

# IN YOUR Community

September 2024



Blackwater  
Mine



## Message from the Chairman and CEO



Once again, the wildfire season this summer proved to be a challenging one. There were evacuation orders and alerts in the area around Blackwater Mine and our transmission line. Due to the leadership of our site management team and the priority we place on the safety of our people our workforce remained safe, and the wildfires did not damage the mine site.

We would like to thank BC Wildfire Service and all emergency response personnel for their work to fight the fires and keep communities safe. In particular, we would like to thank the District of Vanderhoof for their help and support in July when we briefly moved the majority of our workforce off the mine site to comply with an evacuation order that included the Blackwater Mine.

Despite the wildfire challenges, we continued to advance construction and progress our operational readiness plans in-line with our expected timelines. There is more to be done before we pour gold, but our team remains focused on the task at hand.

We look forward to connecting with community members at several upcoming events, and as always, we welcome community input.

**Steven Dean**  
Chairman and CEO

## Blackwater Mine Quick Facts

- 100% owned by Artemis Gold Inc., a publicly traded company, based in Vancouver, whose largest owners are British Columbians
- Potential to develop into one of the largest gold mines in Canada
- Open-pit truck and shovel gold and silver mine
- Total M&I resources 11.7 million ounces of gold and 122.4 million ounces of silver
- The first pour of gold is expected Q4 2024
- Multi-decade mine life
- Ambition to be one of the lowest carbon-footprint gold mines in the world





## Recent Highlights

- Overall project construction ~87% complete as of June 30, 2024
- ~350 Blackwater Mine employees on site
- 800+ staff and contractors employed at the site and along the transmission line

Leach and CIL Tanks - July 2024

## Blackwater Site Update

Overall construction at the Blackwater Mine was approximately 87% complete as of June 30, 2024 and we are on schedule for first gold pour in Q4 2024.

Construction of the water management pond, excavation of the cutoff trench through Mine Creek in the tailings storage facility, and the earthworks and lining of the central water management pond have been completed. Work on the tailings storage facility is progressing well.

Equipment installation was a key focus area for Q2, as well as installation of structural steel, conveyors, platework, pipework, and electrical infrastructure. Installation of the primary crusher commenced, and utilities were installed across the crushing circuit, allowing for pre-commissioning activities on the crushing circuit to commence. Mill installation advanced, while the cyclone, gravity concentrators and the sulphur burner were installed. Cladding of the reagents building was completed, and the mill building will soon be ready to be clad following final equipment installation. Hydro testing of the process and raw water tanks was completed, and tank

infrastructure was completed, with tank top installations well advanced.

At the end of June 2024, the Engineering, Procurement and Construction contract work on the processing plant was approximately 90% complete overall, with engineering, design and procurement essentially complete.

Recruitment of personnel for the Blackwater Mine operations commenced earlier this year and the full operations management team is now in place.



**“Looking ahead to Q3 2024, we expect to complete construction of the new operations camp and decommission the original exploration camp. We will commence the pre-production mining works and expect to begin commissioning the process facility and the water management pond. By the end of Q3, we anticipate the transmission line will be nearing completion and we remain on track for first gold pour in Q4 2024.”**

Jeremy Langford, President and Chief Operating Officer

### Forward Looking and Cautionary Statements

This newsletter contains certain "forward looking statements" and certain "forward-looking information" as defined under applicable Canadian and U.S. securities laws (together, "forward-looking statements"). Forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may", "will", "expect", "intend", "estimate", "anticipate", "believe", "continue", "plans", "target", "potential" or similar terminology. Forward-looking statements in this newsletter include, but are not limited to, statements and information related to the development and mine plans of Blackwater Mine (the "Project"); estimates of mineral reserves and mineral resources; development activities; the merits of the Project; Artemis Gold Inc.'s (the "Company") plans and objectives with respect to the Project and the timing related thereto; the life of the mine; employment and economic activity in the region; engagement and collaboration with Indigenous groups; the construction of the transmission line and other infrastructure projects; and other statements regarding future plans, expectations, guidance, projections, objectives, estimates and forecasts, as well as statements as to management's expectations with respect to such matters.

