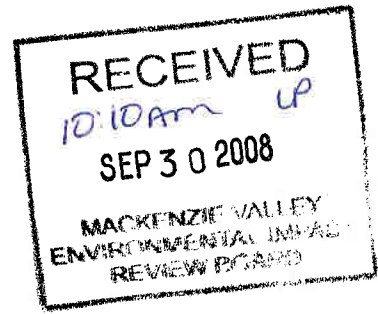




P.O. Box 2818  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R1  
Tel: 867-873-5281  
Fax: 867-920-2145  
info@nwtminingheritage.com  
www.nwtminingheritage.com



October 1, 2008

Tawanis Testart  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Box 938, 5102-50 Avenue  
Yellowknife NT  
X1A 2N7

***Giant Mine Remediation Plan Environmental Assessment***

Dear Ms. Testart,

The Northwest Territories was built on mineral exploration and development. These activities opened up the North, and brought jobs, people, services and investment. The NWT Mining Heritage Society is committed to preserve mining heritage in the Northwest Territories and to promote the development of facilities, sites, and exhibits that will further the understanding and appreciation of mining, mineral exploration, and geology in the N.W.T., while contributing to the tourism and economic potential of the North.

For the past eight years the NWT Mining Heritage Society has been an active member of the Giant Mine Community Alliance. The group has an important interest in property on the Giant Mine site. The Society is in the process of constructing a mining heritage centre located at Giant Mine's former townsite and A-shaft area. The townsite is now part of a City of Yellowknife lease (17889T) and the Society has been negotiating a small sub-lease to occupy a former Giant Mine building ("rec hall"), which will become the primary exhibit hall of the mining heritage centre. The Society has also been occupying city leased-land adjacent to the Boat Launch parking lot for outdoor display exhibits. A third parcel of land that the Society occupies is the A-shaft area along the highway. This area is Commissioner's Land however the Society owns the buildings and will eventually seek to have title to this area as part of our future mining museum. The society is also interested in former houses located at the Giant Mine townsite and is working with the City of Yellowknife on a workplan for this area.

A summary and map of our physical interests at Giant Mine is listed in **Appendix A**.

The Society has worked closely with the DIAND Cleanup Team over the past eight years to safeguard and promote its interests. Bill Mitchell, former project superintendent with Giant, has been one of the Society's principal contacts and supporters. The museum project has been delayed because of fund raising difficulties and now, it is feared, because of the Environmental

Assessment process. However, the Society is still active and has vested interests in the future of the Giant Mine, specifically as it relates to its buildings at A-shaft and the Giant Mine townsite.

The A-shaft buildings were acquired in 2000-2001 under an agreement with Miramar Mining Corporation and its manager John Stard. Occupation of the building known as the "commissary" began immediately as a place to store a collection of mining artifacts. Maintenance of these buildings has been ongoing to keep them structurally safe and secure. The A-shaft powerhouse and hoist room received small roof patches in 2004, and the A-shaft headframe was inspected by a structural engineer in 2005 and repaired. The roof of the rec hall building was replaced in 2007 and other repairs are being made. The Society hopes to enter into an official lease for this parcel of land with the City soon. The Society, in agreement with the Giant Mine crews, has complete access to these buildings and provides security and maintenance.

Until a formal agreement is made for the transfer of land around A-shaft, the Society wishes to make its interests known to MVEIRB as the Environmental Assessment planning moves forth. The Society has invested eight years worth of volunteer hours and over \$200,000 to build a mining museum in this area and they want to make sure this investment is noted and respected by all parties.

The Society also notes that they have identified several items of mining machinery and nostalgia at Giant Mine that has yet to be officially transferred. A list of these items is attached as **Appendix B**.

The Society and its members look forward to working with MVEIRB and the DIAND Cleanup Team to ensure that their interests are preserved.

*Ryan Silke*  
for

Walt Humphries  
President,  
NWT Mining Heritage Society

**APPENDIX A**



**Giant Mine Townsite Area**

**NWT Mining Heritage Society Property:**

Sublease of City of Yellowknife Lease 17889T for Rec Hall Building – under negotiation

Agreements with City of Yellowknife to occupy lands of Lease 17889T in the vicinity of Parking Lot for outdoor display and storage of equipment.

Agreements with MACA-DIAND to occupy lands containing A-shaft buildings.

