



Community News Summer 2023



Sharkey's Pit to be backfilled

Starting in early 2024

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Dynamic Day Services duo

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It's fire season

And we are prepared

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Barrie Winzar Memorial Scholarship

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Update from the General Manager

From the desk of Lance Faulkner, Fosterville Gold Mine's General Manager.

It's already the end of 2023 and while we have a lot to be grateful for and reflect upon, we are also looking forward to our plans for 2024 and beyond.

Working together

As a business operating in Central Victoria where over 800 people are employed, the vast majority of whom reside in the region, we work hard to be a good employer, a good neighbour and a welcome member of the community and we take the Agnico Eagle commitment to sustainability seriously.

During the year we recognised the service of some long-term employees celebrating their 10 year and 15 year anniversaries. As in previous years, hearing the stories of their experience and contribution to Fosterville Gold Mine is always genuinely gratifying.

Every person who comes on site; whether they are a new or old employee, work for a contractor or other business partner has an important part to play, bringing their skills and support, to enable us to do what we do each day, to the best of our ability.

You can read more about two of our newer staff members, Kayla and Rhi on page 7. While on pages 5 and 10, you will learn more about how we are working with Telstra, to improve regional connectivity, and with our local CFA brigades, to support one another through the upcoming fire season.

Caring for community

While it is true that we are here to mine gold, it is by no means all we do. We are determined to shed the historic legacy of past mining practices, by ensuring that our activities not only significantly benefit the wider community (updates on just a few of our recent community projects are on pages 16 and 17), but also by mitigating the impact of our activities upon the environment.

Our team of environmental professionals, both internal and external, work on monitoring our impacts, to ensure that our activities remain within regulatory limits, and also provide detailed data so that we can effectively and progressively rehabilitate the mine site as we go. We also really appreciate the community members who continue to provide us with feedback on our activities, so that we understand if we haven't got it right.

On page 4 you can read about the Sharkey's backfill rehabilitation project and go to page 14 to learn more about our emissions testing protocols.

Making our home better for everyone

As members of the community, all those employed at Fosterville Gold Mine have a vested interest in making the communities in which we operate, the places where we all live, better for everyone. For us, that's gold ... and what it means to operate in a region that has a very long gold mining history.

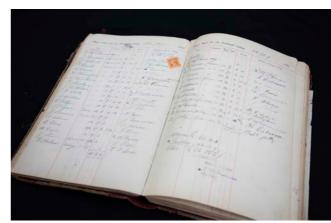
We were recently gifted the Mine Manager's book and Wages Register from the Central Ellesmere mine, which chronicles the history of the first mine that was opened in Fosterville in the late 1890s. The books provide a fascinating insight into our region's mining past, turning the pages and reading the handwritten reports from 130 years ago provided a tangible sense of our connection to it.

Given their age the books are in real need of some TLC, so we are having them professionally restored to ensure this valuable history is kept intact for future generations.

Sustained Operations Project

As we head into 2024, the focus will firmly be on the next phase of Fosterville Gold Mine's future. We anticipate that the public exhibition period for the Sustained Operations Project Environmental Effects Statement (EES) will be in the first half of 2024. Please read the Sustained Operations Project update on page 6 to learn more about how you can play a role in keeping us here as part of the community for the foreseeable future.





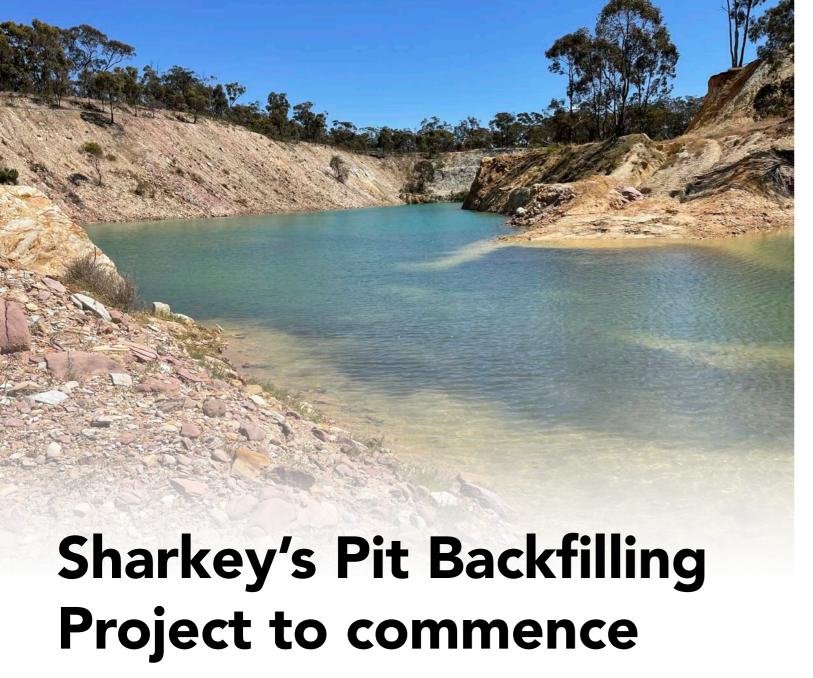






Top: Some of our FGM staff who celebrated 10 years service in 2023. **Left:** These 130-year-old books provide a fascinating insight into the Fosterville's gold mining past.

