

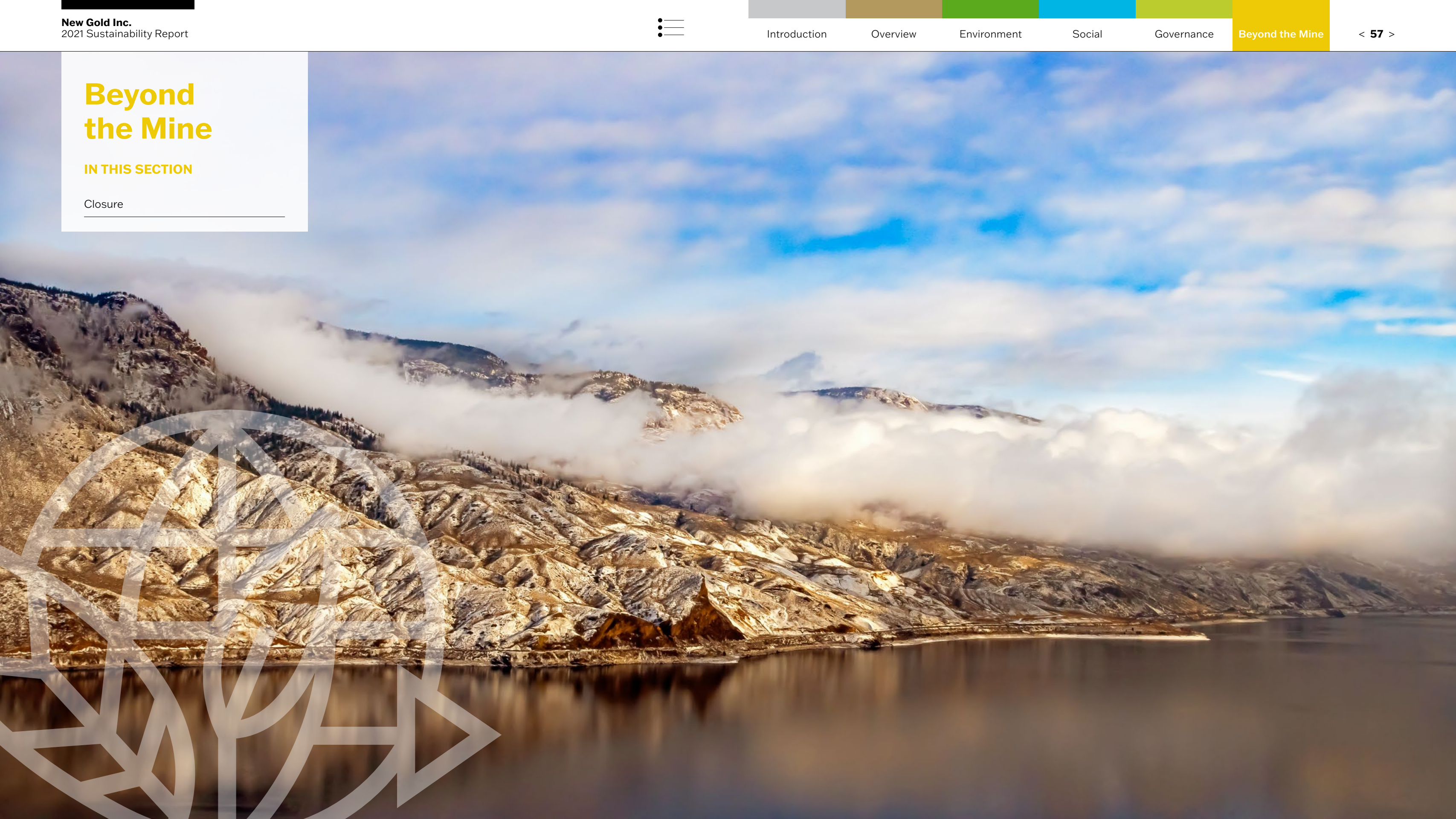


# Beyond the Mine

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## CLOSURE

We remain committed to responsible mine closure at all our sites, looking beyond compliance and finding innovative ways to restore lands to pre-mining conditions and support communities as they plan for long-term economic development through closure.

### Management

Through our materiality assessment, the social aspect of mine closure was a key consideration for our internal stakeholders. Mine closure requirements typically focus on environmental impacts, remediation and land use; however, we see the process of developing closure plans evolving to maintain or improve the well-being and social balance of communities of interest affected by mining operations.

We understand that, although our operations may be finished, the impact of those operations will be felt long after our gates are closed. Since our operations offer significant job opportunities and economic benefits in these areas, understanding and mitigating the impact of closure is of utmost importance.

### Biophysical and Social Closure Plans

As required by regulation and guided by our Core Values, we continue to develop, implement and annually review mine closure plans for each site.

