



Report on: “Let’s Talk Mining” Presentations at BC First Nations Energy and Mining Council Mining Workshops

Terrace Oct. 17-18, 2013

Smithers Oct. 22-23, 2013



by
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C3 Alliance Corp.

October 31, 2013

Executive Summary

The British Columbia First Nations Energy and Mining Council organized two Mining Workshops supported by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. The workshops were held in Terrace from October 16 to 18, 2013 and Smithers on October 21 to 23, 2013. C3 Alliance Corp., a private company with expertise in explaining the mineral resource sector to community audiences, contributed two days of information titled “Let’s Talk Mining” to the program.

“Let’s Talk Mining” covers the complete life cycle of the mineral industry, starting with exploration then continuing to mine development and operation and finishing with mine reclamation and closure. The information was presented to explain the nature of mineral industry activities with an emphasis on mineral exploration and modern mine closure and reclamation.

Key outcomes for the participants included learning about the many economic opportunities related to the mineral industry, understanding the nature of different phases of an exploration program; appreciating modern mine closure and reclamation along with the related challenges; and hearing how the Tahltan First Nation developed agreements related to mineral industry projects.

A key aspect of the presentations was to provide an environment of respect which allowed for significant dialogue and input by the participants. Questions were welcome and frequent. At times there were extended discussions as participants interacted with the instructors and each other. This involvement showed the high level of engagement for most of the participants.

The participants were clearly pleased with the quality of the “Let’s Talk Mining” sessions. Nineteen of the twenty people who completed a feedback form rated the overall quality of the LTM sessions as excellent or good and 14 people said that yes, they would recommend to a friend to attend similar sessions.

“Let’s Talk Mining” (LTM)

- Two sessions, each 2 days
- Terrace and Smithers, BC
- 28 participants
- LTM overall quality rated as either excellent or good by 95% of participants who completed evaluation.
- Majority of participants would recommend to a friend to take LTM.

Introduction

The workshops in Terrace and Smithers were provided to help First Nations from central and northern British Columbia gain a better understanding of the mineral industry and related resource agreements. This region of the province has a number of new and proposed mines of interest and concern to First Nations. The overall program was initiated and funded by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Canada who hired the BC First Nations Energy and Mining Council (BC FNEMC) to carry out the AANDC contract. The Council hired C3 Alliance Corp. (C3) to assist with the workshop by delivering their popular “Let’s Talk Mining” workshop, referred to below often as sessions.

BCFNEMC staff coordinated, facilitated and delivered all administrative, advertising, booking and catering tasks for the “Let’s Talk Mining” sessions. They invited representatives from all the First Nations in the region. C3 expresses its thanks to BCFNEMC, particularly to Victor Mitander and Joanna Prince, for their assistance.

Workshops delivered by C3 (Appendix 1) are designed to meet the needs of Aboriginal communities and leaders. The schedule is flexible and responds to the interests of the participants. C3 is effective in creating an environment of respect which allows for significant dialogue and input by the participants.



The objective of the C3 presentations in Terrace and Smithers was to provide information about the nature of mineral industry activities with an emphasis on mineral exploration and mine closure and reclamation. They also profiled how Aboriginal communities can influence government processes and benefit economically from mineral exploration, mining and reclamation.

The instructors were Jerry Asp and Dave Lefebure who have had lengthy careers related to the mineral industry. Jerry Asp also has extensive experience negotiating and signing agreements with the mineral industry on behalf of Aboriginal communities in Canada and internationally.

The schedule for the two LTM sessions is included as Appendix 2. The two days were spent with a mixture of answering questions, slide presentations, and extended discussions. Jerry Asp presented numerous examples of how the Tahltan and other First Nations are ensuring that mineral industry company activities on Traditional Territories respect cultural and environmental values and benefit Aboriginal Peoples. While the presentations by Dave Lefebure provided numerous pictures of a wide variety of industry activities and explained the basic characteristics of this unique sector. Both instructors responded frankly to all questions in everyday language.

Some examples of the types of questions asked by participants are shown in Figure 1. The questions demonstrate the different interests of the people who attended.