Forward-looking statements and information are not historical facts and are made as of the date of this newsletter. These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties and actual results may vary. Important factors that may cause actual results to vary include without limitation, risks related to the ability of the Company to accomplish its plans and objectives with respect to the Project within the expected timing or at all, including the ability of the Company to finance and de-risk the Project; the timing and receipt of certain approvals, changes in commodity and power prices, changes in interest and currency exchange rates, risks inherent in exploration estimates and results, timing and success, changes to geological, mining, and metallurgical assumptions (including with respect to the size, grade and recoverability estimates of mineral reserves and resources), changes in development or mining plans due to changes in logistical, technical or other factors, unanticipated operational difficulties (including failure of plant, equipment or processes to operate in accordance with specifications, cost escalation, unavailability of materials, equipment and third party contractors, delays in the receipt of government approvals, industrial disturbances or other job action, and unanticipated events related to health, safety and environmental matters), political risk, social unrest, and changes in general economic conditions or conditions in the financial markets. In making the forward-looking statements in this newsletter, the Company has applied several material assumptions, including without limitation, the assumptions that: (1) market fundamentals will result in sustained mineral demand and prices; (2) the receipt of any necessary approvals and consents in connection with the development of any properties; (3) the availability of financing on suitable terms for the development, construction and continued operation of any mineral properties; and (4) sustained commodity prices such that any properties put into operation remain economically viable. The actual results or performance by the Company could differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, any forward-looking statements relating to those matters. Accordingly, no assurances can be given that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do so, what impact they will have on results of operations or financial condition of the Company. Except as required by law, the Company is under no obligation, and expressly disclaims any obligation, to update, alter or otherwise revise any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

For technical disclosure on Mineral Reserves and Resources please refer to the 2021 Feasibility Study technical report entitled "Blackwater Gold Project NI 43-101 Technical Report on Updated Feasibility Study" dated September 10, 2021 filed on SEDAR.

**Qualified Persons:** Jeremy Langford, FAUSMM, a Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101, has reviewed and approved the scientific and technical information in this newsletter.



Ball mill



Transmission line to BC Hydro grid

### Heavy Equipment ▼

During Q2 2024, construction and commissioning of the initial phase of the mining fleet was completed, with two 400-tonne hydraulic backhoe excavators, nine 240-tonne rigid frame haul trucks, and two large mining front-end loaders now fully assembled. The fleet to support initial operations is now complete. Additional units will be added to the fleet as operations ramp up.

### ▲ Transmission Line

During Q2 2024 the transmission line continued to advance on schedule. The line is being built in two parts, north and south of the Nechako River. The length of the northern section is approximately 50km and the southern section is approximately 80km.

In the North section, 98% of foundations were completed, 97% of pole structures were installed, 95% of structural frames were completed and 25% of the conductor was installed. In the South section, 91% of foundations were completed, 84% of pole structures were installed, 69% of structural frames were completed and 10% of the conductor was installed.

Upgrades to the BC Hydro Glenannan substation have been completed and commissioning planning with BC Hydro is advancing as planned. The main 25 kV electrical substation to power infrastructure at Blackwater Mine has been installed, and pole installation and conductor stringing is progressing well.



240-tonne rigid frame haul trucks



Tertiary crusher, conveyors & screening station

# Our People

~350 Blackwater Mine employees on site



~30% Indigenous



~80% from BC

“ Having a gold mine here is going to be really good for the local economy. It’s getting a lot of people working and involved. People are being trained and they’re learning, which is good because this is an industry where you want the younger generation to learn.”

Steve Keel, Heavy Equipment Operator  
QUESNEL, B.C.



## Interested in working at Blackwater?

Find open positions at [artemisgoldinc.com/careers](https://artemisgoldinc.com/careers)

Sign-up to receive a weekly email with current job postings at:



[artemisgoldinc.com/subscribe](https://artemisgoldinc.com/subscribe)



“ Blackwater has been really good about mentoring, having people who start on a packer and show real drive to succeed getting bumped into rock trucks, and rock truck drivers are going into rigids and dozer operators are learning on excavators. It’s been great.”

Tyler Marion, Earthworks Supervisor

MÉTIS NATION, PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.

“ I was very persistent wanting to work here because of the job, the mine, and to be working alongside my son, Johnathan Troy. I went to open houses, two job fairs, and the Vanderhoof main office.

**I completed the Mining Potential program at the College of New Caledonia in Vanderhoof on March 28th and then got hired two days later.”**

Cathy Troy, Rock Truck Driver

ULKATCHO FIRST NATION AND CHESLATTA CARRIER NATION,  
GRASSY PLAINS, B.C.



“ The relationship that I have with the Blackwater employees and the management is probably **one of the best experiences that I've had at a mine site.** The doors are always open. They're only a phone call away and everyone is very supportive. Everyone's here to help.”

Devon Beadman, Lead Hand Field Mechanic, Finning

WILLIAMS LAKE, B.C.

## Celebrating Our Team

We have several recent promotions to celebrate. Quain Sulin, a member of Ulkatcho First Nation, and Randall Hennigar, from Lhoosk'uz Dené Nation, both hired as Environmental Monitors, completed the required training and were recently promoted to Environmental Technicians. Damien Ketlo, a member of Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, was hired as an Indigenous Relations Liaison and was promoted to Coordinator, Indigenous Relations in July.

