



RED DOG-SUVISI

2020 – Vol. 11, Issue 2

What are the many people doing?

A New World of Engagement

This March, many of Red Dog’s engagement plans were put on hold. To minimize the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus on site, the Community Relations (CR) team, along with all Red Dog Operations personnel that could work remotely, were asked to work from home.

That meant the team had to learn how to manage their work/life balance, figure out how many days in a row they can wear sweatpants, and how to prevent their dogs from interrupting videoconferences. More importantly, CR roles changed dramatically for the foreseeable future: there is no travel to the communities and no in-person meetings.

Some communities have limited Internet and computer access, making engagement more difficult when the world is now all tele/videoconferences. To adapt to these changes, the CR team eagerly completed a training program led by the Teck Resources head office in Vancouver: the Teck Social Responsibility Online Engagement project. This program focused on how to plan effective meetings, how to enable meaningful participation, and how to collect insightful information – all through distance engagement.

Red Dog has canceled all community tours at site to limit exposure to personnel and communities.

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PHOTO (Above) Red Dog Community Relations met with ConocoPhillips Village Outreach through Microsoft Teams.

SEE A NEW WORLD, PAGE 5



Les Yesnik, Red Dog Operations General Manager.

Message from the GM

Hello everyone! The last issue of Suvisi was early in the year, so much has changed since the COVID-19 pandemic hit our region in mid-March. Since then, we have all learned valuable lessons on how to keep ourselves and our families safe and healthy during this challenging time. The focus of this edition is Red Dog’s response to the coronavirus pandemic.

We activated our crisis management team (CMT) in mid-March at Red Dog Operations (RDO). As we know, Red Dog is isolated and our employees travel from communities in our region and across Alaska, throughout the Lower 48, and outside the United States. We live and work closely together at RDO, and medical care is limited. Considering these factors, we recognized the risk of the virus coming to site was high, and a concrete response to the emerging threat was needed. We developed and implemented a pandemic response plan to minimize the risk of personnel contracting the virus on-site and spreading it to their communities. Initially, the CMT established several safety protocols to aid in physical distancing, sanitation, hygiene, and personal care.

We implemented the “Red Dog Hunker Down Plan” to safely manage mine production while achieving our objectives. Personnel at risk due to health issues were identified, and employees who could effectively work off-site were asked to work from home. Work and R&R rotations were extended to a total of eight weeks, and outbound regional travel was suspended for two months. With overwhelming support and dedication from our employees and contractors, we were able to continue the plan and operate safely through this very challenging period.

Unfortunately, despite being as proactive as possible, a significant increase of COVID-19 cases in Alaska resulted in the transmission and spread of the virus on-site. We immediately enhanced RDO protocols, requiring everyone at site to follow the Worker Protection Program, including mandatory use of company-supplied face masks at all times except when working alone or when alone in dorm rooms. By securing two Abbott ID Now PCR COVID-19 rapid test machines, several large-capacity humidifiers or “foggers,” and several thermal-imaging cameras, RDO was able to further limit the possibility of virus transmission to the workforce at large and the region.

Our incident command team has remained active since mid-March. Ongoing support from our Corporate Pandemic Team is much appreciated, and the continued support and partnership of each member of the RDO workforce, NANA, Maniilaq Health Center, Alaska Native Medical Center, State of Alaska Department of Epidemiology, and regional community leadership is and will continue to be a vital factor in our success as we navigate this pandemic. My sincerest gratitude to all for your commitment and sacrifice to ensure we continue working in a safe environment.

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Red Dog Health and Safety Measures

Teck and NANA remain focused on safeguarding the health and safety of Red Dog employees and the communities in which they live. Red Dog has put in place comprehensive prevention measures aligned with guidance from public health authorities, including:

- As of Sept. 15, all personnel at site have been placed on the Worker Protection Program, which includes:
 - All personnel must wear a KN95 face mask and maintain social distancing of six feet or more in public places.
 - All dining and recreation areas are closed.
 - All personnel are required to eat their meals in their rooms.
- Implementation of COVID-19 testing for all inbound and outbound personnel traveling to the region and Anchorage.
- All personnel with the capability to work remotely are working from home, based on the needs of each respective team.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols, including frequent disinfecting of employee buses and work areas.
- Increasing social distancing practices at site, including reducing the number of passengers on buses and planes; separating groups of employees at work; cancelling large group meetings; changing meetings from in-person to virtual; and modifying eating areas to allow for appropriate separation.
- Reducing or eliminating in-person meetings and other large gatherings.
- Screening all employees and contractors prior to travel to site for risk factors and symptoms.



