



## ***The Mining Association of Canada's Towards Sustainable Mining initiative— an overview***

Ben Chalmers, Senior Vice President,  
Mining Association of Canada  
For “in conversation” session,  
Toronto Metropolitan University's  
Institute for the Study of Corporate  
Social Responsibility,  
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# Towards Sustainable Mining®

## What is Towards Sustainable Mining?



Towards Sustainable Mining™ (TSM) is an award-winning commitment to responsible mining. The program was established in 2004 and its main objective is to enable mining companies to meet society's needs for minerals, metals and energy products in the most socially, economically and environmentally responsible way.



### MINING IS ESSENTIAL

From the metals needed to power our transportation to the materials required to make communication possible, it is impossible to imagine a reality without it.



### THE FUTURE NEEDS MINING

Mining is essential in our transition to a low carbon economy, one that requires mined minerals and metals to be fully realized.



### RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT

It is important that standards be in place to ensure that the process of mining is being managed responsibly, from start to finish.



### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Today, communities expect more from mining companies and the industry expects much more of itself.

- **TSM Program Strengths:**
- Measured at facility-level and externally verified
- Overseen by an independent, multi-interest advisory body
- Encourages excellence and continual improvement
- Recognized by global manufacturers like Apple, Tesla and BMW
- Over 200 companies now actively implementing TSM globally
- 5 national Community-of-Interest panels up and running with more in development

# Why did MAC decide to develop 'Towards Sustainable Mining'?

- Desire to carry momentum from Whitehorse Mining Initiative on Sustainable Development
- Response to increase in tailings failures in late 1990's
- Recognition that our mine sites needed help driving performance on environmental and social issues
- Direction from the MAC board to develop a sustainability initiative
  - Could not be a PR exercise
  - Should derive reputational benefit as a result of effectively and transparently improving practice
  - Needed to be site focused
  - Needed to be informed by Communities-of-Interest



# TSM International



**TSM consists of seven core components:**

1. Guiding Principles
2. Performance Indicators
3. Facility Level Reporting
4. Independent Verification
5. Public Reporting of Facility Level Reporting
6. Condition of Membership
7. Community of Interest Advisory Body

**TSM subscription service allows additional mines anywhere in the world to participate in TSM**

# Network of National Community of Interest Panel

- Each national association implementing TSM is required to establish a COI Panel
- MAC's COI Panel is an independent advisory body comprised of individuals from:
  - Indigenous groups
  - Communities where the mining industry is active
  - Environmental and social NGOs
  - Academia
  - Labour
  - Financial organizations
  - Select members of the Mining Association of Canada's Board of Directors



- **Biannual meetings**
- **Annual reviews of company performance**
- **Critical perspectives on emerging issues**



# TSM Protocols



## Communities & People



## Environmental Stewardship

- Tailings Management
- Biodiversity Conservation Management
- Water Stewardship
- Climate Change
- Indigenous and Community Relationships
- Safety and Health
- Crisis Management and Communications Planning
- Preventing Child and Forced Labour
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Respectful Workplaces (Currently in Development)



# TSM Protocols

## Communities and People

Indigenous and Community Relationships	Crisis Management and Communications Planning	Safety and Health	Prevention of Child and Forced Labour
Community of interest (COI) identification	Crisis management & communications preparedness	Policy, commitment and accountability	Preventing forced labour
Effective COI engagement and dialogue	Review	Planning, implementation and operation	Preventing child labour
Effective Indigenous engagement and dialogue	Training	Training, behavior and culture	
Community impact and benefit management		Monitoring and reporting	
COI response mechanism		Performance	

## Environment and Climate Change

Tailings Management	Biodiversity Conservation Management	Water Stewardship	Climate Change
Tailings management policy and commitment	Biodiversity commitment	Water Governance	Corporate Climate Change Management
Tailings management system	Biodiversity planning & implementation	Operational Water Management	Facility Climate Change Management
Accountability and responsibility for tailings management	Biodiversity conservation reporting	Watershed-Scale Planning	Facility Performance Targets and Reporting
Annual tailings management review		Water Reporting and Performance	
Operation, maintenance and surveillance (OMS) manual			



# Rating System

AAA

Excellence and leadership.

AA

Systems and processes are integrated into management decisions and business functions

A

Good practice. Systems and processes are developed and implemented.