Right: We were touched to be invited to take part in Rochester's Annual Christmas Display in the Rochester Town Hall.



As part of our commitment to responsible mining practices, progressive rehabilitation, and in alignment with the private landowners' expectations, FGM are backfilling and rehabilitating Sharkey's Pit – located north of Campaspe Road – back to agricultural land use, which is in line with its existing land use zoning (Farming Zone).

The backfilling and rehabilitation of Sharkey's Pit is proposed to commence in early 2024 and is expected to take approximately 8 months to complete, after which topsoil placement and revegetation activities will occur.

More about Sharkey's Pit

Sharkey's Pit is an oxide open cut pit that was mined during the early 1990s, prior to the commencement of the modern sulphide operations at Fosterville Gold Mine. The pit is located on private property directly north of Campaspe Road within mining licence MIN5404.

The southern portion of the pit was partially backfilled at the cessation of open cut mining, along with the reinstatement of Campaspe Road. The remaining open pit void measures approximately 350m long, 125m wide and 40m deep, with a void volume of approximately 820,000m³. The pit wall heights range from 10m to 15m across the pit profile.

What's the process?

Prior to commencement of backfilling, FGM will seek approval from the City of Greater Bendigo (CoGB) for the temporary closure of Campaspe Road to allow for backfilling activities to progress.

Sharkey's Pit will be progressively backfilled with oxide overburden material sourced from the Robbins Hill overburden stockpile. Vegetation clearance and preparation of the Robbins Hill overburden stockpile commenced in November 2023.

Backfilled material will be domed to allow for settlement and ensure the final form of the backfilled pit is consistent with the surrounding topography. Final revegetation activities will be scheduled to occur in consultation with the private landholder and timed to align with the planting season to provide the pasture species with favourable growing conditions.

All proposed activities relating to the Sharkey's Pit backfilling project will occur on land previously disturbed by mining activities, which means that no remnant native vegetation will be impacted by the project.

We will keep everyone informed throughout this significant rehabilitation project. If you have any questions regarding the Sharkey's Pit backfilling project, or FGM's approach to mine rehabilitation, please contact a member of the FGM Environment and Community Team.









A major boost to our region's connectivity coming soon!

Earlier this year Agnico Eagle, in partnership with Telstra and State & Federal Governments announced plans to improve public 4G/5G connectivity to our Fosterville operations and surrounding communities as a part of the Regional Connectivity Program.

The project involves the construction of seven new Telstra mobile base stations at the Fosterville Gold Mine, Axedale, Goornong, Knowsley, Colbinabbin, Toolleen Sports Club and Heathcote Park Raceway, plus new transmission to these sites, providing improved 4G & 5G (ready) mobile voice and data connectivity coverage for residents and visitors to the area.

It will also see the installation of a 12-hour extended battery reserve, allowing the site to continue operating for longer in the case of a local power outage.

During November, the first of the seven towers was erected at the Fosterville Gold Mine site with works ongoing to connect power and services to the tower.

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Sustained Operations Project update

The FGM Sustained Operations Project (SOP) team and lead consultants, AECOM, have continued their work on preparing the documentation for the Environment Effects Statement (EES) to address the scoping requirements in consultation with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and other regulatory agencies.

Once the preparation phase is complete, DTP – the regulator overseeing the process – and FGM will provide at least two weeks' notice (via our website, social media pages and advertisements in local newspapers) of the EES documentation release and the commencement of the public exhibition period.

Public review: Exhibition stage and submissions

The public exhibition period is when all the chapters and technical reports for the SOP, are made available for public review and comment. The number of days for public review will be advised by the Minister for Planning.

During this time community members and project stakeholders can provide a written submission on the SOP.

Community engagement sessions will be held during the public exhibition period to assist stakeholders wishing to access the EES documentation before they formulate their submission.

All written submissions provide an insight into what stakeholders think about the project. In addition to written submissions, submitters can also present their key points at a public hearing, if they so wish. Submissions are used by the panel members to make recommendations to the planning authority or Minister for Planning.

Learn all about the project now!

There is no need to wait for the public review period to access all the details about the SOP.

- through video to see all the components of the project.
- Visit the Virtual consultation room:
 https://fgm.consultation.ai/ which offers lots of information about every aspect of the project.
- Sign up to email updates fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com or ask a question through our website
- > Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
- Look out for updates via newsletters, email and our website.
- Request a one-on-one meeting with a member of the FGM Environment and Community team.



The SOP Project Flythrough provides a visual and easy to understand overview of the project.

Meet our dynamic Day Services duo

With over 800 staff working at Fosterville Gold Mine there are so many great stories to tell. We caught up with two of our Day Service's team members, Kayla and Rhi, to find out how they ended up working here ...



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Meet Kayla-Brea (Kayla) McIntosh, one of the highly valued machine operators who has been working at Fosterville Gold Mine for two years.

