# HUMAN RESOURCE \& COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SURVEY REPORT \& ANALYSIS 

NAHPĄ DEHÉ DENE BAND (NDDB)


Prepared by Crosscurrent Associates

January 2011

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary ..... iii
Introduction ..... 1
A. PERSONAL DATA ..... 1
B. CURRENT EMPLOYMENT IN RELATION TO EDUCATION, TRAINING \& WORK EXPERIENCE ..... 2

1. Education Levels ..... 2
2. Current Employment. ..... 3
Chart 1: Employment Rates by Gender \& Age Group ..... 3
Chart 2: Permanent vs. Temporary/Seasonal Work by Gender ..... 4
3. Employment by Skill Category ..... 5
Chart 3: Employment Within Skill Categories ..... 5
a) Labourer/Trades ..... 5
b) Environmental Work (Technical) ..... 6
c) Administrative Work ..... 6
d) Management / Supervisory Work ..... 6
e) Hospitality ..... 7
f) Unskilled Labour ..... 7
Chart 4: Number Looking for Jobs in Each Skill Category; Trained vs. Untrained ..... 8
4. Other Training ..... 8
C. EMPLOYMENT \& TRAINING GOALS ..... 8
5. Individual Aspirations ..... 8
6. Training Goals and Preferences ..... 10
7. Mine-Related Economic Opportunities ..... 10
Chart 5: Preferred Work vs. Preferred Contracts with Prairie Creek Mine ..... 11
D. SOCIO-ECONOMIC \& SOCIO-CULTURAL BASELINE ..... 11
Chart 6: Perceived Degree of Social Problems ..... 12
E. PERCEPTIONS OF PRAIRIE CREEK MINE ..... 13
Chart 7: How well-informed are respondents about the Prairie Creek Mine? ..... 13
F. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS ..... 15
APPENDIX 1: BLANK COPY OF SURVEY FORM

# HUMAN RESOURCE \& COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SURVEY REPORT \& ANALYSIS NAHPĄ DEHÉ DENE BAND (NDDB) 

## Executive Summary

As part of Nahrą Dehé Dene Band (NDDB)'s participation in the environmental assessment for Canadian Zinc's (CZN's) proposed Prairie Creek mine, NDDB received funding to conduct a human resource and community economic development survey. Community members were interviewed about their work skills, experience, and interests; their perceptions about social and cultural issues; their expectations vis-à-vis the mine; as well as their goals for broader community economic development.

There is an unemployment rate of $46 \%$ amongst respondents, and average personal and family incomes are below the regional average. While temporary and seasonal jobs are available for some of the unemployed, the majority of respondents are looking for work that is more permanent and provides more hours. The unemployment rate is particularly severe amongst young adults and to a lesser extent older adults; and males are more likely to be underemployed. While some older adults are eager to accept mine-related jobs, young adults tend to be pursuing a wider range of career interests.

The main barriers respondents believe will prevent them from achieving their work and career goals are lack of training / education, lack of work experience, and lack of finances for business activities. Lack of child care may be a barrier, but it only seems significant for a few people. Most respondents are comfortable with shift/rotation work, with a preference for longer rather than shorter rotations.

Over three-quarters of respondents expect they will need to upgrade their education or training within the next five years. It is recommended that the Band's training priorities should include: driver's training/licensing, basic upgrading, trades preparation and certification, and environmental monitoring.

In order for NDDB to help its members take advantage of new job opportunities, better programs must be put in place to address alcohol and drug abuse issues and money management skills. Cultural and language programs, including excursions out on the land, and healing programs are important strategies for mitigating negative social impacts.

Overall, most respondents expressed a cautious optimism that the mine could bring jobs and economic opportunities for the community, which are among people's top priorities. A majority of respondents also have strong concerns about potential damages to the environment and are anxious to understand more about the environmental protection and monitoring measures that will be put in place for the mine.

A summary of recommendations for NDDB as well as for CZN and agencies is included at the end of this report.

## HUMAN RESOURCE \& COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SURVEY REPORT \& ANALYSIS NAHPĄ DEHÉ DENE BAND (NDDB)

## Introduction

As part of Nahrą Dehé Dene Band (NDDB)'s participation in the environmental assessment for Canadian Zinc's (CZN's) proposed Prairie Creek mine, NDDB received funding to conduct a human resource and community economic development survey. Community members were interviewed about their work skills, experience, and interests; their perceptions about social and cultural issues; their expectations vis-à-vis the mine; as well as their goals for broader community economic development.

The Band felt that the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment conducted by CZN was inadequate and, in some areas, misleading. This survey project is intended to provide a more accurate and useful starting point for discussions between NDDB, CZN, and regulators about appropriate socio-economic mitigation measures.

This survey is also intended to help the Band make more informed decisions regarding what kinds of employment, training, and business opportunities would best be pursued with CZN through ongoing impact benefits agreement (IBA) negotiations, and what kinds of social and cultural programming should be established using new funds from IBA-funded programs or other mitigation activities.

The survey questions were designed and revised in collaboration with the NDDB Chief and Council, as well as with NDDB's IBA negotiation team. Input was also solicited from CZN and other agencies.

A total of 43 Nahanni Butte residents participated in the survey, which represents about $47 \%$ of the population of the community over 15. Eight residents were asked to participate but declined. A few declined stating they did not want anything to do with the mine; others gave no reason. All interviews were conducted in person, between October 18th and 24th, 2010. The interview team consisted of Shauna Morgan of Crosscurrent Associates and Lorraine Vital of Nahrą Dehé Dene Band. Most interviews were conducted by the two interviewers together, with Lorraine offering clarification and translation where necessary. Each interview generally lasted about 30 to 45 minutes.

An initial summary of results was shared with some of the NDDB Council and community members on November 25, 2010, and valuable feedback was received.

## A. PERSONAL DATA

Females, males, and all three age categories are adequately represented amongst survey respondents, with a greater proportion of females within the youth category and males within the older adult category. Just over half of the respondents support dependents; only a few of these are single people.

While there is a reasonable gender balance, a greater proportion of respondents are male:

- 24 , or $56 \%$ are male; and
- 19 , or $44 \%$ are female.

