

### First gold pour brings huge thank you to Village of Tetlin

"Last August, we met for the groundbreaking of the Manh Choh mine," Terence Watungwa, Vice President and General Manager of Kinross Alaska, told a star-studded group assembled July 8 at Fort Knox for the first gold pour from Manh Choh.

"From groundbreaking to production in less than a year," Watungwa said. "Now, that's something to celebrate!"

Manh Choh is located near Tok on land owned by the Native Village of Tetlin, which holds both surface and subsurface rights. Rock from the mine is trucked to Fort Knox, where it is processed in the existing mill, which underwent extensive modifications to handle the new ore.

"Manh Choh is Kinross Alaska's first operation on tribal land, and from the beginning, we have been keenly focused on doing it right – for the people and for the land," Watungwa said. "We want to make sure this is always a trust-based, relationship-focused partnership with Tetlin."

"We are treating this as a legacy project where it brings jobs for our people so they don't need to leave home," Tetlin Chief Michael Sam told the crowd.



Tetlin Chief Michael Sam and Kinross CEO Paul Rollinson



Tetlin will also benefit from the royalties it receives from the operation, along with mining roads and infrastructure after mining stops and site reclamation begins.

"Chief Sam, you have always referred to Manh Choh as a legacy for your people and a new opportunity for your youth," said Kinross CEO Paul Rollinson. "We are committed to you, and we take our role in this project very seriously. To the Tetlin people, thank you for entrusting us. Without you, none of this would be possible."

"The people at Kinross have done the project right from the beginning," said Rick Van Nieuwenhuyse, CEO of Contango Ore, which owns 30% of the mine. "They have been a great partner to bring this project to the next level with mining and transport and processing."



Lt. Gov. Nancy Dahlstrom said that Manh Choh and the first gold bar reflect Alaska's commitment to sustainable resource development.

Scan the QR code for a video on Manh Choh.



Chief Michael Sam (third from right) stands in front of an ore truck with his Tetlin Tribal Council: Ariel Miller, Marianne Young, Kristie Charlie, Alexander Joe, Herman Gene and Anita Joe.



Members of the Tetlin Tribal Council tour the Fort Knox mill: Kristie Charlie, Anita Joe, Marianne Young and Ariel Miller.



Kinross employees who worked to turn the Manh Choh prospect into a mine.



Terence Watungwa, Vice President and General Manager of Kinross Alaska



Paul Rollinson, CEO of Kinross Gold



Native Village of Tetlin Chief Michael Sam



Alaska Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom



The stylized eagle in the first pour logo is the symbol of the Tetlin Tribe. It underscores the importance of conservation and respect for the land, a core principle in Athabascan culture.



### Mine Operations Team Coordinates Mining and Rock Transport

The Manh Choh project is led by Shane Parrow, who is our Operations Director. He oversees all functions at Manh Choh, including Health and Safety, Campus, Security, Technical Services, Mine Operations, Human Relations and Community Relations.

Shane also leads a small team of talented and dedicated individuals within Mine Operations who collectively strive to keep the Mine and Ore Transport functions moving in alignment. The team is responsible for safely delivering the planned production in an environmentally responsible manner. This is achieved by working closely with our key business partners who perform the mining and ore transportation work, as well as other ancillary supporting companies and teammates who enable the Mine Operations team to keep focused on our primary objective. The Mine Operations team includes a Mine Superintendent, Ore Transportation Superintendent, Contracts

Analyst, Ore Transport General Foreman, Operations Analyst and Mine Manager.

Good communication is key to ensuring day-to-day operations run smoothly and efficiently. The team leaders meet daily with their respective business partner counterparts to keep the flow of information steady and complete. Daily site planning meetings also help to keep communication lines open.

We work closely with our business partners Black Gold Transport and Kiewit to ensure safety and environmental policies are set in place and maintained for the well-being of our employees and our communities. People are our most precious resource at Manh Choh, and we all work together to maintain these high standards.

### **Employee Spotlight: James Wright Jr., Manh Choh Security Officer**



We are delighted to introduce the newest member of the Kinross Manh Choh Team, James Wright Jr., who joins us as a security guard. James brings a refreshing perspective to our team.

