

**SIXTH EDITION
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Adriatic Metals
Eastern Mining

FOURTH SESSION OF THE PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE

Fourth session of the Public Liaison Committee
On the 28.1.2021, in the Municipality of Vareš Hall, we held the fourth session of the Public Liaison Committee (PLC). The agenda began with the minutes from the previous third session of the PLC, then our company representatives gave a brief summary and review of operations and activities since the last meeting in 2020.

We presented plans for our activities in 2021 in the session. This gives members of the Public Liaison Committee the opportunity to learn first-hand the most important information about the company's activities, and then to ask questions and discuss topics they consider to be of social importance.

We created this Committee to deliver timely and transparent information to the local population. The function of the Committee is to represent the interests of the local community and our activities within it.



EASTERN MINING PROUD SPONSOR OF INA LIKIĆ

The best of the best young skiers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the fantastic Ina Likic from Vareš, won two gold medals on the fourth day of the competition part of the Telemach children speed camp held on Bjelašnica! Ina Likic, congratulations from the bottom of our heart! Recently, Eastern Mining has become a proud sponsor of this girl's skiing activities. We believe in numerous medals and a string of successes in competitions which lie ahead of her.

Ina: "My love of skiing is something I have been living with for almost 12 years, since I first started skiing when I was 2.5 years old, and entered the professional level at the age of four. I am especially proud of every medal, because I know that the effort and many sacrifices pay off in the end. Since skiing is a very expensive sport, I owe the biggest thanks to my parents who support me financially, and recently to the company Eastern Mining from Vareš, as well, which supports young talents in every manner."

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

DONATION TO SCOUTS ASSOCIATION "ZVIJEZDA" VAREŠ

On 20.2.2021. at the Scouts Association "Zvijezda" Vareš there was an event held to celebrate the birthday of Sir Robert Baden Powell, the founder of the first scout movement in the world. In the program prepared by the members of this Association, Eastern Mining was also invited, as a show of gratitude for our support of the work of the Scouts Association "Zvijezda" Vareš and 50 members of the scout detachment. Eastern Mining was presented with a thanksgiving letter for the donation and support for the work of this Association. We, as a company strive to build good relations with the local community in all areas of its activities through the support and affirmation of children and young people in particular, and we hope that such cooperation will continue in the future.



DONATION TO KARATE CLUB VAREŠ

On 25.2.2021., Representatives of Eastern Mining attended training at the Karate Club Vareš. They talked to coach Mirsad Operta and one of the members, Šeherzada Operta, about the recent donation that the Club received from Eastern Mining. Coach Mirsad Operta thanked Eastern Mining for the donation, saying that it meant a lot to the Club, due to number of competitions they participate in, and the money will go towards tracksuits - that are an indispensable part of the equipment for every sports club. Karate player Šeherzada Operta, thanked the company for their support on behalf of all members of the Karate Club Vareš, emphasising that they will use the donation for good purposes and proudly wear their new tracksuits and represent their city in the best light. Eastern Mining will continue to strive to support young athletes in the municipality of Vareš, because it is our goal is to promote healthy and positive activities in the local community and beyond.



  
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INTERVIEW WITH PHIL FOX

Where do you come from?

I am Australian. Grew up on the East coast, north of Sydney, then moved to Western Australia to start my career.

How long have you been working in Vares?

I moved to Vares in December 2019.

Have you worked on other projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina?

This is my first time working in BiH.

What do you do for Eastern Mining?

Chief Geologist.

Do you live in Vareš or nearby?

Yes. I live in Vares.

What do you enjoy about BiH?

For me, the people always make the country. Apart from the friendly and hospitable people, I love the nature, the food also.



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

I have visited the Višegrad-Foča area, along the Drina. Went to the coast last year to Neum with the family and have visited Sarajevo and Zenica.

Cities or countryside?

Countryside.

Beach or mountains?

Both.

What do you do when you aren't at work?

Spending time with family and friends. Cooking and mechanics.

How often do you go home?

I have not lived in Australia for 13 years. Home when I am not in Vares is in Valjevo, Serbia. I try to get back every couple of weeks for the weekend.

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

I love the change of seasons in the Balkans, but I would say spring would be my favourite.

“LIVING HISTORY PROJECT” – INTERVIEW WITH AVDO MUFTIĆ

I would like to thank you for your time and for talking to us about your experience and job in mining for the Eastern Mining Blog. This is part of our „Living history project“. Firstly, can you tell us something about yourself?

My name is Avdo Muftić and I am a pensioner. I was once a versatile activist, but today I spend more time at home. Most of my free time I dedicate to my hobbies, philately and numismatics.

What was your first job?

I enrolled in the craft school in the 60's, but I did not finish it. As a young man I started working in the construction company "Bobovac" Vareš. I worked there until I joined the army, and after returning from the army I started working for the police. During that period, I finished high school for internal affairs and worked as a policeman until retirement.

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

Being a policeman is both nice but also difficult. Nice, because the main goal of that job is to help people, and difficult because we also meet a category of people who do not accept social norms. So, as hard as it was, it was beautiful, as well.

Are you familiar with the work of the lead, zinc and barite mine in the municipality of Vareš?

Yes, of course. With the opening of the mine, we all hoped for great prosperity, but it was not as we expected, and we all know what happened in the end.



Did any of your family members or relatives work in the mine?

None of my family members and relatives worked at Energoinvest, but my wife's sister and her relatives from Pržići worked there.

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

It is difficult to make a comparison to life then and now. Primarily due to different periods, such as the period of Austro-Hungarian rule when a miracle happened in Vareš – a small town was made into a city that had electricity, schools, health centres, cinemas, railways, etc. Then Vareš flourished, as in the period of work of the Iron Ore Mine and Ironworks in the 80's when Vareš had 23,000 inhabitants with 8,000 employees. There is a lot of positive data from that time and we cannot compare to the current life in Vares.

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

Life was much more beautiful then and I believe most of the local population who remembers that period is nostalgic. Every area of life was regulated, from health to education. If that beauty were repeated in this age, then I could say that it is as beautiful today as it once was.

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?

No it was not. The population of Pržići had huge problems with the production of the mine because everything was destroyed and polluted. The law should have taken care of the protection of the environment and human health, but it never did.

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

I would like to tell young people to accept the book as their best friend and to build their better future with it. Not to allow themselves to grow old, and to repent for not being diligent and motivated to change for the better. I am sure that better days will come because Bosnia will not always be as it is, nor will Vares always be as it is. They should stay, guard their homes and their homeland.

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

Thank you for choosing me for this interview. And I would add that I hope and expect that your company will be the main instigator that will start the progress of our Vareš and that it will be the bearer of all positive changes in the future, because once this has started, the others will follow suit.