

**FROM the DESK of TETLIN NATIVE CORPORATION's  
GENERAL MANAGER**

**Tetlin Native Corporation's dispute against the KINROSS Manh Choh mining partnership is not about GOLD; It is about preserving its shareholders' LAND and protecting its Congressional designation as the ANCSA Village Corporation to the Native Village of Tetlin.**

The KINROSS partnership names keep changing: Juneau Mining, Juneau Exploration, Contango Ore, Royal Gold, Peak Gold, KINROSS, add a 'corporation' here or an 'LLP' there, and it appears to be an entirely new company. These changes have made research very challenging. But names are not the only things that this team of outsiders from Texas, Colorado, and Canada enjoy changing. In their ardor to claim a gold bonanza in Tetlin, the KINROSS partners have also used misinformation to also change Tetlin's landscape, its history, its people... and not for the better.

The part of Tetlin's history of the greatest concern to the KINROSS partners is apparently the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA). Although ANCSA land conveyance processes have been recorded for posterity, the KINROSS partners have decided to rewrite Tetlin's engagement with ANCSA and spread their misinformation in order to justify their wrongful claim to TNCorp's ANCSA land.

The KINROSS partners' *version* of ANCSA is that under ANCSA *"the Tetlin Tribe opted for surface and subsurface title to the 768,000 acres of land"*.

**Fact check... ANCSA never granted land to any of Alaska's tribes but mandated that the establishment of for-profit Alaska corporations were to receive land to be held in corporate ownership by Alaska Native shareholders.** Under ANCSA TNCorp — *not the tribe or the Council, was granted 743,147 acres.*

Using the questionable Mineral Lease the KINROSS partners hold a grip on the Tetlin Village Council, and use this leverage to continually spread misinformation pertaining to Tetlin's land for the mining partnership's benefit. The Mineral Lease states that the Council owns and granted the mining partnership **780,000 acres** of land. Then when addressing the public, the KINROSS partners claim the Council owns and granted them **675,000 acres... while agreeing that TNCorp owns 100,000 acres.** Simple math and fact checking proves that the KINROSS partners' Tetlin land claims are wrong. The Council owns only 643,147 acres of land.

By ratified resolutions in public documents, the Tetlin Village Council declares ownership of **643,147 acres** and that TNCorp owns **100,000 acres**. These are the numbers that add up to TNCorp's ANCSA land grant of 743,147 acres.

But, regardless of what the Council declares as their landownership, the KINROSS mining partners continue to falsely hold that the Council has granted them more land than they own and deny that TNCorp's landownership is being infringed upon by the mining partners' Mineral Lease.

Interestingly, the KINROSS partnership does actually tell the truth about potentially not having rights to the Tetlin land that they claim. In several federal SEC annual Form 10-K filings, they state...

**"We have no assurance of title to our properties."**

With respect to our Tetlin Lease, we retained title lawyers to conduct a general examination of title to the mineral interest prior to executing the lease. Prior to conducting any mining activity, however, we will obtain a full title review of the applicable lease to identify more fully any deficiencies in title to the lease and, if there are deficiencies, to identify measures necessary to cure those defects to the extent reasonably possible. ***However, such***

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*deficiencies may not be cured by us. It does happen, from time to time, that the examination made by title lawyers reveals that the title to properties is defective, having been obtained in error from a person who is not the rightful owner of the mineral interest desired. In these circumstances, we may not be able to proceed with our exploration and development of the lease site or may incur costs to remedy a defect. It may also happen, from time to time, that we may elect to proceed with mining work despite defects to the title identified in a title opinion.*

<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1502377/000119312511251425/d233360d10k.htm>

Where this declaration of takes a misinformation twist is that although the KINROSS partnership does not have the assurance of a clear title to Tetlin properties, the partnership grants itself permission to mine the land anyway, by stating; “...*we may elect to proceed with mining work despite defects to the title identified in a title opinion...*”. So, in plain words the KINROSS partners are saying... **Although we may have taken Tetlin's land from somebody who doesn't own the land and our title to the property may be defective – we're just gonna keep diggin' fer gold, any ole way.**

As you read this, ask yourself — what would you do if someone did this to you and your land?

The KINROSS partners exert the same arrogance and audacity when they misrepresent Tetlin Village Council as an ANCSA village corporation in the Mineral Lease and various publications — *TETLIN VILLAGE COUNCIL, a/k/a the TETLIN TRIBAL COUNCIL ("Tetlin"), an Alaska Native Village corporation organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, 43 U.S.C. § § 1601 - 1629 ("ANCSA")*. However, when TNCorp calls “foul” on this false claim, the KINROSS partners story becomes “*the Native Village of Tetlin is an Alaska tribal organization and is not part of any ANCSA Regional or Village corporation*” (cited from a letter to Alaska Div. Mining, Land and Water after wrongfully gaining permits to Alaska Native Corporation land).

The KINROSS partners spout what charity, goodness, and wealth they have brought to the Tetlin tribe. Much has been said, but little has been seen.

What The KINROSS partners have brought to the Tetlin tribe is discourse and division. The Tetlin Village Council is being led to believe that the Tetlin Native Corporation is opposed to them. This is what the mining partnership wants the Council and the tribe to believe. In fact, TNCorp has stood in defense of the Council by stating it was the unauthorized self-serving action of one person, Chief Adams, who conveyed Tetlin's land for a \$250,000 contract. TNCorp has repeatedly stated that Chief Adams and the mining partners concealed all their misdealing from the Council and the tribe.

