Cameco’s Five-pillar Corporate Responsibility Strategy

Context
Cameco is one of the world’s largest uranium producers, providing about 16% of the world’s production from mines in Canada, the United States and Kazakhstan. Over the last 25 years, its Canadian exploration and development projects in northern Saskatchewan have involved several Aboriginal groups. Accessing land and mineral resources are essential to the company’s business objectives. Therefore, it seeks to promote participation and gain support from Aboriginal communities in its operations through proactive engagement to meet the commitments defined in signed surface leases and community agreements. In order to guide its engagement with Aboriginal communities in northern Saskatchewan, Cameco has developed a five-pillar Corporate Responsibility Strategy.

Description of Measures Implemented
The goal of the five-pillar strategy is to develop and maintain long-term relationships and provide communities with capacity-building and employment and business development opportunities. It is being used as a foundation for building and sustaining relationships within operating areas. Under the pillars of its strategy, Cameco has developed a number of programs in northern Saskatchewan:

- Workforce development – The goal of Cameco’s workforce development program is to ensure students remain in school, have the means to attend post-secondary programs and receive the training they need to advance if they are hired.

- Business development – Cameco seeks to procure the majority of its services for operations from local businesses. In northern Saskatchewan, Cameco has developed initiatives such as the Northern Preferred Supplier Program and the Direct Source Strategy to help support local businesses.

- Community engagement – Cameco meets regularly with communities to keep them informed about projects and licensing plans and to involve them in opportunities and operations in other ways. Tools and
initiatives that support community engagement goals include Cameco’s Northern Tour, local community websites, community forums, project-specific engagement initiatives, agreement committees and mine tours.

- Community investment – Cameco supports communities by providing funds for infrastructure and programming in the regions where it operates. In northern Saskatchewan, the focus is on improving the lives of northern youth through education, sports, recreation and health promotion.

- Environmental stewardship – Cameco actively encourages local communities to participate in the environmental assessment process and ongoing environmental monitoring activities. Programs that support environmental stewardship goals include the Athabasca Working Group, the Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee and project-specific engagement initiatives. Cameco also meets with individuals, including local trappers, and communities to assess the importance of traditional activities in relation to mining activities.

**Results**

At the end of 2014, Cameco employed nearly 800 residents of Saskatchewan’s North (RSN), as well as 645 RSN contractors. Since 2004, Cameco has procured more than $3 billion in services from northern Saskatchewan businesses, representing approximately 70% of total expenses, and has donated approximately $14 million to northern and Aboriginal groups.

**Lessons Learned**

Aboriginal communities have important needs for employment and training, infrastructure and support for a variety of programming. A comprehensive approach such as Cameco’s five-pillar Corporate Responsibility Strategy helps develop and maintain long-term relationships while providing communities with employment and business development opportunities and capacity-building initiatives. Finding new and innovative ways to meet the needs and expectations of communities is important.

**For more information:**

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