



## NEWS NUGGETS

Compiled by Shane Lasley

### Willie Hensley joins Trilogy board

Trilogy Metals Inc. Dec. 11 announced the appointment of renowned Alaska Native leader William Iggiagruk Hensley to its board of directors. Born in Kotzebue, Northwest Alaska, Hensley was a key player in the settlement of Alaska's Native claims with the United States government. He attended the University of Alaska in Fairbanks and graduated with a degree in Political Science from George Washington University in Washington, DC. While attending graduate school in Fairbanks, Hensley wrote a pivotal research paper for Judge Jay Rabinowitz titled "Alaska Native Land Claims: The Primary Issue", which outlined the historical land rights of Alaska Natives, arguing for a just settlement of the issue. This paper led to Native self-organization and the establishment of the Northwest Alaska Native Association in 1966 – a precursor to Maniilaq Association, a non-profit organization which advocates for all Native issues, including health, housing, and political rights. President Richard Nixon signed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in December 1971 providing for the creation of 12 Alaska Native Regional Corporations which were capitalized nearly US\$1 billion and transferred roughly 44 million acres of land to Alaska Natives through their corporate entities.



WILLIE HENSLEY

NANA Regional Corporation Inc., created as a result of ANCSA, received title to 2.28 million acres of lands in Northwest Alaska – now organized into the Northwest Arctic Borough. NANA is a for-profit US corporation with a mission to provide economic opportunities for its more than 14,000 Iñupiat shareholders as well as to protect and enhance NANA lands.

"Willie Hensley was a founding member of NANA Regional Corporation, Inc., and has been a pivotal figure in Alaska," said NANA President and CEO Wayne Westlake. "He led the movement that solidified Indigenous inclusion in projects on Alaska-Native owned lands, which has defined NANA's model for responsible resource development."

After graduation, Hensley was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives and then served four full terms in the Alaska Senate and two further terms through an appointment by Gov. Steve Cowper. Hensley served as president of NANA and as a director of the Northwest Alaska Native corporation for 20 years as a director of NANA. He also led NANA Development Corp., a NANA subsidiary that manages the Native corporation extensive business portfolio.

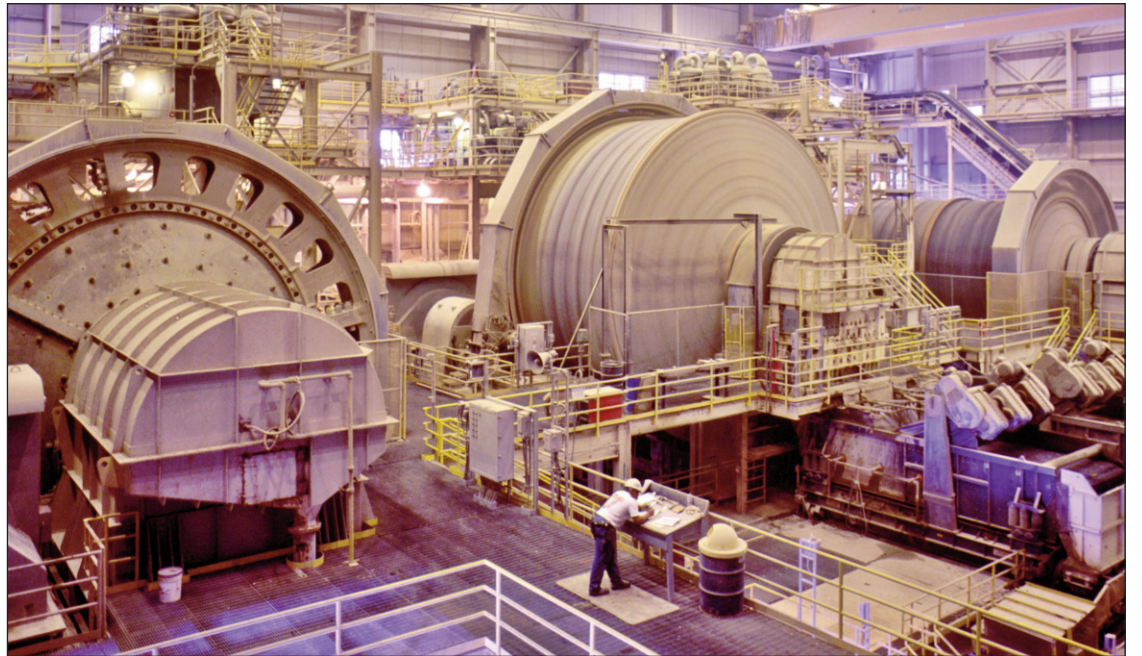
Hensley's distinguished career also includes playing a major role in the founding of the Alaska Federation of Natives, a statewide organization that aims to enhance the cultural, economic and political voice of the Alaska Native community. He has served as director, executive director, president and co-chair of AFN.

