Our Parent Company is Orano! We are too!

As our parent company, New AREVA, rebrands itself, AREVA Resources Canada will be following suit, with a formal name change coming soon.

So, what’s the meaning of our new name and logo? Our new name has its roots in the word “uranium”. The letter “O”, as well as the effect created by its repetition, evokes Orano’s core business: the nuclear fuel cycle.

To emphasize our positioning, the symbol that accompanies our logo consists of a set of circular lines. It embodies agility, fluidity, and adaptability, all pillars of a constant capacity for reinvention, to be able to innovate, move forward and meet the challenges of tomorrow. The principal color of our new identity is yellow, the symbol of energy but also the color of the uranium concentrate (“Yellowcake”) from which nuclear fuel is produced. Nuclear energy is an economic resource that generates jobs and creates value. Orano wants to give nuclear energy this capacity to create value on multiple fronts. This conviction is expressed in our brand signature: Giving nuclear energy its full value.

New brand, same company, committed to our operations in Saskatchewan, our people, and our communities!

Employee Profile: Eddie Boneleye - Mill Operator

Eddie Boneleye first joined the McClean Lake team in August, 2005. Since then, he has worked as a mill operator, gaining training and experience in almost all of the mill’s circuits. When Eddie was in high school, AREVA visited his school in Black Lake as part of a Northern Tour. “I learned all about the opportunities for a long-term career at McClean Lake,” Eddie recalls. While the visit got Eddie thinking about his future career, it certainly wasn’t the first time he had heard of AREVA as many of his family members have enjoyed careers at McClean Lake.

Eddie’s brother Terry has worked as a mill operator at the site since 2000, and his brother, Dennis, briefly worked at site as an operator. Eddie also has two cousins working at McClean Lake – Vincent, who works as a warehouse person, and Virgil, who is another mill operator. Both Vincent and Virgil were hired as permanent employees after their successful completion of the Mill Operator Training Program, in different years. Eddie’s father, the late Edwin Boneleye, worked as a mill operator for many years at Rabbit Lake, and for a shorter period of time in the late 1990s at McClean Lake. Later in life, Edwin became involved in politics, working as a Chief and then as a counselor until his death in 2013. Eddie credits his well-respected father with having had the greatest influence on him, teaching him to be resilient, to have a strong work ethic, and to be accountable.

Eddie is the youngest boy in a large family with two sisters and five brothers (including one brother who passed away). He has lived in Black Lake for his entire life, where he enjoys hunting and fishing, sledding, and spending time with friends and family. Eddie and his wife, Crystal, have a young son, Eddie Jr., who is four years old. Over the years, Eddie has noticed positive changes at McClean Lake, “there’ve been improvements to processes and technologies, and an elevated safety culture,” states Eddie. “The reasons I enjoy working at site are the people - working with family members – the week in/week out rotation, and the fact that I am well paid, with good benefits,” says Eddie with a smile. Eddie plans to make his work at McClean Lake a life-long career.
Northern Community Investment Update

Throughout the first weeks of 2018, our Northern Affairs Manager, Glenn Lafleur, has been busy visiting several northern communities. In Beauval, Glenn presented Wayne Laliberte, Recreation Director, with funds to be used for the purchase of basketball nets for a new Community Hall. Glenn also delivered a donation to the Buffalo River Dene Nation for the community’s cell tower upgrade project. The surrounding communities of St. George’s Hill and Michel Village will also be beneficiaries of this upgrade. In La Ronge, Glenn was happy to join Marian Andrews, Guidance Teacher, and her students at Churchill Community High School for Teen Talk, a Youth Health Education Program funded in-part by AREVA. We are a proud supporter of these northern community projects.

AREVA Qualifies as ‘Committed Partner’

In 2017, Indigenous Works (formerly Aboriginal Human Resource Council) conducted the first ever study on the state of corporate-Indigenous partnerships in Canada. The research probed the Indigenous engagements of more than 500 companies (including AREVA) across a variety of sectors. It identified a significant gap in Indigenous/corporate partnerships today and outlined that, in alignment with the spirit of reconciliation, new ways to encourage Indigenous partnerships across Canada must be identified.

Indigenous Works scored engagement for each business based on their awareness, readiness, strategies, consultations, and partnerships. Based on these engagement scores, businesses were grouped into four tiers (see figure). The studies’ average engagement score was 13 out of 100, with 85% of businesses classifying as disengaged. The resource sector had an average score of 23.

We received a score of 90 and are proud to qualify as a ‘committed partner.’ Only 2% of businesses have reached this tier, where consultation is the norm, partnerships are geared towards long-term sustainability (not short-term gain), and core engagement has been internalized.

Uranium Mining Public Opinion Survey

In late 2017, Fast Consulting conducted a public opinion survey for AREVA and Cameco Corporation to measure public support for the uranium mining industry in Saskatchewan. Results from the survey confirm a high level of support for the continuation of uranium mining in the province—82% of respondents support uranium mining in the province, including 37% who strongly support the industry. The large majority of Northern respondents also support the uranium mining industry, at 73%, including 38% strongly supportive. The high level of public support for uranium mining in Saskatchewan is not new. Although surveys show fluctuations in support levels, the rise and fall is within a relatively limited range. The current level of support is consistent with the long-term trend since 1990.