



# THE SPRINGPOLE EXPLORER

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## 2022 YEAR END HIGHLIGHTS

With the closing of 2022, FMG is pleased to present some highlights and accomplishments achieved throughout the year.

- Published draft Environmental Assessment report for the proposed Springpole Gold Project for review and input.
- Held public open houses to present and discuss the draft environmental assessment in Sioux Lookout and Ear Falls.
- Completed another year of extensive environmental baseline data collection.

Published Inaugural First Mining Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Report. FMG is proud to highlight our ESG metrics, including programs and initiatives that align with our strong environmental stewardship objectives, robust corporate governance practices and commitment to continuous improvement. Some key points from the 2021 report include:

- Highlighting diversity within First Mining Gold with Indigenous employment representing more than 20% of work force, and 50% of the site-based work force.
- As a founding member of the Sioux Lookout Mining Centre of Excellence, First Mining enabled 150 largely Indigenous youth to go through the basics of mine training to gain skills for potential jobs and leading to work placements. Goals and priority activities for 2022 presented for continued action and improvement.

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## NEW FACES



Shane Hayes brings experience in environmental, permitting, and Indigenous relations from working in Canada's far north as well as northwestern Ontario's Barrick Gold Hemlo Mine and Greenstone Mine in Geraldton. He has spent the last 17 years working and enjoying the outdoors in northwestern Ontario. As an Environmental Professional with ECO Canada, Shane values environmental best practices coupled with local traditional knowledge. When Shane is not working, he enjoys fishing and hunting with his family and spends most of his winter in arenas watching his two boys play hockey.

**Shane Hayes, Director, Environment & Community Relations**



Over the last year Darren has been working with First Mining Gold at the Springpole Gold Project site collecting environmental baseline data as a contractor, he now joins our Environmental and Community Relations team. He enjoys spending time outdoors, playing and watching sports - more so on the watching side. Darren is excited to start a new journey with the FMG team and learn and gain as much experience as possible!

**Darren Thompson, Environmental Technician**

### 4th Annual Keewatinook Ladies Broomball Tournament

First Mining Gold was proud to support three local teams in the 4th Annual Keewatinook Ladies Broomball Tournament 2023! There were 20 teams that participated in the week-long tournament! Tia (pictured to the right) has FMG logo stickers on helmet while playing for Slate Falls Freebirds.



**Tia Chum, Mishkeegogamang First Nation**

### Looking Forward To 2023

#### Advancing Environmental Approvals Process at Springpole

- Regulatory and community review of Springpole draft Environmental Assessment
- Working with local communities to develop an Indigenous community-based Anishinaabe Assessment

#### Advancing Springpole Engineering

- Continue to advance engineering studies at Springpole
- Prepare inputs into feasibility study at Springpole



**Lac Seul Rockets, Lac Seul First Nation**



**Slate Falls Freebirds, Slate Falls Nation**

### Springpole Exploration Camp Improvements

Throughout 2021 and 2022, FMG's operations team installed two new accommodations buildings, and upgraded sewage and water treatment facilities at the Springpole exploration camp making it safer, more environmentally protective, and more comfortable for employees and guests. Some positive aspects of the upgrades include:

- Reduced GHG's and risk of fire from propane heating as we move out of the tents.
- Preparation and installment work was completed with zero injuries.
- Two accommodations buildings provide the ability to run one self contained camp during low peak periods and easily expand when numbers increase.
- Comfortable accommodations - new modern rooms, kitchen and lounge spaces are larger, representing an investment in FMG employees and guests.





# FIRST MINING GOLD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

## SPRINGPOLE SITE TOUR

This past October, FMG had the pleasure of hosting representatives of Lac Seul First Nation for a tour of the Springpole exploration camp. FMG gave a walking tour of all site infrastructure including the core shack, fuel storage area, core storage tents, shop, office, kitchen, and helipad. An overview of the proposed site layout was also provided along with core samples on display showcasing type of rock and physical characteristics of the ore.



## MISHKEEGOGAMANG FIRST NATION'S 2023 CAREER FAIR

First Mining Gold attended Mishkeegogamang Ojibway First Nation's 2023 Career Fair on February 28th, 2023 to share information, and answer any questions about the Springpole Gold Project and job opportunities to students and community members. We look forward to attending more community events!



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



### Percy McKay, General Laborer

Originally from Sachigo Lake, Percy McKay has called Cat Lake his home for the last five years. Percy has been working for First Mining Gold on the Springpole Project since 2021 on a two week in/two week out rotation. He has been performing a variety of tasks related to camp maintenance such as fixing stationary equipment, unloading airplanes, and operating heavy equipment around site. Percy's favorite tasks include operating the 544 John Deere Loader and plowing snow around site. On his time off, Percy enjoys hauling wood and going snowmobiling with his family.