Although our biophysical closure plans have been developed from the beginning of construction, our social closure plans are developed throughout production to ensure they capture the most material opportunities for value creation.

Our plans comply with regulations, promote active reclamation and adequately prepare for transition from operations to closure to consider environmental and social aspects. Further, as a MAC member, we commit to the TSM Mine Closure Framework, which encourages companies to help communities plan for long-term economic development and incorporate community values into reclamation objectives.

### New Afton

New Afton's current life of mine ends in 2030 and, while ongoing exploration could potentially extend the mine life, we recognize that a comprehensive social plan takes time. By collaborating early in the process, New Gold's Beyond New Afton Project aims to minimize the negative impacts on people and communities who are connected to the operation. New Afton's social closure plan is expected to be complete by 2024.

New Afton updated its biophysical closure plan in 2021 to support the next phase of mining with the C-Zone application.

### Rainy River

Rainy River's current life of mine extends to 2031. The site advances the development of the Intrepid underground zone, targeting initial production in the second half of 2022. In 2020, Rainy River

began progressive reclamation on the lower lift of the east mine rock stockpile and continued these efforts in 2021.

The site also reclaimed other areas to recreate local bird habitat as well as hydroseeding. Rainy River developed its scope of work for its social closure plan in 2021 and expects to begin activities in 2022.

### Cerro San Pedro

CSP continues to advance the final phases of the biophysical closure plan while working closely with stakeholders and the local community. In early 2021, CSP supported the restoration of a 18th century church in the town of Cerro de San Pedro—a culturally significant project for New Gold and the community.

### Our Performance

All of our sites have closure plans in place.

Tyne Roberts, Junior Environmental Scientist at New Afton



## CLOSURE CONTINUED

### Initiatives and Stories

#### Beyond New Afton Project

In 2021, New Afton launched the BNA Committee. The BNA Committee was formed to connect with employees and COI groups and collect their input around potential impacts of the anticipated closure in 2030. Membership includes one representative from SSN.

While the current anticipated mine life is 2030, New Gold continues to explore opportunities to extend the mine life. New Afton recognizes that building a comprehensive plan to reduce social impacts takes time, so this early launch will allow the BNA Committee to gather feedback and engage community to help build a plan.

This is a proactive approach and follows New Gold's Core Values, one of which is integrity—do what is right. The BNA Committee is requesting ongoing input in the form of surveys available to employees, COI groups and the public. As of December 31, 2021, 65 percent of New Afton employees answered the survey to indicate concerns and identify future career plans. We also held a roundtable with non-profit organizations in the community who benefit from New Afton's sponsorship and donation program.

"Our Beyond New Afton Project is meant to help minimize the negative impacts of the closure process on people and communities by collaborating early on in the process through sharing their insights and ideas in the Beyond New Afton survey," said Korah De Walt, Indigenous Relations and Community Superintendent.

The Beyond New Afton Project is set to be completed by 2024 to complement the biophysical closure plan.



Employees at CSP

#### CSP Declared "Cyanide-Free Site" Under the International Code for the Management of Cyanide

CSP is the first mine in the world to have completed the decommissioning process of its heap leach facility using cyanide under the International Cyanide Management Institute (ICMI) standard. ICMI announced that New Gold's CSP site has been decommissioned in accordance with the International Cyanide Management Code, and the mine has been removed from the Cyanide Code program.

The Cyanide Code is an international, voluntary industrial program focused on the safe and environmentally responsible handling of cyanide by gold and/or silver producing companies and companies that manufacture, store and transport cyanide.

CSP was initially certified in compliance with the Cyanide Code in June 2014 and was recertified in October 2017. Now closed, the mine has been rigorously audited under the ICMI Verification Protocol by an independent, external auditor. ICMI verified that the site no longer represents any risk; therefore, the Cyanide Code is no longer applicable.

CSP's standing as a cyanide-free site demonstrates its strong commitment to our people, local communities and the environment.

#### Completing Remediation Works in Terrero Patio Victoria

CSP successfully concluded the remediation of a historical mining liabilities project at the Victoria Landfill site. These mining liabilities are a result of the ASARCO Metallurgical Mining Company operations between 1930 and 1950. As part of the Comprehensive, Inclusive and Participatory Mine Closure Plan, CSP undertook the remediation of the site for the benefit of the local community.

The first stage of the remediation began in 2016 and involved transporting mining liabilities to the Integral Controlled Unit cell within the mine facilities and depositing them in layers of different thicknesses.

A multilayer roof system was designed for the embankment area and vegetative cover was added in the low slope area, as well as grass and hydroseeding in the high slope area. To enhance rehabilitation success, plant species from the new site were used.

Through this work, CSP created an environmental conservation area (the slope) and a potential parking lot for the future (the embankment). Throughout the project we avoided the dispersion of soil with high metal content and worked to minimize exposure and risk to people and the environment.

