



# **AGNICO EAGLE**

## WHALE COVE AREA EXPLORATION PROJECTS

### **2020 Annual Report**

Screening decision  
17EA068

Prepared by:

**Agnico Eagle Mines Limited, Exploration Division**

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Submitted to:

**Nunavut Impact Review Board**

**Contact:**

**Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.**

**David Frenette**

Environmental Coordinator

765 chemin de la mine Goldex

Val-d'Or, Quebec, J9P7G4

[david.frenette@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:david.frenette@agnicoeagle.com)

**Annual Report**

2) The Proponent shall submit a comprehensive annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year of permitted activities beginning March 31, 2019. The annual report must contain at least the following information:

a) A summary of activities undertaken for the year, including:

- i) a map showing the approximate location of drill sites;
  - *No holes were drilled in 2020 in the area covered by this screening decision.*
- ii) a map showing the location of the fuel cache;
  - *There is a small volume of fuel stored at the Huckleberry camp site in 205-litre drums stored in secondary containment.*

iii) a description of local hires, contracting opportunities and initiatives;

- *Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020, Agnico Eagle took measures to isolate our Nunavut operations from local communities with the aim of minimizing any risk of the virus spreading to these communities. Agnico Eagle also sent our entire Nunavut-based workforce (employees and contractors) home from our Meliadine and Meadowbank operations as well as the exploration projects. Agnico Eagle Nunavummiut employees still at home have been receiving 75% of their base pay.*

*Other measures taken included:*

- *Isolation of the mine sites from the communities*
- *All employees are on site on a voluntary basis*
- *We have implemented 3 COVID testing facilities – Val-d'Or, Meliadine mine and Meadowbank Complex*
- *Increased screening measures for all employees before flying to site*
- *All employees and contractors are tested for COVID-19 prior to boarding the planes and placed in isolation on site until their test results are received.*
- *In addition, both sites are implementing re-testing of employees 5 days into their rotation to detect anyone who may have been recently exposed, and in case the disease was in incubation at time of arrival*

iv) flight altitudes, frequency of flights and anticipated flight routes;

- *For long-range transportation flights, we ask all pilots to fly at a minimum of 610 m above ground level. Exceptions may exist during takeoff and landing, low-level ceiling conditions, high winds, or other risks to flight safety.*

v) site photos;

- *Exploration camp installed on the Huckleberry property to support the exploration activities in the area;*



b) A work plan for the following year, including description of any planned progressive reclamation work;

- *No drilling activity is planned in the area covered by this decision in 2021, but geophysical surveys and prospection with the use of the exploration camp to support the activities could be conducted.*

c) A summary of community consultations undertaken throughout the year, providing copy of materials presented to community members, a description of issues and concerns raised, discussions with community members and advice offered to the company as well as any follow-up actions that were required or taken to resolve any concerns expressed about the project proposal;

- *With the COVID-19 pandemic, exploration activities were all conducted in the vicinity and based from the mine sites to avoid any visit in the communities so as to reduce the risks associated to COVID-19 transmission.*

***Discussions oriented toward exploration projects in 2020 included:***

- *May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Teleconference with Baker Lake Mayor to review and discuss the exploration activities for the season.*

*June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Teleconference with Whale Cove Mayor and SAO to review and discuss exploration activities*

d) A log of instances in which community residents occupy or transit through the project area for the purpose of traditional land use or harvesting. This log should include the location and number of people encountered, activity being undertaken (e.g. berry picking, fishing, hunting, camping, etc.), date and time; and any mitigation measures or adaptive management undertaken to prevent disturbance;

- *No exploration activities were conducted in the area covered by this decision.*

e) A record of wildlife observations, including observed locations (i.e., latitude and longitude), species, number of animals, a description of the animal activity, and a description of the gender and age of animals if possible. A map of known sensitive wildlife sites such as denning sites, caribou crossing sites, and raptor nests in the area should accompany the report.

- *No exploration activities were conducted in the area covered by this decision.*

f) A summary of any wildlife mitigation actions undertaken, including the number of cease-work orders requires as a result of proximity to caribou and any other wildlife;

- *No exploration activities were conducted in the area covered by this decision.*

g) An analysis of the effectiveness of mitigation measures for wildlife, and identification of adaptive mitigation that will be implemented if mitigation measures were unsuccessful;

- *No exploration activities were conducted in the area covered by this decision.*

h) Summary of any heritage sites encountered during the exploration activities, any follow-up action or reporting required as a result and how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on the heritage sites;

- *Archaeology investigations were conducted in 2017 and 2018 in the area covered by this screening decision in anticipation of the exploration activities. Archaeological sites found during the field investigations were described in the*

*reports submitted to the Government of Nunavut by the archaeologists, and protection buffers were respected during exploration activities.*

i) Summary of its knowledge of Inuit land use in/near the project area and explain how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on Inuit land use; and

- *We understand how important location and land names are in traditional Inuit culture and the importance Inuit place on protecting and preserving their heritage and identity. In 2018, after consulting with the Hunters & Trappers organization, it was recommended that we contact the Inuit Heritage -Trust (ITH) concerning its **Place Names Program** – a program that has been documenting oral traditional place names in Nunavut and ensuring that these names are used to identify archaeological sites, for mineral maps and in community consultations. We are working with the ITH to help validate these place names and, where possible, we use them in reference to our various locations and projects.*

k) A summary of how the Proponent has complied with conditions contained within this Screening Decision, and all conditions as required by other authorizations associated with the project proposal.

- *No exploration activities were conducted in the area covered by this decision*