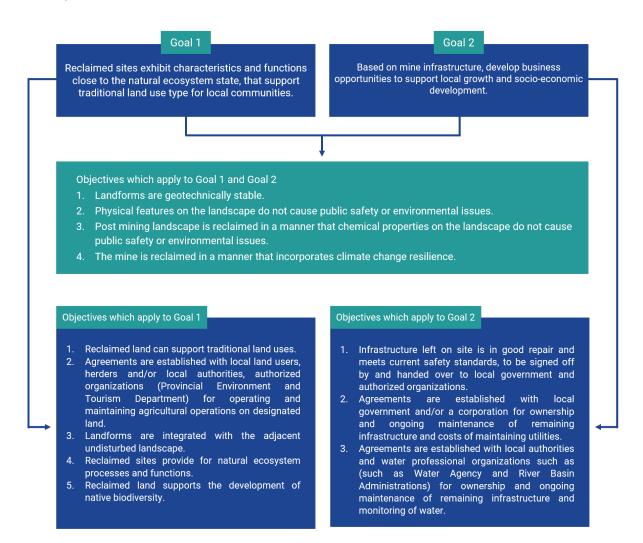
SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF STAGE 1 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The February edition of this newsletter summarized the final stakeholder engagement sessions for Stage 1 of the Salkhit Mine Closure Plan Pilot. MERIT would like to thank all the stakeholders who participated in this valuable planning exercise, laying the groundwork and values upon which the Salkhit Mine Closure Management Plan will be developed.

Throughout the stakeholder engagement process, goals and objectives were developed, discussed, and agreed upon. Goals define the broad vision and end land uses after mine closure. Objectives establish high-level outcomes to be achieved for a reclamation site to realize the goal. To further confirm support for the objectives, a Google survey was sent to stakeholders, to allow them to provide feedback.

Importantly, two categories of objectives were developed. Objectives which apply to both goals, and objectives which apply specifically to either goal one or goal two. The graphic below illustrates the relationship between the final closure goals and objectives for the Salkhit Mine

















ONGOING WORK

Work is ongoing on three tasks, which will be completed by the end of April. Completion of these three tasks will complete Stage 1 of the project.

MINE CLOSURE RISK ASSESSMENT





Risk assessment is a critical component of mine closure planning, typically conducted prior to any reclamation activities are planned or conducted. Risk assessment for mine closure planning is conducted to define and assess the risks and opportunities associated with achievement of the reclamation goals and objectives.

Risk assessment provides information useful to senior and executive managers of a mining company to understand the risks and opportunities associated with mine closure, including priorities for budgeting and resource allocation. It provides

critical information to reclamation planners to understand the challenges and opportunities associated with achievement of the reclamation goals. Planners use the risk assessment results to inform the development of landform designs, technology requirements and controls to include in the mine closure plan. Finally, it informs mine managers where research, trials or investment in technology may be required to achieve the reclamation goals and objectives. Results of the risk assessment will be presented in the April 2022 newsletter.

CONSULTANT INTERVIEWS

In preparation for stage 2 of the project, MERIT is identifying and meeting with national consulting firms and individuals who can conduct mine closure planning work. Mine closure planning requires many different specialists, for example mine engineer, geotechnical engineers, specialists in soil, vegetation, water, wildlife etc. It is our interest to hire local consultants with required expertise to write the various chapters of the closure plan, which commences in Stage 2. A key outcome of the project is to build the capacity of local consultancies and individuals to be able to independently and confidently provide these services to the mining industry into the future.

STAGE 2 WORK PLAN

Our final task involves developing a detailed work plan and cost estimates for Stage 2 of the project. The work plan will identify the various tasks, stakeholder engagement, capacity building and timelines for the mine closure plan completion.

CONTACT INFORMATION