When Kayla was at kinder, no one could tear her away from the sand pit. She loved being outside digging, building and playing with all the cool sandpit toys.

Today she describes her job at Fosterville as 'a bigger sand pit with much cooler toys'! But all jokes aside, Kayla has proven herself to be a reliable, safetyconscious and professional member of the team.

According to Kayla's supervisor, Scott Padgham: "Kayla is a pocket rocket that livens up the team with her positive energy, while also taking a lot of pride in her work".

What does a machine operator do?

Currently Kayla is employed as a Watercart Operator, with the job of keeping the dust to a minimum on site, but the watercart is just one of the many machines she can be called on to operate.

When asked what other machine's she can hop onto at a moment's notice, she rattles off a list as long as your arm: Forklift, vehicle mounted crane, excavator, skid steer (bobcat), FE (Front end) loader, roller, backhoe, IT loader ... and we've run out of fingers!

Kayla operates the watercart on a 7-on 7-off 12 hour shift during the Summer period; that means she works seven 12-hour shifts in a row and then gets seven days off. "It can be a bit tiring, but worth it to have the seven days off in a row," Kayla explains.

A good stable career

When asked why she thinks mining is a good option for kids who are considering their career options, Kayla enthusiastically lists reasons why mining is a great option: "There are lots of different avenues to choose from. You get looked after, especially at Fosterville. It's a good stable career choice. And if you are willing to put your head down and bum up you can set yourself up for life".

What about the gender gap?

According to Kayla, she doesn't feel like it is a thing anymore. "There are no limits for women who are willing to give it a crack as a machine operator, in fact I have been told we are easier on the machines and look after them better," she laughs.

"That's the other thing I love ... all the banter and joking around with my crew."

"It's a good stable career choice. And if you are willing to put your head down and bum up you can set yourself up for life".



Meet Rhianne Wilson, one of our Surface Grader Operators who has been who has been working in the mining industry for seven years and loves it.

"Rhi is a reliable multi-skilled machine operator who is happy to work alone or run small projects, which adds flexibility to the Day Services Team's capacity." says Rhi's supervisor, Scott Padgham.

Rhi's path into machine operating

Rhianne moved to Bendigo in 2019, just before COVID with skills that she learnt from working in Western Australia (WA).

"I didn't think I was going to end up a machine operator in school; initially I wanted to do psychology," says Rhi.

But, due to having ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), school wasn't easy for Rhi, so she decided to finish-up in Year 10 and explore different options.

"Of course, my dad was concerned, but he said it was okay as long as I did something else ... so I did a Cert 2 in business and got a job in hospo," Rhi recalled.

Once she turned 18, Rhi joined her dad, also a miner, working FIFO (fly in, fly out) in WA, and soon found her niche as a machine operator.

"I find being a machine operator is a good fit for me as it requires hyper focus and being able to multitask, both things that come naturally to me," she explains.

Why the mining industry?

"Although I enjoyed hospo and dabbled in beauty therapy for a while, I feel like the mining industry has the most to offer for me, with great people to work with, lots of career options and the potential to go anywhere with the skills that I am learning," says Rhi.

The 7-on 7-off roster, is allowing Rhi to study a double diploma in Business Management and Leadership on her off days, which she hopes will put her in a good position to find a role in the Occupational Health and Safety space.

"It really helps that the attitude towards women here at Fosterville Gold Mine is great. I don't feel like there is a divide, I am just one of the crew. We have a laugh, I feel safe and honestly find it fun to come to work".





Preparing for fire season

After three lower fire-risk seasons due to the La Niña weather pattern, we are now moving into the predicted El Niño weather pattern, which brings with it hotter and drier Summer conditions.

At Fosterville Gold Mine we have a Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) that guide's our preparation for each fire season. The BMP involves carrying out a range of activities, but each fire season brings new ideas and ways to improve our fire preparedness. As a result we identified some new actions for the season which are listed in the accompanying table which will be incorporated biannually or annually into our BMP.

Fosterville Gold Mine's Emergency Services consist of an onsite Fire truck and a qualified team of responders, ready to assist both on and offsite, should the need arise.

Familiarisation for our local CFA crews

During Winter, Axedale, Goornong, and Huntly CFA's visited FGM over a number of days to familiarise their crews with FGM's upgraded tanks and pump systems, which comprise of an inground fire hydrant system and standpipes. Did you know that the CFA can access and use these water systems at any time to respond to fires in our community?

| ACTION | RESULT | |
|---|--|--|
| Ground truth tracks for fire truck access | Track repair works to ensure fire truck access across site. Master map created with accessible tracks and entry/exit points clearly identified. | |
| Removal of leaf litter/debris and overhanging dead limbs from buildings | Reduced risk of ember attack and fire getting into the canopy of the trees surrounding the buildings. | |
| Eastern boundary fence clearing | Fire break and fire truck access along large section of eastern boundary fence. | |
| Local CFA site familiarisation | Increased awareness for CFA crews around access to site and location of water sources. | |
| Improved Fire truck water fill points | New water tanks accessible from Huntly-Fosterville Rd. Upgraded pump system. | |
| Slashing grass | Reduced fuel loads at vacant properties, including the nature strips/road verge. | |

UPDATE FROM AXEDALE CFA CAPTAIN JAMES HARKINS:

We are now in the Fire Danger Period, which started on 20 November. This means no more burn-offs, with restrictions in place for camp/cooking fires, as well as the use of BBQs, etc.

