

Yukon Territory, Canada
Gold Commissioner's Office
Document Date: June 20, 1897

Annual Report: 1896-1897

Executive Summary:

In our 1896-1897 report, we present a comprehensive overview of the Yukon Territory's goldfields and settlements. The year witnessed unprecedented growth, with the population of Dawson City expanding to 30,589 by the end of the season. We highlight the administration's efforts in enforcing mining regulations, resolving disputes, and collecting revenue through fees and royalties. This report provides a detailed analysis of the technical specifications and economic conditions of the region.

I. Claim Registrations and Transfers

During the 1896-1897 season, a total of 4,812 claims were registered in the Yukon Territory. This represents a 24.5% increase from the previous season. The majority of claims (2,514) were staked in the Bonanza Creek area, with the remaining 2,298 located in the Eldorado Creek and Hunker Creek areas. Claim transfers increased by 15.6%, with 1,025 claims changed hands during the season.

II. Mining Regulations and Enforcement

In 1896-1897, the Gold Commissioner's Office received 1,456 applications for claim staking. Of these, 1,245 were approved, while 211 were denied due to non-compliance with regulations. The most common infractions included failure to post corner markers (43.5%), inadequate representation work (28.3%), and failure to pay fees (15.2%). A total of 456 disputes were brought before the Gold Commissioner's Office, with 272 resolved through mediation and 184 requiring court intervention.

III. Revenue Collection

The 1896-1897 season saw a significant increase in revenue collection, with a total of \$234,120 collected in fees and royalties. This represents a 31.4% increase from the previous season. The majority of revenue (61.5%) came from gold royalties, while 26.2% was generated from claim staking fees. The remaining 12.3% came from other sources, including permit fees and mining licenses.

IV. Infrastructure Developments

In 1896-1897, significant progress was made in infrastructure development, including the construction of 22 miles of new roadways and the extension of the telegraph line by 30 miles. The Dawson City Electric Light and Power Company completed the installation of 300 streetlights, providing much-needed illumination to the growing city.

V. Economic Analysis

Our analysis of the 1896-1897 season reveals a thriving economy, with a significant increase in mining activity and revenue collection. The average price of gold in 1896-1897 was \$16.75 per ounce, with a total of 23,456 ounces produced during the season. We attribute the growth in mining activity to the increasing number of claims and the improving infrastructure.

VI. Demographics

The 1896-1897 season saw a significant increase in population, with 30,589 residents in Dawson City by the end of the season. The majority of residents (65.2%) were male, while 34.8% were female. The average age of residents was 32.5 years, with 55.1% of residents born in the United States and 21.5% born in Canada.

VII. Recommendations

Based on our analysis, we recommend the following:

- 1. Increase the number of Gold Commissioner's Office staff to 10 to better handle the increasing workload.
- 2. Implement stricter enforcement of mining regulations to prevent further disputes and ensure fair play among claimants.
- 3. Expand the infrastructure development program to include the construction of additional roadways and the extension of the telegraph line.
- 4. Conduct a comprehensive review of the mining regulations to ensure they are fair and effective.

Conclusion:

The 1896-1897 season was a remarkable year for the Yukon Territory, with significant growth in mining activity, revenue collection, and population. Our report provides a detailed analysis of the technical specifications and economic conditions of the region, highlighting areas for improvement and providing recommendations for future development. We look forward to continuing our efforts to promote the growth and prosperity of the Yukon Territory.

Appendices:

A. Claim Registration Statistics

| Claim Type | Number of Claims |
|---------------|------------------|
| Bonanza Creek | 2,514 |

| Claim Type | Number of Claims |
|----------------|------------------|
| Eldorado Creek | 1,045 |
| Hunker Creek | 739 |
| Total | 4,298 |

B. Mining Regulation Enforcement Statistics

| Infraction | Number of Occurrences |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Failure to post corner markers | 211 |
| Inadequate representation work | 145 |
| Failure to pay fees | 75 |
| Total | 431 |

C. Revenue Collection Statistics

| Revenue Source | Amount Collected |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Gold royalties | \$144,320 |
| Claim staking fees | \$62,800 |
| Permit fees and mining licenses | \$27,000 |
| Total | \$234,120 |

D. Infrastructure Development Statistics

| Infrastructure Type | Length/Mileage |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| New roadways | 22 miles |
| Telegraph line extension | 30 miles |

| Infrastructure Type | Length/Mileage |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Streetlights | 300 |

E. Economic Analysis Tables

| Economic Indicator | Value |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Average price of gold | \$16.75 per ounce |
| Total gold production | 23,456 ounces |
| Revenue collection | \$234,120 |

F. Demographic Statistics

| Demographic Indicator | Value |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Population | 30,589 |
| Male residents | 20,012 |
| Female residents | 10,577 |
| Average age | 32.5 years |

G. Recommendations

1. Increase the number of Gold Commissioner's Office staff to 10.
2. Implement stricter enforcement of mining regulations.
3. Expand the infrastructure development program.
4. Conduct a comprehensive review of the mining regulations.

Document Certification:

This report has been certified by the Gold Commissioner's Office as a true and accurate representation of the 1896-1897 season in the Yukon Territory.

Signature:

William Ogilvie, Gold Commissioner

Date: June 20, 1897