



## SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON DEWATERING OF THE COPPER MOUNTAIN PIT

March 6, 2024, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Several months have passed since the first meeting, as Osisko Metals awaited the final reports from its consultants and then took the time to properly analyze them in order to present a clear action plan to the committee.

At the beginning of the year, Osisko Metals also hired new consultants to carry out a flow study of the York River based on data from the Centre d'expertise hydrique du Québec (CEHQ) station, located some 60 km downstream of the mine site. Using the watershed pro-rata method, flows were extrapolated to different locations along the Porphyry and York rivers, to simulate what the rates of water flow and water levels might be under different dewatering scenarios. As flows vary with the seasons and precipitation, and as fish life phases require specific water flow rates and levels, it was quickly agreed that dewatering could not be carried out at a constant flow, but rather with a flow that would be adjusted according to the seasons.

During the winter, a water balance was also carried out at the Copper Mountain pit to estimate the time required to empty the pit under various dewatering flow scenarios. Initial estimates suggest that, water quality permitting, it would take between 2 and 3 years to empty the pit.

However, although the pit water quality meets the discharge criteria of Directive 019 for the mining industry, the quantity of copper present in the water exceeds the chronic toxicity criteria, above which there could be long-term effects on the aquatic environment.

Osisko Metals therefore presented the idea of collaborating with a team of INRS researchers to identify all the issues and mitigation measures to be put in place to plan dewatering and preserve the receiving environment. This idea was favourably received by the committee members, and so Osisko Metals is proceeding with the project.

