

Porgera Mine Supports Local Health Services Through Ambulance Donation

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – SUNDAY 28 JUNE, 2020 – Barrick (Niugini) Limited (BNL) has delivered on an earlier commitment to continue its support to the Porgera – Lagaip district health services.

On Friday 26 June 2020 at the Porgera mine site, senior mine representative David Lilley presented the keys of a brand new ambulance to representative of the Porgera-Lagaip district health services and Manager of the Porgera Urban Clinic (PUC), Jerry Maku.

The ambulance valued at approximately K300, 000 was delivered with fitted out emergency medical equipment that will help in transporting patients and people requiring medical assistance within the region.

With limited government health services reaching the outer remote centers within the district, it is intended that the ambulance will service the areas of Hewa, Paiela, Porgera , Mt Kare and Laigam.

“Health services are critical to community well-being and we are pleased to donate this ambulance in the knowledge that it will provide emergency assistance and medical transport to people living in our local communities.

“Despite the uncertain circumstances that we find ourselves in at the Porgera mine, we are pleased to make good on our commitment earlier this year to donate this ambulance to assist public health services in the region.

“Combined with our significant support for the recent re-opening of the Paiam District Hospital, this ambulance donation will go a long way towards ensuring that local health services can provide quality health care and medical treatment for those in need – something we should all support,” Mr Lilley said.

Prior to taking delivery of the new ambulance, Mr Maku who has managed the health services in Porgera for over two decades, acknowledged BNL for its huge support to district health services over the years.

He said Porgera district health services has been privileged to get the kind of support it has been receiving over the years from BNL and the Porgera Joint Venture, the recent being the donation of household items in February this year totaling over K17,500 to the Porgera Urban Clinic to boost patient care.

“I am proud and very happy that you have recognized the efforts of the district health services again with a new ambulance even under these uncertain circumstances with the future of the mine.

“We have always appreciated the very good working relations we have had with BNL over the many years and we acknowledge the huge support that we have received,” Mr Maku said.

A senior community representative and member of the District Covid-19 Task Force Team, Sam Angai who also witnessed the ambulance presentation expressed that with concerns around the growing number in confirmed Covid-19 cases in the country, the vehicle will also assist greatly in their ongoing efforts to raise awareness on Covid-19 throughout the district.

>ENDS<

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Porgera mine is a joint venture between Barrick and the Zijin Mining Group, which each owns 47.5%, with the remaining 5% interest held by Mineral Resources Enga (owned equally by Porgera Special Mining Lease landowners and the Enga Provincial Government). The mine is operated by Barrick Niugini Limited (“BNL”).

Porgera Gold Mine – Part of the Community



Mr Lilley (first from left) addressing the handover presentation at the Porgera mine site. Mr Maku is first from the right.



The new ambulance donated by BNL



Mr Maku seated in the driver's seat of the new ambulance.



The medically fitted out cabin of the new ambulance.

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