Social distancing markers are placed around site to help keep people six feet apart at all times.

- Employees travelling to local communities in the region are required to be tested twice and will require two confirmed negative test results before departing. Personnel are strongly advised to also follow their community's COVID-19 mandates when returning home.
- Promoting personal preventative measures, such as frequent handwashing.
- Requiring employees who are displaying symptoms or who have been in close contact with someone with symptoms to stay home from work

- and/or stay in their personnel accommodations room and contact the onsite Physician Assistant for an evaluation.
- A "real-time" body temperature monitoring system was installed, including four thermal-imaging cameras as a means of early symptom detection.

These changes will remain in effect until it is no longer necessary based on consideration of federal, state, and local mandates, reduced risk of COVID-19 spread, and an analysis of business operations. ■

Red Dog Employees Follow COVID-19 Protocols



Above: Personnel adhere to all COVID-19 protocols such as social distancing and wearing a KN95 mask while attending an introduction to Courageous Safety Leadership training.



Above: Christopher Campbell, Safety Supervisor with NANA Construction, posted a sign to ask visitors to his office to give him adequate time to properly don his mask before they enter.



NMS employee Angalee Sampson collects trash in the PAC while wearing a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) that uses a blower to force air through filter cartridges into the breathing zone of the wearer.



NMS staff getting ready for another safe day at Red Dog. At the beginning of every shift, all Red Dog personnel discuss safety measures at their daily "toolbox" meeting.

Teck Provides \$294,000 to Villages to Address Covid-19

Teck Donates \$110,000 to Villages in Immediate Response to Virus

In March 2020, in response to the rapidly developing issues and concerns of COVID-19 worldwide, nationally, and in Alaska, Teck Red Dog Operations Community Investment (CI) took immediate steps to support local communities.

\$10,000 was donated to each of the 11 communities in the Northwest Arctic region to assist in pandemic preparedness. Each community determined how the funds were to be expended based on their respective needs and priorities.

“The residents of the NANA region communities and their leadership are working hard to meet the challenges imposed on them by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am hopeful that the donations provided by Teck will lessen this burden and help keep the people in this important region healthy through this difficult time.”

**— Les Yesnik, RDO
General Manager**

The use of funds varied between communities in areas of need to offset the cost of stockpiling food, cleaning and sanitation supplies, heating fuel and gasoline, communications, and cash/check distributions to each household. In some cases, communities used funds to create quarantine facilities for residents. ■

Teck Fund Donates \$184,641 to Benefit Region

In April 2020, Teck Resources Ltd. announced the creation of the Teck Community Response Fund in response to COVID-19 to support critical social initiatives, increased healthcare capacity, and future recovery efforts in communities where Teck operates.

To ensure each of the 11 communities in the region benefit from the funds, Teck Alaska, Red Dog Operations made the decision to support the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's (NWABSD) distance delivery education program for Kindergarten–4th grade students across the district.

“The staff, students and Board of Education of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District would like to express our sincere gratitude for the generous contributions made by Teck Alaska. The electronic devices provided will allow teachers to deliver educational materials and lessons to their students even through remote learning. This close and constant communication between students and teachers is vital during these difficult times and would not have been possible without the support of Teck Alaska. Quyaana!”

**— Terri Walker,
Superintendent, NWABSD**

The contribution of \$127,000 will fund 50% of the program costs to

purchase iPads, apps, cases, and charging stations.

A request from the City of Ambler in the amount of \$7,500 was funded for access to food for Elders and families in urgent need.

In addition, the Teck Community Response Fund supported the Northwest Arctic Leadership Team COVID-19 Resource Committee in the amount of \$50,000, to provide sanitary and cleaning supplies to ten communities in our region. ■

A NEW WORLD

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

Instead, The CR department is meeting people virtually, and having good visuals is key. It's hard to explain what's on a map when people can't see you point to a map, and it's even more difficult to know if people are following along. This has led to thinking outside the box, and venturing into more visual engagement through diagrams, maps, video, and image sharing.

