# CôtéGold 7

# Côté Community

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Educational Bursary for Indigenous Students



National Indigenous
History Month



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Construction
progress at Côté Gold



# Commemorating National Indigenous History Month: Meet Hudson Naveau!

National Indigenous History Month is commemorated each June to recognize and honour the history, cultural heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis People, and all their immeasurable contributions: past and present. At Côté Gold, we take time to recognize and reflect on the importance of learning more about Indigenous peoples, cultures and histories, as

we continue creating and nurturing mutually beneficial relationships.

To mark the occasion, Hudson Naveau, full-time Environmental Monitor and member of Mattagami First Nation, reflects on his role and contributions at Côté Gold and told us how he plays an active role in environmental management.

Find out more on page 3

### **PROJECT UPDATES**

# Project is over 80% complete!

Côté Gold is undergoing a remarkable transformation, with the project approximately 80% complete as of the end of March and now ramping up to peak activity levels. With over 1,500 workers at site, the project is expected to advance at a rate of 2% to 3% per month through the spring into the fall at which point the focus will shift from mechanical completion to commissioning activities towards initial production target in early 2024.

#### A model for modern mining in Canada.

Côté Gold will be the first open pit mining project in Ontario to have onsite autonomous hauling and drilling complemented by manual loading and support equipment. The project achieved a major milestone in April with the commissioning of the first autonomous blasthole drill rig, which will be able to move between holes on a pattern autonomously, improving safety and productivity.

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## **Educational Bursary for Indigenous Students**

At Côté Gold, we remain open, engaged, and committed to maximizing the benefits of mining to create a brighter future for our host communities by contributing both to economic and social prosperity. With that goal in mind, we continue to support the partnership with Indspire an Indigenous-led registered charity supporting Indigenous post-secondary students. Michelle Rivers, a full-time student and member of Mattagami First Nation, is furthering her education after losing her job during the pandemic and Delaney McLeod, a Flying Post First Nation student, is in her last year of graduate school to become a chiropractic doctor. They each received \$5,000 to help them continue their studies. Congratulations!



- "I was working full-time in office administration, but I lost my job due to the pandemic in 2020. I knew I needed to upgrade my skills and empower myself with an education. As an Anishinaabe person living in an urban setting, Indigenous studies seemed like the right fit. Going to college has been one of the best decisions I've made. The college experience has brought me closer to my culture, and I am gaining a deep understanding of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis People perspectives from a holistic approach."
- ◀ Michelle Rivers, Indigenous Studies student at Mohawk College



- "I am in my last year of graduate school, soon approaching practice as a Doctor of Chiropractic, and I have never been more motivated to become the best version of myself, thanks to your financial support. This bursary has relieved the financial burden of being a student, which allows me to fully focus on what has been most important to me the past three years: learning. Thank you for helping me live my life during these transformative years as a student."
- ◀ Delaney McLeod, Chiropractic student

### **Open Skate Day held in Mattagami First Nation**

At Côté Gold, we strive to contribute positively to the lives of our host communities in a manner that is both respectful and inclusive. In line with our community engagement efforts, Côté Gold hosted an Open Skate Day at Mattagami First Nation's Odamino Centre & Rink in early March. Community members, including Chief Chad Boissoneau, and Côté Gold employees and management attended the event. A traditional lunch was served to approximately 25 community members, including children who kindly helped our Community Relations Superintendent learn to skate.







### Annual Environmental Presentation in Mattagami First Nation

At Côté Gold, health, safety, and sustainability are not just standards requiring compliance – they are deeply held beliefs. With this approach in mind, we hold information sessions about environmental matters related to the project at least once a year for our First Nation partner communities. Last month, the 2023 annual environmental presentation was held at Mattagami First Nation and representatives from IAMGOLD and Côté Gold presented an update on the implementation of environmental management plans. In 2018, Côté Gold established an Environmental Management Committee composed of representatives from IAMGOLD, Côté Gold, Mattagami First Nation and Flying Post First Nation. The Committee meets regularly to discuss permit applications and approvals as well as on-site environmental management activities.

Côté Gold Annual Environmental Presentation participants at the Mattagami Community Complex



### National Indigenous History Month: Côté Gold's Commitment to Indigenous Peoples Engagement

At Côté Gold, we are grateful to the partner communities who have welcomed us to their traditional territories. We respect their traditional knowledge that helps inform our practices as we work on the land, and we are proud that many community members have chosen to be a part of our workforce. Hudson Naveau shared his journey with Côté Gold and offered advice to other community members looking for opportunities in this sector.

