

# ABANDONED MINES



*Photos from left to right: Huestis adit rail line; Huestis adit as it looks today and; waste rock around Brown-McDade pit as it looks today*

## Mount Nansen Mine

### TIMELINE

#### **1943 - 1984**

Intermittent exploration occurs throughout the area. Two attempts to mine local deposits are not viable due to poor gold recoveries.

#### **1985 - 1988**

Chevron Minerals and BYG Natural Resources Inc. (BYG) carry out exploration and environmental baseline studies of the Mount Nansen property.

#### **1994**

Exploration resumes under BYG management.

#### **1996**

In October, a Type A Water Licence is issued allowing mining and milling to begin.

#### **1997 - 1999**

During this operating period, total ore production is 269,000 tonnes. Recovery problems limit total gold production to 35,700 ounces. Total capital investment is approximately \$14,000,000. The mining operation generates operating profits in only two quarters. Serious environmental concerns include problems with tailings dam construction and operation, and discharges from water treatment plant repeatedly failing toxicity tests. BYG requests four amendments

to its Water License to suspend non-toxicity requirements.

#### **FEBRUARY 1999**

Water inspector issues directive for BYG to comply with the water license or cease operations. Mining and milling are suspended and BYG declares voluntary receivership. D. Manning and Associates Inc. are appointed by the company as receiver for physical assets.

#### **JULY 1999**

D. Manning and Associates resign and leave the property overnight. Government of Canada (Canada) hires a Yukon company to maintain environmental integrity.

#### **AUGUST 1999**

Canada formally declares the property abandoned and takes over under Section 39 of *Yukon Waters Act*.

#### **1999 - 2002**

Canada manages care and maintenance of the site.

#### **APRIL 2003**

Management of site is devolved to Government of Yukon (Yukon) with Canada providing the funding.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Tel: (867) 393-7098

Fax: (867) 456-6780

[yukonabandonedmines@gov.yk.ca](mailto:yukonabandonedmines@gov.yk.ca)

[www.emr.gov.yk.ca/aam/](http://www.emr.gov.yk.ca/aam/)



*Photos from left to right: Pony Creek adit prior to rehabilitation; Pony Creek adit after rehabilitation and; Pony Creek adit as it looks today*

**APRIL 2004**

Supreme Court of Yukon appoints PricewaterhouseCoopers as interim receiver for the assets of BYG at the Mount Nansen mine.

**2005 - 2006**

Yukon manages care and maintenance for the site while PricewaterhouseCoopers continues to manage the site assets. A contribution agreement is signed between Yukon and Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) to support their involvement in the project.

**2007 - 2008**

PricewaterhouseCoopers, sells mineral claims outside the mine site area. Yukon government continues to manage care and maintenance.

**2009 - 2010**

Yukon continues to manage ongoing care and maintenance while PricewaterhouseCoopers continues to manage the site assets. Risk site investigations, inspections and risk assessment studies are completed to support implementation of a final closure and remediation plan. A technical working group involving Canada, Yukon and LSCFN is established to discuss and provide feedback on the technical and scientific results.