

Gold Commissioner's Annual Report for the Year 1902

Document Date: 2023-08-09

Geographic Location: Dawson City

Event Year: 1902

Settlement Type: Native Village

Population Estimate: 13,384

Introduction

As the appointed Gold Commissioner, it is my duty to submit this annual report, providing an authoritative overview of the administration and development of the goldfields and settlements within the Yukon Territory. This report is a comparative analysis of the data collected throughout the year, highlighting the unique features and differences of our region. The year 1902 saw significant developments in the goldfields, with a focus on the Native Village settlements.

Claim Registrations and Transfers

In 1902, a total of 3,421 new claims were registered, with 2,501 of these being staked in the Native Village area. This represents a 15% increase from the previous year. The most active mining areas were the Eldorado Creek and Bonanza Creek regions, with 1,234 and 934 claims respectively. Notably, the number of claims registered in the Native Village area increased by 20% compared to the previous year, indicating a growing interest in this region.

Summaries of Legal Disputes and Resolutions

The year 1902 saw a significant increase in legal disputes, with 234 cases filed in the Gold Commissioner's Office. The most common disputes were related to claim boundaries and ownership. A notable case was the dispute between the Big Alex McDonald Mining Syndicate and the Treadgold Concession, which was resolved through mediation. The Gold Commissioner's Office worked closely with the NWMP to enforce mining regulations and resolve disputes in a fair and efficient manner.

Enforcement of Mining Regulations

The Dominion Mining Regulations (1898) continue to be enforced, with a focus on standardizing claim dimensions and ensuring compliance with annual representation work. The Gold Commissioner's Office conducted regular inspections to ensure that miners were adhering to these regulations. A notable achievement was the implementation of a system for tracking claim ownership and boundaries, reducing the number of disputes and improving efficiency.

Official Population Counts and Demographics

The population of Dawson City increased by 10% in 1902, reaching a total of 13,384. The breakdown of the population is as follows: 8,211 miners, 3,111 merchants and traders, 1,542 service sector workers, and 420 administrative personnel. The Native Village area saw a population increase of 15%, with 2,501 residents.

Revenue Collected through Fees and Royalties

The Gold Commissioner's Office collected a total of \$1,234,567 in fees and royalties, representing a 10% increase from the previous year. The majority of this revenue came from gold royalties, with \$934,567 collected. The revenue from fees and royalties is used to fund the administration of the goldfields and settlements.

Infrastructure Developments

The year 1902 saw significant infrastructure developments, including the construction of a new telegraph line connecting Dawson City to the Outside world. The White Pass & Yukon Route Railway continued to expand, with the completion of a new section of track connecting Dawson City to the Yukon River. The Dawson City Waterworks was improved, providing clean water to the residents of the city.

Commissioner's Observations

In conclusion, the year 1902 was a significant year for the goldfields and settlements within the Yukon Territory. The Native Village area saw a significant increase in mining activity and population growth. The Gold Commissioner's Office worked closely with the NWMP to enforce mining regulations and resolve disputes in a fair and efficient manner. The infrastructure developments continued to improve the quality of life for residents and miners alike.

Comparative Analysis

A comparison of the data collected in 1902 with that of previous years reveals several notable trends. The increase in mining activity in the Native Village area is a significant development, indicating a growing interest in this region. The increase in population and revenue collected through fees and royalties is also notable, reflecting the growing economic activity in the region.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Gold Commissioner's Annual Report for 1902 provides a comprehensive overview of the administration and development of the goldfields and settlements within the Yukon Territory. The data collected throughout the year highlights the unique features and differences of our region, providing valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders.

Recommendations

Based on the data collected in 1902, I recommend the following:

1. Continue to enforce the Dominion Mining Regulations and ensure compliance with annual representation work.
2. Improve the infrastructure in the Native Village area to support the growing mining activity and population.
3. Increase the number of inspections to ensure compliance with mining regulations and reduce the number of disputes.
4. Develop a system for tracking claim ownership and boundaries to improve efficiency and reduce disputes.

I hope this report provides valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders, and I look forward to continuing to serve as Gold Commissioner in the coming year.

Appendix

The following tables and figures provide additional data and analysis:

Table 1: Claim Registrations by Area

Area	Number of Claims
Native Village	2,501
Eldorado Creek	1,234
Bonanza Creek	934
Other	752

Figure 1: Population Growth in Dawson City

Year	Population
1901	12,214
1902	13,384
1903	14,554

Table 2: Revenue Collected through Fees and Royalties

Type of Revenue	Amount
Gold Royalties	\$934,567
Fees	\$300,000
Total	\$1,234,567

Figure 2: Infrastructure Developments

Project	Completion Date
Telegraph Line	June 1902
White Pass & Yukon Route Railway	August 1902
Dawson City Waterworks	September 1902