Other recent promotions include Brin Schneider (Vanderhoof) to Warehouse Supervisor, Allison Moise (Nak'azdli Whut'en) to Warehouse Technician, Darnell Sulin (Ulkatcho First Nation) and Damian Sill (Ulkatcho First Nation) to Mine Service Crew, Eric Crellin to Mobile Maintenance Manager, Brogan Whatley to Superintendent - Human Resources and Andrew Overholt to Superintendent - Mine Engineering. Congratulations to all!



Randall Hennigar, Environmental Technician

# In the Community

Members of our Indigenous Relations, Community Relations, and Business Opportunities teams connected with community members this quarter.

## Business Opportunities Events

We were pleased to participate in Business Opportunities events in Prince George, Vanderhoof, Quesnel and Williams Lake in May.



Sandro Bravo, Regional Business Opportunities Coordinator presenting at a Business Opportunities event held in Vanderhoof



Sandro Bravo (top right) and Justin Thorell (bottom left), Regional Business Opportunity Coordinators, meeting with community members at a Business Opportunities event held in Vanderhoof

## Community Sponsorship Program



Artemis Gold's Community Sponsorship Program strives to create a meaningful and lasting positive impact within the Blackwater Mine region.

The company has identified the following areas for community

sponsorship: education, health and community events. For more information or to apply, see our website: [artemisgoldinc.com](http://artemisgoldinc.com)

Above: Damien Ketlo, Coordinator, Indigenous Relations, presents Elton Louis, Stellat'en First Nation Administration Assistant, with a cheque for the Stellat'en Slo-Pitch Tournament

Right: Damien Ketlo, Coordinator, Indigenous Relations, presents Mayor Sarrah Storey with a cheque for the Village of Fraser Lake Canada Day BBQ

Some of our social investments this quarter include:

- Burns Lake Chinook Emergency Response Society
- Burns Lake Lakes District Fall Fair
- Quesnel & District 4H Council Annual Show
- Quesnel Annual Rodeo
- Stellat'en First Nation Annual Slo-Pitch Tournament
- Fraser Lake Canada Day Community BBQ



# Demonstrating Our Commitments

The Environment team at Blackwater Mine works to protect the environment and reduce the impact of the mine on the ecosystems in the area. In addition, the team is responsible for ensuring that we meet our permit obligations, and adhere to our management plans and commitments to local First Nation communities.

Our environmental work during Q2 2024 included spawning surveys for rainbow trout and kokanee, water bird surveys, ongoing erosion sediment control to maintain water quality, our bat research program and reclamation trial work.

Environmental work on site this summer and fall will include:

- Aquatic effects monitoring, including additional kokanee surveys
- Wildlife surveys, including caribou, moose and water birds
  - Wildlife camera deployment
- Fish recovery program
- Erosion sediment control and soil management
- Water sampling, including hydrology work and groundwater monitoring
- Bat research program
- Invasive species monitoring program
- Reclamation research plot trials
- Whitebark Pine surveys

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## Wildfire Season

On July 21st, we relocated Blackwater Mine staff and contractors due to the wildfire evacuation order issued in the region including Blackwater Mine. The order was lifted on July 25th and we immediately commenced the staged return to site. The mine site was not impacted by the wildfires.

We were happy to assist with the wildfire response in the region by providing accommodation at our camp locations for a crew of heavy equipment operators contracted to work on the fires, and a crew of firefighters.

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## Lake 15/16 Connector Channel

In the fall of 2023, the Blackwater Mine team completed construction of the Lake 15/16 connector channel, one of several habitat offsetting projects. We are pleased to announce that the channel now has fish using it.

The Environment team is planning to plant natural vegetation alongside the connector and conducting reclamation trials. They are working with local First Nations to identify which specific plant species are of concern to the Nations and to understand what they would like to see in the area once Blackwater Mine completes operations.



Lake 15/16 connector



“The Lake 15/16 channel is key for fish and fish habitat. It was a great team effort to get this done - with the Blackwater Earthworks team and our consultants. We are really happy with the outcome and will continue monitoring for the next 10+ years.”

“We will be working with First Nations on the reclamation trial work to get an understanding of the species of concern and what they would like to see as part of the closure of the project and what is best for the closure of the mine once we complete operations.”

Mark Warbanski, Environment Manager



Stubbed tree canopy along the transmission line, to prevent access and protect important areas

“The archaeological sites were identified in the environmental assessment, but we also use a chance find procedure in case someone finds an item of archaeological significance. Our archaeologist for the project will review the finding and in collaboration with our First Nations partners ensure it's managed and protected in the way that the communities see fit.

Mark Warbanski, Environment Manager

## Transmission Line Construction

During the Environmental Assessment process, Artemis Gold worked with archaeologists and our First Nations partners to identify archaeological sites on site and along the transmission line route and to come up with solutions to protect these sites.