**Ownership of Buildings/Assets:**

- Recreation Hall (City Lease 17889T)
- Con Mine Log Cabin (City Lease 17889T)
- A-Shaft Headframe (MACA-DIAND)
- A-Shaft Powerhouse and Hoist Room (MACA-DIAND)
- A-Shaft Commissary (MACA-DIAND) – storage for collection of mining museum artifacts
- Letter of interest in three old houses occupying Giant Mine Townsite (City Lease 17889T)

## APPENDIX B

### Items of Interest at Giant Mine

Verbal agreements with Miramar mine manager John Stard and DIAND project manager Bill Mitchell for future salvage.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Location</u>
C-Shaft man-cage hoist control and hoist signage	C-Shaft hoist room
Cement mixer	Boneyard, road to A-shaft
Sheave wheels	Boneyard, road to A-shaft
"Alligator" tank	TRP laydown
Lamp rack	Machine shop
"Landis" machinery on pallet	AC Roaster building
Pipethreader	AC Roaster building
Large Ball Mill (Allis-Chalmers 8x12-ft)	Mill Building
Front gate sign and ore car display	Entrance to Giant Mine
Old maps and scrolls in C-dry file storage	C-dry locker room storage area
Geological specimens	as found





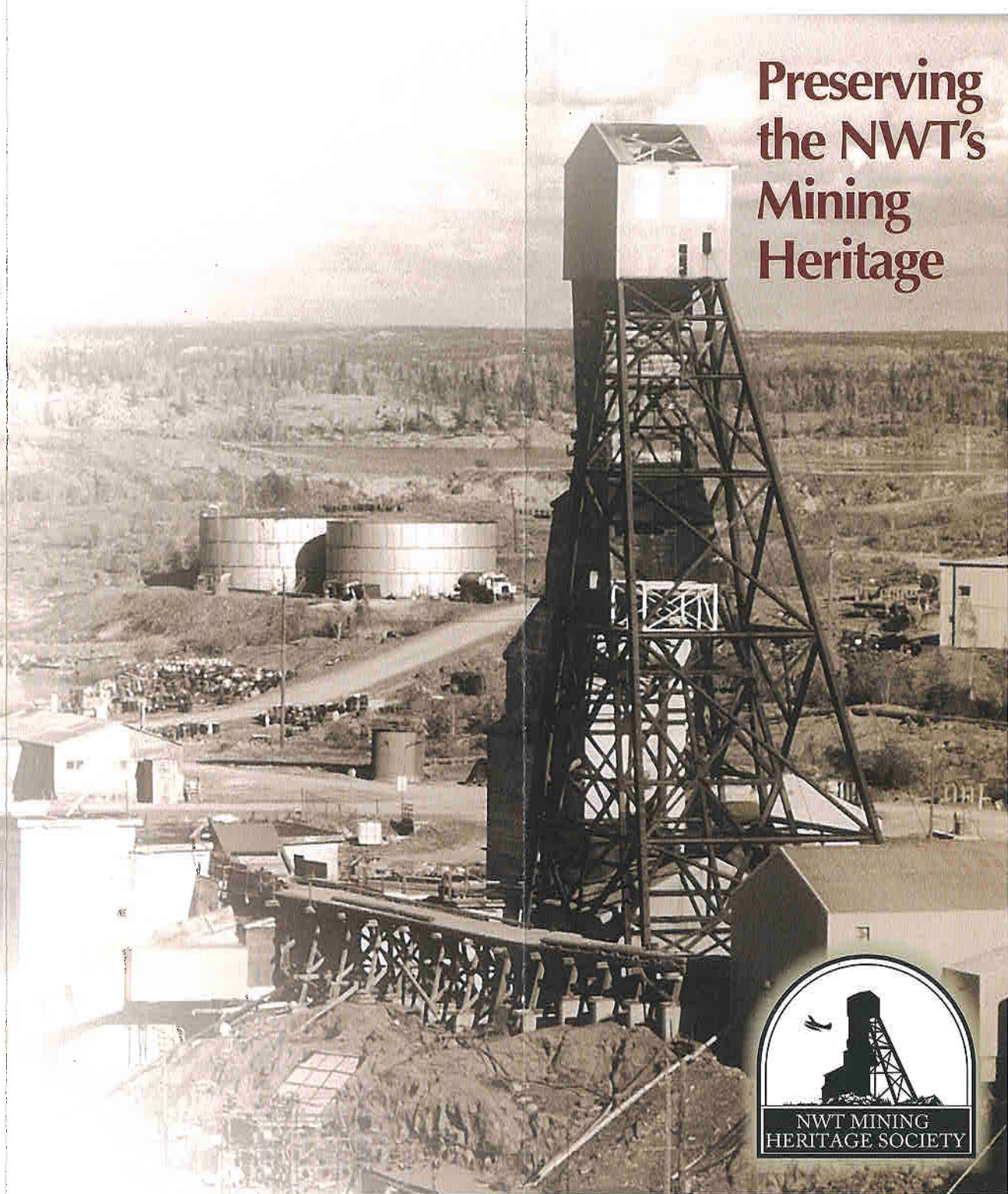
George Hunter Photo



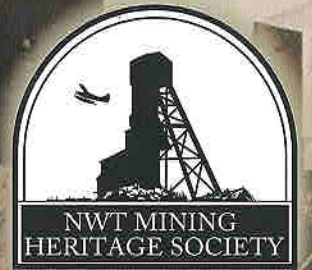
George Hunter Photo



PWNHC NWT Archive N-1989-019-0012



# Preserving the NWT's Mining Heritage





# Preserving the NWT's Mining Heritage

The Northwest Territories (NWT) was built on mineral exploration and development. These activities opened up the North, and brought jobs, people, services and investment. The NWT Mining Heritage Society is committed to saving and preserving the history, stories and artifacts of the NWT's mining past.

