



Feb. 2021

## Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek - Greenstone Gold Mines Newsletter

Boozhoo! After decades of planning, 2021 will finally be the year the Greenstone Gold Mines (GGM) Hardrock Project begins construction. With new ownership, major permits and Long Term Relationship Agreements (LTRA) in place this generational project will move forward; and our First Nation will play a major role. This newsletter will provide an update on the Hardrock Project and information for membership to become involved through training, employment, and business opportunities. We will discuss environmental monitoring being undertaken by First Nation monitors to help protect our lands and waters. We will also introduce you to Minodahmun Development LP, our new economic development corporation aimed at providing contracting, training and employment opportunities to the three First Nations.

### Ownership Change

In December 2020, the Greenstone Gold Mines partnership was purchased by two new owners:

- Orion Mine Finance purchased Centerra Gold's 50% stake in Greenstone Gold Mines, this transaction on closed in January 2021 and ended the legal dispute filed by Centerra in 2019. Orion is based in New York City and finances mining projects globally.
- Equinox Gold purchased Premier Gold Mines' 50% stake in Greenstone Gold Mines, and assets in Red Lake and Mexico. Equinox Gold is a Canadian company based in Vancouver with assets in South America, Central America and the USA.
- Both new owners have expressed interest in moving forward in an expedited manner with a construction on decision in 2021 pending Board approval

### 2021 Preliminary Construction Activities

GGM has the permits in place to begin preliminary site construction activities in 2021 prior to Board approval which will include:

- Tree-clearing - expected to commence in March 2021.
- Access road construction
- Construction on of site buildings
- Camp construction
- Power Lines

Major construction activities including the Tailing Management Facility, Goldfield Creek Diversion and Highway 11 Realignment are not expected to occur until 2022/23. The construction phase will last 3 years. The project will cost approximately \$1.3 billion. GGM hopes to begin commercial production in 2024.





## Introducing AZA's Implementation Coordinator

As part of the LTRA a job was created called the Implementation Coordinator that will be responsible for making sure the commitments in the agreement with GGM are followed and to assist members in accessing opportunities related to the project. Mason Shawayahamish will be AZA's Implementation Coordinator. Mason will act as the key touch point between AZA and GGM. Members are encouraged to go to Mason to learn about the LTRA, training opportunities, employment opportunities or business opportunities. Mason's duty is to ensure that GGM as well as our community are living up to our obligations of the LTRA.

Mason has been working for AZA for half a decade now. Mason started his career with AZA as the GGM Community Consultation and Environmental Monitoring Coordinator. Mason has been involved in the Environmental Assessment Review, LTRA negotiations, Environmental Monitoring, Community Consultation, Business Development, Environmental Advisory Committee and now Implementation of the LTRA. Mason also sits on the AZA Election Code Committee and Land Code Committees, Kenogami Forrest Management Planning Team and the Greenstone Inner Agency Advisory Committee. (Left: Mason and Chief Nelson at LTRA signing)



## Minodahmun Development LP

Minodahmun Development LP (MDLP) is a 100% First Nation owned partnership created by Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (AZA), Aroland First Nation and Ginoogaming First Nation to maximize First Nation participation in the mining sector. MDLP's goal is to ensure that benefits from development projects are shared equitably with the three First Nations to grow our local economy and provide opportunities for our members. MDLP was created to provide value and opportunities that

benefit the three First Nations collectively. MDLP will also support the communities in implementing a training and employment strategy for members. MDLP is guided by a Board of Directors from each First Nation. Joe Donio is AZA's Board Director and the current President of MDLP. *Minodahmun* (min-oh-dah-mun) means "clear path" in Anishinaabemowin. Our First Nations believe that meaningful participation and involvement in the protection and development of our lands is the *minodahmun* to prosperity for our Nations.



# Minodahmun Development LP

Prosperity through Mining



## Key Contact Information

For more information on anything related to GGM please contact:

**Mason Shawayahamish – AZA Implementation Coordinator & Interim Environmental Technician**  
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**Joe Donio - President and Board Director, MDLP  
AZA Implementation Committee Rep**  
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**John Glover – Chief Executive Officer, MDLP**  
[john.glover@minodahmun.ca](mailto:john.glover@minodahmun.ca) | (519) 272-3498

## Training

AZA and MDLP have commenced training initiatives for the Hardrock Project. From September to December 2020, Minodahmun in partnership with Confederation College completed 3 deliveries of the Readiness and Essential Skills for Employment Training (RESET) Program which focused on an Introduction to Construction Trades and Work Readiness. In total 32 community members completed the Program, congratulations to all graduates. Minodahmun has also launched an AZ Licence course to train members for careers in trucking, this course is currently in-progress. The Construction Craft Worker course was scheduled to commence in January but was postponed due to COVID-19. We hope to begin classes in Spring 2021. MDLP has also partnered with Oshki Training to deliver a completely online training course for members to obtain an Ontario Security Guard License.

**Registration for Security Guard and Construction Craft Worker are open now!**

MDLP will be rolling out a broader range of career specific training programs and a Career Fair in Spring 2021 pending public health restrictions.

**For more information or to sign up contact Mason Shawayahamish**



## Employment— Complete Survey & Submit Your Resume

Through the LTRA, AZA have secured priority employment opportunities for members. It is important to understand which positions community members are interested in and your qualifications. We are conducting a Training and Employment Survey to identify the skills, interests and training needs of each AZA member and to identify appropriate employment opportunities. The survey is the first step in getting involved with GGM as an employee or contractor.

**Link to survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AZASurvey>

**GGM is now accepting resumes for future opportunities at the Hardrock Project for Operations phase jobs. If you are interested in employment with GGM please submit your resume to Mason Shawayahamish.**





## Environmental Monitoring

Each Chief and Council has made it clear their #1 priority is to protect the land, water and rights of members from environmental impacts related to the mine. AZA are and will be actively involved in the environmental planning and monitoring for the life of mine. The Environmental Advisory Subcommittee will be the decision-making body related to all environmental issues on site to ensure the highest standard environmental protection. The EAS includes the Environmental Technicians from the three First Nations, environmental scientists and GGM. Mason Shawayahmish was AZA's Environmental Monitors with GGM from 2016-2019, and supported collecting data/samples, monitoring drill sites and providing input on permits and monitoring plans. This position will be the community's eyes on the ground at site and will report to Chief and Council. **AZA are in the process of hiring a new Environmental Technician this month.**



## Expressions of Interest for Community Member Owned Businesses

MDLP has launched a Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) process for community member owned businesses and entrepreneurs who are interested in contracting opportunities related to the Greenstone Gold Mines Hardrock Project. MDLP is looking for community member owned businesses that can support the following work:

- Tree Clearing
- Stripping
- Earthworks
- General Contracting
- Site Grading
- Snow Removal
- Security
- Welding
- Mechanics
- Carpentry
- Freight
- Concrete
- Millwrighting
- Concrete
- Bussing
- Electricians
- Plumbing
- Steelworkers
- Janitorial
- Site Maintenance
- Training
- Drilling
- HVAC
- Fabrication
- Catering
- Supplies
- Services
- Other (list not exhaustive)

For more information or to submit an Expression of Interest contact: [john.glover@minodahmun.ca](mailto:john.glover@minodahmun.ca)