

## HELENA KUIKKA – VICE PRESIDENT, EXPLORATION

Helena Kuikka, Victoria Gold's Vice President, Exploration, has been an integral team member since 2011; starting her career with Victoria as a Project Geologist and advancing with the Eagle Gold Mine Project through its development, construction and now, operations to become the VP, Exploration in 2021.

**CAREERS** 

In her current role, she plans and executes Victoria Gold's exploration programs, discovers and develops new exploration targets and provides geology support to the mine.

"Some years, our exploration program is seasonal and we spend about seven months in the Yukon from March to October, with the winter months spent in Victoria Gold's Vancouver office working on geological modelling, report planning and preparations for the next season," says Helena. "During the summer, Steve (Geologist Steve Wozniak, Helena's husband, who also works for the company) and I are based out of Mayo where we bought a lot, and we drive to the exploration camps about an hour past the Eagle Gold Mine site."

A typical day begins at 7 a.m. with a geology-team meeting in the camp's dining tent, to discuss safety and review the previous night's core results.

Helena also plans that day's equipment moves and the work areas for the on-site geologists and equipment operators.

"A lot of my work takes place behind the scenes managing staff, logistics and camp operations," continues Helena, who knows the geological region in which the Eagle Gold Mine is located well. "About half my day is spent in the field checking on operations and prospecting potential new exploration zones."

Prior to joining Victoria Gold, Helena worked with various exploration companies in the territory and her experience ranges from grassroots to development-stage projects and remote mapping to infill drill programs. She is a Professional Geoscientist, with a BSc in Geology; driven by what she calls "the gold fever."

"Steve and I met during our first year with Victoria Gold on the Dublin Gulch exploration program in 2011," adds Helena. "We really enjoy the recreational activities while out in the field including hiking and prospecting after work, which is what led Steve to the discovery of Victoria's Raven target in 2018. We adopted a field dog earlier this year, who will hopefully one day be able to sniff out gold."



Helena Kuikka, Victoria Gold's VP, Exploration, at site in 2017 before the Eagle Gold Mine's development, construction and now, operations.



Victoria Gold Geologist Steve Wozniak prospecting during the company's Dublin Gulch exploration program.

## VICTORIA GOLD IS PROUD TO HAVE YUKONERS AT WORK

IF YOU ARE A YUKONER WITH MINING EXPERIENCE, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONNECT WITH US.

Victoria is currently hiring tradespeople, equipment operators, process/crusher operators and other positions to work at the Eagle Gold Mine. Visit the "Work For Us" page on our website at vgcx.com/contact/work-for-us/ and send your resume to greatpeoplework@vgcx.com.

## **ABOUT VICTORIA GOLD & THE EAGLE GOLD MINE**

The Eagle Gold Mine, now in production, is situated within Victoria Gold's 100 per cent-owned Dublin Gulch Property located approximately 375 kiolometres north of Whitehorse and 85 kilometres north, northeast of the Village of Mayo within the traditional territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun. The property is accessible by road year-round and is connected to Yukon Energy Corp's electrical grid. The mine is a significant contributor to the Yukon economy employing 350-400 people.

