

## AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Standing:** Tony Pearce, Tim Byers, Kim Poole, Laura Johnston, Bill Ross

**Sitting:** Jessica Simpson, Kevin O'Reilly, Jaida Ohokanoak, Arnold Enge

We have a Board of Directors with seven members appointed by:

- Tłjchq Government
- Akaitcho Treaty 8 (Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation and Yellowknives Dene First Nation)
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- North Slave Métis Alliance
- Government of Canada (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada)
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation.

Our Directors are independent of the appointing parties.



Tim Byers, Director appointed by Akaitcho Treaty 8 (YKDFN and LKDFN) with Elder Albert Boucher

## THANK YOU!

Sarazine Basil (Interpreter)  
Prairie Desjarlais (Catering), and  
Sonya Almond (Coordination), and  
the Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation

# Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency was set up in 1997. We are a public watchdog for environmental management at Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation's Ekati Diamond Mine. We work in the best interests of the people and the environment affected by the Ekati Mine.

We review Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation's environmental reports and plans for Ekati, visit the mine site and listen to community and public concerns. We make recommendations to the company, governments and regulators on how best to protect the environment at Ekati. We tell the company and governments about community concerns and make recommendations on the use of Traditional Knowledge in environmental programs.

## CONTACT US

Please contact our office to schedule a meeting with us in your community, or if you have questions about Ekati.

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## Board Meeting and Community Information Session

Łutsel K'e  
Northwest Territories  
September 24, 2014



# The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency

## Agency Visit to Lutsel K'e

The Agency visited Lutsel K'e, September 24-25, 2014. During our visit, we:

- Held a Board meeting in the LKDFN Council Chambers. Agency Directors and staff discussed Agency business and the Ekati Mine.
- Hosted an Open House at Z'ah Lockhart Hall with a community dinner and information session on the Agency's work and the environmental performance of Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation at the Ekati Mine.
- Visited and presented to high school students at the Lutsel K'e Dene School.

## Board Meeting



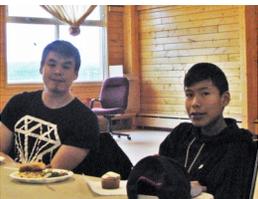
Board Meeting at the LKDFN Council Chambers.

The Agency discussed its regular business items, such as updates from each board member, updates activities at Ekati Mine, and the financial and variance reports.

Several people came by to greet the Directors and welcome them to Lutsel K'e.

To view the board meeting minutes, you can go to [www.monitoringagency.net](http://www.monitoringagency.net)

## Visit to Lutsel K'e Dene School



The Agency visited the school to discuss what we do at Ekati Mine. Tim Byers gave a presentation and a demonstration on fish health assessment.

The Agency was impressed with the knowledge and the interest that the student showed for the environment. We encourage the students to finish their education as provided by schools and the knowledge of their Elders.

## Community Open House



Members of the public at the community Open House.

The Community Open House was held at the Z'ah Lockhart Community Hall. Feast began at 5:30 pm followed by an Agency Presentation. Several people joined us for dinner or to hear an Agency presentation about us and Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation's environmental monitoring programs.

Albert Boucher gave the opening prayer, followed by an introductory presentation by Bill Ross who said that the Agency is in the community to listen to their concerns about Ekati Mine, and that we can provide those concerns to the governments and to the company.

Tim Byers, the Akaitcho Treaty 8 appointee to the Agency gave an update about the Ekati Mine. Many environmental issues, such as water, air quality, the new proposed pit developments, wildlife, devolution, and planning for closure were covered.

Overall, the Agency was pleased with the turnout, and will be reporting what we heard to the company and to the territorial and federal governments.



Chairperson, Bill Ross, giving the introductory presentation at the Open House.



## What the Agency Heard



Community members enjoying the feast of moose stew and bannock before the presentation.

The Agency heard concerns about the new developments at Lynx and proposed for the Jay Pipe. People are concerned about impacts on caribou.

The community said that they had never heard of the Lynx Pit. The Agency explained that it is a small development, near the Misery Pit, that is intended to extend the mine life from its current development until Jay can be started. To develop Lynx Pit, Lynx Lake will need to be fished out and drained. The community was concerned about this because fish are stressed when moved from one lake to another. The Agency heard that the community members would like to be there when this happens to see how it is done.

People wanted to know about caribou. Elder Madeline Drybones spoke about how her community has not seen any caribou since the mines were developed on the barren lands. She also spoke about eskers. Eskers are important places for wildlife, they are also important culturally as many ancestors are buried along them.

Albert Boucher mentioned that he is glad the Agency made an effort to visit the community to listen to their concerns and to give them information. He also said that although the mine might look good, the community always expects that something will go wrong.

Bill Ross, preparing to speak, while community members discuss the mine in the background.