Born and raised in Tetlin, James is deeply rooted in his community. After graduating from Tetlin School in the class of 2022, he embarked on his professional journey by working with the Tetlin Village Council as a youth worker. However, James sought new opportunities for personal growth and advancement, leading him to apply for a position with Manh Choh.

Describing himself as humble, James approaches his work with sincerity and dedication, embodying the values of integrity and

reliability that are fundamental to our company culture. With a passion for music that spans genres, James enjoys anything that sounds good to him, reflecting his open-mindedness and appreciation for diverse experiences.

When it comes to food, James' number one choice is pizza, but he's not afraid to venture into the realm of culinary exploration, having tried octopus, which he describes as one of the weirdest foods he's sampled. In his free time, he enjoys going out to Tetlin Lake, a place he fondly refers to as "Manh Choh," emphasizing its breathtaking scenery and peaceful atmosphere.

In the hypothetical scenario of being stranded on a deserted island, James prioritizes practicality, opting for essentials such as a fire starter, water purifier and a knife to ensure survival. His love for outdoor adventure is evident in his favorite hobby: riding snow machines in the Tetlin area. And when the weather doesn't permit, James finds enjoyment in playing video games.

Finally, when asked about his ideal superpower, James dreams of controlling the weather, citing his love for winter as the driving force behind this choice. He enjoys getting out in the winter on his snowmachine and is already looking forward to the next riding season!

#### Join the Environmental Team for a Day



An average day with the Environmental Team is not as glamorous as it sounds, nor would you actually get to wear a super-hero cape. You would, however, get to wear a hard hat, high-viz safety vest, safety glasses, hearing protection as needed, boots with steel toes and other unflattering but very necessary field gear. Most days are spent taking water

and soil samples, performing fugitive dust observations, site-wide inspections, managing the drinking water system at camp and sometimes heading out in the field to inspect areas with geology or exploration crews. On average, the days are busy with inspections, writing reports and taking necessary samples where required. The BEST days consist of remote field work via helicopter or utilizing ATV/snowmachines to sites that are inaccessible on foot or by conventional vehicle. The Manh Choh Environmental Team is responsible for keeping the mine in environmental compliance with multiple regulatory agencies, 30-plus permits and more than 2,000 obligations.



## Celebrating Women's Achievements: Manh Choh Commemorates International Women's Day



For the third consecutive year, Manh Choh staff came together on March 8 to celebrate International Women's Day (IWD). This global occasion serves as a poignant reminder of the invaluable contributions made by women, not only within our organization but across the world.

This year's theme, "Inspire Inclusion," resonates deeply with our commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. It serves as a reminder of the progress we've made and the work that lies ahead in achieving gender equality and empowering women in all spheres of life.

A community luncheon was held at Fast Eddy's, and attendees enjoyed good food, friends and trivia. The team later traveled to the infrastructure pad to celebrate with those on shift and bring them goody bags of IWD swag.

We also invited our community partners to participate with us in the celebration, with the intention of making the IWD celebration an annual tradition!



## **Tanana Chiefs Conference Welcome Reception**

Our team had the opportunity to visit Fairbanks to help welcome delegates from across Alaska to the TCC Annual Meeting. Manh Choh sponsored an ice cream booth at the evening reception and greatly enjoyed serving up scoops and smiles. We are already looking forward to bringing sweet treats and more toppings for next year's sundaes!





Lisa C., Derek L. and Pat F. scooping ice cream and serving up smiles at the welcome reception.

# **Exploring Sustainability: Manh Choh Leadership Tours Tok School Biomass and Greenhouse Project**

This spring, a team from Manh Choh toured the Tok School biomass and greenhouse facilities, a project that holds immense promise for long-term sustainability and innovation. At its core, this initiative seeks to provide fresh vegetables to all schools within the district, fostering healthier eating habits and supporting local agriculture.

One of the highlights was witnessing the dedication and passion of those involved in making this vision a reality. From educators to community leaders, everyone is committed to creating a more sustainable future for our children and the generations to come.

