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MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT AND REVIEW BOARD

PRAIRIE CREEK MINE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Mackenzie Valley Review Board Staff:

Richard Edjericon	Chairperson
Richard Mercredi	Member
Danny Bayha	Member
Peter Bannon	Member
Rachel Crapeau	Member
James Wah-Shee	Member
Darryl Bohnet	Member
Percy Hardisty	Member

HELD AT:

Nahanni Butte, NT
June 22nd, 2011
Day 1 of 3

APPEARANCES

1
2 Martin Haefele) MVEIRB staff
3 Chuck Hubert)
4 Paul Mercredi)
5 Jessica Simpson)
6 John Donihee) Board counsel
7
8 David Harpley) For Canadian Zinc
9 Alan Taylor) Corporation
10 Chris Reeves)
11 Wilbert Antoine)
12
13 Teresa Joudrie) AANDC
14
15 Michael Suitor) Parks Canada
16
17 Chief Fred Tesou) Naha Dehe Dene Band
18 Peter Redvers)
19 Lorraine Vital)
20 Jayne Konisenta)
21 Caroline Lafontaine)
22
23
24
25

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1 --- Upon commencing at 10:15 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good morning. We'll --
4 we'll start this morning, but before we start I just want
5 to say that we're very happy to be in your community,
6 Chief, and I want to get the Chief from this community to
7 do welcoming remarks, so I'm going to turn it over to the
8 Chief. And if you could just state your name.

9 Okay. I guess I'm told that we've got to
10 speak close to the mic. What I'll do is I'll turn it
11 over to the Chief, but then he will get opening prayer,
12 then the Chief will do your welcoming comments, so I'll
13 turn it over to the Chief.

14 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Yeah, Mahsi. Jayne
15 Konisenta will do the opening prayer for us here and we
16 will get the -- we'll deal with opening prayer.

17

18 (OPENING PRAYER)

19

20 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Good morning. Good
21 morning, everybody. My name is Fred Tesou. I'm the
22 Chief of Nahanni Butte. On behalf of the Chief and
23 Council I'd like to welcome everybody to -- to Nahanni
24 Butte.

25 Well, I know everybody's waiting for the

1 coffee, but it's making right now, and it will be there
2 very soon. Yeah, I -- once again I'd like to welcome
3 everybody to my -- my small community and -- and...

4 This is really important issues about --
5 about what we're going to be talking about, so once
6 again, welcome to Nahanni Butte.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING COMMENTS:

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi, Chief.
10 And also, Mahsi, Jayne, for your -- doing your opening
11 prayer. I'm going to go ahead and start the opening
12 comments for the Chairman.

13 First of all I want to say good morning.
14 I would like to begin this hearing to let you know my
15 name is Richard Edgericon. I'm the Chair for the
16 Mackenzie Valley Impact Review Board.

17 Before I do that I want to do an
18 introduction of the -- my Board members and my staff.
19 And maybe what we could do is we could go around the
20 table, and when you speak we ask you to mention your name
21 and who you represent just so that it's on public record.

22 So I want to go to my far right. I'm
23 going to go to my Board member.

24 MR. PETER BANNON: Peter Bannon, Board
25 member.

1 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Danny Bayha, Board
2 member from Deline, thank you.

3 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: Richard Mercredi,
4 Board member, Fort Smith.

5 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: Rachel Crapeau,
6 Board member from the Dettah.

7 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: Percy Hardisty,
8 Board member from Fort Simpson.

9 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: James Wah-Shee,
10 Board member from Tlicho area.

11 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Good morning. My
12 name is Darryl Bohnet, and I'm a Board member from
13 Yellowknife.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going
15 to go to our -- our staff in the back.

16 MR. PAUL MERCREDI: Paul Mercredi, EA
17 Officer from Yellowknife.

18 MR. CHUCK HUBERT: Chuck Hubert, Review
19 Board, Yellowknife.

20 MR. MARTIN HAEFELE: And I'm Martin
21 Haefele, also with the Review Board in Yellowknife.

22 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: My name is John
23 Donihee, I'm Board counsel.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going
25 to go to Nahanni Butte First Nation introduction to

1 yourself, Chief, and Bor -- Band Council or staff that
2 may be with you.

3 CHIEF FRED TESOU: My name is Fred Tesou,
4 Chief of Nahanni Butte.

5 MS. JAYNE KONISENTA: Jayne Konisenta,
6 Nahanni Butte councillor.

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 MS. LORRAINE VITAL: Lorraine Vital,
11 councillor.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you.
13 I'm going to go over to Canadian Zinc, introduction.

14 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Good morning. My
15 name's Alan Taylor, I'm with Canadian Zinc.

16 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: David Harpley,
17 Canadian Zinc.

18 MR. CHRIS REEVES: Chris Reeves, Canadian
19 Zinc.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Okay.
21 We'll -- we'll continue on. I just wanted to -- Canadian
22 Zinc, for the record we've been -- has made an
23 application for a water licence and a land -- land use
24 permit to operate Prairie Creek Mine.

25 In addition, two (2) land use permits have

1 been submitted to operate and concentrate transfer
2 facilities halfway along the winter road access, and
3 another transfer facility near the Liard Highway.

4 The proposed Prairie Creek Mine project
5 was referred to for environmental assessment by Indian
6 and Northern Affairs Canada on its own behalf and based
7 on additional requests from Nahanni Butte Dene Band in
8 August of 2008.

9 We have received one (1) of the first
10 stages of the environmental assessment, the community
11 hearing. Today the Board wishes to hear the views and
12 options that members of the community in Nahanni Butte
13 may have regarding this proposal development.

14 This community hearing is informal and is
15 intended to be distinct from the more formal hearings
16 later this week in Fort Simpson. Presentation from
17 parties will be held -- will be non-technical and the
18 majority of the time will be given to the community
19 members to ask questions.

20 Over the course of the day we will ask
21 that you do not -- best to help the Review Board to
22 understand your views about the proposed development
23 potential environmental, social, economic, and cultural
24 impacts, and your views of potential significance of
25 these impacts.

1 producing an official transcript of this hearing. This
2 transcript will be available through our website and the
3 public registry for this environmental assessment.

4 The community will be informal and will
5 proceed as follows, Canadian Zinc Corporation will give
6 their presentation first. After they have given the
7 presentation, community members and the Review Board have
8 the opportunity to ask questions.

9 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, INAC and Parks
10 Canada will also be -- make brief presentations.
11 Community members and -- and the Review Board will have
12 the opportunity to ask questions of each of these three
13 (3) presen -- presentations.

14 There will be no questions between the
15 developer and the parties during this community hearing.
16 The remaining time this afternoon will be for community
17 members to ask further questions through the developer
18 and the parties that are present.

19 Community members here today are welcome
20 to speak, make a statement, or ask questions. Please
21 identify yourself to one (1) of our staff so they can --
22 can help you. Questions can be asked with a microphone
23 so that everyone here and the transcript -- transcribers
24 can properly record it.

25 We have simultaneous translations into the

1 Dene languages on your -- on your headsets. You can hear
2 English on Channel 1, and the Dene languages on Channel
3 2. I ask that you speak slowly and clearly for the
4 interpreters.

5 So let's begin today with the presentation
6 from Cana -- Canadian Zinc Corporation. So we'll --
7 we'll turn it over to Canadian Zinc Corporation.

8 Even though in my opening comments I also
9 made a note that we're going to move the Nahanni Butte
10 Dene Band presentation to 1:00 this afternoon, so it
11 gives us time to -- we'll continue on with the other
12 presenters.

13 Okay. So I'm going to turn it over to
14 Canadian Zinc. And then I ask that everybody that speak
15 will speak through the Chair. And maybe what we could do
16 is make sure that you mention your name so it's clear for
17 our transcriber to understand. And -- so I'll turn it
18 over to Canadian Zinc. Mahsi.

19

20 PRESENTATION BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yeah, if I could ask
22 Mr. Chairperson if I could stand up and do the
23 presentation, I'll make sure that I'm heard.

24

25

(BRIEF PAUSE)

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Maybe while they're
2 getting set up there I also want to acknowledge our
3 transcriber, Wendy Warnock. She's our transcriber in the
4 back, and our translators in the back. We'll mention --
5 we'll recognize you guys a little bit later. But if you
6 guys wave -- if we're going too fast just let me know and
7 then we'll slow those guys down. Okay. Mahsi.

8

9 (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

11 CONTINUED BY MR. ALAN TAYLOR:

12 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Hello. Hello. Okay.
13 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name's Alan
14 Taylor. I've been with Canadian Zinc for almost fifteen
15 (15) years at Prairie Creek. I'm the Chief Operating
16 Officer based out of Vancouver, but spend a lot of time
17 up here.

18 Firstly, I'd like to thank Chief, and
19 Council, and the Community for hosting this event. And
20 we've been in touch with them for a long time now with
21 regards to this project and we certainly appreciate their
22 accommodation here.

23 The Prairie Creek Mine, it's a very unique
24 application in the environmental assessment process
25 mainly for one (1) major reason, and that's because the

1 infrastructure is already present.

2 It was fully permitted back in 1982 and
3 was three (3) months away from production before it went
4 bankrupt, but it is Canadian Zinc's thought along this
5 lines that the presence of this infrastructure here
6 already should expedite this permitting process somewhat
7 because, basically, the environmental footprint of the
8 facilities and the transportation corridor is already
9 there.

10 So as I said, what you see before you, the
11 mo -- most part of this infrastructure was put in in
12 1980, but it goes back before then. The original
13 discovery in 1928 was followed shortly through the '50s
14 and '60s by development throughout the property until
15 they -- until they found the main mineralization in this
16 hillside.

17 The 1960s camp is right here. But it --
18 it was interesting that underground development took
19 place 5 kilometres to the south of this site in 1965. So
20 one (1) of the challenges everyone has with this project
21 is what was there before.

22 And while we don't have any measured
23 database as to what the situation, the water quality was
24 and -- and things like that before the infrastructure was
25 developed, we can look back and sort of look at

1 comparisons.

2 And one (1) -- I being a geologist, one
3 (1) of the -- one (1) of the ways we explore for
4 mineralization is we -- besides sampling of rocks and
5 soils is we sample waters. And in this particular case
6 this -- this -- this Prairie Creek showing was discovered
7 by an outcrop on the side of the -- on the side of the
8 creek.

9 However, we know that there's anomalous
10 waters -- or met -- metals in the waters downstream of
11 Prairie Creek. And in the recent mineral, energy and
12 resource assessment by Parks Canada, when they were
13 expanding the park, over -- hundreds of water samples
14 were taken in the region.

15 And of these hundreds of samples there was
16 a definite significant percentage that were anomalous in
17 metals. And this included Prairie Creek but, overall,
18 from the mirror study, there were over 12 percent of the
19 entire region of the expanded park that had higher and
20 moderate indications of mineral potential.

21 So what I'm emphasizing here is that if we
22 look back before any development here, most likely the
23 natural setting was metals -- anomalous metals coming out
24 of the ground in a natural state downstream of this site.

25 And we've put groundwater holes throughout

1 the site here and some of our groundwater holes in --
2 this is Harrison Creek up here, and Prairie Creek down
3 here, they show signs of significant anomalous metals,
4 including zinc, lead, silver. And that would be
5 emanating from the exposures of mineralization on this
6 hillside and that needs to be accounted for.

7 Here we seen an aerial of -- of the site
8 and you can appreciate the sort of restricted nature with
9 the topography. Here's the airstrip. This is Prairie
10 Creek running north to south and this is Harrison Creek
11 coming in the side here. The mineralization lies in here
12 and was naturally producing leach -- leached metals into
13 the system downstream.

14 The site -- what we propose with the site
15 basically is very similar to what you see. We're going
16 to enhance some facilities, upgrade some facilities,
17 they're -- they are thirty (30) years old, but in
18 addition to that, we're going to enhance the mitigation
19 of any possible environmental impact through a number of
20 ways.

21 And one (1) -- and the key line of inquiry
22 here, of course, is water quality. And we're proposing
23 to convert this -- it was originally a tailings pond
24 facility, but never produced, never had any tails in it.

25 And we -- we are now going to convert this

1 into a water storage pond to store our mine water and
2 recycle for our process water through the mill and retain
3 waters before being treated and released.

4 And most -- most proposed operations do
5 not have this facility available to them because it
6 wouldn't be built yet. And even though there's some
7 structural challenges with this facility, it can be
8 mitigated and -- and the structural integrity can be --
9 can be reapplied.

10 So what have we done since inheriting the
11 Canadian -- or the -- the Cadillac Mine, which had the
12 waters coming out from the portals for thirty (30) odd
13 years, not being treated?

14 Well, we -- when we came on we started to
15 -- to treat the mine water because before it wasn't being
16 treated. We moved forty (40) tonnes of cyanide that was
17 stored on site since 1981 and we took all -- removed all
18 the PCB waste, and upgraded the site, and reorganized the
19 inventory of materials there.

20 The road needed repairs and we have since
21 re -- rebuilt that road with a suitable armour to protect
22 it for years to come. And when Cadillac went in there I
23 don't believe they had much dialogue with the Community,
24 but it was our intent from day one (1) to have as much
25 dialogue with this Community as we can to further educate

1 them on what we're doing, for training, and for future
2 purposes here.

3 So what have we accomplished? Well, we
4 have more than doubled the defined mineral resource that
5 was known at Cadillac since then. We have a -- at least
6 a fourteen (14) year mine life and proba -- we have
7 indications of more than double that.

8 The mine water is now treated. Cyanide
9 and PCBs removed, road banks armoured, and we maintain
10 good relations with our First Nations. In addition to
11 that we have taken on regional initiatives for training,
12 education and employment throughout the fifteen (15) --
13 fifteen (15) years that I've been involved and that's
14 through -- recently through Aurora College and Mine
15 Training Society.

16 But what's it all about? It's about
17 what's in the ground and that's what attracted us.
18 Initially that's what attracted the Hunt Brothers. And
19 what's on surface we -- we deal with today, but from a
20 mining perspective it's what's in the ground that
21 matters.

22 And this is the lower level portal, which
23 is presently emanating the waters and has been for the
24 last thirty (30) years, naturally flowing out from the
25 mine site in the warmer season. And this is where we

1 treat the waters.