This fire season we are seeing heightened grass growth, as a result of late Winter rains and warm Autumn weather.

This poses a significant risk and we ask that property owners to slash or mow this taller grass where suitable, to lower the risk for the community and our members. Areas of higher risk include where tall grass abuts residential boundaries, hay, machinery, shearing sheds, and public assets.

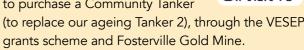
Now is also the time to clean gutters and remove flammable material from around houses, sheds, and any fuel storage areas.

Community assistance is requested to clear grass and debris around street hydrants, so that they are easy to see and locate. Quite commonly hydrants can be difficult to locate due to overgrowth, or sometimes getting buried after earthworks or landscaping. In urban areas we use these to access water from our mains water system.

If you happen to notice missing or damaged marker posts, or hydrants that are leaking or damaged, you can report this to Coliban Water.

More information about street hydrants can be found here: ___

Finally, earlier this year the
Axedale Brigade received funds
to purchase a Community Tanker
(to replace our agains Tanker 2) the



We expect the new Light Tanker to be built and delivered in the new year. Axedale Brigade wish to thank the VESEP grants scheme and Fosterville Gold Mine for their generosity, which will enable us to further protect our community.

As always, the Axedale Brigade wishes our community a safe and merry Festive Season.



Fire Danger Period restrictions are now in force for Greater Bendigo, until May 2024.

In the event that a Total Fire Ban or Catastrophic Risk day is declared in the Northern Country fire district, Fosterville Mine will implement a range of additional measures to reduce the risk of fire and enhance our ability to respond if there is a fire in the area, which includes restrictions on maintenance involving hot works and proactive patrols to identify any bushfire threats.

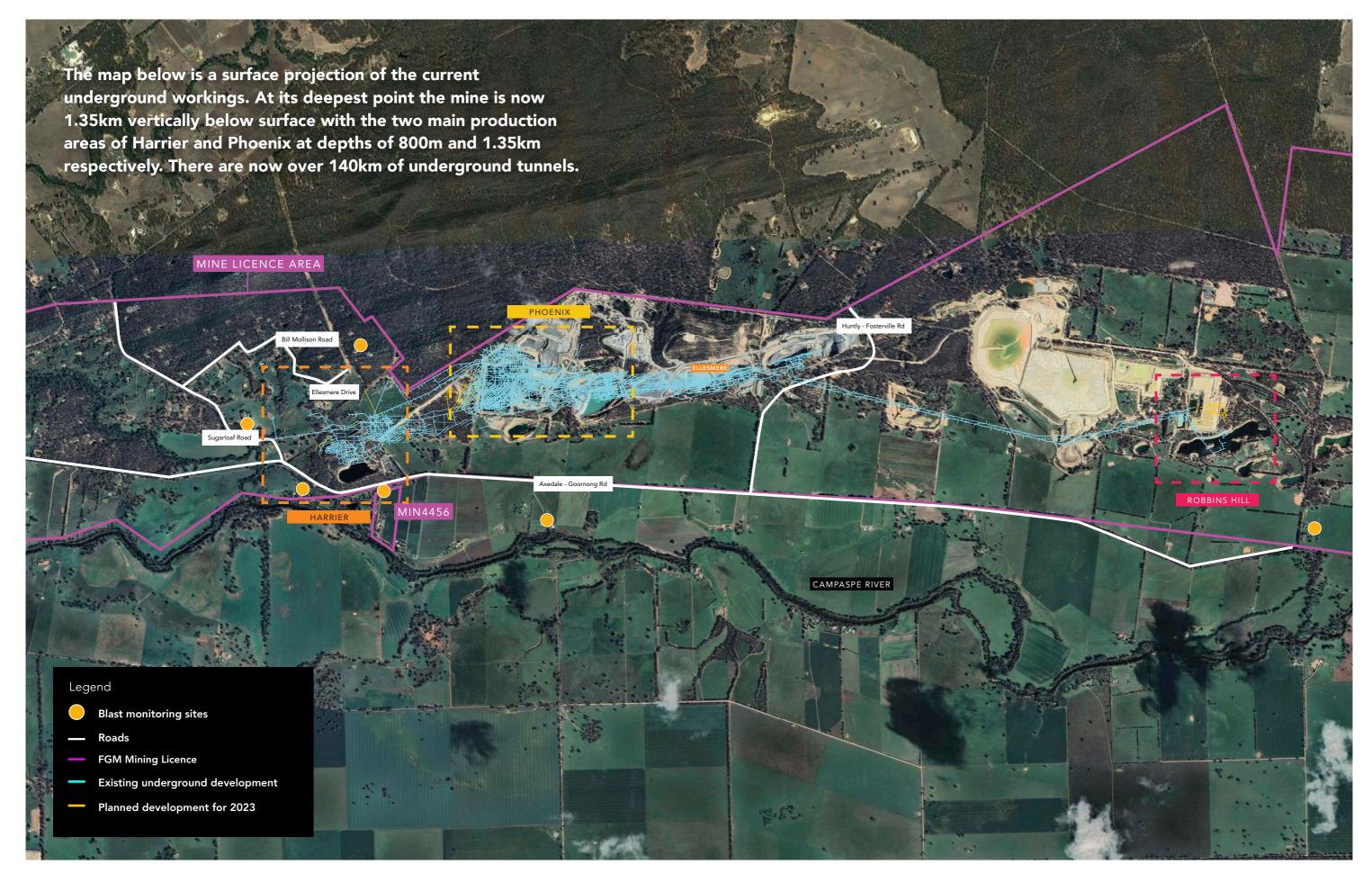
For those who are not sure what is and isn't allowed, the CFA has developed a "Can I or Can't I?" resource for people to reference during the Fire Danger Period.