The Alaska Gateway School District has also partnered with General Electric to explore the integration of solar panels into the project. This collaboration would reduce our carbon footprint by harnessing a renewable energy source, thereby contributing to a cleaner and greener environment.

Manh Choh is excited to help aid the district with a grant to expand the greenhouse and opportunities it provides to students.



#### Afognak Keeps Manh Choh Clean and Safe

Afognak Leasing LLC (Afognak), a company with a long history of operating remote facilities, provides the maintenance, billeting, catering, housekeeping and janitorial services at Manh Choh. The Afognak team supports Kinross' leadership by executing its scope of work through a lens of health and safety to create a quality living environment for all guests at camp.

The onsite team includes Camp Managers Chris Stagdon and Steve Spencer, Maintenance Tech Kelly Goneau and our subcontractor employees who perform the housekeeping, janitorial and catering services. Each day, the team ensures that living facilities are maintained to the highest standards and the site remains a safe and hospitable workplace. Afognak also provides janitorial at the mine site.



Steve is the friendly face at the front desk for arrivals.

#### Health and Safety Department

Kinross Health and Safety Department's primary goal is to ensure the mine site is a healthy and safe environment for all employees and business partner employees. There are many regulations and laws in place that a mine site must follow as minimum standards or guidelines to ensure the health and safety of the employees. These standards come from multiple government agencies, including the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Daily audits and interactions are conducted at a mine site to verify the standards are being met. Health audits are conducted for certain health risks, like noise, respirable dust and silica, and workplace ergonomics.

To take health and safety to another level, the department's staff conducts daily interactions with the employees to better understand how work is performed so effective controls can be put in place to, ultimately, make it easier to work safely.

Our people are the solution to a healthy and safe workplace.



Pete (Health and Safety) briefs students on best practices before the tour begins at Manh Choh.

#### **Human Resources Is the Team Behind the Team**



The Human Resources team is responsible for Kinross hiring, onboarding and employee relations, training, policies and procedures, performance management, and employee engagement. Workforce development is also a major focus. This year, we partnered with the Alaska Gateway School District and Alaska Excel to create the Mining Career Pathways program, a 10-week course designed to give local students exposure to a broad range of career fields available to them in the mining industry.

The Human Resources team at Manh Choh consists of Human Resources Generalist Doug Ferguson Sr., with 17 years of experience in the natural resources industry. Doug has been instrumental in recruiting the amazing team at Manh Choh.

Human Resources Manager Meg Smith has more than 30 years of human resources experience in the mining industry. She has started three major mining projects and worked all over the state of Alaska. Her passion is workforce development and working with youth to explore careers in the mining industry.

#### **IT Department Supports All Kinross Alaska Employees**



Jeff G. in IT is one of our local go-to people when we need help.

We are part of a corporation that has mine sites around the globe, so we get to hear from the other sites on their challenges and learn from each other. Between Fort Knox and Manh Choh, Kinross Alaska's IT Department supports approximately 785 employees, 145 desktop computers, 480 laptops, 268 cellphones, 686 desk phones, 90 servers and miles upon miles of network infrastructure (fiber, copper and wireless). On any average day, there are everyday tasks – like password resets, replacing ink/toner in printers and setting up accounts for new employees – and tons of other work, too. It is the IT Department's job to make sure each piece of technology is secure and up-to-date to protect it from cybersecurity threats. They also install software for various departments and troubleshoot issues employees have with their computers or the network.

IT is always working on something to support the team and make sure they have the equipment and resources they need to stay productive and keep up with their department's needs.

## Security Team Protects and Safeguards the Mine's Workers and Property

The primary functions of Manh Choh Security are to protect and safeguard the people, property and assets of Kinross Alaska. This takes many forms at Manh Choh, including monitoring an extensive camera and access-controlled network. We have cameras located throughout the campus property, with several more slated to come online this year. These cameras are also located at the guard shack monitoring the mine access point/gate and surrounding area. Additionally, all doors and gates are 100% access controlled. This means no person enters the camp or mine without either an active badge or physically speaking with Security personnel.