This is consistent with the greater proportion of males in the Nahanni Butte community as a whole ( $55 \%$ males according to the 2009 NWT Bureau of Statistics profile).

Each of the age categories is adequately represented, with the largest proportion of respondents being "adults" (middle range):

- 9, or $21 \%$, are youth / young adult (ages 15-30).
o 6 youth, or $67 \%$, of youth are female.
- 20, or $47 \%$, are adults (ages 31-54).
o 8 adults, or $40 \%$, of adults are female.
- 14 , or $33 \%$ are older adults (ages $55+$ ).
o 5 older adults, or $36 \%$, are female.
The gender ratios are most imbalanced for the youth and older adult groups-two-thirds of youth/young adult respondents are female and two-thirds of older adults surveyed are male.

A slight majority ( 24, or $56 \%$ ) of respondents are married or have common-law partners. Only one of these is a young adult ( 30 years of age or younger). There are more single males represented (especially within the 'adult' and 'older adult' age ranges) than females.

Twenty-four of the respondents (56\%) support dependents, and 6 of these are single people supporting dependents ( $14 \%$ of all respondents). Eighteen, or $42 \%$ of respondents have child dependents, and 4 of these are single parents, with 3 of these 4 single parents being male. Six people have no child dependents but support an elder or other dependent; 2 of these are single.

## B. CURRENT EMPLOYMENT IN RELATION TO EDUCATION, TRAINING \& WORK EXPERIENCE

## 1. Education Levels

Nine respondents (22\%) have completed a Grade 12 diploma, with the number of high school graduates disproportionately being male (7 out of the 9). There are high school graduates within each of the age categories, including 2 young adults and 3 older adults. Four youth respondents are still attending high school. Two of the young adults left school after completing Grade 9. Out of the 41 respondents who answered question \#6 on education levels, 10 (24\%) have completed grade 8 or less.

The average grade level completed is 9.2. On average, males in the community have completed a full grade more than females ( 9.6 vs. 8.6).

While none of the respondents hold post-secondary degrees, 21 ( $49 \%$ ) have attended college courses. For 3 of these, however, their college experience consisted mainly of high-school equivalent/upgrading courses. Fifteen, or $35 \%$, have achieved certificates or diplomas of some kind. Eleven have achieved certificates other than a high school diploma.

## 2. Current Employment

Chart 1


Almost half of respondents (21, or 49\%) are currently employed. Of those unemployed, 4 are not looking for work, so the employment rate is actually $54 \%$. Employment is nearly evenly distributed between females (10) and males (11); however, there are marked imbalances amongst the age groups. (See chart 1)

Only one of 9 youth/young adults is currently working-and this is at a temporary position. Three of the other young adults work sometimes at temporary or seasonal jobs. Setting aside the two youth who are still in school and not looking for work, the young adult employment rate is still low at $14 \%$. Only 3 of the 14 older adults are currently working-these are all females. Setting aside the two retired elders interviewed, the older adult employment rate is also low at $25 \%$. In contrast, the adult employment rate is $85 \%$ (17 out of 20). All of the unemployed adults are looking for work.

Of the 18 unemployed respondents who are looking for work, 13 of these people gained income some of the time from occasional, temporary, or seasonal work. These 13 are included in the following discussion about underemployment.

There seems to be considerable underemployment, especially amongst males. Out of the 34 respondents who could name types of work they are generally involved in:

- Only 15 (44\%) of the jobs are permanent or long-term contract positions, while 11 (32\%) are temporary (eg. odd jobs) and 8 (24\%) are seasonal.
$\rightarrow 79 \%$ of the temporary or seasonal workers are male; whereas $60 \%$ of the permanent/long-term positions are held by females. (See chart 2)
- 15 ( $44 \%$ ) of the jobs are part-time (less than 30 hours / week).
$\rightarrow 8$ of the 15 part-time workers are male (53\%).
$\rightarrow$ All of those working part-time wish to be working more hours.

Chart 2


There are 8 respondents who are currently employed but dissatisfied and wanting to switch to a different job. Combined with those 18 who are unemployed / underemployed, there are in total 26 respondents who are looking for work or alternate work. Nine of these rate themselves as either 'not at all satisfied' or 'satisfied with a few things' concerning their current work situation.

Most explain that they have not been able to find adequate work because there are no suitable jobs available. While the majority of respondents (67\%) have left the community at some point in their lives to work or look for work, some currently prefer to stay in Nahanni Butte because a partner has a job there, or they are concerned about finding affordable accommodation in a city. Female respondents are much less likely to have left the community looking for work.

While temporary and seasonal jobs are available for some of the unemployed $46 \%$, the majority of respondents are looking for work that is more permanent and provides more hours. The unemployment rate is particularly severe amongst young adults and to a lesser extent older adults; and males are most likely to be underemployed.

Seventy-nine percent (79\%) of respondents are engaged in harvesting at least occasionally, while a few seem to be relying on harvesting / living off the land more than wage employment. Fourteen, or $33 \%$, harvest relatively frequently (for more than day trips and weekends). Eleven out of the 14 are male; only 2 of these are young adults. Six out of these 14 are already currently employed in full-time jobs, so there are 8 respondents who may be significantly supplementing their wages with subsistence activities.

The majority of those who are not already frequently out on the land state they wish they could spend more time out on the land, but most say they are too busy with work or other family/personal responsibilities to get out on the land more often.

Fall is by far the most popular season for harvesting activities, even amongst those who only get out occasionally. If community members obtain jobs with CZN or other employers, it will be important to allow people time off for the community fall hunt.

## 3. Employment by Skill Category

Chart 3

a) Labourer/Trades

Only one of the respondents is a skilled labourer, with a Heavy Equipment Operator Journeyman certificate. This person is currently not working due to illness/disability.

Eight, or $21 \%$, of the 39 respondents could be considered semi-skilled labourers.

- Four of these have undergone some form of apprenticeship training in various trades (carpentry, road maintenance, welding/mechanic, and pipe fitting).
- Four have skills in heavy equipment operation (HEO): one has an HEO certificate and the other 3 have extensive experience in HEO.
- One has experience working in mines as a mill operator / millright.
- Two have extensive carpentry experience.
- One has a class 3 driver's license and experience driving large trucks.

Five of these 8 are currently employed ( $62 \%$ employment of semi-skilled labourers). Only two are employed in their trade / area of training. Of the 3 who are employed outside their field, only one individual who is looking for a job in his trade area (pipe fitting).

Amongst all respondents, 10 chose 'mine site operations' as one of their top three preferences for jobs associated with the mine. Six of these 10 are currently unskilled labourers. Two specifically stated their interest in enrolling in the Mine Training Society's underground mining course. Six respondents chose 'driving haul trucks' and/or 'gravel haul/operations' as one of their top three preferences. None of these have class 3 licenses or any experience driving large trucks. Seven chose 'road maintenance' as one of their top three preferences. While 5 of these 7 are semi-skilled labourers, only one has a heavy equipment operator (HEO) certificate.

[^0]
## b) Environmental Work (Technical)

Seven respondents, or $18 \%$, have skills in environmental monitoring:

- 3 are semi-skilled, with certificates in Environmental Monitoring;
- 2 are uncertified (unskilled) but have extensive experience in environmental monitoring for agencies such as DFO and Parks; and
- 2 are unskilled but have several years experience as Parks patrol.

Three of these 7 are currently employed ( $43 \%$ employment of responsdents with environmental skills); however, only one is employed in the environmental field. None of the 3 with environmental monitoring certificates is currently employed.

Amongst all respondents, 7 chose 'environmental monitoring' as one of their top three preferences for jobs associated with the mine. Only one of these has an environmental monitoring certificate, and four have no technical experience in this field.
$\rightarrow$ Amongst respondents, there are 4 people with skills in environmental monitoring looking for work ( 3 semi-
skilled; 1 with experience in caribou monitoring for Parks).
$\rightarrow$ An additional 4 people may be interested in training to become environmental monitors.

## c) Administrative Work

Four respondents, or $10 \%$ of the labour force, have administrative skills:

- 2 have formal training in business administration/accounting or computer science;
- 2 are unskilled but have experience doing reception work.

Of these four, 3 are currently employed ( $75 \%$ employment of administrative workers). One is looking for parttime administrative work, and one is looking for work from September until March, with a preference for labour work or an entrepreneurial initiative rather than administrative work.

In total, 7 respondents mentioned they had taken some computer training; however, only two or three seem to have advanced computer skills.

Three respondents in total expressed interest in doing administrative work for Prairie Creek mine; none of these have any experience or formal training in administration.
$\rightarrow$ Amongst respondents, very few have much training or experience in administrative work.
$\rightarrow$ The 3 who are interested in doing this kind of work in relation to the mine have no training or experience.

## d) Management / Supervisory Work

Five respondents, or $13 \%$ of the labour force, have management skills:

- 2 have run or are currently running their own business;
- 2 have acted as manager of the store or Development Corporation;
- One managed a joint venture operation for one year; and
- One has formal training in project management and business administration.

Of these five, 3 are currently employed ( $60 \%$ employment of those with management skills). Three are seasonally employed (currently or recently) and are looking for full-time work; one of these aspires in five years to be running a heavy equipment rental business.

Amongst respondents experienced in management, up to 3 may be interested in taking on a new management role with an employer such as the Band or CZN.

## e) Hospitality

Two respondents are formally trained in camp catering; however, both are currently employed full-time in non-related jobs and do not wish to change jobs.

A total of 7 respondents chose 'hospitality' as one of their top three preferences for jobs associated with the mine. None of these have any formal training in this field; although 2 have catering experience and 4 mentioned they have cleaning skills. All 7 are either looking for work or more work.

There are 7 respondents potentially looking for work in the hospitality field; 2 have catering experience.

## f) Unskilled Labour

Twelve, or 31\%, or respondents have been involved in unskilled manual labour:

- 6 have experience doing slashing;
- 4 have experience in heavy equipment operation (HEO);
- 4 have experience related to pipeline construction, seismic line work, or drilling/blasting;
- 3 have experience in road building or maintenance;
- 2 have experience in underground mining (driving haul train);
- 2 have carpentry experience;
- Other experience includes: forestry / fire fighting, engine maintenance, telecommunications technician, and driving water and sewer trucks.

Four of these 12 are employed ( $33 \%$ employment of unskilled labourers). One of these 4 has a part-time temporary job. Three of these employed people want different jobs; one would specifically like to get into underground mining.

An additional 5 of the unskilled labourers work on an occasional basis (odd jobs) for the Band, the Power Corporation, and other agencies doing work locally. All 8 of the unskilled labourers who are currently unemployed are looking for work.

Looking at respondents' top three preferences for jobs associated with the mine: 8 chose 'slashing/clearing/ road construction'; 9 chose 'road security/monitoring'; and 3 chose 'transfer station'.

In total amongst respondents, there are 11 unskilled labourers who are either unemployed and looking for work, or underemployed / dissatisfied and looking for other full-time work.

## Chart 4



## 4. Other Training

Over half of all respondents ( 24 , or $56 \%$ ) do not currently have a driver's license. Two more have only a learner's license (class 7). Only one respondent has a class 3 (truck) license. In total, 17, or 40\%, have standard (class 5) driver's licenses.

Eleven respondents chose 'driving pilot cars' and/or 'road security / monitoring' amongst their top three preferences for work related to the mine. Five of these 11 currently do not have a driver's license.

Respondents have undergone a wide variety of training courses in addition to the skills described above. The most common courses taken are the pre-employment 'tickets' - including First Aid, WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System), TDG (Transportation of Dangerous Goods), H2S (hydrogen sulfide safety for petroleum-related operations), Bear Aware, and chain saw safety. Of these, the top two types of training are first aid (26, or 60\%) and WHMIS (21, or 49\%).

The Band might consider making driver's training/licensing one of its priorities in terms of job preparation programs.

## C. EMPLOYMENT \& TRAINING GOALS

## 1. Individual Aspirations

When asked where they see themselves in five years, 26 (60\%) of the respondents see themselves still living in Nahanni Butte; however, this only includes one youth. Twenty see themselves employed in wage jobs; threequarters of these prefer full-time positions, although females comprise the majority of those preferring parttime jobs. Five others see themselves continuing to do odd jobs/ seasonal labour. Five see themselves living fully or partially off the land.

