

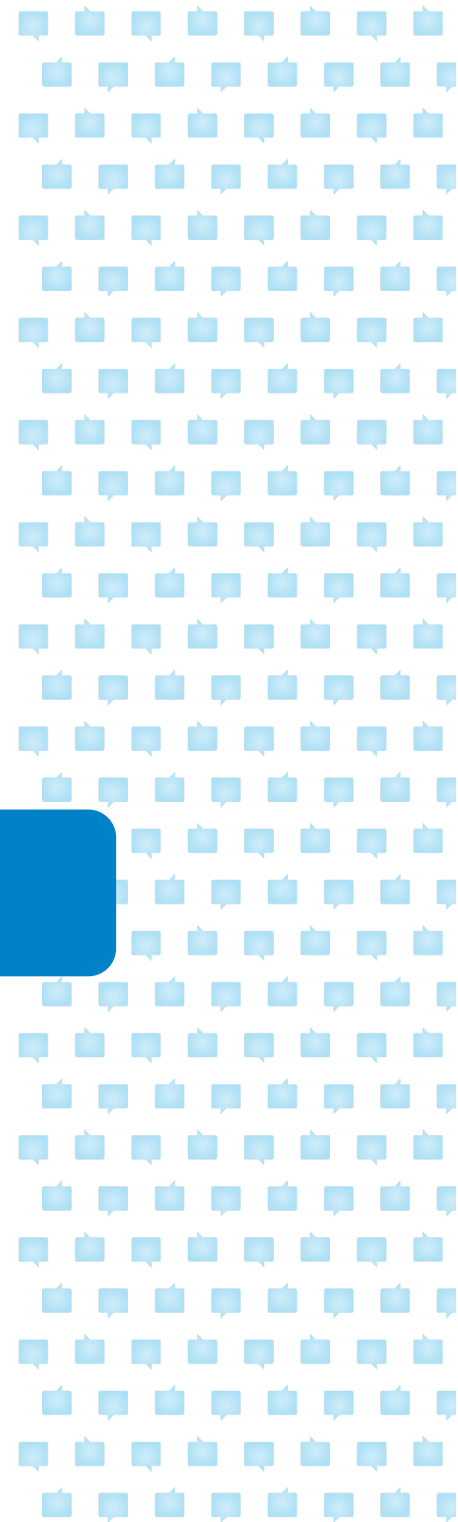


## ONLINE SURVEY – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

June - August 2023 Online Survey

Presented to  
Agnico-Eagle Mines – Upper Beaver Project

September 21st, 2023



## 1. CONTEXT

In June 2023, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd (Agnico Eagle) shared an online survey to local communities and surrounding areas, as well as identified stakeholders regarding the development of the Upper Beaver Gold Project, located in the Timiskaming District of Northeastern Ontario. The survey was available online from June 5<sup>th</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, and was shared through various communication channels including the Project's dedicated website, via email to the Project's distribution list, as well as mailed to approximately 3,500 homes in local and surrounding communities via Postal Card with further context and QR code for easy access. The survey aimed to assess community and stakeholder perceptions regarding the Project and its proponent, as well as aimed to collect information on land use in and around the Project area. Agnico Eagle mandated Transfer Environment and Society (hereafter TES) to review the answers provided in the online survey and to identify the main highlights.

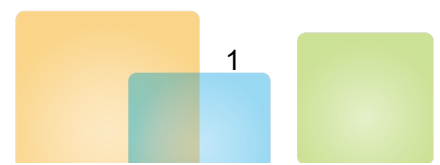
In total, 21 respondents answered the survey. All survey respondents mentioned living within 5 km of the project site, with 53% living within 2 km and 21% living within 250 meters of the projected mine site. 36% of respondents live in the Township of Gauthier, 23% in Kirkland Lake and 14% in the Township of Lebel. The rest live either in the Township of Larder Lake, elsewhere or would rather not answer. There was an equal proportion of men and women amongst the respondents (43% respondents each), with one respondent identifying as Two-spirit.

The most prevalent employment amongst the respondents is within the mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction sector (23% respondents) followed by professional, scientific, and technical services and health care and social assistance (tied at 14% each). All respondents occupy a job level equal or higher than intermediate level.

## 2. KEY HIGHLIGHTS

On the section regarding project familiarity and interest about Agnico Eagle and the Upper Beaver Project, the respondents shared the following:

- Most respondents (80%) were familiar with Agnico Eagle and most have a good (43%) to very good (29%) perception of the company. 9,5 % of respondents indicated having a bad perception of Agnico Eagle;
- Four respondents are currently working for Agnico Eagle, two of them disclosed their job title;
- 67% of respondents indicated being familiar with the Upper Beaver Gold Project and 62% had already participated in a Public Information Session or engagement meeting;
- 33% of respondents indicated being interested in potential job opportunities that may become available at the Upper Beaver Project and 38% shared a potential interest.



## 2.1 PROJECT CONCERNS

Regarding potential project concerns, 43% of respondents answered that they have concerns, with another 29% sharing that they may have concerns. The following is a summary list of the shared concerns, from most to least mentioned in the survey:

- Project impacts to the community;
- Associated project noise and traffic (from heavy equipment, trucking, railway, increase in traffic in residential areas);
- Project impacts to groundwater (namely private/residential wells)
- Location of the project's temporary housing;
- Access to Beaverhouse Lake (via Fork Lake);
- Proximity of the planned leach pit to the lake (unspecified);
- Project impacts to community health (mainly from trucking, noise);
- Beaverhouse Road closures (preventing access to Larder Lake and impacting trail conditions);
- Project impacts to the environment (from river diversion, open pit, dust, land disturbances);
- Project water usage and impacts to quality (namely to local waterways and water systems, GHG and air contaminant emissions, Closure Plan);
- Perceived lack of transparency from Agnico Eagle (resulting from environmental impacts, noise and light pollution);
- Local access to neighbouring lakes (Beaverhouse, Howard, Popular Canoe Route, Fishing Destination)
- Project impacts to current landowners;
- Project impacts to First Nation communities (mainly neighbouring communities);
- Employee Health and Safety;

## 2.2 LAND USE & ACTIVITIES

Respondents also provided answers regarding local land use and potential impacts to local activities. The following is a summary of the answers:

- The respondents mostly visit the areas during the summer and autumn. Winter is the least popular time to visit, although some people stay in the area on a full-time basis;
- The following are the most popular activities in the area:
  - Fishing - 63.16 %;
  - Canoeing, kayaking, water crafting - 52.63 %;
  - Hiking - 42.11 %;
  - ATV - 42.11 %;
  - Swimming - 36.84 %;
  - Hunting - 31.58 %;
  - Skidoo - 31.58 %;
  - Bird and/or wildlife watching - 31.58 %;
  - Visiting friends/family - 26.32 %;
  - Astronomy - 21.05 %;



- Foraging (food/medicine) - 15.79 %;
- Secondary house/cottage - 15.79 %;
- Other - 10.53 %;
- Most activities are practiced on Beaverhouse Lake, Howard Lake and near Beaverhouse Road;
- 53% of respondents believe that the project will impact the type of activities that they do in the area. The most mentioned concerns include project-related environmental impacts that could affect fishing, swimming, kayaking, and bird/wildlife watching. There are also concerns about potential restrictions to accessing certain areas, namely Beaverhouse Road. Other nuisances, such as noise and lights were also mentioned as potential impacts to quality of life.

## 2.3 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Regarding project engagement, the respondents had the following to share:

- 67% of respondents would be interested in participating in future engagement activities related to the project's Impact Assessment. The remainder may be interested and would like to know more about the engagement options;
- 89% of people are or may be interested in sharing their input/views about the Project and in discussing impacts, potential alternatives, and mitigation measures during participatory workshops;
- Most respondents prefer either an in-person (50% respondents) or hybrid format (56% respondents) for engagement activities. The most preferred time is weekday evenings (76%), followed by weekdays during the day (41%);
- Regarding the preferred topics of interest for future engagement activities, the respondents shared the following preferences when asked what were their three main priorities:
  - Land use and cohabitation - 61.11 %;
  - Surface water and groundwater quality and usage - 61.11 %;
  - Potential impacts to fish and fish habitat - 44.44 %;
  - Noise and vibration - 38.89 %;
  - Baseline studies & results (physical and biological condition) - 33.33 %;
  - Human health - 33.33 %;
  - Air quality - 27.78 %;
  - Project technical information - 22.22 %;
  - Project economics - 22.22 %;
  - Geochemistry - 5.56 %;
- 61% of respondent believe that a project advisory committee would be beneficial, the rest of the respondents being unsure.
- 82% of respondents would like to receive further information, receive invitations for future engagement activities/events, and be added to the Upper Beaver email alert.
- 4 respondents would like to be contacted by the Community Relations Coordinator to set up an appointment to discuss their interests further. (Note: follow-up has been completed)

