### **Message from** Ya' thi Néné

?Edlanet'e. 2020 has been a year unlike any other. The COVID-19 pandemic brought great disruption and challenge to our communities and the entire world. We acknowledge the passing of Elders and community members as well as the hardship experienced by so many people who contracted COVID to the many lockdowns and restrictions we followed to keep our communities safe. We thank Basin leadership, front line workers and all those who have supported the fight against COVID and we look forward to putting this pandemic behind

The implementation of the Ya'thi Néné Collaboration Agreement during 2020 was very different compared to previous years. All meetings were held virtually and with the multiple shutdowns of the mines, significant focus was diverted to COVID updates and to ensuring proper safety procedures and communication processes were established. Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resources and partners Cameco and Orano all contributed to the Basin communities to support their fight against COVID with financial contributions, supplies and in-kind support from our staff.

Unfortunately, with mine site shutdowns, uranium production was significantly decreased which resulted in reduced financial contributions to the communities and YNLR for 2021. Despite the setbacks, Ya'thi Néné was able to maintain our operations while protecting Nuhenéné and promoting the people's interests. We continue to work hard to enhance the implementation of the Collaboration Agreement with our partners Cameco and Orano for the betterment of the Basin communities.

Mary Denechezhe Ya' thi Néné Board Chair

**Garrett Schmidt** Ya' thi Néné Executive Director

### **Joint Implementation Committee**

**Tiffany Toutsaint** Fond du Lac

**Garrett Schmidt** Ya' thi Néné

**Adam Benonie** Hatchet Lake

**Jonathan Huntington** Cameco

John Throassie Black Lake

Glenn Lafleur Orano

Margaret Powder PRO - Uranium City

# **Partnering for** Prosperity

# **2020 Financial Highlights**

Community

\$82.9 M

**Business** development

For more information:

Ya'thi Néné Lands and **Resources Office** 306-477-1251

admin@yathinene.com www.yathinene.ca



www.facebook.com/YathiNene/



Ya'thi Néné





2020 Report

to community members of

Black Lake Denesuline First Nation

**Camsell Portage** 

Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation

Hatchet Lake Denesuline First Nation

**Stony Rapids** 

**Uranium City** 

**Wollaston Lake** 

### Message from Cameco

The COVID-19 pandemic changed lives around the world in 2020. What hasn't changed at Cameco, however, is our commitment to the communities where we live, work and play.

Our COVID-19 screening and safety measures will be kept in place for the foreseeable future, and we'll continue to work closely with public health officials, particularly in the north where the heart of our operations exist. Pandemic or no pandemic, the health and safety of our workers is our top priority,

and we will not hesitate to take further action if we feel our ability to operate safely is compromised.

So many communities in northern Saskatchewan were hit hard by the pandemic and it was important for us to find a way to help. We provided support through our \$1 Million COVID Relief Fund which awarded funding to 67 community projects, and we also delivered 1,200 carepackages of personal protective equipment to homes in the Athabasca Basin. While we're seeing increased levels of vaccination across the world and there is some light at the end of this pandemic tunnel, we will remain vigilant throughout our operations and make decisions that will protect and support our workforce and their communities.

We are also excited for the future. There are a lot of positive signs in the nuclear industry and the opportunity is there for nuclear power to play a key role in the global climate crisis. As Cameco pursues our vision of energizing a clean-air world, we look forward to working together with our great friends and partners in northern Saskatchewan and continuing to build on the strong foundation we've developed over the last almost 30 years.

Tim Gitzel,
President and Chief Executive Officer



### Message from Orano

2020 was a year of unforeseen challenges, but also a year that demonstrated the importance of partnerships. Through regular and open communication with Athabasca Basin leadership, community command centres and the YNLRO, we responded to the threats of the COVID-19 pandemic together and with health and safety as our top priority. While the production results of 2020 may not have been what we expected, we have retained the spirit of working together for the betterment of local people.

