

# ENGAGEMENT PLAN

## *Ulu Gold Project*

(including Hood River, Roma and other licenced projects)

Kitikmeot Region, Nunavut

March 2021



## SUMMARY

This Plan lists who Blue Star Gold Corp. will communicate with, as well as when and how they will communicate regarding exploration and reclamation-related activities for their Ulu Gold Project, Hood River Project and other nearby study areas near Kugluktuk, in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut.

Blue Star communicates with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Hamlet of Kugluktuk, the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association, Burnside & Omingmaktok Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Nunavut Planning Commission, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, and the general public on an ongoing basis.

## REVISION HISTORY

Revision #	Date	Section	Summary of Changes	Author	Approver
20EN001, 19EA019					
2	Mar 21	Summary, Section 1	Amalgamated existing approved Hood River and Ulu management Plans into 1 document for operational efficiency as all activities will be centralized and based out of Ulu. Changes throughout to reflect name of project, related activities and authorizations.	S. Hamm	D. Lindsay
		Section 2	Updated contact info		
20EN001					
1	Jan 2020	-	New document issued	Blue Star Gold Corp.	
19EA019					
1	Apr 2019	-	New document issued	Blue Star Gold Corp.	

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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Blue Star Gold Corp. (Blue Star) is undertaking exploration activities and conducting progressive reclamation in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut, including the Ulu Gold Project, that previous defined as the Hood River Gold Project area, and regional exploration areas of interest; the majority of activities are based out of the Ulu camp and undertaken in the local area (the Project). The purpose of this document is to describe Blue Star's approach to stakeholder engagement prior to and throughout the regulatory process and to outline Blue Star's plan for life-of-project engagement as it pertains to the Project.

Blue Star and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Ulu Mining Inc. (Ulu Mining) and Inukshuk Exploration Inc. (Inukshuk) hold all Project authorizations. For the purposes of this document and other Project-related documents, Blue Star, Ulu Mining and Inukshuk may be used interchangeably.

## 2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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Blue Star is responsible for activities associated with the Project, including implementation and management of this Plan. Blue Star's contact information is provided below.

Blue Star Gold Corp.  
Suite 507-700 W. Pender Street  
Vancouver BC V6C 1G8  
Phone: 1 778-379-1433

Contact: Darren Lindsay, Vice President of Exploration  
Phone: 1 778-379-1433  
Email: d.lindsay@bluestargold.ca

## 3.0 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

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The following were identified as potentially interested parties:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA);
- Hamlet of Kugluktuk;
- Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association;
- Burnside & Omingmaktok Hunters and Trappers Organizations;
- Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB);
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI);
- Nunavut Water Board (NWB);
- Government of Nunavut;
- Government of Canada
  - CanNor;
  - Environment and Climate Change Canada;
  - Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
  - Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.

Attempts were made to initiate engagement with all parties, directly or indirectly, prior to submission of Applications to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for screening. Each engagement, including all attempts to engage, is documented in a communications log. These logs are stored on file in the Blue Star head office.

It is anticipated that interested parties identified during pre-submission and regulatory engagement will remain interested parties during life-of-project engagement.

## 4.0 PURPOSE

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Pre-submission and regulatory engagement involve implementation of this Plan prior to submission of an application to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), and throughout the regulatory process. The purpose of pre-submission and regulatory stakeholder engagement for the Project is to:

- Identify parties potentially affected by the Project;
- Describe the Project rationale and proposed design; and
- Seek to understand affected parties' interests and concerns.

Life-of-project engagement involves implementation of this Plan at key milestones which may occur throughout Project operations. The purpose of life-of-project engagement for the Project is to:

- Provide updates to interested parties on the nature of project-related activities on the land;
- Receive ongoing input from interested parties into how operations and related communications can be modified to support continuous improvement and an enhanced public understanding of exploration related activities;
- Re-engage parties potentially affected by changes to Project scope;
- Provide parties with requested or relevant project information in a manner concurrent to that provided either to the NIRB and/or the NWB (i.e. notifications related to unauthorized discharges and annual water licence reporting);
- Describe rationale and nature of the proposed changes; and
- Seek to understand affected parties' interests and concerns.

The goals of Blue Star's stakeholder engagement are to:

- Understand from residents and land users what is important to them about the land where we work;
- Be transparent about our plans and operations for the Project;
- Foster a common understanding of shared land use among Kitikmeot residents and Blue Star;
- Continuously improve how we get work done so that we are safer and our business is more sustainable;
- Contribute to Blue Star's compliance with all Project-related authorizations.

