

Chief Robert Gloade  
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June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Re: Millbrook First Nation's formal opposition to the Beaver Dam mine site.**

James Millard,

Over the past 6 years the Atlantic Gold Corporation has been consulting with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to fulfil the Crown's duty to consult. Our community, Millbrook First Nation, has been heavily involved, even taking the lead on the Beaver Dam mine file due to its proximity to Beaver Lake I.R. #17.

Throughout the consultation process Millbrook has taken the approach of engaging its membership to document public concerns and quantify impacts. We have held information sessions, completed a Traditional Land and Resource Use Study (TLRUS) and most recently finalized a Community Consultation Report to gather opinions regarding the company's proposed mitigations. In addition to the community-level work, we contracted a scientific review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), conducted by Management and Solutions in Environmental Science (MSES). Each of these studies came to the same conclusions – (1) the extent of the impacts onto the local Mi'kmaq is severe and (2) our membership does not support the project, because they fear for their health, their livelihoods and their way of life. **It is because of the conclusions of these works that we, Millbrook First Nation, do not support the proposed Beaver Dam mine site.**

We have the fiduciary responsibility to act on behalf of our constituents. They have made it quite clear that they do not want the mine project to be approved and they want Millbrook Chief and Council to voice their opposition. The specific reasons are well documented in the reports noted above and will be further examined in our upcoming Health and Wellness study, which will be conducted as a part of the consultation process.

We understand that a great deal of monitoring and modelling work has been completed in preparation of the EIS, but we are not convinced that the mine will not pose major health and environmental issues. We cite the malfunction that occurred during the early stages of Touquoy's operation, as well as the 32 Provincial environmental charges brought before the Courts this past spring. This shows a poor established track record on behalf of the Proponent. This does not instill any faith in the proposed Beaver Dam mine site.

We also understand that the nature of Crown consultation does not afford a "veto card" to the Indigenous peoples of Canada, however we hope that the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) acknowledges that they have the ability to exercise discretion when it comes to the decision to approve the project. We are making short term decisions with long term consequences. IAAC has been presented with evidence that

the Mi'kmaq will bear the brunt of the adversity brought about by the development of an open pit gold mine and its infrastructure.

It is worth noting that the federal government has the dual responsibility of ensuring the safety of the environment by virtue of the IAAC process and the responsibility of ensuring the safety of First Nations by virtue of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC). We are currently in the era of reconciliation, where our nations must strive toward a government-to-government approach to consultation. For this to work, the Mi'kmaq must be heard, and our concerns must be acted on.

In peace and friendship,

<Original signed by>

[Chief Bob Gloade \(Jun 8, 2021 17:02 ADT\)](#)

Chief Robert Gloade

<Original signed by>

[Alex Cope \(Jun 8, 2021 18:55 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Alexander Cope

<Original signed by>

[Barry martin \(Jun 17, 2021 14:45 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Barry Martin

<Original signed by>

[Carley Gloade \(Jun 8, 2021 16:58 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Carley Gloade

<Original signed by>

[Colin Bernard \(Jun 8, 2021 22:41 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Colin Bernard

<Original signed by>

[Gordon Johnson \(Jun 14, 2021 10:27 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Gordon Johnson

<Original signed by>

[James Stevens \(Jun 15, 2021 08:52 ADT\)](#)

Councillor James Stevens

<Original signed by>

[Leana Kennedy \(Jun 9, 2021 11:52 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Leana Kennedy

<Original signed by>

[Lisa Marshall \(Jun 14, 2021 16:20 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Lisa Marshall

<Original signed by>

[Natasha Bernard \(Jun 9, 2021 11:00 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Natasha Bernard

<Original signed by>

[Peter Gloade \(Jun 13, 2021 17:45 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Peter Gloade

<Original signed by>

[Stephen F Marshall \(Jun 8, 2021 17:03 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Stephen Marshall

<Original signed by>

[Ward Markie \(Jun 9, 2021 17:26 ADT\)](#)

Councillor Ward Markie

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**Carbon copy:**

Claire Marshall – Executive Director (Millbrook First Nation)

Shelly Martin – Band Solicitor (Millbrook First Nation)

Nigel Gloade – Communications Officer (Millbrook First Nation)

(Continued...)

Chief Andrea Paul (Pictou Landing First Nation)  
Chief Michael Sack (Sipekne'katik First Nation)  
Chief Tma Francis (Paqtnek First Nation)

Laird Brownlie – Head of External Affairs and Business Continuity (Atlantic Gold)  
Dustin O'Leary – Communications Manager (Atlantic Gold)

Michael Atkinson – Regional Director (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)  
Jillian Bieser – Project Manager (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)  
Kathryn MacCarthy – Project Manager (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)

Beata Dera – Director of Consultation (Office of L'nu Affairs)  
Beth Lewis – Consultation Advisor (Office of L'nu Affairs)

Janice Maloney – Executive Director (KMKNO)  
Twila Gaudet – Director of Consultation (KMKNO)  
Patrick Butler – Mi'kmaq Energy Advisor (KMKNO)