



**EASTERN MINING PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**

**COMMUNITY UPDATE**

**New working hours at the Vares Information Centre**

In the following period, the Information centre will work on weekdays from 08:00 to 10:00. Saturday is non-working. For all information you can contact us at the phone number 061 890 444 or email address: [infocentar@adriaticmetals.com](mailto:infocentar@adriaticmetals.com).



The Eastern Mining Local Community Relations Committee met on October 1, 2020, for their third meeting. The company provided transportation for Committee members from Vareš to Tisovci / Pržići. Committee members had the opportunity to visit the Eastern Mining offices and meet members of the ADT / EM team and view the company's activities before the meeting held at the House of Culture in Pržići.

During the session, the Minutes from the previous (telephone) session were read and approved, and the members of the Committee were briefly introduced to the company's activities in the previous three months by CEO Adnan Teletovic. Other members of Eastern Mining team presented information regarding geological activities and

information from the environmental - social team.

A majority of the members of the Committee were present at the meeting, and the Eastern Mining team were satisfied that a positive and affirmative discussion continued throughout and all interested parties received adequate information about the Project and its activities.

These meetings are a good example of the liaison between Eastern Mining and the local community. The company would like to thank the Association of Women Pržići, who prepared refreshments for the meeting – following the current COVID guidelines.

The management of Eastern Mining thanks the members of the Committee for the excellent response, advice and suggestions in the hope that the constructive dialogue will continue to the general satisfaction of the population, local community and company.



**INTRODUCING ALEKSANDER VUCKOVIC OUR EXPLORATION MANAGER**



**1. Where do you come from?**

*I am from Belgrade, Serbia, but I also call Melbourne my home, as most of the family is there.*

**2. How long have you been working in Vares?**

*I joined the Eastern Mining team in Vares in autumn 2018.*

**3. Have you worked on other projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina?**

*I've been working on many projects around the world, including the ex Yugoslavia region, but this is the first project that I am involved in Bosnia.*

**4. What do you do for Eastern Mining?**

*I am the exploration manager, which means that I manage a team of geologists and technicians, co-design mineral exploration programs and supervise the execution of exploration activities such as drilling, geological mapping, geophysical surveys, soil sampling for geochemical analysis.*

**5. Do you live in Vares or nearby?**

*Since I joined Eastern Mining, most of the time I lived in town of Vares.*

**6. What do you enjoy about BiH?**

*Many things. I feel at home here, my mother was born in Bosnia. I like the people and the mix of different cultures. I like these beautiful mountains, forests, creeks.*

**7. Have you travelled to any other areas of the country and what is your favourite place here in BiH?**

*I was a cadet in the air force secondary school here in*

*Bosnia in the 80s, so I was lucky to walk around most of this beautiful country. Of course, Vares is my favorite place in BiH.*

**8. Cities or countryside?**

*Country with occasional visits to the city.*

**9. Beach or mountains?**

*Mountains with occasional visit to the beach.*

**10. What do you do when you aren't at work?**

*Earlier I was spending most of my time rock climbing, but now I try to spend as much of my spare time as I can with my daughter, traveling or planning the next adventure. Also on my breaks I enjoy working on a small farm in central Serbia, catching up with friends and family.*

**11. How often do you go home?**

*Before the pandemic, I tried to have every second long weekend at home. Hopefully I will get back to that routine soon.*

**12. What is your favourite season – summer or winter and why?**

*I like all seasons, but April and October are my favourite months. Those are my Goldilock months, not too hot and not too cold. Great for hiking and for enjoying nature. Also very good time for geology work.*

## INTERVIEW WITH SLAVICA MALBASIC

**I would like to thank you for your time and for speaking for the third edition of our Eastern Mining newsletter about your experience and employment, which is part of the "Living history project". First of all, could you tell us a little more about yourself?**

My name is Slavica Malbašić, I was born in Pržići, where I started a family and now I live in Tisovci, but my children live abroad – one son lives in Croatia and the other one in the Netherlands. During the war, I lived in Drvar, and I worked in the kindergarten for three years. When the lead, zinc and barite mine start operating, I started working as a cook.

**What was your first job?**

I was 17 when I got my first job at school kitchen in Pržići. There I developed my first work experiences which I had continued to develop later while working at the Energoinvest kitchen. When I was 39 years old, I started working as cook at the mine because I was dedicated to my family and raising children.

**How many people were employed in your employment sector?**

Four of us worked in the Energoinvest kitchen. It was really nice to work in the kitchen, primarily because we got along with each other very well and we were like a family. We worked in two shifts due the fact there were 570 people employed in the Energoinvest. There was really a lot of work and obligations, because in addition to basic work, we also had responsibilities for guests and business partners who visited us very often.

**You have already mentioned that about 570 people worked in the mine at that time, did any of your family members or relatives work in the mine?**

No, none of my family were employed at the mine, except me, as I already mentioned, as a cook.

**You have said that you had worked at the school, can you say how many students attended primary school at that time?**



Yes, I had worked at the school kitchen. At that time there were two classes at each grade, and there were a total of 750 students from the 1st to the 8th grade of primary school. Today we only have two students in this area, unfortunately.

