



AVONBANK PROJECT NEWSLETTER

AVONBANK TEST PIT: CANOLA CROP – SEPTEMBER 2025

ISSUE 22 – OCTOBER 2025

PROJECT UPDATE

As WIM moves the Avonbank Project forward, we are pleased to announce a series of initiatives designed to strengthen community engagement and ensure the project will coexist successfully with the local community and agricultural industry.

New Community Liaison and Coexistence Officer. Lyall Grey is our new Horsham face to the Community, bringing with him a deep understanding of farming, exploration, and mining. I encourage you to drop by our Information Hub, make the connection, and have a chat with Lyall.

Community Benefits. We are currently developing our Community Support Program that will share the benefits of the mine with the broader community. Meanwhile, we remain committed to our current partnerships and sponsorships, and welcome enquiries from community groups.

Community and Coexistence Reference Group. Plans are underway to establish a Community and Coexistence Reference Group to provide a structured forum for listening to and responding to community feedback regarding the Avonbank Project. The group will also play an important role to help shape the Community Support Program.

Test Pit Crop. Despite a very dry start to the season, the test pit has a crop of canola growing, marking our fifth growing season over the test pit site.

We're committed to listening to the community so the Avonbank Mine creates lasting, positive outcomes for the Wimmera Southern Mallee region, so please do not hesitate to contact myself or Lyall at any time.



Michael Winternitz,
Director of Projects

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CONTACT US

Do you have a question or comment?
Get in touch and let us know your thoughts on the Avonbank Project.

Visit www.wimresource.com.au or
email admin@wimresource.com.au

PROJECT UPDATE

Mining Licence Update

Following the lodgement of the Mining Licence in early 2025 and the completion of the public submission period, Resources Victoria is assessing the application. Following a decision, WIM will move forward with securing project finance and secondary approvals, paving the way for the project to proceed and deliver significant business and employment opportunities for Horsham and the wider Wimmera region.

Register your Interest in Job & Business Opportunities

We are pleased to continue to receive significant interest in job and business opportunities at the Avonbank mine. We have established a dedicated online portal to make it easier to register your interest. Visit the Contact Us section of our website at www.wimresource.com.au

Community Reference & Coexistence Group (CCRG)

WIM will establish the CCRG to provide input into the development of the Community Support Strategy and to serve as a transparent forum for discussion of broader community matters. The CCRG will bring together WIM, the HRCC, and key community stakeholders to promote two-way communication, and support the co-existence of mining and agriculture.

Community Support Program – Community Benefits

We are developing our Community Support Program (CSP) to deliver meaningful benefits through focus areas:

- ◆ **Education and Leadership:** education, training, and youth development.
- ◆ **Social Wellbeing and Health:** community health, sport and recreation, family, and youth support.
- ◆ **Economic Participation:** local employment and local business development.
- ◆ **Resource and Environmental Sustainability:** environment, water, and land management.

The Community Support Program will be a significant financial commitment over the mine life, increasing in size once the mine is underway.



Avonbank Test Pit – Crop Update

The Avonbank test pit was excavated in 2019 and returned to crop in 2021. A total of four crops have been grown and harvested to date. In the 2025 growing season, Canola was sown. The exceptionally dry start to the season in the area meant that crop emergence was heavily delayed. Following the recent rainfall, it is pleasing to note the crop is finally on its way. We will continue to monitor the test pit area.

Below are pictures of the test pit site and surrounding paddocks, taken in late September–early October.



MEET NEW STAFF

Lyall Grey – Community Engagement and Coexistence Officer

Born and raised on a sheep and cattle farm in Hamilton, Lyall spent ten years as a photojournalist with *Stock and Land* newspaper and five years as Communications Director with the Victorian Farmers Federation. An active volunteer firefighter for over 30 years, Lyall is the immediate past captain of his local brigade.

Lyall brings extensive experience to our team, having held a range of senior roles, including as Public Relations Manager with Mount Isa Mines in far north-west Queensland, Community Engagement Officer with the State Government’s Minerals Development Victoria, and Stakeholder Relations Manager with Stavely Minerals at Glenthompson.

As WIM’s Community Engagement & Coexistence Officer, Lyall works closely with farmers, local businesses, key stakeholders, and the local community to keep people informed of the project and foster relationships for the economic betterment of the region.



JOB VACANCIES – APPLY NOW

We are recruiting for new positions for our Horsham Community team, to learn more about the roles please visit the <https://wimresource.com.au/about-us/careers/current-vacancies/>

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Western Victorian Careers Expo

WIM continues to be a proud partner of the Western Victorian Careers Expo, held each year at Longerenong, outside Horsham. Attracting over 1,000 secondary students and hundreds of other interested patrons, the Western Victoria Careers Expo is one of the largest and longest running event of its type in Victoria.

WIM attended the expo with an interactive stand showcasing the mineral sands industry and was pleased to receive significant interest from a range of people about how they could be involved in the Avonbank mine.



AusIMM Ballarat Student Chapter Support

WIM is pleased to become a Platinum Sponsor of the Ballarat Student Chapter of the AusIMM, supporting tertiary earth science students at the Federation University of Australia. This initiative is vital to WIM, reflecting our commitment to supporting the next generation of leaders in our industry.



Rotary Presentation

WIM was pleased to be invited to present to the Nhill Rotary Club, introducing the Avonbank mine and providing factual information for members. The presentation was followed by Q&A.



Information Sessions – Horsham Shopping Centre

WIM has recently been holding information sessions at the Horsham Shopping Centre, providing an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions, make suggestions, or register their interest in job and business opportunities. Next dates in the lead up to Christmas are Wednesday 29th October, 12th and 26th November, and 10th December.



Defying the Drift Initiative

WIM continued its support for the Defying the Drift Program, which works with young regional people and promotes opportunities in the region. Guest speaker was Louise Hobbs from Miss Hobbs Resources, Horsham. Louise produces agricultural resources for high school VCE after finding there were none for Victorian students. The event had twenty-nine Year 10 and 11 students participate this year.



Get in Touch

For project related enquiries please contact:

Email: admin@wimresource.com.au

Community Information Hub and WIM Regional Office:
83 Firebrace Street, Horsham VIC 3400
Open Tuesday to Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

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