

A news update from Noront Resources about development in the Ring of Fire

## **DAREarts Helps Ignite Positive Change**

Last November students from Marten Falls and Webequie First Nations participated in DAREarts' First Roots program, which uses the arts to teach young people challenged by life circumstances how to unlock their potential and become leaders.

Webequie traditional teacher, Bill Jacob explains why this is important, "Our youth need to learn how to turn to traditional and other positive support systems to help them take care of themselves during times of stress."

DAREarts has been visiting First Nations communities in Northern Ontario for a decade. This year students were involved in two great performances.



DAREarts students bring a local teaching to life

In Marten Falls, a teaching from elder Elizabeth Achneepineskum was brought to life through a giant bear puppet created from plastic water bottles.

In Webequie, grade 7/8 students combined traditional teaching and multi-media storutelling. The older students planned (continued on next page)



so Webequie workers helped Noront get it done

### **Butler Lake Clean Up**

By Rob Mitchell, Noront Camp Foreman

In August 2016 Noront took ownership of the Butler Lake Camp. It hadn't been used for a few years and bears had made a huge mess damaging almost every structure. The camp was in bad condition and needed some clean-up. Noront pulled a crew together to address the most important issues and remove any hazards that might cause problems in the future. Local Webequie workers were employed as part of the team.

The clean-up took six days. Before we started, the camp manager and I visited the site to see what needed to be done. We then returned to Camp and put together a plan for getting the work done safely. We completed a Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and we went over it with the crew. Then we got all the tools and supplies needed to do the job.

Because Butler Lake Camp is 20 miles from Esker Camp, we were dropped off and picked-up daily by helicopter. For safety, on the ride over we looked for wildlife like moose or bears from the air. Once we got to Butler we circled the camp a few times to make sure there were no bears hiding in the structures.

Our only way to communicate with Esker Camp was by satellite phone which we used to check-in and arrange for the helicopter to pick us up and sling loads back to Camp. The crew operated well together and maintained a safe, steady pace.

We removed drums of jet fuel, diesel and gasoline as well as propane tanks, engine oils and grease, shipping them back to Esker Camp for use in daily operations. (continued on next page)

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### **Employee Profile**



NAME: Kevin James Jacob

COMMUNITY: Webequie First Nation

JOB POSITION:

Camp Support

#### What I Do.

Camp Support includes everything from A to Z... servicing equipment, carpentry, even mopping floors, cleaning toilets and shovelling snow. The only thing we don't do is fly a chopper.

### My Typical Day.

My day starts at 5 am. I shower, shave and get ready for breakfast. After that we have a tool box safety meeting at the shop and from there we wait for our daily marching orders from our superiors. The day usually ends about 12 hours later at 5:30 pm.

### What do you do on your days off?

My shifts are two weeks on and two weeks off. During time off I like to travel or camp out with my friends. I also enjoy spending time with my many nieces, nephews and other family if they are in town.

# You worked for Noront before. How did you start working with them in the beginning?

I used to work with Noront before and I came back because I enjoy it. In between, I worked with Matrix Aviation and Logistics.

# As Noront transitions into an operating mine, what would you like your future career to look like?

My career aspiration is to be on the management side of the company either as a foreman or a camp manager, but the position I have is good for now.

# What is something you always bring with you to work?

I try to bring everything I need for my 2-week tour: smokes, extra clothes and DVDs... I like to have a lot of music.

### Butler Lake Clean Up

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We did a big clean-up in the structures, bagging the garbage and collecting empty plastic pails. We also cleaned up the fire pit and other areas brining back anything we could use like laundry soap, cleaning supplies, parts, maps etc. We removed fuel and drill lubricant spills on the ground by shoveling them into drums. All waste (33 drums and a lot of garbage) was shipped to Green for Life in Thunder Bay for proper disposal.

It was hard work but we enjoyed it. The

team shared a lot of laughs, as you can imagine, especially given the bear situation. I'd like to extend my thanks to everyone involved for a job well done.

#### **Butler Lake Crew:**

Alec Wabasse (Webequie)
David Ritch (Marten Falls)
Desmond Jacobs (Webequie)
Ian Littledeer (Fort Hope)
Ralph MacNally (Sault Ste Marie)
Rob Mitchell (Longlac)
Royden Spence (Webequie)
Scott Mortson (Thunder Bay)

## **2017 Exploration**

As the saying goes, many minds are better than one. With this in mind, our Exploration Team met with three of the mining industry's most highly-regarded experts for a special strategy session in Toronto last November.

Over several days, the group examined Noront's geological and geophysical data to determine the best areas to explore for additional massive sulfide mineralization of nickel-copper-platinum group metals around our Eagle's Nest and Sanderson properties, and copper-zinc mineralization on our McFauld's and Butler properties.

The session gave our team an opportunity to hear outside expert opinions about our exploration approach and target areas. By the end of the week, we had laid out our 2017 Field Program which will include active exploration around our Eagle's Nest, Sanderson and McFauld's properties.

Great work everyone and here's to a successful 2017 field season!

## **DAREarts Helps Ignite Positive Change** (continued from previous page)

original choreography while the whole cast

worked as a team to proudly deliver the play's "stronger together" message.

"It was amazing to see so many kids involved, including some who don't come to school all that often," said Noront corporate responsibility manager and volunteer teacher Kaitlyn Ferris.

None of this would have happened without some incredible alumni, like Evan Troutlake who took the time to be there, help out and inspire others to become role models.

Noront was proud to learn that both performances will be highlighted in the 2017 Stratford Festival production of 'The Breathing Hole'.

This experience is proof that the arts can help build confidence, inspire leadership and make learning fun.