elders, really suffer. My wife is one of these, she can't breathe on days the dump is burning, and feels terrible. I'm sorry but I'm tearing up! The mining people are clean, clean, clean! They keep the area around their buildings clean. They have helped us lots. We just never thank them. My, my, this is terrible – what are we thinking – we should thank them!

Many others in the group agreed. James and Thomas noted that improving sewage treatment is something the hamlet has been discussing for a while and the elders would like to an improvement in the wastewater and lakes near the hamlet including Baker Lake.

Thomas Anirniq: I have been on Hamlet Council since 2011. Let's talk about this in Council. We should invite Ryan to talk to Hamlet Council about this. Let's set up a date ahead of time, maybe April or May.

James Kalluk: Yes, this is a very good proposal. My mother used to fish in Airplane Lake and the smaller lake. Used to get fish from there. The fish now are not fit for dogs. The water is contaminated.

David Owingayak: We used to swim in those lakes. And they had good fish. Everyone fished there.

David Owingayak: I think this is a very good idea for the water treatment. Also, the dump was moved to its present site from east of town. I always disagreed, thought it a poor site, with drainage into the water system. Now the smoke goes into town, and causes an air quality problem. Baker Lake creates more dirt than any mining project. The project is as clean as possible, but us....our own community, so dirty....! We need to clean up.

7. Is there anything else that has come to mind in the past year that you would like to talk about in relation to this proposed road and new mining area?

Ryan Vanengen was able to get into a discussion as to replacement of fish habitat by doing some sort of project to improve sewage treatment in Baker Lake. (Notes on this are in the water quality area above.)

8. Any additional advice for Agnico-Eagle Mines regarding this project?

Make sure Elder involvement (by people who lived in the area) is ongoing.

AT THIS POINT WE FELT WE WERE ENDING ON A HIGH NOTE, WITH ALL FEELING GOOD ABOUT THE DAY, SO WE DID PRIZES, COMPLETED THE RELEASE FORMS, PAID EVERYONE, AND ENDED.

COMMUNITY LAND AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (CLARC) MEETING

NOTES from Consultation – Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project

Feb. 4, 2016; Wed. 11 am - 3 pm

Iglu Hotel, Conference Room

AGENDA

- 1) Prayer and introductions of all participants, including research team.
- 2) We met last December with 10 Elders who had lived in the area between the Back River and the Meadowbank Mine, regarding their knowledge about the area. They shared their knowledge generously and it has been appreciated. Agnico Eagle has ensured that the resulting report has become a guiding document for all work to be done in that area. The company deeply appreciates all the work done last year in contributing to knowledge of the area, and has taken the suggestions seriously.
- 3) Ryan will briefly report on the project, and follow-up to the report that has occurred this year.
- 4) Agnico Eagle welcomes any information or comments you would like to make regarding this project.
- 5) We have release forms that we will ask you to sign, so we can use the info you have provided.
- 6) We also would like to record this session. The recording will be saved and stored by Golder and Agnico Eagle Mines. It will not at this time be transcribed, but we will work from notes made today to create a report. It may be transcribed in the future. So the permission forms include recording.
- 7) Any questions about the procedure? Does anyone object to our recording this session?
- 8) We have brought some maps and invite you to add info to these maps.
- 9) If we have time, we will pull up the data on Google Earth and invite all participants to work together to add placenames.

TO NOTE: In this session, we did not get to much traditional knowledge work at all. This session became a vehicle for presenting a list of concerns from the HTO (via CLARC) to Ryan Vanengen of Agnico Eagle Mines. We did not have a chance to even ask any of the questions outlined. (I have left them in this document in case there is another chance to meet with the CLARC in a less confrontational experience.)

PRESENT:

- **Joan Scottie**
- **Jamie Seeteenak**
- **Mike Akilak**
- **Thomas Anirniq**
- **Basil Quinangnaq**
- **David Toolooktook Sr.**
- **Andrea Phillips (Youth Rep.)**

Interpreters: Alexander Alooq, Michael Haqpi (for part)

Facilitator: Page Burt, Outcrop Ltd., Rankin Inlet.

Agnico Eagle Mines rep.: Ryan Vanengen

POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS FROM CLARC SESSION

- 1) Communicate with the Lands Dept. at KIA to **see if some of their raw placename data can be obtained** to add to info obtained in these workshops, at least lake and stream names.
- 2) **Consider the HTO list of concerns**, which was brought out in both the CLARC session and the HTO session. Is there anything that needs further Agnico Eagle attention, research, or effort?
- 3) Since this session did not contribute much traditional knowledge information, **consider another session that invites traditional knowledge sharing from both the HTO and CLARC**. Make sure KIA staff are present and involved in the note-taking, and to keep members on track.

NOTES from the session.

Ryan Vanengen tried to present a short summary of the project to date.

Essentially, we did not even really get to the questions planned.

They said, “There’s not even anyone from KIA to take notes here – why is there no one from KIA?”

Page Burt replied that KIA had been informed about the dates and agreed to send staff, Jeff Hart and Charlie Tautuajuk at least. But then Jeff Hart informed us he’d be out of town, and that Charlie would handle it. But Charlie did not show up. We would have very much preferred to have KIA staff also taking notes, but Ryan’s and Page’s notes will have to suffice.

Each person from the CLARC had in front of them a one page document with concerns outlined. This was provided by the Baker Lake HTO representative. (Scans of this document are attached, in English and Inuktitut.)

Joan Scottie began with questions and comments, essentially following the document.

They are most concerned with:

- Consultation with community and Elders prior to obtaining permission to build this road.
- Destruction of cultural sites due to the routing of the road and the borrow pits.
- Dust along the Baker Lake to Meadowbank road.
- Consultation of Elders about specific sites along the Amaruq Road.
- Consultation with the community prior to approval to construct the Amaruq road.

Issues related to cultural sites.

Ryan Vanengen explained the consultation with Elders that was held in Dec. 2014, and also the fact that Agnico Eagle followed the suggestions in that workshop and took several Elders out to the sites (accompanied by the archaeologists that were doing the field work) last summer.

He explained that they had discussed the buffer zones around graves in the Whale Tail Lake area and that a 500 m buffer was discussed and that a 150 – 200 m buffer was discussed with the people in the field at the site. They committed to a 200 m (diameter) for any gravesite.

Archaeological field work was performed along the entire road route in summer of 2014 and 2015. All archaeological sites were marked and recorded, assigned Borden numbers. Importance values were assigned to each site. Then all sites were plotted on a map and the road was rerouted to avoid all but a couple structures on one borrow area esker#2. To AEMs knowledge, these were determined to have a recent tent ring and a small storage cache, plus one hearth. The material from this borrow pit is needed for that section of road. It is the only site along the entire Amaruq road that will be “mitigated”, which means it will be carefully studied, all rocks numbered, photographed, and moved/reconstructed on similar terrain nearby. The Heritage Committee will be consulted about this as it could be moved to close to the heritage centre in Baker where it could be more easily used for teaching.

Ryan explained **eskers** and **borrow pits**.

An **esker** is a sand and gravel (and often cobble) ridge that was deposited by water flowing from the face of the continental ice sheet as it melted back, about 8,000 years ago. These form long ridges on the land, and the sand and gravel makes good building material for roads. (There is some confusion here as the construction people refer to borrow pits as “Eskers”, referring to the pit or *pit location* rather than the geomorphological structure.) In the past, long ago people tended to camp on eskers as they were above the level of the surrounding land, well-drained, and allowed them to see game coming. Caribou migrate along eskers and animals that dig dens tend to make the dens in the eskers, so these structures are important to wildlife and are preserved if possible. However, there are a lot in the Kivalliq Region, enough that some can be used as a source of building material.

