

MineralsEd: Mount Polley Mine Reclamation Tour

Pro-D for SD 27 teachers, Sept. 27, 2019

Mount Polley Mine Reclamation Tour

As part of the September Pro D day for SD 27 teachers, **MineralsEd** is partnering with **Imperial Metals** to present a reclamation tour of the **Mount Polley Mine**, an open pit copper-gold mine near Williams Lake.

The Mount Polley deposit was first discovered in the late 1960s and was opened as a mine by **Imperial Metals** in 1997. In 2017 the mine produced roughly 19,000,000 pounds of copper and 48,000 ounces of gold while employing roughly 300 people. The mine is now under care and maintenance.

In August 2014 the tailings dam at Mount Polley failed releasing 17 million cubic meters of water and 8 million cubic meters of tailings/materials into Polley Lake, Hazeltine Creek and Quesnel Lake. Extensive remediation work in the areas affected by the 2014 breach have been achieved during the past five years. Most of the remediation work has been done by local employees and contractors, as well as, the mine's First Nation partners.

The visit will include an overview presentation on the **Mount Polley Mine** operation. The tour will include four stops: 1) Top of reach 2 of Hazeltine Creek to view the creek remediation and new fish habitat. 2) Water treatment plant (WTP) and influent pond. 3) WTP in operation. Samples of influent and effluent were collected in glass jars for tour participants to observe the clarity of the water. 4) Springer pit dredging operation.

Depart: 8:30 am at **Lake City Secondary School, Columneetza Campus** (1045 Western Ave) 8:40 am at **150 mile Elementary** (Cariboo Highway)

Return: 3:30 pm

Transportation: Bus transportation from the school and around the mine site will be provided.

Lunch: Please bring your own lunch, snacks and water bottle to stay hydrated during the walking parts of the tour.

Attire: Participants should wear comfortable clothing and sturdy footwear. Be prepared for wet, cool and muddy conditions in the case of rain. Mount Polley will provide the required safety equipment during the tour. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Registration is mandatory and must be completed through **Eventbrite**. **Cost:** \$0

Deadline: Noon Sept 20, 2019

Note: The number of confirmed participants by Sept. 20th will determine if this mine tour will go ahead.



Re-established vegetation around Hazeltine Creek, Mount Polley Mine.

If you are teaching a mining unit, Earth Science, Geology, Geography, Environmental Science, Biology or are a Career Educator, this field trip is an excellent opportunity to learn about the reclamation process.



1230-605 Robson St.
Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3

T: 604.682.5477
E: info@MineralsEd.ca

www.MineralsEd.ca