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Mine development update





Keeping our emissions to a minimum

Our specialised emissions consultants, Etkimo, were recently on site to undertake emissions testing at the primary ventilation fans, to assess the quality of air exhausted from our underground workings.

Maintaining a high standard of air quality underground is not only important for the health and safety of our workers, but also to ensure that any potential impacts to the environment and community are avoided.

Consequently, we have a range of air quality control measures in the underground environment, which include dust suppression using water carts and water sprayers, management and dilution of return air, and utilisation of diesel particulate matter filters on our mobile vehicles.

In order to monitor the effectiveness of these measures, FGM conducts routine emissions testing of the mine ventilation system, which is carried out by Etkimo.

What is emissions testing?

Emissions testing involves collecting a representative sample of air from the exhaust stream, while the mine is under normal operations. Specialised probes installed in the exhaust stream collect physical samples of particles in the air on a filter paper. The filters are then sent to a NATA accredited laboratory

and measured for the presence and quantity of specific analytes including:

- > Particulate matter
- › Diesel particulate matter
- > Metals
- > Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

Additional probes are used to analyse trace gases, such as nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxides and carbon monoxides.

By measuring the quantity of particles or gases in the collected samples and comparing this to the known velocity and cross-sectional area of the exhaust stream, the concentration of each parameter in the exhaust air stream can be assessed on a volumetric basis, in this case, milligrams per cubic meter of air.

The results

To date, the emissions testing program has consistently returned a low risk of air quality impacts from FGM's ventilation system. Recent testing shows:

- Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) below laboratory limit of reporting
- > PM2.5 (particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less) below laboratory limit of reporting.
- Very low Total Particulate Matter detected (0.65 mg/m3).

Did you know?

Emissions testing at Fosterville Gold Mine also involves measuring the odour of the exhaust air. The Australian standard for measuring odour involves collecting a sample of air in a special Teflon bag. Once collected, the sample must be raced to a testing facility in Melbourne as the chemistry and odour in the bag can change quickly. The testing method, called dynamic

olfactometry, involves a panel of trained "sniffers" smelling and comparing a variety of odours within a controlled



testing environment. At the conclusion of the test, a score, measured in odour units (ou), is applied to the sample, with the recently collected sample at the primary ventilation fans scoring 65 ou.

World Council donates \$100K US to Rochester Community House

The team at the Rochester Community House really felt the Christmas spirit this December when they received news that the World Gold Council had made a donation of \$100,000 USD towards the important work that they continue to do, to support the wonderful Rochester community.

In a letter sent to Amanda Logie who heads up the Rochester Community House, Nigel Ruth, who is the Chief Operating Officer for the World Gold Council which is based in New York, USA, said: "We look forward to supporting the important work you are doing within the Rochester region. We are confident these funds will make a significant contribution to your community and the lives of those utilising your services."

Agnico Eagle Australia is thrilled to have been able to support the community house in their application for this donation and have no doubt that Amanda and her team will put it to good use as the community continues is long road to recovery following last year's floods.





Jenna Harvey and Amanda Logie from Rochester Community House with Trudi Jackson, Senior Community Advisor at FGM.

Mine induced seismic event reclassified

On Sunday 5 November at 6.51pm, Fosterville Gold Mine (FGM) recorded a Mine Induced Seismic (MIS) event, which was felt and heard by the surrounding communities. At the time of reporting, FGM's underground seismic monitoring system recorded this event as a magnitude 2.5Mw. However, as a result of a comprehensive investigation and the integration of additional data, this event has now been reclassified to 3.1 Mw..

Letters were emailed to community members in regards to this reclassification, however, for those who may have missed it, all the details can be found here:

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Imagine seeing a platypus in Axe Creek! That's one of the potential outcomes of the Axe Creek Protection Project which is currently underway. The project involves removing weeds, replacing native vegetation and reintroducing native fish back into the ecosystem along 25km of the creek all the way to Campaspe River.



This project has been made possible thanks to a fantastic partnership between Agnico Eagle Australia Community Partnership Program, Strathfieldsaye & Districts Community Enterprise and Bushco Land Management.

Watch the video update on this project here!

Goornong Primary School proudly opens its new Outdoor Learning Space

Goornong Primary School proudly opened its new Outdoor Learning Space earlier this year, a project made possible through community fundraising and sponsorship from Fosterville Gold Mine. The space, designed to serve as a vibrant learning hub and a peaceful retreat during break times, is already loved by students and the wider community.

Principal Jason Cox expressed his gratitude for the sponsorship and its impact on the school: "Without FGM's support, we wouldn't have been able to undertake the Outdoor Learning Space project.

They enabled us to complete all elements of the project and create an exceptional space for our students."

The space has been a hit with students, who have used it for various learning experiences, including Garden Science, STEM, and Art programs. "The outdoor learning space aligns perfectly with our vision to provide a contemporary approach to teaching and learning," says Principal Cox. "It supports our ability to provide an engaging, calm, and orderly learning environment that allows every student to achieve their best".







Caption





Applications open for the 2024 Barrie Winzar Bursary

Left: The late and dearly missed, Barrie Winzar.

The Barrie Winzar Memorial Bursary – in memory of a much-loved, fourth generation Fosterville resident who passed away in February 2022 and was passionate about education – is funded by Fosterville Gold Mine and has been established to provide financial assistance to a full time second year and third year Bendigo Bachelor-level student to enable them to take advantage of opportunities that arise during their studies.

Preference will be given to students whose home address falls within the following areas: Kamarooka, Lockington, Rochester, Elmore, Barnadown, Goornong, Toolleen, Axedale, Wellsford, Bagshot, Longlea, Kimbolton, Knowsley, Heathcote South, Barfold, Glenhope and Tooborac.

Applications are currently open until 28 January 2024, and we encourage students in these areas to apply.

To find out more scan here

Meet the 2023 recipients

Fosterville Gold Mine is proud to have supported these two inspiring students through the Barrie Winzar Memorial Bursary.



Yazmin Hayes from Elmore

Yazmin Hayes, started studying occupational therapy at La Trobe, but soon realised it wasn't for her: "I got some

experience in occupational therapy but realised it wasn't for me. I'm an athlete and decided to go down the route of Exercise Science - something I knew I enjoyed and am glad I made the move."

In addition to her academic achievements, Yazmin is also part of the La Trobe Elite Athlete Program, which requires here to split her time between studying and being an athlete. "It's a challenge, but one I gladly accept," says Yazmin.

Yazmin faced a significant challenge this year when her home in Elmore was host to 11 extra people and seven dogs after the 2022 floods. Despite this, Yazmin displayed tremendous resilience.

"I found that I had to split my time between dealing with the floods and studying. It was tough, but it also brought my family closer together," explains Yazmin.



Kai Xia Low from Rochester

Kai Xia Low, is a Dental Science student in her second year at La Trobe University. Kai Xia has not had the easiest journey to

where she is today, having faced various health and family challenges. Despite these challenges, Kai Xia achieved an impressive ATAR that allowed her to pursue her passion for Dentistry.

Kai Xia was thrilled to receive the Barrie Winzar Bursary as, having come from a financially disadvantaged background, it helped her purchase the items for her course, while at the same time supporting her family by paying some of the costs for her parent's medications.

Kai Xia's dedication and hard work have been exemplary, and she is now excelling in her studies. She strives to make a difference in the dental industry and believes that her challenges have given her the strength to tackle tough situations.

Regarding the impact of the bursary on her studies, Kai Xia says, "The bursary has helped me focus more on my studies and spend less time worrying about financial stress."





Fosterville Gold Mine

OPEN DAY

Would you like to know more about our operation?

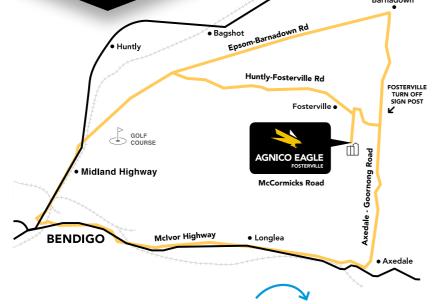
Here's your chance!

24 FEB **2024**

9.30am-2.00pm

Activities include:

- > Guided site bus tours
- Information displays
- Gold panning
- > Exploration updates
- > Equipment displays
- > Free BBQ lunch
- > Face painting and more!



Tickets will be limited and released in January, please follow our socials or visit our website for updates

For further information:

T: 03 5439 9000 | E: fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com



Environment & Community Snapshot - Q3 2023

Each quarter, the FGM Environment and Community team provides a detailed report to the Environment Review Committee. Please find below the key info and highlights from the Q3 report for 2023.

20a

Activities update

Key environmental and community activities completed during Q3 2023 include:

Environmental activities:

- Commissioned the centralised waste management facility.
- Completed emissions testing on primary ventilation fans.
- Facilitated a site visit and tour for ERR approvals team.
- > Submitted National Pollutant Inventory report.
- > Commenced 1080 fox baiting program.
- Coordinated and participated in Dja Dja Wurrung cultural awareness training for various work groups.