2 But underground -- it's kind of a dark
3 slide, I know, but this is what it's all about. Ninety
4 percent of our resource lies in a high grade, what we
5 call a vein-type structure. And what that vein
6 represents is a crack in the rock, a fault zone. And
7 it's -- it's -- it's -- it's received high grade
8 mineralization from a -- a long distance through fault
9 zones. But what that fault does also is conduct water
10 through it. And that's where the metals go through
11 naturally, ever since this has been formed.

12 For our proposed mining operations we
13 proposed them as very similar to what Cadillac had
14 proposed with a few enhancements, 100 percent underground
15 operation. And this would be from the existing portals
16 and we'd have to create a new portal here to go further
17 at depth into the mine.

18 Our development plans, originally Cadillac
19 was -- was to put tailings on the surface in that
20 facility we saw, but we recognize the legacy issues of
21 tailings ponds upon closure, the long-term issues it has,
22 and we were looking at innovative ways to reduce that
23 risk.

24 And so we're now proposing that all our
25 flotation tails that come out of the mill, the waste

1 flotation tails will be placed back underground into the
2 voids that we have mined out. And not many mines have
3 that opportunity because in our case we are -- we're
4 taking out a significant portion as concentrate and we
5 have that ability to have that room underground.

6 It is at an expense because you have to
7 mix cement with it. You have to bring the cement in,
8 make it -- a cement plant on site, but we feel that it's
9 merited in the location we are.

10 We're also proposing water recycle and
11 treatment, and my colleague Dave will talk about that a
12 bit later. We'll produce two (2) types of mineral
13 concentrate, a zinc and a lead, and it basically comes
14 out in 4 tonne bags. And because we're proposing paste
15 backfill, we feel we have a low-risk closure plan here.

16 And along with that we bring our First
17 Nations Communities and such along as best we can here to
18 get involved and participate. So briefly, I'm sure a lot
19 of you have been there, and I would encourage you to --
20 to go there because it's the only way to understand the
21 property.

22 We have a 3,000-foot airstrip that we
23 access now because we haven't reopened that winter road,
24 even though we do have a winter road permit at this time.
25 And so we're limited in -- in what equipment and -- and

1 such we can bring at -- at this time. And of course, the
2 mine facilities which are all bermed by an armoured
3 riprap engineered facility and has protected the site for
4 more than thirty (30) years with very little maintenance.
5 And in that time that we've been there and our
6 predecessors, San Andreas, there has been significant
7 flood events and we have suffered no effects at the site.

8

9 What -- our energy support for the site,
10 unfortunately, has to be diesel at this time. We've
11 looked at alternative energy sources such as wind and
12 solar, and -- and water, but they're just not reliable
13 enough for our needs at this time even though we don't
14 require a lot of power.

15 And this tank farm facility, once again,
16 is fully engineered, it's -- it's fully bermed and clay-
17 lined, and we have a tank engineer inspect these tanks
18 every year, and we're presently only using the -- the
19 painted one (1). But this has a capacity for around 8
20 million litres of diesel and that's enough to run the
21 mine on for one (1) year.

22 One (1) of our -- the mitigative -- or the
23 -- the safety protocols that Cadillac installed was an
24 installation of a catchment pond. And this catchment
25 pond is the last pond in the site where all the surface

1 waters report to and has a -- has an ability to close off
2 any -- any drainage there in case there's a spill on site
3 and have clean-up on -- on site and prevent decanting
4 into the environment.

5 Our total geological resources in the
6 order right now are defined in the order of 12 million
7 tonnes. Our application, and what we're basing our
8 feasibility on, is based on half that, 5 million tonnes.

9 That 5 million tonnes is capable of a
10 fourteen (14) year mine life at 1,000 tonnes per day.
11 And we have indications of double that through drilling.
12 And at this time we're further exploring outside that
13 resource to find additional resources, and we contemplate
14 locating further resources to make the mine even more
15 long lived.

16 Significant metal in the ground, 60
17 million ounces of silver, and billions of pounds of zinc
18 and lead. So our -- our underground plan would be to
19 utilize the present levels and extract what we can from
20 them and they're pretty well ready to go now. There's
21 about 5 kilometres of tunnel. But in addition, we'd need
22 to drive deeper on -- into the -- into the ore body to
23 further feed the mill and develop underground.

24 Our proposed mining and milling, I won't
25 get into the -- a lot of detail, but basically we can run

1 underground at about 1,300 tonnes per day mining. And
2 we're proposing to mill at one thousand (1,000).

3 Now you might ask why we lose that three
4 hundred (300), well, we're -- we're also proposing to
5 install what's called a dense media separation plant at
6 the front end of our mill. And basically we have very
7 heavy minerals, the lead and the zinc, which are a lot
8 heavier than the -- the host rock, and they readily
9 separate through -- through a gravity technique in the
10 mill, it's very simple.

11 And we can get rid of in the order of 300
12 tonnes of waste before it goes into the mill and that is
13 a big plus because what that does is we can enhance the
14 amount of metal that goes into the mill without actually
15 expanding the mill.

16 And that has a -- has a -- huge knock-on
17 effects with economy of scale here, and it also saves on
18 energy since we don't have to process a lot of waste and
19 we don't have -- we don't have that much flotation tails
20 generated either.

21 And we'll be producing zinc and lead
22 concentrates to be transported to railhead at Fort
23 Nelson, British Columbia, a distance of about 500
24 kilometres, via a winter road.

25 And a winter road was originally part of

1 the permit of Cadillac, and we've -- we've gone to that
2 route of winter road for a number of reasons, 1) it has
3 the least impact from the environmental perspective, 2)
4 it has a very low capital cost compared to an all season
5 road, and 3) it's a -- we're -- we're limited as to how
6 much volume we can actually mine here. So the necess --
7 it's not necessary to have an all seas -- all-season road
8 at this time.

9 Our mill inside is 90 percent complete.
10 If you were to build this mill this ye -- this day and
11 age from scratch it would be in the order of a \$100
12 million, but it's sitting on site doing nothing right
13 now.

14 And even though it's thirty (30) years
15 old, the basic process remains the same in the mill as it
16 was then. All we'd have to do is upgrade some facilities
17 to bring them up to code.

18 This is a schematic of the mill showing
19 some of the enhancements we would add onto the mill. And
20 the main one (1) is the power plant. We'd be replacing
21 all our diesel generators by new more fuel-efficient
22 generators in order to minimize the amount of diesel we
23 need to support that site.

24 We'd be adding a dense media plant on the
25 side of the mill, a paste plant for the paste backfill,

1 and on the out -- outboard side of the mill a bagging
2 plant and some concentrate storage facilities. But the
3 main guts of the mill remains very similar to what -- to
4 what it is when installed.

5 This is an example of one (1) of the
6 generators we'd be replacing the old generators with.
7 They'd take up a quarter of the space in -- in the mill.

8 And also we incinerate all our garbage and
9 have since day 1 at the site. We've never had a wildlife
10 issue in so doing, but we would need to replace our
11 existing incinerator with a new incinerator.

12 So as I spoke to you before about our
13 ability to paste backfill here is dictated by how much
14 void space there is available to us. And we ship out
15 approximately 26 percent as concentrate and this is per
16 tonne of rock mined.

17 And in our DMS reject, 24 percent is
18 rejected and 50 percent comes out as float waste tails.
19 And we can put all that 50 percent back underground
20 because we have this space available to us.

21 And, in addition, we have underground
22 development that's -- that's not included in that pie
23 chart. So we do have the space to do it and the
24 technology of paste backfill has been around for twenty
25 (20) odd years, and it -- it -- it can be done. And

1 might I add, at an expense, but we feel that expense is
2 more than merited. So I'm going to ask my colleague Dave
3 Harpley to take over from here.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Good morning. I'm
8 going to run through the -- the waste management side of
9 the -- the project and also the environmental issues that
10 are related to project and to the road.

11 Carrying on from what -- where Alan left
12 off, as he said, all the float tailings will go
13 underground. And, in addition, a portion of the -- the
14 DMS reject -- reject rock. Not all of that DMS rock can
15 fit underground at this time, or we're not sure that it
16 can. So the excess, if there is any excess, will go to
17 the waste rock pile. The waste rock pile is primarily
18 for development rock that will come out of the -- the
19 access ways to get to the -- the -- the minerals
20 underground.

21 The cornerstone of the -- the Water
22 Management Plan is to convert the large pond on site,
23 which was intended for tailings disposal, into a water
24 storage pond. This will allow us to recycle water to the
25 mill as the feed source for the mill.

1 So this is kind of a conceptual view of
2 what the waste rock pile will look like. It is in a
3 tributary to Harrison Creek. It is not in a location
4 where there's normally a -- a creek flowing, so it's a
5 good location from that perspective, and here is the
6 waste here.

7 It would have a seepage collection pond at
8 the toe in this location and the seepage would be fed
9 into the water management system to be treated. This
10 location is also convenient in that it would be fairly
11 easy to cap the area after the mine closes and blend it
12 into the landscape.

13 So this is what we think the mine will
14 look like in production. We have the -- the pond revised
15 here. It has a separated dike in the middle and it has
16 two (2) cells in the water storage pond, and then there's
17 some additional buildings here.

18 This is a large shed to store
19 concentrates, some sheds to store reagents, an additional
20 accommodation complex, and the additions to the mill that
21 Alan was describing.

22 So this is a simplified view. It may not
23 look simplified, but this is essentially our Water
24 Management Plan. And -- whoops. Basically what happens
25 is water from stockpiles from the waste rock pile here

1 and from the mine, and also from the sewage treatment
2 plant will all feed into one (1) cell of the water
3 storage pond.

4 And water that comes out of the mill feeds
5 into the other cell of the water storage pond. And the
6 two (2) of them stay separate. Both cells feed water
7 back to the mill. Both cells also feed water to the
8 water treatment plant. And from there the water is
9 discharged via the catchment pond, which also collects
10 runoff from the site and discharges to Prairie Creek.

11 When Cadillac built the pond, the large
12 pond, this area of the back slope was unstable. So part
13 of the revision of this pond includes placement of
14 material here to stabilize it both in the floor of the
15 pond and along the back slope. In addition, material
16 will be excavated from above here to reduce the load on
17 the slope and also we will have a minimum water level in
18 the pond, which acts as an additional support for the
19 slope. And -- and this is what our engineers tell us is
20 required to ensure the slope is stable in normal
21 conditions and during an earthquake if we have one.

22 So the water story is essentially, we
23 recycle and reuse as much mill water as we can. But
24 we're only able to recycle a proportion of it, and we're
25 -- and we also can't recycle all of the mine water that

1 flows into the mine. So we have to treat and discharge,
2 we can't use and dispose of all the water on site. We
3 will have two (2) water treatment plants.

4 One (1) will be for mine water, and one
5 (1) will be for water that comes out of the mill. The
6 reason we have two (2) is the metals in the water and
7 their chemistry is different so they behave differently
8 to treatment. We went through a lengthy process to
9 determine what was the correct approach to treat these
10 two (2) different waters, and our engineers basically
11 came up with the two (2) processes that we have described
12 in our submission.

13 Mine water is based on lime treatment.
14 This is a fairly simple but very reliable process that's
15 used virtually everywhere in the world, including Canada
16 and the US, and generates very good quality water after
17 treatment.

18 The process water will be a little
19 different. We first have to make the water acidic to
20 change the chemistry of the water, and then we add
21 sulfide, which precipitates the metals, and then we add
22 lime to remove the acid, to bring the water back up to
23 just above neutral for discharge.

24 That is the primary treatment of the
25 water. In addition to the primary treatment there is a

1 get the mixing done as fast as possible to minimize metal
2 concentrations in the creek. All of this will be subject
3 to very diligent monitoring. And we have made the commi
4 -- commitment to the Community that they will be involved
5 in the monitoring. We have said to them that we will
6 have a member from the Community on every shift, and it's
7 our desire to train people and have them as basically
8 environmental managers, officers, on site. So they will
9 do other things in addition to monitoring. There will be
10 a hands-on approach.

11 We're very conscious of the possibility of
12 spills occurring, both along the site and along the road.
13 As far as the site goes we're fortunate that we have a
14 number of very high dikes and berms, and also the
15 catchment pond that will allow us to basically contain
16 very quickly and effectively if we have a spill on site.

17 The discharge will have a gate on it so
18 that if there is a significant spill we can close the
19 gate and stop the discharge until we can rectify the
20 problem. This shows you where the pipe will be as
21 discussed. This is the catchment pond here. This is
22 Prairie Creek. So the pipe will come out of the pond
23 through the dike towards the bottom of the dike and
24 buried underneath the creek here.

25 You will notice that the pipe does not

1 extend all the way across the creek. This is because we
2 want to maintain a zone where if for some reason fish
3 don't like the water that's coming out of the trench
4 here, they can go around, so we're not stopping the
5 movement of fish.

6 In design, this is a cross section, so the
7 creek is flowing kind of this way. Here is the dike and
8 the trench extends under the dike. The trench has lots
9 of little slots in it so that we get an even distribution
10 of discharge of the water up through these course
11 boulders and into the bed of the creek over this whole
12 section here.

13 As Alan mentioned, the water quality in
14 the creek downstream was likely mineralized before any of
15 the mine infrastructure was built. The difficulty we
16 have is that there's no way of knowing exactly what that
17 water quality was because when we came to the project the
18 mine was essentially built already, and there was not a
19 good database of water quality.

20 One (1) thing we do know though, is that
21 from our studies and other people's studies, that despite
22 there being approximately twenty-five (25) years of
23 discharge of mine water to the creek, there is
24 surprisingly little in the way of impact downstream.
25 What we've done is we've simulated the discharge water

1 quality and we've done an extensive amount of testing to
2 see how that water quality compares to concentrations
3 that might be toxic to fish and other things that live in
4 the water.

5 And these tests actually use real fish and
6 other aquatic organisms. It's called toxicity testing.
7 So we've done several test rounds of this to make sure
8 that what we discharge will not be acutely toxic to fish.
9 In other words, it won't kill fish.

10 We've also re -- researched what kind of
11 concentrations in the creek we would consider to be
12 protective of all of the things that live in the water.
13 And I'll discuss that in a minute.

14 But one (1) thing we do know is that
15 further downstream in Prairie Creek, and particularly in
16 the South Nahanni River, we don't believe there is any
17 significant risk for impacts.