“We have gone through extensive efforts to ensure our conformance to our archaeological commitments and to minimize disruption to the archaeological sites.”

Bhavya Hooda, Project Manager



In areas with subsurface archaeological artifacts that could not be avoided, we decided collaboratively with experts and First Nations partners to leave a stubbed tree canopy to prevent access through the area, to preserve ground conditions and to protect the artifacts underneath.

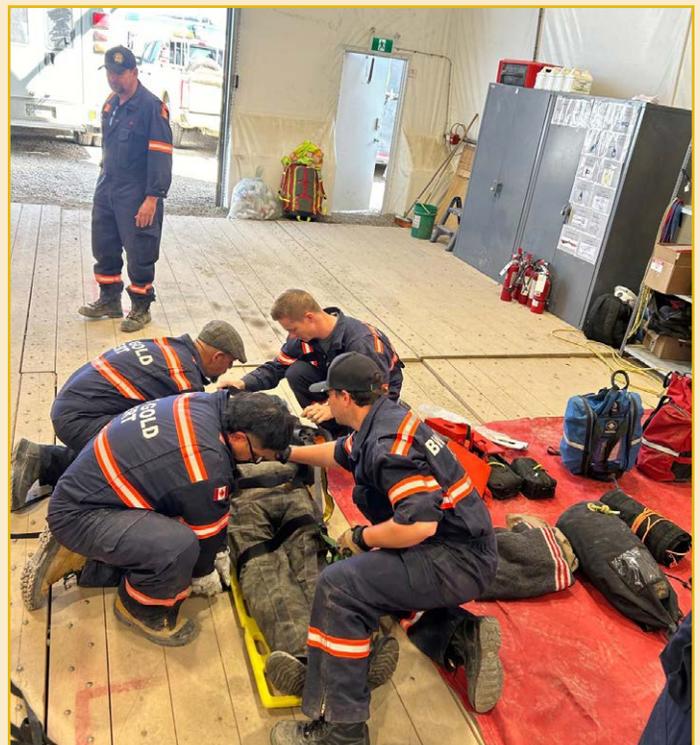
We have used proactive engineering measures and best practices to optimize our construction activities without compromising the environment along the transmission line. We are committed to ensuring that archaeological sites are protected and that we minimize our impact on the environment and wildlife along the route.

## Health & Safety Focus

### Mine Rescue Training

At Artemis Gold and Blackwater Mine, safety is our top priority. Our Mine Rescue team participates in regular training exercises to build and reinforce their skills.

In July, they participated in medical training and developed and practiced rescue plans to remove operators from heavy equipment.



Mine Rescue Team training - July 2024

# Working Together

## Employee Spotlight



Linda Siwallace, Ulkatcho First Nation, Environmental Monitor

**Linda Siwallace** joined Blackwater Mine as an Environmental Monitor in June 2024. As part of the Environment Team, Linda's work includes water sampling and wildlife surveys. She also provides regular updates to her community about the environmental work being done on site.

Linda says her favourite parts of her job are the awesome team she works with and being outdoors. She particularly enjoys doing wildlife surveys in the helicopter. Linda says that "the culture at the mine is excellent" and that "all her coworkers are easy to get along with and a really productive team."

Linda has at least eight family members who work at Blackwater Mine and she enjoys seeing them at work. Linda says she would like to see more community members go up to work at the mine because there are lots of opportunities at the site.

**“It is very important for me to be working on the traditional territories of Ulkatcho First Nations - to leave a positive impact for the future of our children and grandchildren.”**

Linda Siwallace, Environmental Monitor

## Community Feedback



We welcome feedback on how we are doing:

- Fill out our online feedback form at [artemisgoldinc.com/communityfeedback](https://artemisgoldinc.com/communityfeedback) and submit in person, via mail or email
- Email: [feedback-bw@artemisgoldinc.com](mailto:feedback-bw@artemisgoldinc.com)
- Call toll-free: 1 (888) 724-0106

## Supporting Local Employment & Business Development

Artemis Gold is committed to creating and maintaining strong relationships with local and Indigenous communities and to promoting employment and business development. We prioritize recruiting and hiring individuals from the local and Indigenous communities near Blackwater Mine.

## Have a local business?

The Blackwater Mine will create diverse opportunities for local and regional businesses. If you are interested in contracting for the Blackwater Mine:



Contact us to learn more:  
[businessopps-bw@artemisgoldinc.com](mailto:businessopps-bw@artemisgoldinc.com)

Scan the QR code to register your business in the Business Directory:  
[artemisgoldinc.com/business-directory](https://artemisgoldinc.com/business-directory)

## Interested in working with us?

Check our website for open positions:  
[artemisgoldinc.com/careers](https://artemisgoldinc.com/careers)



Want to receive weekly career updates? Scan the QR code to sign-up for email career alerts.

### Contact Us

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