Newmont™

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Open Letter: Newmont Remains Committed to Consent Process for Red Chris Block Cave and Building a Strong Partnership Based on a Shared Vision

Dear Tahltan Nation,

Last week, Premier David Eby announced a list of natural resource projects within BC that the Province will look to "fast track". This list included the Red Chris Block Cave project. This announcement was made as a response to the tariff threats from U.S. President Donald Trump.

Immediately following the announcement, Newmont communicated to the Province, and it was understood and agreed, that while it is imperative to remain on track for the current timelines, we cannot rush the approval process set out in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People's Act (DRIPA) Section 7 Joint-Decision Making Agreement between Tahltan Nation and the Province of British Columbia. Newmont fully respects that for consent to be given, the process must allow for meaningful deliberation and consideration by Tahltan to enable an informed and thoughtful decision.

For Newmont, the focus remains on advancing the Project through the DRIPA Section 7 Joint-Decision Making Agreement according to the current timeline and providing open and transparent information about the proposed project to Tahltan Nation. The prioritization of the Red Chris Block Cave project by the Province outlined in the Premier's announcement last week will ensure that provincial regulators remain on schedule for their portion of the statutory decision.

We would like to assure Tahltan Nation that BC's prioritization of the Red Chris Block Cave project does not change Newmont's approach. We fully respect the Tahltan consent decision, and we are committed to building a strong partnership with Tahltan Nation based on trust, transparency, mutual benefit, and a shared vision for the future that respects Tahltan values and a Tahltan way of life.

Sincerely,

Wilfred Visser
General Manager, Red Chris
Newmont

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Background:

What is the Red Chris Block Cave Project and Why Has Newmont Proposed it?

Newmont's Red Chris Mine is an open-pit copper-gold mine operating in Tahltan Territory. Newmont acquired majority ownership of the Red Chris Mine in November of 2023 as part of a global acquisition of Newcrest. The Red Chris Mine started production in 2015 and currently employees 220 Tahltan employees and spends over $100M annually with Tahltan Nation Development Corporation (TNDC) each year. The wealth generated by the Red Chris Mine is also shared with Tahltan Nation through an annual royalty payment and through a portion of the Mineral Tax paid by Red Chris to the Province of British Columbia.

The open pit at the Red Chris Mine will reach end of life in 2027. Newmont has proposed the Red Chris Block Cave, an underground project that would remain entirely within the current footprint of the mine and extend the life of the operation by another 13 years. This would allow for the continuation of the economic partnership between Newmont and Tahltan nation, securing the jobs, business opportunities, and revenue sharing associated with the Red Chris Mine. To do so, Newmont is seeking an Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) amendment through the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People's Act (DRIPA) Section 7 Consent-Based Decision-Making process between the Tahltan Nation and the Province of British Columbia that would enable a transition to an underground block cave mine.

Newmont has been holding in-person community engagement sessions to share information and answer questions on the proposed Red Chris Block Cave project. The next engagement session within Tahltan Territory is coming up soon so look out for more information. We welcome all interested members of Tahltan Nation who wish to learn more about the proposed Red Chris Block Cave project to attend.

To learn more about the Red Chris Block Cave project online you can also visit: Newmont Red Chris mine – Virtual Open House