Community engagement activities:

- Community engagement presence and sponsorship at the following community events:
- Bendigo Sheep & Wool Show
- > Be.Bendigo Business Excellence Awards
- > AFL Central Victoria Presentation Evening.
- > Launched the Bendigo Built on Gold Tram.
- Held a community information session on mine rehabilitation in Axedale.
- Hosted Bendigo South East Secondary College and Eppalock Primary School for on-site visits.
- Completed seven Gold Industry Group education sessions at local primary schools.
- > Presentation to the Sandhurst Probus Club.
- Hosted a familiarisation and induction day for the ERC Community Representatives.



Bendigo Sheep & Wool Show



Be.Bendigo Business Excellence Awards



Bendigo Built on Gold Tram



Gold Industry Group education sessions



Environmental monitoring update

Noise monitoring

During Q3 2023, FGM conducted 158 compliance noise monitoring sessions, no exceedances above the respective noise limits for the day, evening and night-periods were recorded.

Surface Water Monitoring

During Q3 2023, there were three moderate risk surface water quality exceedances:

During July there were three Lead concentration exceedances above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.1 mg/L at internal dams (see Table).

As part of the investigation, each dam was inspected for potential sources of contamination and the laboratory retested the initial water samples, which subsequently confirmed the results.

Each dam was resampled on 10/08/2023 and returned a Total Lead concentration below the ANZECC guideline of 0.1 mg/L, confirming that the exceedance was anomalous and almost certainly caused by sample contamination.

FGM will continue to monitor all surface water monitoring sites in accordance with the monitoring schedule to identify any emerging trends or results that require further investigation.

Air quality monitoring

Depositional dust monitoring:

All depositional dust monitoring results were compliant during Q3 2023.

HVAS monitoring:

All HVAS monitoring results were compliant during Q3 2023.

Groundwater monitoring

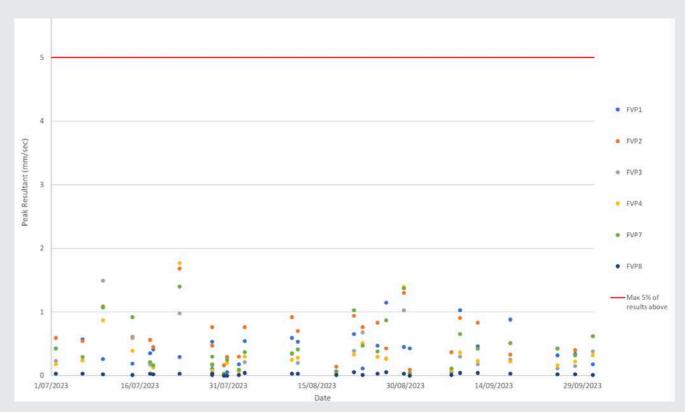
During Q3 2023, there was one moderate risk groundwater quality exceedance:

The August sample from BGL59 recorded a Zinc concentration of 0.042 mg/L, above the ANZECC adjusted for hardness guideline value of 0.008 mg/L. The result was compared against the duplicate sample taken, and the Zinc concentration was comparable. The bore was resampled in September and returned a Zinc concentration below the ANZECC adjusted for hardness guideline and therefore the exceedance was most likely an anomalous result.

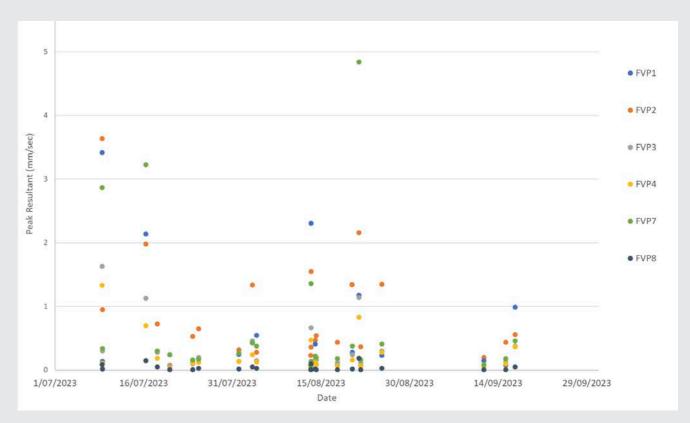
FGM's groundwater monitoring data is routinely reviewed by a third-party hydrogeologist and incorporated into the site hydrogeological model. The exceedances were presented in detail during the November ERC meeting for external comment, and do not present a risk to community or the environment.



FGM's water treatment facility removes impurities from mine water 24/7



Blasting ground vibration monitoring results for July - September 2023. During Q3 2023, there were a total of 24 production firings and 589 development firings. All ground vibration results were well below regulatory blasting limits during the reporting period.



Seismic ground vibration monitoring results for July – September 2023. There were 23 mine-induced seismic events that were detected by the surface vibration monitoring network during the quarter.

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Social responsibility update

The third quarter of 2023 was full of many great events and community activities. Fosterville was pleased to support the following community events and programs.

Sponsorships and donations

During Q3 2023, contributions were made to the following organisations as part of FGM's sponsorships and donations program.

- Bendigo Agricultural Show Society Year one of three-year major sponsorship agreement.
- Bendigo Comedy Festival sponsorship of 2023 event.
- > Elmore Field Days sponsorship of Reptile Display.
- > Bendigo Yacht Club sponsorship of annual regatta.