18 There's one (1) kind of big disagreement
19 at this point as far as the project goes and it has to do
20 with the discharge and the concentrations we think are
21 necessary to meet in the creek. In all of the lit --
22 literature review that we've done, the indications to us,
23 and recommendations from our consultants, are that using
24 zinc, this concentration here at this level is protective
25 of everything living in the creek.

1 These are concentrations here, starting
2 with zero at the bottom and then increasing. The top
3 concentration is 0.04 milligrams per litre. By way of
4 reference, drinking water guideline is five (5). So in -
5 - in terms of this chart that number would be way above
6 the ceiling here. But aquatic organisms are more
7 sensitive than we are. So this is what we think is the
8 safe level. And down at the bottom here, this black
9 diamond is what we estimate to be background.

10 Now some government departments want the
11 discharge so that the water quality in the creek stays in
12 this narrow range here at the bottom, or here, I should
13 say. This green would be -- this green triangle would be
14 the top of the range. This orange diamond is what we
15 think our discharge would be, the highest concentration
16 we estimate will be in our discharge. So for zinc we can
17 be in this range that the government considers is the
18 right place to be.

19 This one (1) is lead. Again, this is
20 where we think the safe level is. Here's background,
21 almost at the bottom of the chart at zero, and the range
22 is here. And our predicted concentration is right on the
23 same -- the top of the range, the background range here.
24 So we're very close, but it's very tight.

25 Now we come to a metal like antimony.

1 Again, here's our safe level, here's background, but
2 you'll notice for this one, background and the green
3 triangle are almost on top of one another right down here
4 at the bottom. And here is our predicted high right
5 here. So for antimony we can't stay in the background
6 range. It just happens that there is antimony in the
7 minerals, it does come out into the water a little bit,
8 and it's not in any significant concentration upstream of
9 the creek. We actually know that it is downstream, but
10 it's not in the creek upstream.

11 So for this metal we can't stay within the
12 background range. However, we're still a long way from
13 what we consider to be a level where there might be cause
14 for concern. And this level also has a safety factor
15 associated with it. So this is really where we're having
16 a disagreement with government as to what the discharge
17 needs to be.

18 Mercury is always a concern if it's
19 present because it has the potential to accumulate in
20 fish and other organisms. We do know that the background
21 concentration in the creek is low. It is so low that in
22 normal testing we can't detect it. So we're having to
23 consider doing, and in fact have just started doing,
24 special sampling and using very low detection limits.

25 Although there is mercury in the minerals

1 underground, the vast majority of that mercury stays in
2 the minerals in the concentrate, so will leave the site
3 when the concentrates are taken out. The mine water also
4 has very little mercury in it. It is also not detectable
5 at present. The mill water does have a little bit of
6 mercury in it, not much, but it is detectable, but most
7 of that is sediment that is not dissolved.

8 So we don't think that the mine will lead
9 to a significant discharge of mercury and accumulation.
10 And on this similar chart here, here's our background and
11 here is the upper range of the background and the safe
12 objective is up there.

13 However, there is some question marks
14 associated with the data upon which these numbers are
15 based. So right now we're comfortably in the range, in
16 the safe range, but there are some question marks with
17 the data, so we have to do some further checking. And
18 with mercury you can't just rely on water quality, you
19 have to look at the process of potential accumulation in
20 fish tissue.

21 You will hear other presentations later
22 today. In their presentation Parks Canada will say that
23 the project as proposed may not mitigate potential
24 significant adverse impacts to Prairie Creek. In the
25 public hearing in Fort Simpson we will indicate that

1 Parks Canada has, in our opinion, made numerous incorrect
2 assumptions in their review of water quality. And, as a
3 result, their conclusion is not correct.

4 INAC has concluded that the project as
5 proposed presents a high level of risk for significant
6 adverse impacts to water. This conclusion is based on a
7 number of assumptions. In Fort Simpson we will indicate
8 that only one (1) assumption is valid, in our opinion.
9 That is the approach to setting water quality objectives.
10 That's what I've been discussing just now.

11 As discussed, INAC wants the project to
12 meet background water quality, whereas Canadian Zinc
13 believes that objectives that protect aquatic life are
14 appropriate. Both -- we believe both approaches are
15 acceptable, and which one is used is a matter of opinion.
16 Therefore, we disagree with INAC's conclusion.

17 So basically what we're saying is our
18 discharge, in our opinion, will not have significant
19 impacts. There may be some changes to the natural
20 background, but we don't believe they're substantial
21 changes, and certainly will not significantly affect the
22 aquatic life that lives in the creek. And it's not for
23 every metal. As I showed you, some of the metals we can
24 stay in the background range, just that there are others
25 where we can't.

1 The mine will hire two hundred and twenty
2 (220) people full-time on a shift rotation so that at any
3 one (1) time there will be approximately a hundred and
4 ten (110) people on site. We propose to have two (2)
5 shifts for the mine and for the mill operation, so that
6 will be two (2) twelve (12) hour shifts. And then there
7 will be one (1) administration shift which will likely be
8 a ten (10) hour shift.

9 The rotation we've selected is three (3)
10 weeks on and three (3) weeks off. This is a rotation
11 that our workers historically have indicated to us is the
12 best rotation for them because it allows them time to
13 really have time off when they're not on -- at -- at
14 work. Two (2) weeks is too short, four (4) weeks is too
15 long. In addition to that manpower, there will be a
16 significant manpower involved in moving out the
17 concentrates in the winter and moving in the supplies.

18 The shift change will be done mostly by
19 air using the existing airstrip, but of course, the
20 concentrates going out will have to be done by road.
21 This is our winter road. Here we are at the mine, in our
22 area inside the Park, and the road connects through here.

23 The existing road is the solid line here
24 that goes out to Lindberg Landing. What we've proposed
25 is a number of realignments, one (1) here, which we call

1 the Polje realignment. There's some changes that we want
2 to make in the Silent Hills right here, and there's two
3 (2) realignments here that were advocated by the
4 Community so that the road moves out of wetland areas,
5 this one (1) and this one (1).

6 This particular realignment has an added
7 benefit in that it brings the road closer to the
8 Community, not into the Community, but close enough that
9 the transfer facility here means that the Community can
10 be involved in the operation of this facility. And, more
11 importantly, the control of the road in terms of access
12 control.

13 So the alignments of the wetlands I
14 mentioned, the -- the Polje realignment was selected at
15 the suggestion of Parks Canada because the existing road
16 bisects the Poljes and there was an interest in moving it
17 so it was away from the -- the main karst features. So
18 after some extensive investigation, because it's very
19 difficult terrain to -- to get through because of the
20 incised nature and -- and the karst features, we did find
21 an alignment that will work from a transport perspective.

22 In addition to that we've been working
23 hard to improve the road in other areas, specifically to
24 remove the grade, that is the slope of the road, and also
25 to remove some of the tight bends. And there's two (2)

1 reasons for that.

2 One (1) is it makes the road easier to
3 drive, so the transportation process is more efficient.
4 But probably more importantly it makes the road so much
5 more safer, less risk of accidents, and less risk of
6 spills.

7 We're also proposing to have bridges over
8 some of the creek crossings, partly to minimize damage at
9 those crossings, but also because the nature of the
10 creeks in those locations, one (1) of them is very
11 incised and it involves going down into the creek and out
12 again, which is -- itself poses some risk. And another
13 location, it's a fairly substantial creek, Polje Creek,
14 which may not freeze completely in terms of stability to
15 drive over.

16 We're also looking at other places along
17 the road to improve the safety and we're thinking about
18 using curbs and runaway lanes, anything we can do to make
19 the road safer and minimize risks we're looking to do.

20 We will be having speed limits on the
21 road. When the road is operational we will have a proper
22 road safety supervisor, somebody who knows winter roads
23 and the terrain, and we will have them specifically
24 consider the types of vehicles and the cargos, and
25 specify speed limits, which will be posted along the

1 different sections of the road. And all of this will be
2 monitored and policed.

3 This is a concept of one (1) of the bridge
4 crossings, this is Sundog Creek, and the road is actually
5 in the back here, the existing road. It goes down into
6 this box canyon and then out again. So this bridge would
7 span the gap and avoid having to do that.

8 This is the Polje realignment and here is
9 the existing road and it bisects the Poljes here. And
10 there are also sinkholes in this area of the road. So
11 the new realignment will come further to the south. It
12 will cross Polje Creek here with a span and then will
13 reconnect up with the old road up here.

14 This is the Silent Hills area. We were
15 considering realigning the road to come up the slope
16 gradually. We found that this slope here is actually
17 unstable, so we're not able to do this realignment.
18 However, we are looking at these switchbacks in here and
19 looking to modify those in terms of broadening the
20 switchback, the distance between them, reducing the
21 number of them, and opening them out so they're not so
22 tight. Again, all for safety.

23 This is another realignment, taking the
24 road out of the wetlands. Here's the old road in the
25 wetlands. This road would run along the -- the slope,

1 the toe of the slope of Silent Hills.

2 And then this is the realignment going out
3 to the Liard River. We come down here along the toe of
4 the slope of the Nahanni range, the front range, and we
5 cross the -- the Liard River down here and we tie into an
6 existing logging road that the Community has used and
7 then we connect into the Community's access road and then
8 out to the Liard Highway.

9 The transfer facility would be roughly in
10 this location. So the road will not go into the
11 Community. In fact, we specifically will want
12 contractors not to go into the Community, and that will
13 be part of the terms of the contracts with contractors
14 that are involved in the road operation because we don't
15 want the Community disrupted and we don't want the
16 negative consequences of having them access the
17 Community.

18 So this is what the crossing location
19 looks like. I'm not sure if I've got this name right. I
20 wasn't sure if it's Tache or Tanche (phonetic), but it's
21 -- it's one (1) of the two (2) and you can tell me after
22 which one. But here's the existing logging road and here
23 is the -- the -- the proposed realignment here. And the
24 old road was up there at Lindberg Landing. So the
25 premise of the road construction is basically because of

1 the volume of material we have to move out, the tonnage
2 of the concentrate, we have to start fairly early in the
3 winter.

4 So our proposal is to start building the
5 mine from the west end, which is higher elevation, colder
6 earlier. What helps is that the first 38/39 kilometres
7 is basically an all-season road, or at least it was
8 considered an all-season road when Cadillac built the
9 mine and it was permitted as an all-season road over that
10 stretch.

11 These days we can't drive it all seasons
12 because there are creek crossings and we would have to
13 have crossing structures and currently we don't have
14 them. So our proposal is we hope to start early in the
15 winter from -- from the western end. And once we get off
16 the -- the gravel section after approximately kilometre
17 39, then we get into more typical winter road
18 construction.

19 The first part of the construction would
20 involve low pressure vehicles to move off snow. There'll
21 be a period where the ground is exposed to freezing
22 temperatures to freeze up, and then the next step is the
23 placement of what I'm told is basically a slush. It's a
24 mixture of snow and water. And what this does is it
25 produces a layer of frozen ice, mix -- snow mixture, and

1 is form -- you get a harder surface to traffic on quicker
2 than by just allowing the ground to freeze by itself.

3 In all of the construction, and in
4 particular in the new realignments, we're going to be on
5 the lookout for artifacts, cultural resources, anything
6 out of the ordinary, and we'll have a -- a reporting
7 system so we can figure out what we've discovered and
8 deal with it appropriately.

9 Water sources that we will need for the
10 road, we don't expect we'll need an awful lot of water,
11 but we will need some. At this point in time we know we
12 can get water at the mine, and we know we can get water
13 at Mosquito Lake because we've done a little bit of work
14 at this point to indicate that the lake is deep enough.

15 We will need to do more work. We will
16 need to do a proper survey of the lake and provide that
17 information to Fisheries and Oceans to get their approval
18 before we take water out of the lake, but we're confident
19 that it will be possible.

20 We will also look for other water sources,
21 primarily from lakes. And again, we need to collect more
22 information at the time and get approval for extraction
23 for those before we use them. But if we have to rely on
24 the mine and Mosquito Lake, we can do that. It's just
25 that we will have to travel greater distances to get the

1 water.

2 An important part of the construction will
3 be to protect streams and particuls -- particularly
4 stream banks. So we will be paying attention to measures
5 that we can implement to protect stream banks from damage
6 from the trucks.

7 In places we may have permafrost, we
8 expect there will be places on the new alignments where
9 there -- there could be some permafrost. And we -- we
10 will need to place some granular material to insulate the
11 permafrost so we don't get thaw and soil movement and
12 instability. Most of that granular material we spect --
13 we expect will come from the construction of the
14 realignments because there will be some locations where
15 we have to do side hill cuts because we're going across
16 sloping terrain.

17 There are also some other locations where
18 we know we can get granular material. Along Sundog
19 Creek, for example, there are lots of places where there
20 is coarse talus material from the slopes right next to
21 the road. So we can get that granular material that's
22 outside the flood plain and above the high watermark, and
23 it's readily available. As I mentioned, the construction
24 and the operation of the road will be closely inspected
25 and monitored.

1 So the schedule that we have come up with
2 at this point, and it's always subject to weather, is
3 that we would hope to open the road from the west and --
4 December 1st. And at that time we would start to move
5 concentrates from the mine to a midway point that we call
6 a Tetcela transfer facility. So we don't cross Tetcela
7 River because it will take longer for that area to
8 freeze. It's too early to cross in the beginning of
9 December, but we think we can get to a few kilometres
10 before Tetcela River starting December 1st.

11 So then we will start to move the
12 concentrate to the storage facility. Then the work on
13 opening the rest of the road will then continue, but it
14 will continue mostly from the east and we'll be working
15 on the ice bridge and working on building the road from
16 the other side of the ice bridge west towards the mine.

17 And the intention is to have the rest of
18 the road open by the middle of January. Then at that
19 time contractor vehicles will come in and collect the
20 concentrates that we've temporarily stored at the Tetcela
21 transfer facility, and then the mine trucks will start
22 moving concentrates from the mine all the way out to the
23 Liard Highway without stopping. And when -- when they've
24 dropped their concentrates, the mine trucks will pick up
25 supplies. They will also pick up some fuel and they will

1 go back into the mine.