Eleven envision themselves starting their own business:

- 3 want to start heavy equipment rental operations;
- 2 want to start tourism-related businesses;
- 2 want to start translation businesses; and others vary.

When asked directly whether they see themselves getting work related to the Prairie Creek Mine, 19 said yes, 14 said no, and 8 said maybe (the remaining 2 are retired). Interestingly, two-thirds of the non-retired older adults (8 out of 12) said 'yes' they see themselves getting mine-related work; whereas only $22 \%$ of young adults (2 out of 9 ) said yes; and $45 \%$ of adults (9 out of 20) said yes.

The main barriers respondents believe will prevent them from achieving their work goals are lack of training / education, lack of work experience, and lack of finances. For those interested in starting up their own businesses, there are major challenges in finding adequate capital and local business partners with enough training and experience to assist them.

Lack of child care may be a barrier, but it only seems significant for a few people. Only one respondent stated that their inability to find suitable child care was a main reason for being unemployed. While 8 people ( $44 \%$ of parents) said they might use a child care service if it was available in Nahanni Butte, only 2 stated that this service would allow them to take a job which would otherwise be impossible. $78 \%$ of those with child dependents are already currently employed, including all four of the single parents interviewed.

There does not seem to be any strong correlation between whether or not respondents have child dependents and their:

- willingness to leave the community for work or training;
- preference for full-time vs. part-time work or training;
- willingness to do shift work; or
- preference for shift length.

It seems that those with child dependents—even single parents—are more likely to prefer full-time work, training at a training centre/institution rather than in the community, and full-time training. This may be because parents are motivated to obtain stable, well-paying jobs in order to support their families.

A large majority (31, or $75 \%$ of the non-retired) are willing to do shift work outside the community. 20 of these are males ( $65 \%$ ). Only 6 said no (15\%); the rest are unsure. Slightly more people prefer the $3 / 3$ shift option ( 3 weeks in, 3 weeks out), and several stated a preference for staying longer on site and reducing the time away from the job ( $3 / 1,4 / 2$, or even $5 / 2$ ).

Respondents are nearly evenly split between preferring to work for the Band, working for CZN, or running their own business.

All but one of the young adults see themselves living in a city in five year's time. Two want to pursue higher education, three see themselves running their own business, and the others have a variety of interests. When asked an open-ended question about what kind of work the younger generations will be wanting 15 years from now, the most common answers included:

- office / computer-related jobs (9 respondents);
- environment-related jobs (Parks, tourism, environmental science, protecting land/air/water) (9);
- semi-skilled labour, with 2 specifying work for mining or oil/gas industry (7);
- jobs for government or to prepare for self-government (6); and
- a variety of other professional careers, including pilot and armed forces (9).

Nine respondents emphasized that the most important thing was for the youth to finish school, and it was noted that the community must create jobs that go beyond the possible short-term time frame of the mine.

While elders are eager to accept mine-related jobs, young adults tend to be pursuing a wide range of other work interests. Most respondents are eager to see the community's young people finish their education and become qualified for professional and technical positions. Most respondents are comfortable with shift/rotation work, and many prefer longer rotations.

## 2. Training Goals and Preferences

Over three-quarters of respondents (34, or 79\%) expect they will need to upgrade their education or training within the next five years. Many of the training goals identified are not related to specific jobs; rather, they may be general work preparation (eg. upgrading), life skills (eg. driver's license), or simply interests (eg. cultural research). The most common training goals are: upgrading/high school diploma and computer skills (8 respondents each).

The preferred choice is to take such training at a training centre or institution ( 16 respondents, or $47 \%$ of those wanting training); however, many also prefer on-the-job training (11, or $32 \%$ ). Of the 8 ( $24 \%$ ) who prefer to train in Nahanni Butte, a disproportionately high number are female (6) and/or young adults (3).

Almost a third of those who want to train/upgrade (10 respondents) are willing to leave the community for more than one year for this training. Half are willing to leave for more than six months. Seven of those who want training are not willing to leave the community at all. When asked what would make them feel more comfortable leaving Nahanni Butte to take training, the largest number of people expressed a need to visit home often, to be in regular communication with family, and to have friends taking the program with them.

## 3. Mine-Related Economic Opportunities

The most common preferred type of work associated with the mine was 'mine site operations' (chosen by 10 respondents), followed closely by road security/monitoring (9), and slashing / road construction (8). Environmental monitoring (7), road maintenance (7) and hospitality (7) were also popular work interests.

Many of these preferences correspond to the top choices in terms of business contracts the Band could negotiate with CZN: slashing/ road construction (19), environmental monitoring (18), road security (17), and road maintenance (17). (See chart 5, which correlates respondents' individual job interests with respondents' suggestions for NDDB mine-related contracts) A few people insisted that the Band should take on all of the business contracts, even taking a direct management role in mine site operations, even if this means the Band has to hire many people from outside the community to manage these responsibilities.

Environmental monitoring is particularly significant as an important mitigation tool, as it was mentioned by 7 respondents when asked an open-ended question about how negative impacts can best be reduced.

There may be enough people in the community making traditional crafts ( 13 respondents) to support a small business selling crafts to mine employees and tourists. Five of the 13 say they would make more crafts if they could sell them more easily, especially during the winter (off-season for tourism).

Aside from mine site operations, top work interests correspond to preferred contracts: slashing/clearing, road security, road maintenance, and environmental monitoring. The latter was also emphasized as an important mitigation tool.

Chart 5


## D. SOCIO-ECONOMIC \& SOCIO-CULTURAL BASELINE

The average personal income amongst respondents is \$29,556 / year (14\% less than the Dehcho average) and the average household income is $\$ 42,780$ / year ( $37 \%$ less than the Dehcho average). ${ }^{i}$ Most income is obtained through wages and business profits. Relatively few respondents seem to be collecting pensions (5), disability insurance (3), employment insurance (2), or income support (1), and the average amounts collected are relatively low (eg. from an average of $\$ 5780$ / year for disability insurance to an average of $\$ 16,416$ / year for employment insurance). A few respondents sit on boards and councils and collect significant honorarium payments (an average of $\$ 12,180$ / year in honoraria, including travel and other allowances).