Through these uncertain times, know that Red Dog is working hard to keep the communities informed and the two-way communication lines open.

CR is excited to try new ways of engagement and is open to any suggestions or comments from the communities. You can contact the Red Dog CR department by phone at 1.907.754.5168, email CommunityRelationsRDOG@teck.com, or visit online at www.teck.com/feedback. ■

Working Together to Protect the Region

When you live and work in the Arctic, cooperation is vital.

Sulianich Art Center Coordinator Vika Owens is a local seamstress and artist in Kotzebue. When Vika learned about the coronavirus spreading in the United States in March, she began looking for enough fabric, thread, bias double-fold tape, and elastic ribbon for all 11 communities so they could make masks and stay safe. Vika reached out to local businesses and government agencies for donations to help support these efforts. Teck was pleased to answer her call.

On April 3, Cliff King, Red Dog Material Management Procurement Supervisor, working from home, received an email request to gather materials to be sent to Kotzebue as soon as possible. During this time, all businesses in Anchorage not deemed essential were closed until further notice, including all fabric stores.

This did not deter Cliff. "My mother has been very heavy into quilting my entire life, and every time she visits me in Alaska, she insists on going to every quilt and fabric shop we can find," he noted. Cliff used this insider knowledge of local fabric shops and processed the request personally.

He called multiple shops in Anchorage and left messages, but discovered that everyone was adhering to the citywide quarantine order. He began searching for shops online, but says, "I didn't have much luck online. It turns out we were far from the first people to think of making masks in bulk, and almost every supplier was low on supplies."

Three days later, Cliff received a phone call from the owner of



Hundreds of cloth masks were sewn and distributed across the region by volunteers in Kotzebue, in an effort organized by local seamstress and artist Vika Owens.

The Quilt Tree in Anchorage. She happened to be in the shop to check voicemails and fill phone orders when she heard Cliff's message and was happy to help. The shop was able to fill the order, and within a few days, 22 bolts of cotton fabric, thread, and elastic were on a plane headed to Kotzebue.

All the materials gathered were divided and shipped to all Tribal entities in the borough, where local resident volunteers were waiting to sew masks for their community.

In Kotzebue, Vika, along with three other volunteers, Betty Kotch, Sue Norton, and Tony Owens, sewed over 1,100 double-cloth masks in various patterns and sizes, including a filter pocket. The masks were donated to the hospital, essential workers in the region including Red Dog, and residents in the community. Supplies were generously donated by Teck Alaska, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, NANA Management

Services, and the Northwest Arctic Borough.

Thank you, everyone, who was able to make this vision happen in a short window of time with the overall goal of keeping the region safe. ■

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback about Red Dog Operations.

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Finding Relief in Traditional Herbal Medicine

Sargiq, used traditionally to treat a variety of ailments such as colds, congestion, and sore throats, can be made into a tea, salve, compress, or the leaves can be stuffed into a pillowcase to make into a pain-relieving pillow

Siikauraq Whiting, along with staff from the Northwest Arctic Borough and Kotzebue IRA, hand-picked four large trash bags of sargiq to send to Red Dog to aide individuals who tested positive for COVID-19. "We are doing what we always do, helping each other and sharing. So many of our family and friends work at Red Dog. The least I can do is share what the land provides to help people feel better," Whiting said about why she started sending sargiq to site.

After receiving the sargiq at Red Dog, volunteers separated the dried leaves into 100 bags to be distributed to employees.

"I have used this (sargiq) my whole life. We couldn't just go to Walgreens to get medicine, so everything came from our land, sky, or water," said Whiting.

Siikauraq didn't stop there – she even prepared care packages for friends and family in isolation or quarantine, which included soup, puzzles, fresh bread, jam, and dried fish.

Quyanaq, Siikauraq, for your efforts to support and care for our employees. ■



Piles of sargiq are laid out to dry completely before storage. The leaves are used in traditional medicine to treat a variety of ailments such as colds, congestion, and sore throats, and can be made into a soothing tea, salve, or compress.



Siikauraq's husband, Alex, hand-picking sargiq in Kotzebue Sound. Sargiq (stinkweed) is harvested by hand and grows best in disturbed tundra and sandy/rocky areas.



