

**OFFICE OF THE GOLD COMMISSIONER
WHITE PASS, YUKON TERRITORY
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1902**

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PREAMBLE

As the appointed Gold Commissioner for the White Pass region, I am pleased to present this annual report, detailing the progress, challenges, and developments of the past year. The White Pass, a critical gateway to the Klondike goldfields, has witnessed significant growth, with the population reaching an estimated 32,624 by the end of 1902. This report aims to provide an authoritative overview of the administration and development of the goldfields and settlements, adhering to the strictest standards of technical detail and analytical rigor.

CLAIM REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS

During the year 1902, a total of 4,512 new claims were registered, representing a 12.5% increase from the previous year. The majority of these claims (2,501) were staked on the Bonanza and Eldorado creeks, while 1,011 claims were registered on the White Pass and Chilkoot Pass routes. A total of 1,100 claims were transferred, with 532 claims being sold to new owners and 568 being consolidated under corporate operations.

SUMMARIES OF LEGAL DISPUTES AND THEIR RESOLUTIONS

The Gold Commissioner's Office handled a total of 247 legal disputes, including 135 mining claim disputes, 62 land ownership disputes, and 50 disputes related to mining regulations. A notable increase in claims disputes was observed, with a 22% rise from the previous year. The Commissioner's Office resolved 95% of these disputes, with 14% being resolved through arbitration and 81% through mediation.

ENFORCEMENT OF MINING REGULATIONS

During the year 1902, a total of 1,200 mining regulations were enforced, including 542 regulations related to claim staking, 341 regulations related to mining methods, and 317 regulations related to environmental impact. The Commissioner's Office issued 150 fines and penalties, totaling \$10,500, for non-compliance with mining regulations.

OFFICIAL POPULATION COUNTS AND DEMOGRAPHICS

The estimated population of the White Pass region reached 32,624 by the end of 1902, with a breakdown of 23,101 males and 9,523 females. The population density was calculated at 2.5 people

per square mile. The most significant increases were observed in the journalist and steamboat captain communities, with 22% and 18% increases, respectively.

REVENUE COLLECTED THROUGH FEES AND ROYALTIES

A total of \$250,000 was collected in fees and royalties, representing a 15% increase from the previous year. The majority of this revenue (62%) was derived from gold royalties, while 21% came from claim registration fees, and 17% came from mining regulations enforcement.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The White Pass and Yukon Route Railway completed a 14-mile extension to the White Pass, improving access to the goldfields and reducing travel time to 4 hours. The telegraph line was extended by 12 miles, enabling faster communication between the White Pass and Outside.

COMMISSIONER'S OBSERVATIONS

The White Pass region has experienced significant growth and development during the past year, with the population increasing by 22%. However, concerns remain regarding the environmental impact of mining activities, particularly on the Chilkoot Pass route. The Commissioner's Office will continue to monitor this issue and implement measures to mitigate its effects. Furthermore, the rise in claims disputes highlights the need for improved dispute resolution mechanisms and enhanced education programs for miners.

CONCLUSION

This annual report provides a comprehensive overview of the administration and development of the White Pass region during 1902. The data and analysis presented demonstrate the significant progress made in the region, while also highlighting areas of concern that require attention from the Commissioner's Office and other stakeholders. As we look to the future, it is essential that we continue to prioritize responsible mining practices, environmental stewardship, and effective dispute resolution mechanisms to ensure the long-term sustainability of the White Pass region.

APPENDIX

The following appendices provide additional technical details and data related to the report:

- Appendix A: Claim registration statistics by creek and route
- Appendix B: Legal dispute resolution statistics by category
- Appendix C: Mining regulations enforcement statistics by type
- Appendix D: Population demographics by occupation and sex
- Appendix E: Revenue collected by source and year

- Appendix F: Infrastructure development statistics by type and year

FINAL NOTE

This report is a testament to the dedication and expertise of the Gold Commissioner's Office in ensuring the responsible development of the White Pass region. I would like to extend my gratitude to the staff, stakeholders, and community members who contributed to this report.