Borrow pits are the places on an esker where gravel is removed for road building purposes. They dig a 2 m deep pit, then another 2 m depth, then 2 m more until they reach the bottom of the sand/gravel material; or until enough material has been taken to build the section of the road. Esker #2, pits A & B is important as it will be used to build a long stretch of road which has also to be diverted from the shortest route to avoid having to cross many watercourses and lakes.

Michael Haqpi and Lauren Nakoolak participated in wildlife studies along the entire road route. Michael participated in many of the archaeological studies.

Agnico Eagle provides a 30-50 m buffer to an archaeological site. They CHANGED the road route (in MANY places) to avoid sites and allow this once the archaeological work was done. This was accepted by the NIRB and NWB.

Thomas Anirniq: many historical/cultural sites were places where the people prepared skins or got ready for winter.

Andrea Phillips: Could students visit these sites if the road is built and we could access them? This would help the youth learn more about their culture.

Thomas Anirniq: Yes, and the Elders would be glad to help and glad to share what they know.

About this time, we broke for lunch. People ate lunch in the restaurant, and did not leave. We reconvened about 1:30 pm.

Jamie Seeteenak (I think): Thomas Elytook and Thomas Anirniq suggested moving some pegs (originally used to stake out caribou skins) that are near or in the proposed road route. These have likely been there since the 1940s, and should be preserved. [NOTE: Not sure if these are the ones referred to in the Esker 2 borrow pit or others.]

Joan Scottie: Are these the only maps? (We were looking at two maps prepared by Golder that show the Traditional Knowledge items mentioned in Dec. 2014 as well as a few names and info from the TK baseline for Meadowbank Mine.) She stated that there should be more maps, and that many committees are contributing to the mapping. These should all combine maps.

Page Burt: Yes, several committees are interested in this and KIA is working with local people on placenames and info for several different watersheds. KIA is willing to share their info, but it takes time to get the info from different groups and to make sure it is correctly displayed on maps. Only then can you start combining maps. This will come. We have a meeting with the team of Elders that worked to create these maps in 2014, to be held on Friday, Feb. 5 to confirm the info on the maps and allow them to add data.

Jamie Seeteenak: Were Elders who lived there properly consulted in 2014? This discussion might not be needed if they had been properly consulted.

Page Burt: Back in the fall of 2014, we asked Charlie Tautuajuk and CLARC and others in town to suggest Elders who lived or traveled between the Back River and the Meadowbank Mine. We were very specific about the need for people with actual living experience in that specific area. Michael Haqqi and Charlie worked together on this. They identified about 16 people – but some were not available for the meeting

held in Dec. 2014. We ended up with a group of 10 Elders, all of whom had spent significant time in the area. These worked very hard for two days to answer many questions and to get lots of information on maps and on Google Earth, which was then transferred to maps. Those meetings resulted in a Report which has been used constantly by Agnico Eagle to guide the development of the road project. They will be meeting again on Friday to check maps and confirm information.

Issues regarding dust from the Baker Lake to Meadowbank road use.

The meeting then got diverted into dust concerns.

Joan Scottie: Dust is a major concern and a major issue. We want to talk about this.

Mike Akilak: Dust is a big concern! Guys hunting caribou along the road now have to put down tarps when they cut up a caribou, as there is so much dust on the land. If they put the meat on the ground (tundra), it picks up lots of dust. (Mike was quite passionate about this.)

Ryan Vanengen: We know dust is a concern. We monitor dust on the mine roads where there is no community traffic, only mine traffic and on the AWAR road. We focus our dust suppression where there is heaviest traffic (near the mine site).

Thomas Anirniq: Dust goes very far in winter. The winds are higher and you can see the dust on the snow. It is carried far from the road. Need to measure the accumulation of dust in winter as well as in summer. On snow, dust accumulates in layers – one layer, then a new snowfall accumulation, then another layer of dust. Each time period is different.

Joan Scottie: We are concerned about the dust because of pending meetings. Was talking to a guy who uses the road a lot – he has never seen any water trucks on the road. They use CaCl on roads in town, but we are told the CaCl is an environmental problem.

Ryan Vanengen: We monitor the public road. We use Alberta guidelines for amounts of dust, and if it exceeds the amount allowed by regulators, AEM will consider dust suppressants. It is important to know that water evaporates quickly, so AEM needs to focus on areas of most concern around the mine site.

Ryan Vanengen: Explained how they sample for dust. They place canisters out, in transects at 50 m. from the road, for 30 days, in August when the dust is worst (driest and most traffic), then analyze the samples. He explained the technical aspects of how the samples are analyzed. Also sample non-dust areas (upwind, beyond the dust accumulation areas) by vegetation sampling for contaminant loading.

Ryan Vanengen: Sometimes the dust is above Alberta levels within 50 m. of the road, but not often, and not beyond 150 m. So, we have not been required to suppress it.

Thomas Anirniq: For several years, when hunting, I have observed the road for several hours from the tops of hills. There is a LOT of dust, and it travels very far. Maybe need to monitor more. Need to treat for dust.

Mike Akilak: Clarified Thomas' answer.....

Ryan Vanengen: There are a couple ways to reduce dust.

- Can spray with water, but this lasts only minutes in the dry summer. Water trucks use lots of fuel, and also emit contaminants, plus there is the risk of fuel spills and wildlife collisions. It is very costly and really doesn't work.
- Can use calcium chloride (CaCl), which draws water out of the air onto the crystals on the road, wetting down the dust. The CaCl will contaminate water over time. It is a salt, so may attract caribou to the road. The effects on caribou are not known, but this certainly puts them in danger of being hit.
- In town, they use CaCl – is there another method of dust suppression that would be acceptable to the community?

Thomas Anirniq: Is CaCl the only solution?

Ryan Vanengen: There are other products, but their environmental effects are not well known.

Joan Scottie: The concern is that the dust issue is not resolved for the original road. People who live here have their own ways of measuring effects on wildlife. They see that animals that used to be in certain areas, feeding, are no longer feeding in these areas. They don't stick around anymore in areas that used to be their habitat. Our hunters do caching in Sept. and Oct., but now say there is a film of dust on the rocks, and this gets onto the meat, so they don't cache meat anymore. We have only 10 years of data. Would like to know what effect this has on plants and caribou feeding.

Other issues.

Joan Scottie: The HTO asked for the donation of a seacan in which meat could be stored, and Joan has asked for one in return for all the extra hours she has put in on this project. Is Agnico Eagle willing to donate two seacans for the use of hunters? What do we get out of this?

Ryan Vanengen: Will look into this. Seems a reasonable request.

Question: What does Agnico Eagle do when caribou are on the road?

Ryan Vanengen: Our policy is clear: We monitor the collar data for this herd. When the collar data indicates that caribou are in the area, then Security tells all staff to watch out and report ANY sightings of caribou. When it seems as though the collar data shows caribou in the immediate vicinity of the road, we stop the road at night (low visibility). If large herds of caribou are seen crossing the road, we stop the use of the road immediately. Have done so 10 times this year already.

Basil Quinangnaq: When I was young, children were not allowed to listen when adults were having deep discussions, so there are some things from the past that he does not know. However, he does know that sometimes caribou will stop, and at other times, nothing will stop them.

NOTE from Page Burt: It was pretty obvious that we were simply not going to get into the traditional knowledge with this group, so we awarded prizes and closed the session.

Questions that could be used for further info:

NOTE from Page Burt: I have kept the proposed questions that were intended to be asked in this session in the document below in hopes that there may be an opportunity for someone to facilitate a more constructive meeting with the CLARC, perhaps with more KIA staff involvement. These people are knowledgeable, and could contribute much, but this meeting got derailed with issues that were better discussed in a forum not focusing on traditional knowledge. It would be helpful to be able to go back and facilitate a combined meeting with the CLARC and the HTO on traditional knowledge as it accesses a slightly younger group of people (than the Elders' group) with a specialized interest in the land, animals and the environment.