B

Procedures exist but are not fully consistent or documented. Systems and processes are planned and being developed.

C

Does not meet all the criteria for Level B

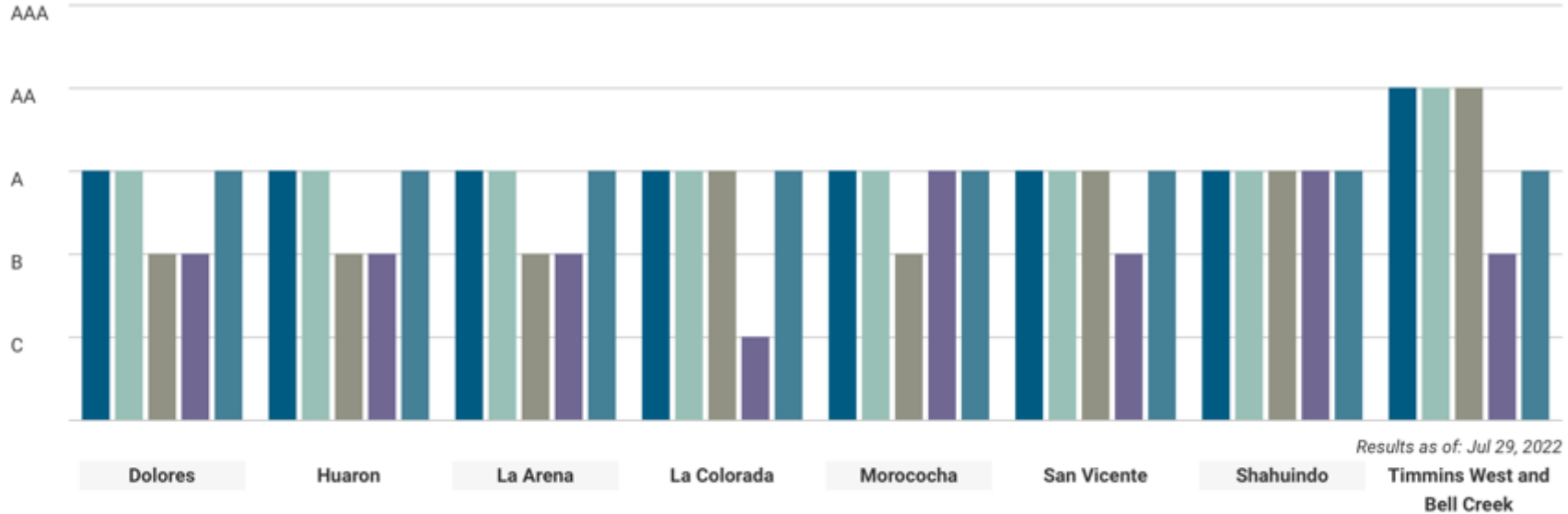


# Facility-Based Public Reporting



## Indigenous and Community Relationships

- Community of Interest Identification
- Effective Community of Interest Engagement and Dialogue
- Effective Indigenous Engagement and Dialogue
- Community Impact and Benefit Management
- Community of Interest Response Mechanism

