

First Mining Gold Corp. - Springpole Gold Project

Socio-Economic Baseline Study Secondary Research Validation and Interview Questions

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the socio-economic research study for the Springpole Gold Project (Project). Your participation will help us validate the information we have found to date and better understand the services currently available in your community. Below is the section of our draft socio-economic baseline report that we are seeking to validate with you. We have also included the interview questions that we will discuss during our meeting on **Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 9:00am (CDT)**.

Information for Validation

In our draft socio-economic baseline report, we noted the following regarding the 2018 Sioux Lookout Official Plan (OP) and the Municipality of Sioux Lookout's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan:

"The Sioux Lookout OP describes the Municipality as the "Hub of the North", noting that it services 29 First Nation communities and their 30,000 community members (Municipality of Sioux Lookout, 2018). The OP notes Sioux Lookout's previous reliance on the resource economy and highlights a diversifying economy that now includes forestry, railroad, tourism, professional sectors, air transportation, retail, bulk fuel supply and delivery, construction and material supply, hotels, restaurants, government services, health care, social services and First Nation's agencies (Municipality of Sioux Lookout, 2018).

The Municipality of Sioux Lookout's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan (2020) outlines five (5) priorities for the municipality with accompanying goals and actions for each of these priorities (Municipality of Sioux Lookout, 2020):

1. Community Innovation and Development

Sioux Lookout is committed to promoting growth and improving the quality of life for residents. Goals include providing adequate housing and infrastructure to accommodate population growth, proactive and collaborative planning initiatives and the overall goal of strengthening Sioux Lookout's position as the "Hub of the North".

2. Community Wellness

Sioux Lookout has made community health and wellness a priority. Goals include enhancing natural resources to encourage physical activity, investing in community recreation events and programs, providing services to community members who need assistance and ensuring that the community is a safe place to live.

3. Regional Collaboration

Sioux Lookout has made regional collaboration a priority. Goals include using existing assets to strengthen relationships, collaborating with First Nations and working with regional groups to promote mutually shared interests and economic development.

4. Community Engagement

Sioux Lookout wishes to improve community engagement in Municipal affairs. Goals include the transparent sharing of information regarding municipal initiatives, encouraging input from the public and local organizations, proactively reaching out to stakeholders to understand their interests and needs and encouraging and recognizing volunteerism.

5. Operational Excellence

Sioux Lookout has made operational excellence a priority including sound fiscal management and open communication. Goals include supporting staff to do efficient work, providing great customer service, transparent governance and environmental stewardship.”

In addition, we are seeking to validate the information regarding goods and services available in Sioux Lookout that pertain to the Project. This list below was developed using the business directory on the Sioux Lookout Chamber of Commerce website.

Municipality of Sioux Lookout, Project Related Businesses and Service Providers

Category	Business Name
Accommodations	8
Automotive	5
Communications	4
Community Services	5
Construction	1
Education	2
Government Services	2
Information Technology	1
Medical	4
Oil and Gas	1
Transportation	1

Source: (Sioux Lookout Chamber of Commerce, 2021).

Interview Questions

1. Are there economic development plans for Sioux Lookout?
2. Are there any plans to increase housing or plan for new housing developments in Sioux Lookout?
3. What are the municipality’s main economic development priorities?
4. In what ways can First Mining Gold open economic opportunities in Sioux Lookout (employment, procurement, etc.)?
5. As noted above, we calculated the number of businesses operating in areas related to the Project (i.e., construction, transportation etc.) based on information found through the Sioux Lookout Chamber of Commerce. Has this list been updated since February 2021?
6. Who are the major employers in Sioux Lookout?
7. What are the training needs of women, youth and men who would like to enter / re-enter the workforce?

8. What is the greatest challenge facing women, youth and men who want to enter / re-enter the workforce in Sioux Lookout? Why is this a challenge and how has this changed over time?
9. Does Sioux Lookout offer any supports or employment readiness programs for community members and nearby First Nations?
10. What are the potential studies or reports that have been produced in the last 10 years related to economic development in your community?
11. What do you think are the most serious issues currently facing the community? What has caused them? How can they best be addressed?
12. What kind of opportunities do you think will become available because of the Project (i.e., employment opportunities, educational opportunities, new infrastructure, etc.)?
13. What effect(s) (positive or negative) do you think the Springpole Gold Project will have on economic development in Sioux Lookout?
14. Is there anyone you think we should speak with if we have the opportunity?