

EAGLE'S EYE

A news update from Noront Resources about development in the Ring of Fire

Workplace Wellness at Esker Camp

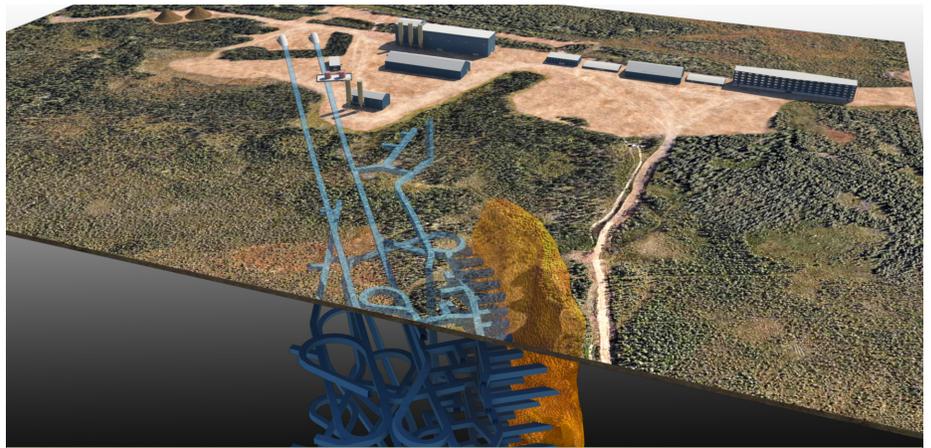
By Veikko Wennstrom, Camp Foreman

It's an accepted fact that a healthy workforce is a safer workforce. In 2018 Noront worked hard to improve its Health & Safety efforts and saw a 74% drop in TRIFR (Total Recordable Incident Frequency Rate).

In other words, in 2018 a Noront worker was almost 4 times less likely to have a recordable injury due to the hard work and enthusiastic engagement by the Team at Esker camp. In 2019, we're focusing on the Health part of the equation with the rollout of a new Wellness Program.

The program had an informal start in November 2018, when the Fitness Centre at Esker Camp was moved from a small Weatherhaven tent to a larger wooden structure. Getting this done between general daily duties at camp was a lot of work, but it was well worth it. Over the course of two shifts, we excavated and levelled the new site, removed a wall and rewired the new building, built a walk-way, installed a stove and painted the floor. Only then could we move in the treadmill, bikes and elliptical machine from the old space.

We now have a great new place for recreation, and we're expecting to add a Bowflex resistance trainer, free weights, yoga mats, an incline bench, rubber flooring and a TV. This will follow an improved Nutrition rollout in January, and we'll also have a Sleep & Rest focus rollout in March. In the 6 years I have been with Noront, I have witnessed huge improvements (continued on next page)



Eagle's Nest Infrastructure fits within the existing Esker Camp Site

Big Opportunity, Small Footprint

By Alan Coutts, President and CEO

When Noront consulted local First Nations and other stakeholders regarding the development of the Eagle's Nest mine, many people expressed concerns that huge areas of land would be negatively impacted.

In response to these concerns, Noront's engineers re-designed the project in order to reduce the impact of the development to smallest possible area or "footprint".

Instead of having a big open pit and the associated waste rock piles, we committed to mining entirely underground. We also reconfigured the project so that the aggregate rock quarry is developed underground, and all the tailings are placed back underground as well. This means that there will be no tailings dam and facilities left on surface to manage after the mine has closed.

In fact, our teams worked hard to ensure that the Eagles Nest mine will fit on the site of the current Esker Camp which has a disturbed footprint of 36 hectares (see the attached figure). To put that number in context, Marten Falls covers 48 hectares and Webequie's footprint is 50 hectares.

In a beautiful and environmentally sensitive area like the James Bay Lowlands, where the Ring of Fire is located, it is important to limit the impact of economic development projects as much as possible. This is an example of how Noront shows its respect for the land and our community partners as we seek creative, collaborative ways to do resource development in the 21st century.

