



Panguna Development Company Limited

P.O. Box 126
Arawa, Autonomous Region
of Bougainville

Phone : 7441 3422
Email : admin.pdcl@gmail.com

26 January 2021

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Panguna landowners united and ready to engage with ABG

Members of the Panguna Development Company Limited (PDCL), 8 of the 9 mine affected landowner associations, and community leaders and chiefs are united and have made steps to begin dialogue with the Autonomous Bougainville Government, regarding the Panguna Mine.

As a group we have had multiple consultation meetings and want to express our respect for President Ishmael Toroama's clear statement about the ABG's position on Panguna and how any move forward must be through correct channels and follow proper processes.

Our group has made contact with the departments in charge of all economic development, which includes, but is not limited to the Department of the President and BEC, Office of the Deputy Acting Chief Secretary and the Deputy Chief Secretary of Operations – Michael Otoroa. We are keen to get a process underway at the president and ABG's convenience.

The PDCL itself is owned by five major clans from Panguna, including the recognised Lands Title Commission agents who represent block owners in the former special mining lease area.

"The only way the redevelopment of Panguna will ever advance is if there is common ground, unity and trust among landowners, the ABG and the people of Bougainville," said Michael Pariu, PDCL Chairman.

"Moving ahead in a unified way is crucial and any other prospective partners will need to work hard to win social licence in Bougainville. This is not something that can be claimed or granted by unrepresentative voices.

"In considering this, we, the PDCL, 8 mine affected landowner associations and Community Governments see value in involving the new Bougainville Copper Limited in some capacity, given the company is now majority owned by the people of Bougainville and PNG."

Mr Pariu said that Bougainville Copper continued to have a positive presence on Bougainville and was respectful and helpful in its dealings with the people.

Michael Pariu
Chairman
Panguna Development Company Limited

Pictured below are the 9 landowner association heads, community government heads, PDCL executives and BCL directors, after a meeting on 18 January 2021 at DJ Garden Lodge, Arawa. The purpose of meeting was to open up dialogue with the Community Government team from Panguna District.

Chairperson of the 9 Landowner Association- Theresa Jaintong – Chairlady Siokatei Association, Patric Heromate – Chairman Corridor Association, Benedine Kira – Lower Tailings Association, Andrew Kuiai – Representing Bolave Fish Owners Association, Joe Ateiare –Chairman Uruava Association, Ambrose Sipui – Chairman Port Mine Access Road, Michael Pariu – Chairman Upper Tailings, Joe Sepu – Secretary Mid Tailings,

Panguna Community Government Chairmans - Peter Kalasoi – Torau, Martin Misimuko – Ioro 1, Samson Kassy – Ioro 2

PDCL executives – Michael Pariu, Raphael Evinu, Directors Anthonia Tarue, Lucy Mangkona, & supporter Freddy Taria & Philomena Barita (front row)

BCL Directors – Sir Melchior Togolo, BCL Chairman and Loloho Wharf landowner and David Osikore

Not pictured but present at the meeting: Lawrence Daveona – SML Advisor & Community Government Chairpersons from Panguna District.