The lack of employment opportunities was identified as the most important negative factor on health. Several people explained that the kinds of jobs available are good; there are simply not enough of them. Job skills programs were the top priority identified, when respondents were asked what kinds of programs should be created if new funds became available (ie. from an IBA). Moreover, "jobs" was overwhelmingly the most common answer ( 20 respondents) when asked an open-ended question about potential positive impacts of the mine.

The social problem in the community most consistently identified by respondents as a major barrier to taking advantage of job opportunities is alcohol, and to a lesser extent drugs. 27 respondents identified alcohol abuse-while 21 identified drug abuse—as a moderate to very big problem. (See chart 6.) Many respondents perceive a lack of treatment options within the community as a contributing factor for addictions issues. 26 respondents want counseling services set up in Nahanni Butte, rather than simply having help available over
the phone. 11 others believe that counseling services would be best offered the mine site. A healing circle was one of the top three suggestions for a program that should be created with new IBA funds.

Chart 6


There are also opportunities to build on the positive aspects of life in Nahanni Butte. 30, or 70\%, of respondents perceive their health as generally good or very good. For 34, or $79 \%$, of respondents, country foods constitutes more than $50 \%$ of their diet, and most state that their families prefer country foods over store-bought foods. 22 respondents gather traditional medicinal plants for a variety of ailments, with the most popular plants being Labrador tea, spruce gum, rat root, and other remedies for cough/cold. Clean water/air/environment was named most often as an important positive contributor to people's health in the community ( 27 respondents).

Many respondents expressed strong interest in learning about traditional activities, particularly making snowshoes, drumming/drum-making, and preparing traditional medicines. While $65 \%$ speak Slavey well enough to carry on a conversation (and another 26\% understand Slavey when they hear it), 41, or $95 \%$ of respondents feel it is at least 'somewhat important' to improve or maintain their Slavey language skills, with $79 \%$ stating this is 'very important'. One of the highest priorities for new program creation was programs for the youth, especially cultural and language programs and programs out on the land. These same kinds of programs were also mentioned by several people as important mitigation strategies for potential negative social impacts created by the mine.

In order for NDDB to help its members take advantage of new job opportunities, better programs must be put in place to address alcohol and drug abuse issues. Cultural and language programs, including excursions out on the land, may be important mitigation strategies for negative social impacts.

## E. PERCEPTIONS ABOUT PRAIRIE CREEK MINE

A total of 19 people (44\%) stated they understand little or nothing about the proposed Prairie Creek mine project. Another 14 respondents ( $33 \%$, or about one-third) said they understand "some" aspects of the project. Of those who declared that they understood most (dark orange on chart) or all (red on chart) that they needed to know about the mine, the majority were male, which may reflect that fact that more males than females have had the opportunity to work at the mine site to date.

## Chart 7



While many people believe that visiting people door to door and producing a newsletter would be good ideas (16 respondents supporting each of these strategies), the majority believe that community meetings are the best strategy to get people better informed about the CZN project. People gave the following suggestions about meetings:
$>$ Hold more meetings that are open to the entire community;
$>$ Hold meetings when more people are available, like in the evenings;
$>$ Get better translation, and do more to help people understand difficult terminology;
$>$ Give better notice - further ahead of time;
$>$ Find ways to make people more comfortable speaking up in meetings, like having meetings without CZN present, and making sure the Band is in charge of running the meetings.

When asked whether the mine could have certain negative impacts on traditional activities, a large majority ( $88 \%$ ) agreed. 35 respondents, or $81 \%$, believe the mine could contaminate water, plants, and animal habitat; and 29 , or $67 \%$, believe the mine could harm or scare away animals and fish. Even when asked an open-ended question about potential negative impacts of any kind, a significant number expressed concerns about negative impacts on water ( 15 respondents) and animals / land/ traditional harvesting ( 15 respondents). Another very common answer to this open-ended question was the potential for worsening the alcohol problems ( 16 respondents). Four respondents stated that potential negative impacts are too great and the mine should not be opened.

When asked an open-ended question about potential positive impacts of any kind, 28 ( $65 \%$ ) stated there could be positive impacts; and 20 ( $47 \%$ ) mentioned jobs. However, many people qualified this answer by saying that people would only get jobs if alcohol and drug problems are reduced, and the local economy would benefit
only if people manage their money wisely and if the Band manages its benefits funds wisely. Twenty (20) respondents believe money management is a moderate to very big problem for people in the community (see chart 6). Eighteen, or 42\%, of respondents believe the mine could have some positive impacts on traditional harvesting/culture (ie. increased access and/or providing income for gas/equipment/cultural programs).

A few respondents believe that employees would have the opportunity to harvest while they are at the mine site or monitoring along the road --this is a misconception that should be addressed.

Fourteen (14) respondents say they expect to personally benefit from the mine, and 19 see themselves getting a job related to the mine ( 14 of these are male). These expectations may be unrealistic given the number of jobs projected by CZN and people's current education and training levels.

Overall, most respondents expressed a cautious optimism that the mine could bring jobs and economic opportunities for the community, which are amongst people's top priorities. Most respondents also have strong concerns about potential damages to the environment and are anxious to understand more about the environmental protections and monitoring that will be put in place.

[^1]
## F. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

## Conclusions and/or Recommendations for NDDB to Consider

1. Job skills training is in high demand, with $79 \%$ expecting they will need to upgrade their education or training within the next five years. The Band's training priorities should likely include: driver's training/licensing, basic upgrading, trades entry and certification programs, and environmental monitoring certification.
2. The Band could support those reluctant to leave the community for training by facilitating visits home and communication with friends and family.
3. Preferred contracts to pursue with CZN include: slashing/clearing, road security, road maintenance, and environmental monitoring.
4. The Band might support the start-up of a small business selling crafts to mine employees and tourists.
5. In order to help its members take advantage of new job opportunities, the Band should focus on getting better programs in place to address alcohol and drug addictions issues and promote better money management.
6. Providing enhanced cultural and language programming is an important strategy for mitigating negative social impacts.
7. To help get community members, particularly women, become better informed about the CZN project, NDDB can:
> Hold meetings when more people are available, like in the evenings;
> Get better translation, and do more to help people understand difficult terminology;
> Give better notice further ahead of time through posters, newsletters, and home visits;
> Facilitate ways to make people more comfortable speaking up in meetings, like having meetings without CZN present and making sure the Band is in charge of running the meetings.

