

Session #7 - Collaboration in Reclamation Projects

Time 200pm-220pm

Topic **Reclamation and Closure Best Practices at Goldcorp Mines: A case study into the social and environmental closure experience at Goldcorp's closed sites.**

Abstract Goldcorp is a leading gold producer committed to sustainability and focused on responsible mining operations at each of its sites across the Americas. Reclamation and Closure Planning of former mine sites, including cost estimating, is a fundamental aspect for Goldcorp in meeting its regulatory and social responsibilities, as well as manage the financial health of the company. As stated in Goldcorp's sustainability policy, and reiterated in its Sustainability Excellence Management System (SEMS), the primary goals of the company include leaving mine sites in a condition that is safe, stable, and minimizes potential environmental impacts, while also considering long term social benefits. Goldcorp currently has 35 closed sites under active reclamation or custodial care, and has committed hundreds of millions of dollars on reclamation, remediation, and active care of these sites. In addition to its financial commitment, Goldcorp has established a dedicated closure group, created in 2015, to oversee all reclamation and closure practices in the locations they operate. The intent of this group is to implement technically sound and feasible reclamation and closure plans in line with applicable internal environmental standards, local laws, traditional land uses, and public interests. Goldcorp accomplishes these goals by engaging with local communities and regulatory bodies, and by designing an adapted reclamation and mine closure plan for each site. These plans include active reclamation of disturbed areas, reduction of affected water, control of contaminants at the source, as well as long-term monitoring and maintenance. Adaptive reclamation and closure plans are also designed to (where possible) re-contour, backfill, and revegetate disturbed areas no longer needed for mining during active operations, which in turn will advance the return of disturbed areas to self-sustaining biological ecosystems. In Yukon, for the Coffee Gold Project, the company has developed a comprehensive conceptual reclamation and closure plan which incorporates an adaptive management approach to the feasibility of reclamation initiatives in a northern climate. With this approach, Goldcorp has already laid the groundwork for successful reclamation when the proposed Coffee Gold Mine is to be closed. Furthermore, Goldcorp encourages First Nations and local communities to actively participate in their environmental stewardship responsibility assessment, and by doing so, sets a higher standard in mining industry sustainable development. The presentation will describe the practices established and implemented by Goldcorp to ensure reclamation and closure planning is integrated at each of its sites. Examples of reclamation projects conducted by the company will be detailed, so the audience can better understand the different steps associated with post closure remediation and transition to new land uses.

Presenter(s) Chris Cormier, Goldcorp

Bio(s) Chris Cormier is the General Manager, Goldcorp's Coffee Mine Project located in the Yukon. Mr. Cormier has over 25 years in the mining industry most recently as Vice President Reclamation & Closure, Mine General Manager at Red Lake Mines and Mine General Manager at the Porcupine Operations. Since joining Goldcorp in 1997, Chris has held various roles within operations and projects of increasing responsibility and throughout these roles Mr. Cormier has taken an active role in the communities he has worked with to ensure both the operation and community benefited through successfully building long lived mine operations together. Mr. Cormier has a Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from Michigan Technological University, a Mining Technology Diploma from Northern College Haileybury School of Mines and currently is a registered Professional Engineer in the province of British Columbia.