



DONLIN GOLD PRESENTED WITH EMPLOYER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Donlin Gold is pleased to be one of the 11 recipients of the Employer of Excellence Award in May. The award was presented by the Alaska Construction Academies for Donlin Gold's efforts in the development of career camps with an emphasis on heavy equipment. Workforce Development and Human Resources Manager, Meg Day, accepted the award on Donlin Gold's behalf for her notable outreach efforts.



Development and Human Resources Manager, Meg Day

In 2006, Alaska Construction Academies were founded in order to provide more opportunities and to attract young people and adults to entry-level jobs in construction and trade apprenticeship programs. Every year since their founding, the academies recognize and award employers that show dedication and commitment toward developing a prepared, knowledgeable and skilled workforce.

INCREASING REVENUE AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) recently released their Annual Economic Benefits of Alaska's Mining Industry report for 2014. The report addresses the economic benefits mining provides the state of Alaska. These benefits include employing local residents, bringing in revenue locally and working with hundreds of Alaska businesses.



Alaska's mines produce coal, gold, lead, silver and zinc, as well as construction materials such as sand, gravel and rock. These mines are spread throughout Alaska, providing jobs across the state. With more job opportunities available, local economies experience significant upturn in revenue. Through 7(i) and 7(j) revenue sharing, many benefit from this economic growth, with increased dividends and more job opportunities.

While state oil production and revenue has recently experienced a decline, the mining industry continues to serve as a source of stable opportunity. AMA reported in 2014 the mining industry provided:

- 4,400 direct mining jobs in Alaska
- 8,700 total direct and indirect jobs attributed to the Alaska mining industry
- \$620 million in total direct and indirect payroll
- Some of Alaska's highest paying jobs with an estimated average annual wage of \$1,000,000, over twice the state average for all sectors of the economy
- \$20 million in local government revenue through property taxes and payments in lieu of taxes
- \$119 million in state government-related revenue through rents, royalties, fees and taxes
- \$144 million in payments to Alaska Native corporations
- Mostly year-round jobs for residents of more than 50 communities throughout Alaska, half of which are found in rural Alaska where few other jobs are available

(article continues inside)

YK REGION YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN 2015 SUMMER XL BRIDGING CAMP



A group of youth participants from EXCEL's Summer XL Bridging Camp.

Donlin Gold believes education is an essential element of a child's development as it provides them with knowledge of the world and industries, instills them with a sense of responsibility and drive, and prepares them for future employment. Research also shows communities inhabited by educated members of society see long-term economic and social benefits.

To aide in youth education in the YK region, Donlin Gold provides resource donations, offers employee involvement and supports youth events. This year, Donlin Gold supported EXCEL Alaska's 2015 Summer XL Bridging Camp, which took place June 6-27 at Kenai Peninsula College.



Thirty-nine students gathered from seven Western Alaska school districts for 21 days of relevant and intensive hands-on learning to promote the growth of Alaska's future workforce. Hands on instruction involved vocational training where students chose from carpentry, welding, process technology or emergency trauma technician. Students also had the opportunity to receive career/transition planning training, drivers education and employability/leadership/soft skill training.

Donlin Gold celebrates the success of the students participating in the 2015 Summer XL Camp program and is pleased to see so many students completing the courses.

This year's completion numbers are as follows:

- Drivers License - 16 students
- Drivers Permits - 11 students
- UA Welding Class Credits - 10 students
- UA Process Tech. Hand Tools Credits - 9 students
- ETT Certified - 8 students
- All day ride along with the fire department - 8 students
- Carpentry National Core Certified - 6 students
- Built a 12 x 20 shed - 10 students
- High School Credit (0.5 credits)
 - Drivers Education - 15 students
 - Career Development Life Work Planning (grades 9-10) - 7 students
 - Employability Skills
- Advanced Job Readiness (grades 11-12) - 24 students

- Enrolled in College, an Internship or Employed:
 - Kenai Peninsula College - 5 students
 - Delta Mine Training Center - 1 student
 - AVTEC - 1 student
 - Employment - 2 students
- Drug, Alcohol, and Suicide Prevention Training - 37 students
- Leadership Training - 37 students
- Workplace Safety Training - 37 students
- Employability Skills Training - 37 students
- 21-days of "Taste of College/Campus Life" - 37 students
- Independent/Financial Living Skills Training - 37 students

Donlin Gold extends their gratitude for EXCEL's commitment to enriching the lives of students in the YK region. In support of their commitment to educational opportunities in the YK region, Donlin Gold is grateful to have the opportunity to help fund the EXCEL Alaska Summer Camp, as a trained and skilled workforce in the region will benefit the future of the communities. ■

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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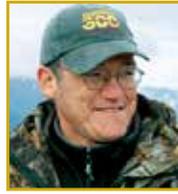
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Natural hazards are something every Alaskan is familiar with, whether it's flooding, severe winter weather, earthquakes, wildfires or other natural occurrences. Annually, wild fires burn thousands of acres in Alaska, and this year has been no different, with just under 100 fires burning in southwest Alaska and over 300 throughout the state. Although most fires have been caused naturally by lightning, some have resulted from human error. Human-caused wildfires are the most preventable, but are easily ignited and cause the most direct danger to people and property. With the low snowfall and warm winter temperatures this year, wildfire threat is high and the smallest spark can cause a fire.