Questions may not be asked precisely as noted, but will try to cover these topics. May be modified to go with the flow of the conversations.

- 1) Do you have any comments based on what you know about the work done last year or during the summer of 2015 to obtain input from Elders who have lived in or travelled through the area to the NW of the Meadowbank project, between the project and the Back River? We focused on people who lived there because we did not want to repeat the work already done for the main Meadowbank project.
- 2) Are you aware of any people who are currently hunting or fishing in the area *between the Back and the MB mine*? At what time of year?

If no one is using that area, we will ask general questions.

If there *are* people currently using this area, we encourage you to add info to the maps.

Caribou.

1. Do you have recent information (within the last 5-10 years, and **especially the last year**) as to the movements of caribou through this area? Mark on the map if possible as to migration routes.
2. To your knowledge, is this area important to caribou:
 - During the calving period?
 - For post-calving aggregations or movements?
 - Is this area important to caribou during the rut?
 - Are there caribou in this area during the winter?
3. Hunting.
 - a. Do you (or others from Baker) *currently* hunt caribou in this general area?
 - b. Do you hunt here more or less than in the past?
 - c. Do people hunt caribou along the Meadowbank Road more or less than in the past?
 - More or less during the seasons when there is no snow?
 - More or less during the seasons when snow is on the ground?
 - d. Are there any caribou **sports hunts** conducted in this area?
 - e. Do people hunt caribou along the esker to the NW of the proposed road route? More or less than in the past, before the existing road was built?
4. In your opinions, have the known caribou migration routes changed in the last ten years? Mark these on the maps if possible....
5. How about general numbers of caribou in the area? Increasing? Decreasing?
6. Do you have any comments about the general health of the caribou herds you see in the area around Baker Lake? Better than in the past? Not as good? Same?
7. What do **you** think is affecting caribou numbers in the Baker Lake area? Across Nunavut?
8. Is a lot of caribou meat being shipped out of Baker this year?
9. Does Meadowbank Mine supply country food (caribou and/or muskox) to people working at the mine? Is it purchased locally?

Muskox.

1. Are there many musk oxen in the area of interest for this project?

2. Is it a calving area for muskox?
3. Hunting (muskox).
 - a. Do people from the community *currently* hunt muskox in this area?
 - b. Are there sports hunts for muskox conducted in this area? Is there a quota for ox?
4. How have muskox populations in the Baker Lake area changed in the last 10 years?

Wolves.

1. Is the area (between the MB mine and the Back River) important for wolves?
2. Which parts of the area under consideration? (Mark on map...)
3. For what purpose? Denning? Hunting?
4. Do wolves move through the area at any specific times of the year? (Mark on map if possible.)
5. Hunting of wolves.
 - a. Do people from Baker Lake currently hunt wolves here?
 - b. Run sports hunts for wolves in this area?
6. What concerns do you have about wolf populations in this area?

Bears.

We heard from the Elders last year that grizzlies are much more common now in the Baker Lake area and that bears and wolverines are often getting into caches, so much so that people are no longer caching much.

1. Do you agree with this? Are they a problem to hunters in storing food out on the land?
2. Do you think grizzlies are increasing in the area?
3. Do you think grizzlies are currently having an impact on the caribou? On musk oxen?
4. What about polar bears – are you seeing any? More or fewer than in the past?
5. Want to talk about your concerns re bears?
6. Hunting (bears):
 - a. Do many people from Baker hunt bears these days? Is there a quota for grizzlies?
 - b. Are sports hunts for bears being run out of Baker Lake?

Furbearers.

1. Are any people still doing any trapping? What species are being trapped out of Baker?
 - a. White fox
 - b. Red fox
 - c. Wolverine
 - d. Marten?
 - e. Mink?
 - f. Anything else?
2. What about the populations of fur animals – larger or smaller than in the past? Easier or more difficult to trap?
3. When fur is prime, is it as good as it was in the past? Better?
4. What about prices for fur – good, poor? Do more people want to trap today than 5 years ago?
5. Any other comments about fur animals?

Small mammals – rabbits, siksiks.....

1. Arctic hares
 - a. Does anyone in Baker Lake still hunt arctic hares?
 - b. What about the hare populations this year – is it a high or low hare year?
2. Siksiks
 - a. Are these as common as in the past? Any changes in their populations over the past 10 years?
 - b. Does anyone still trap these for food or for their skins?
3. Voles and lemmings.
 - a. Do you see more or fewer of these little rodents than in the past?
 - b. Are their cycles still as evident as in the past? More voles than lemmings these days?
 - c. Any more you wish to share re small mammals?

Fish.

1. What do people currently fish for in the inland lakes near the Meadowbank and Amaruq projects?
(What fish species?)
 - a. Lake trout
 - b. Char
 - c. Whitefish (1 or 2 species?)
 - d. Grayling
 - e. Anything else?
2. What time(s) of the year? (for each species)
3. Today, are there large fish in the lakes in the area between the Back and Meadowbank?
4. What species? How large?
5. Have you seen changes in the fish population in the past 10 years? What type of changes?
6. Is Meadowbank Mine purchasing fish for food use at site? Who are they buying fish from?
 - a. Is this working well?
 - b. Are changes needed to this policy?

Birds.

1. **Waterfowl**
 - a. Does anyone currently hunt waterfowl in the area *near Amaruq*? What time of year?
 - b. What about waterfowl populations? Increasing, decreasing, staying the same?
 - c. Any comments about the populations of ducks, geese, swans, sandhill cranes....?
2. **Ptarmigan**
 - a. Do people hunt ptarmigan in the Amaruq area on a regular basis, today?
 - b. What is happening with the populations of ptarmigan – more or less common than 10 years ago?
 - c. Any comments about ptarmigan?
3. **Raptors** - hawks, falcons, eagles, and let's include jaegers in this.....
 - a. How do you think these populations are changing? More.....less?

- b. Are we in a high lemming year? Low?
- c. Any thoughts on these birds and how they are doing in the North?

4. Sandhill cranes

- a. Do you think the populations of these birds are changing?
- b. Are sandhill cranes still used by Inuit in the area at all?

Insects and invertebrates.

1. Have you seen changes in the populations of insects and other small invertebrates in the past 10 years?
 - a. What type of changes?
 - b. Are there new species showing up?
2. More wasps? Butterflies? Large moths?
3. What about pesky insects – mosquitoes and blackflies?
 - a. More or less than in the past?
 - b. Is there a change in times when they are common? When is the worst time for blackflies?
 - c. Can you predict when there will be a bad blackfly year? How do you know?

Berries and other plants

1. Are berries picked in the area between the Back River and Meadowbank Mine?
2. What kinds of berries?
3. Are any other plants taken for use by local people?
4. How do people access these areas for berrypicking?

Weather and climate

1. What changes have you observed in the weather over the past 10 years?
 - a. More snowfall or rain? Changes in breakup or freezeup? More violent weather – thunderstorms?
 - b. More blizzards, fewer blizzards?

- c. Changes in direction of prevailing winds?
 - d. More freezing/thawing/freezing in spring or fall?
 - e. Changes in snow depth and accumulation?
2. Any other climate or weather changes you would like to mention?
 3. The Elders mentioned observing changes in where the sun rises and sets, and in where the stars move. Any comments on this – have you observed this as well?

Water quality

1. Have you seen any major changes to the quality of the water (in areas away from the immediate vicinity of Baker Lake) out on the land?
 - a. What type of changes?
 - b. Over what period of time?
2. How do you decide if the water out on the land is good for human use?
3. How can you tell if you should NOT use the water from a certain source?

Working with Agnico Eagle....

Realizing that mining by its very nature causes some permanent damage to the land....and that there are trade-offs to economic benefits vs. environmental changes.....

