aurora community

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Aurora CEO highlights strengthening Labrador relationships

Mineral development was an important feature of this year's Expo Labrador in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and I was honoured to be invited to speak about Aurora's relationships with community stakeholders and outline our plans for the remainder of 2008. By way of an update on our activities, I would like to share some of the highlights of this presentation, delivered on June 25th.

This year we have reaffirmed our focus on listening to the questions and concerns of the Nunatsiavut Government and community members. Aurora respects the government's decision to temporarily prohibit uranium mining and we have responded with a plan to build a better, deeper understanding of uranium mining among those with an interest in the Michelin Project.



Stan Oliver, Director of the Labrador Friendship Centre, receives a \$5,000 donation from Aurora's Waylon Williams (photo courtesy of The Labradorian).

Aurora shares the goal of careful stewardship of the land that Labrador Inuit have been a part of for over 5000 years. We are only interested in developing a project where the health and safety of workers and protection of the environment are paramount.

I believe that this commitment is evident in Aurora's 2008 work program, which includes tailings management, engineering and environmental studies. This program also demonstrates our continued priorities of buying locally, hiring and training locally, as well as investing in community projects. Donations to the Labrador Friendship Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and the creation of the Michelin Project Community Panel were two milestones Aurora achieved earlier in the field season.

Aurora has made a long-term commitment to Labrador and its people. In light of a growing world demand for clean, safe energy, Aurora is looking to the future benefits of moving forward in the spirit of co-operation with the people of North Coast Labrador.

Mark O'Dea

President & CEO Aurora Energy Resources Inc.

Aurora's 2008 Program presented at Expo Labrador

Key parts of the 2008 Work Program noted during Dr. O'Dea's presentation at Expo Labrador included:

- Continuing tailings management plan.
- Launch of Michelin Project Community Panel.
- Development and implementation of a training plan.
- Continuation of a 3,725 metre geotechnical drilling program and baseline studies.
- Continuation of an 11,275 metre infill drilling program.

Michelin project community panel seeks interested participants

In June, Aurora announced a key element of its 2008 work program - the creation of the Michelin Project Community Panel. The Panel is an important part of Aurora's commitment to involve Labrador communities at the earliest stages of the Michelin Project.

The Panel will provide an opportunity for Aurora's project team to meet with community representatives on a regular basis to talk about the proposed Michelin Project, to hear ideas, and to address concerns.

In this forum, the project team can learn from the knowledge and experience of the community members. And community members can learn about uranium mining, milling and Aurora's plans to safely carry out the Michelin Project. This approach of building relationships through collaboration has long been part of Aurora's community outreach efforts in Labrador.



The Panel is designed to compliment Aurora's existing community outreach efforts, including open house sessions like this one, held in Hopedale in November 2007.

The Panel could be comprised of as manay as ten members and include representatives from Postville, Makkovik, Nain, Hopedale, Rigolet, North West River, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Sheshatshiu, Natuashish and Aurora. The Panel aims to represent a variety of community interests, including residents, business owners, hunters, fishers, educators, students, elders, health care, community volunteers, and recreation interests.

Aurora is currently seeking applications from coastal Labrador citizens who are interested in participating in the Michelin Project Community Panel. If you are interested in applying, please visit our website for more information (www.aurora-energy.ca) or contact one of our Labrador offices.

Welcome to the team!

Aurora continues to build its team in Labrador with home-grown talent:

Paul McNeill

Vice-President, Exploration, St. John's and Labrador

Paul comes to Aurora with extensive experience managing exploration programs throughout the Central Mineral Belt of Labrador. The Burin, Newfoundland native has strong family ties to Makkovik and has spent many summers in the area. Paul has a Bachelor of Science from each of Memorial University and the University of New Brunswick (UNB). He is currently completing his Ph.D. in Structural Geology at UNB.

Arlene Michelin

Human Resources Coordinator, Happy Valley-Goose Bay

Born and raised in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador, Arlene has a background in social policy



and journalism, having earned a Bachelor of Arts and Community Services from Cape Breton University and a Journalism Diploma from College of the North Atlantic. Before joining Aurora, Arlene held positions with the Labrador-Grenfell Health Authority, where she worked with community organizations throughout Labrador.