When asked what attracted you to join the Springpole Project Team, Percy responded with "I was really excited to have the opportunity to work close to home, do different jobs and you meet some really good people."

Percy also worked at Musselwhite Mine which was a longer commute and he is looking forward to seeing the Project advance so there are more employment opportunities closer to home for the residents of all the local communities.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

11th Annual Bearskin Airlines Skip to Equip Classic – **Sioux Lookout, ON**

Thunder Bay Women's Hockey League U15 Fury 2022/2023 Season – **Slate Falls Nation**

Community Christmas Cheer Donations – **Cat Lake First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Slate Falls Nation**

Northern Bands Tournament – **Cat Lake First Nation**

Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) – **Lac Seul First Nation U7 Maingan**

AWZ #37 First Nation's Land Based Teaching Camp – **Animakee Wa Zhing #37**



We love working with communities to make a difference in the Region!



# ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE UPDATE

## Caribou Study

Early in 2023, FMG conducted a caribou study in the area around the Springpole site. The study, required by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, involved an aerial survey by helicopter, followed by a caribou collaring program. The program resulted in 50 caribou being fitted with GPS satellite collars that are programmed to drop from the animals in 4 years. The objective of the study is to identify important seasonal habitat areas and how caribou use their homerange to support species conservation and mitigation strategies.



## Wolverine Study

A wolverine study commenced around the Springpole site in February which involved the placement of 25 non-invasive hair snag and camera monitoring stations. The intent of the study is to develop an understanding of Wolverine use of the landscape relative to the proposed Springpole project. The stations involve erecting a run pole that is affixed to a sturdy tree. On the run pole there are two upright structures – the first holds 12 alligator clips intended to grab a small amount of fur, and release easily upon contact by wildlife passing through the frame. Fur samples collected are sent to a lab for genetic analysis. The second upright structure serves as a platform for the front legs of the target Wolverine to access the hanging bait. This orientation is intended to expose the underside of the Wolverine to be captured by the camera which will provide data for individual identification, classification, and reproductive status. The stations will be checked on a monthly basis to collect hair samples, refurbish cameras and to ensure the stations remain in a safe and functioning state prior to being decommissioned in May.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## UPDATED SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT VIDEO

First Mining Gold has released an updated video highlighting key components of the proposed Project and animation of the proposed site plan. The video can be found on First Mining Gold's Springpole Gold Project EA website portal or by typing the address into your browser. We encourage you to check it out to learn more about the proposed mine!

FMG is working to have both ojobwe, and english subtitle versions available soon!

## Website Links

View video:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fb5518492b144cd7a4c4a4617683ee22/page/Home/>

View the draft EIS/EA:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fb5518492b144cd7a4c4a4617683ee22/page/Draft-EIS%2FEA/>

View ESG Report:

<https://firstmininggold.com/resources/reports/First-Mining-2021-ESG-Report.pdf?v=0.081>

## SAVE THE DATE!

First Mining Gold will be in Lac Seul First Nation and the Township of Ear Falls to share information, and answer any questions you may have about this exciting project!

Lac Seul First Nation's 2023 Career Fair

May 10, 2023

Ear Falls 21st Annual Family Safety Night

May 25, 2023

We look forward to seeing you there!

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### General Camp Laborer

First Mining Gold is looking for a general camp laborer to join our team to assist with maintenance and daily operations at the Springpole exploration camp. Members of the local communities are encouraged to apply.

For more information, please contact Shelley Frost, Springpole Camp Manager (807) 808-0302 or [shelley@firstmininggold.com](mailto:shelley@firstmininggold.com).

### Summer Exploration Students

First Mining Gold is seeking to hire a contract Summer Exploration Student(s) who will help support the 2023 Summer exploration and development study activities for First Mining Gold.

If you are interested in working with our growing and exciting company, please submit a COVER LETTER and RESUME to [careers@firstmininggold.com](mailto:careers@firstmininggold.com).



PDAC 2023 left: Jeff Reinson, COO, Dan Wilton, CEO

Sign up to our email list by sending your email address to [communityrelations@firstmininggold.com](mailto:communityrelations@firstmininggold.com) to receive important updates, news, and job opportunities!



## Head Office

First Mining Gold Corp.  
Suite 2070 – 1188 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, BC Canada V6E 4A2  
1-844-306-8827

## If you have questions or comments about the Project, contact us at:

Toll-Free: 1-844-306-8827

Email: [communityrelations@firstmininggold.com](mailto:communityrelations@firstmininggold.com)



[firstmininggold.com](http://firstmininggold.com)