

Let's Talk:

The Côte Gold Project Community Newsletter

Project Status Update

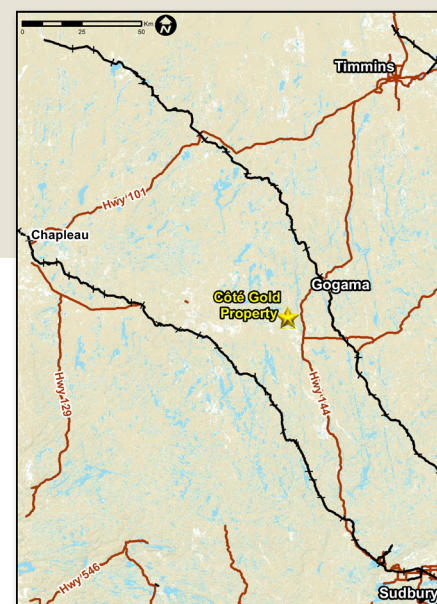
IAMGOLD is continuing to focus efforts on advancing engineering and permitting activities, and community engagement. We continue to evaluate options for advancing the Project to development and will share updates as they become available.

COVID-19 Update

In order to support our greatest assets, our employees and our host communities, IAMGOLD has undertaken a number of initiatives globally to protect and support the most vulnerable against the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Where possible, IAMGOLD has focused on finding local solutions to this global issue, we have allocated US\$1.5M in funds to support COVID initiatives. We are working closely with both our host communities and local governments to identify needs and provide assistance on efforts to safeguard vulnerable communities against COVID-19, through bolstering food security, donating medical equipment and by contributing to COVID-19 aid funds. Below are select highlights on IAMGOLD's COVID-19 global initiatives to date.

Canada:

- Donation of C\$3,000 to Gogama to support access to personal protective equipment such as masks and disposable gloves.
- Corporate donation of 10,000 "Canadian Shield" face shields from InkSmith Ltd. to Ontario Health and Santé Québec for distribution to healthcare facilities.
- Donation of C\$5,000 to the Young Mining Professionals Toronto's Mining Cares initiative to support United Way Greater Toronto.
- Westwood mine made an in-kind donation of C\$62,000 of personal protection equipment including N95 masks to Centres intégrés de santé et de services sociaux.



The Côte Gold Project (the Project) is a proposed open pit gold mine that is located approximately 20 km southwest of Gogama and 130 km southwest of Timmins. The Project is a joint venture between IAMGOLD and Sumitomo Metal Mining Co.

COVID-19 Update (continued)

Other countries in which IAMGOLD operates (Burkina Faso, Senegal and Suriname):

- In-kind donations of handwashing kits and personal protection equipment like soap, protective and surgical masks, latex gloves, laser thermometers, etc.
- Food donations to vulnerable communities and households.
- Financial donations.

IAMGOLD and Wood continue to work diligently with Contractors and the Ministry of Health to mitigate any risk to personnel at the Côté Gold Project Site and local communities.

Given the rapidly evolving situation, we are actively engaging with Contractors in mandating the following protocols and mitigating factors:

- Reducing all non-essential activities on site.
- Reducing the number of personnel on site with focus on essential activities only.
- Screening all employees prior to return to the Côté Gold Project Site.
- Mandating hygiene protocols, including mandating frequent handwashing.
- Implementing physical distancing measures such as creating two meal seating times and ensuring a 2-metre distance between patron.
- Working towards an "island" type Project site, with minimized contact with external workforce.
- Mandating a No-Fly protocol to all Project-based employees in Canada to mitigate transit through all airports.



Staff Spotlight

Mark Smith – Electrical Coordinator, Côté Gold Project

Mark is a Master Electrician who has worked for IAMGOLD since September 2012. He's been a part of the Project since 2010. Mark is responsible for the installation and maintenance of the electrical infrastructure at the Côté Gold Project as well as all electrical logistics and services.