Our Security staff is over 50% local hired (55% to be precise, 6 of 11), including a resident of Tetlin. They conduct thorough foot patrols of the campus grounds multiple times each day

and adhere to a strict zero tolerance policy for weapons, drugs, alcohol and workplace violence. The team has over 100 years collective experience in security operations, investigations, law enforcement and military.

In addition to these duties, Security has a hand in many other parts of the day-to-day operations of the campus and mine, including greeting new arrivals, bag portering services, room unlocks, general purpose handymen, furniture moving, box moving, phone dispatching services and building interdepartmental relationships. Security personnel are the first people you see when you get to the campus or the mine, and the last people you see when leaving. If you have a problem or need help, Security is the "go to" for it.

## Community Relations Department Is the Friendly Face of Manh Choh

At Kinross Manh Choh, the Community Relations department is paramount as we recognize that they are the go-to people for questions and concerns. Spearheading our efforts in fostering strong community ties is a dedicated team that consists of a Community Relations Coordinator, External Affairs Supervisor and External Affairs Manager, all from Interior Alaska. Together, they diligently cultivate meaningful relationships with local stakeholders, organizations and residents.

Through active engagement, they ensure that our company's presence is not only felt but positively impacts the communities we serve. Whether it's organizing volunteer events, participating in local initiatives or responding to community needs, our Community Relations team is committed to upholding our company's values. Their proactive approach not only strengthens our brand image but also reinforces our commitment to being responsible corporate citizens.

Ideas? Questions? Stop by the campus, call 907-687-6202, or email lisa.conrad@kinross.com.



Lisa C. is the Manh Choh-based Community Relations Coordinator.

#### **Technical Services Team Keeps Operations Running**

The Technical Services team performs several critical functions at our mine to ensure efficient and safe operations.

**Mine Planning and Geology** – Collaborating with geologists to assess the mineral deposits, geological structures and ore quality. Creating detailed mine plans, including pit designs, haul roads and waste dumps. Optimizing extraction methods based on geotechnical data.

**Mine Design and Optimization** – Developing mine layouts, considering safety, productivity and environmental impact. Evaluating equipment selection, mine sequencing and production scheduling. Continuously improving mine design to enhance efficiency.

**Drill and Blast Management** – Designing blast patterns for efficient rock fragmentation during excavation. Ensuring safe blasting practices and minimizing environmental impact. Monitoring blast performance and adjusting parameters as needed.

**Surveying and Mapping** – Conducting topographic surveys to accurately map mine features. Monitoring pit walls, stockpiles and infrastructure stability. Providing data for volume calculations and reconciliation.

**Production Monitoring and Control** – Tracking ore production, waste movement and equipment utilization. Analyzing production data to optimize processes and reduce costs. Implementing control measures to maintain production targets.

### Mining Career Pathway

Tour season started strong with the Pathways class from Alaska Gateway School District touring Manh Choh, UAF's Mining and Petroleum Training Service facility and the Fort Knox mine. The class that visited was part of a larger career pathways course in which students learned about multiple industries, including mining. When asked what was their favorite part of the tour, everyone agreed it was holding the gold bar!







#### **Eagle School Tours**

This spring, Manh Choh and Kiewit teams hosted the Eagle Community School at Manh Choh. In addition to an overview of our mining operation, the guests got an up-close look at a CAT 777 haul truck, explored our maintenance shop and enjoyed the stunning views from our pit overlook. Students of all ages got a firsthand look at the day-to-day operation and even got to sit in the haul truck!







#### Congratulations, Tetlin Graduates!

This year, there were five Tetlin High School students who graduated. Each student received a laptop to use in their continued education, growth and next career steps!

Danisha Jazmin Paul Dustin William Captain Preston Jimmy Paul Ethan Titus Gunter Gavin Latrell Maynard



Pictured from left to right: Dustin William Captain, Danisha Jazmin Paul and Preston Jimmy Paul.

#### **AMA Conference**

The Alaska Mining Association started the Fairbanks Convention week off with a tour of the Kinross Fort Knox Gold Mine and the Permafrost Research Tunnel. The two Mine Operations leads for both Kinross sites presented a brief project updated on Kinross initiative and the progress at each site from the past year.





