



DUBLIN GULCH: A HISTORY OF THE EAGLE GOLD MINE: BEGINNINGS

EXCERPT BY MICHAEL GATES

THE LAND THAT WE KNOW AS THE MAYO DISTRICT, BEGAN ITS FORMATION MORE THAN 600 MILLION YEARS AGO. It is the product of processes taking place on a grand scale over a time span that is hard to comprehend. The human presence here would be the last second on a twenty-four-hour clock representing history of the world.

Today it is hard to imagine travel on the continent without roads and airports, especially in the north. The main routes for travel by foot over land and along water corridors connected areas where various resources could be exploited, while others connected peoples in adjacent areas for trading and social purposes. The Northern Tutchone-speaking people who lived in the Mayo area for millennia before Europeans arrived (known today as the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun) were connected to others of the MacKenzie River, the Gwich'in to the north, the Hän to the northwest and Southern Tutchone to the south.

In 1848, Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) trader Robert Campbell established a post at the confluence of the Pelly and Yukon Rivers, but that lasted for only four years before being destroyed by the Chilkat Tlingit from the Pacific coast. More direct contact with Europeans did not occur until the 1870s and in 1886, Jack McQuesten and his partner, Arthur Harper, established a trading post at the mouth of the Stewart River in response to the discovery of placer gold in the Stewart River valley. From that time on, there were regular incursions of European prospectors in the region in search of placer gold in the (gravel) bars of the Stewart River and its tributaries.

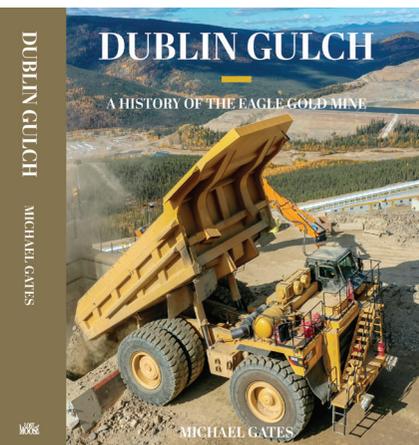
It was the dream of mineral riches that inspired the newcomers, and mining spurred the development of the territory. It is upon this foundation that the Yukon economy thrives today, leading to the construction of the Yukon's largest gold mine: Eagle.

A series of videos featuring Gates and Victoria President and CEO John McConnell discuss elements of the book *Dublin Gulch: A History of the Eagle Gold Mine*, from which this piece is excerpted, can be viewed at vgcx.com.



Dugald MacLachlan (far left), great-grandfather of Victoria Gold Corp. Director Letha J. MacLachlan Q.C., sitting outside the entrance to Dublin Gulch's Olive mine in 1912.

The book is available at Mac's Fireweed and Coles in Whitehorse, Maximillian's Gold Rush Emporium in Dawson City, Bigway Foods in Mayo and via amazon.ca. All proceeds from sales in the Village of Mayo go to benefit *Every Student, Every Day* initiatives to support increased student attendance in the community.



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 part of Victoria's 100-per cent-owned Dublin Gulch Property located approximately 375 kilometres 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 will be a significant contributor to Yukon employing 350 to 400 people.