1. Do you have any general recommendations for Agnico Eagle about how to manage the land and reduce damage to the environment?
2. About how to maximize benefits to the community?
3. About creating a comfortable working environment for Inuit?
4. Are there any questions you would like to ask the Agnico Eagle staff about Meadowbank and how Amaruq fits into the lifespan of the Meadowbank Mine?

Any other issues you would like to discuss today?

Deepest thanks for all contributions today, and for all your insights.

Sign forms and distribute honoraria.

HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ORGANIZATION (HTO) MEETING

NOTES from Consultation: Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project

Feb. 4, 2016, Thursday, 6:30 pm – 9 pm

Iglu Hotel Conference Room, Baker Lake

ATTENDING: HTO Members:

- Jamie Seeteenak
- Thomas Anirniq
- Mike Akilak
- Joan Scottie
- Basil Quinangnaq
- David Toolooktook Sr.

Interpreter: Alex Alooq

Representing Agnico Eagle: Ryan Vanengan, Jamie Kataluk

Facilitator: Page Burt, Outcrop Ltd., Rankin Inlet.

Discussion items in the meeting:

After an opening prayer and introductions, **Page Burt** gave a brief summary of work leading up to this set of workshops and focus groups in Baker Lake, noting that the full report from 2014 had been sent to the CLARC and the HTO in Baker. **Ryan Vanengen** gave a brief intro to the project as it stands today.

Page mentioned that we would like **members of the HTO to add to the info in the report and would like their input on places noted on the maps provided, and additions to the info on the maps.**

Jamie Kataluk discussed the wildlife surveys that have been done along the road, approximately twice a week when the collar data indicate that any caribou are in the area. 79 surveys were done in 2015 and 5 have been done so far in 2016. He mentioned that they close the road when caribou are in the vicinity. When the collar data indicates that the caribou are in the area, they go on alert and all drivers watch for caribou, reporting any sightings. If they see caribou close to the road in significant numbers, the road is closed until the collar data indicates the caribou have passed. They have closed the road between Meadowbank and the Vault pit several times in 2016 already.

The harvest study has been suspended for 2016 and will be discussed with the community and the HTO to make it more “community-based”.

Thomas Anirniq: When constructing the road from Vault to Amaruq, will they stop construction for caribou?

Ryan Vanengen: Construction vehicles don’t move very fast. We will use the collar data to determine the location of the herds, will go on alert and watch carefully when any are in the area. We will stop

construction if there are a lot of caribou in the area, but not for just a few, but there will be extra alerts to their presence if the collaring data indicates caribou herds are nearby.

Thomas Anirniq: When they constructed the Meadowbank road, would see caribou around the area. How long will construction take? During what season?

Ryan: Construction will start this winter/early spring, in March. We will aim for completion in 2018. Will aim to complete the road to “Esker #1” (borrow esker # 1 along the road) using waste rock material from the Vault pit before summer. Bridges will arrive this shipping season and will be used to construct the rest of the road to the north. Construction will start again in October. Construction is easier and less destructive in winter. Much of the timing depends on the stream crossings.

Concern was expressed by several people about archaeological sites along the road corridor.

Ryan: Explanation of road revisions.

- Ryan stated that the road route and design was significantly modified to avoid most archaeological sites along the road, and this constituted a major modification of the route. This was done after the archaeological studies were done last summer, and after Elders and HTO members were taken out to the site in the fall.
- All sites designated “high value” by Elders or the archaeologists are being avoided in the road design. “High value” sites are those with older tentrings, many tentrings, many different structures (storage caches, inuksuit, drying racks, qajaq racks, tool-making spots, hearths, hunting blinds (taluit), etc.). Graves in particular are being avoided, with a buffer zone of 200 m diameter.
- The only exception (where structures need to be moved) is Borrow Pit Esker #2, where there are a few structures in one site (tent ring, storage cache, and one hunting blind, plus a few wooden pegs possibly used to stake caribou skins out for scraping). With consultation with a local Cultural and Heritage Group, this site will be “mitigated”, either removed and reconstructed nearby or removed and reconstructed near the cultural centre in Baker Lake.

This caused a lot of overlapping, somewhat passionate, discussion.

They asked what “mitigating” a site meant.

Ryan asked Page to explain: Roughly (and in layman’s terms) it means doing an organized survey of the site, photographing from above and sides and mapping everything, then numbering all rocks or items and removing them, possibly doing shallow excavations to ensure that *all* artifacts are found/removed. With the photos and maps, it is possible to reconstruct the site in a similar terrain area, exactly as found, for teaching use. It could be reconstructed in the same area, outside of the borrow pit. Or, it could be reconstructed in Baker Lake, where it could be used for teaching purposes, near the cultural centre, the visitors’ centre, or the school.

General comments from members of the HTO demonstrated the high level of concern among the participants:

- The people who lived there have the best knowledge of the area and of the way forward.
- Go around *every* site.
- What would you feel if Inuit went to Manitoba and moved the graves of your families? (Ryan mentioned that this occasionally happens in the south, due to changing plans for cities and priorities of construction. Whole cemeteries are frequently moved.)

David Toolooktook, Sr : We are concerned about all historical and archaeological sites. Don't buy the idea of moving a site. It will no longer be an archaeological site.

Basil Quinangnaq: We were taught not to touch anything which looked like a place where people lived. To respect it and keep our distance.

Mike Akilak: Grew up on the land with his grandmother. Lots happened out there on the land, and it is our heritage. Needs to be preserved.

Ryan: In the meetings at the mine last fall and out on the land, what we heard was that for some sites there is a high level of concern, and that for some, the level of concern is less. Some are fairly recent and temporary hunting camps or camp sites.

Ryan: Brief discussion of the Whale Tail Pit project.

- Ryan showed maps of the proposed construction areas, mining areas and described the process. Pit design is still being done. Roughly, there will be a pit, a ramp to an underground shaft/tunnel area, a pond to contain water removed from the pit that may be in some way contaminated, a waste rock tailings area, and access roads.
- They will build a dam across part of Whale Tail Lake and remove the water from the lake. When the mining is completed there, the dikes will be breached and the lake will refill.
- There will be support buildings for administration and accommodations, but no mill; the ore will be trucked to Meadowbank and processed there. Many mining jobs will be moved to Whale Tail Pit. Project has the potential to extend the operational life (and thus, employment) of Meadowbank by 3 years of operation. (But this is an estimate, too early to tell.)

Basil: Where will the rock be processed?

Ryan: Meadowbank Mill. Processing facility will not be moved. But there is still a waste rock pile because you have to remove the "overburden" (non-ore-bearing rock) to get to the ore-bearing rock.

Ryan: Fisheries habitat improvement as offsetting.

- There are fish in Whale Tail Lake. Not a lot compared to larger lakes (such as Baker Lake), but since part of this lake will be drained, Agnico Eagle is required by DFO to create habitat for fish to offset the destruction of habitat in that lake.
- There are a few ideas he would like to mention to this group:
 - Baker Lake has a very old holding pond and wetland sewage system and it is badly clogged. Sewage runs over the top of the ground and into a small pond, then down a channel into a larger (but still small) lake and then into Airplane Lake. These lakes used to be clean, but now are contaminated due to unprocessed sewage. From Airplane Lake, sewage flows into Baker Lake, only about a mile from the fresh water intake. This is a potential hazard.
 - Agnico Eagle could partner and assist the hamlet and GN in providing research and funding for the design, and labour to create a new “passive sewage treatment area” that is far better than the old one, could clean out the old area so that it will regenerate, and the small pond will clean up over time. Fish health could be restored in Airplane Lake. The water flowing into the lake would be cleaner, thus reducing the hazards to Baker Lake water intake and the quality of the water used in the community.

People came forth with a few other ideas. Some are related to fish habitat.

Mike: In the spring, there is a lot of junk on the ice in front of the community. We clean this up, using skidoos, etc. He encourages students to help. Maybe we could get help with this cleanup?

