



Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

Media Release

25th March 2024

GRML is in dialogue with RSIPF concerning illegal miners

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Operations Ms. Juanita Matanga and her senior management team attended a meeting held at the Gold Ridge Mining Limited (GRML) to discuss ways to address illegal miners.

During the meeting, the GRML management raised concerns of ongoing challenges faced by the company with the illegal miners.

The mining pit of GRML has been disturbed by illegal miners and settlers which caused disturbance to the company's operations.

Chief representing the 16 tribes (Landowners) and GRML are working on ways to address the issue and seeking support from the RSIPF for assistance.

“Police have identified crimes committed by the illegal miners settling at the mining pit and this illegal activity has to stop. It has come to our attention that the settlers never have respect for police while carrying out their duties,” says DC Matanga.

Ms. Matanga says, “Due to these challenges, Police stand ready to support GRML in their efforts to remove illegal miners and settlers from the mining area when requested. Purposely for the safety of the illegal miners and the company employees.”

DC Matanga says, “Police always perform their duties professionally to ensure law and order is maintained.”

GRML representatives acknowledge the ongoing support and cooperation from the RSIPF after the gifting ceremony of Tinahulu Police post in Central Guadalcanal on 22 August 2023.

Assistant Commissioner (AC) National Capital and Crime Prevention (NCCP) Mr. Simpson Pogeava and Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Guadalcanal Province, Chief Superintendent Rodney Kuma accompanied DC Matanga on the meeting held on 21 March 2024

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Media inquiries

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The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is 'To provide a safe and peaceful Solomon Islands by strengthening relationships with the community'. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient and effective policing services for the Solomon Islands and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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