**At the time when you had worked at the Lead, Zinc and Barite Mine, were there any employed women?**

There were many women employed in the mine. They were mining engineers, chemical engineers and mining technicians. A large number of women worked in the laboratory and administration, too.

**What did you like most about your job and why did you like working?**

It has never been difficult for me to work, and since women have had little opportunities for education in the past, I have always struggled and tried to prove to myself that I am capable and useful. It fulfilled me the most when I had worked in kindergarten, working with children is the most beautiful experience.

**When you look at life then and now, in the area of the municipality of Vareš, can you make a comparison**

Life was beautiful then. Companies were working, a large number of people was employed and families were secured. Vareš had it all. In Pržići, we had a bus every hour to Vareš, we had two cafes, the culture house and a buffet. The parties were often organized. Then, doctors specialists came to the Health centre every week. That does not exist any longer. There is not even a bus to the town, just a van that runs until 3 p.m. However, I am very happy about your Project, I

see it as light at the end of the tunnel and I look forward to the opening of the mine.

**How did Vareš look like at the peak of its power at a time when the lead, zinc and barite mine was operating?**

At that time, there were several companies operating in Vareš and only the Ironworks had 1,500-2,000 workers. As I said before, the mine employed about 570 people. There were also wood processing company "Zvijezda", Bobovac, Snaga and others. Life was active and high quality, and salaries were regular. Life was really beautiful.

**When the mine and the ironworks were operating, was sufficient attention paid to environmental protection and compliance with the laws of the area at the time?**

Much was promised, but almost nothing was done. The biggest problem was separation and dust which occurred during the operation of the mine. Although there were reactions and dissatisfaction from the locals, the then management did nothing to improve this situation.

**Do you have any message for youth who are just starting to build their careers?**

I would tell everyone to stay in our Vareš, and those who left to return because there is no happiness anywhere like at home.

**Thank you for your time with the hope that this cooperation will continue and improve!**

Thank you for visiting. I'm glad I talked to you and of course you can always ask for any information. I sincerely hope and I wish that the activities of your company will return at least a small part of life as we used to live in the municipality of Vareš.

## FC VAREŠ SPONSORSHIP

So another positive story from the local community. This time from the Vareš Football Club. In the premises of NK Vareš in Vareš Majdan, we were welcomed by the Club Secretary Malik Likić, with whom we talked about the current situation in the club, the daily challenges that they face, and the way that Eastern Mining company has supported FC Vareš with a Sponsorship contract.

Malik also serves as the coach of the senior team, that currently compete in the Cantonal League of Zenica-Doboj Canton,



where they have recently recorded promising results at the beginning of the season. They are currently in fourth position with 9 points, while recording three wins and two defeats. Three years ago, FC Vareš celebrated its 90th birthday when they hosted the FC Hajduk, a well-known team from Split, Croatia.

"Duties of being the Club Secretary involves responsibility for the administrative and organisational affairs, including active cooperation with the local community, social organizations, media, and the Football Association of BiH, all in order to develop



and improve the working conditions of the club," said Malik explaining his role at FC Vareš .

Looking back on the current situation in the club from the financial aspect, and all the



costs that must be covered in order for the club to be able to operate normally, we asked Malik how the club manages to fulfill all its given obligations, to which he replied: "Every year proves to be increasingly difficult to provide financial resources for the competition, especially when we take into account that the first team of NK Vareš is joined by four youth teams aged from five to fourteen years old. Also, every guest visit of the club in another city requires more expenditure, it is sometimes difficult to find a solution. The funds coming from the budget of the Municipality of Vareš are not enough and unfortunately they cannot cover our expenses, so any help from sponsors is always very welcome. "



Eastern Mining recognised the need of FC Vareš after they received a written request, and in early August 2020 they offered a Sponsorship contract for the forthcoming three years. A certain amount of funds will be allocated annually for the needs of the

club.

"Thanks to the Eastern Mining as a socially responsible company, who recognised and supported our work, we managed to cover most of our expenses for the upcoming season. This has extended the life of the club which was in a difficult financial



situation. The importance of the funds provided in the next three years will certainly contribute to the stability of the Club. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank Eastern Mining, who have, with this gesture recognised the needs of the community, especially considering the needs of associations and organizations that actively participate, and are a crucial part of society. Without this kind of help, the normal operation of the club and the entry into the competition season was questionable," said Malik.

It is planned, in addition to the already prepared project documentation, that FC Vareš will reconstruct the stadium in order to get an additional terrace with 300 seats, this is also a requirement to enter a higher rank of the competition. To achieve the reconstruction, NK Vareš will again depend on the help of the local community, primarily the Municipality of Vareš and possible sponsors.



## COMMUNITY UPDATE—AIR QUALITY MEASUREMENTS



To assess air quality, a seasonal measurement (spring, summer, fall, winter) lasting one year is required, however the results of the short-term measurement period are important for future comparisons of measurement results in terms of the air quality course for the specific site. Eastern Mining has established air quality monitoring at 14 locations, officially from 15.06.2020. and will carry out the measurements for a minimum of one year.

According to the results collected so far, we can say that the established values are very realistic and acceptable. In certain conditions, the air quality is slightly polluted, which may be a consequence of the influence from the macro location (wider environment Ilijaš, Kakanj). However, it was stated that the level values were not exceeded for any polluting substance.

