

Field Notes: 2009 Environmental Work

During 2009, Aurora's environment team focused on collecting the seasonal data needed to describe the environment around the Michelin Project. Background air and water quality samples were collected and radiation and radon gas monitors were used to gather information about the environment as it is today, before any development takes place. We have also installed and continue to monitor stream flow gauges in many of the streams in the project area.



Lela Evans, Aurora's Environment Manager, changes a radon monitor near Jacques Lake, summer 2009. Work done by the environment team this year will help Aurora and the government regulators ensure the right environmental protections are put in place during project development.

A project to gather traditional Inuit knowledge from people in the communities of Postville and Makkovik has also been initiated. Traditional Knowledge, or TK, describes the knowledge that communities have of the project area and its ecosystem. In Canada, it is common practice for mining companies with projects on Aboriginal lands to undertake TK studies to help evaluate the potential effects a development may have on communities and the physical environment. These studies are an important part of an eventual environmental assessment. Sikumiut Environmental Management Ltd. is carrying out Aurora's upcoming TK work, which is aimed at determining the amount



Taking water flow and depth measurements near Michelin, fall 2009. Flow data helps engineers design roads and stream crossings correctly. The data will also help in designing the Project's water management system to protect the habitat of fish and other aquatic animals.

of food gathered and consumed from the area potentially affected by the Michelin development. This information is critical to choosing the best performing tailings management options in the next round of Multiple Accounts Analysis.

Study Confirms Michelin is Large-Scale, Economically Viable

In September 2009, Aurora released a Preliminary Economic Assessment for the Michelin Project. The study confirms that the open pit and underground mining operation proposed for the Michelin and Jacques Lake deposits will be large-scale and economically viable.

The study describes the economic details of a project (building costs, operating costs, and rates of return), as well as information about how the project will run, such as production rates, infrastructure, and the operating life. Following the study, major projects like Michelin undergo a Pre-feasibility Study, then a Bankable Feasibility Study. Both are more detailed types of economic studies and are important in helping projects secure financing for development.

Aurora Volleyball Tournament Draws a Crowd

In October, Aurora partnered with Postville Recreation and Makkovik Recreation to hold the 2009 Aurora Volleyball Tournament. Taking place over two weekends, the tournament drew almost 50 players and spectators of all ages. The tournaments also provided a fundraising opportunity for both the Postville and Makkovik recreation committees and the communities' 2009 graduating classes. Thanks to our partners, all the participants, and community members who helped make the tournament such a success.



Getting the group together (Postville)



Big serve coming up (Makkovik)



Setting up (Makkovik)



Driving home the winner (Postville)



First place winners (Makkovik)



Second place winners (Makkovik)



Third place winners (Makkovik)



First place winners (Postville)



Second place winners (Postville)



Third place winners (Postville)

First Aid Training Kicks-off 2009 Work Program

This summer, Aurora returned to the field to complete a three-week work program on our claim block in Labrador. The 11-person program began in mid-August. In addition to five Aurora geologists, the team included three geotechnicians from the communities of Postville, Makkovik, and Rigolet, a cook based in Postville, as well as a professor and a PhD student from Memorial University who traveled to the area for academic field studies.

The program kicked off with a two-day wilderness first aid training course for our core field team, which all seven participants successfully completed. The training provided our team with basic and emergency first aid and wilderness skills that could be used in areas without easy access to medical facilities, like the Michelin site.

After training, work began on the collection of geological mapping and prospecting data, as well as a lake sediment sampling program. During the program, we invited several community members from Postville to visit the site and learn more about our prospecting activities and the Michelin Project.



Aurora's Exploration Manager, Steve Barrett, uses a packsack drill to collect core samples from a new showing, near the White Bear prospect, during the 2009 work program. Paul McNeill, Aurora's Vice President of Exploration, is at right. We had a very successful program, discovering many new showings and three new zones of mineralization slated for further work.

Community Contribution A Priority for Aurora in 2009

2009 saw Aurora looking for ways to make meaningful contributions to initiatives and community-minded organizations in Labrador. Events promoting development and mentorship of Labrador youth were a particular priority this year. We contributed to the Multi-Cultural Youth Gathering organized by the Labrador Friendship Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, as well as supported local sport programs like the Torngat Minor Hockey Association in Nain. We also held a new event, the 2009 Aurora Volleyball Tournament, in Makkovik and Postville.



With Christmas just around the corner, we have also continued our support of groups that are involved in coordinating food hampers in Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet, North West River and Happy Valley - Goose Bay for families in need during the holiday season.



This year, Aurora was also a sponsor of the 31st Annual Heritage Dog Team Race in Makkovik.

We recognize the importance of music and culture on Labrador's North Coast and once again proudly contributed to the Rigolet Salmon Festival, Makkovik Trout Festival, North West River Beach Festival, and the Fun in the Sun Festival in our host community of Postville.

Web Learning Portal Launched

Aurora recently launched a new learning portal on our website. The portal is designed to help users find well-researched, science-based information from industry sources, regulators, and government on topics such as uranium and its uses, the mining and milling process, radiation safety, and the Canadian and global nuclear industries. Special resources for students and teachers are also included.

You can find the learning portal at: http://www.aurora-energy.ca/?p=learning_portal

Aurora Continues Tailings Options Presentations

Following our May 2009 'designing for acceptance' community consultations on tailings management and the Michelin Project, Aurora's management team hit the road in July and August to hold small group and one-on-one briefings with community members throughout the North Coast and in Upper Lake Melville. These briefings included a short introduction to the Michelin Project, as well as an overview of the tailings information presented to communities in May.

If you would like to set-up a meeting with our team to discuss the Michelin Project, please contact one of our offices in Postville, Makkovik or Happy Valley-Goose Bay.



Over the four weeks we spent on the road, our team met with a range of interested community members including representatives from community governments, employees from Vale Inco's Voisey's Bay Project, Happy Valley-Goose Bay Town Council, health care professionals and workers at the Hopedale stone plant (pictured here with Ches Andersen, Aurora's Vice President, Labrador Affairs).

Out and About in Postville



Aurora recently opened a Community Information Centre in our host community of Postville. Pictured here (l-r) are Bruce Dumville (Aurora President and CEO), Uncle Doug Jacque (an elder of Postville), AngajukKâk Keith Decker, and Diane Gear (Ordinary Member for Postville and Minister of Health & Social Development). The Centre is intended to provide residents of Postville with easy access to information about the Michelin Project. The office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. All are welcome to come by for a visit.



Donna Sheppard and Amy Ford (seated, far right) talk to residents in Postville about their 2008 tour of Areva's McLean Lake uranium mining operation in Saskatchewan. The tour, sponsored by Aurora and hosted by Areva, provided North Coast residents a first-hand look at an operating uranium mine and mill.

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