2 And we expect that that operation will be
3 completed by the end of March. We would hope that it
4 would be completed before the end of March because you
5 never know what weather is going to do. We accept that
6 if we get a warming season, or, you know, warming trend,
7 we may actually have to suspend operations periodically,
8 and we may have to suspend operations early because
9 there's always normally a condition in a land use permit
10 that you cannot cause rutting to the ground.

11 So we've built conservatism into our
12 transport strategy and it is why we have to start moving
13 concentrate fairly early in the winter to the halfway
14 point to maintain that conservatism in case the weather
15 doesn't cooperate over the whole season.

16 I've mentioned speed limits for road
17 management. We -- we also plan to have constant radio
18 contact. In this day and age with telecommunications, we
19 think there's no reason why we can't have a tracking
20 system and radio contact with all vehicles so that we can
21 always contact them at anytime during the journey. And -
22 - and they similarly can contact base if there's a
23 trouble or if they need help.

24 And they can also talk to one another. So
25 they can warn one another when they're approaching and

1 plan for crossing locations because for most -- for the
2 most part, this will be a single lane road. So there'll
3 be some planning required for trucks passing one another
4 safely.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Maybe I can inter --
6 interject here for a second because the timeline -- we're
7 already behind schedule a bit here, so is it possible
8 that I could get you to do a wrap up in about ten (10)
9 minutes on this one here?

10 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Yep.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.

12

13 CONTINUED BY MR. DAVID HARPLEY:

14 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: We've been through a
15 fairly length -- lengthy process of considering how we
16 might respond to spills, both the risk of spills and how
17 we might respond to them. And we plan to adopt a number
18 of strategies to minimize the risks, and firstly to avoid
19 them happening in the first place. And -- but if they do
20 occur, to be ready to respond with people, with
21 materials, and make sure there's a complete cleanup.

22 As I mentioned, we expect to engage the
23 Nahanni community in operating a checkpoint on the road.
24 We can't stop people using the road because it'll be a
25 public road, but we hope to deter people that shouldn't

1 be on the road and make them aware that it's a high-
2 traffic road and there is risk involved. So we will have
3 signs and we will have a checkpoint.

4 I'll skip that. We've been over it. This
5 is kind of what one (1) of the transfer facilities looks
6 like. It'll be a structure here, and the concentrates in
7 bags.

8 We've looked at wildlife in the area, and
9 based on some historical data, we know roughly where the
10 wildlife are and, also, there may be caribou in this
11 location. We basically have planned the road operation
12 to expect animals to be present and to respond
13 appropriately if they are present. We've assessed the
14 risks and the residual effects that need to be planned
15 for. And then we've provided for mitigation.

16 We have a management, a monitoring plan, a
17 number of other plans in addition to the things that I've
18 mentioned before in terms of speed limits and so on. And
19 then we have some other strategies for the mine to
20 minimize impacts on wildlife, the same ones that we have
21 in place currently and, touch wood, we've had no problems
22 to date.

23 We've planned very carefully for closure.
24 That whole backfill strategy I talked about is primarily
25 for safe closure of the mine because, as Alan mentioned,

1 the mine exists and it discharges water, and if we don't
2 look after it and close it properly, somebody else is
3 going to have to. So our plan is developed to fix that
4 problem. And we will cover the waste rock pile and
5 restore everything so it's back to the natural state.

6 This is what it looked like before the
7 mine. This is what it looks like now. And we expect
8 when everything is done it'll go back to looking like
9 this after everything is closed. Wilbert...?

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: Good morning.

14

15 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

16

17 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: Good morning. My
18 name's Wil -- Wilbert Antoine. I live in Fort Simpson.
19 I've worked for Canadian Zinc for years. I understand a
20 little bit Slavey, so now I switch back to Sla...

21

22 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

23

24 MR. WILBERT ANTOINE: My name is Wilbert
25 Antoine, manager for Northern Development Canadian Zinc.

1 On the question of economic benefits we are doing
2 priority hiring for the Community. You know, it's pretty
3 well straightforward, all the -- the points. If you have
4 any questions, you know, there'll be questions later on.

5 The priority hiring for the Community just
6 means that, you know, Nahanni Butte will get priority,
7 you know, as -- as long as the -- the -- you have all the
8 -- all the equal opportunities and equal set of -- as
9 long as every -- everybody's on the same page and Nahanni
10 Butte gets the job. I guess that's the -- the most
11 simply put.

12 And we'll set -- and we'll set aside non-
13 competitive contracts. That just basically means that
14 Nahanni Butte will get specific contract just
15 specifically for Nahanni Butte. Whatever Nahanni Butte
16 points at, they can get those contracts without
17 competition to any of the other Dehcho or the Northern or
18 any other companies that are available out there.
19 Priority owned contracts pretty well means the same
20 thing, so it's pretty well straightforward.

21 Annual revenue. We -- you know, that --
22 as long as there's all the contracts, the set-aside
23 contracts, the hiring, everything is -- annual revenue
24 will be flowing into Nahanni Butte from the project.

25 Percentage of pro -- projects profits is

1 through the -- the IBAs. There'll be -- through the IBA
2 with Nahanni Butte there'll be quite a substantial profit
3 flow going into the community.

4 Education funds. I guess that's one (1)
5 that we are all very proud of. You know, when we -- we
6 did the IBA with Nahanni we made sure that there was a
7 lot of opportunity for educating the -- the youth through
8 apprenticeships, training, mine training society, all
9 that kind of stuff, and further education. There's quite
10 a substantial fund available for that, you know, so -- so
11 that there'll be a lot of opportunity for the -- for the
12 Community members, the young -- the young folks. That's
13 who we're really looking after, you know, looking forward
14 for.

15 The anchor tenant in the Band office, we
16 have agreed that upon completion of the -- the new Band
17 office we will be anchoring one (1) of the -- one (1) of
18 the rooms will be one (1) of the -- the most important --
19 not the most important, I guess, but a very substantial
20 tenant that will be making sure that the -- the Band
21 office facility is being paid for.

22 Ongoing annual community events. Over the
23 past three (3) years I've been involved with Canadian
24 Zinc, and even -- probably even longer. You know, Alan
25 said he had fifteen (15) years of moving the bo -- for --

1 the project forward. We have committed to doing a lot of
2 things like the -- the Winterfest for the kids. We -- we
3 have I think a three (3) day program that we put on
4 through their social program right here in this gym.
5 we've had floor hockey and, you know, everyone has a real
6 good time.

7 And I think some of us older people, as we
8 run back and forth chasing the kids, we lose a little bit
9 of weight, but that's a good thing, I guess. And not --
10 not only that, but you see the -- the scoreboard, you
11 know, we donated stuff like that, you know, all the
12 tables and chairs for the new gym. The Community wanted
13 stuff like that, community events, barbecues and stuff
14 like that. You know, that's not going to stop just
15 because we got a permit. You know, that's going to be an
16 ongoing thing. So that brings us to that end.

17 On the social issues programs, I think,
18 like all other diamond mines, where I've worked for six
19 (6) years, a lot of our people, a lot of the people in
20 the Tlicho communities being new to these kinds of
21 benefits and everything else were very in need of money
22 management, that kind of thing, so, you know, we're going
23 to provide that through in-house training and stuff like
24 that.

25 And health awareness. A lot of the -- the

1 issues of health, we're going to be having the health --
2 health awareness community or coordinating family
3 assistance, one (1) of the plans that we have in the
4 works is Employee Family Assistance Programs. I think
5 that is pretty well standard throughout all mining and
6 all industry-related programs, you know, mining
7 companies. I think even the government has that, you
8 know, so I'm sure that the -- the folks I see not local
9 to the area are very well aware of those kinds of
10 programs.

11 Ongoing community event sponsorship, as I
12 said at the end of the last slide is pretty well
13 straightforward, you know, we're not -- you know, we're
14 going to be continuing everything that we've ever done
15 and probably even more as the events continue to roll --
16 roll by.

17 The Chief and Council will say, Hey, this
18 program is coming up, you know, and we'll come to the
19 table and we'll be introducing new stuff, youth
20 workshops. Youth has always been a very, very important
21 part of all the communities. I have attended a lot of
22 leadership meetings and functions throughout the Dehcho
23 and throughout the north over the past three (3) years
24 and I know that every time we have a -- a large gathering
25 like this the youth is always very, very important

1 because they are our future, just as we were the future,
2 like myself just about forty (40) years ago when I
3 started in mining, you know, I was just footloose and
4 fancy free, and devil may care sort of an attitude.

5 But once you get onto a path then you
6 follow your dreams and here we are. You know, we have
7 the -- the Board, we have Canadian Zinc, we have Chief
8 and Council, we all have dreams, we all were youth at one
9 (1) time and so we have to really look after our youth.

10 Traditional harvesting opportunities.
11 With the coming of fall -- fall harvest and all that kind
12 of stuff we -- the -- the plan is to make sure that
13 anyone who requests the time off during the fall
14 harvesting, in particular, you know, which is a very,
15 very important part of the traditions and the culture
16 throughout the north.

17 I know because, you know, I'm a -- I do
18 recreational fishing, recreational harvesting, and when
19 you -- you get a moose, we all know here in the north
20 that it lasts maybe about two (2) or three (3) days and
21 everybody gets a part of the feast. And, you know, when
22 you come to the -- to a -- the family cookout where
23 you're successful you take a -- everybody takes home a
24 little chunk of meat and -- so that they have a day or
25 two (2) of fine -- fine food.

1 So that pretty well brings us to the end.
2 And January the 20th, 2011, was a very, very historic day
3 in Nahanni Butte. Canadian Zinc and Nahanni Butte and we
4 had government people here, we signed a very historic
5 document, the Impact Benefit for Nahanni Butte and
6 Canadian Zinc.

7 And I think, you know, the Chief and
8 Council were very proud of that. We were very proud, and
9 -- and government was very proud of what we have done --
10 done. And one (1) of the things that I personally told
11 Minister Bob McLeod was that in the Dehcho when you look
12 around there's very, very little industry, and it took
13 one (1) of the smallest communities in Dehcho to lead the
14 way. And I think that speaks very, very loudly and very
15 significantly for Nahanni Butte.

16 So like the sign says, mahsi Cho.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you
18 for the presentation. And looking at the clock here,
19 it's quarter to 12:00. We started a few minutes late
20 this morning. And I wanted to try to keep everybody on
21 track in terms of the presentation. And I'm trying to
22 encourage again everybody to maintain the timeline we
23 have so that we can try to keep the -- to the agenda.

24 So what I'm going to do is we're going to
25 continue on, and we'll -- rather than take a full hour

1 for lunch, I think we'll take a half hour to make up the
2 time we lost and so that we could continue on with the
3 agenda, like I said earlier.

4 So I'm going to go to the Nahanni Butte
5 Dene Band, if they have any questions or concerns in
6 regards to the presentation made. And, for the record,
7 if you could just state your name.

8

9 QUESTION PERIOD:

10 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Chief Fred Tesou.
11 It's -- the question is -- is about discharge, any other
12 company that you know of that uses this system?

13 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Dave Harpley. Fred,
14 I think most mines in Canada discharge water. They have
15 different ways of doing it, but most of them do.
16 Certainly the -- the diamond mines do. In terms of the -
17 - if you're referring to the pipeline method, the -- the
18 buried trench method, we're not aware -- other mines
19 specifically using that approach.

20 There are examples of other industries
21 that use a similar approach for discharge with some
22 differences, but the -- the essential mechanism from a
23 technical perspective is fairly similar.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Any further questions
25 for Nahanni Butte Band?

1 CHIEF FRED TESOU: If the system don't
2 work do you have any other -- like a backup -- backup
3 plan on...

4 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: The -- the trench
5 system will actually consist of two (2) pipes, not one
6 (1). The -- probably the biggest environmental issue
7 with putting in the system is just that it's the
8 construction, the disturbance of the bed, and then the
9 recreation of the bed to what it was before we started.

10 So we figured if you're going to disturb
11 the area we might as well put in two (2) pipes. So
12 basically we will use one (1) for operation, and then the
13 second one (1) is either being maintained or it's
14 available as a backup, and we could switch to the other
15 pipe if we need to.

16 But each one of these pipes will contain a
17 kind of mini pipe within it. And what this is is it's
18 basically a clear-out pipe. We can -- we can put
19 compressed air in the small pipe and move any debris that
20 might be blocking the pipe or accumulating.

21 But these pipes will also have screens on
22 the opening, so we won't just let the discharge flow into
23 them without control. The screens will filter out any
24 material before it gets into the pipe and potentially
25 cause a blockage.

1 do discharge in winter. The old tailings pond will be
2 the water storage pond. So it will still function in
3 winter, it will still receive water, and it will still
4 send water to the treatment plant, so there'll be a
5 discharge.

6 In -- in mid-winter, like February/March
7 time, we've already said that we won't be discharging
8 treated water from the mill, it will just be the mine
9 water. The creek, although it will be frozen on surface,
10 and there'll be snow, there's still water underneath and
11 that's another advantage of the -- the pipe that's
12 buried.

13 It will st -- it will be discharging water
14 in an ice-free environment. The quantity of the water
15 being discharged will be a lot less in winter. Part of
16 our water management approach is, you know, we store as
17 much as we can in the big pond and -- and -- over the
18 wintertime, and then we treat as much as we can in the
19 summertime.

20 So there'll be a small amount of discharge
21 in wintertime of primarily mine water, but there still
22 will be some.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.
24 Nahanni Butte Band, any further comments or questions, or
25 Community members? If there is, we'd appreciate it if

1 you could come up to the mic and, again, state your name
2 if you're going to speak.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Any more
7 comments or questions, Chief?

8 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Not right now, maybe
9 later on.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi Cho.
11 Okay, I'm going to go to my Board members if there's any
12 comments or questions to the proponent on their
13 presentation. I'm going to go to my far right, Board
14 member, Peter Bannon?

15 MR. PETER BANNON: No.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. No questions.
17 Board member, Danny Bayha?

18 MR. DANNY BAYHA: No.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Richard
20 Mercredi...?

21 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Rachel
23 Crapeau?

24 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: No.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Percy

1 Hardisty?

2 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: No.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, James

4 Wah-Shee?

5 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: No.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Board member, Darryl

7 Bohnet.

8 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, I don't have any
9 questions. I understand we're going to have the same
10 presentation again tomorrow, maybe a little more -- more
11 in-depth and -- and I'll hold until then, thanks.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very
13 much. We'll stop there. We'll take a half hour lunch
14 break from -- and we'll ask everybody to come back at
15 12:30. We'll start -- Mahsi.