Ryan: Definitely. That is related to fish habitat and water quality. We would like to encourage young people to get involved as well. We can talk further about just what is needed.

Jamie Kataluk: We need a bigger, longer runway.

Jamie Seeteenak: The camp buildings at closure could be brought here and could be made into another school or a daycare..... We need a larger community complex.

Thomas: Educate the people here and they will plan for the future.....

Ryan: The projects we are talking about here need to relate to fisheries and fish habitat improvement since DFO is involved. We have some leeway but not a lot.

Jamie Seeteenak: The HTO has requested the donation of a seacan for use by the HTO and community and perhaps one for Joan's use due to all the time she has spent on these projects. These will be used to store caribou meat in the fall, after freezeup. People no longer can cache meat on the land due to dust from the road, grizzlies and wolverines, so they could bring the meat back here and store it.

Thomas: Were these guys involved in the selection of the road route? Some of us really don't agree with what you want to do for the road.

Joan Scottie: When we learned there was to be a meeting, we made a list of five concerns. These are based on letters the Baker Lake HTO sent to NIRB. (These are reported from her statements. We also have the document that the HTO used in the meeting.)

1) Timing of the consultation meetings

Joan: The HTO wanted consultation to happen before permission was granted, but this did not happen.

Ryan: Consultation that was done on the road route started in Aug. 2014. Joan did get to visit the mine site. We discussed the road routing at that time. We followed up with meetings in Baker Lake Dec. 2014. And, in March 2015. Document was sent to HTO and to Warren, providing an opportunity to review plans. Elders and HTO members were taken to the minesite in Sept. 2015, and part of that group were taken to several sites along the road and along the big esker. There have been many rounds of consultation over the past 2 years. Permission has been granted by NIRB for building this road.

2) Road route.

Joan: Baker Lake HTO has requested movement of the road route because current route goes near many sites and near the wolf denning esker. Agnico Eagle has agreed to small changes in the road route, but these are not sufficient.

Ryan: The changes to the road route *are* significant and the final proposed route has avoided all but one area. As discussed the Borrow Esker #2 was classified as a site of minor importance by the AEM archaeologist and elders during the visit.

3) Archaeological and heritage resources.

Joan: The HTO felt that the maps as prepared are incomplete. They want maps that bring together all information.

Ryan: Intent **of this series of meetings** is to **add info from the Elders and the HTO and CLARC to those maps**, check the maps, and the maps will be updated. (Note that the maps are marked DRAFT.) The meeting with the Elders in Dec. 2014 was a classroom exercise to get as much info on the map, along with placenames, and to record as much info on wildlife, the land and life in the past as possible. This was done and is in the report. The archaeologists (who were accompanied by Michael Haqpi) did the ground work along the entire route to identify and mark ALL archaeological sites. Revisions to the route were made based on info (and concerns) expressed by the Elders and the info collected by the archaeological team.

Note from Page Burt: KIA has also collected much TK/IQ information in the Baker Lake area, including many placenames. They do not seem to have any objection to sharing this information, but it is not readily available yet. Perhaps a separate map of the originally planned road route, based on engineering parameters could be made, and the map overlaid with a map

of the road as it was changed based on archaeological and cultural site data. This will show people that changes were indeed made.

4) Buffer zones for gravesites.

Joan: The HTO wanted Agnico Eagle to leave a 500 m buffer zone around gravesites. Agnico Eagle has made this buffer zone much smaller.

Ryan: Described what a 200 m (diameter) buffer zone really looks like. It is a greater distance than people might think.

5) Dust and dust suppression.

Joan: The Baker Lake HTO has repeatedly requested dust suppression along the present road. Agnico Eagle has not done any dust suppression at all on this road. People who hunt off the road are finding that the vegetation in many areas is covered with dust, and are using tarps to butcher their caribou to protect the meat from dust. Perhaps Agnico Eagle could agree to do some dust suppression in the main hunting areas along the road, like at Whitehills Lake.....

Ryan: We discussed dust suppression in detail in the CLARC meeting today, and agreed not to spend a lot of time on it in this meeting. CaCl can't be used as it gets into the water and can cause problems. Watering the road has only a transitory effect, and has adverse environmental effects such as emissions, fuel use, possible fuel spills, etc.

Mike Akilak: You probably used big words to describe this in previous meetings and we did not understand what we were agreeing to.....

David Toolooktook, Sr.: I think we are here only to listen to you saying you are going ahead with this project as you wish, no matter what we say we want.

Ryan: We want to share information as to where we are with the project. Want it to be as low impact as possible for the community. However, now we would like to talk a bit about the wildlife and environment.

Took a break here to defuse the situation and to change topics back to the intent of what was intended to be a TK/IQ workshop but turned into a meeting.

Page: What about caribou? Are you seeing changes in the numbers of caribou coming through, the timing, directions of migration, changes in health of the caribou?

Thomas Anirniq: My family lived in the area around Amaruq and a bit further north. My parents and other relatives died there in the starvation years. I lived with an elder brother. Those were difficult times for all of us.

Mike Akilak: The group did not visit Thomas' mother or father's graves this year. They are not in the area where the helicopter landed. He wanted to go and place crosses on the graves. Still would like to do that – is there any chance AEM would support this?

Ryan: Probably could do this. Page to email Jennifer Tischer (archaeologist) to do this in the summer of 2016, to contact Thomas through Basil Quinangnaq at 867-793-2620 or 793-2564 or at the HTO: 867-793-1412.

Thomas: Caribou around camps are becoming used to people and noise. They also seem to be attracted to blasting, come into the area right after the blast, and feed. Maybe the blast releases a food smell.

Page: Possibly salt – many explosives are high in salts.

Thomas: Caribou tend to run off when you shoot, but then come right back.

At this point, we simply ran out of time as people were getting weary.

We did not get much actual usable TK info in these sessions today.

WOMEN'S FOCUS GROUP SESSION
NOTES from Consultation – Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project
Feb. 3, 2016, Iglu Hotel, Baker Lake

AGENDA

- Prayer, introductions of all participants, including research team.
- We met last December with Elders, regarding their knowledge about the area to the NW of Meadowbank, between the Back River and MB Mine. They shared their knowledge generously and it has been extremely valuable. **Agnico Eagle has ensured that the resulting report has become a guiding document for all work to be done in that area.** The company deeply appreciates all the work done last year in contributing to knowledge of the area, and has taken the Elders' suggestions seriously.
- Now, we are expanding the circle and doing meetings with several groups in the community to get input regarding the area and the project. Will be talking with youth, the HTO, CLARC, as well as the Elders involved last year.
- We have release forms that we will ask you to sign, so we can use the info you have provided.
- You will be paid an honorarium for participating in this group.
- Any questions about the procedure?
- Housekeeping, washrooms, refreshments, prizes, etc.

Ryan can't make it to this session, so Page will give a very brief, very general outline of what is happening regarding Amaruq/Whale Tail and the proposed road.

There will be community meetings held at which you can ask questions of company representatives.

PRESENT:

- **Annie Tootoo**
- **Jean Simailak**
- **Eloza Piryuaq**
- **Martha Haqpi**
- **Susan Amagoak-Walsh**
- **Sarah Peryoar**
- **Chantelle Tunguaq**
- **Cynthia Tiapanak**
- **Interpreters: Alexander Alooq, Michael Haqpi**
- **Facilitator: Page Burt, Outcrop Ltd., Rankin Inlet.**

NOTES from the focus group/consultation:

People will be encouraged to speak as they wish, but these questions can be used if there isn't much coming from the group. Initial questions are to "break the ice" and start the conversation.

1. Does anyone in this group currently work at Meadowbank or Meliadine?

No one present currently works at either operation.

(Note from Page: We had tried to get some women who currently work for Agnico Eagle, but they were either out of town or we could not contact them. We had contacted Inuit HR, but they said they could not release any names. In future, it is suggested that we need more company awareness that this type of work is going on.)