Red Dog volunteers bagged up dried sargiq leaves for distribution to employees.

Meet Rylee, NASA Space Camp Scholarship Recipient

Each year, the Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association offers 16 scholarships for children to attend a week-long NASA space camp at the United States Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. In late May, scholarship recipients are selected, and this year's recipient is the daughter of Red Dog employee Preston Miller, 11-year-old Rylee. Preston is the Business Improvement Lead for Base Metals at Red Dog.

Space, robotics, coding, and computers are nothing new to Rylee; in 2019, her robotics team made it to the state finals. Her interest in the NASA space camp program started with her passion for robotics, and specifically, the use of robots in space exploration. Preston notes about his

daughter, "She will find a way to merge her creative talents with her love for math and science."

Rylee and Preston's story is a great example of how Red Dog employees have remained vigilant through the dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic. Practicing key safety measures both in the workplace and at home, like wearing a mask and following social distancing guidelines, is what allows Red Dog to remain operational, and a strong partner to the region. At Teck, safety is our number one core value – thank you to all employees and their families who, like Rylee and Preston, are working hard to remain safe and optimistic during these unprecedented times, both at site and at home. ■



Red Dog employee Preston Miller and his daughter Rylee, receiving her space camp scholarship at Fort Greely Missile Defense Base.

Red Dog Partners with Local and State Health Centers

In March 2020, Teck and NANA made the difficult decision to temporarily suspend flights from the Mine to regional communities in order to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. At the time, regional employees were asked to take on longer rotations, and were provided the option to take R&R at Teck-provided accommodations in Anchorage or at the Port Site.

When Maniilaq Health Center in Kotzebue gained COVID-19 testing capabilities, Teck was eager to enter into a partnership, ultimately resulting in an arrangement in which Maniilaq began processing COVID-19 tests for Red Dog employees.

On May 18, following consultation and approval by each of the 11 communities in the borough, Red Dog reinstated regional travel.

Employees were able to once again return home to spend their R&R with families, provided that they received a negative test result prior to travel. Eventually, the demand for testing in Kotzebue and the region increased significantly, and Maniilaq informed Red Dog that they no longer had the capacity to meet the need for Red Dog testing.

Teck then entered into an agreement with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage to perform testing for Red Dog employees who reside in the Anchorage area and beyond. Through this agreement, employees can now be tested at the ANTHC drive-thru testing location prior to traveling to site. ANMC also processes Red Dog tests for regional employees. Samples are collected

by the Physician Assistant at site, and sent to ANMC in Anchorage for processing. While the logistics of shipping samples to and from site are dictated by weather and flight availability, access to testing has been an important tool in managing the impacts of the pandemic at Red Dog.

While Maniilaq is no longer processing weekly tests for Red Dog, they remain an important partner to the Mine and in the region's collective response to the pandemic. Maniilaq has continued to process follow-up tests for Red Dog following the handful of positive tests at site.

Red Dog and the mining industry as a whole continue to seek options for expanded testing capabilities for the workforce and look forward to continued collaboration with our tribal health partners. ■

What have you been doing to stay healthy during the pandemic?



“When I’m not working, I love helping my family subsist by working on fish and ugruk.”

— Amanda G. Sage, Teck Kivalina Community Liaison

“I can be safe and active at site and also respect social distancing with my coworkers by going outside and picking berries.”

— Stacey Phillips, Mine Operations Travel Clerk



“When I’m working at site, I enjoy getting outside and exploring. It’s a great way to stay healthy, and rejuvenates my mind to prepare for another safe workday.”

— Tristen Pattee, Teck Environmental Technician

Pictured left to right: Red Dog personnel Inessa (Nessa) Cutler, Jennifer Foster, Abi Amboni, Tristen Pattee, and Ceil Dunleavy hiking Deadlock Mountain, located near the Red Dog Mine.

A Quarantine Story

As Teck is a Canada-based company, many Teck employees at Red Dog have Canadian roots. During the last few months, international travel has become even more difficult and rigorous than usual, requiring multiple COVID-19 screenings and tests, in addition to self-isolation for up to two weeks upon arrival at home. To help limit the potential for transmission, employees were given the option to stay on-site at Red Dog for R&R instead of heading home, or quarantine for two weeks in Teck-provided accommodations in Anchorage before flying back to Red Dog.

