

# Memo

**To:** Nunavut Impact Review Board

**From:** Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

**Date:** May 23, 2023

**Subject:** Additional Information – Water Management Presentation and Site Visit May 8 and 9, 2023 - Meliadine Extension Proposal

## 1 Purpose

During meetings with KivIA, discussions surrounding water quality and the health of Meliadine Lake led to the collaborative idea of a site visit to Meliadine Mine. As a result, Agnico Eagle arranged two visits to Meliadine Mine to explain how water is managed at site. On May 8, 2023, representatives from Agnico Eagle met with members of the HTO, CLARC, cabin owners, and the KivIA. On May 9, 2023, Agnico Eagle met with Rankin Inlet Elders and cabin owners. A total of 25 participants attended the sessions.

The purpose of the site visit was for Agnico Eagle to provide further clarification on how water is collected, treated, discharged, and monitored at Meliadine and to answer any outstanding questions or concerns. Furthermore, recent results of water quality and fish monitoring were shared with the participants. Participants were invited to a tea tasting of Meliadine Lake Water (water intake) and accommodations complex water (treated tap water). Sample jars of water collected from the water intake (pre-treatment) were distributed to the participants so that they can evaluate the color of the water prior to being infused with the tea.

Following the tea tasting a site visit on water management at the Meliadine Mine was conducted (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Meliadine Site Visit Map**



## 2 Outcomes/Comments

### *May 8th Session - HTO, CLARC, Cabin Owners, and the KivIA (10 participants)*

Agnico Eagle received positive feedback on the extensive water monitoring being conducted at site. Some participants indicated that the water in the sample jars from the Meliadine Lake Freshwater Intake was very clear (Figure 2). One cabin owner, who has a cabin near Meliadine Lake, indicated that they have no issues with the quality of the water, that it is clear, and they are frequently drinking it.

Participants tasted tea infused from the Meliadine Lake Water (water intake) and accommodations complex water (treated tap water). No negative comments were made on either type of water. Some participants concluded that many things could influence the coloring of tea such as steeping time, type of tea, type of kettle, presence of residue in the kettle, temperature of boiling, etc. (Figure 3).

**Figure 2. Participants Looking at Sample Jars from the Meliadine Lake Freshwater Intake, May 8, 2023**



**Figure 3. Tea Tasting Meliadine Lake Water (water intake) and Accommodations Complex Water (treated tap water), May 8, 2023**





Participants tasted tea infused from the Meliadine Lake Water (water intake) and accommodations complex water (treated tap water).

Participants did not note a difference in between the two types of water (taste or color). However, one Elder indicated that the tea from Meliadine Lake was leaving stains on the cup but that she didn't mind.

After the presentation, Elders from the Kivalliq Elders Advisory Committee felt that they understood better how water management works at the Meliadine Mine and were grateful that the Agnico Eagle staff had invited them on this site visit. One Elder expressed concern about the color when using the water of Meliadine Lake, saying that it was steeping darker than when she was young.

**Figure 4. Lunch and Presentation on Water Management at Meliadine Site for Rankin Inlet Elders, May 9, 2023**