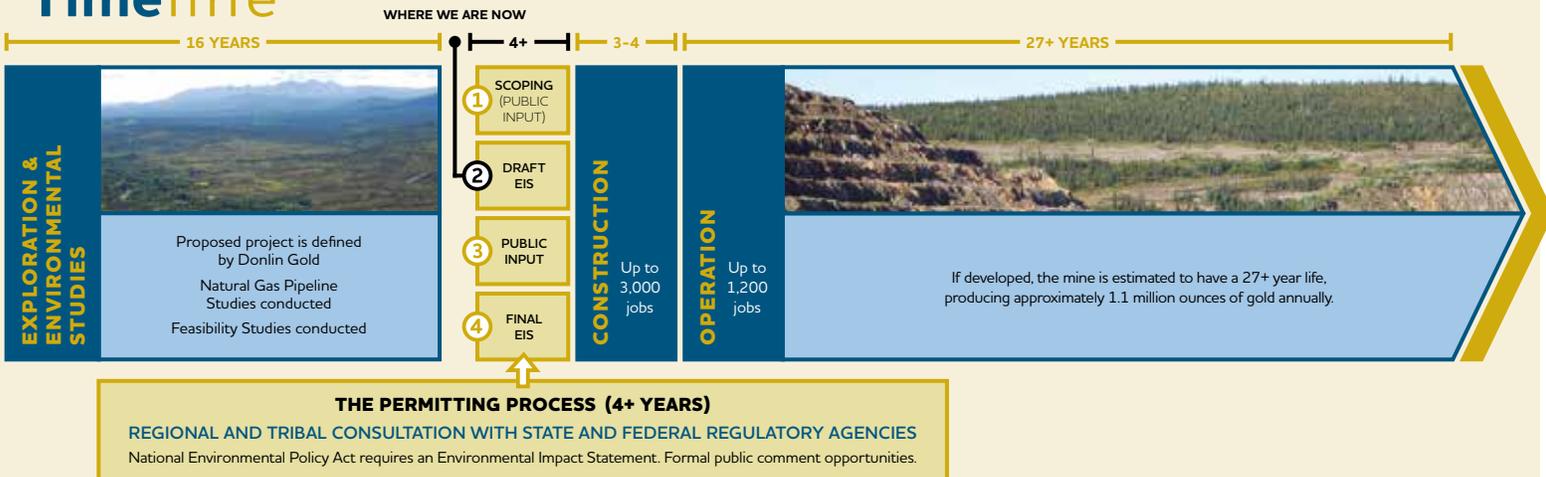
Wildfire can not only cause property damage, but also negative health effects, particularly for those with existing health conditions, such as elders, children, smokers and those with heart or lung disease. Effects can range from mild irritation, including coughing, stinging eyes, headaches and a scratchy throat, to chest pain, rapid heartbeat and shortness of breath. When smoke is thick in your community, it is important to make sure those who are most prone to the effects of wildfire smoke are safely inside with closed windows and doors.

Ensuring campfires are completely extinguished is one of the best ways of preventing human-caused wildfires. The Fish and Wildlife Service advises a four-step process that includes slowly pouring water on the fire, stirring and scraping the coals, adding more water and stirring until steaming stops, and finally adding more water and stirring until the fire is completely cooled. Below are the links to the Alaska Wildland Fire Information, the Alaska Division of Forestry and the Division of Air Quality website. Using these websites, you can access information and resources available to help communities and individuals know what they can do to protect their communities and health when wildfires are near. I urge everyone to do their part to ensure human-caused fires are prevented and their communities kept safe. Thank you for helping to preserve our historical and beautiful lands.

Alaska Wildland Fire Information, www.akfireinfo.com
Alaska Division of Forestry, www.forestry.alaska.gov/wildland.htm
Division of Air Quality www.dec.alaska.gov/air/smoke_qa.htm

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



TESTING STUDENTS' KNOWLEDGE



For one week in April of this year, 103 students from the Kuspuuk School District, and 32 students from other districts, participated in the Donlin Gold sponsored Academic and Trades Decathlon 2015. The decathlon was held at Aniak Jr. Sr. High School with grades seven through 12 participating.

The decathlon offered an opportunity for students of the YK region to showcase their academic skills and achievements as well as explore career and technical education opportunities.

The four-day decathlon was comprised of individual and team competitions; individual competitions included topics such as math, science, geography and keyboarding. First, second and third place winners received medals resembling those presented to Olympians. Smaller medals and ribbons were presented to each individual team and for each event.

The decathlon also included workforce development initiatives that focused on welding technology, heavy equipment operation, leadership development, geology, carpentry, hunter safety, emergency medical services, computer applications, culinary arts and engineering. Through the initiatives students had the opportunity to participate in fun, hands on experiences including building small wood working projects, cooking and handling food and even rappelling off the balcony of the Aniak Fire Station.

