MEET JUSTIN MERCREDI, COMMUNITY LIAISON

We are pleased to announce that Justin Mercredi is now Orano and Cameco Corp.'s new Community Liaison in Fond-du-Lac and area.

Aside from a couple of years in Prince Albert to attend Grade 12 and take a preemployment electrical certificate at Saskatchewan Polytechnic in the early 2000's, Justin has lived in Fond-du-Lac all his life. He has always been a community minded person, working various jobs for the band office such as maintenance and security. And, he also served as a band councillor.

It wasn’t long until he realized that if he could work at the uranium mine sites, he could gain more skills. So, he worked at three of the mine sites - at McClean Lake as a temporary mill operator, then at Cigar Lake as a process operator until he was transferred to Rabbit Lake as a mill operator and was ultimately laid-off when the operation was placed in care and maintenance. His understanding of the work at the uranium sites and his experience with life at the camps helped him decide to become Orano and Cameco’s Community Liaison. “I wanted a new, different, challenge. I’m looking forward to being a sort of "middle man" between the companies and the communities,” said Justin with a smile. "I knew the work that Darlene Gazandlare (Wollaston Lake) and Ricky Robillard (Black Lake) are doing with the companies, and I figured I could do it too."

In his new role, some of Justin’s responsibilities will be to guide northerners to further their skills and apply for jobs at the mines. “The more education and training you can get, the better,” he says from his own experience.

If you are in his region and have questions about our training and employment opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact Justin, who works out of the band office.

YA’THI NÉNÉ 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

The Ya’thi Néné Partnering for Prosperity 2018 Report was published in late summer and distributed to each of the member communities. Here are some of the highlights of the report.

Community Investment

There were many investments made in 2018 including:

- Fire Truck (Stony Rapids)
- Fishing Derby (Uranium City)
- Fishery (Hatchet Lake)
- Sound Equipment (Black Lake)
- Fine Arts Festival (Fond du Lac)

24 students received Post-secondary Scholarships for a combined total contribution of $45,000.

Workforce Development

Jobs held by Athabasca Basin residents, including three community Liaisons and summer students:

- 68 at Cameco
- 51 at Orano
PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE:  
THE JEB TMF EXPANSION

To plan for the future and ensure we continue to have a facility available to place tailings generated at the McClean Lake Mill, Orano intends to further expand the JEB Tailings Management Facility (TMF) by increasing the vertical embankment around the entire pit perimeter. The natural ground in the area is sloped - not even - so the pit wall is higher on one side than the other, with the low side of the pit being 14 meters lower than the high side. In order to utilize the existing pit an embankment needs to be constructed to make the pit perimeter an even height all the way around. This construction activity will extend the life of the McClean Lake Operation and provide the ability to place an additional 2.2 million cubic meters of tailings within the existing footprint. Utilizing the existing TMF footprint minimizes environmental disturbance and allows for the continued safe operation of this existing facility.

Most importantly, this method ensures the long term stability of the facility, once it is decommissioned and there are no longer workers on site. The tailings will consolidate to a height that corresponds to the natural high side of the pit. The consolidated tailings are fairly dense and not free-flowing. Further, the top of the pit will be pushed in, reducing the height of the embankment, and a cover will be placed over top of the tailings and trees planted so it will blend into the natural surrounding.

Previous meetings with stakeholders identified the following aspects as important to them. This feedback was taken into account:

1. Surface Water – water quality is predicted to be below provincial guidelines
2. Ground Water – no impacts predicted
3. Landscape and Wildlife – no increase to footprint; the project remains within previously disturbed area; waterfowl deterrents will continue to be used during operations
4. Stability of the embankment

Orano has submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) a notification of change including a project description describing details of the project and the numerous studies conducted to ensure the project is safe and protective of the environment, our workers and the public. The studies included embankment stability tests to assess the potential environmental impact in the unlikely event of an embankment failure. The potential impact has been assessed as minimal and limited to the nearby water bodies and not permanent. It is expected that CNSC staff will conduct a technical review. As part of the construction approval process, Orano will later submit the project description to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment for construction approval. Orano is committed to continue to engage with interested stakeholders during the regulatory approval process.

Orano has considered numerous aspects and outcomes of this project including potential environmental effects.
EXPLORATION: GEARING UP FOR THE WINTER CAMPAIGN

Orano will be operating exploration programs on several projects in northern Saskatchewan during the 2019-2020 winter. The contracts tendering process for this upcoming winter season is now underway.

In the western Athabasca region, south of the former Cluff Lake mine site and west of Highway 955, crews will perform diamond drilling and geophysics work at the Alexandra and Nikita projects. At the Preston Lake project, located south of the Athabasca Basin and centered with Highway 955, Orano’s teams will undertake a geophysical program. These projects will be run out of field based exploration camps.

In the eastern Athabasca drilling programs are planned for five projects including the Martin Lake and Getty Russell projects in the Key Lake mine area and the Close Lake, Waterbury/Cigar Lake and Waterbury-UEM projects in the Cigar Lake-Points North Landing area. Orano also plans to perform ground geophysics and line cutting work at four of the projects - excluding Martin Lake. For these projects, a combination of camps will be used such as field based camps, nearby mine sites and Points North Landing facilities.

CHRISTMAS IN THE ATHABASCA BASIN: 2019 SANTA TOUR

Orano was pleased to once again partner with West Wind Aviation, Cameco Corporation, Athabasca Basin Development, Points Athabasca Contracting, Team Drilling, Flyer Electric, Athabasca Basin Security, Al’s Place, World Fuel and the Prince Albert Grand Council to help Santa deliver gifts to 1,266 Athabasca Basin school children and attend their Christmas concerts.

Representatives of the companies were in the various schools on the following dates:

• Stony Rapids’ Community School - Dec. 11
• Black Lake’s Father Porte School - Dec. 12
• Fond-du-Lac’s Father Gamache Memorial School - Dec. 12
• Hatchet Lake’s Father Megret Elementary School - Dec. 16
• Uranium City’s Ben McIntyre School - Gifts sent by plane

“I’ve participated in this tour for many years, and it is a highlight of the season for me. Seeing the pride of the parents and watching the kids perform is truly priceless,” said Glenn Lafleur, Orano’s Northern Affairs Manager. “I was proud to represent Orano as a sponsor of this community event again this year.”

NEW ROTATION AT MCCLEAN LAKE

Orano has announced the implementation of a new work rotation for their employees starting on January 22, 2020. Orano employees will work 2-weeks-in at the McLean Lake operation followed by 2-weeks-out of site as time off. This 2-in/2-out rotation is similar to the schedule implemented at other mine sites in the province and across Canada. As expected with this type of change, we will unfortunately lose some of our colleagues who cannot work this schedule, and we will welcome their replacements. We thank all the employees that are leaving for their service while with us. And, we ask those employees who are remaining to support each other during the transition period and to welcome the new hires.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS,
DUHÚ DZINEDHÉ NEBA SÚGHÁ NİDÉ
MIYO AYAWÎPINIKIŞIKANISIK

Community, family and contribution – at Orano we proudly hold these values close to our hearts. Our employees are family and thanks to them we're able to provide the world with a safe, low-emissions energy source. Together, within our communities, we are working for a common goal: creating our best tomorrow, our shared future.

ON BEHALF OF THE ORANO FAMILY,
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.

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