

## Indigenous Natural Resource Research Water Life Research Education



**Engagement: Crown Community and Company** 

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In 2008 British Columbia the government announced that it would revenue share the mineral tax on all new mines with First Nation Communities. At that time New Gold was re-permitting the New Afton site outside of Kamloops. This mine was to be an underground gold mine and the technique of mining was to use a block-caving method. As part of the trend with mines and Aboriginal Title claims in British Columbia, the Crown required the company to engage with the First Nation setting up a relationship that might involve an Impact Benefit Agreement. This talk discusses two aspects of the ensuing relationship. Presented first is the historical situation the T'kemulps & Skeetchestn Indian Bands is described, their relationship with New Gold and the Crown's determination of their strength of claim. Second discussed is the Participation Agreement and Permit 229. Special attention is afforded to clause 5 in Permit 229 where it is expected that the Company and two First Nation communities form an Environmental Monitoring Board that addresses ongoing Permitting and Licenses, Dust and Weed Control, Water Use, and finally Reclamation.