Jim Corman, President and Chief Executive Officer

# **Our Progress**

# **Workforce Development**

We took immediate action and updated our practices to ensure we continued to provide a safe workplace for our employees and minimized the potential for COVID-19 exposure at our operations. The number of employees were reduced to keep the sites in a safe state of care and maintenance, while following COVID-19 measures. Cameco and Orano continued to maintain employment of Basin personnel on the mine sites including on average, 60 employees at Cameco and 40 employees at Orano.

Summer students were hired at McLean Lake, Cigar Lake and Rabbit Lake but due to the pandemic, these positions were suspended.

For the fourth consecutive year, Ya' thi Néné awarded scholarships to post-secondary Basin students. A total of \$59,800 was awarded to 23 successful applicants with

funds provided by Ya' thi Néné Lands and Resources,

Cameco, Orano and Athabasca Basin Development.



EXPOR1

A commitment under the agreement, the Ya' thi Néné Export Database continued

to move forward. This online resource will help create resumes and help connect Athabasca Basin community members to new training and employment opportunities. The database will be launched in 2021.

Visit www.yathinene.ca for more information.

# **Business Development**

To ensure a safe working environment for all our workers and help slow down the spread of the virus, we restricted non-essential contractors, visitors and deliveries at all locations. Cameco and Orano have always made collaborating with northern businesses a priority and a commitment under the agreement to look first to our northern partners.

All of the northern businesses working with and at the uranium operations in northern Saskatchewan were asked to make major adjustments in the spring of 2020 to respond to the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. With ownership from the Athabasca Basin communities, Athabasca Catering continued to provide high-quality catering and



food services, housekeeping, and janitorial services at all Cameco and Orano's northern Saskatchewan operations with the enhanced COVID-19 protocols.

Athabasca Catering (ACLP) quickly implemented recommended safety protocols so the site teams could be confident in the safety of camp spaces and meals. They offered individual portions where possible, staggered mealtimes and stepped up the cleaning regimen. All staff received COVID orientation when they arrived at site, and they were instrumental in maintaining isolation wings for those awaiting test results for feeling ill. These changes ensured that the uranium industry could continue to offer a safe and healthy workplace.

## **Community Investment**

The Athabasca Basin communities faced challenges head on during the pandemic and the collaboration agreement continued to provide support. There were a wide range of initiatives that have been made possible by the Athabasca Community Trust. The funds are used for a variety of community-based initiatives as determined by the trust committee, who represent the community.

One of the 2020 initiatives was equipment for a local radio station in Hatchet Lake that employed two community members. During the pandemic, Elders were able to receive upto-date information about the public health guidelines. The radio station continues to keep members of the community connected in both English and Dene.

# **Environment and Engagement**

The Athabasca Joint Engagement and Environmental Subcommittee (AJES) continues to meet, enhancing knowledge, understanding and programs to ensure the safety of the environment and build capacity.

The AJES are the first point of contact for Cameco and Orano and have responsibility and accountability for environmental management and community engagement matters to their respective communities.



In 2020 the subcommittee continued to meet, and industry provided updates on the sites around the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the committee participated in Cigar Lake relicensing activities and a McClean Lake site tour to see the Tailings Management Expansion Project in September. Orano also submitted a licence amendment request in November 2019 to allow for expansion of the existing JEB Tailings Management Facility (TMF).

The Community Based Environmental Monitoring
Program (CBEMP) results were also presented to Fond
du Lac leadership. Through this monitoring program,
community members are actively involved in identifying
locations for and gathering samples which are analysed by
an independent laboratory. The results of these ongoing
programs continue to show that the environment and
human health in the vicinity of the operation remains
protected. The Fond du Lac report is available to

community members through leadership and a brochure posted online at www.cameconorth.ca. Hatchet Lake First Nation and the northern settlement of Wollaston Lake has undergone its sampling program in 2020 and the report to the communities is anticipated in 2021.

The CBEMP, born out of the collaboration agreement with the Athabasca Basin communities, won the 2019 Mining Association of Canada's Towards Sustainable Mining award for Community Engagement Excellence.

Cameco submitted a Cigar Lake license renewal request to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) in November 2019. Cameco is requesting a 10 year license and anticipate the hearing to be held in early 2021.

For more information on Cameco and Orano operations, please contact the AJES representatives or the community liaisons.