Zena Sheppard

Administrative Assistant, Postville

Zena has lived most of her life in Postville. After completing an Office Administration course at Westviking College (now College of



the North Atlantic) in Corner Brook, NL, she returned home to Postville to work with the Department of Health and Social Development and at B.L. Morrison School before joining Aurora.

Aurora responds to community feedback with new education, training and employment plan

Keeping an eye to the future, Aurora recently began developing a program that would help build and maintain education, training and employment opportunities for residents of coastal Labrador during all phases of the Michelin Project. This program calls for Aurora and Labrador communities to work closely together to make sure their needs and the company's are met.

Careful planning is at the centre of Aurora's approach. During community meetings in Labrador, an important point was made to the company about building skills in a way that keeps pace with the life of the Project and provides residents with opportunities for employment through all stages of the Project. Hearing that, Aurora's employment strategy will be carefully targeted to best support and maintain a considerable coastal Labrador workforce for years to come.

Aurora's training and employment planning aims to include:

- A career awareness program that will begin in junior high and high schools.
- A comprehensive and ongoing career awareness strategy in the communities of coastal Labrador.
- Consultation with guidance counselors and community employment personnel.
- Participation in career fairs and youth symposiums throughout Labrador.
- Providing supplemental curriculum material to schools that focuses on our uses of technology and science, as well as our care for the environment.
- Continuing education for employees over the life of the Michelin Project.

The current employment projection envisions 600-700 jobs created during the construction phase and 400-500 positions to be filled during mine and mill operations.



Training has been part of Aurora's approach from day one. 2006 and 2007 saw several training initiatives, including a program for driller's helpers.

Operation of a mine and mill would provide training opportunities and high-quality jobs

Aurora will continue to evaluate employment requirements as the Michelin Project moves forward, but a preliminary list of possible careers includes:

- Labourers, Blast Helpers, Driller Assistants, Geophysical Assistants, Surveyor Helpers, Grinding Operators, Cooks Helpers
- Drillers, Equipment Operators, Blast Hole Drillers, Blasters
- Mine Clerk, Accounts Clerk, Office Administration
- Carpenters, Cooks, Electricians, Mechanics, Machinists, Crusher Operators
- Technicians: Mining, Environmental Engineering
- Foreperson: Mine, Mill, Mill Maintenance, Safety Officer, Electrical, Warehouse Supervisor
- Geologists, Accountants, Nurses
- Engineers: Mechanical, Mining, Environmental, Metallurgical
- Manager: General, Training, Materials

Skills training ongoing for students at Aurora's Labrador field camps

Four Earth Sciences students from Memorial University of Newfoundland are taking a break from the classroom this semester, enjoying summer jobs in coastal Labrador working as part of Aurora's field team at the Michelin and Jacques Lake camps.

Matt Tracey, Robynn Dicks, Byron Kelly and Sarah Nicholson have all been at site since the 2008 summer drilling program began in May and are learning skills that will prepare them for careers in the mineral resource industry. Their immediate goal is to learn the skills of junior geologists.

On the road to becoming a geologist, each student must master the work of core logging, which involves studying core samples metre by metre, then sampling and sending them to the lab for testing. As well, with more experience, students can start drill supervision,



(I-r) Memorial Earth Sciences students Matt Tracey, Byron Kelly and Robynn Dicks at the Michelin camp.



Memorial Earth Sciences student Sarah Nicholson outside the kitchen at the Jacques Lake camp.

where they are assigned to monitor one of Aurora's drill platforms for core quality, safety and environmental protection.

This is Robynn and Byron's first time in a field camp and both began the season doing a mix of tasks before starting to train for core logging. Because Matt and Sarah have worked in the field before, they have already moved on to drill supervision and both are now well on their way to becoming geologists.

But not all work is done at the camp or at drill sites. One of the highlights of these student summer jobs is the chance to go prospecting and mapping. Paired with experienced geologists, students fly by helicopter to places that are suspected to have uranium, trek through the area, do some mapping, and collect surface samples to bring back for testing.

While the work they are doing this summer is not course-related, each student will take valuable hands-on experience back to the classroom to add to their university education and help them to become qualified geologists.

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