- > El Disaster Mallee Run sponsorship of 2023 event.
- Bendigo Biggest Blokes Lunch sponsorship of 2023 event.
- Summer in the Parks sponsorship of 2023/2024 event.
- Lifeline Central Victoria donation to Hello for Hope campaign.
- Bendigo Women's Rugby sponsorship of Bendigo Tournament.



Bendigo Agricultural Show Society



Bendigo Comedy Festival



Bendigo Biggest Blokes Lunch



Environment and community performance

Community complaints

During Q3 2023, FGM received a total of 27 community complaints from 10 different landholders and/or community groups.

Blasting ground vibration

Eighteen complaints relating to ground vibration from blasting were received from four different landholders. All complaints were lodged in relation to FGM production firings. Investigations confirmed all surface ground vibration results were well below regulatory limits.

Mine-induced seismicity

Fifteen community complaints relating to ground vibration from mine-induced seismicity were received from five landholders and were associated with seven separate events. The location and magnitude of the mine-induced seismic events were determined using the underground seismic monitoring system. Information regarding the seismic events was provided to landholders via email, where follow-up was requested.

Other 2

Two community complaints regarding the 1080 Fox Baiting program were received from two separate landholders. Concern was raised in relation to the use of 1080 baits, and the potential impact on native flora and fauna and domestic animals. In response to the two complaints and feedback provided by other community members, FGM provided additional information relating to the safe use and management of 1080 fox baits directly to landholders and also via the FGM community website and social media pages. However, following observations of trespassing and direct interference with an active baiting station on FGM-owned private properties within MIN5404 were removed. The interference with the bait station was reported to Agriculture Victoria and Victoria Police.

Below: Summary of EPA Remedial Notices

Environmental incidents for Q3

One high risk incident: On 31/08/2023, works were being undertaken on TSF1 to connect the northern tailings discharge pipeline to the main TSF1 tailings discharge pipeline. Upon connection of the northern tailings discharge pipeline, an issue with a gate valve was encountered. As the valve connection was loosened to inspect, residual flotation tailings and water (approx. 500L) stored in the northern discharge pipeline leaked downhill out of the loosened pipe. The spill was contained within the pipeline trench/bund, however due to high water content in the flotation tailings, the fluid flowed several metres down the trench into an adjacent grass area resulting in a thin layer of tailings being deposited in shallow ground depressions. The incident was reported to Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) in accordance with ERR guidance on reportable events. FGM then remediated the area, scraping and removing residual flotation tailings material using hand tools. Additional containment controls were adopted for valve and pipework installation on TSF1 to minimise the risk of reoccurrence.

Two moderate risk incidents: A small trickle of process water was found leaking from the TSF1 return water pipework near the NNE toe of TSF1. The process water reported to a run-off drainage area on the opposite side of the road. A small volume of process water reported beyond the drain into the adjacent area below, which had been previously disturbed. Based on the estimated spill volume, there was no risk of offsite release or impact to the environment.

A process water spill from the TSF1 northern underdrainage pipeline occurred due to leaks from a compression fitting and ball valve. The process water reported to a run-off drainage area on the opposite side of the road. Drainage improvements works have been completed in this area, with the installation of a dedicated run-off collection sump, and an improved flow pathway to direct run-off into O'Dwyers North.

Six low risk incidents: All were minor spill events that were contained to the immediate operational area and cleaned up appropriately.

| Notice | Issue date | Status |
|---------------------------------|------------|---|
| EPA Prohibition Notice 00001694 | 29/11/2021 | In effect – Restrictions to surface drill rig operating hours remain in effect. |

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Follow us everywhere







OUR COMMITMENT TO ENGAGEMENT

FGM appreciates the level of concern some community members have regarding FGMs operations, which is why we are committed to meaningful and open engagement, and the provision of evidence-based information. On occasion information from our engagement activities or materials can be misrepresented, resulting in misleading information being relayed by others within the community.

If you come across information which concerns you, or you have questions you'd like answered regarding our operational activities and future plans, we encourage you to reach out directly to the FGM Community Team. We will do our best to answer your questions and provide you with accurate information to assist your knowledge and understanding.

Sign up for SMS blast notifications

Blasting is an essential part of the gold mining process.

As FGM's underground mine advances, nearby residents may feel ground vibration from some firings. We monitor ground vibration using a network of blast monitors (geophones) to ensure we are compliant with the vibration limits detailed in FGM's Mining Licence.

In order to keep the community informed, FGM has implemented an SMS Blast Notification System which sends residents SMS notifications in advance of planned production firings.

FGM usually undertakes production firings between 6:30am-7am and 6:30pm-7pm. However independent development firings may also be conducted at other times.



To receive blast notifications please contact the Community Team via the contact details below.

Contact us

If you wish to receive this newsletter via email or would like to be removed from the distribution list contact us below.

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Agnico Eagle Fosterville acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land we live and work on, the Dja Dja Wurrung and the Taungurung Peoples of the Kulin Nation, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.