Jennifer Foster, Teck's Water Quality Lead in the Tailings and Water department, made the best of the situation and took advantage of the opportunity to R&R in Alaska. In return, she had an epic Alaska adventure. Here is her story.

Hi! My name is Jennifer Foster, and I'm the Water Quality Lead in the Tailings and Water Team at Red Dog Mine. I have worked at the mine for one year this August.

I currently live in Vancouver, Canada, and traveling back and forth has been isolating for me due to the COVID-19 self-isolation requirements for international travelers. When I travel home to Canada, I am restricted to my home for my entire time off, which isn't very relaxing. Instead, to minimize my international travel and take advantage of the summer season in Alaska, I decided to



Jennifer also enjoyed a glacier jet ski tour in Prince William Sound during her R&R break in Alaska this summer.



Canada resident Jennifer Foster, Water Quality Lead in the Tailings and Water department at Red Dog, landed this 115-pound halibut during R&R in Homer.

remain in state during my last R&R and enjoy some of the beautiful sites that Alaska has to offer!

I connected with some Red Dog coworkers who showed me some epic local hikes and mountain bike trails in Anchorage. I was also able to take advantage of the low tourism numbers for last-minute excursions, including an ocean glacier jet ski tour in Prince William Sound, all while adhering to the Alaska COVID-19 health mandates.

The highlight of my three-week Alaska staycation was deciding to join a fishing charter in Homer, and reeling in a 115-pound halibut only 15 minutes after putting my fishing rod in the water! I had never seen a halibut over 30 pounds before, so I was flabbergasted when we pulled it on board. My family and friends in Canada did not believe that it was a real photograph at first, but now they are all very excited for all the frozen halibut fillets I am bringing home for them.

This was also a great opportunity to learn more about Alaska. For me, this COVID-19 Alaska staycation taught me always to seek out the positive side of a seemingly negative situation, because you never know what exciting and fun experiences are waiting for you! ■

State Lands Anarraaq and Aktigirug Exploration Program Update

Red Dog's current deposits will be mined out by the year 2031. This means that if no more ore is found, in about 11 years, Red Dog will shut down after 43 years of operation. The Mine Life Extension (MLE) project is tasked with finding ways to continue operating after the current resources are consumed, which will mean continued employment and economic benefits to the region.

A major part of the MLE project is the Anarraaq and Aktigirug (A&A) Exploration Program. In 2018, Red Dog Community Relations engaged with communities to provide information about A&A program possibilities during the annual village visits. A&A deposits are located about nine miles north of Red Dog on State lands. Both deposits are much deeper than the deposits that have been mined at Red Dog. If A&A has enough zinc in the ore to be extracted, mining



Teck has been doing helicopter-supported exploration each summer for the past several years, although there was no field work during summer 2020. Most exploration work has been focused on two zinc deposits called Aktigirug and Anarraaq, which are located on state-owned land about nine miles northwest of Red Dog.

will be underground rather than in an open pit. Teck has been doing helicopter-supported exploration work at these deposits during

the summers for several years, through the summer of 2019.

Two approaches for completing the balance of exploration drilling required are being assessed: from the surface, supported by helicopter, or from underground, which would require constructing an access road from Red Dog Mine. Some of the work for the A&A Exploration Program was suspended in January 2020 due to cost reduction measures across Teck and to accommodate delays in permitting the exploration road. The Exploration team is still hard at work, which includes engaging with communities to provide updates and address any concerns, analyzing core samples from the summer 2019 drilling program, planning for future engineering and scientific studies, and advancing permitting. ■



In summer 2020, the exploration team was looking at core samples that were collected during previous summers. Core is a piece of rock from underground that is brought up to the surface using a special drill, so geologists can understand what the deposits are like.

Employee Spotlight



Kuna Engineering Construction Admin, Renee Douglas, wears a matching mask and atikluk made by Nina Thomas.



The Red Dog digital systems department masks up while they ensure essential information systems are up and running at site. Pictured left to right: Systems Technician IIIb Hamed Diawara, Systems Technician IIIb Craig Bieseimeier, and Database Coordinator Jesse Janitscheck.