16

17 --- Upon recessing at 11:54 a.m.

18 --- Upon resuming at 12:35 p.m.

19

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, we -- the next
21 part of the agenda we have is INAC that's going to do a
22 presentation. While they get set up here I just want to
23 let people know that after INAC we have Parks Canada, and
24 then questions from the Community to the developer and
25 parties.

1 And I would just like to encourage the
2 Community members to come up and speak. The Board is
3 here to listen to your issues and concerns, so we
4 encourage you to do that. And I know sometimes we might
5 be shy or that kind of thing, but I always think about
6 how the Elders used to tell us, that, you know, when
7 you're going to speak, speak from your heart. So,
8 anyway, we encourage that.

9 While we're just getting set up here,
10 yesterday was Aboriginal Day. I just want to say Happy
11 Aboriginal Day to everybody here in the Community. So
12 we're almost ready to go. So I want to turn over the mic
13 to INAC. I think we're ready to go, so.

14

15 (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, I think
18 everybody's -- if we could ask you to come in and sit
19 down, and we'll start. And I want to go ahead and turn
20 it over to Indian and Northern Affairs. Again, when we -
21 - after the presentation is done I'm going to ask the
22 Nahanni Butte Dene Band if they have any comments or
23 questions to the presenter. And then I'm going to go
24 back to our board members. And we'll continue on next to
25 Parks doing the same thing as well.

1 So, with that, I want to turn it over to
2 INAC. But before we turn it over to INAC, to the
3 presenters and people speaking, again, if you could state
4 your name and who you represent. Also, I think we got to
5 watch out for our translators in the back. And if we're
6 going a little bit too fast just wave at us. And we'll -
7 - we encourage the presenters to slow down a bit.

8 So, with that, I'm going to turn it over
9 to INAC.

10

11 PRESENTATION BY AANDC:

12 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Good
13 afternoon, Mr. Chair, Board members, Chief, counsel,
14 ladies and gentlemen. My name is Teresa Jourdrie, and
15 I'm the director of Renewable Resources and Environment
16 with what is now called Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
17 Development Canada.

18 Before I get started I would actually like
19 to thank the Community for having us and we really
20 appreciate the opportunity to be here to express our
21 concerns with the file and -- and to open a dialogue with
22 the Can. Zinc, as well as thank whoever arranged for the
23 lovely lunch. That was bang on, so thank you so much.

24 As I mentioned, I appreciate the
25 opportunity to present here in the community of Nahanni

1 Butte, and what I'd like to do is summarize our technical
2 report on the Prairie Creek mine project as currently
3 presented by Canadian Zinc Corporation.

4 We have some handouts of our presentation
5 and we also have a glossary of terms and acronyms for
6 those of you who wish to refer to that. And they are at
7 the -- the side table over there. As the Department of
8 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, our goal is
9 to -- is to support sustainable development activities in
10 the Northwest Territories that respect the values and
11 interests of the communities and are carried out in an
12 environmentally sound manner.

13 From our technical review of the
14 information provided by the developer we have three (3)
15 main areas of concern. These include water quality,
16 water management and storage, tailings management and
17 storage. These three (3) issues for us are intertwined
18 with respect to the potential for impacts to the aquatic
19 environment.

20 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
21 Development Canada also has concerns with respect to plo
22 -- post closure of the mine as well as the proposed
23 access road to the mine. The department has legislative
24 responsibilities for land and water management within the
25 NWT. One (1) of these responsibilities is to provide

1 technical advice to resource management boards to assist
2 in their decision making processes.

3 Our recommendations within our technical
4 report are made with the intention of assisting the Board
5 in its decision-making process. If insufficient
6 information is available to make a determination of
7 significance, AANDC attempted to clarify for the review
8 board and the other parties why we were unable to reach
9 such a determination and to present a possible path
10 forward to resolve any outstanding issues. And it's
11 within that context that I'm going to make my
12 presentation.

13 The first topic I'm going to discuss is
14 water quality. Canadian Zinc will have to discharge
15 effluent into Prairie Creek during the operation of the
16 Prairie Creek mine. Prairie Creek is a tributary of the
17 South Nahanni River and the mine is approximately 7
18 kilometres upstre -- upstream of the Nahanni National
19 Park Reserve boundary.

20 The developer has agreed that site
21 specific water quality objectives, or SSWQO, for Prairie
22 Creek are required and necessary. What is a site
23 specific water quality objective? Well, it's the
24 standard of water quality to be met at a defined location
25 downstream of the development.

1 We are of the opinion that these site
2 specific water quality objectives must be developed in
3 such a manner that they consider the natural variability
4 of Prairie Creek, and, as a starting point, the true
5 reference condition or the background condition of
6 Prairie Creek. Once that reference condition has been
7 established the associated site specific water quality
8 objectives will be generated that reflect the natural
9 range of variability that exists. And this is what we
10 refer to as the reference condition approach.

11 This philosophy is consistent with the
12 intent of the NWT water stewardship strategy that was
13 jointly released by the Government of the Northwest
14 Territories and the department in May of 2010. This
15 document outlines a strategy for protecting and
16 preserving northern waters such that they will remain
17 clean, abundant, and productive for all times. Following
18 the establishment of these site specific water quality
19 objectives based on defensible reference conditions,
20 discussion amongst interested parties is required to
21 determine the appropriateness and practicality of these
22 objectives.

23 We believe that the establishment of
24 appropriately protective site specific water quality
25 objectives are imperative to ensuring that potential

1 impacts from the project do not occur. And it's for this
2 reason that we recommend that the process be completed
3 prior to the -- to the completion of the environmental
4 assessment.

5 I'd also like to state that INAC -- or
6 sorry, AANDC does not expect that all of the parameters
7 considered for water quality objectives be at
8 background levels or the use -- the strict use of the
9 reference condition approach. If it is practical and
10 possible to meet background levels for water quality
11 objectives, then those should be considered. If not, an
12 explanation as to why they cannot be met and what the
13 levels would be should be discussed.

14 We would like to see objectives be
15 established that minimize impacts on the receiving
16 environment. So this includes any accumulative impacts
17 or chronic effects on habitat.

18 These objectives need to consider the
19 ecological values that are important to the Community.
20 We recommend that all parties to the EA, including the
21 developer and the Community work together during the EA
22 to determine what these water quality objectives would
23 be. We'll be discussing this position further during the
24 technical session in Fort Simpson.

25 Moving along to water management and

1 storage, which is of concern to us, as it's crucial for
2 the developer's ability to meet these previously
3 discussed water quality objectives. Canadian Zinc's
4 approach to respond to water management issues is to
5 store more water on site in the water storage pond, or
6 the WSP, and this -- this space available in the water
7 storage pond for additional water storage is limited.

8 Depending on the nature, timing and
9 frequency of potential changes to the discharge plan over
10 the course of a year, the space in the water storage pond
11 could be exceeded in a matter of days. We recommend that
12 the Water Management Plan clearly illustrate what the
13 available water storage on site is, and that it is
14 sufficient to still meet the site specific water quality
15 objectives that we -- would be developed as I've
16 previously outlined.

17 In addition, and adding to the water
18 management concerns, are our concerns with tailings
19 management and the paste backfill plans. Based on
20 conservative calculations carried out by our consultant,
21 additional storage of tailings on surface may be required
22 during and after mine operations.

23 Canadian Zinc's current plan is to store
24 additional tailings -- tailings in the water storage pond.
25 Increased tailing storage on the surface in the water

1 storage pond will have critical implications for water
2 storage, which is explained -- which I've explained is
3 limited and will affect the ability for Canadian Zinc to
4 meet its site specific water quality objectives.

5 In addition, further information is
6 required on how the potential storage of tailings impacts
7 other surface factors into their closure plan.
8 Considering what we've -- what I've mentioned on tailings
9 management, we must be confident -- the department must
10 be confident that the tailings backfill plans and
11 temporary storage available during mine operations is
12 adequate.

13 Now I'm going to talk about the Aquatic
14 Effects Monitoring Plan or AEMP. Once the site specific
15 water quality objectives are established and the mine is
16 in operation, it is imperative that an extensive yet
17 appropriate AEMP is implemented for the Prairie Creek
18 Mine to ensure that limits and objectives are doing their
19 job and providing adequate protection to the aquatic
20 receiving environment.

21 The Department defines aquatic effects
22 monitoring as watching closely for changes to the water
23 environment through observations or measurements, both
24 traditional, knowledge based, and western science based
25 observations, provide information on the quality of

1 water, the amount of water, the health of fish and
2 insects, or organisms that live in that water.

3 Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
4 Development Canada is pleased that the developer has
5 committed to developing an AEMP in accordance with our
6 guidelines for designing and implementing aquatic effects
7 monitoring programs for the development projects in the
8 NWT from 2009. However, we feel that there are some key
9 components missing. We're also pleased that the
10 developer has committed to revisit and revise the AEMP
11 and we look forward to working with the developer in this
12 regard.

13 The Department takes the position that a
14 mine must be planned for closure. A key issue for
15 consideration during the assessment process is whether a
16 proposed development can be closed properly. If a mine
17 cannot be closed properly, then it could -- then it
18 should probably not be developed.

19 Our mine site reclamation policy describes
20 this position in greater detail. Documents provided by
21 the Canadian Zinc to date provide minimal assessment of
22 post-closure impacts. We are of the opinion that there
23 is potential that tailing storage will be required post
24 surface closure -- or required on surface post-closure.
25 This possibility has not been addressed or described to

1 date. We recommend that Can. Zinc develop a preliminary
2 closure and reclamation plan during the regulatory phase
3 prior to water licence issuance.

4 This plan must be developed in
5 consultation with regulators, stakeholders, and other
6 interested parties, and should be developed in accordance
7 with the mine site reclamation guidelines or -- from 2007
8 or any subsequent version that's generated.

9 Can. Zinc proposes to use a winter road to
10 supply the mine as well as remove concentrate. The road
11 will be constructed over sensitive terrain, and the loads
12 include hazardous material, such as fuel and sulfuric
13 acid.

14 We are also of the opinion that permafrost
15 may be encountered at certain points during the route.
16 We have concerns with several aspects of the road, inclu
17 -- during construction and operation, specifically with
18 land disturbance, permafrost degradation, sediment
19 inputs, post-closure for the road, and spills. We
20 recommend that these concerns be addressed and we have
21 made recommendations in our technical report to address
22 them.

23 So that's the end of the summary of the
24 technical report. And I'd like to state that we are of
25 the opinion that the location of Can. Zinc's proposed

1 Prairie -- Prairie Creek mine presents a unique challenge
2 for balancing the economic benefits of development
3 against the need to protect special places and uphold the
4 NWT's vision for water stewardship.

5 Effluent from the proposed development
6 will be discharged into Prairie Creek approximately 7
7 kilometres upstream of Nahanni National Park Reserve.
8 The Nahanni National Park Reserve has been afforded
9 special status as a national park -- as a nat -- at
10 national and international levels as a national park, a
11 UNESCO World Heritage Site and a Canadian Heritage River.
12 We believe that the level of protection required for
13 Prairie Creek must consider and be adequate to protect
14 the conditions both within the creek and downstream from
15 it.

16 Based on the information that we have
17 reviewed to date, we are of the opinion that Prairie
18 Creek Development as proposed currently poses a high
19 level of signi -- of risk for significant adverse impacts
20 to water. This stems from uncertainties related to the
21 developer's method for developing site specific water
22 quality objectives, the proposed water balance and water
23 storage strategy, and tailing storage.

24 We believe that the cumulative impact of
25 these outstanding issues relate directly to assessing the

1 impacts of the proposed project on the receiving
2 environment and, therefore, are most appropriately dealt
3 with during the environmental assessment phase.

4 To this end, we have proposed a path
5 forward to the Board in an effort to resolve these
6 outstanding issues prior to the closure of -- of this
7 process. We are committed to working with all of the
8 interested parties towards a resolution of these
9 outstanding issues during this process, and we look
10 forward to having the Board's decision in this regard.
11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you
13 for your presentation. Thank you for keeping it short
14 compared to fifty-three (53) pages we had initially, so I
15 want to say thank you for that, mahsi.

16 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: That's tomorrow.
17

18 QUESTION PERIOD:

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: That's tomorrow. Okay,
20 that's good. I mentioned earlier that we're not going to
21 do any cross-examination. So today what we're going to
22 do is we're just going to go back to the Nahanni Butte
23 Band to see if there's any questions for INAC. Chief
24 Fred Tesou...?
25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, none for the
4 record. I'm going to go to my -- I'm going to go to my
5 far left. I'm going to go to Board member Darryl Bohnet.
6 Any questions for INAC on their presentation?

7 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes, thank you, Mr.
8 Chair. When I look at these recommendations I -- I can't
9 help but wonder why the presentation is made to this
10 Board rather than the Land and Water Board where they
11 have many tools available through the water licensing
12 process and the land use permits to deal with -- with
13 things like the road and things like that.

14 So can you elaborate on why your
15 department is -- is presenting to this degree of detail?
16 Thank you.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet,
18 and I'm going to go back to INAC.

19 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Teresa
20 Joudrie. What we've looked at through this process is to
21 gain enough clarity and enough assurance that if there
22 are significant impacts that they will be addressed.

23 As we're unable to -- we can't look at one
24 (1) factor at a time. There -- there are several
25 outstanding issues, and so we'd like to have clarity

1 around all of those as best as we can before we get into
2 permitting because that will really determine what, if
3 any, there -- impacts there are in order to assess
4 significance.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms. Joudrie.
6 I'm going to go to Mr. Darryl Bohnet, Board member.

7 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, that's good.
8 Thanks.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet.
10 I'm going to go to Mr. James Wah-Shee, Board member,
11 questions.

12 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I don't have any
13 questions, Mr. Chair, thank you.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going
15 to go to Board member Percy Hardisty.

16 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: No questions, Mr. --
17 Mr. Chair.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I'm
19 going to go to Board member Rachel Crapeau.

20 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: No question.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going
22 to go to Richard Mercredi, any questions?

23 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No questions at
24 this time.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going

1 to go to Mr. Danny Bayha, Board member, any questions?