### What motivated you to become an Environmental professional?

I was always interested in protecting the environment as it was important to my community. I grew up fishing in the lake and it has always been a part of my life. When I was asked to take care of the Mattagami community hatchery ten years ago, I was thrilled that I'll be able to help the community, and I instantly liked what I did there. When I was given the opportunity to work for Côté Gold as an environmental monitor, I was excited: it's close to home and I have wanted to be part of the Côté Gold team.

#### What do you do in your role as a monitor?

I do what an environmental technician would typically do. Collect water samples, environmental inspections and audits and other various field tasks. Apart from the technical work, I also participate in community events and ceremonies.

## Can you tell us about the values that you grew up with in the community?

Protecting land, wildlife, lakes are important to my community, and I

believe in preserving them not only for our generations only but for seven generations including the ones that are yet to come. I know that the community is willing to collaborate with the mines that are around us to co-develop an environmental management system that can protect the environment.

# How are the MFN values incorporated in your everyday work/tasks? How do you ensure that those values are respected in everyday operation?

I have a unique role to play where I represent both: the community and Côté Gold; I make my colleagues aware of what the expectations of my community and Elders are from the company.

# Do you have any advice to other community members starting out in their careers or looking for opportunities in mining or in the environmental space?

My advice to those who are seeking opportunities would be to expand their horizon and explore what's out there. I also

think that industry and the community are generating lots of opportunities for all of us—we as the seekers of those opportunities have an obligation to prepare ourselves for the challenges ahead.

## Mental Health First Aid Training at Côté Gold

Along with physical health and safety, psychological health and safety are critical to ensuring the overall wellbeing of our employees and achieving our Zero Harm® commitment.

The Mental Health First Aid training that our Côté Gold Operational Readiness Team–HR Department put in place is intended to help employees learn about mental health, identify early signs of mental illness, provide them with the tools they need to support themselves and others in times of need and, most importantly, build understanding and empathy so that the stigma around mental illness can be broken down.

### Why work at Côté Gold?

Côté offers a unique opportunity to integrate diverse thinking and creative applications of technology to transform the future of mining. To view and apply for permanent positions visit www.iamgold.com/cotegoldcareers.

People interested in working on the construction of the Côté Gold project team are encouraged to apply through Wood and the individual contractors working on the project.

Visit www.woodplc.com/careers and enter Gogama as the search keyword.

**Project contractors include:** Aecon Construction Group Inc.; Allied Universal Security Services; Boart Longyear Inc.; Caron Equipment; DST Consulting Engineers; Flying Post Camp and Logistics; Haztech Energy Corporation; Moreau Industries Electrique; Nuna Logistics Partnerships; Paladin Technologies; Remsi North; SGS Natural Resources; Tisdale Bus Lines; Tulloch Group; Waggs Petroleum Equipment Ltd.; Wood.Tulloch Group; Valard Construction; and Waggs Petroleum Equipment Ltd.







### Construction progress

Our Côté Gold project continues to advance rapidly towards initial production early next year. The project was approximately 80% complete at the end of March and is now ramping up to peak activity levels. Congratulations to all the teams involved for the progress achieved!

### Earthworks activities

Tailings Management Facility (TMF) raise completed in March in preparation for spring freshet and to accumulate water in support of commissioning activities later in the year.

### **Processing plant**

Civil works and concrete pours are effectively complete. Progress continued on structural steel work in the HPGR and secondary crushing areas; steel work started on primary crusher. Installation of ball mill and utility pipe rack on the north wall is nearly complete. Significant progress has been made on installation of CIP tanks, vertimill mechanical works and associated structural steel and cyclone installations.

### Other infrastructure

Installation of underground services has progressed significantly, and critical work was completed in January 2023. Fuel distribution and storage, including the refueling station, is expected to be completed in the third quarter 2023.

### **Autonomous Haulage** System deployment

Autonomous hauling in support of mining activities began in January. During the first guarter 2023, four to six CAT 793F haul trucks operated in autonomous mode with ten haul trucks in total having been commissioned. Operations personnel moved into the operations office facility and the mine control room has been fully commissioned.



Côté Gold is an open pit gold mining project in northern Ontario. The Project is a joint venture between IAMGOLD Corporation and Sumitomo Metal Mining.



### Health & safety

Safety is one of Côté Gold's core values and, as such, completing project construction safely is a top priority. To date, Côté Gold achieved a total of 9.8 million hours with a lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) of 0.02. The teams at site are to be commended for their continued professionalism and vigilance.

### IAMGOLD's Zero Harm® approach

April 28 marked the United Nations' World Day for Safety & Health at Work. Initiated in 2007, IAMGOLD's Zero Harm® is the vision that guides all operations and activities undertaken at Côté Gold. It is our commitment to continually strive to reach the highest standards in human health and safety, minimize our impact on the environment, and work co-operatively with our host communities. The Zero Harm® approach is an integral part of our company's culture and guides everything that we do every day.