In 2013, Mark successfully achieved his Master Electrician's license while working for IAMGOLD. As part of his ongoing career development Mark travelled to IAMGOLD's Rosebel Mine in 2016, to observe the electrical installation and production of the process mill and site facilities.

Mark continues to work on the Côté Gold Project in his capacity as the Electrical Coordinator.



Mark Smith

National Indigenous History Month: Reflecting on the Project's Land Story



*Projectile point found at the
Côté Gold Project site*

As the Project continues to advance towards development and in reflection of National Indigenous History Month, we take a pause to learn more about the land upon which the site is located and the teachings of the Indigenous people in relation to the land and water. Recognizing National Indigenous History Month is just one of the ways the Project and our partners work together to understand one another, build positive working relationships and create an atmosphere of respect and inclusion. This month traditionally has seen many gatherings and special events held by Indigenous communities across the country to share aspects of their culture and teachings with others. As the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way in which we interact, we wanted to mark this important month and National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st, by sharing some history and teachings related to the Côté Gold Project site. The learning presented here has come from the work we undertook with Indigenous communities to develop a cultural awareness training program for employees and contractors during Construction and throughout the life of the Project.

Culture shapes the way we view our world and the way we act, think, and feel. Learning about other cultures also helps us all to better understand one another. Learning about culture is more than just music, literature, visual arts, architecture, language, and traditions. Part of learning about the Indigenous worldview is taking the time to learn how their community has interacted with the land and water as part of their history.

The area surrounding the Project site has a rich history. Archaeological research conducted on and around the Project site uncovered evidence of human occupation and use for thousands of years. Licensed archaeologists have been studying the site since 2010 and have identified 43 archeological sites and features. These include 23 pre-contact archaeological sites which helped us understand how people lived and used the lands in the area over the last several thousand years before European contact with Indigenous Peoples. We know from the archaeological evidence found at the site that the area was traditionally used during different times of the year to harvest foods and medicines.

Land stewardship and accountability for the future is a keystone in Indigenous culture and is recognized around the world. The 7 generations perspective of First Nations recognizes that how we affect our environment today will be felt in the future by our children and future generations to come. Respecting the environment is a shared value of many nations and of the Project team. Historically and today, Indigenous communities sustain their relationship to the land by continuing to help educate others about how to care for it, consider the impacts of development, and work together to sustain it for the future as we balance economic and employment progress together. First Nation and Métis consider the land to be culturally and spiritually important. The land is connected to the health, cultural, social and economic well-being of Indigenous peoples.

Caring for and understanding the importance of water for Indigenous peoples is also an important part of our learning. Water is considered essential for creating and sustaining life. Water may be used in traditional teachings and is considered an essential element for physical and mental health. Water is also connected to subsistence practices such as hunting, fishing, food and medicine gathering, and supporting the food cycle of communities. Water was a means of traditional transportation and continues to be a means of transportation. Water systems provided traditional travel routes in this region.



Image courtesy of Woodland Heritage Northeast

National Indigenous History Month: Reflecting on the Project's Land Story (continued)

This article is one piece of learning that reflects the history and importance placed on the ways in which the Indigenous peoples have interacted with the land and waters in and around the Project. Learning also helps build bridges by fostering a deeper understanding of each other. These are key ingredients for a successful partnership with local indigenous communities in order to build a successful project.

Permitting Update

Before the mine can be constructed and operated, several permits are required. IAMGOLD started the permitting process in fall of 2018 and continues to develop and submit various permit applications to regulatory authorities. All permits received or approved, submitted and those still to be developed and submitted are listed in the table below.

Securing a Key Approval

IAMGOLD received formal confirmation of the approval for its application under Section 36 of the *Fisheries Act* for the Côté Gold Project, a key milestone in attaining permits relating to impacts on fish habitats and tailings management. Final publication of the amended Schedule II of the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations through Gazette II publication is expected on July 8, 2020.