## Recommendations for CZN and Other Agencies to Consider

1. Ensure stringent environmental protection measures are put in place and help community members fully understand these measures.
2. Support and fund NDDB's training priorities.
3. Assist the Band and NDDB members in getting access to capital, partners, and expertise in order to take advantage of business opportunities.
4. Support and fund better counseling and healing programs to address substance abuse issues.
5. Support and fund money management programs.
6. Support cultural and language programs.
7. Ensure that community members are allowed time off for the community fall hunt.
8. Operate initially with a 3 weeks in/3 weeks out shift option but assess the effectiveness of this shift rotation on NDDB employees on an annual basis.

## APPENDIX 1: BLANK COPY OF SURVEY FORM

## HUMAN RESOURCE \& COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SURVEY NAHPĄ DEHÉ DENE BAND (NDDB) - OCTOBER 2010

The Nahrą Dehé Dene Band is doing a survey of its Band members 15 years of age and older. The Band wants to find out about the goals, work skills, and opinions of Band members so that it can make better decisions regarding social and cultural programming, employment, training, and business opportunities in relation to the proposed Prairie Creek mine. Your opinion and ideas are important.

This questionnaire is confidential. Your name will not be on it, and your privacy will be protected. The information from this questionnaire will belong to NDDB. A summary of the information, with privacy protection, will be shared with other groups only in order to promote NDDB Band member interests. If you are not comfortable with any question, you don't have to answer it.

Are you willing to complete this questionnaire? $\qquad$ Yes $\qquad$

## A. PERSONAL DATA

1. Gender: Male __ Female __
2. Which of the following age categories are you in? 15-29 _ $30-54 \ldots \quad 55$ yrs $+\ldots$
3. Which of the following best describes your marital status?

Married or Common-Law $\qquad$ Single (includes separated, widowed, etc) $\qquad$
4. How many children, family members, or other people depend on you for support?
__children _ elders __ other

## B. EDUCATION \& TRAINING

5. Are you presently attending school?

> Yes_
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ If yes, which grade are you in? $\qquad$
6. What is the highest grade you have completed at school or through upgrading? $\qquad$
7. Have you attended any courses at college or university? Yes __ No _
$\rightarrow$ If yes, which subject(s)? $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ For how long did you study at college/university? $\qquad$
8. Do you have any type of certificate, diploma, or degree? Yes $\qquad$ No
$\qquad$
9. Have you taken any other training courses? (eg. computer skills, first aid, fire fighting, handling dangerous goods, hide tanning, etc)
10. Have you ever been an apprentice?

Yes $\qquad$ _ No _-
$\rightarrow$ If yes, what type of apprentice? $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ What level did you achieve? ( $1^{\text {st }}$ year / $2^{\text {nd }}$ year/etc.) $\qquad$
11. What class(es) of driver's license do you have?

None $\qquad$ 5 (regular) $\qquad$ 7 (learner's) $\qquad$
Truck: 1__ B__ Bus: 2 _

[only if 'no' answers to 7,8,9,10] - ie. to draw out additional information if not much formal schooling/training
12. What other kinds of skills and/or experience do you have that could help you either get a job for wages, or start your own business?
13. What other kinds of skills or experience do you have that help you provide for yourself and your family every day? (eg. make/mend clothing, make tools, do repairs, chop wood, care for children, etc)

## C. CURRENT WORK \& OTHER ACTIVITIES

## Work for Wages

14. Are you currently either working for wages/salary at a job or running your own business?

Yes _ No _ $\quad \rightarrow$ If yes, continue (complete 15-20).
$\rightarrow$ If no, do you want to work for wages at a job or run your own business?
Yes__ [If yes, skip to 21*] No _ [If no, skip to 23**]
15. Who is your employer and what type of work do you do?

Employer: $\qquad$ Work: $\qquad$
16. Is this work: Permanent $\qquad$ Seasonal $\qquad$ or Temporary $\qquad$ ?
17. How many paid hours per week do you normally work at this job or business?

Less than 30 hours _ More than 30 hours _ [If more than 30 hours, skip to 20]
18. [If less than 30 hrs ] What is the main reason you usually work less than 30 hours per week at this job?
_ 1. Could only find part-time work
_ 2. Busy caring for children / elders
_ 3. IIlness or disability
5. Busy on the land/doing chores
-
6. Other: $\qquad$
19. [If less than 30 hrs ] Do you want to work more hours?

Yes_
$\qquad$ No _
20. Do you want a different job or type of work?

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ If yes, what type?
21. *Have you looked for a job / different job in the past four weeks? (eg. contacted employers, answered job ads, visited an employment office)

Yes $\qquad$
22. What is the main reason why you haven't been able to find work?
$\qquad$ 1. Gave up looking / Believe there are no jobs available
$\qquad$ 2. Illness or disability
$\qquad$ 3. Out on the land
4. Busy with chores / responsibilities
__ 5. Unable to find suitable child/elder care
6. Not sure7. Other: $\qquad$
23. **Have you ever left the community of Nahanni Butte to work or look for work? Yes__ No_
24. Do you do any other types of paid or volunteer activities?
$\qquad$ Sitting on boards / councils: $\qquad$ hours per month (Specify: $\qquad$ )
$\qquad$ Attending meetings: $\qquad$ hours per month
$\qquad$ Other: $\qquad$ hours per month (Specify: $\qquad$ )
25. In the past year, approximately how much income did you receive from the following sources:

Working for wages \$ $\qquad$
Employment Insurance (EI) \$ $\qquad$ Specify:
$\qquad$
Other \$ Sales from pelts, crafts, harvesting \$ $\qquad$
26. What was your approximate total household income-the approximate total money earned by all the people living in your house-during the last year? \$ $\qquad$
27. How satisfied are you with your current work opportunities and situation? (circle)

01 - Not at all satisfied
02 - Satisfied with a few things, occasionally
03 - Somewhat satisfied
04 - Satisfied with most things, most of the time
05 - Completely satisfied

## Traditional Activities

28. Which of the following statements best describes your involvement in traditional harvesting (ie. hunting, trapping, fishing, berry harvesting)? (circle)

01 - Rarely harvest animals/fish/berries
02 - Occasionally harvest, but ONLY day-trips or the occasional weekend
03 - Occasionally harvest, but MORE than day-trips or the occasional weekend
04 - Frequently harvest
05-Other: $\qquad$
29. If you are an active harvester, which animals do you mainly hunt or trap, and during which seasons?

