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PRESS RELEASE

More national trainers at Porgera Mine

PORT MORESBY, 29 JULY 2019, 1400HRS: A first of its kind, as a graduate of Porgera Joint Venture's (PJV) local recruitment vehicle, the *Job Ready Program* (JRP) has successfully graduated with the National Certificate 2 (NC2) in Instructing and National Certificate (NC3) in Training and Assessment.

Wendy Solomon, who is currently an operator with the PJV Maintenance Site Services Department, is from Kulapi village, within the Special Mining Lease (SML) area.

The certification enables her to now be a trainer in her department as Officer – Training and Assessment.

Ms Solomon was a member of the fifth batch of JRP intakes who joined the program in 2017. The first group of JRP trainees graduated in April 2016 when the program began.

"As one of the JRP among the experienced team in training, I am privileged, and I feel that I have moved a level up in my career," a very appreciative Ms Solomon said as she thanked everyone that was involved in making her attendance a success, including her Site Services Department.

"As a local Porgeran, I want to set an example and be a role model to my upcoming young ones, that if I can do it, they can do it too."

To date, there are 143 trainers on the register of the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV), made up of both PJV employees and contractors.

And according to PJV Employee Development Manager Xavier Jetson, each trainer is responsible for the training and competency level assessment of at least 30 people at the Porgera Mine and other operational sites.

"You have a responsibility to the company...we need to make sure that we are improving the quality and the skills of our workforce here at Porgera, because that's what makes us better.

"We have a responsibility to safety. So, when we sign up somebody as competent, we got to have the confidence in ourselves, the systems...that they meet the minimum requirement under the assessment process.

"We can do all the training in the world but if we don't assess against the minimum criteria we can't have the confidence that when we sign them off as competent, that they can complete the job safely," Mr Jetson told some of the graduating group on 28 April as they received their certificates at the Porgera mine.

Another first-of-its-kind event to note, was a maiden award since PJV started engaging the services of IEA College of TAFE – Papua New Guinea, to conduct the NC2/NC3 training on site.

Community Land Access Agreements Superintendent Luitha William was awarded the best performing individual in both categories.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited (“BNL”)– through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 3,300 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG’s total annual exports.



Ms Solomon (front, second from right) with colleague participants and PJV Employee Development staff after receiving their NC2 and NC3 certificates in Training and Assessment.

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