## 5.0 METHODOLOGY

Pre-submission and regulatory engagement begins with either emails and/or verbal contact over the phone with interested parties. Where possible, in person meetings are held. Following initial contact and understanding of parties’ desire to engage, ongoing communication can vary between parties and can include phone calls, emails, in person meetings letter mail and site visits.

Supporting tools used to enhance understanding of project activities and exploration-related concepts include, but are not limited to:

- Discussions;
- Maps and posters;
- Presentations;
- Demonstrations;
- Site visits;
- Photographs;
- Video;
- Translation.

Life-of-project engagement occurs based on the needs and interests of stakeholder groups, and may vary with project activities. Typical triggers for engagement with interested parties are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Triggers for engagement

Stage of Project	Stakeholder	Trigger
Pre-Application	Potentially affected parties	Initial contact and follow-up as needed prior to public review
		Submission of supplemental information to the NIRB and/or the NWB
	Parties submitting comments during public review	Receipt of party comments during the public review period
Life of Project	Identified stakeholders, other interested parties	Request by a party or stakeholder for a meeting, update, job posting or other communication, either routine, ongoing, or event-specific
		Submission of an application for licence amendment, renewal or project closure
		Project-related notification
		Submission of a report or other supplemental information or materials to the NIRB and/or the NWB
		Unplanned event that requires or would benefit from information exchange and/or stakeholder input
		Coincidental interaction in camp or in communities

## 6.0 TIMING

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Engagement timing may be proactive, reactive or opportunistic. Proactive engagement is planned in advance and may include public meetings, and annual updates. It is understood that many stakeholders may travel and/or be out on the land in the summer and so proactive engagement is planned to occur during winter months where possible, to maximize attendance.

Reactive engagement may occur in response to an unplanned event such as a wildlife interaction, caribou calving or an emergency response. As the nature of these events is such that related engagement may be scheduled with little notice, every attempt is made to find a time to meet that works for all parties involved.

Engagement that occurs in relation to a regulatory proceeding such as a licence renewal or amendment may be proactive if the proceeding is anticipated wherein Blue Star will do its best to engage at a suitable time that works best for stakeholders. Regulatory engagement may also be reactive if it is in response to a timeline or schedule imposed by an Institute of Public Government. In this instance, Blue Star will do its best to interact with interested parties in the most suitable manner and convenient time.

Opportunistic engagement includes informal meetings with stakeholders in communities or at camp when folks may happen to be passing through. Blue Star welcomes land users to stop by camp anytime they are on the land, with consideration being given to safety precautions required when accessing an industrial site. Similarly, Blue Star enjoys catching up with interested folks while travelling across the North throughout the year.

Time of day of any scheduled engagement reflects the needs of the stakeholder group and may include morning, daytime or evening, with consideration given to child and elder care, work and family commitments and other events in the community, to the greatest extent possible.

## 7.0 LOGISTICS

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Blue Star makes every effort to meet with stakeholders in their home community. Where required for a public or organized meeting hosted by Blue Star, Blue Star will book a venue and provide catering, advertising and language services as needed. Where a private or joint meeting is held an agreement is made in advance, outlining who is responsible for logistics such as venue, catering and language services.

Similarly, in situations where it is appropriate to provide remuneration, this will be agreed on among the parties in advance.

Language services will be provided at all public meetings, and on an as needed basis for other meetings and engagements.

## 8.0 INTEGRATION

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Through the course of project activities and engagement with all stakeholders, Blue Star documents and tracks all feedback received, and considers Inuit Qaujimaningit where available. Where formal input is solicited or provided, such as through water licencing, a written response to comments is provided and made publicly available. Where stakeholder input is provided into an operational or design aspect, this

may be factored into an alternatives analysis wherein each alternative is analysed and reasons for choosing a preferred alternative over other considered alternatives is documented. Where input into procedures results in a change, this change is captured in an annual update to management plans and their procedures.

## 9.0 REPORTING

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Through existing approvals such as the NIRB's Screening Decision Reports and their related terms and conditions, and the NWB's Type B water licences, Blue Star is required to publicly report annually on any public consultations held. Blue Star also periodically presents to the Board of the KIA, providing an update on engagements, as needed.

Blue Star commits to complying with the requirements of the NIRB and the NWB, and providing any stakeholder with access to the annual reports. Where requested and/or suitable, Blue Star may report back directly to a specified stakeholder group on a related matter.