2 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. I just had
3 a -- one (1) question, Mr. -- Mr. Chair. Earlier when --
4 in your presentation you mentioned -- if I can quote you,
5 it says:

6 "If -- if a mine cannot be closed
7 properly, maybe it shouldn't be
8 developed."

9 Can you elaborate a bit on -- on -- or
10 clarify what "properly" means in -- in your own mind?
11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.
13 I'm going to go to INAC to Teresa Joudrie.

14 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Thank you. Teresa
15 Joudrie. I can't get into precise detail on that, it's a
16 highly technical set of circumstances, but that is why
17 we're recommending that the mine site reclamation -- or
18 closure guidelines are followed, so that everything is
19 done in accordance to minimize any post-closure impacts
20 that may -- may come about.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms. Joudrie.
22 Mr. Danny Bayha.

23 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. No further
24 questions.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going

1 to go to Board member, Peter Bannon. Mr. Bannon...?

2 MR. PETER BANNON: No questions today,
3 Mr. Chairman.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very
5 much. I want to say thank you to INAC for your
6 presentation, Ms. Joudrie, and there'll probably be some
7 more tomorrow, so for now we'll move on. Thank you very
8 much. There'll probably be some questions maybe
9 tomorrow. So, Mahsi.

10 Okay. I'm going to go to Parks Canada
11 next and -- on their presentation. And then after that
12 we'll go to the Nahanni Butte Band for their
13 presentation.

14

15 (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17 PRESENTATION BY PARKS CANADA:

18 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Thank you very much.
19 My name is Mike Sutor. I am from Parks Canada in Fort
20 Simpson. I work for Nahanni National Park Reserve, and
21 I'm here today to present the opinion of Parks Canada on
22 the proposed Prairie Creek mine presented by Canadian
23 Zinc Corporation.

24 As many of you are aware, Nahanni National
25 Park expanded in 2009. It in -- includes the contiguous

1 green area here. During the expansion there was an area
2 that was left out of side of the expansion, this little
3 what we call the donut hole, or the enclave within
4 Nahanni National Park, and that's where the Prairie Creek
5 mine is situated.

6 Although the --

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me for a second.
8 My translator is waving at me, so if you could --

9 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Yeah, okay.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- slow down just a
11 bit. Thank you.

12

13 CONTINUED BY MR. MICHAEL SUITOR:

14 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Although the mine
15 itself is not situated inside Nahanni National Park, the
16 road itself will be -- approximately half of it will be
17 inside the park, and any effluent or releases that occur
18 at the Prairie Creek mine site will enter Nahanni
19 National Park after about 7 kilometres. And it will
20 remain there for some distance.

21 The area is Dehcho First Nations'
22 territory. Dehcho First Nations, and Nahanni Butte, in
23 particular, have played a vital role in the expansion of
24 Nahanni National Park Reserve. They continue to play a
25 very vital role in the management of Nahanni National

1 have a higher probability that you will have a spill.
2 Large sections of the road do have this high probability.
3 The other component of understanding risk is the
4 consequence of a spill if it were to occur on a piece of
5 landscape.

6 Here we have a situation where the road
7 will cross through many sensitive aquatic ecosystems.
8 It'll go through areas where spill recovery may be very
9 challenging and where important habitats for things like
10 bull trout or grayling may occur in proximity to the
11 road. And if a spill were to occur, the consequence
12 would be very high.

13 What these slides depict right here, some
14 of the pictures, is one (1) such area. This is an area
15 where the road comes along just on top of this hill, and
16 below it is known spawning sites for bull trout. If a
17 spill were to occur to here, the consequence would be
18 very high and the impact would be very large.

19 With regard to the wildlife, much of the
20 information that was presented in the developer's
21 assessment report was old and of limited utility, from
22 our perspective. It was approximately thirty (30) years
23 old.

24 Working -- Parks Canada worked with
25 Canadian Zinc and other parties this past winter, and we

1 went out and we did a good assessment of wildlife along
2 the road. What this map depicts is some of the results
3 of that. You can see the road. Nahanni Butte is located
4 about here. The road comes up through here, I believe,
5 and then terminates at the mine site right here.

6 The dark coloured polygons in this case
7 would be areas where there's a high probability of
8 caribou occurring or caribou have occurred throughout the
9 area. So basically dark orange or any colour, there's
10 probably caribou in that area.

11 Many of the mitigations that have been put
12 forward to date do address some of the impacts. Many of
13 the impacts were identified by the developer. However,
14 only some of the impacts have been mitigated to date,
15 most of those relating directly to direct mortality on
16 the road. However, many other impacts remain that need
17 to be addressed.

18 And with particular respect to caribou,
19 who are species at risk, listed species on Schedule 1 of
20 the Species at Risk Act, this is of particular importance
21 because both Parks Canada as well as the review board
22 itself has mandate re -- responsibilities during the
23 environmental assessment process to ensure those impacts
24 are minimized to the fullest that we can and that those
25 mitigations are monitored through time to ensure that the

1 caribou are not being impacted.

2 We've -- Parks Canada has made several
3 recommendations on managing traffic to help minimize some
4 of those impacts and has made some recommendations with
5 regard to monitoring to help ensure that those impacts
6 are minimized by the development.

7 With respect to the road, we consider the
8 road has been developed at this point at a very
9 conceptual level. The road traverses extreme topography.
10 It goes through areas that are very mountainous. It goes
11 through karst landscape, such as depicted here. Large
12 sinkholes do occur along certain portions of the road.
13 The road goes through areas where landslides and rock
14 slides can occur onto the road, where powerful mountain
15 streams abut against it and can wash out the road itself,
16 as we have seen from the existing road. So there is need
17 for careful design considerations to ensure that all of
18 the impacts that could occur are minimized.

19 Right now, there's a considerable level of
20 uncertainty, and one (1) of those uncertainties is where
21 many of these mitigations may be applied. And if only
22 one (1) of those was -- if only one (1) of those
23 uncertainties existed it wouldn't be such a significant
24 issue. However, because we're at such a conceptual level
25 and many of the mu -- mitigations are unknown or unknown

1 where they'll be applied, it's uncertain whether some of
2 those mitigations may conflict.

3 So, for example, we may put up barriers to
4 ensure that spills don't occur, but are those barriers in
5 an important location for caribou? It might block
6 passage for caribou. We may have to do avalanche control
7 along the road. However, where will that avalanche
8 control occur and could that impact other wildlife. And
9 there's several examples of that.

10 So basically what this comes down to is
11 that it becomes very difficult for us to predict what
12 impacts that will be caused by the road because of the
13 great amount of uncertainty that there is.

14 Shifting to the mine site itself and
15 looking at water quality, when we reviewed the mine site
16 development and the effluent and site specific water
17 quality objectives like we heard, Parks Canada reviewed
18 it to ensure that the water -- the quality of the water
19 entering the park would be protective of aquatic life and
20 we'd ensure that water was of a high -- high standard.

21 And, specifically, if you were to look at
22 what are the terms of reference and what our scope and
23 submission had within it, you'd see these two (2) major
24 terms that we looked at or that we suggested should be a
25 standard, one (1) being the physical processes, so

1 actually the chemicals that go into the water and what
2 the chemical composition is of the water, and,
3 ultimately, what that means for life, so aquatics and
4 algae.

5 What this means is ultimately we need to
6 ensure that the effects of mine effluent on all the
7 components of life in Prairie Creek, including on fish
8 and the potential for impacting things like the fishery
9 at the mouth of the creek, are known and are acceptable
10 to all parties.

11 Based on the information provided to date,
12 we do not believe that Canadian Zinc has adequately
13 demonstrated that the development will not negatively
14 impact water quality and, therefore, the health of
15 Prairie Creek.

16 Some effluent objectives are outside the
17 typical water quality ranges in Prairie Creek. And the
18 predictions show that if the mine release water,
19 according to the water licence limits proposed, it would
20 result in poorer water quality than what is found in
21 Prairie Creek right now.

22 After we are -- after closure, we are
23 considering that some of the predictions that INAC has
24 just demonstrated to us with regard to tailings and
25 whether tailings would all fit inside the mine, we're not

1 certain whether all those tailings will actually go
2 inside the voids and no method has been proposed on what
3 we'll do with those tailings if they remain on the
4 surface, and there's obvious consequences for that. And,
5 therefore, we don't know what potential impacts could be.

6 And while we aren't able to make specific
7 recommendations on many of those concerns that we just
8 outlined, we can recommend still that monitoring should
9 occur within the Park to ensure again that the water that
10 is entering the Park is of the highest quality, and that
11 a decision response system should be put in place to
12 ensure that we can act on any of the changes that might
13 occur through the life of the mine, as well as after.

14 However, monitoring alone is not
15 sufficient and we feel that the existing information does
16 not provide the confidence that the proposed approach
17 will approach or mitigate any potentially significant
18 impacts on the mine site to Prairie Creek's aquatic
19 ecosystem.

20 So, in conclusion, cumulatively we see
21 that there are a number of areas where impacts are
22 uncertain and -- and could be significant and they could
23 be adverse, and this ultimately affects the ecological
24 integrity of Nahanni National Park. With that -- respect
25 to that, however, we are interested in working with the

1 other parties and with the developer and the communities
2 to try to come to a conclusion on many of these points.

3 And we thank the Board for hearing the
4 presentation today. Mahsi cho.

5

6 QUESTION PERIOD:

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you for your
8 presentation, Mr. Suitor. Before I go to Nahanni Dene --
9 I'm sorry, Nahanni Butte Dene Band for comments and
10 questions, I -- I wanted to just make an acknowledgement
11 of the Nahendeh MLA, Kevin Menicoche. I see him here
12 somewhere. I just want to acknowledge you, as well.

13 Also former chief for Liidlii Kue First
14 Nation, Keyna Norweigan. She's here, as well, somewhere.
15 She's also appointed to the Mackenzie Valley Land and
16 Water Board so I just want to congratulate her, as well.

17 So -- and if I -- I'm not sure if I see
18 the former chief here but if he's here I'll acknowledge
19 him a little bit later, but for now I was going to go to
20 the Nahanni Butte Dene Band if you've got any comments or
21 questions or statements for Parks Canada?

22 CHIEF FRED TESOU: That's a correction.
23 It's Nahanni National Park Reserve is that correction?

24 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Sorry?

25 CHIEF FRED TESOU: That's still as a

1 reserve?

2 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Yes, that's correct.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. So, Chief,
4 there's no questions for Parks other than that from
5 Nahanni Butte?

6 No? Okay. None. Thank you. Okay. I'm
7 going to go to the Board members if there's any comments
8 or questions for Parks Canada. And I'm going to go to my
9 right, Peter Bannon, Board member.

10 MR. PETER BANNON: Thank you. I have no
11 questions at this time.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bannon.
13 I'm going to go to Mr. Danny Bayha, Board member.

14 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 I just had a question.

16 You mentioned earlier that this mine
17 development is not within the boundaries of -- of the
18 Nahanni Park but in -- in a presentation there's an
19 expanded version. That expanded, is that a future park?
20 Sorry, can you elaborate on that? Thank you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.
22 I'm going to go to Parks Canada, Mr. Mike Sutor.

23 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: I'll just flip back
24 to the slide show and the map. The expansion occurred in
25 June of 2009. The old park boundary you can just barely

1 see it along here. The new green boundary is the new
2 National Park Reserve. However, the area, as you can
3 see, around Prairie Creek is not part of the National
4 Park. So the par -- the mine itself does not fall within
5 the Park, just the road, the proposed road that Canadian
6 Zinc has.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.
8 Mr. Danny Bayha, any questions?

9 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Yes, thank you. Just a
10 follow-up question. I think -- or not -- not a follow-up
11 but earlier in the presentations you talk about spills.
12 You weren't very clear on exactly what you're talking
13 about as the spills in terms of fuel spills, in terms of
14 the -- the concentrates when they're travelling. Is that
15 just a general assumption, any kind of spill would be
16 very hazardous to the area? Thank you.

17 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Thank you. Mike
18 Suitor. Yeah, the predominantly -- when we talk about
19 spills we're talking about spills that would occur along
20 the road and because half of the road is within the
21 National Park Reserve, we do have concerns that those
22 spills could impact the ecological integrity of Nahanni
23 National Park Reserve.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.
25 Mr. Bayha...?

1 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you.

2 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: No questions at
3 this time.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
5 Mercredi. To my left, Rachel Crapeau, any comments or
6 questions?

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: My one (1) question
11 that I had was you mentioned that the -- the Company
12 information does not provide confidence in -- in -- for
13 you to believe that there will be mitigation for the
14 significant impacts to the Prairie Creek aquatic
15 ecosystem.

16 Is -- is there a -- a lot of water,
17 streams, and runoff that -- that you're really
18 particularly concerned over -- about?

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Rachel
20 Crapeau. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.

21 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: I think our concern
22 is primarily around the -- the effluent that would be
23 released at the Prairie Creek Mine, which after about 7
24 kilometres would enter into the Park and remain there for
25 approximately another 100 or so kilometres.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Ms. Rachel
2 Crapeau.

3 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: Can you just show me
4 on the map behind you which way the water's going to be
5 going and where the effluent's going to be discharging
6 into and how it's going to go?

7 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Certainly. So
8 you'll see at the point here this is the Prairie Creek
9 Mine site, again, outside the Park. However, in about 7
10 kilometres it enters the Park and then it flows down into
11 Deadman's Valley and enters into the South Nahanni River.
12 From there it continues downstream, exits the Park, and
13 then comes by Nahanni Butte.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Rachel
15 Crapeau.

16 MS. RACHEL CRAPEAU: Thank you. That's
17 it for today.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I'm going
19 to go on to Percy Hardisty.

20 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: Mahsi, Mr. Chair. I
21 don't particularly have any questions today. Mahsi.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr. James
23 Wah-Shee.

24 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I just have a -- a
25 question of clarification. That little donut there where

1 Prairie Creek Mine site is, does the National Park have
2 jurisdiction within that donut?

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Wah-
4 Shee. Mr. -- Mr. Suitor -- Mike Suitor, Parks Canada.

5 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Within the area
6 outside the National Park, which would be where the mine
7 site is within the donut hole, Parks Canada does not have
8 jurisdiction. We just have jurisdiction within the green
9 highlighted area in there, which is part of the National
10 Park Reserve.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr. James
12 Wah-Shee. Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. I'm going to go to
13 Mr. Darryl Bohnet.

