

WHITEHORSE COPPER MINES



STORY: The history of the Whitehorse Copper Belt goes back to 1897 when it was discovered by prospectors on their way to the Klondike gold fields. The Copper Belt is a 30-kilometre long crescent-shaped chain of copper deposits located west of the Alaska Highway on the south side of Whitehorse.

A company called New Imperial Mines was formed in 1954, and then changed its name to Whitehorse Copper Mines in 1971. Whitehorse Copper continued underground mining with considerable success until 1982 when metal prices fell drastically. There was a workforce of about 200 employees during the height of the operation, and the closure of the mine greatly affected the local economy.

The Whitehorse Copper Reunion Committee established this fund to commemorate the significance of the Whitehorse Copper Mines' contribution to the mining history and the economy of the Yukon.