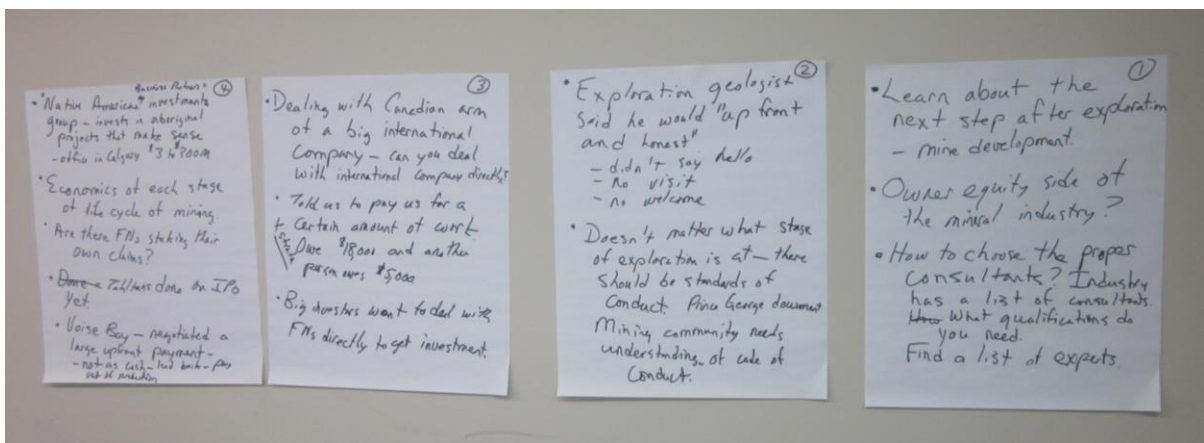


Figure 1. Questions asked at the start of the Smithers workshop.



Figure 2 Facilitator Jerry Asp answering questions posed by participants at the Smithers workshop.

Often the questions led into extended discussions as the instructors interacted with the participants. At both locations, the review of local mineral exploration, mine development and mine activity was well received. In many cases workshop participants had information to share or specific questions.

Workshop Evaluations

Twenty participants completed feedback questionnaires designed to see if the course was on target and useful for them. As shown in Figure 3, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. In response to being asked if they would recommend the “Let’s Talk Mining” sessions to a friend (Question #4), 14 said yes.

A number of participants volunteered positive comments in the written portion of the feedback forms, such as:

- “Great discussions”.
- “I enjoyed the whole workshop. I will definitely recommend to our local community.”
- “Excellent workshop.”
- “Great workshop. Learned a lot.”
- “Do more workshops to educate our people.”

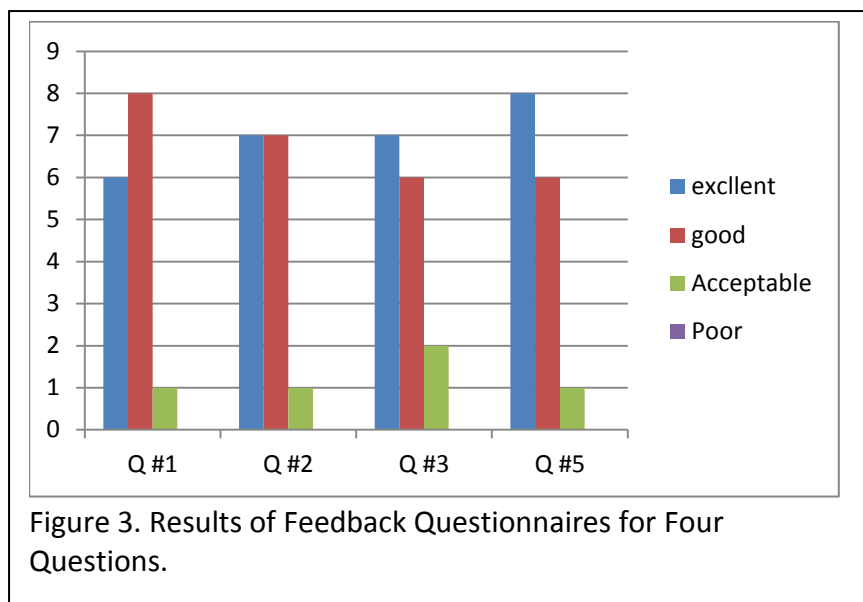


Figure 3. Results of Feedback Questionnaires for Four Questions.