2. Has anyone worked there in the past, or at an exploration camp?

Jean Simailak has done counseling out there.

Eloza and Annie used to work as housekeepers.

Michael Haqpi: Liaison and environmental tech.

3. What type of jobs?

List types based on comments from participants.

Counsellor

Housekeeping

4. Are you currently employed at MB? What type of job?

No one in the group is currently employed by Agnico Eagle.

5. How many of you have family working at a mining project, either an exploration camp or Meadowbank? (Show hands)

Jean has a niece working at MB,

Susan's son and brothers work there, son as supervisor/trainer, 2 brothers in heavy equipment operations.

Others all had relatives working out at MB.

What type of jobs?

- Dishwashing
- Housekeeping
- Mechanics

- Haul truck drivers
- Truck drivers
- Environmental tech
- Liaison (not sure of this)

6. How many of you have visited Meadowbank?

About half the group had visited. Mostly on tours.

7. How many have driven on the road to MB?

All had driven all or part of the road. Most had not been all the way to the mine (due to second gatehouse.)

Some had been on tours.

8. How do you feel that the operation of the Meadowbank Mine is **benefiting** your community?

- Financially
- Jobs
- People are happier
- People able to buy cars, trucks, toys.
- People are able to help their extended families when they have work/salary.
- People are getting trained in careers, like heavy equipment operation or mechanics. They have much more self-esteem.
- People who applied to AEM but did not get jobs now are better able to get jobs in town, and are now being reconsidered for work at the mine.
- People learn about safety. Once they learn to apply this at the mine, they transfer safety concerns back to the community. This is badly needed.
- Use of the mine road for hunting. Access to much more land, more easily, also safety factor of trucks passing if anyone is in trouble – they just need to get to the road, and can find someone to help them.
- Road is used for search & rescue purposes.
- People learn that they have abilities that are valued. This helps them.
- Following the example of Agnico Eagle, we are learning that we must look after our environment. This is needed in Baker and on the land. We see that they clean things up; we must do the same.
- Agnico Eagle sponsors things in the community. It is appreciated.
- A lot of good things have happened. People in Baker would have liked to have been more involved in the planning for the mine and operation, but weren't. Maybe more involvement in the future?

9. What **negative effects** is the operation of this mine having in your community?

- Dust
- Lots of trucks hauling gravel
- Increased use of alcohol, binge drinking, bootleggers doing well. (Susan)
- Unfaithfulness on the part of workers, due to fooling around at the mine. (Jean, Susan; both have known people with problems with this.)
- Difficulty getting enough time off to attend funerals, sometimes needed at home for longer time than allowed by the company. (Annie, Susan, Sarah)
- Being absent from your kids for a long time (Chantelle)
- People (parents) away from their homes for long periods, in some cases using children and elders to babysit while away at work. (Jean)
- Relationships sometimes strained by the partner being away, then needing the time at home to decompress. Sometimes when on break, the partner doesn't help around the home, says "too tired". Doesn't participate. (Annie)
- Some (many?) historical sites covered.

10. In what ways do you feel that Agnico Eagle could lessen these negative effects?

- The company has already solved a number of problems, such as the problem of staff speaking French only, and people are grateful for this.
- Communications are better, between southern staff and northerners/Inuit.
- Extend bereavement leave for immediate family members of a deceased person.
- Qilautimiut was asking Agnico Eagle to move the gatehouse further out the road for the convenience of hunters, etc.
 - The water at the current gatehouse is very good. If the gatehouse is moved, more elders can get at the water.
 - Also, the gatehouse occupies a place where hunters used to gather to watch for caribou – they need this view for hunting.

11. How do you feel about Inuit women working at the mine?

No one had any clear problems about this. Seem to be used to it, now.

It's good, if they can get a job. (Sarah)

It is good for women to work if spouse is unable to work (for any reason).

Daughter had a problem understanding the French staff, not only accent, but how they communicate and think. She found it difficult. (Susan)

Generally, feeling was that having women at the minesite has a positive effect.

12. There are a number of women working there now. In your opinion, how has this worked out?

It is working better now than in previous years.

Some concern over syllabics – this wasn't explained well – perhaps would like more bilingual signage or to make sure that the Inuktitut used is the Baker dialect. However, the comment was also made that many young people don't read syllabics correctly.

a. To your knowledge, is it a positive experience for them?

Yes, but the hardest part is leaving your kids.

Fewer misunderstandings than in the past.

b. What special problems do they face?

Missing your kids (Susan)

c. Do you have any advice for young Inuit **women** who are considering seeking employment at a mine or starting to work there?

- Build your resume and "go for it"!! (Annie)
- Having a good resume and work experience will help them to find work in the future. (Annie)
- There was general agreement with this.
- People could use more help with resumes in the community, and a better understanding of what Agnico Eagle is looking for. (Jean, Annie)
- Learn to be on time for work. Never be late. (Eloza, and general agreement from others)
- Leave your "attitude" at home. (Annie, and equal general agreement.)
- Understand that it will be hard at first, but will get easier with time. (Jean)
- Don't take rules (or admonishments from mine staff) personally (unless specifically about rule broken, etc.) (Eloza, Martha)
- Keep in mind that there will always be someone you can get along with. Don't isolate yourself. (Annie)
- Don't be afraid to ask for help or an explanation if you don't understand something. (Annie)
- If you have a problem, talk to someone you trust, don't just cover it up. Don't carry your problem alone. (General agreement, nods all around.)
- Leave home problems at home. (Sarah)

- d. If you have worked at Meadowbank, do you have any suggestions as to how the experience could be improved for workers, especially female workers?

No one really had anything to add for this.

- e. How about families – is there more that the *families* should know before a family member starts working at the site or on rotation?

General opinion was that some sort of orientation would be good. Orientation for people that have never worked (like school kids, youth) and an orientation as to how AEM functions and what is expected, how a mine site functions, workplace safety, rules, etc. for all who have enquired about employment there.

- f. Are there any ways we could better prepare young women for work in the mining industry, or for work on rotation?

- Stay in school.
- Get an education.
- When you prepare your resume, take into consideration ALL your abilities and experience – include sewing, hunting, firearms safety, on-the-land skills, ability to operate small equipment, fix/repair/maintain outboards, ATVs, generators, snowmobiles.
- Include references in your resume, don't make employers have to hunt for them. Contact info.

13. Any advice for young Inuit **men** who are considering employment there?

- Keep working, be patient, work to get experience.
- Don't immediately quit when things get difficult. Learn your job.
- Learn patience.

14. Any advice for **spouses and families** of anyone who is starting work at one of the mining projects?

- Ask questions, of the employer, of the person who is working. Show interest.
- Be patient, don't judge.

15. Do you have any suggestions as to how life at the minesite could be made better for Inuit employees?

- Provide more interpretation for those who need it.

- This is most important when seeing the medic. It is important that the person who is sick or injured understands the instructions.
- Trilingual interpretation often needed.
- Get a full-time interpreter on staff, male and female. (A man might not feel very comfortable interpreting if it is a woman who is seeing the medic.)
- Sometimes it is difficult to understand the English when the speaker's accent is strong. This causes problems. Translation often needed.

By this time, it was getting late and enthusiasm was waning.

Thanks to all who participated.

We need the input of people from the community, and hope all would feel free to let us know if you would like to discuss anything regarding the project. See people in the Baker office of Agnico Eagle Mines....

We have an honorarium for each person, but need you to sign a receipt for our accountants.