14 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 My -- my question I need a little bit of help on the
16 jurisdiction that Parks Canada has within the Park is
17 outside Mackenzie Valley Act, right? So how -- how is
18 Parks Canada going to deal with the -- the road issues
19 within their jurisdiction?

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bohnet.
21 I'm going to go back to Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.

22 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Actually, I believe
23 the National Park does fall under the Mackenzie Valley
24 Resource Management Act. However, we are governed by the
25 Canadian National Parks Act as well. In our regulations

1 we do have a number of regulations that are traditional
2 of the National Parks that we can use for an assortment
3 of developments.

4 Obviously mining is not something that's
5 typical in or adjacent to a National -- or within a
6 National Park I should say. During the Park ex --
7 expansion there were two (2) sections that were written
8 specifically for the Prairie Creek Mine development, or I
9 should say one (1) section that was written specifically
10 for the Prairie Creek section, and there are sections
11 that allow us to deal with a mining road to occur in the
12 National Park. And that's one (1) of the reasons that
13 we're here today.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.
15 Mr. Bohnet...?

16 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes, I understand
17 that. The -- the -- I'm -- I'm concerned or -- or have -
18 - I want to know how it's going to work if within your
19 jurisdiction within the Park, if the Land and Water Board
20 issues terms and conditions for that road, will the
21 Park's terms and conditions mirror those, or will they be
22 more stringent or more relaxed.

23 I don't know how that's going to work
24 because the -- the terms and conditions for the road
25 outside the park I understand, but I don't understand how

1 Parks will deal with their portion within their
2 jurisdiction, and so I need a little bit of help on that,
3 please.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, thank you, Mr.
5 Bohnet. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor?

6 MR. MICHAEL SUITOR: Parks Canada will
7 work with all of the regulatory bodies, of which we are
8 one (1) in this case. There will be slight differences
9 that will occur within the National Park because of the
10 Parks Act. However, most of the -- most of the
11 regulations -- or -- or permit stipulations that will be
12 placed, we would try to work with the Mackenzie Va --
13 Valley Land and Water Board to -- to arrive at a
14 consistent approach.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Suitor.
16 Mr. Bohnet...?

17 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: Yes. Thank you.
18 That's -- that's it.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very
20 much. I think we overlooked one (1) Elder in the back
21 that may have a question. But I had a -- before we go to
22 the Elder there, the question that might be, would it be
23 for Parks Canada or the proponent? In either case, we
24 can hear it. And then it may be directed to Mike Suitor,
25 or we may refer it over to Parks -- sorry, Canadian Zinc.

1 but what if the water gets -- and if it's not very good
2 here and it's going to go right down to the river, to the
3 Mackenzie River. And then it's going to destroy our fish
4 and everything that's contained in the water. And there
5 are people that go hunting up the river, up Nahanni
6 River, and they always drink water. And now we're afraid
7 to even scoop water right from the river.

8 And even now they're starting to work up
9 on the Prairie Creek mine. And even when there's a lot
10 of rain you get a lot of water. And we are wondering if
11 there's a lot of rain will it go over the tailings pond,
12 like the water would seep over, then it will run into the
13 waterways.

14 I don't really want to be -- attend here.
15 I don't want to be here. I'm not the kind that run all
16 over the place. I always stay at home. And I always
17 worried about my husband. I was afraid he was going to
18 fall or hurt himself. But, now, as I'm thinking, it's
19 just like I'm rushing thinking that he's at home waiting
20 for me.

21 So he told me to state my -- express my
22 concern is that's the reason why I'm telling you this
23 today. Even though I say I don't want to come here, but
24 I'm thinking about the water and the future of our
25 children. That's the reason why I'm here today.

1 And I said there is a lot of things --
2 they're working with the thing. They're always -- if
3 they're talking about the Park, it would -- and at the
4 time when my husband was alive he told me to express my
5 concerns.

6 And I know people that work at the Park
7 are there to protect the watershed. I think we can all
8 work together, the Canadian thing and Park can work
9 together. It would be really nice if they could come in
10 hand-in-hand.

11 Thank you for listening to me that's all
12 I'm going to say for today.

13

14 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

15

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: For the record, I just
17 want to ask the Chief the name of the Elder who spoke.
18 Chief...?

19 CHIEF FRED TESOU: That's Elsie
20 Marcellais.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mahsi, Elsie
22 Marcellais. Mahsi for that statement. And so that was a
23 statement for the record and that's not intended for
24 Parks Canada so we -- I want to say thank you to Mike
25 Suitor for coming up and doing the presentation. And I'm

1 going to -- sorry?

2 Okay. For that I just want to excuse
3 Parks Canada.

4

5 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 ELDER LEON KONISENTA: I'd like to
8 express my concern also. I been working there for seven
9 (7) years with Prairie Creek Mine. Even if there is
10 something wrong I will share all of my -- express my
11 concerns with them. I have worked with them since 2004
12 and I'm still helping up to this day. And if they want
13 to ask me any questions or anything I can help them how
14 they work, I can show them all this.

15 That is -- that's on my land and I love to
16 know what's going on my land. So in 1980/'81 and that's
17 the time when I worked down in Alberta and B -- in
18 Alberta and BC. And from since then on, since 1994, I
19 was a chief here. And then they say if you can do other
20 things to help us so I start, so they're remove me from
21 my position and I start working for Fort Liard for two
22 (2) years and then prior to that I worked in BC and
23 Alberta for over 13 years.

24 I had about -- about fifty (50) years of
25 work that I had completed in my lifetime and so I know

1 exactly what's going to happen and how the work. And I
2 know when they're talking about water that is a very
3 important matter, and it's on my land and I want to know
4 what's happening in my area. I'm an Elder now and I can
5 still understand, I'm still able to work, and I know how
6 the water runs.

7 And if somebody wants to quest -- ask me
8 questions, I can share my thoughts with them. And I have
9 a lot of photos taken from the mine. If they want to
10 know all this information I can show them this also.
11 There's a lot of information that was processed onto the
12 computer as well. I can share that information too.

13 It would be nice once we start this
14 process, it'll make things a lot better for us, and this
15 way we'll know what's happening. Like I say I'm an Elder
16 and I know how things work and I have worked with the
17 Park since 1975. I have worked for them till '93. And
18 at that time is when they moved the office. So I guess
19 it's a reason why I stepped down and then after two (2)
20 days later I went to Fort Liard and prior to 1980, that's
21 when I work in Alberta and BC. I worked for about
22 fifteen (15) years with the Company.

23 And then prior to May 2004 I went to --
24 some forestry guy from Fort Nelson called and asked me if
25 I wanted to work here. And he said I knew my area well,

1 that's the reason why I start working with them. And
2 then from then on I've been working with them. So, like
3 I say, if they want any information I have photographs, I
4 can share this information.

5 And sometimes when I wander around the
6 comput -- I wander around the Community so I want to be
7 aware of things that's happening in my comm -- Community.
8 So since 1994 I know what's been going on, so I know all
9 the information. And they said to protect the water, the
10 road. And I want to know all these things because it's
11 on my land.

12 I am sixty-five (65) years old today. The
13 el -- old age pension has given us not very much, so I'd
14 like to continue working. Thank you.

15

16 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, well, his name
19 again?

20 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Leon Konisenta, an
21 Elder.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Leon
23 Konisenta. First I want to say happy birthday to you.
24 You said you're sixty-five (65) today. And I believe
25 before we continue on to the next, one (1) more speaker

1 here, I think maybe Parks Canada, maybe what we could do
2 is -- I think the rest are just more or less statements,
3 so I want to say thank you to Mike Sutor.

4 While we're doing that we'll set up the
5 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, and we'll take one (1) more
6 speaker from the back. Then I'll get into the Nahanni
7 Butte Dene Band presentation. And then, after the
8 presentation, I continue to encourage the young people
9 and Elders and everybody from Nahanni Butte to make
10 comments or statements. Thank you.

11 The Elder in the back that's going to
12 speak, if you could mention your name first.

13 ELDER ROBERT TALY: My name is Robert
14 Taly, I'm from Nahanni Butte. I've really listened to
15 all these comments, and they're pretty -- pretty serious,
16 but good. We're all getting along good together.

17 I worked about four (4) years ago, or
18 three (3). I worked for over a year for Canadian Parks
19 and Wilderness Society, and my boss was Carly Zigler
20 (phonetic) at the time. My boss was Carly Zigler at the
21 time, and I worked for Canadian Parks and Wilderness out
22 of Yellowknife.

23 And we did a bull trout study as well as
24 ongoing issues with -- with Canadian Parks and Wilderness
25 to get the park expanded, and I had an issue that I

1 brought up with -- about Canadian Zinc. Since I was on
2 the bull trout study for approximately three (3) years,
3 we've had a really good bull trout -- I don't know how to
4 say it.

5 We -- there was -- the bull trout were
6 healthy in the Funeral Creek range as well as parts of
7 the Prairie Creek range. And the Funeral Creek range
8 there's a road -- Canadian Zinc road goes right -- right
9 by it, and we've had nothing but good bull trout
10 populations.

11 And we've seen some runoff from the
12 mountains and that and culverts. And even our aquatic
13 life underneath we had to study, which were the ground
14 feeders. They're fish called ground feeders, and they
15 were in good shape.

16 I read the report that came back from Neil
17 (phonetic), who -- I don't remember his last name, but he
18 was with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in
19 Winnipeg. And it seemed like it was a good -- good sign
20 because the bull trout are -- as Parks and Canadian Zinc
21 know, they're pretty rare around this area. In fact, I
22 think they were a new -- kind of new species.

23 Even up at -- around the what's called Cat
24 Camp just below that we were kind of sceptical about bull
25 trout, but we found some pretty good populations there as

1 well. And I think Canadian Parks and -- or Can -- Parks
2 -- Nahanni National Park, Canadian Zinc, as well as you
3 people from Yellowknife or In -- Indian Affairs, if we
4 work together we can overcome a lot of things, you know.

5 And after a three (3) year study, you
6 know, the bull trout are in good shape. There is no bull
7 trout above Virginia Falls. It's strictly lake trout and
8 other species. But below the falls there is, as well as
9 in the Flat River area. I'm more concerned about the
10 Flat River area than I am about Canadian Zinc because we
11 went up there to Irvine Creek and we found some -- some
12 pretty bad signs up there.

13 What I mean by bad signs is, we went right
14 to the tungsten mine site just below it and we seen a lot
15 of overturned barrels and stuff like that. So I think
16 the Department of Fisheries and Oceans addressed that
17 issue with tungsten mine but we didn't see any of that at
18 Canadian Zinc. In fact, we stored our fish there to --
19 to send out to Winnipeg to get processed.

20 So I think in the long run, you know, it's
21 going to cost a heck of a lot of money to get that out.
22 If it is stopped, it's going to cost, cost, cost just to
23 put it back to what it was before the mine came in. And
24 I know there are detergents now that you can use in order
25 to process your -- your ore and stuff like that and there

1 is that on the market.

2 And what I'd like to say now is that we
3 should all get together and -- and just come down to the
4 -- to the bottom of all this. It can't take years and
5 years and years and years. It is very, very important
6 that environment, like Grandmother just said, is -- is
7 the most important thing to -- well, to anybody. And --
8 but if we work together we can overcome our loss. We can
9 overcome obstacles that we thought we could never do.

10 So in that case -- and for the Nahanni
11 Butte younger generation, I say this because a lot of our
12 kids now are going to Grande Prairie, an outsider
13 community, and they're getting jobs down there because
14 there's -- there's -- they're overqualified to work in
15 Nahanni Butte. I mean, a person with -- who graduated
16 from Grande Prairie Regional College doesn't want to come
17 here and cut grass. So, you know -- and I think Canadian
18 Zinc and Parks Canada can look into the -- the kids
19 around Nahanni Butte.

20 So I agree, we have to -- in -- in my work
21 with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, I think we've
22 done well in our studies. There's -- there's a booklet
23 to prove what we've done and -- and the fish seem to be
24 all right.

25 So what I'm stressing right now is we work

1 together on this and come up with a solution rather than
2 wait for another five (5), ten (10) years. Mahsi cho.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mahsi, Robert Taly.
4 Mahsi.

5 Okay. There's another Elder in the back.
6 Chief, you want to do your presentation first or you want
7 to go with the Elders?

8 Elders? Okay. We'll go with the Elders
9 in the back again and if you could just state your name.

10 ELDER GEORGE BETSAKA: Hello. My name is
11 George Betsaka. I've known Prairie Creek for a few
12 years. We started working on Prairie Creek in the '80s
13 and what Prairie Creek Mine sits on right now is a gravel
14 bar, but it's all crushed gravel and -- and it's been
15 going on to thirty-one (31) years now.

16 And for a mine with a lot of profitable
17 minerals, I mean, to -- to get minerals to -- into
18 production in thirty (30) years and that's unbelievable.
19 You know, you -- you can't hold out all the time. You
20 know, sure, we all say we need protection. Yeah, but
21 with new technology, the protection will be protected
22 with new technology.

23 I've been there from the beginning of --
24 with Cadillac exploration and then there was San Andreas,
25 now Canadian Zinc. And it seems like we've been holding

1 out for people that are employed or already are hauling -
2 - holding out on us because they have a job and we don't.
3 And there's opportunity in our bark yard. Whereas I know
4 a few people on the Board, Water Board, and one of them,
5 he's the one who put forth of nation and Indian
6 brotherhood. I shook his hand and his name is Mr. Wah-
7 Shee. He -- he always said that Native people should
8 make money out of their own land and be self government.

9 This is -- this is time that we work
10 together and could make it happen. But it's been getting
11 a little frustrated. Every -- every year there's always
12 something come up or somebody with different ideas of
13 stalling for us to make money.

14 If we're going to self government, we --
15 we're going to -- and then this is going to get into a
16 politician. When I was negotiating for Dehcho process,
17 the -- the government insists and will go on with this
18 plan is that they're going to -- when land claims come
19 in, they're going to give you a bulk of money. And it's
20 going to go maybe by the millions but with that money,
21 you as a community and nation have to make your money
22 count and make money with that money in order for your
23 medication, water delivery and whatever government is
24 doing for you right now. You have to make a go of it.