Roger Burggraf, who had a legendary career in the mining industry, with a Fort Knox gold bar.

#### **Love Local**





Arctic Catering's head chef, Darren Paxton, proudly shows off local products that are being used on campus.

Manh Choh and our business partners are dedicated to shopping, hiring and investing locally. Recently, the campus brought on three new local vendors. We are still searching for opportunities to work with more!

**Sunnyside Farms** – supplies dozens of farm-fresh eggs and chicken.

**Delta Meat and Sausage –** provides protein for our homecooked meals.

**Alaska Flour Company** – provides the mix for brownies that help satisfy that end-of-the-day sweet craving.

#### **Living Our Values Awards (LOVA)**

Manh Choh is fortunate to have a team of Alaskans that has invested countless hours into ensuring the success of the project along with strong community relations. We are proud to announce that Ore Haul Superintendent Derek Lakey has been recognized within the company with a prestigious Living Our Values Award (LOVA) for his tireless efforts to cultivate a safe, environmentally responsible and community-oriented ore haul.

Derek works directly with business partner Black Gold Transport to help with communications and planning and served as the Kinross representative on the Department of Transportation's Transportation Advisory Committee for the corridor.

Congratulations, Derek!



Ore Haul Superintendent Derek Lakey was recognized with a LOVA for his dedication to safety.

#### **Proud Education Partners**



Annually, we look forward to Alaska Resource Education's outreach trip to the Tok area, and we rally volunteers to come lend a hand and share their on-the-job knowledge with students. These resource development workshops are free and are a fun way to learn about energy efficiency, responsible development and have an opportunity to ask what careers in different industries are like.

#### **BGT Trucking Update**



Over the last few months, the Manh Choh and Black Gold Transport teams have been diligently working to meet our goal of an average of 60 trucks per day traveling between Tok and Fox. By mid-2024, we will reach this target with the necessary drivers in place.

Drivers continue to advocate for safety along the route by calling in stranded drivers and striving to have the lowest OOS (out of service) percentage rating in the state of Alaska. BGT is committed to following all laws and regulations, including pulling over when it is safe to do so to let cars pass.

Trucks may be seen near each other due to traffic conditions, road construction or training, but our dispatch center is mindful of spacing to prevent long convoys. The use of Samsara Al systems and cameras proves invaluable, especially with geo-fencing areas like school stops, road crossings, and other community points of interest.

## **PROJECT TIMELINE**



Gold is Discovered

#### Economic Viability



The Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) was published in 2018. An updated scoping study is complete.

The objective of the scoping study was to confirm the economic viability of the potential mining project and refine development plans.

#### Scoping

This scoping study provided more information on the production plan, location of infrastructure. environmental mitigation requirement, capital cost as well as initial estimates of employment numbers.

Complete

#### **Feasibility Study** & Permitting



Development, closure, and reclamation plans will be presented as part of detailed permit applications.

The state and federal government will carefully review the project's proposed plans. If the plans are accepted, permits will be issued before operations can begin.

The public will be involved during this process to provide input.

Targeting to complete in 2022.

#### **Detailed Design** & Construction



Once the project team has received approvals, the project will move into detailed engineering, equipment procurement, construction, and commissionina.

A bond in the amount of the cost of reclamation will be posted before production. Topsoil will be saved for later reclamation.

Targeting to complete in 2023.

#### We Are Here!

This project will benefit local residents and will contribute to the state economy by providing additional employment opportunities and benefits. Additionally, preliminary estimates for the project include a total life of mine production of approximately 1 million recovered gold ounces at an average mining grade of approximately six grams per ton.

In progress.

#### Reclamation & Closure



Regrading, topsoil replacement, seeding and planting will start as soon as each area has been mined.

Bond will be released once the reclamation is complete.

**PEA** 

**Operations** 

Continual Monitoring & Public Engagement

#### KINROSS

#### Manh Choh

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 9 Tok, Alaska 99780

**Physical Address:** 1313 Alaska Hwy Tok, Alaska 99780