



WRIGGLY WORMS

Jade Cambron shows Seth Okrainec Cli some red wigglers that were buried in this composting tin, during a demonstration by Ecology North on Aug. 15. Cambron's display was part of a two-day trade fair at the Fort Simpson recreation centre.

April Hudson/NNSL photos

Prairie Creek project sees success

New vein discovered as Canadian Zinc considers all-season road

by April Hudson

Northern News Services

Tthenaago/Nahanni Butte

A 10-month underground exploration program has yielded results for mining company Canadian Zinc at the company's Prairie Creek project.

The mine, surrounded by the Nahanni National Park, has been the site of a drilling program since October 2014.

On Aug. 11, the company released "encouraging results" from the program.

As early as June 23, the company was reporting the discovery of a new quartz vein system discovered at the site.

Now that the exploration program has wrapped up, Canadian Zinc has stated the previously unknown vein was discovered in the footwall of the mine's main quartz vein.

The exploration program drilled a cumulative 5,484 metres in 21 holes from three drill stations at the end of the

decline of the mine's 870-metre level.

Underground services have since been decommissioned and demobilized.

Drillholes intercepted varying resource levels including lead, zinc and silver, with the northernmost hole drilled in 2015 returning some of the program's highest grades and thicknesses.

Those include a vein of 7.5-metre grading, 17.77 per cent lead, 33.67 per cent zinc and 247 grams per tonne silver.

Canadian Zinc's vice president of exploration, director and chief operating officer Alan Taylor said when the project was originally opened its target was silver.

"This (discovery) adds life to the mine," he said. "We saw some very positive results from the drilling (program), but we have to do some 3-D modelling to determine if the reserves are mineable."

Taylor said modelling will

likely be finished in September.

In order to make resource extraction cheaper and easier, Canadian Zinc is in the process of evaluating the possibility of an all-season road.

Currently, the company is approved for a winter road out to the mine, which only operates three months out of the year.

"Whatever you take out of the ground has to pay for itself," Taylor said, referencing the costs of mining, milling, transportation and smelting.

"From an economic point of view, this is extremely difficult with a winter road ... (because) the rest of the year our inventory can't be sold."

Second-quarter financial results for Canadian Zinc provide a new mineral resource estimate for measured and indicated resources of 6.5 million tonnes at a combined grade of about 20 per cent lead and zinc, with 150 grams



NNSL file photo

An aerial shot of Prairie Creek, the Canadian Zinc Corporation owned mine in Nahanni National Park near Nahanni Butte. Recent discoveries include a new vein containing lead, zinc and silver, which could extend the life of the mine.

per tonne of silver. That is a 21 per cent increase from 2012 figures.

Additionally, total inferred resource tonnage increased by 13 per cent to 7.1 million tonnes, grading 9.6 per cent

lead, 11.7 per cent zinc and 177 grams per tonne of silver.

In April 2014, Canadian Zinc submitted an application to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and to Parks Canada for permits allowing

upgrades of the winter road to an all-season one.

Taylor said the company has done numerous environmental assessments and does not expect to hear a decision until 2016.

Emergency exercise still seeks volunteers

Northern News Services

Liidlil Kue/Fort Simpson

The Department of Transportation will be holding an emergency exercise on Sept. 12 and is looking for volunteers to act as air crash victims from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be followed by a barbecue at the airport.

The Two Rivers mixed slo-pitch tournament will be held at the baseball diamonds from Aug. 28 to 30. Entry fees are \$500 per team, with first place winning \$1,500, second place winning \$1,000 and third place winning \$500. The registration deadline is Aug. 26.

The Deh Cho Health and Social Services Authority (DHSSA) has a jam making session scheduled with elders on Aug. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m.

DHSSA will also be running an adult health session on Aug. 25 and a youth health session on Aug. 27.

Liidlil Kue First Nation is holding a membership meeting at 7 p.m. on Aug. 24 at the community recreation centre. Chief Jerry Antoine said he welcomes all members to attend, and the agenda will focus on membership concerns, input on wellness and community fall and winter programs.

Weekend schedule announced

Acho Dene Koe/Fort Liard

The first annual \$25,000 men's handgame tournament and fall gathering will take place from Aug. 21 to 23.

An opening ceremony will be held at the Arbor at 9 a.m. on Aug. 21 and handgames registration begins at 10 a.m. Handgames start at 1 p.m. each day.

Cultural workshops will take place outside the Arbor from 2 to 5 p.m. each day, with a community supper scheduled each evening at 6 p.m.

Evening drum dances will be held on Aug. 21 and Aug. 23.

Johnny Landry is scheduled to play the evening of Aug. 22 at the Arbor. Charlie Furlong will also be playing a song or two. Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.

Immersion camp begins

Deh Gah Got'ie Koe/Fort Providence

Deh Gah School's immersion kindergarten for Grades 1, 2 and 3 classes started the fall camp at the snye on Aug. 17. The camp runs for three weeks and breaks for the weekends.

COMMUNITY Clips

with April Hudson

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Dates include Aug. 17 to 21, Aug. 24 to 28 and Aug. 31 to Sept. 4.

Children require permission forms to be signed in order to attend the camp.

Meanwhile, Toddler Time has returned to the kindergarten classroom at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the remainder of August and all of September.

School will be out Aug. 25 and 26 as staff will be attending a cultural orientation in Fort Simpson.

The community recreation centre is holding a multi-sport camp courtesy of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. The camp began Aug. 17 and runs until Aug. 21 at the gymnasium.