

Paladin's Commitment to Community Development in Africa Shines Through

By Andrea Marshall

In the fall of 2011, I visited Paladin's African operations to see the mine sites and get a first-hand view of the Company's corporate social responsibility activities. Corporate social responsibility refers to social, environmental and health care support to the nearby communities in which a company operates. In Labrador, Aurora makes many sponsorships and donations to schools, community events and other projects. I was impressed to see that Paladin supports a wide variety of community programs that benefit all ages.

In 2007, Paladin opened the first mining operation in Malawi. The country is located in southern Africa and is one of the least developed countries in the world. Called the Kayelekera Mine, it was established in an area with no other industries, very little infrastructure and a workforce largely without the skills necessary to work in large industrial sites.

As part of its Development Agreement with the Malawian Government, Paladin is carrying out

numerous community development commitments. These include training and employing Malawians for roles in the mine; communicating with the public living near the mine about uranium mining and operations at Kayelekera; providing business opportunities for local suppliers; and a community engagement program to help the company get to know the people in the surrounding communities.

One of the most important issues facing many people in Africa is the availability of clean water. A key community support program for Paladin was the building of a state-of-the-art water supply system for Karonga, a nearby town of 40,000 people. The plant can deliver 7500m³ of clean water per day to the town.

In addition to the water system, Paladin has built new schools and renovated old, run-down ones, and also supplied desks for students. While they have no shortage of students, it is often difficult to recruit qualified teachers to these areas.

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Paladin Energy sponsors a community health clinic in Kayelekera, Malawi. Here, Andrea Marshall of Aurora Energy joins the nurse, nursing assistant and some of the children at the weekly clinic.

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To help, Paladin builds homes for teachers, as well as paying the salaries of ten teachers. This has improved the situation dramatically, as before Paladin became involved there was only one teacher for 380 students, an overwhelming number of students for a teacher to manage.



Children in Malawi are always excited to see a visitor and enjoy posing for the camera.

Paladin has also upgraded the 187-bed Karonga District Hospital, which serves a region of 250,000 people. Paladin completed the unfinished maintenance workshop, repaired the kitchen (which was damaged by fire), renovated the roof, and repaired the plumbing, toilets and bathrooms to improve general hygiene.

Along with access to water, HIV/AIDS is a serious problem in Malawi and Paladin supports awareness and educational programs targeting employees, their families, local villagers and the broader community. Since few people have access to television or the internet in this region, Paladin has taken an interesting approach to spreading the message. The Company sponsors a live theatrical group which provides public education and promotes voluntary testing. The troupe conducts community performances which, as a traditional art and teaching form, are extremely well received. This approach has proved to be a very effective method to teach HIV/AIDS prevention and education.

While visiting the schools and hospitals that Paladin has supported, the people I met were warm, welcoming and eager to share their work successes with me. It's no wonder Malawi is called "the warm heart of Africa."

It's easy for a company to say they are doing good things, but there are unaffiliated human rights groups in the world who evaluate companies independently. One such group—called Nomogaia—has done extensive reviews on the work Paladin has done in Malawi. A non-profit research and policy organization based in Colorado, Nomogaia is dedicated to ensuring companies act responsibly in the areas in which they operate. This organization's review of Paladin's work in Malawi was very positive.

Here are a few of the comments made in Nomogaia's report on Paladin's work in Malawi:

"Kayelekera is a model Project for human rights respect"

"Faced with these diverse challenges, Paladin's Kayelekera Project pursued aggressive rights protecting actions to mitigate fears and ensure the protection of key human rights"

Check out Nomogaia's report on Paladin's operations: www.nomogaia.org

Paladin also has an operating mine in Namibia, a desert region in southern Africa, called Langer Heinrich. The mine is located in the Namib National Park, so environmental protection is key to developing and operating the mine.

Because of its close proximity, Paladin has sponsored several environmental initiatives for the park, including funding campsite improvements, installation of eco-toilets, and waste recycling and collection at 52 campsites. Paladin has also sponsored two environmental



Students at the Mondesa Youth Opportunities program in Namibia show Andrea Marshall of Aurora Energy and Ratonda Murangi of Paladin's Langer Heinrich project some of their school work. Mondesa Youth Opportunities is an after school program sponsored by Paladin Energy that provides an enhanced academic and social learning environment to further develop leadership and academic skills.

research projects: a study on the viability and grazing pattern of the Hartmann's mountain zebra, and a study on water absorption by desert soil.

Paladin's community outreach in Namibia is well established and highly regarded. The company recognized that a good and well-balanced education is the key to progress and has sponsored the Mondesa Youth Opportunities program. This initiative is an after school program that offers additional learning opportunities in English, Math, Computer Studies and Music, which are taught by graduate volunteers from America and Namibian certified teachers.

The students were very excited to meet a visitor, even standing to welcome me as I entered their classroom. Attendance is mandatory, with most graduates going on to take post-secondary studies. I could see that these students are the future employees for Paladin and other mining companies in the region. Hopefully, graduates from this program will one day give back to their community by volunteering at Mondesa—once they have completed their education and are pursuing their careers.

All in all, my trip to Africa was eye-opening and heart-warming. It was reassuring to see the way Paladin Energy gives back to the communities in which it operates, and witness first-hand the positive effect of their efforts. It was also exciting to see that, while the challenges and opportunities are different, the people of Malawi and Namibia are warm and industrious, just like Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

Christmas Donations

In 2011, Aurora continued its commitment to support community-focused events on the North Coast of Labrador and in the Upper Lake Melville area. Of particular importance to Aurora is its support of the various Christmas activities spearheaded by hard working and dedicated individuals and groups. In 2011 Aurora is pleased to contribute to these initiatives which support Christmas events and hampers for families in Coastal Labrador.



Diane Gear, AngajukKâk for Postville, accepts a donation for upcoming Christmas events from Aurora's Vice President, Labrador Affairs, Ches Andersen.

Volleyball Tournaments

In October and November, Aurora once again partnered with Postville Recreation and Makkovik Recreation to hold the third annual Aurora Volleyball Tournament. With awareness of the tournaments growing since the first tournament in 2009, registration remained steady this year, with over 60 players signing up.

As in past tournaments, the registration fees and canteen operation continued to be successful fundraisers for the recreation committees in both Postville and Makkovik, as well as Makkovik's 2012 graduating class. These tournaments would not have been possible without the cooperation and support of our partners, all the participants, and community members who came out to share in the event.



A special thank you to John Andersen and Travis Dyson of Makkovik Recreation and Pauline Manak of Postville Recreation for their support.

Labrador Inuit Youth Symposium

On October 22 and 23, Aurora was pleased to participate in the 18th Annual Labrador Inuit Youth Symposium held in Postville. Over 40 youth from Nunatsiavut communities as well as the Upper Lake Melville region gathered to discuss education and career opportunities.

Representatives from business and post-secondary education institutions were on hand during the career fair portion of the symposium to discuss training and career opportunities for Inuit Youth.

Waylon Williams, Aurora's Manager of Community Relations, and Lela Evans, Environmental Affairs Manager presented an overview of the Michelin Project. Lela also provided a presentation to delegates on her role with the Company.



This has been Aurora's fourth consecutive year attending the Labrador Inuit Youth Symposium and we thank organizers and youth participants for making us feel welcome.



Season's Greetings

As another Christmas approaches and we look back on the last year, we have to say, it's been quite a year. Almost one year ago Paladin Energy acquired Aurora, and, since then, we've gotten to know our new partners better by travelling to Australia and Africa. They've also gotten to know us, sending teams to learn about the remarkable people and place that make up Labrador. As we've gotten to know one another better, we've seen that we have much in common.

One of Paladin Energy's corporate values is

Respond to the attitudes and expectations of the communities in which it operates as part of its corporate social responsibility obligations.

Simply put, that means truly being a part of the communities in which the Company operates. As we at Aurora look back on our years in Labrador, the time we've spent in meeting halls, at festivals and events—and even in living rooms—we're proud to say that we believe we've truly become a part of Labrador.

Though it's been a pleasure for us to contribute to communities in practical ways, through sponsorships and donations, it's fitting to remember at this time of year that the greatest gifts we have don't cost anything: time with loved ones and the joy of giving of oneself.

From our family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

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