This is a major permitting milestone that will allow us to secure all of the required Section 35 authorizations under the *Fisheries Act* from Fisheries and Oceans Canada. It will also help support timely issuance of approvals under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. This approval also sets up the Project to conduct a fish relocation program this summer in anticipation of a construction decision. For details on the fish relocation program, please see our article on page 6.

Permits Received/Approved

Closure Plan

Transmission Line

- Environmental Study Report
- Leave to Construct

Ontario Energy Board – Decision and Order to Vary

Forestry Resource License

- Phase 1 Clearing (2019)
- Phase 2 Clearing (2020)

Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations – Schedule II Amendment

- Gazette II publication: July 8, 2020

Permits Submitted

Aggregate Permits – Category 9

Permits to Take Water

- Plant Site and other Construction Dewatering
- Clam Lake and Mollie River Realignment
- Domestic Water
- Open Pit Dewatering

Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act

- Tailings Management Facility Starter Dams
- Haul / Access Road
- Mollie Realignment
- Fish Habitat Offsetting Measures (Phase 1)

Environmental Compliance Approval

- Air and Noise
- Plant Site and other Construction Dewatering

Fisheries Act Authorization

- Fish Habitat Offsetting

Canadian Navigable Waters Act

- Major Works application for Clam Lake Dam #3
- Weeduck Reconnection and Water Realignment Channels
- Major Works Application for Little Clam Lake
- Major Works application for Polishing Pond East Dam
- Major Works application for Clam Lake Reconnection

Permits to be Developed/Submitted

Environmental Compliance

- Industrial Sewage Works and Domestic Sewage Treatment

Transmission Line Alignment

Mattagami First Nation Protects Their Community from COVID-19

Since the pandemic began, Mattagami First Nation has been diligent in their efforts to keep their community safe. The Chief and Council restricted access to the community starting March 16, 2020, to keep traffic into and out of the community to a minimum, allowing essential deliveries only and designated shoppers to make day trips. Community members were able to leave the community for necessary appointments and for supplies but as part of the Community Emergency Measures, the Health Department and Crisis team provided groceries and toiletries to all community members to minimize the need to leave the community. All Health staff and Crisis team members went through mask fit testing and disinfectant kits were provided to each household. As the pandemic progressed, a colour coding system was put in place so that each household could notify the Crisis team, who would go out daily to monitor the notices, if they were ill or needed assistance by placing the corresponding colour in their window. With all the measures in place, the community has remained virus free and have recently relaxed some of their isolation and travel restrictions.



Gated entry to the community



Social Distancing

Flying Post First Nation Excited to Unveil a New Administration Building

Scheduled to open in August 2020, Flying Post First Nation has been busy building a new administration office.

Since the early 1990's, Flying Post First Nation's administration has been housed out of an office building at 33 First Street in Nipigon.

The new building will have 5 large offices, a large reception area, a board room / community use room and a kitchen. The new building will allow the members of Flying Post to hold events, meetings and programming.



Flying Post First Nation Administration building under development

Fish Relocation Program

IAMGOLD is in the final stages of securing a *Fisheries Act* Authorization (FAA) which will permit the removal of fish habitat and the realignment of the Mollie River as well as the construction of several new streams and a lake to allow for development of the Côté Gold Project. The *Fisheries Act* Authorization is provided by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and is based on a proposed Offsetting Plan that was developed to compensate for any losses in fish habitats associated with the Project. The Offsetting Plan includes a description of the losses and the new habitats (streams and lakes) to be created. It also includes mitigation and monitoring requirements to minimize effects to the fisheries and document conditions following construction relative to the proposed plan. One of the key mitigation measures is a fish relocation program which involves the collection of fish from streams and lakes to be lost and their relocation to newly created or existing streams and lakes. The fish relocation plan for the Project will be carried out during the ice-free season and could begin later this summer subject to authorization and permit approvals. Fish relocation will occur over three years as habitat is lost during Project Construction and fish will be moved before any loss or disruption of habitat occurs.

