

Christmas cheer as Porgera Mine employees visit patients at the Paiam Hospital

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – SUNDAY 05 JANUARY, 2020: Christmas is a time of sharing and happiness, so to extend the spirit of Christmas, some employees from the Porgera Mine, in Enga Province, visited the Paiam Hospital on Christmas Day.

An initiative of the employees to share in gifts and singing of the Christmas carols with patients, over 20 employees took time out to be at the hospital.

Barrick (Niugini) Limited (“BNL”) operates the Porgera Mine on behalf of the joint venture partners.

As is a work culture on projects sites within the extractive industry, many employees of the Mine were at work during the festive period, away from their loved ones, so the visit to the hospital was fitting.

The visit started at the General Ward and then to the Obstetrics and the Gynaecology Ward.

The Mine’s Maintenance Environment Management System Officer Gloria Kensary, said the visit was to briefly share the day with the patients, who also had to be away from their loved ones, due to illness.

“We do not have big gifts to present but as a gesture to show that we remember you on this festive season,” Ms Kensary told patients and staff at the hospital.

The employees presented gift bags to patients containing basic toiletry items for both adults and children, as well as food stuff, among others.

In support of a good cause, BNL also donated cartons of toilet tissues and bath soaps.

Asset Management and Infrastructure Manager Donald Nurthen, sympathised with patients that they had to spend the festive period in the hospital.

“Merry Christmas to the patients and their families. Sorry that you must spend the day in the hospital but you are very lucky to have such good staff looking after you...the doctors, the nurses, all the teams who work so hard to keep this great hospital open.

“Today is a work day, but like me, am sure you feel very privileged to be able to share Christmas with people here today. I certainly do and thank you for the opportunity”, he added.

A brief devotion during the visit was led by the Mine’s Community Relations and Engagement Superintendent Tum Erasi.

Representing the Hospital Administration, Director for Nursing Services, Elizah Parapu thanked the visitors for the gifts and also for taking the time to spend the day with everyone at the hospital.

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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



Mine Maintenance Planning Specialist Rita Wakam meets a family as she hands over a gift bag.



Mid-wife and Officer-in-Charge of the Obstetrics and the Gynaecology Ward Christina Komi, with a box of toiletries as Ms Kensary and others look on.



Mine Maintenance Administration Supervisor Waswan Tokak presents a gift bag to a patient at the hospital.



Mine Maintenance Projects Engineer Raboni Pora is all smiles with a patient at the hospital.



Maintenance Administration Assistant Shirley Steven joins in on a Christmas carol while some patients and staff look on.



Mr Nurthen (second from left) with colleagues and a local, concentrate on singing a Christmas carol at the hospital.



Erasi (left) with colleagues at the hospital.

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