

COMMUNITY BBQ REPORT

EVENT INFORMATION	
DATE	July 27, 2024
TIME	11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION	Dobie Arena
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	50 to 60 people
AGNICO EAGLE'S TEAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sarah Morin, Superintendent, Sustainable Development ✓ Casandra DeForge, Environmental Coordinator ✓ Amy Danchuk, Community Relations Coordinator ✓ Bruno Roy, Project Manager, Construction ✓ Serge Racicot, Superintendent, Construction ✓ Jane Alcott, Geotechnical Advisor ✓ Dan Chisholm, Regional Exploration Supervisor ✓ Jonathan Sutton, Exploration Coordinator ✓ Brealey Carragher, Intern ✓ Matthew Poirier, Geologist-in-Training ✓ Teanna Burnie, Geologist-in-Training
CONSULTANTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Elizabeth Robertson, Transfert Environnement et Société (Facilitator) ✓ Dale Klodnicki, WSP (Senior Principal, Aquatic Ecologist) ✓ Pascal Everton, Soft dB (Director, Environmental/Industrial Acoustics) ✓ Pierre-Claude Ostiguy, Soft dB (Director, Monitoring)
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Provide an informal opportunity to meet the AEM teams and establish positive relationships with community members built on trust, mutual respect, and transparency. ▶ To inform/update community members on the Upper Beaver Project's various components/activities. ▶ To provide general information on main topics of concern to support community understanding. ▶ To gather and document feedback and knowledge from community members related to the Project, land use, navigable waters, and others, through various formats at the event.

INTRODUCTION

Agnico Eagle held a community BBQ at the Dobie Arena on Saturday, July 27th.

The goal was to put on a fun, informal event to connect with people in the community, provide updates on the Upper Beaver Project, and listen to feedback from participants. An activity area was set up for kids outside the arena, and hamburgers, hot dogs and other refreshments were served throughout the day.

Inside the arena, participants could stop by six different booths to learn about different aspects of the project and share their thoughts.

1. Welcome table

At the event's welcome table, the Community Relations Coordinator greeted participants, handed out door prize tickets and distributed gifts. It was also a place where people could ask about Agnico Eagles' communication processes and channels, employment opportunities, and obtain information about the Ontario Donations' Committee.

2. Upper Beaver Project

In the Project section, two tables were designated to address different project phases—advanced exploration and production. They provided information and answered questions about ongoing and upcoming site activities.

3. Noise and noise monitoring

Here, noise expert consultants explained basic noise concepts, and talked about noise modelling and monitoring related to project activities. It featured a mobile monitoring station and posters detailing sound concepts.

4. Exploration 101

Regional Exploration Team was on hand to meet participants and talk about the various stages of exploration and geology. There were also activities for children to learn about things like mapping and prospecting.

5. Advisory Committee

At this booth, participants could learn about an advisory committee Agnico Eagle is hoping to set up for the Upper Beaver Project. The role of the committee, how it would operate, and member selection process were discussed. Sign up forms were available for people who were interested in putting their name forward as candidates for the committee. And participants were invited to suggest themes they thought the advisory committee should discuss.

6. Workshop

At this booth, participants were invited to share their knowledge and ideas for ongoing studies, particularly concerning the use of waterbodies within the project area and ideas for offsetting fish and fish habitat loss. A survey was made available to gather input from the community on the use of navigable waters.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Below is a summary of comments, concerns and ideas that were shared by participants throughout the day.

ROAD ACCESS TO BEAVERHOUSE LAKE

One key concern was access to Beaverhouse Lake (BHL) via Fork Lake Road, which is crucial to residents. Questions were raised about whether Fork Lake Road would be open before access to BHL is restricted, noting current safety issues due to mine traffic. Staff confirmed that Agnico Eagle is evaluating an alternate access route via Fork Lake Road, which would involve road upgrades and a new boat launch.

EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

Another frequently discussed topic was the pit's size. Some participants expressed concerns that the plan for a small open pit might change and become a much larger one.

One participant asked about the possibility of site tours for the Upper Canada and McBean tailings areas, as well as the Upper Beaver site.

There were also inquiries about potential business opportunities from local business owners. They were provided with information on AEM's local procurement policy and connected with the appropriate staff.

NOISE AND NOISE MONITORING

More noise monitoring stations were requested, namely on the east side of the aggregate pit, the south side of the lake, at the north bay, and further north past the gully, and one in the town of Dobie.

Questions were raised about potential health issues due to the noise, with short-term impact noises appearing to be the most bothersome. There were also concerns about the lack of bin liners in the trucks, which means there is nothing to muffle the sound of rock being dropped into them.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Participants were interested in the creation of an advisory committee. Conversations highlighted the importance of the mine's engagement with the public. There was curiosity about the committee's functioning, with a preference for transparency about scenarios and

ongoing studies and a consideration for all viewpoints. People appreciated the fact that decisions would be reached by consensus.

Participants suggested topics for the committee to cover, including roads, housing needs for incoming workers, women's and children's safety, as well as the use and transportation of chemicals. Training opportunities were also mentioned as a possible topic, though it was noted that the training should be for good, professional jobs where there is the possibility of advancement.

Overall, people liked the idea of an advisory committee, and a few even put their names forward as candidates.

FISHING

Many participants shared their knowledge of fish in the area. One person mentioned they've been catching brown bullhead for 40 years in Beaverhouse Lake. Someone else said that bullheads were actually introduced in Howard Lake and have migrated downstream to Beaverhouse Lake. There are a lot of walleye, northern pike and yellow perch in Sourdough Lake, according to another participant, but they are hard to access because of the beaver dam.

It was noted that walleyes are present in the chain of lakes east of Fork Lake Road, where beaver dams had been removed and lake levels lowered substantially. There was a suggestion to investigate the walleye population status after the water-level changes and possibly reinstate water-level controls to improve habitat.

It was also mentioned that access to fish from docks at Larder Lake Fish Hatchery has been historically restricted or closed. One person suggested the idea of having a "dock for kids and those without boats" in Larder Lake.

WATER

There were requests for more information on the environmental impact of the project, particularly regarding water management, water control, treatment, and final effluent discharge.

Someone asked whether biota other than fish, such as freshwater mussels, will be salvaged from York Lake. Staff answered that other biota can be considered and included based on the Ministry of Natural Resources permit conditions once the salvage and relocation planning begin.

Concerns were raised about the potential impacts of the project on an artesian spring at Bear Lake used by the public. One participant suggested implementing proof of swim training or offering swimming lessons given that some community members do not know how to swim.

COMMUNICATIONS

A few participants mentioned their lack of trust in Agnico Eagle's communications. One participant expressed feeling ignored and criticized the lack of transparency in the permitting process. However, it is worth noting that several other participants praised Agnico Eagle for their effective communication regarding the project.

CONCLUSION

The event was well received. Participants appreciated Agnico Eagle's coordination and the informative nature of the event. The clear and relevant information provided, along with activities for children, made the event both enjoyable and valuable.

There was an interest in Agnico Eagle holding more events of this kind. One participant suggested that next time it might be a good idea to have a shuttle bus from Kirkland Lake so people without cars could attend.

The friendly and open atmosphere facilitated meaningful discussions, and many attendees were well informed about the project, raising specific questions. Overall, the community recognized Agnico Eagle's efforts in hosting an inclusive event that not only shared important information but also fostered personal connections with community members.