

## Agency Board of Directors

The Agency is made up of a Board of Directors appointed directly by four Aboriginal governments—Tlicho Government, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Akaitcho Treaty 8, and the North Slave Metis Alliance. The Governments of Canada and the NWT and BHP Billiton jointly appoint three Directors, in consultation with the Aboriginal governments.



**Agency Presentation at  
Community Information  
Session, Gameti**



**Hand Games in Gameti  
Community Hall**

**Thank you for your hospitality:**  
Community Government of Gameti

**Interpreters:** Peter Huskey,  
Francis Zoe, Jonas Lafferty

### About the Agency:

The Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency was set up in 1997 to act as a public watchdog for the Ekati Diamond Mine.

We make recommendations to BHPB and government, review reports and plans, provide information to the public and the Aboriginal peoples, and participate in the regulatory processes for Ekati.

The Agency also makes recommendations on the use of Traditional Knowledge in environmental programs and brings the concerns of Aboriginal peoples and the public to BHP Billiton and governments.

## Contact Information

**To schedule a meeting in your  
community with the Agency  
please contact:**

**Kevin O'Reilly, Manager**



**Independent Environmental  
Monitoring Agency**

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A public watchdog for  
environmental  
management at Ekati

## October 2009 Board Meeting and Community Information Session, Gameti, NWT



**The Directors and staff  
of the Agency**

**Independent  
Environmental  
Monitoring  
Agency**

## The Agency Community Visit to Gameti, October 2009

The Agency visited the community of Gameti to hold a Board meeting and conduct a community information session regarding the environmental performance of BHP Billiton at its Ekati Diamond Mine.



**Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency Board Meeting**

### Main events during our Gameti visit:

- a Board meeting where the Directors discussed their activities and Agency business;
- an evening community information session included a community feast and a public forum where the Agency made a presentation on what is happening at the mine site followed by a question period; and
- a visit to the students at Jean Wetrade School.

### Visiting Jean Wetrade School, Gameti

During the Gameti visit, some members of the Agency visited the local school to discuss environmental issues related to diamond mining with the students and to encourage them to stay in school.

The Agency found the students to be very enthusiastic and educated about the various types of aquatic life found in northern lakes and streams.



**Students at the school in Gameti**



**Agency Directors and Teacher**



**Community feast as part of the Community Information Session**



**Drummers at the Hand Games, Gameti**

### Concerns heard from the Community:

- People would like the waste rock to go back into the pits when closing the mine;
- The community wants to be more involved in closure planning;
- Concerns about water quality in the pits after the mine closes, as wildlife may drink the water;
- BHP Billiton should visit the communities more often to discuss issues, especially about closing the mine;
- People want to see the whole mine when they go to the site;
- There should be more site visits, especially for elders; and
- Local people should be involved in the monitoring.