Hensley currently serves as chair of the First Alaskans Institute and is the Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Business and Public Policy at the University of Alaska in Anchorage.

"We are honored and privileged to have Mr. Hensley serve on the company's board of directors," said Trilogy

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KINROSS GOLD CORP.



The mill at Fort Knox processes roughly 12.5 million metric tons of the higher grade ore mined at the Interior Alaska operation each year. The gold resources already identified at Gilmore will likely add years to the life of the mill at Fort Knox.

### ● GOLD PRODUCTION

## Expanding Fort Knox

Gilmore adds 2.4 million oz gold, potentially several more years, to mine

By SHANE LASLEY

Mining News

The mill at Fort Knox Mine in Interior Alaska will likely be churning out gold for several more years, thanks to Kinross Gold Corp. gaining mineral rights to the Gilmore land parcel immediately west of the current open-pit.

The long-lived gold mine was beginning to get to the end of its reserves, especially those of high enough grade to support keeping the mill in operation. This was not good news for the some 900 direct and contract workers who take home healthy paychecks from working at the mine, or the Fairbanks North Star Borough, which benefits from the tax revenue the 400,000-ounce-per-year gold operation generates.

With roughly 2.4 million oz of gold already identified at Gilmore, this expansion area could add roughly another five years to this iconic open-pit mine about 25 miles north of Fairbanks.

"Gilmore is a promising organic development opportunity that can potentially extend mine life at our Fort Knox Mine in Alaska, one of our top producing and high performing operations," said Kinross President and CEO J. Paul Rollinson.

### Long-term growth

Extending the life of its existing operations by finding more gold around the mines is a key facet to Kinross' exploration strategy – a brownfield growth plan that has proven to be successful at Fort Knox.

When Kinross opened the Fort Knox Mine in 1996, the deposit there had 4.1 million oz of gold in reserves, which was enough to last about eight years. Going into 2017, its 21st year of operation,

While Kinross studies the viability of westward expansion at Fort Knox, the company has added nearly another year of reserves to the east side of the open-pit.

the mine continued to boast 1.51 million oz of reserves.

Kinross has long viewed Gilmore as an area that could further extend the life of the Fort Knox Mine. The only problem was, this potential expansion area extended onto National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration land that hosts the Fairbanks Command and Data Acquisition Station, a facility about three miles southwest of the Fort Knox property more commonly known as the Gilmore Creek Satellite Tracking Station.

In 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management authorized Kinross to carry out exploration on this 709-acre prospective parcel just west of the pit. Over the ensuing years, Kinross completed 73,000 meters of drilling to evaluate the potential of expanding the pit westward.

While the drilling confirmed that Gilmore hosts potentially ore grade gold, this area was not open for mining.

Working in cooperation with Kinross, NOAA filed a notice of intent to relinquish this golden parcel of land to the state of Alaska, which would make it available for mining.

Following an environmental assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act, BLM determined that the land is suitable for return to the public domain and turned the Gilmore parcel over to the state on Dec. 11.