

# Stk'emlúpsemc te Secwépemc Nation (SSN)

PO Box 188, 1030 Trans Canada Hwy. Savona, BC VOK 2JO

Represented by the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc and the Skeetchestn Band We do not have a mandate, we have a responsibility We are yecminme7

### MEDIA RELEASE

### SSN Releases Reports to Provide Depth of Information for Public Response to British Columbia's & CEAA Environmental Assessment Office Ajax Mine Project Assessment Reports

September 18, 2017 (Kamloops), The wildfires made for an eventful summer for the two communities that form Stk'emlúpsemc te Secwepemc Nation. Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Nation was host to evacuees and Skeetchestn Indian Band was on alert and later evacuated. During that time of crisis, on August 8, the British Columbia's & CEAA Environmental Assessment Office released their Ajax Mine Project Assessment Reports for public comment.

SSN leadership noted that the public comment period was for 63 days as opposed to the usual 30 days, although the announcement was made immediately after a long weekend (and the Tk'emlúps pow wow) and in the thick of wildfire threats and summer holidays.

With 23 days left on the public comment period and people settling back into their fall routines after so much upheaval, SSN is releasing the reports that they had independent experts (First Nations Knowledge Keepers and Western Science) generate for the SSN Indigenous Project Assessment Project. The reports and documents were used at its panel review and provides the public with further information about the impacts of the proposed mine, including an economic feasibility assessment which was not part of the scope of the government review. The documents can be accessed on SSN's website.

"We provided a thorough overview of information to our community members and the general public leading up to our decision to say no to the KGHM Ajax proposed mine. Now that our families are out of imminent danger from wildfires and our children are back to school, we wanted to ensure that they have a depth of information to consider during the public comment period."

#### Skeetchestn Chief Ron Ignace

"We stand behind our panel of family representatives, Elders and youth to say Ta7a to Ajax. They considered a mountain of information to come to that decision- information from our Knowledge Keepers and western science experts -independent as well from KGHM, Kamloops, special interest groups. We invite our community members as well as the general public to review our reports to inform their comments to BC and CEAA regarding Ajax."

#### Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc Chief Fred Seymour

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SSN Media Contact:

Racelle Kooy Mobile: 250-267-7782 Email: racelle@stkemlupsemc.ca









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# **BACKGROUND:**

## • ME7E PÍPSELL TA7A AJAX YES PÍPSELL NO AJAX:

Aug 9, 2017 Media Release: Stk'emlúpsemc te Secwepemc Nation SSN response to British Columbia's & CEAA Environmental Assessment Office Ajax Mine Project Assessment Reports

**PDF of Media Release:** <u>https://wordpress.roimediaworks.com/STSN/files/2013/11/2017.08.09\_SSN-</u> Media-Release-re-Me7ePipsell\_Ta7aAjax-EAReport.pdf

## • <u>PÍPSELL DESIGNATION AS A SECWEPEMC NATION CULTURAL HERITAGE SITE</u>

June 20, 2017 Media Release: Stk'emlúpsemc te Secwepemc Nation and Allies Celebrate Pípsell Designation as Secwépemc Nation Cultural Heritage Site and New Exhibit at the Secwépemc Museum and Heritage Park

Video Link: <u>https://vimeo.com/222291883</u> PDF of Media Release: <u>http://stkemlups.ca/files/2013/11/June20\_2017\_Media-Release\_final.pdf</u>

## • SSN DECISION RE: KGHM-AJAX

Video Link: <u>https://vimeo.com/210983969</u> PDF of 12-page Decision Summary Booklet: <u>http://stkemlups.ca/files/2013/11/2017-03-ssnajaxdecisionsummary\_0.pdf</u>

# • SSN ALLIES FORMALISE THEIR SUPPORT FOR SSN DECISION

April 1, 2017 Media Release: *SSN Allies* Declare their support for the SSN Pipsell Decision to say No to KGHM Ajax and Yes to Health People and Environment *PDF of Media Release:* <u>http://stkemlups.ca/files/2013/11/2017.04.01-SSN-Media-Release-Allies-Event.pdf</u>

# • SSN SUBMISSION TO CEAA EXPERT PANEL

Lessons from the Land: Written Submission, Prepared for the CEAA Expert Panel by Stk'emlúpsemc Te Secwepemc Nation, December 22, 2016 **PDF of Report:** <u>http://eareview-examenee.ca/wp-content/uploads/uploaded\_files/dec-22-ssn-lessons-from-the-land-ceaa-expert-panel-report.pdf</u>

# • SSN PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS

Video Link: <a href="https://vimeo.com/194534066">https://vimeo.com/194534066</a> PDF of 4-Page Process Booklet: <a href="http://stkemlups.ca/files/2013/11/SSN\_4Pager-v13-12.02-WEB.pdf">http://stkemlups.ca/files/2013/11/SSN\_4Pager-v13-12.02-WEB.pdf</a>