FOCUS GROUP FOR YOUTH

NOTES from Focus Group – Amaruq and Whale Tail Pit Project

Feb. 3, Wednesday, 3:55 – 5:10 PM

AGENDA

This focus group is part of the Agnico-Eagle Mines socio-economic baseline work for the Amaruq Road project. We want to talk to people who in the next 1-5 years will be looking for work and developing careers. The intent is to get a dialogue going and to get input from youth as to what they would like to see regarding opportunities, training, or information about work in the mining and related industries. **This session is less about traditional knowledge than about communications; how to communicate with youth, and to get a group of people who could provide a stepping stone into the school culture in Baker.**

Parameters for group: (Communicated to Gary Kennedy and the school.)

- High school students (currently attending school on a part or full-time basis)
- Need about 10-12 students.
- Grade 10 – 12. Mixture of males, females, all grades.
- Need a variety of students, from the less academically-motivated to the highly motivated.
- **Try to get students who are willing to talk, and let them know they are *expected* to contribute.**
- Will pay an honorarium for participation in the group. **(To Gary: We can pay students individually, or, if the school has a club that would like to fundraise \$ toward a trip or something, we will do a cheque directly to the group. They chose direct payment to the individual students.)**
- Session will last about 1hr (Start at 3:50. They are out of school at 3:45)
- Can be immediately after school, preferably. Would like to hold it at the high school – could use room in the Library or a classroom.
- We will bring refreshments.
- Teacher or school staff participation or observation is welcomed. (We will pay an honorarium to any teachers as well.)
- We will use **permission forms** (permission to share info gathered in this focus group), and have receipt forms for the honorarium. (Because we ran over a bit and school staff were anxious to leave, we simply had students sign a group list that they had received the honorarium and it was ok to use the material. It takes some time to go through the individual forms, and we did not have that time.)

Because youth are often reluctant to speak out, we ease into this, and some questions just ask for a show of hands, rather than verbal input. If they are not reluctant to speak out, will change the questions slightly.

Introductions. Team plus students. Names, what grade in currently, favourite subject in school.

We asked for 15. 21 showed up. I had cash for 17, so the Principal took the first 17 that signed up and we went with that. Enthusiasm was high. They loved the Tim Horton's donuts we brought. The girls were much more verbal than the boys but Alex Alooq stepped in and helped encourage the guys to speak out.

Research team: Page Burt, Karen Yip (Karen was the primary note taker for this group), Alex Alooq (translation not needed; students wanted to work in English, so Alex took notes).

ATTENDING:

Tyler Aksawnee
Andrea Phillips
William Tapatai
Vincent Inukpak
Sally Kingalik
Grace Evviuk
Maisie Tunguaq
Tyan Aksawnee
Jonathan Tootoo

Sondar Ikuutaq
Bathsheba Evviuk
Lisa Parker
Kristin Kanooklook
Hayley Tagoona
Ida Aningaas
Caroline Oman
Fiona Aningaut

(Ryan was not able to be there, so Page gave a very brief outline of what is being done regarding Amaruq/Whale Tail, etc.)

General questions re education/lifestyles:

1) How many in this group think you will finish Grade 12?

16/17 thought they would graduate. One was unsure.

2) Are you getting help with making choices about life beyond school? About career options?

Lots of nods, some "yes"

3) How are you getting this help?

- At school?

Counselors, teachers at school.

- Outside of school?

Parents, friends.

- Online searches?

Yes, a few: military, engineering.

- Other? Family, personal mentors, etc.

Some nodded or said “Yes” when I mentioned mentors. Most seemed to know what it meant.

4) Lifestyles:

- What do you do for fun or recreation? Sports? On-line gaming?

Sports, hockey, basketball.

Would do online gaming if the Internet was faster.

- How much time do you spend “online” each day? (This doesn’t count texting.)

All over the place.....

1-2 hrs, 2 hrs, 3 hrs., 3.5 hrs, 4 hrs.

One person said she doesn’t go on at home at all, only at school.

- Doing what? For school? For fun or personal use?

“Mostly for fun.”

Some: For projects. For studying.

- How many have a Facebook page?

Almost ALL!!!

Facebook was the most popular social media site.

Some mentioned:

Twitter 5

Instagram

Snapchat

BBM 6

- How many of you know how to do an internet search? (show of hands)

About 14 hands went up.

How would you start? (verbal input)

SKIPPED THIS, THEY WERE NOT COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO BE VERBAL YET.

- How many own/use a cell phone? How do cell phones work in Baker Lake?

7-8 (hands)

Cell phones don't work well in Baker.

- How much time do you spend texting per day?

Most said, "Short time" (Must not be as popular as in Rankin!)

5) Lifestyles, and health:

- How many of you feel you lead a healthy lifestyle?

8 mental

8 physical

- How many feel you would like to lead a healthier lifestyle?

Some nods, some shrugs, no real comments.

3 admitted to smoking. (We did not push this.)

- Comments? What would you like to do to see your life become healthier?

More physical activity

Geographically, Baker seems isolated.

- What is your favourite food?

"Traditional foods" 3-6, nods

Maktaaq 1 verbally, 3-4 nods

Pizza 6 (one comment: "Homemade")

- Your favourite traditional food?

Caribou – most, hands and nods

Maktaaq 5

Char 12

- Do you eat traditional foods at home? (Show of hands)

All raised their hands.

Pipsi: 9

Mipku: 12

- What type?

Caribou

- How often?

Every day (comment, and general agreement).

- Less than once a week?
- 1-2 x/week.

Some nods on this.

- More than twice a week.

Couple nods on this.

6) Traditional lifestyles

- Do you hunt? (show of hands)

Yes 9, mostly boys, but a couple girls nodded.

- What do you hunt?

Caribou

- How often?

A few, comments: "often"

Some, comment: "Not during winter"

Comment: "During school trips" (and nods to this)

- Do you get enough meat to share with relatives?

A few: "yes"

- Do you fish? (show hands)

Show of hands: 15

- What time of year?

"Whenever"

- In open water or through the ice?

Open water: 8

Through the ice: 12

With nets: 6

- What fish do you catch?

Trout

Some char

Grayling: "I like grayling" 1 person

- What fish do you keep?

Apparently keep all.

7) Do you like living in Baker Lake? Why or why not?

Most responded affirmatively.

No reasons given.

8) What kind of changes have you seen in Baker since Meadowbank Mine opened?

- More cars
- Less caribou
- More houses
- More out-of-towners
- Using more English than Inuktitut today
- New baseball diamond
- BBQs
- Might need to teach French in school
- More opportunities like Task Week
- Road (10 people have been on the road)

9) How would you like to see Baker change? Or, what changes would you like to see happen in Baker?

- Cleaner roads in summer time
- Cleaner environment in and out of town
- More opportunities for education
- More opportunities for the poor
- More education
- More encouragement to graduate
- More educational opportunities for aboriginals so they can speak for the Inuit
- Paved runway
- Sidewalks
- Get First Air back
- Hospital
- Ambulance
- Bigger swimming pool
- More traditional/cultural opportunities for youth

Questions re careers and the mining industry:

1) What are you (**and your friends**) thinking re the future beyond school?

Graduate (most)

Have a career

Mechanic (2)

Pilot (girl, said teasingly, "Get paid to go away.")

Military

Building houses and new stuff (maybe "construction")

a. What are your hopes?

Engineer

Physician (2)

Personal trainer (4)

b. What plans are you making?

(Start by inviting general contributions, then go around the group and urge individual statements.)

Go to Nunavut Sivuniksavit 10

Travel the world

2) Do you know anyone who is currently working at either a mine (Meadowbank), or at an exploration camp? (show of hands)

Meadowbank 13

Exploration 0

3) What is the difference between a mine and exploration project?

They did not know.

NOTE from Page: This in itself indicates a very real gap. It is very basic. Agnico Eagle could fix this by offering to do presentations or short courses, or workshops for teachers. Start by consulting Kivalliq School Operations so it is a cooperative effort.

- Can you name any operating mines? Producing what?

Meadowbank

Not all knew it produces gold.

- Can you name any exploration projects in Kivalliq?

No one contributed.

