

31 January 2023

## **NEW NAL MILESTONE WITH SUCCESSFUL ORE CRUSHING TRIAL**

### **Highlights**

- **Restart of North American Lithium (NAL) operation achieves new milestone, with successful trial feed of 400 tonnes spodumene ore into crushing plant**
- **Company reinforces commitment to health and safety, environment and local community; 90% of workforce hired from Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, including 33% women, with more than C\$40 million invested in local suppliers since 2022**
- **NAL on track for first spodumene (lithium) production in late Q1 2023, becoming leading producer in North American lithium industry.**

**Emerging lithium producer Sayona Mining Limited (ASX:SYA; OTCQB:SYAXF)** has achieved a new milestone in the restart of lithium production at its flagship North American Lithium (NAL) operation in Québec, Canada, with a successful trial feed of ore into the crushing plant.

On 16 January 2023, 400 tonnes of spodumene ore were successfully processed as part of the concentrator commissioning, an important step in the restart process at NAL. Each component of the crushing process (automation, electrical and mechanical) was checked and tested by the pre-operational verification teams.

This activity involved the NAL operational and maintenance teams and contractors. The crushing process comprises the primary jaw crusher, secondary crusher and tertiary crusher, in addition to conveying equipment.

As previously reported, progress towards the concentrator restart had reached nearly 90% by the end of December 2022 for engineering and construction, with all critical equipment received together with the necessary environmental approvals (refer ASX release 16 January 2023).



**Crushing infrastructure and main conveyors, NAL**

Guy Belleau, CEO Sayona Québec, reinforced at a recent NAL staff meeting the Company's commitment to health and safety, the environment and the local community. Sayona is expected to play a major role as a leader in the North American lithium industry, making Abitibi-Témiscamingue a hub for the energy transition in transportation.

*"2023 will be a remarkable year in every way for Sayona and for Québec as a whole, as the first tonnes of lithium spodumene will be produced at our NAL operation. The enthusiasm and pride to finally produce lithium here will be carried over to all of our projects and will propel us towards achieving our ambitious goals for all of Québec. The moment will be historic! It is here in Québec, in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, that the leading lithium producer in North America will operate,"* Mr Belleau said.

Mr Belleau reinforced the Company's Zero-Tolerance policy regarding safety together with its commitment to the highest environmental standards. Community relations is also a key focus, with monitoring committees set up for both NAL and the Authier Lithium Project to promote mutual dialogue and maximise community benefits, including for First Nations communities.

For example, some 90% of the NAL workforce is from Abitibi-Témiscamingue, of which a third are female. Similarly, more than C\$40 million has been invested with local suppliers since January 2022.



**Guy Belleau, CEO, Sayona Québec, addresses NAL workers**

Sayona's Managing Director, Brett Lynch commented: *"Congratulations to our team at NAL for achieving another significant milestone as we advance the NAL restart closer to first production. Our key project milestones are on track and I look forward to seeing the first saleable lithium concentrate at the plant, as we move towards becoming North America's leading lithium producer."*

Issued on behalf of the Board.

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**About Sayona Mining**

Sayona Mining Limited is an emerging lithium producer (ASX:SYA; OTCQB:SYAXF), with projects in Québec, Canada and Western Australia.

In Québec, Sayona's assets comprise North American Lithium together with the Authier Lithium Project and its emerging Tansim Lithium Project, supported by a strategic partnership with American lithium developer Piedmont Lithium Inc. (Nasdaq:PLL; ASX:PLL). The Company also holds a 60% stake in the Moblan Lithium Project in northern Québec.

In Western Australia, the Company holds a large tenement portfolio in the Pilbara region prospective for gold and lithium. Sayona is exploring for Hemi-style gold targets in the world-class Pilbara region, while its lithium projects are subject to an earn-in agreement with Morella Corporation (ASX:1MC).

For more information, please visit us at [www.sayonamining.com.au](http://www.sayonamining.com.au)

**References to Previous ASX Releases**

- NAL restart accelerates towards target – 16 January 2023
- NAL restart advances towards target – 20 December 2022
- Final permit awarded for NAL restart – 12 December 2022
- NAL restart picks up speed – 24 November 2022
- Quarterly Activities Report – 31 October 2022

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement and all material assumptions and technical parameters continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcements.