

# EAGLE'S EYE

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

## Noront Visits Waabizheshibaawitig - Marten Falls First Nation

By Maria Baxter, CCLO, MFFN

 In November 2017, a team from Noront Resources visited Marten Falls to meet with community members, Chief and Council, Band Advisor Qasim Saddique and Advisor Lawrence Baxter.

The meeting took place at the Henry Coaster Memorial School gym where we all gathered for an update on development in the Ring of Fire from the asin inini ogima (Rock man boss). The meeting was led by Noront Chief Development Officer Steve Flewelling who highlighted the company's recent activities and explained how important it is for them to involve First Nation people in the work they are doing.

This opened a dialogue with community members who asked about the type of work that is available and how they could gain employment with the company. Steve said Noront had filled roles like geophysical field assistant, camp support staff, line-cutter, drill helper and cook/ medic with workers from the Marten Falls and Webequie communities who are identified as "tier one" applicants. When a position cannot be filled by these priority communities, qualified workers are hired from other communities.

One of the elders asked why Noront was not re-building an old air strip near the site. It was explained that this would be too expensive due to the amount of work

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Matt (pictured third from left) during a visit to camp in his early days working at Noront

## Wow! Time Flies When You Work at Noront

By Matt Downey, Manager, Lands and Data

 I started working for Noront as a Geologist and Data Manager in 2008 shortly after the initial discovery of Eagle's Nest, and right around the time of the Blackbird chromite discovery.

Although it was only 10 years ago, this makes me the longest serving Noront employee.

I'm proud to have taken part in the major exploration projects and mineral discoveries, the development of Eagle's Nest—from early exploration to feasibility to permitting, and the acquisition of Cliffs Natural Resources. Aside from being on the geological team, I manage Noront's exploration data and mining claims, two important areas for a mining exploration company.

I've seen the Ring of Fire rise from the 2008-2009 staking rush, when dozens of companies held hundreds of claims, to present day with Noront as the major

player holding the majority of claims and all major deposits.

Why have I stayed for so long? That's easy... the people. I've been part of a few different teams over the years, but we've shared the common goal of developing Ontario's first major new mining camp in decades in a socially- and environmentally-responsible manner. I've been very lucky to work with fantastic people along the way. We have the same ideals, which I suppose is part of what drew us to Noront in the first place. I look forward to being on the team for years to come. Here's to our ongoing success!

*"Congratulations Matt, on being our first employee to reach the 10-year milestone. You are an asset to our team and a pleasure to work alongside as we seek to advance our goals in the Ring of Fire."*

– Alan Coutts, President & CEO, Noront Resources

## Employee Profile



**NAME:**  
DAVID RITCH

**COMMUNITY:**  
MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION

**JOB POSITION:**  
CAMP SUPPORT & RELIEF CAMP FOREMAN

### What I do.

I work at Esker Camp as relief Camp Foreman and Camp Support. My job involves operating, cleaning, maintaining and servicing skidoos, ATVs, generators, heavy equipment and amphibious machines called Argos. I also do ice profiling in winter (measuring ice thickness) and whatever is else needed around camp based on our priorities for the day. It never ends!

### A typical day.

We start with a safety (toolbox) meeting, followed by daily tasks like cleaning and fueling the generator. Then I do the assigned work for the day, which changes daily and includes things like meeting planes at Koper Lake for supplies, helicopter slinging, drumming garbage, etc. Before we start any task, we fill out a FLRA card, which looks at the hazards and how they can be avoided.

### What is it like working at a remote camp on a two-week rotation.

What I like best is being in the bush and working outdoors. The food is good too. Working a two-week rotation is nice because you get two weeks off between shifts, which gives me time to take road trips with my wife and hang out with our three grandchildren.

### What's it like training for relief camp foreman?

The training is going well, the teachers are great. I work closely with our camp foreman and camp manager. We talk in the evening about what we're going to do the next day. The foreman job includes showing other workers what they need to do each day, setting the camp schedule for the day and lending a hand in the field. For me the hardest part was the computer—it scared me at first—but I'm fine with it now.

The main difference between doing support and being a foreman is giving direction to others. And, if something happens I am the one that gets blamed!

### What kind of career would you like to have as Noront transitions into an operating mine?

This is my dream job and I like working for Noront. Every day is different. I like operating heavy equipment because of my experience working in the logging industry for 10 years. It would be nice to keep working here and see our road get built.

### What do you always bring to work?

Ambition and a smile.

## Target Zero

By Mike Desilets, Project Manager

 Noront's goal is for everyone to return home from work 'safe and well' to their families and loved ones. To accomplish this, we are aiming for zero incidents.

It is VERY important that we build trust and support for one another at site, so we can work safely. Noront is committed to providing training, leadership and supervision and to teaching our workers to "Think Safety". Each day starts with a safety topic, each job starts with a risk assessment and a plan to do the work safely. All of our employees and contractors are encouraged to report hazards or non-desirable events where someone could have been injured, property may have been damaged, or the environment may have been negatively impacted.

Beginning in January 2018, we launched a program for employees and contractors to reinforce the importance of thinking about and working safely. Everyone who submits a hazard observation (HO) will be eligible to enter a monthly prize draw.

In addition, we will recognize one person each month for performing an 'act of safety'. Workers will be encouraged to fill out an 'act of safety' card about a fellow worker performing a task they see being performed safely, recording/rectifying a significant hazard or showing overall safety leadership at camp. The recipient will be determined by the Camp Manager and Field Supervisors.

The monthly winners will receive a prize and be recognized on our Facebook page. Keep an eye out to help us celebrate them!

Remember the slogan "I've Got Your Back"...it goes a long way toward showing what we can do to help one another.

### Noront Visits Waabizheshibaawitig *(continued from previous page)*

required to make it safe for planes to land for the exploration program. Noront VP Exploration Ryan Weston gave a presentation on geo mapping and minerals highlighting the Partridge Project (Pinay) and McFaulds No.8, which he described it as a significant new discovery that could represent a potential new zone of mineralization and a VMS (volcanogenic massive sulfide) deposit once drilled. He talked about Noront's plans to further explore the McFauld's property and said that any new discoveries will be named after a local bird. Following our meeting, Noront also held an off-reserve meeting in Thunder Bay on December 14, 2017.