In addition to the competition and initiatives, Donlin Gold's Meg Day and Kurt Parkan served as guest speakers for two nights of the event. Aniak resident and Iditarod Musher, Richie Diehl, also spoke to students on how to achieve their goals and work toward a positive future.



Donlin Gold employee, Angie Grant, and decathlon participant, Chelsey Zauker, enjoy a break from activities.

Donlin Gold is pleased to support an event that recognizes youth's academic skills and encourages them to pursue their education. Donlin Gold would also like to express their gratitude for the donations of time and equipment from Northern Industrial Training, Alaska Construction Academy, Yuut Elitnaurviat, Aniak Volunteer Fire Department, Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC), Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Resource Center, City of Aniak and Crowley Marine.

Quyana to all those who participated and volunteered in the decathlon. ■



Decathlon participants put their constructive engineering skills to the test.



Decathlon participant exercises his newly gained welding skills.



Participants gather round as they prepare to apply their culinary knowledge in the kitchen.

INVESTING IN SAFETY FOR THE YK REGION



Many are familiar with Donlin Gold's motto "everybody going home safe and healthy everyday" as Donlin Gold continuously supports this effort in work environments as well as general life practices. To encourage all YK residents to do the same, Donlin Gold partners with the State of Alaska Office of Boating Safety and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation to promote the "Kids Don't Float" program annually.

One of the ways Donlin Gold hopes to reduce the incidence of drowning is by distributing life vests to those in the YK region during summer months. This is the 5th consecutive year Donlin Gold has been assisting in the distribution of life vests, either in-person during village and fish camp visits, by mail or by placing them directly on the Life Jacket Loaner Boards located throughout the region. There is no charge to use a life jacket from any loaner board and Donlin Gold relies on residents to return the life jacket after use so other residents can use them.

This year alone, almost 50 villages have benefited from the program by receiving Donlin Gold life vests, with shipping provided by Alaska Air Transit, Ravn Alaska, Ryan Air and Yute Air. Through this safety initiative and support, Donlin Gold has donated over 3,000 life vests to the YK region over the life of the program, and is grateful for the airlines that make these donations possible.

Donlin Gold encourages all YK region residents of any age to practice safety in the summer months and wear a life jacket. By wearing a life jacket, YK residents are not only practicing safety, but also setting examples for their children and serving as positive role models.

To kick-off the summer of safety statewide, Donlin Gold participated in Anchorage's May 15 gathering in Town Square with the State of Alaska Office of Boating Safety to promote water safety practices and remind everyone that "Kids Don't Float".

Boating incident statistics according to the Alaska Boating and Safety Program's Alaska Boater's Handbook are staggering, but there are successes as well. Nationally, the Kids Don't Float program has been credited with saving 24 young lives through the use of life jackets.

Donlin Gold works with the State of Alaska and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation to ensure everyone has the opportunity to practice safety when out on the water by helping lower boating safety incidents and increase the number of those properly prepared for the waters.



If you would like to find out more about boating safety and how to practice it, please visit the Alaska Boating Safety Programs website. www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/boating/

To find the nearest loaner board in your region, visit www.kidsdontfloat.alaska.gov or call 907-465-4170. ■

Thank you to Joann Andrew for providing photos.

INCREASING REVENUE AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

Once operational, the potential Donlin Gold mine would serve as another source of revenue for the economy, most notably in the YK region. Donlin Gold is committed to recruiting a local workforce for jobs at the mine and could provide up to 3,000 jobs during

construction, and up to 1,200 jobs during the operational phase.

To read more information on AMA's Annual Economic Benefits of Alaska's Mining Industry report, please visit AMA branch offices or visit www.alaskaminers.org/economic-impact

You can also find out more about potential job opportunities with Donlin Gold and how you can prepare yourself for hire by visiting www.donlingold.com/employees ■



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IN THIS NEWSLETTER : **DONLIN GOLD PROMOTES SAFETY AND EDUCATION IN THE YK REGION.**



Youth participated in EXCEL's Summer XL Bridging Camp, with the support of Donlin Gold.

CLEANING UP THE COMMUNITIES

During the month of May, the Clean Up Green Up initiative kicked off with 52 YK region villages participating. Clean Up Green Up is a national event promoted by Donlin Gold in the region in order to encourage everyone to practice care for their environment and to dispose of litter properly. During the clean up, members of the community participate by cleaning up the litter that settles in over a long snowy winter, improving the look of their community as well as the health and safety of villages in the YK region.

Donlin Gold provides monetary and bicycle donations to the participating villages, and thanks the generous air cargo partners, Ravn Alaska, Everts Air and Alaska Air Transit, for making the bike donations possible. With the help of air cargo partners, Donlin Gold was able to donate 104 bikes to participating villages for this year's initiative.

Donlin Gold believes that Alaska's landscape should remain healthy and is pleased to provide incentives to encourage

community involvement in the Clean Up Green Up program. We are grateful for those who volunteer and work hard to keep the communities clean. Donlin Gold is committed to doing our part to keep Alaska's landscape healthy. ■



A group of children from the Village of Eek helped to keep their community clean.

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES