



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Beyond New Afton Project?

The Beyond New Afton (BNA) Project is a community engagement initiative led by New Gold and New Afton Mine employees to set a new standard in mining specific to reducing social impacts when a mine closes. Since the products of a mine are a limited resource – meaning only so much mineral is in the ground to extract - when resources are eventually all extracted, a mine will close.

The BNA Project has the potential to create a positive impact, beyond the life of the mine, in the community and surrounding region where New Afton has called home since first acquiring the mineral rights in 1999. The BNA Project will lead the development of a BNA Plan which will identify potential social impacts of the New Afton Mine and how working proactively with communities now can help to reduce or eliminate social impacts when the mine closes.

Does this mean the New Afton Mine is closing soon?

No. The BNA Project is a forward-looking project, which New Gold is proactively planning now for the future. In February 2020, New Gold issued a press release to announce a reinvestment in the future of the New Afton Mine with a self-funded development strategy for the C-zone extending estimated mine life to 2030.

It is important to note that at this time, 2030 is the anticipated closure year, but nobody can predict the future. There are a lot of micro and macroeconomic factors that impact the long-term viability of mining operations. The BNA Project will help proactively prepare for any social impacts of the closure, no matter when that time is.

How can I find out more and get involved?

There are two easy ways to participate in the BNA Project.

1. Visit the Beyond New Afton website for more information, project details, and scheduled engagement events.
2. Take the Beyond New Afton online survey found here: www.bit.ly/BeyondNewAfton

Your input will be used to help inform the Beyond New Afton Plan.

ENGAGING COMMUNITY TO

Help Build a Plan for the Future

Do other mines do this kind of proactive planning?

To date, most mine closure requirements around the world focus on environmental impacts, remediation and End Land Use. There are some examples of projects where mining companies have started to expand this scope, such as the closure of New Gold's San Pedro Mine. The process of developing a closure plan has been constantly evolving over the last four decades and the BNA Project represents another step in this evolution by developing a framework and plan for closure which will maintain or improve the wellbeing and social balance of affected Community of Interest (COI) groups.

Are there legal requirements for New Gold to do this BNA Project?

No. The BNA Project is an example of New Gold actively going above and beyond its legal requirements in Canada. In general terms, Canadian mining regulation jurisdictions require proponents to submit mine closure plans, also known as reclamation or rehabilitation plans, prior to receiving approval for their mining permits. The key focus of these documents is almost entirely bio-physical and usually requires some degree of financial assurance provided by the mining company to the jurisdictional authority to carry out the closure plan. While addressing social impacts as part of a mine's closure is not required, New Gold is developing the BNA Project based on the belief of the company and the employees that it is the right thing to do to continue to support the community long after the mine has closed.

Who is New Gold looking to include in this project?

Short answer: anyone interested in providing their ideas is welcome to participate!

Longer answer: some examples of specific groups the BNA Project will be actively engaging include:

- Stk'emlúpsenc te Secwepemc Nation
- Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
- Skeetchestn Indian Band
- New Afton employees and their families
- New Afton suppliers, contractors, and vendors

How will a BNA Plan stay relevant when the future is unknown?

It is impossible to predict the future, but it is possible to take proactive steps to identify possible risks by engaging those who could be impacted to develop strategies to reduce or remove them. **The BNA Plan will be a living document updated regularly as new information is available.** This way, the BNA Plan stays relevant despite whatever unforeseen events may occur.

Why is New Gold doing the BNA Project?

The answer revolves around one of New Afton's key values: Integrity. The BNA Project is an example of "doing what is right" by demonstrating social responsibility in planning for the future. It represents a willingness by New Gold to do more, to go *beyond* what is required, and set a new standard in the communities where New Gold serves. Engaging the community will help uncover opportunities for life beyond the New Afton mine, which is the right thing to do.

ENGAGING COMMUNITY TO

Help Build a Plan for the Future

What are social impacts?

Social impact is how an organization's, business' or individual's actions affect our communities, neighbourhoods and society. Social impacts can be either negative or positive and examples pertaining to winding down New Afton operations are:

- Negative social impact: stress for a family with potential change in employment.
- Positive social impact: availability of highly skilled workers to fill current skills gaps and start new businesses.
- Negative social impact: less donations for non profit organizations.
- Positive social impact: community investment strategies would plan for legacy projects with non profit organizations.

The BNA project will result in a plan to reduce or eliminate the social impacts and will complement the environmental bio-physical closure plan, to create a more holistic approach to winding down New Afton's operations in the future.

What sort of input are you looking to collect from the community?

At a high level, there are two key things which the BNA Project Team will be looking to capture through the various community engagement activities:

1. How will the closure of the New Afton Mine affect various communities and groups of people, from a social impact perspective?
2. Ideas and creative solutions the BNA Plan could include or implement to reduce or eliminate any negative social impacts from the mine closing.

Besides these two key areas, any ideas, feedback, or input people are willing to provide is welcomed.

Why should I participate in the BNA Project?

By engaging in the BNA Project, our communities are helping build a plan for the future!

Chances are, either you or someone you know will be impacted in some way when New Afton winds down operations. New Gold has contributed in many different ways in our communities; either through direct employment or contracting, indirect community contributions through economic multipliers, or through community building by supporting non-profit organizations, teams and community events. Now is the time to plan for ways to ensure these positive contributions can continue, or when the mine winds down operations, sustainable solutions are in place to mitigate any negative effects.

Engage in the Beyond New Afton Survey...

It's simple. Go to www.bit.ly/BeyondNewAfton or simply point the camera on your smartphone to the QR code on the right to find the survey. It only takes 10 – 15 minutes to complete it.

If you'd like to receive updates on the Beyond New Afton Project, you have the option to fill out your email address and we'll send you project updates.

Thank you for helping to build the Beyond New Afton plan for the future!



ENGAGING COMMUNITY TO

Help Build a Plan for the Future