*There is Christian scripture, John 10:10 (KJV) that says “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy...”* This is what the TNCorp administrators have found to be what the Manh Choh Mining Project has brought to Tetlin. The KINROSS mining partners have introduced greed, secrets, manipulation, and misinformation to drive wedges between the Tetlin Native Corporation, the Tetlin Village Council, and Tetlin's tribal families and friends.

Where “*sharing*” is among Tetlin's traditional values and was once practiced regularly, now the tribe is divided into the “*haves*” and the “*have nots*”. At the core of it all is that neither the Native Village of Tetlin or the Tetlin Native Corporation have rights to its LAND... but the KINROSS mining partnership has its GOLD.

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**Following is a side-by-side look at the KINROSS mining partnership's  
version of ANCSA and Tetlin's Landownership**

<p align="center"><b>KINROSS MINING PARTNERSHIP SPREADS MISINFORMATION</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>TETLIN NATIVE CORPORATION SHARES <i>THE TRUTH</i></b></p>
<p>a) ANCSA granted the Tetlin Tribe 768,000 acres.</p> <p>b) The Tetlin Village Council granted the mining partners 780,000 acres</p> <p>c) The Council owns 675,000 acres</p> <p>d) The Council is an ANCSA village corporation</p> <p><b><u>Contango Ore Promotional Article</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Working with Tetlin Tribe</i></b></p> <p>“When the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) was passed in 1971, the reserve was revoked and the Tetlin Tribe opted for surface and subsurface title to the 768,000 acres of land making up the former reserve, rather than becoming aligned with one of the Regional Alaska Native Corporations (Doyon or Ahtna). Today the Village of Tetlin owns 675,000 acres of fee simple surface and sub-surface title, while the Tetlin Native Corporation (TNC) owns the balance of lands in the Tanana River valley. Originally Contango ORE and now the Peak Gold LLC have a mining lease agreement with the Tetlin Village Tribal Council. There is no agreement on the adjacent lands owned by the TNC.” <a href="https://www.contangoore.com/project/manh-choh">https://www.contangoore.com/project/manh-choh</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MINERAL LEASE</b></li> </ul> <p>WHEREAS; Tetlin holds fee simple title to surface and subsurface estates in its former reservation lands pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act., 43 U.S.C.: §_§160J-i629 ("ANCSA")... and</p>	<p>a) ANCSA <i>never</i> granted any land to the Tetlin Tribe</p> <p>b) ANCSA granted <b>743,147.34</b> acres to Tetlin Native Corporation</p> <p>c) Today, after a disputed land transfer, Tetlin Village Council claims ownership of <b>643,147</b> acres leaving Tetlin Native Corporation 100,000 acres. No surface or subsurface land held by the Council is “pursuant to ANCSA” as said in the Mineral Lease but is privately held land.</p> <p>d) All <b>100,000</b> acres of TNCorp’s land is wrongfully claimed by the KINROSS mining partners under Mineral Lease’s claim of 780,000 acres.</p> <p>e) Designated by Congress. TNCorp is the one and only ANCSA village corporation to the Native Village of Tetlin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>UAF Tribal Governance</u></b></li> </ul> <p>“The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act <i>did not grant land to the tribes</i> in Alaska...” <a href="https://www.uaf.edu/tribal/academics/112/unit-3/alaskanativeclaimsettlemntactanca1971.php">https://www.uaf.edu/tribal/academics/112/unit-3/alaskanativeclaimsettlemntactanca1971.php</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Alaska Native Lands and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA): Overview and Selected Issues for Congress (December 22, 2021)</i></b></li> </ul> <p>ANCSA sought to create a land entitlement system different from the reservation system for the tribes in the lower 48 states. For instance, <b>ANCSA created village and regional corporations</b>, sometimes generally referred to as Alaska Native corporations (ANCs), <b>not only to receive land under the settlement</b> but also to aid in the disbursement of the settlement payment and boost the Alaskan economy. <b>Unlike tribal governments, ANCs are business entities organized under the laws of Alaska.</b> <a href="https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R46997/3">https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R46997/3</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>ANCSA REGIONAL ASSOCIATION</u></b> <b><i>About the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act</i></b></li> </ul> <p>Through ANCSA, the federal government transferred 44 million acres – <b>land to be held in corporate ownership by Alaska Native shareholders – to Alaska Native regional and village corporations.</b> <a href="https://ancsaregional.com/about-ancsa/#land-selection-process">https://ancsaregional.com/about-ancsa/#land-selection-process</a></p> <p>Part of ANCSA provides for each specific regional or village corporation to select federal lands within their legally defined regions to be conveyed to them. <a href="https://www.blm.gov/programs/lands-and-realty/regional-information/alaska/land_transfer/ancsa">https://www.blm.gov/programs/lands-and-realty/regional-information/alaska/land_transfer/ancsa</a></p>

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1.5 "Land" means all of the lands owned by Tetlin (estimated at 780,000 acres) that were formerly known as the Tetlin Indian Reservation

<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1502377/000119312510259067/dex101.htm#:~:text=Tetlin>

- **The United States of America [Land Patent] Tetlin Native Corporation** — is entitled to a Land Patent pursuant to Sec. 19(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971 (85 Stat. 688, 710; 43 U.S.G. 1601, 1618(b)), as amended, of the surface and subsurface estates in the following described lands,... Containing **743,147.34** acres.

- **Tetlin Community Plans (2010, 2015, 2020)**

**Land Ownership**

Tetlin Village Council owns 643,174 acres of surface and subsurface land and the Tetlin Native Corporation owns 100,000 acres of surface and subsurface land.