

Chiedza Mugwagwa - OBITUARY



24th March 1971 to 9th June 2021

We wish a sad farewell to one of the prominent Zimbabwe women geologists, but we remember her life with pride.

Chiedza had the excellent grounding that so many Zimbabwe geologists had in graduating from the dynamic University of Zimbabwe Geology Department at the end of 1994. During her working career, she furthered her studies acquiring an MBA in 2010 and an MSc in GIS from University of Salzburg, Austria in 2016.

Personally, I first met Chiedza when she was the resource geologist at Blanket Mine in 1999 and she was a driven young lady showing early leadership qualities in getting the mine into the digital age and spearheading all Technical Services Department to become conversant with 3D modeling. This legacy endures today with Blanket now taking its place as a leading gold producer in Zimbabwe. From Blanket, Chiedza went to to work with Metallon Gold for the next 10 years, spending time at both Shamva and Mazowe, and developing their spectacular gold resources. Chiedza then spent a short time at Zimplats, Ngezi before migrating to South Africa in 2008 for the next few years, where she was a consultant for Maxwell Geological Services, who specialised in implementing DataShed Mining Software in various sites throughout Africa. Further travel at this time saw Chiedza working in Tanzania and USA for Great Basin Gold, before returning in to Zimbabwe in 2014 as Group Resource Manager for Metallon Gold, rising to Technical Services Manager.

In 2019 Chiedza joined Breckridge Investments as Chief Geologist for Pickstone Mine, Chegutu. She brought vast resource modeling professionalism, attention to detail and willingness to assist at all times. Her sense of humour allowed nothing to keep her down for long, and she will be sorely missed by all at the mine. Chiedza leaves 2 daughters and a lasting geological legacy behind.

Gayle Hanssen