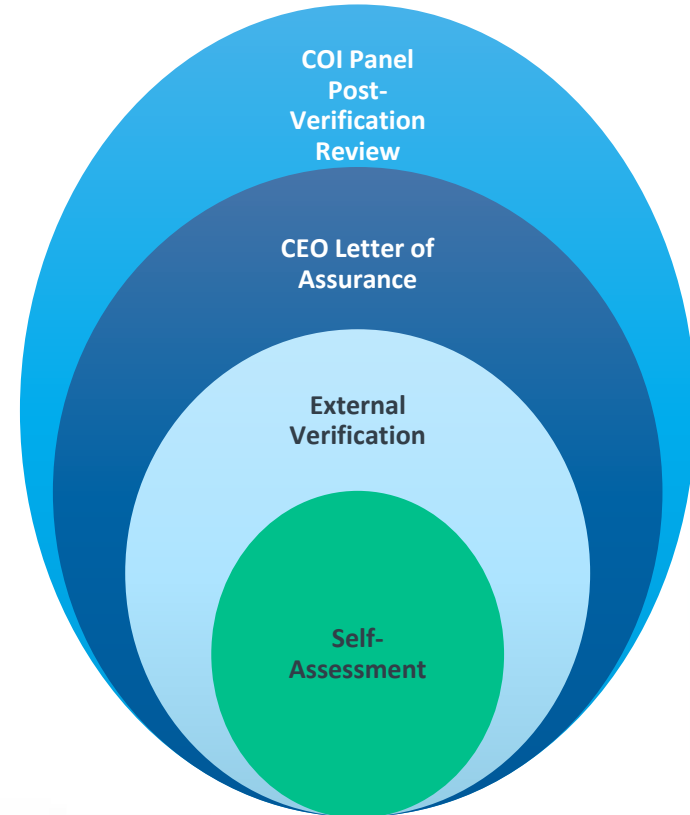


Results as of: Jul 29, 2022



# Verification Process

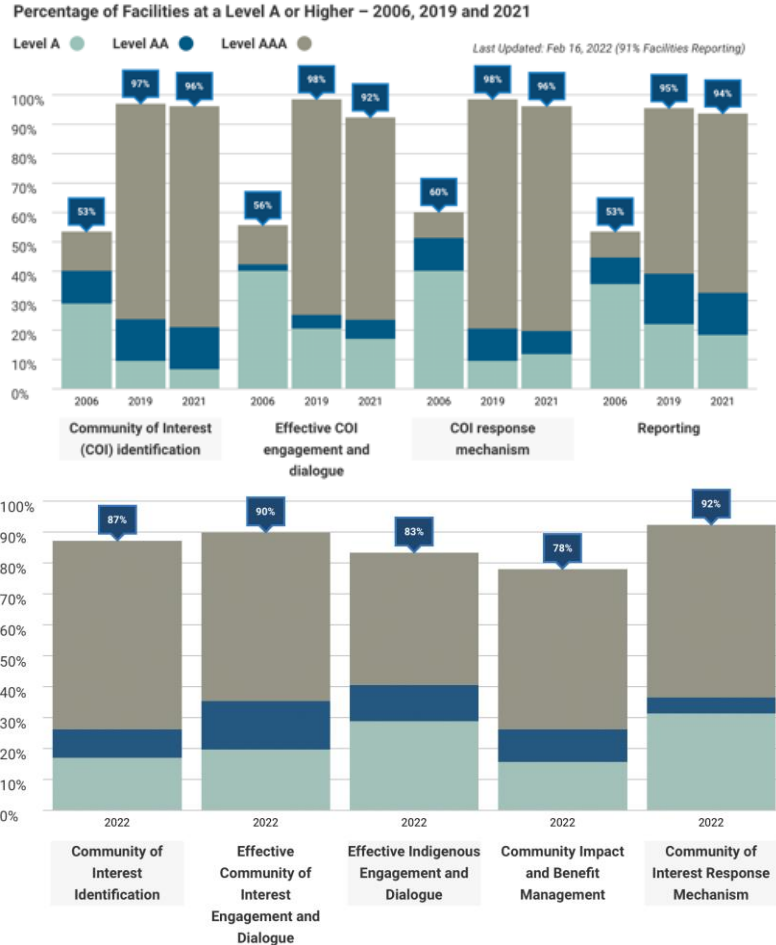
- Annual self-assessments
- External verification of self-assessments by trained verifiers every three years
- Verification reports published as of 2022
- Advanced community notice of verifications and community inclusion
- Letter signed by CEO that the results are externally verified according to requirements
- Potential for selection by the Advisory Panel for a post-verification review



# Continual Improvement

- Improvements in industry performance are measurable and meaningful over time
- Companies commit to demonstrate continual improvement until they achieve good practice

# Indigenous and Community Relationships



# Reporting by TSM Partner Associations

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# Standards Alignment

- The *TSM Responsible Sourcing Alignment Supplement*, allows companies to use their TSM performance, with some additional criteria, to meet the requirements of:
  - International Council on Mining and Metals' Mining Principles
  - International Copper Alliance's Copper Mark
  - World Gold Council's Responsible Gold Mining Principles
  - Responsible Minerals Initiative's Risk Readiness Assessment
  - ResponsibleSteel
- Piloting an Integrated Audit Protocol to streamline audits against multiple standards, beginning with Responsible Jewellery Council and Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA).

