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Building Relationships: The Use of Traditional Knowledge in Environmental Assessment

ABSTRACT

Hudbay Minerals Inc. (Hudbay) and consultants AECOM Canada Ltd. (AECOM) have employed Traditional Knowledge Holders to assist with environmental baseline studies during the exploration and permitting stages of mining projects for the past two years. Traditional Knowledge Holders are First Nations and Métis who have experience living and working in the area of environmental study and knowledge of traditional practices in the area surrounding the projects in question.

This session will provide insight into the benefits of engaging Traditional Knowledge Holders early in the environmental assessment and regulatory process for both the proponent, consultant and local communities. The session will also offer "lessons learned" in setting up a program for Traditional Knowledge Holders.

BIOGRAPHY

Irene is a Project Coordinator in the Environment Business Line at AECOM. She graduated from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Biosystems Engineering in 2015 and has worked at AECOM since. Irene is experienced in environmental impact assessment and permitting and community engagement for mining and other projects. Irene is a registered Engineer in Training with Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba.

