We are Orano Canada!

As our parent company became Orano in January, we followed suit and became Orano Canada. Our new name has its roots in the word “uranium”. The letter “O”, and the effect created by its repetition, evokes Orano’s core business: the nuclear fuel cycle.

Although our name has changed, we have the same focus on uranium exploration, mining and milling in northern Saskatchewan, and the same commitment to safety, environmental protection and our communities.

Ya’thi Néné Leadership Meeting

The Ya’thi Néné Collaboration Agreement demonstrates the commitment made between northern Saskatchewan’s uranium companies and communities to work together as partners. As part of this commitment, the first annual meeting between the CEOs of Orano Canada and Cameco, and the leaders of the First Nations and municipalities took place on November 27, 2017 in Fond du Lac, and it was a momentous occasion! It was an important opportunity for the leadership to discuss the many successes of the Collaboration Agreement so far, and the continued efforts by the uranium companies to utilize Athabasca Basin businesses. They also discussed areas for improvement in 2018, such as enhancements in local education and workforce development targets.

Vincent Martin, Orano Canada CEO, and Tim Gitzel, Cameco CEO, presented leaders Chief Corrine Sayazie of Black Lake First Nation, Chief Bart Tsannie of Hatchet Lake First Nation, Chief Louis Mercredi of Fond du Lac First Nation, and Chairpersons Clare Laroque (Camsell Portage), Terri Daniels (Wollaston Lake) and Dean Classen (Uranium City) with ceremonial tobacco. In return, they were presented with a Métis sash and a handmade drum made by David Bigeye and painted by the young talented artist Belinda Robillard.

Pictures (left to right): Chief Louis Mercredi, Chief Corrine Sayazie, Vincent Martin
Welcome Georgie McDonald - McClean Lake Elder

Orano’s McClean Lake Operation has a new site Elder, Georgie McDonald. Georgie was previously employed at McClean Lake as a mill operator from 1995 to 2011. In his new role as Elder, he works closely with the McClean Lake Human Resources team, providing employees and contractors at site with support services.

“I am excited to be back at McClean Lake to help employees and Orano in any way I can,” says Georgie. Georgie was born and raised in Fond du Lac.

Welcome back to McClean Lake, Georgie!

Welcome back Team Drilling!

Since January of this year, Team Drilling has been back on site at McClean Lake! They are working hard to support the McClean Lake team on a Research and Development project. The company was selected to mobilize the rig and crew for drilling operations on the project this summer. Welcome back Team Drilling!

Athabasca Working Group Monitoring Program

Athabasca Working Group (AWG) environmental monitoring program began in 2000 and continued for 18 years in seven northern Saskatchewan communities: Wollaston Lake/Hatchet Lake, Black Lake, Fond du Lac, Stony Rapids, Uranium City, and Camsell Portage. Northern community members were involved with choosing the sampling locations, the types of plants and animals sampled, and with the sample collections themselves each year.

In consultation with the Athabasca Joint Engagement and Environmental Subcommittee, the AWG program ended in 2017 and has been replaced by the Community Based Environmental Monitoring Program (CBEMP) moving forward. The CBEMP will consist of a community-specific traditional foods study completed in one or two communities per year, and rather than a region wide sampling program, samples will be collected in areas known to be used by traditional users of each community. Going forward, a traditional foods study will be conducted, starting in Black Lake and Stony Rapids in 2018.

Athabasca Basin Scholarship Program (2018-2019)

The Yáthi Néné Land and Resource Office is offering scholarships for Athabasca Basin students. Candidates for the scholarships must qualify as an “Athabasca Basin Resident and Member” in accordance with the Yáthi Néné Collaboration Agreement and qualify for and be applying for or accepted into a Post-Secondary Program, which would be of benefit to the Athabasca Basin. Please direct applications and information inquiries to:

Athabasca Scholarship Selection Committee
Yáthi Néné Land and Resource Office
Box 310, Fond du Lac, Sask S0J 0W0
Phone: 1(306) 686-2250  Fax: 1(306) 686-2252
Email: stacy.howat@yathinene.com

Apply online at www.yathinene.com  |  DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2018

Meet Margaret Noey - Community Liaison

Having worked at various mines throughout her career, Margaret Noey is no stranger to northern Saskatchewan’s uranium industry. For years, she worked as a flight clerk and then as a safety technician at Cameco’s Rabbit Lake mine. Before that, Margaret also gained industry experience working at Orano’s main office in Saskatoon. In her current role as a community liaison for both Orano and Cameco, Margaret is now using her knowledge and years of experience to help others build a career in the industry.

Based out of Fond du Lac, Margaret acts as a bridge between her community and the uranium mining companies. “My role is to help provide information about Orano and Cameco’s mining activities and any employment opportunities,” says Margaret. She explains that creating good relationships and an open dialogue with the community is vital. “We attend local meetings and we also try to get out to the schools as much as possible to tell the students about all the opportunities the industry has to offer. I want everyone in the community to know that we are here to help,” she says.

Margaret also visits Wollaston Lake and Uranium City on a regular basis and keeps in contact with other community liaisons, like former Chief of Black Lake, Rick Robillard. “Rick’s a great guy and has been a huge help in answering all the questions I’ve had while starting this position,” she explains. Having started in May of 2017, Rick is also quite new to the role of community liaison, representing the communities of Black Lake First Nation and Stony Rapids. Margaret explains that her main aspiration is to help the youth prepare for the future of mining in northern Saskatchewan. “The most important thing I want to communicate to those who have never worked in the mining industry is work-life balance and how to live a healthy lifestyle,” she says.

Margaret was raised in Uranium City and Fond du Lac, and just recently returned to the north. “I wanted to experience the south for a while and just moved back after six years away. As luck would have it I got the opportunity to take this job! I’m excited to be back and I hope to make a great impression within my position!”

If you have any questions regarding employment opportunities in the uranium mining industry, contact Margaret Noey at (306) 686-2324 or margaret_noey@cameco.com.