

Business Opportunities in Mining A Community Perspective

Hamlet of Pond Inlet



Recent Development in the Pond Inlet Area brief history

- Iron Ore Deposits approximately 175 Kilometers Southwest of the community initially discovered in the mid 1960's
- Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation have been doing advanced exploration in the Mary River continued from the late 1960's.
- Pond Inlet has benefited economically with the revitalized mineral development/exploration at the Mary River iron ore site with contracts and employment opportunities.



Opportunities with Mining

- Toonoonik-Sahoonik Co-operatives have held contracts with BIM since the initial phases of development in 2004.
- Initial contracts have ranged from hiring and maintaining staff for the site, administrative services, logistics, and catering for the first 3 years. Larger organizations were brought in to help facilitate bulk sample, including Qikiqtaaluk Corp and Nuna Logistics.
- Employment opportunities for the community members included laborers, cooks helpers, core cutters, cleaners, HEO operators, supervisors, pump operators, etc. Site had a high of 44 Pond Inlet residents employed on rotational shifts during the bulk sample.
- Hunters and Trappers Organization has been contracted to provide polar bear monitors. Training was provided for monitors through Parks Canada. Students took advantage of the course while offered in the community.



Capacity Development

- Hamlet of Pond Inlet has been working towards providing appropriately skilled workers for the site.
- Training Initiatives have included getting residents experience in drilling and operating heavy equipment which were the greatest areas of interest.
- Maritime drilling school was utilized to initiate workers in aspects in drilling and to see if any suitable candidates would continuing work in the field.
- 20+ residents have been sent down to Morrisberg Ontario for Heavy Equipment Operating training while working through funding agencies and through Social Services Department in Pond Inlet as well with the Economic Development Officer
- Over 40 residents have been through the Class 3 with Airbrakes licensing course in the community.



Challenges

- Hamlet initially had a large amount of our Municipal services workers seek employment at the deposit site, leading up to a shortage of municipal service employees.
- With a general lack of mining in the area, there are a minimal amount of residents who are skilled in some aspects of mining.
- Generally positions available to Pond Inlet residents have been lower level, but can be attributed to a lack of necessary skills for positions available.
- Some of the younger employees at the site initially found it arduous to work for 2 weeks away from home in an unfamiliar environment during the first few years, leading to a relatively higher turn over rate.
- With the growth of the operations at the site, some contracts could no longer be maintained locally in the community due to size.



Partnerships

- Hamlet of Pond Inlet and the Hamlet of Igloolik partnered to help send students to get initiated in drilling and as well HEO courses in Ontario.
- When the time came, the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and the Toonoonik-Sahoonik Co-operatives partnered to help maintain the contract for catering to help keep benefits within the community vs. the contract going directly to the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation alone. This benefited the community and was appreciated.
- When contracts are kept locally with the Co-op, benefits stay in the community longer and as well assist local elders with pensions, help community development and help maintain cash flow in the community.
- Partnerships in Pond Inlet will be necessary with larger contracts to help keep benefits local, residents look forward to more contracts kept locally
- Helps build community capacity. With more opportunities will come more capacity, not only with business but with human resources



In closing....

If your community is anticipating development in your region....

- Communication is key...
- Community investment...
- Maintain partnerships...
- Keep on top of opportunities and see what you can do to take advantage of them...



Thank you...