Outcomes

The participants gained considerable knowledge about the mineral resource sector in the workshops, including:

- learning the major differences between exploration and mining;
- identifying the different phases of an exploration program;
- how a mine development project moves from one phase to the next;
- appreciating modern mine closure and reclamation along with the challenges;
- learning how Aboriginal communities can choose to benefit economically from the mineral industry; and
- understanding how a First Nation can participate in government processes related to proposed mineral industry projects.

The workshops also provided opportunities for participants to discuss common issues and suggest possible ways to address them. For example, in Smithers it was brought up that some First Nations lacked people with the required expertise to assess mineral industry projects or proposals. A First Nation in this situation would appreciate some way to identify a suitable consultant or company to assist them, possibly a directory for Aboriginal communities.

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Appendix 1: “Let’s Talk Mining” Brochure



“LET’S TALK MINING”

First Nations and Community Workshops and Presentations	
<p>Does your company or agency want to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase people's understanding of the mineral industry;• seek advice about First Nations and community engagement;• profile the mining cycle from prospecting to mine reclamation and closure and the related economic opportunities for local people and companies;• demonstrate government's strong mining regulations;• show mining's benefits and challenges;• use experienced, independent presenters who know the challenges faced by small, isolated communities; and• help people understand mining and replace fear of the unknown with knowledge of the true nature of mining.	<p>C3 Alliance Corp has the expertise to facilitate and deliver First Nations and community mineral exploration and mining outreach.</p> <p>Mining Life Cycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ExplorationDevelopmentMiningReclamation



“Let’s Talk Mining” Workshop

The “Let’s Talk Mining” Workshop improves the understanding of First Nations and communities of the complete life cycle of the mining industry. It has a strong emphasis on exploration which is by far the most common mineral industry activity on the land. As well, it effectively addresses the most commonly voiced concerns regarding mine closure and reclamation.

This interactive workshop is delivered in a relaxed, innovative manner utilizing numerous photographs, games, role playing, rock samples and humour to enhance the learning experience. The material is presented by Jerry Asp and Dave Lefebure, both of whom have years of experience in delivering mining education workshops and presentations. Each “Let’s Talk Mining” Workshop is tailored to meet the needs and interests of the participants in a cost effective way.

Fee Schedule:

“Let’s Talk Mining” Workshop:

Rates can be a per person fee (minimum number of participants), daily rate plus expenses or all-in fee.

Presentations: Fee plus travel costs and expenses.

Contract Work: Daily rates plus travel costs and expenses.



More Information:

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Workshop Leaders



Jerry Asp
President,
C3 Alliance Corp.

Jerry is one of western Canada’s most prominent Aboriginal leaders, and is a certified trainer. He is a staunch believer in the need for economic independence for all Aboriginal Peoples and the role mineral exploration and mining can play in this goal. He has devoted his professional career to enhancing the quality of life for Aboriginal people through the creation of new business opportunities and development of skills and capacity in the community.



Dave Lefebure Ph.D., P. Geo.
Vice President,
C3 Alliance Corp.

Dave was Chief Geologist for the British Columbia Geological Survey from 2002 to 2011. Dave has more than 30 years of experience with the mineral industry. He has organized, delivered and participated in numerous workshops for First Nations and communities in British Columbia. He is an engaging teacher who uses innovative approaches to connect with all types of audiences.

Appendix 2: Agenda

“Let’s Talk Mining”

Smithers, Oct. 22-23, 2013

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Agenda

Tuesday Oct. 22 – Mineral Exploration and Mine Development

Welcome

Elder Prayer

Introductions

Questions and Mineral Resource Knowledge

Coffee Break

Prospecting and Preliminary Mineral Exploration

Economic and Employment Opportunities

12:00 to 1:00 pm Lunch

Exploration – Only a Few are Successful

Advanced Mineral Exploration

Coffee Break

Mineral Exploration in the Smithers Region

Mine Development

Close and information for day 2

End

Wednesday Oct. 18 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mine Development, Mining and Mine Reclamation/Closure

Welcome

Mine Development (cont.)

Different Types of Mines

Coffee Break

Potential Environmental/ Social Impacts of Mine Development & Mines

12:00 to 1:00 pm Lunch

Abandoned Mines and Exploration Sites

Modern Mine Reclamation and Closure

Coffee Break

Mines in the Smithers Region

Talking Circle

Closing Remarks

Closing Prayer