

THREE RIVERS REPORT



HSS SCHOLARSHIPS

Two Hazelton Secondary students received apprenticeship scholarships for \$1,000 from the Ministry of Education.

Left to Right: Cee-jay Turner (Heavy Equipment Operator), Andy de Boer (Career Counsellor) and Scott Beertema (Heavy Duty Mechanic).

Contributed photo

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Nomination meeting for Gitanmaax Band coming up

By Marisca Bakker
Hazelton/Interior News

something relatively new.

The Gitanmaax Band will be holding a nomination meeting on Saturday.

Candidates can be nominated for the positions of chief and councillors on the Band Council for the next term. There are 12 councillor positions available and one position for chief.

Gitanmaax Band finance officer, Pauline Rubinato said anyone is eligible to be chief.

"You don't have to be a band member, you don't have to be native, anybody can run," she said. "That isn't true for all bands but it is for us."

She said for councillor positions, those nominated need to be a band member but they don't have to live on the reserve, which is

The nomination meeting will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Gitanmaax Hall on April 26. Rubinato said a high number of nominations usually come in.

Any voter may nominate candidates by using a mail-in nomination form. People can deliver or mail in a written nomination and a completed, signed and witnessed voter declaration form to the electoral officer before the time of the nomination meeting. Nominations can also be given orally at the meeting.

The band has elections every two years. Each department has a committee made up of councillors and staff.

The election will be held at the Gitanmaax Hall on June 9.

The KSM Project: Responsible Development

This summer, Seabridge Gold expects to hear the decision on its environmental assessment application for the KSM Project, a proposed gold-copper-silver-molybdenum mine located 65 kilometers north of Stewart. The environmental assessment is a mechanism for government to review, identify and evaluate potential effects of a proposed project. Seabridge Gold has been conducting environmental studies on the KSM Project since 2007 and officially submitted the Environmental Assessment Application in February 2013.

Since acquiring the KSM Project, Seabridge has made significant efforts to ensure the project has minimal environmental impact. In order to study potential impacts of the project, Seabridge considered baseline conditions in the area including water quality and quantity; fish species and aquatic life; wildlife populations; and plant species, among many other things. At the same time, Seabridge worked with regulatory officials, federal, provincial and municipal governments, local Treaty and First Nations and communities to identify culturally and economically important aspects of the environment, called Valued Components. Seabridge then used technical experts to model and predict the project's effect on these Valued Components. Finally, based on the predictions, Seabridge made several design changes and proposed mitigation measures to ensure the KSM project leaves a minimal impact.

Water was identified as one of 60 Valued Components. Seabridge recognizes water is an important resource, and protecting water is a guiding principle behind the design of the KSM Project. Because higher concentrations of metals occur naturally in the water around KSM, Seabridge has to manage, not only water that comes in contact with mining activities, but other naturally poor quality water in the area. The company has developed an extensive water



The complete Seabridge Gold KSM Project Environmental Assessment Application.

management system to protect water at the mine site, and to collect water used in the mining process to be stored and treated. This is just one example of how Seabridge works to protect the environment.

In each of the Valued Component areas, Seabridge will establish follow-up programs to confirm the predictions of its environmental assessment and to ensure mitigation measures are performing effectively.

Seabridge understands community members may want to learn more about the project. The project website, www.ksmproject.com, contains updated project information and responses to frequently asked questions. Visitors are welcome at both the Smithers and Dease Lake community offices, and local staff can be found in the community at the follow events over the next month:

- Terrace Business Expo, April 25/26;
- Gitanyow Career Fair, April 25;
- Smithers Northwest Trade Expo, May 2/3; and,
- Mining Week Luncheon in Smithers, May 9.



Learn more about the KSM Project

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ksm_community@seabridgegold.net
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KSM PROJECT
SEABRIDGE GOLD

Road Closure

For the 7th Annual C.O.B. Group Ride, a portion of 1st avenue will be closed from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm, on Saturday, April 26. The Group Ride will start at 11:00 at C.O.B.



Bike Shop. Food, games, prizes and CICK music on location after the ride. Come out & ride!