In addition to the *Fisheries Act* Authorization, a license to collect fish for scientific purposes will be obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) before fish relocation occurs. During the relocation, fish will be collected from these areas using non-lethal collection methods like seine nets, minnow traps, hoop nets and electrofishing. Once collected, all fish will be identified and counted and placed in aerated containers for transport to preapproved release locations within the same watershed. Once fishing efforts result in lower collections, the water level in the ponds will be lowered to concentrate fish. Fishing will continue until it can be shown that the fish have been effectively collected and relocated. The work will be led by fisheries scientists who have been involved with the Project and the aquatic baseline work since 2013. An annual report will be provided to DFO and MNRF summarizing the collection and relocation of all fish.



Electrofishing

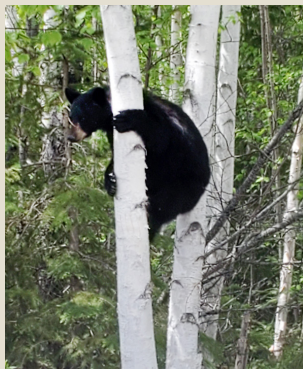


Seign netting

Activity at the Project Site

Tree Clearing

In February and March of this year, IAMGOLD cleared approximately 400 hectares of forest as part of pre-construction activities. Phase 2 of tree clearing is now complete with the exception of burning slash piles. Burning could not occur due to a fire ban imposed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on April 3, 2020 throughout most of Ontario due to COVID-19.



Bear at Site dump

Monitoring Activities

Surface and ground water monitoring is ongoing on a monthly basis. Regular maintenance of site-wide equipment for data capture and monitoring (e.g., weather station and water level monitoring equipment) continues to occur.

Be Bear Wise

As spring progresses, IAMGOLD waste management areas are commonly visited by bears. IAMGOLD would like to remind our local communities to stay aware and safe as bears search for food.



On Site weather station

Project-Related Employment Opportunities

The Project is expected to create over 1,000 Construction jobs and about 300-400 full time jobs during Operations. It will rely heavily on northern communities for skilled jobs and expertise and we look forward to working closely with Indigenous and local communities to ensure that this is truly a Northern Ontario project. The minimum age for employment is 18 years. Hiring for Construction will be mainly conducted by Wood while Operations phase hiring will be done by IAMGOLD/Côté Gold Project.

Once **Construction** begins, hiring will be done through our contractors. Wood is the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Manager (EPCM) for the Project and will have various jobs available leading up to and during Construction. Please check the Wood website woodplc.com/careers and enter "Gogama" as the keyword to search. The process for applying for any positions through Wood is outlined clearly on the Wood Careers webpage.

Côté Gold will begin hiring for **Operations** roles throughout the course of the construction phase with the majority of roles being posted within six months before Operations start-up. We encourage people who wish to work during Operations to also consider opportunities available during Construction. Some Construction roles may transition to Operations and will allow people to gain valuable work experience with the Project.

Note: working during Construction for a contractor (Wood or others) will not limit someone from applying for future Operations positions. Please visit the IAMGOLD Career Opportunities website for current and future Project-related opportunities: www.iamgold.com/cotegoldcareers.

Project-Related Business Opportunities

If you are interested in providing services or supplies to the Project during Construction and Operations, please reach out to us at cotegold@iamgold.com and share information about your business's services.

Looking for more information about the Project?

Check out our website iamgold.com/cotegold for more information or follow these links to learn more about:

- Community engagement: www.iamgold.com/cotegold-community-engagement
- Permitting: www.iamgold.com/cotegold-permitting-applications
- Environmental assessments and Project approval conditions: www.iamgold.com/cotegold-environmental-assessments



For more information please contact us: cotegold@iamgold.com

Join our Project mailing list to be kept informed about the Project and any upcoming events by sending an email to: cotegold@iamgold.com

Ce document est également disponible en français.