Since 2002, the Society has been collecting mining-related photographs, equipment, memorabilia and geological samples from sites throughout the NWT. It plans to preserve, display, share and promote these items in the NWT Mining & Geological Interpretive Centre.

The Society and its members are working towards the development of this Centre which will be located in Yellowknife, NWT. It will serve as the focal point for interior and exterior displays and will house the extensive collection of historical artifacts. It is anticipated that the Centre will open in the summer of 2009.

The NWT Mining & Geological Interpretive Centre will offer a museum, tea room, gift shop and geological walking tours. It will also include the original Giant Mine 'A' Shaft headframe built in the 1940s, power house and some of the original houses from the Giant Mine town site.



The site is a few minutes drive from Yellowknife on the shore of Great Slave Lake. Currently, there is an outdoor display of past and present underground and surface mining equipment. It is a lovely spot to stop and have a look around, take photos and enjoy a picnic.



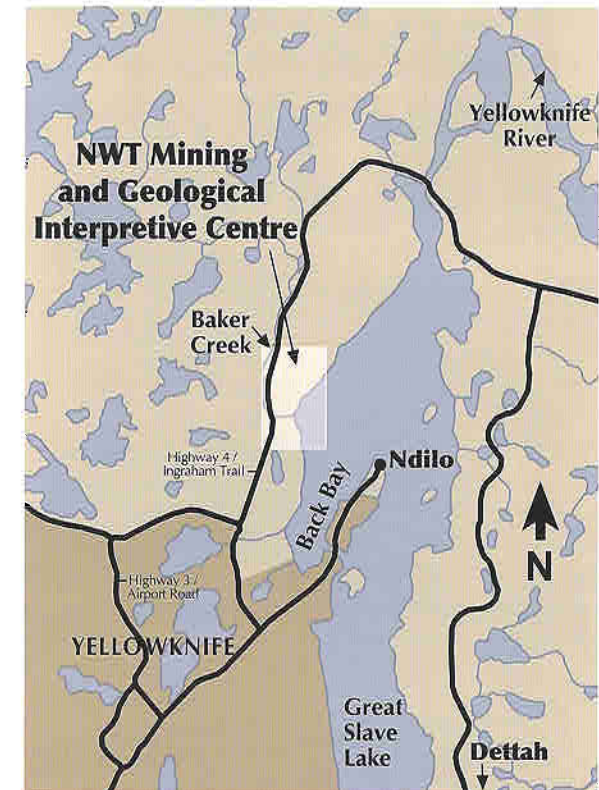
Current and previous Northerners have all shared in the benefits of the mining industry. To preserve this history, please consider offering financial or in-kind support towards making the NWT Mining & Geological Interpretive Centre a reality.

Donations from individuals, businesses, governments and corporations are being sought to help finance this project and to enable work on the entire site to continue. The roof was replaced in 2007 and further work includes interior renovations (construction, electrical, plumbing); building a parking lot; cataloguing and archiving the collection; and purchasing interior furnishings such as display cases and cabinets. Over the long-term, funds will be required to renovate the 'A' shaft headframe, power house and hoist room along with continued interior and exterior improvements.

The Society appreciates the support of its sponsors, donors, members and volunteers, and will be acknowledging them in a variety of ways. For further information regarding the benefits of sponsorship and donor, member and volunteer recognition, **please call (867) 873-5281 or visit the website at [www.nwtminingheritage.com](http://www.nwtminingheritage.com).**

## About the NWT Mining Heritage Society

The Mining Heritage Society was formed in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories in July 2002 and is governed by a Board of Directors. It is a registered non-profit society in the NWT and has charitable status. The Society and its members are committed to preserving the mining heritage of the Northwest Territories.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### NWT Mining Heritage Society

5102 50th Ave, Suite 104

P.O. Box 2818, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R1

Telephone: (867) 873-5281 Fax: (867) 873-2145

Email: [info@nwtminingheritage.com](mailto:info@nwtminingheritage.com)

Website: [www.nwtminingheritage.com](http://www.nwtminingheritage.com)