If you have any questions or suggestions for future Eagle's Eye stories, please send an email to:
sydney.finnigan@norontresources.com

Employee Profile



NAME:
ELIAS WHITEHEAD

COMMUNITY:
WEBEQUIE FIRST NATION

JOB POSITION:
CAMP SUPPORT

What does your typical day look like?

Usually, I get up before sunrise then go for coffee and a nice breakfast. I meet the guys at the shop for a briefing and safety talk before moving on to fill out a FLRA (Field Level Risk Assessment) Hand Book. Then we start our duties. As camp support, my day could include a whole range of things depending on what's needed. Our work includes fuelling the generator, helicopter slinging, servicing snowmobiles, ATVs, Argos and heavy equipment, cleaning buildings, shoveling snow off the boardwalks, burning boxes in the incinerator etc.

In the winter, we profile the ice and when it gets to be more than two feet thick, we build an ice strip at Koper Lake and plow the runway so planes can fly in. When we do a fuel haul, we work as a team to safely place fuel drums on toboggans and take them into the environmental protection berms.

This isn't your first job with Noront. What brought you back?

I enjoy working in a positive environment with friendly people and learning new things. At Noront, I learn something new everyday. To be honest, Esker Camp is my favourite place to work because the people are great, I get to work close to my home town of Webequie and the food is great too—I can't forget to mention that!

Workplace Wellness at Esker Camp (continued from previous page)

in safety throughout the company. It's great to see diet, health and well being added to the corporate agenda. As Wayne Fields correctly said:

The best six doctors anywhere, and no one can deny it. are sunshine, water, rest and air, exercise and diet...I believe we are currently covering all of these in Esker Camp.

Is there anything you'd like to share about your career?

Yes, I would say take advantage of the mining programs offered in the Nishnawbe Education and Training (NEAT). Have confidence in yourself and start focusing on your career. I finished two RoFATA training programs with KKETS. I also did Pre-Trades Carpentry in Winnipeg for a year back in 2012 and this summer I did Heavy Equipment Technician for 3 months in Thunder Bay, ON.

How do you see your future as Noront transitions into an operating mine?

My goal is to keep working in the Ring of Fire and help Noront keep a remote exploration camp running. I want to build my career as a camp guy and become an experienced foreman.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

I would say, always have a positive attitude. Remember to bring some stuff to camp that will keep you busy when you're not working. I take my electronics and listen to country music. I also like to work out, so I'm looking forward to the new gym at camp. Meegwetch (Thanks) to everyone that took the time to read my profile. I hope you enjoyed it!

Training for Today and Tomorrow

By Brandyn Chum, Camp Support

 I first wanted to take a heavy equipment course three years ago. When I finally got the go ahead in September 2018, I was excited and nervous.

I chose 3-piece Heavy Equipment Training so I could learn how to operate a Rubber Tire Backhoe, a Bulldozer and an Excavator (my favorite). All are machines that help get big jobs done in less time and knowing how to use them will make me more useful in my job at Noront.

The course I took was at Taranis Training on the outskirts of Thunder Bay. It was five weeks long, with half the day spent in the classroom learning safety, maintenance and operating techniques and the other half on the equipment getting hands-on experience. Operating machinery is a lot of fun and really muddy!

For practical training, the instructor had all the students complete tasks with specific pieces of equipment, like digging a trench for pipes with the backhoe. We were taught how to stay safe by always wearing a hard hat, high visibility safety vest and steel toe boots while operating the machines, and to wear safety glasses and gloves when cleaning tracks. We also learned how to maintain the equipment by greasing the fittings, cleaning out tracks of mud and turning off the machine's master power at the end of the day.

When I started out, the excavator was hard to operate, but the controls got easier with practice. I'm happy that I made the decision to take the Heavy Equipment Course. Now I have it on my resume for future opportunities and general knowledge. I recommend it for anyone who is interested in being a heavy equipment operator. This is a job that will be needed for the upcoming mine development at Noront's Eagle's Nest. When the mine opens, I hope to be a heavy equipment operator on the surface.