Animal
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Season
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
30. Do you harvest plants for medicine or other purposes besides food? Yes $\qquad$ _ $\qquad$
$\qquad$ $\rightarrow$ If yes, explain: $\qquad$
31. During the past year, how much of the total amount of meat or fish eaten in your household was obtained through hunting or fishing?

```
01 - Very little (less than 10%)
O2 - Some (about 25%)
03 - About half (about 50%)
04 - Most (about 75%)
05 - Practically all (more than 90%)
```

32. Do the people in your household prefer to eat mainly foods from the land or mainly store-bought foods? Foods from the land $\qquad$ Store-bought foods $\qquad$ Same amounts of both __
33. Would you prefer to spend more time harvesting / out on the land? Yes $\qquad$ No_
$\qquad$
34. [If yes] What is preventing you from spending more time harvesting / out on the land?
35. Poor health / disability
36. Lack of money for gas / transportation
37. Too busy working 5. Too busy with family/personal responsibilities
38. Lack of skills / experience 6. Low fur prices
$\qquad$ 7. Other: $\qquad$
39. Do you make any traditional crafts? Yes__ No_
$\rightarrow$ If yes, what type? $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ How often do you make these crafts? Rarely __ Sometimes $\qquad$ Often $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ Would you make more crafts if you could sell them easily? Yes__ No_
40. Which of the following traditional activities do you know how to do? Which of these activities would you like to learn more about?

| 1. Preparing dry-fish and dry-meat | Know how | Want to learn more about |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. Arts - beading, carving, etc | - | - |
| 3. Drumming /Drum-making | - | - |
| 4. Tanning hides | - |  |
| 5. Telling stories and legends | - | - |
| 6. Special ceremonies (eg. feeding fire) | - | - |
| 7. Preparing traditional medicines | - | - |
| 8. Making nets, traps, snowshoes, etc | - | - |
| 9. Other: |  |  |

37. Do you expect that the mine could have any positive impacts on traditional activities and culture:
_ 1. Increase vehicle access / harvesting opportunities

## __ 2. More money for gas and equipment

_ 3. More funds for cultural programs
__ 4. Other: $\qquad$
__ 5. No positive impacts
38. Do you expect that the mine could have any negative impacts on traditional activities and culture:
_ 1. Harm or scare away animals and fish
_ 2. Contaminate water, plants and animal habitat
__ 3. Less time for harvesting
__ 4. Less interest in harvesting
__ 5. Decrease Slavey language use
_ 6. Other:
__ 7. No negative impacts

## Language

39. Can you speak Slavey well enough to carry on a conversation?


No
40. If no, can you understand Slavey when you hear it?

Yes $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
41. If yes, is Slavey the language that you usually speak at home? Yes_ No o_
42. How important to you is improving or maintaining your Slavey language skills?

01 - Not at all important
02 - A little important
03 - Somewhat important
04 - Quite important
05 - Very important
43. Can you read or write Slavey? Yes: Read $\qquad$ Write $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
44. If you were working at the mine site, would you be more comfortable communicating in Slavey, English, or either? (eg. for safety / equipment training)
Slavey__ English__ Either Slavey or English__

## D. GOALS / PLANS

45. Where do you see yourself living and working, 5 years from now?

Nahanni Butte _ Another small community _ Larger town or city _
46. What kind of work do you see yourself doing in 5 years?
__ 1. Job for wages/salary $\rightarrow$ Specify what kind: $\qquad$
$\rightarrow$ Full time _ OR Part time_
$\qquad$ 2. Starting own business $\rightarrow$ Specify what kind: $\qquad$
3. Living off the land
4. Doing a variety of seasonal labour
5. Other: $\qquad$
47. In order to achieve this goal, will you need to upgrade your education or training within the next 5 years?

Yes__ No_ _If no - skip to 54*]
$\rightarrow$ If yes, what are your education/training goals? $\qquad$
48. Would you prefer to take this training:

On the job_
$\qquad$ At a training centre/institution $\qquad$ In Nahanni Butte $\qquad$
49. Would you prefer to take this training: Full time _ OR Part time _
50. Would you be willing to attend an education or training program in another community:

| $\rightarrow$ that lasted less than six months | Yes__ | No_- |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\rightarrow$ that lasted between six months and one year | Yes_ | No_- |
| $\rightarrow$ that lasted more than one year | Yes__ | No__ |

51. What would you need to make you feel comfortable leaving the community to complete an education or training program?
__ 1. Opportunities to visit home often
52. Guaranteed job upon completion of program
53. Friends / people you know taking the program with you
54. Other: $\qquad$
55. *What could prevent you from achieving your work goal?
56. Child care / elder care responsibilities __ 4. Too much time away from home
57. Lack of money
__ 3. Not enough confidence
___ 7. Other: $\qquad$
58. Would you be willing to do shift work at a job site outside this community? Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ Unsure
$\qquad$
59. If yes to \#55, then given the choice, would you prefer to work 2 weeks in / 2 weeks out, OR 3 weeks in / 3 weeks out OR do you have another preference?

3/3 $\qquad$ Other: $\qquad$
55. Would you use child care services if they were available in Nahanni Butte? Yes_ No_ $\rightarrow$ If yes, would child care allow you to take a job or do work that would otherwise be impossible for you? Yes_

No $\qquad$
56. What kind of work do you see your children or grandchildren doing, 15 years from now?

## E. SOCIO-CULTURAL BASELINE AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

57. How would you rate your overall physical health and strength?

01 - Very poor
02 - Often poor ("Often it is a struggle to do what I need to do")
03 - OK ("Manageable / Some good days, some bad days")
04 - Generally good ("My body is capable of doing most things I need to do")
05 - Very good ("My body is capable of doing everything I need or want to do")
58. How would you rate your overall mental health and stress levels?

