

PAIAM HOSPITAL OPENING HERALDS NEW ERA FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN PORGERA

24 SEPTEMBER, 2019

Port Moresby: Barrick (Niugini) Limited, the majority owner and operator of the Porgera Mine in Papua New Guinea, has hailed the opening of the Paiam General Hospital in the Porgera Valley as a demonstration of government and industry working together to benefit the community.

Visiting the hospital ahead of today's opening, Barrick Gold Corporation group sustainability executive Grant Beringer said that it would deliver high-quality health care to the Porgeran community.

"The Porgera Mine has a long record of supporting the health sector and has provided funding and infrastructure necessary to develop health services in Porgera and Enga Province throughout the life of the mine," Beringer said.

"This year our company provided direct assistance to the Enga Provincial Health Authority totalling more than K2.25 million to support the refurbishment and re-opening of the Paiam Hospital and with that support, this essential facility will be able to provide life-saving health services to the people of the Porgera Valley, in line with Barrick's commitment to its host communities."

Beringer said it was heartening to witness the commitment and dedication from both the Porgera Mine team and the Enga Provincial Health Authority over the past few months to restore health services for the people of Porgera.

"With the re-opening of the hospital today, these combined efforts are a true demonstration of government and industry collaborating for the betterment of society," he said.

"The care and expertise of the doctors, nurses and medical technicians that staff the hospital are essential to the well-being of Porgerans, and I commend the work undertaken by Enga Province health authorities in stepping up to take over the management and operation of the hospital.

"As a major investor in Papua New Guinea, we are proud to be working in partnership with the Enga Provincial Government and the Paiam Hospital management to ensure the hospital can continue to provide quality health services to Porgerans into the future," said Beringer.

Porgera Gold Mine – Part of the Community



Nursing Officer Miriam Peara Kikil treating a toddler in the company of his mother



Paiam Hospital Chief Executive Officer Dr Solomon Kalit in (near the gate in green shirt), Porgera Joint Venture Senior Manager Community and Social Responsibilities Timothy Andambo (grey cap), and hospital staff welcome the first group of community members who walked into the hospital gates to seek treatment.



Barrick Gold Corporation group sustainability executive Grant Beringer (front, left in PPE), shakes hands with Paiam Hospital Chief Executive Officer Dr Solomon Kalit (right) to signal the opening of the hospital.

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