

HISTORY

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RETURN TO EAGLE

This past July, Lowell Bleiler and Frank Taylor – along with Frank’s son Troy – toured Victoria Gold’s Eagle Gold Mine enjoying in Bleiler’s words, “a trip down memory lane” encompassing their family’s near-century-long relationship with gold mining at Dublin Gulch.

“I was blown away at the size of the operation,” continues Lowell. “Andrew Ballance, our tour guide, provided a thorough review of all the mine processes. He is to be commended for his knowledge of the site. Hopefully we enriched his knowledge of the history of the area in which he works. As the mine’s advocate for many years, you (John McConnell, Victoria Gold President & CEO) should be personally commended.”

Bleiler’s uncle Theodore “Ted” was a schoolteacher from Alberta who began teaching at Keno City’s school in 1929; taking the summers to work and prospect claims overlooking Dublin Gulch. In 1932, he gave up teaching and turned to mining and eventually ended up as sole owner of the Dublin Gulch claims.

Meanwhile Fred Taylor – Frank’s father and Troy’s grandfather – heard there were jobs mining silver at Elsa and Keno City so in the Spring of 1936, he caught a freighter to Skagway, took the train from Skagway to Carcross and walked to Mayo to “save a few dollars.” In 1937, Fred heard of Ted and his placer mine on Dublin Gulch so hiked to Haggert Creek, where he was offered work. Ted subsequently turned the Dublin Gulch property over to Fred, who continued to mine it for more than 30 years.

As Fred’s sons (Frank and Jim) grew up, they joined him in his mining work and Frank began his own placer mining operation on Duncan Creek in the 1970s. Son Troy continues the family tradition today in the Mayo Mining District.

For more than a hundred years, Dublin Gulch has seen continuous activity. First worked by hand and followed by increasingly large-scale and sophisticated technologies, and the area continues to be a steady producer.

According to Yukon historian Michael Gates, author of *Dublin Gulch: A History of the Eagle Gold Mine*, “from the earliest days of mineral exploration in the Yukon, prospectors have had visions of finding the next great mine. (In 2007) Victoria Gold entered the scene at Dublin Gulch and a mine (Eagle Gold Mine) was about to be born.”

To learn more about the Bleiler and Taylor family histories at Dublin Gulch and Victoria Gold’s journey to develop and operate the Eagle Gold Mine, you can find Michael Gate’s book *Dublin Gulch: A History of the Eagle Gold Mine* at Yukon bookstores or on amazon.ca



Lowell Bleiler and Frank Taylor, pictured here at the Eagle Gold Mine Heap Leach Facility, during their visit to Dublin Gulch on July 12, 2022.



Frank and Jim Taylor and Lowell Bleiler practicing their skills as placer miners at Dublin Gulch in 1954.

VICTORIA GOLD IS PROUD TO HAVE YUKONERS AT WORK

IF YOU ARE A YUKONER WITH MINING EXPERIENCE, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONNECT WITH US.

Victoria is currently hiring tradespeople, equipment operators, process/crusher operators and other positions to work at the Eagle Gold Mine. Visit the “Work For Us” page on our website at vgcx.com/contact/work-for-us/ and send your resume to greatpeoplework@vgcx.com.

ABOUT VICTORIA GOLD & THE EAGLE GOLD MINE

The Eagle Gold Mine is situated within Victoria Gold’s 100 per cent-owned Dublin Gulch Property located approximately 375 kilometres north of Whitehorse and 85 kilometres north, northeast of the Village of Mayo within the traditional territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun. The property is accessible by road year-round and is connected to Yukon Energy Corp’s electrical grid. The mine is a significant contributor to the Yukon economy employing 350-400 people.

