

# TECK COAL LTD.

## COAL MOUNTAIN OPERATIONS FIELD TRIP



Coal mining in southeast BC dates back to the 1800s, with coal discoveries reported in the Elk Valley around 1845. The first underground mine opened at Coal Creek in 1897, and other underground mines sprung up and operated intermittently into the 1960s. Open pit mining began in 1968, when Kaiser Resources brought large-scale equipment into the area, marking the beginning of a new era in coal mining.

The Coal Mountain mine initially operated intermittently until 1948 as an underground mine known as Corbin. Re-opening in 1974, it was operated by a variety of companies until 2004, when the five Elk Valley mines consolidated into the Elk Valley Coal Partnership. In 2008, Teck Coal Ltd acquired the majority of the interests in the partnership, and now operates the mines. Coal Mountain is nearing the end of its reserve life, and is expected to be shut down in 2018.

The mineable coal seams are in coastal plain rocks of the Mist Mountain formation, where structurally thickened and exposed sections permit open-pit mining. Today, the Elk Valley coal mines produce approximately 27 million tonnes of clean metallurgical coal annually, and account for ~70% of Canada's total coal exports.

If you did not pre-register you will be able to register for the Field Trip for \$50.00 at the registration desk until Thursday 12:00pm.

**Field Trip:** will be on **Friday November 10<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00am departure to 4:00pm return to Cranbrook.

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