

## INTREPID PATHWAYS—DIANA GREENUP

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

#### Formal qualifications

Bachelor of Engineering (Mining) (Hons.)

#### Current professional role and responsibilities

I am employed as a Senior Mine Planning Engineer, currently working on a part time basis on-site and in Perth. As I am looking after a baby my day to day tasks primarily consist of getting good work practices/structures in place, project work and more training.

#### Current employer—type

International gold miner but only looking at the current operation and brownfields

#### Overview of career in the industry

- 4 years uni
- 2 years mining engineering graduate in NZ
- 5.5 years in WA working for the same company: went from Mining Engineer to Senior Mine Planning Coordinator. Having taken maternity leave I am now Senior Mine Planning Engineer working part time.

### EXPERIENCES WORKING IN THE RESOURCES SECTOR

#### Was working in the resources industry what you expected it would be when you were studying/training?

I knew it could be quite different depending on where I worked – so I guess I didn't have too fixed an idea. I was more surprised that when I started working I drew from work experiences more than my actual university degree – I could be wrong, but that is what it felt like. Although when you least expect it you are hit with something that needs you to remember something from those uni days.

#### If at any time you left the industry and came back, why did you leave, how long were you gone for and what motivated you to return?

Maternity leave, about 7 months

**What is the single most risky step you have ever taken your career? Did you find it paid off? Is there anything you would have done differently?**

I don't feel like I have had to do anything risky – in a boom there are a lot of jobs available!

**What would you say have been the most significant 'step changes' in your career pathway, and how have you adapted to these?**

The biggest is uni to industry. I just needed to remember that I was starting from scratch again. Many people don't care you have a degree – you are just labelled 'green' (and they are right)!

**Have you ever been in a supervisory or senior management position? If so, what are the pros and cons of being in such a role?**

The pros are being one step closer to management and finding out decisions early as well as being involved in interesting projects. The cons are stress and the resulting grey hairs! If other members of your team are 'letting the team down' then others expect you to jump in and get it sorted as well as fulfilling your already heavy workload. Other cons are continually shifting work days to fit in with meetings, project work, etc.

**What have you found most rewarding about the industry and what would you most like to get out of your career in resources in the future?**

The interesting nature of the work; it is dynamic and you can never stop learning. At the moment I am interested in getting even further into the planning side of the work.

## **WORKING LIFESTYLE**

**What are your current work/accommodation arrangements?**

Some capital city, some site (on a roster)

**Do you have a preference for any particular working arrangement? What have your experiences with different types of arrangements been like?**

I have experienced some city based work, mostly FIFO and some residential. I think FIFO is an excellent arrangement if you and your partner are happy to have some personal space and do not need to see each other every day. The compensation for FIFO is more days off, which is fantastic! City and residential has the drawback of commuting. On site work is more social.

**What changes or compromises have you had to make in order to balance family or other responsibilities or interests with a career in the industry? Have you found the right balance for you?**

Both my partner and I have needed to change our work roster a few times in order to get the balance right. Otherwise we would never see each other! I am very happy with the work life balance.

**Has your employer been open to negotiating changes to your role or roster to accommodate non-work interests or responsibilities?**

Yes

**BEING FEMALE IN THE INDUSTRY**

**What challenges have you experienced by virtue of working in an industry that is predominantly male? Do you feel you have had to adapt to 'fit' the industry?**

It has largely not been a problem. I have actually found it more enjoyable working with men than women. It is good to see a different opinion.

**Do you feel that you faced any obstacles or discrimination by virtue of your gender in your career and if so, how did you address these issues in order to continue to progress?**

Very little. I just ignore it and move on. Doesn't matter which industry you are in there are always a few people you have issues with – but because the industry is so small, word about them travels fast so there aren't too many!