



Media Release

Fosterville Gold Mine Achieves MATES in Mining Site Accreditation

13 June 2024 – Fosterville Gold Mine operated by Agnico Eagle, Victoria's largest gold mining operation, is proud to announce its recent site accreditation by MATES in Mining. This accreditation recognises Fosterville Gold Mine's commitment to mental health and well-being within the mining industry.

Through dedicated efforts, Fosterville Gold Mine has successfully trained 551 employees in the MATES in Mining programs:

- **ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) Program**
- **Connector Training Program**
- **General Awareness Training (GAT)**

The achievement of this accreditation highlights Agnico Eagle's proactive approach in fostering a mentally healthy workplace and ensuring that its employees have the necessary skills and support to address mental health issues.

Chris Lockwood, National CEO of MATES, commended Agnico Eagle and Fosterville Gold Mine for their dedication and leadership in mental health initiatives within the mining sector. "The accreditation of Fosterville Gold Mine demonstrates a significant commitment to the mental well-being of their workforce. By equipping employees with the skills to support one another, they are setting a standard for the industry. We are proud to partner with them in creating a safer and more supportive working environment," said Lockwood.

The MATES in Mining program is a pivotal initiative aimed at reducing the high rates of suicide and improving mental health among workers in the mining industry. Fosterville Gold Mine's comprehensive training efforts ensure that their workforce is not only aware of mental health issues but also empowered to take action in supporting their colleagues.

This significant achievement has been recognised by local member Lisa Chesters MP, who will be in attendance at the event.

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Fosterville Gold Mine is dedicated to maintaining a workplace where mental health is prioritised, and this accreditation is a testament to their ongoing commitment to their employees' well-being.

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About Fosterville Goldmine

Operated by Agnico Eagle, Fosterville is the largest gold producer in the state of Victoria, Australia. A high-grade, low-cost underground gold mine located 20 km from the city of Bendigo and 130 km north of the city of Melbourne. Known for its commitment to safety, innovation, and community engagement, Fosterville Goldmine strives to operate sustainably while delivering outstanding results.

About MATES in Mining

MATES in Mining is a suicide prevention and mental health charity established in 2012, providing services for the mining industry based off the MATES in Construction model. The program focuses on raising awareness, building capacity, and providing support networks to improve mental health outcomes for workers.

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