01 - Highly distressed and unstable
02 - Often stressed or unstable ("Often it is a struggle to get through my day")
03 - Somewhat stressed ("Manageable / Some good days, some bad days")
04 - Occasionally stressed ("But I usually cope OK and feel positive much of the time")
05 - Very good, rarely stressed
59. What aspects of life in Nahanni Butte contribute in a positive way to your health and wellbeing?
__ 1. Good / fresh food
__ 2. Clean water, air, environment
__ 3. Support from family / community members _ 7. Other: $\qquad$
60. What aspects of life in Nahanni Butte contribute in a negative way to your health and wellbeing?
__ 1. Food is poor quality / too expensive
_ 4. Lack of opportunities for recreation, sports
_ 2. Feel isolated or bored
_ 5. Conflicts with family / community members
__ 3. Lack of medical care / medicines _ 6. Lack of employment opportunities
$\qquad$ 7. Other: $\qquad$
61. From your perspective, is crime or violence a problem in Nahanni Butte?

01 - Not a problem at all
02 - Small problem / Rarely
03 - Moderate problem / Sometimes
04 - Big problem / Usually
05 - Very big problem
Explain:
62. From your perspective, how much of a problem is alcohol abuse in Nahanni Butte?

01 - Not a problem at all
02 - Small problem / Only a few people
03 - Moderate problem / Several people
04 - Big problem / Many people
05 - Very big problem
63. From your perspective, how much of a problem is drug abuse in Nahanni Butte?

01 - Not a problem at all
02 - Small problem / Only a few people
03 - Moderate problem / Several people
04 - Big problem / Many people
05 - Very big problem
64. From your perspective, how well do current health services and healing programs deal with alcohol and drug addictions problems in Nahanni Butte?

01 - Do not help much at all
02 - Help a little bit
03 - Help some people / sometimes
04 - Help most people

05 - Take care of most problems / Do all that can be done
65. CZN has proposed to offer counseling services for employees and their families over the phone. How effective do you feel that counseling services over the phone would be?

01 - Not effective / not good enough
02 - Somewhat effective / not quite good enough
03 - Very effective / good enough
66. Other than phone counseling, what kind of counseling services might be effective:
_ Counselling services at mine site
_ Counselling services in Nahanni Butte
_ Other: $\qquad$
67. From your perspective, how much of a problem is money management for people in Nahanni Butte?

01 - Not a problem at all
02 - Small problem / Only a few people
03 - Moderate problem / Several people
04 - Big problem / Many people
05 - Very big problem
68. List up to 3 programs / workshops that would be your top priorities for Nahanni Butte, if funds were available. (eg. health or healing programs, job preparation programs, language workshops)

## F. WORK EXPECTATIONS - PRAIRIE CREEK MINE

69. If the Prairie Creek mine goes ahead, do you see yourself getting work related to the mine? Yes_ No_
70. Would you prefer to work for: The Band/Development Corporation $\qquad$ CZN $\qquad$ Another Contractor __ Yourself (your own business) ___ $\rightarrow$ Explain why:
71. From the following list of work activities associated with the mine, rate the top three (3) you would like to be involved in:
__ Slashing / clearing / road construction (start-up phase only)
_ Environmental monitoring
_ Road security / monitoring
_ Road maintenance (operations phase only)
_ Gravel haul / operations
__ Transfer station (fuel / food sales) (operations phase only)
_ Driving haul trucks (operations phase only)
_ Driving pilot cars (operations phase only)
_ Hospitality work at camp (cooking / catering, cleaning) (operations phase only)
__ Administration / record keeping / coordination
_ Community liaison
_ Mine site operations (labourer, tradesperson, underground miner)
72. For any of these top 3 interests, would you need additional education or training to do this kind of work? Yes $\qquad$ Explain:
73. What might prevent you from being able to take on this kind of work?
__ 1. Lack of help with child/elder care
_ 2. Rotation schedule / time away from home
__ 3. Lack of work experience
__ 4. Lack of education / training
__ 5. Lack of certification
__ 6. Health / addictions problems
_ 7. Criminal record
__ 8. Other $\qquad$
74. Which three (3) kinds of business contracts do you think NDDB should negotiate with CZN, either on the community's own or as part of a joint venture:
__ Slashing/clearing of winter access road
__ Security for winter access road
_ Maintenance for winter access road
__ Management of transfer station (fuel / food sales)
__ Environmental monitoring
__ Gravel haul / operations
__ Trucking / pilot car operations
__ Housekeeping or catering for camp
_ Other $\qquad$

## G. PERCEPTIONS ABOUT PRAIRIE CREEK MINE

75. On a scale of 1 to 5 , how well-informed do you feel about the Prairie Creek mine project?

01 - Don't understand anything about the project
02 - Understand a little about the project
03 - Understand some aspects of the project
04 - Understand most important things about the project
05 - Understand everything I need to know about the mine project
76. What would be the best way to keep NDDB members well-informed about the project?
__ 1. Community meetings
2. Visiting community members door to door
3. Newsletter
4. Other: $\qquad$
77. Based on what you currently know, do you think the mine could have some positive impacts on the community if it went ahead? _ Yes __ No [If no, skip to 80*]
78. What do you think are some possible positive impacts of the mine on the community?
79. Do you expect to personally benefit from mine operations? __ No __Yes $\rightarrow$ If yes, please explain:
80. *Based on what you currently know, do you think the mine could have some negative impacts on the community if it went ahead? __ Yes __ No [If no, skip to 83*]
81. What do you think are some possible negative impacts of the mine on the community?
82. How can these negative impacts best be reduced?
83. *Do you have any final comments about your potential involvement with, or the impacts of, the proposed Prairie Creek Mine operation?
84. Do you have any final comments about this survey?


[^0]:    $\rightarrow$ Amongst respondents, there are 4 semi-skilled labourers who are looking for a job in their field ( 2 in HEO/road maintenance; 1 in mine site operations; 1 in pipe fitting).
    $\rightarrow$ Up to 8 more respondents who are currently unskilled labourers are potentially interested in training for semi-skilled or skilled labour positions in mine site operations, driving haul/gravel trucks, or road maintenance.

[^1]:    ${ }^{i i}$ NWT Bureau of Statistics, 2008 Summary of NWT Community Statistics. Latest income statistics are available for 2006. http://www.stats.gov.nt.ca/labour-income/income/Summary of NWT Income Statistics-2008.pdf.