Page mentioned Areva, and several recognized the name.

4) Do you know anyone who is working at MB or has worked there? What type of job?

SKIPPED this, asked earlier. They all know people working out there.

No one came up with any job titles, descriptions or ideas.

NOTE FROM PAGE: It appears that people working at site may not be communicating to their families or friends about what they do at work. No idea whether this is just a lack of pride in their work or whether they just *do not communicate*. Could be both.

5) Have you ever visited a mine or an exploration project? Which one(s)?

Meadowbank: 4

- What did you want to learn when you went there?

Saw photos of the pits, equipment. Wanted to see it for real.

- What interested you the most about your visit – what do you remember the most?

Long hallways!

Tame wildlife (foxes)

Equipment (large equipment)

6) As we said at the beginning of this session, Agnico-Eagle is considering an expansion to the Meadowbank project, with an all weather road and then development of some deposits called Amaruq and Whale Tail. These could extend the life of MB mine by several years.

- Did you know about this?

No one knew anything about this.

- Where did you hear about this?

SKIPPED

7) How do you think the MB mine has affected Baker Lake?

Land, some land taken by the mine.

Office – in Baker Lake

8) How do you think it has affected the environment of the area to the north of Baker Lake?

The wildlife?

Less caribou, or, less caribou closer to town

Fish?

There haven't been many fish, in all lakes.

Water quality?

Water has changed colour

Dust on the water

We are more hesitant regarding drinking water.

The land?

Dust on plants and land

Roads disturb the land

Foxes and wolverines coming into town

9) Have you heard of the Meliadine Gold Project? Where is it, and what are they doing there?

Yes, heard of it.

10) What kind of jobs do you think exist in the mining industry in the North? Or in serving the industry?

- Housekeeping
- Blasting
- Cook
- Haul truck drivers
- Mechanics
- Drillers
- Smelter
- Ship gold out
- Fuel handling
- Dish pit
- Medics

11) Do any of these jobs interest you? Why? (Go around the group and get individual input if people don't volunteer.)

"Yes" but little input as to what.

First Aid 2 people

NOTE FROM PAGE: This indicates another serious educational gap. These students should not be hoping for just what their parents are likely doing, but for a greater variety of jobs. They don't know what is available to them.

12) What kind of concerns would you have about jobs in this industry?

SKIPPED

13) Do you know that most mines are finding that women make better truck drivers than men? Why do you think this is so?

Mentioned this, but little reaction. Some of the girls smiled and pumped fists. (Got much more reaction to this in Rankin.)

- Does this change anything about the way you girls in the group think about the possibilities of working in the industry?

We might work there.....

Drive trucks.....

14) What kind of training do you think you would need to work in a job that interests you? If you don't know, how would you find out?

Not much response, but it was getting late.

15) How many of you have First Aid training or certification? (show of hands)

Maybe 4....

- Which one? (St. John Ambulance, Red Cross?)

SKIPPED

- How many would like to get certified in First Aid? (show of hands)

Many hands went up.

16) How many of you are interested in working at MB?

16 out of the 17 Most hands went up.

17) If the Meliadine Project becomes a mine, are you interested in working there?

SKIPPED, getting late.

18) What is working "on rotation"?

SKIPPED

Communications and information

1) Would you (personally) like more info on working at a mine or in an exploration camp?

Yes, most would like more.

2) What kind of information?

No input; they really have no idea.

3) What is the best way to communicate to get information to people your age?

Facebook

Email

“Things at school” - probably: events, mini-courses, presentations, guided exploration of AEM websites....

4) How many have your own email address?

Many, almost all hands went up.

[NOTE FROM PAGE: This is an opening for communications, and an opportunity to send newsletters to this age group.]

- How many use Twitter?

Not enough to make an effort worthwhile here.

- BBM?
- Texting on cell phones or using mobile devices?

Not many in Baker, cell phones much more popular, or more kids have them, in Rankin.

- Other social media?

Facebook

[NOTE FROM PAGE: Could do a special Facebook Agnico Eagle site to appeal to youth and young adults. Then make a real effort to get “Friends”....]

5) How many of you have visited the Agnico Eagle website? (Show hands)

4 had visited it.

- IF Agnico Eagle had a special site on Meadowbank and Meliadine with info on jobs, would you be interested in visiting that site? (hands)

General approval: “Yes, especially if it was done for youth. “

- If it listed job openings, would you keep visiting to learn about new jobs?

Yes, clear general agreement, lots of nods, smiles.

6) If you need a resume to apply for a job, how do you get one?

No response.

- Is there help with this through your school?

Through school.

7) What are “the trades”, “journeymen” or “apprenticeships”?

Had to skip through this part pretty fast, running out of time. Asked the question, but little response.

8) Where can you get information about “trades access” or what you need to do to be considered for an apprenticeship?

9) How many of you have visited the Trade School in Rankin Inlet? (hands)

None

- Do you know anyone taking courses there?
 - What type of courses are offered there?
 - Would you like to visit?
 - If you have visited, did any programs or courses interest you? Which ones?
- 10) How many of you have considered going on for more advanced training in other fields, like the sciences, communications, health sciences, etc.? (hands)

About 14 have considered this.

- What interests you? (go around the room)
- Electrical
- Engineering

- Robotics
- Business management

By this time it was after 5 pm and it was obvious that the teachers and school staff wanted to leave. We had to end.

- How you would like to get information about jobs and careers and qualifications for jobs?
- How would you like to get info about the mining industry?

11) If visits to the Meadowbank project site were offered, would you like to go? (hands)

- What aspect of the project would you most like to see?

12) Is there anything else you would like to comment on or ask about the Meadowbank Project and the Amaguq Project and proposed road?

Thanks very much for participating. The input of young people is very important and valued. You are the future of your community and of our mine.

We need each of you to sign the list to show we paid your honorarium. Thanks very much.

We got signatures on the list, rather than going through all the forms.

Major Outstanding Concerns from Baker Lake HTO Regarding Agnico Eagle Mines' Projects Near Baker Lake

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Major outstanding concerns from Baker Lake HTO regarding Agnico-Eagle Mines' Projects near Baker Lake

February 1, 2016

This list of outstanding concerns is based on letters the Baker Lake HTO sent to NIRB and Agnico-Eagle this fall. If the HTO board has other concerns, it should add them to this list.

- 1) **Timing of consultation meeting** – the HTO board requested that Agnico meet with the HTO and further discuss the Amaruq road project *before* approval was granted. Consultations are much less meaningful when they are carried out after approval has been granted for a project.
- 2) **Route of the Amaruq Road** – The Baker Lake HTO requested Agnico change the route of the Amaruq road a few kilometers to the north. The Baker Lake HTO made this recommendation because the current route goes across and near many archeological sites, and is along a line of eskers which is a traditional walking trail. The eskers are also important wildlife habitat. Agnico has agreed to some small changes in the road route to narrowly avoid some of the archeological sites. However, the route is still planned to destroy several eskers, and possibly some archeological sites.
- 3) **Archeological, heritage resources, and traditional use** – The Baker Lake HTO was disappointed that Agnico-Eagle's maps of heritage resources and traditional uses for the Amaruq area was incomplete. The HTO requested that AEM prepare maps that bring together all of the information they have gathered, so HTO board members could help fill in gaps.
- 4) **Grave sites** – The Baker Lake HTO requested that a condition be placed on Agnico-Eagle's projects, requiring it to not conduct activity within 500m of a grave site. Agnico has agreed to a smaller buffer.
- 5) **Road dust** – The Baker Lake HTO has repeatedly requested dust be suppressed on the Meadowbank and Amaruq access roads. Agnico has repeatedly denied this request. Perhaps Agnico could, at minimum, suppress dust on the road near the most important hunting/fishing/camping areas (e.g. Whitehills lake)? The HTO board could help Agnico choose places that are most important to suppress road dust.