

## CONTENT GUIDE FOR EOSC118

### Queens of Diamonds Video

A Telefilm Canada Documentary

Produced by Erin Mussolum and Michelle Welygan

### Stornoway Diamond Corporation website

<http://www.stornowaydiamonds.com/>

This 47-minute documentary follows the dramatic adventures of two women and their high-stakes quest to develop Canada's next diamond mine in Nunavut. We follow them from their offices in Vancouver to the corporate boardrooms of North America and finally to the trenches of Canada's far north. By journey's end they will either be crowned the new "Queens of Diamonds" or they will be forced to start back at square one.

The Stornoway corporate website provides more information on diamond exploration and development.

**Consider the following questions while you watch the video. The questions are grouped to address each 10-minute segment of the documentary.**

#### 00:00-10:00

1. What did Eira Thomas discover in the mid 1990s? **Diavik Mine - Melville Peninsula - a major mine.**
2. Where are they looking for diamonds now? **North of Canada**
3. What forensic clues do they look for when searching for a diamond mine? **other gems and minerals that will show potential diamonds**
4. Why was it difficult for geologists when Eira Thomas graduated from University? **no jobs** - metal price fluctuations  
- idea of it being bad luck for women to be in mines; slumping prices
5. What company was undertaking secret exploration for diamonds in northern Canada? **De Beers**

#### 10:00-20:00

6. What did John Gurney discover and research? **-1970s**  
**- flawed diamonds had G10 granites**  
**- G10 were signs of potential diamonds**
7. What basic fact did DeBeers overlook in their search for diamonds? **glaciers pushed geology around**
8. What notable character risked all in his search for diamonds in the north? **Chuck Fipke**
9. Who discovered Canada's *first* diamond mine? **Chuck Fipke - Ekati Mine**

#### 20:00-30:00

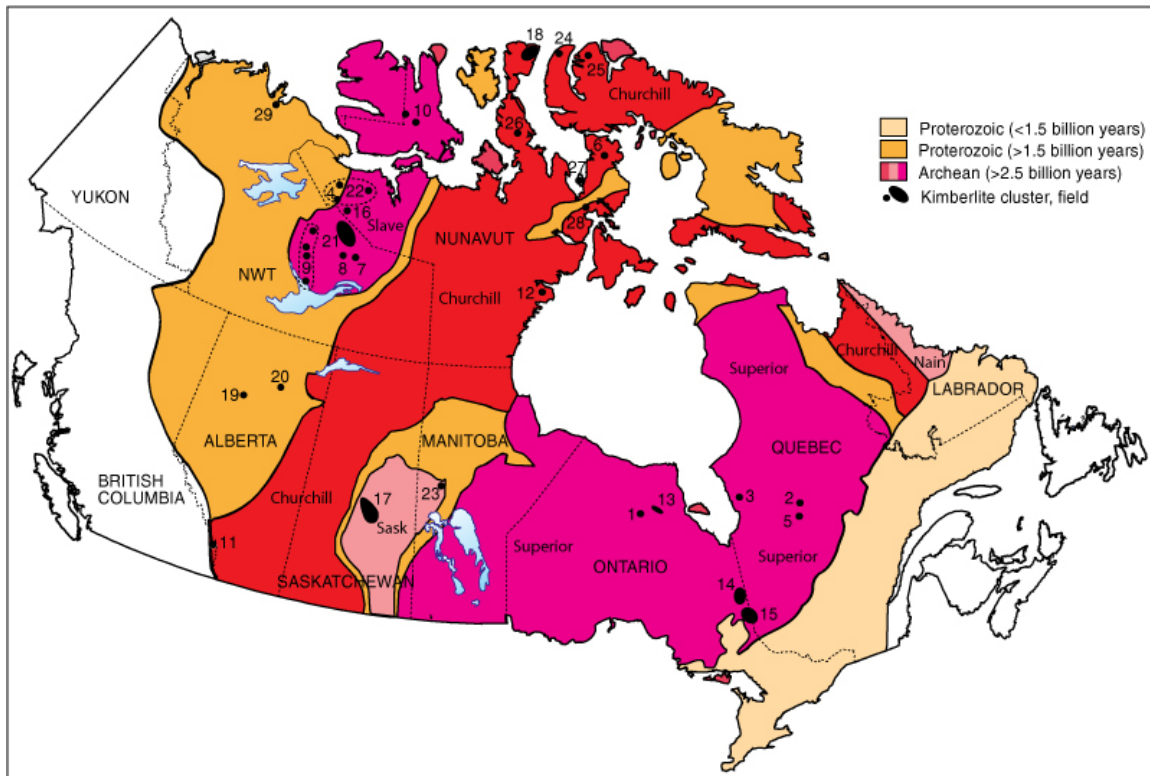
10. Eira Thomas demanded a redrilling of a specific hole, what was discovered? **Softer kimberlite - diamonds**
11. What is special about Pipe A154-South? **- became Diavik mines - richest diamond mine  
- great quality**
12. How many dollars are pulled from the ground each day at Diavik?  
**a million**
13. What percentage of the jobs at Diavik are given to the local aboriginal population? **40%**
14. Where are Canadian diamonds sent after being mined? **Antwerp, Belgium**
15. What sizes of diamonds are faceted in the north? **bigger ones? (i'm not sure)**

30:00-40:00

16. Why were companies lining up at the Mining Office for many days in late November? **to get mining/searching permits**
17. How much exploration land does Stornaway Diamonds control in Nunavut? **23 million acres**
18. What is one of the main purposes of the big trade show in Toronto (PDAC)? **to tell a story, to get money/funding**
19. Why would the retailer Tiffany & Co. invest in a mineral exploration company? **first dibs on the best diamonds for products**
20. Why do Canadian diamonds have a certain 'pedigree'?  
**Canada has lots of mines, best diamonds of great quality**

40:00-47:00

21. What did they find up in Melville Peninsula?  
**- promising data for potential mines**
22. DeBeers has a share of an up and coming diamond mine in Canada, which one? **Snap Lake Mine**
23. Will Eira Thomas and Catherine McLeod-Seltzer stop after finding the next big diamond pipe?  
**Nope... "Never"**



Diamond Pipes in Canada as of 2008. Figure courtesy of the Geological Survey Canada

**Use the Stornaway website to answer these follow-up questions:**

24. On Stornaway Diamonds Website which diamond exploration project is the most advanced, and in what province/territory is it located?

"Qilalugaq" -  
Repulse Bay, Nunavut

25. What is the name of their exploration project on the Melville Peninsula?

Aviat Project

26. What stage is it at, "Development Track", "Advanced Stage", or "Grassroots"?

Advanced Stage

27. If Stornaway Diamonds already has a "Development Track" exploration project, why would they be investing time and money into the less mature 'advanced stage' and 'grassroots' levels?

They could be investing time and money to see if they can hit the jack pot with creating more mines and then partnerships with jewellers.