



THE SPRINGPOLE EXPLORER

ISSUE 3 – Q1 2022

THE SPRINGPOLE EFFECT: NEW JOBS AND INCREASED PROSPERITY FOR THE REGION

If approved, Springpole will directly and indirectly increase economic activity in the region by an average of \$407M per year over approximately 20 years from construction through active closure.

We value Indigenous lands and our relationships with the communities. First Mining Gold wants to contribute in meaningful ways to support the social, cultural and economic makeup of the region. The Springpole Gold Project has the potential to create new jobs and increase wealth in both its construction and operation phases.

During construction:

The creation of 2,440 full-time equivalent positions annually through direct and indirect employment. Types of positions during construction include, camp support staff, construction labourer, equipment operator, and supervision/management.

During operation:

\$218M in labour income/annually over 12 years

Projections show 3,100 full-time equivalent positions annually through direct and indirect employment. Types of positions during operation include heavy equipment operators mill operators, miners, trades people, environmental technicians, engineers, and geologists.

New mining operations also create opportunities for new workers to enter the industry through training and apprenticeship programs that directly target local communities.

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS

During construction

2,440

During operation

3,100

The Project will create a total of 44,820 person-years (PYs) of employment (including direct, indirect, and induced effects) during construction, operation, and active closure.

During the approximately 20 years from construction through active closure, the Project will directly and indirectly increase economic activity, as measured in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by \$8.1 billion in revenues (undiscounted) for Ontario.

First Mining Gold is privileged to work on both Treaty 3 & 9 lands, the traditional territory of Ojibway/Chippewa in the Kenora district of northwestern Ontario. As a modern mining company, we are committed to operating responsibly and working closely with local Indigenous communities near our project site.

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MESSAGE FROM DAN



Dan Wilton
Chief Executive Officer and
Director, First Mining Gold

Welcome to our latest edition of the Springpole Explorer. I hope all our readers had a positive start to 2022. We know that the pandemic has been very challenging for all our communities, and for those who are recovering or grieving the loss of loved ones, our thoughts and prayers go out to you. It reminds us about the important things we need to do to keep our team, our contractors and our communities safe.

First Mining instituted new COVID testing protocols prior to our team returning to the Springpole site in 2022 and so far, I am happy to report that they have done a great job at keeping everyone safe.

Safety is always top of mind, and our measures were tested on January 17 when a fire broke out in the core cutting building at our Springpole camp, largely destroying the building and its contents. Our dedicated team on site was able to extinguish the fire safely and prevent what could have been more severe damage. For me, this event really emphasizes the importance of having safety and emergency response processes in place to handle these types of incidents. I am proud of the work our team did in handling this emergency, but I hope we don't have the opportunity to test them again any time soon.

From fire to ice, like many of the communities north of us, the winter road provides a critical path to supply of many of the goods and supplies we need at the Springpole site. I probably don't need to tell any of our readers that it has been a good winter for ice and we were happy to have established our winter road a couple of weeks early. Thanks to this longer season we were able to complete a successful resupply of the Springpole Camp.

Our work programs continue to advance the Springpole project, and I am very much looking forward to an exciting year ahead.



NEW FACES



**James Maxwell –
Vice President, Exploration**

James Maxwell has worked more than 25 years in Canada's far North and northern Ontario where he has supported district scale mineral exploration advancements through modern best practices. A strong advocate of responsible resource exploration and a committed member of the PDAC Health & Safety Committee, James values the environment, capacity building and relationship development. As a former resident of Thunder Bay, and as a person who has enjoyed the Sioux Lookout area with family, James is committed to providing opportunities for the region and its communities.



**Caroline Pienaar –
Senior District Geologist**

We welcome our first South African employee to the district exploration team. Caroline Pienaar joined the team towards the end of 2021 and comes from a mining and exploration background, working predominantly in Africa. She has 12 years of diversified experience in the gold industry and hopes to leverage her background to support our program for future discoveries in the Birch Uchi Greenstone Belt. In her off time, Caroline loves to explore the natural beauty and outdoors Canada has to offer.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the Ontario Mining Association, the average annual compensation for workers last year was \$142,200 compared to the average income of \$55,524 for Ontario residents.



FIRST MINING GOLD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

First Mining Gold was proud to support the following recent events/groups in the region:

- Cat Lake Juniors Hockey Team
- 14th Annual Lac Seul First Nation Ice Fishing Derby
- Christmas Cheer Activities in Mishkeegogamang Ojibway First Nation, Cat Lake First Nation, Slate Falls Nation and Ojibway Nation of Saugeen
- Sioux Lookout Bombers Jr A Hockey Team



LONG-TERM BENEFITS

First Mining Gold is committed to creating long term social and economic benefits for neighbouring communities throughout all lifecycles of the Springpole Gold Project. We welcome community funding requests, and they will be reviewed by Springpole's Community Investment Committee. This committee is made up of five of our team members who work together to ensure that the intent of First Mining Gold's Community Investment Strategy is implemented targeting our six priority focus areas:



Education



Health



Local Economic Development



Social, Arts, Culture & Recreation



Diversity



Environment



Please send your request for sponsorship to communityrelations@firstmininggold.com.

Environmental Assessment Update – Notice of Commencement

Your feedback has helped us create a plan for the environmental assessment that addresses community priorities. On November 8, 2021, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks approved the Amended Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Springpole Gold Project with amendments. A copy of the approved ToR is available at: firstmininggold.com/projects/springpole-project, under the Environmental Assessment and Permitting tab.

FMG is working with the Ministry and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada to conduct a coordinated EA process, including public consultation opportunities and the preparation of a single EA report to meet Federal and Provincial Requirements. Everyone is encouraged to actively participate in the planning of this undertaking by attending consultation opportunities or contacting staff directly with information, comments or questions. FMG expects to issue a draft of the EA report in the second quarter and share it for review. It will include the technical work carried out to assess potential effects and mitigation measures, as well as the projected benefits.



COMMUNITY NEWS

WIN a \$250
Amazon gift card

WEBSITE QUIZ!

First Mining Gold is pleased to announce a contest.

Explore our website firstmininggold.com – to find the answers for a chance to a \$250 Amazon gift card.

Send your responses by **June 30th** to communityrelations@firstmininggold.com to be entered to win.

Good luck!



1. Is the proposed Springpole Gold project an open pit or underground mine?
2. Name one of the three types of baseline studies that occur during an Environmental Assessment Process?
3. What is the first core value listed on the First Mining Gold website in the corporate section?
4. What are the two closest communities to the Springpole Gold Project?
5. How many people would the proposed Springpole Mine employ in its operating phase both indirectly and directly?

Community Open House Events

First Mining Gold was pleased to host an open house in Ear Falls this past December. Public events will continue throughout the EA process to learn more from you and share more about what we are proposing with the Springpole project.

We appreciated the good turnout and meaningful discussion. Follow our Facebook page to learn about the next community event near you. If you would like to see an open house in your community, let us know by contacting our Community Relations Manager.



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Environmental Baseline Study Update

Since our last newsletter, environmental baseline work has continued to progress to support the Environmental Assessment Process.

This work includes:

- Hydrology – stream flow/lake level monitoring
- Surface and Groundwater Quality monitoring
- Air Quality Monitoring
- Lake Profiling (water sampling at depth) Plankton/Fish community study



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If you have questions or comments about the Project, contact us at:

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