25 And even now, look at these Water Board

1 people and Parks and other sources that are here to see
2 our comments on the -- the future use of resources from -
3 - from the land, but right now it's -- it's up in the air
4 right now. We're -- we have to make some money from the
5 land in order to help the resources that they're going to
6 give us to start our self government. If -- if not, you
7 know, you're -- the people who have money work on our
8 land, our water. And while you -- the -- the people who
9 are stalling on issuing the important papers and permit
10 and giving us a green light, we're going to be poor and
11 you guys will be still getting two weeks paycheque. And
12 where are we?

13 I mean, you can say, well, we -- we could
14 go finish our school but when we're finishing our school
15 what -- what income do we have? And -- and think our --
16 in the area are happening in the outside world and it's
17 not happening here. So what I'm saying is that if we're
18 going to work together as a joint venture with Canadian
19 Zinc and Water Board and -- I mean, let's -- let's form
20 something that will come out good for the -- both
21 parties, all parties.

22 Thank you. Mahsi.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,
24 George Betsaka. Mahsi for those comments. And the
25 Elders that spoke as well, mahsi for your comments.

1 There's nobody else. I'm going to go to the Nahanni
2 Butte Band to do the presentation, but I think I see a
3 hand in the back. Maybe if it's okay with the Chief,
4 then have her state her name. And then, after that,
5 we'll go to the Chief's presentation. Mahsi.

6 MS. MARIE MATOU: I'm really scared to
7 speak. My name is Marie Matou. I'm a community health
8 worker in Nahanni Butte. And what I wanted to bring up
9 was I work for the government. My husband, he works for
10 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, and he does a Water Plan
11 Operation Act. This little guy right here, that's our
12 son.

13 And my husband, he works for Nahanni Butte
14 Dene Band. He's got no health benefits or nothing. I'm
15 the one who has it, and he has nothing with the band.
16 And they say, you know, this is our generation's future,
17 and I believe in that. It is my future.

18 And I just wanted to say that I think
19 about my future and this is my future. And I have too
20 much to say, but I'm a little bit scared to talk. My
21 husband used to work for Parks Canada about -- I don't
22 know, about ten (10) years ago, whatever. About ten (10)
23 -- no, ten (10) -- yeah, about ten (10) years ago he
24 worked for Parks Canada. He never got no health benefits
25 from there or nothing.

1 He got nothing from that. I just remember
2 that he got paid back about two thousand dollars
3 (\$2,000). That was it. What did Parks Canada do for us?
4 And Parks Canada -- and what -- whatever happened with
5 the boundary and everything? We should have got brand
6 new houses, every family from Nahanni Butte. We got
7 nothing to show for Nahanni Butte for Nahanni National
8 Park.

9 Every family should have had a brand new
10 house. We got nothing from that. That's how I feel
11 about Nahanni National Park. What did we get? What, are
12 they going to take away our land claims or hunting rights
13 or what? How am I going to -- I like fishing. I like
14 going hunting and -- but how about my kids. Down the
15 road what are they doing to do?

16 We're trying to teach them to like go for
17 a boat ride and go fishing, hunt and that. And how far
18 are we going to get until someone's going to say, Oh, you
19 can't hunt here, you can't fish here?

20 I -- my grandpa, his name is Joseph
21 Konisenta, and my grandma, she lives in -- I'm sorry.
22 She lives in long-term care. They fish. They live here.
23 Like over thirty (30) years we did what we wanted to on
24 this land. Why all of a sudden people come here and we
25 have to like come up here and speak for what we want?

1 You know, that's not right. This is our
2 land. We should do what with it -- I'm sorry, but it's
3 true. Why do we have to come here as a community and
4 come up and say -- oh, we have to fight for our own land.
5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mahsi for
7 your comments and very, very powerful words. And some
8 statements have been made. That's good. Good to hear
9 that. And we encourage that the Community come up and
10 continue to say those words. And, you know, it takes a
11 lot of courage for people to come and speak, and that's
12 good to do that, and mahsi for that.

13 I want to go to Nahanni Butte to do your
14 presentation. And then there'll be questions from the
15 Board. And then there'll be also Community comments,
16 further comments that anybody else might have missed. We
17 could take them on as well. So I want to go to Chief
18 from Nahanni Butte.

19 CHIEF FRED TESOU: Peter Redvers will be
20 doing that Community presentation.

21

22 (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24 PRESENTATION BY NAHA DEHE DENE BAND:

25 MR. PETER REDVERS: Thank you. Peter

1 Redvers. I've been working as a consultant to the Naha
2 Dehe Dene Band for about three (3) years now, since the
3 summer of 2008. And I'm going to be reading through a
4 prepared presentation that was reviewed and approved only
5 yesterday by the Chief and Council, and that's why it
6 wasn't posted earlier, was there was a need to sit down
7 and go over it with Chief and Council prior to making the
8 presentation.

9 So I'm going to just read through that. I
10 don't have copies for everyone. It was done, as I
11 mentioned, not approved until yesterday. So I'll just
12 ask you -- this will be an oral presentation. And in
13 terms of questions, I may be able to respond to some.
14 And then Chief Fred Tesou or other councillors may be
15 able to respond to other ones.

16 The Naha Dehe Dene Band has been dealing
17 with the Prairie Creek mine since it was first developed
18 in the 1970s and early 1980s. It sounds like back into
19 the 1960s as well. For three (3) decades the Naha Dehe
20 Dene Band has been concerned about potential
21 environmental impacts from mine development and operation
22 while trying to gain benefits, economic benefits, from
23 the mine's operations.

24 In 2008, as the mine was moving from the
25 development to operational phase, the Naha Dehe Dene Band

1 recommended an environmental assessment of the mine that
2 was recommended to what was then Indian and Northern
3 Affairs Canada.

4 And the Community then established a three
5 (3) path approach to dealing with mine issues. The first
6 was the preparation of a traditional knowledge assessment
7 of the mine and mine impacts. The second was engagement
8 or participation in this environmental assessment
9 process. And the third was negotiation of an impact
10 benefit agreement, which actually began with a
11 negotiation of a memorandum of understanding in the fall
12 of 2008.

13 The intent at that time was to establish a
14 reasonable balance between protecting the environment and
15 also getting benefits from the mine, all rooted in the
16 band's assertion that mine operations will primarily
17 affect the Naha Dehe traditional land use area.

18 With respect to the traditional knowledge
19 assessment, a confidential TK, or traditional knowledge,
20 assessment, of the Prairie Creek mine was completed in
21 April, 2009, and provided to Indian and Northern Affairs
22 Canada. This assessment provided an overview of the
23 history of the Naha Dehe Got'ine and their traditional
24 land use area and cultural activities in the Naha Dehe or
25 Nahanni River Valley and the surrounding area.

1 The assessment or the study described
2 specific traditional values and interests in the area
3 potentially impacted by the Prairie Creek mine and
4 identified preliminary concerns from a cultural
5 perspective about the operation of the mine and winter
6 haul operation. And certainly quite a number of the
7 Elders were involved in that process. It was about a six
8 (6) to eight (8) month study.

9 More detailed work regarding the potential
10 impact of the mine on traditional values was carried out
11 in 2009, and what is called an addendum or an addition to
12 the TK assessment was prepared and submitted to your
13 board as a component of the environmental assessment
14 process, and it is -- certainly there's a copy of it
15 available with your board.

16 This addendum or addition identified the
17 following main environmental concerns at that time:
18 possible contamination of the water and fish in Prairie
19 Creek for mine operations, possible contamination of
20 wetlands and waterways around the mine site along -- and
21 along the winter haul road corridor from spills,
22 contribution to cumul -- cumulative contamination of the
23 Nahanni River through Prairie Creek, disturbance to
24 wildlife, particularly Boreal caribou moose and Dall
25 sheep around the mine site and along the winter haul road

1 corridor, damage to cultural resources in the traditional
2 mountain passes from winter haul road operations, and
3 overhunting and other disturbances to wildlife from
4 public access to over wintering habitat and animals along
5 the winter haul road corridor.

6 So those concerns then were brought
7 forward into the environmental assessment and Nahanni's
8 involvement in the environmental assessment. So the Naha
9 Dehe Dene Band has continued to carry these environmental
10 concerns along with a number of socio-economic concerns
11 forward throughout the environmental assessment process
12 through active participation.

13 Earlier this month the Band submitted a
14 technical report to the Board, which contained a set of
15 recommendations, two (2) of which were subsequently
16 modified, and those modifications or changes are on
17 record.

18 A few of these recommendations are already
19 being met through commitments from Canadian Zinc
20 Corporation. Other recommendations were submitted before
21 the Naha Dehe Dene Band had the opportunity to see the
22 final technical recommendations being made by other
23 Intervenors, and particularly responsible departments.

24 Having seen those recommendations that
25 have gone in from other parties, it is now clear that

1 most of the outstanding Naha Dehe Dene Band concerns can
2 be met through implementation of many of the technical
3 recommendations made by these departments to the Board.

4 This presentation will therefore list some
5 of the specific Nahanni -- Naha Dehe recommendations and
6 then identify and comment on a -- on whether those
7 recommendations are being met through existing
8 commitments or will be met through implementation of
9 departmental recommendations.

10 The first recommendation that was made in
11 early June was that the Board require Canadian Zinc
12 Corporation to enhance its water treatment plant such
13 that it could meet more strict water quality guidelines,
14 what are called effluent quality criteria, or EQCs.

15 However, the second part of that
16 recommendation was that if there is a reasonable and
17 justifiable reason for not enhancing or improving the
18 water treatment plan to meet the most protective water
19 quality objectives, the Band recommends that the registry
20 remain open on this environmental assessment until there
21 is consensus between Canadian Zinc Corporation,
22 responsible authorities, and the Band regarding the water
23 quality management system -- system and the criteria
24 utilized so that minimal changes to water quality and the
25 aquatic environment can be assured.

1 And the recommendation noted that Nahanni
2 --the Naha Dehe Dene Band would accept a consensually
3 agreed upon water quality management system. And that
4 was consistent with, I think, what we've been hearing
5 today, which is that it would be much easier for the
6 Community if there was at this point in time some
7 agreement between the different parties as to what kind
8 of criteria needs to be in place.

9 It's very difficult when the Community is
10 in a difficult situation where there are some differing
11 views or opinions, particularly because it is highly
12 technical. However, at this point the Naha Dehe Dene
13 Band now understands that improving the efficiency of the
14 water treatment plant is not feasible, so that the
15 recommendation on water quality will need to be met
16 through the implementation of the departmental
17 recommendations.

18 But to be clear, on particularly the
19 recommendation relating to water quality criteria, the
20 Naha Dehe Dene Band has determined that it will accept
21 water quality criteria that strike a reasonable balance
22 between the criteria proposed by Canadian Zinc
23 Corporation and the criteria proposed by responsible
24 government departments where those criteria differ.

25 So in -- in -- I guess, in essence,

1 consistent with some of the comments you heard, the Band
2 is asking the parties work together to come up with
3 reasonable consensus on what would be acceptable, and is
4 not prejudging or prescribing what those would be.

5 The second recommendation was with respect
6 to post-closure impacts. The Band recommends that the
7 public registry remain open until there is consensus,
8 again, between Canadian Zinc, responsible authorities,
9 and the Band, on the long term efficiency, stability,
10 and/or the impact of the tailing disposal system such
11 that there is assurance that no significant long term,
12 what's called, bioaccumulation, or buildup, and
13 bioconcentration, which would be buildup in fish and
14 other aquatic life. That there be no significant buildup
15 of contaminants in the downstream environment. And that
16 there would also be consensus reached, and it wasn't
17 discussed today, in relation to post -- post-closure
18 monitoring and the time frame for that monitoring.

19 And the second part of that was that the
20 Canadian Zinc be required to post a bond significant
21 enough to carry out post-closure monitoring and any
22 mitigation required regarding water quality impacts.

23 In this case, for this recommendation it
24 is highly likely that the recommendation would be met by
25 the implementation of current departmental

1 recommendations before the Board.

2 There still needs to be some clarity on
3 the issue of bonding, but that will likely be addressed,
4 or addressed through the Land and Water Board, which is
5 not your role.

6 The third recommendation relating to
7 spills along the haul road, and the Band had recommended
8 that there be more stringent spill prevention and
9 response plans developed, particularly for the first 54
10 kilometres of the road. The -- the -- Parks was
11 identifying that as the particularly steep area. And
12 that that be done before approval, or probably more
13 reasonably, the -- the commencement of mine operations.

14 Also recommends that Canadian Zinc
15 clarify, and finalize the road alignment plan for the
16 silent hill areas. And I believe that was spoken to
17 earlier. Recommends that the spill contingency plan
18 address the potential for spill events, or spills that
19 occur during adverse road or weather conditions. That it
20 be clear in the spill contingency plan that Canadian Zinc
21 will hold overall responsibility for spills response,
22 whether the spills occurred from the action of Canadian
23 Zinc or its subcontractors.

24 That Nahanni, or the Naha Dehe Dene Band,
25 be consulted and play a meaningful role in spill

1 contingency planning and response. And finally, that
2 Canadian Zinc table a mine economic feasibility report
3 with regulators prior to final approval to assure there's
4 enough profitability such that the issue of profit versus
5 cost can be reasonably balanced without affecting mine
6 sustainability.

7 Again, the -- the major elements of this
8 recommendation will be met through implementation of the
9 departmental technical recommendations relating to road
10 construction and operation, as well as spills contingency
11 planning. And I should add, along with the commitments
12 that Canadian Zinc has already made with respect to
13 spills response planning.

14 Any Nahanni concerns about safety versus
15 cost will also be adequately addressed through
16 implementation of the recommendations relating to road
17 construction, operation, and spills response planning.
18 And the bonding will be addressed, and will have to be
19 addressed at the Board.

20 And we note that Canadian Zinc has
21 recently engaged SNC-Lavalin to complete a feasibility
22 study on the Prairie Creek mine, and that's expected to
23 be completed by the end of 2011, and that would certainly
24 satisfy that issue or that concern.

25 Recommendation 4 relating to -- re -- I'll

1 maybe read it:

2 "The Naha Dehe Dene Band recommends
3 that as a component of its previous
4 recommendation regarding the water
5 quality management system -- system,
6 particular attention be paid to
7 reducing the presence of mercury and
8 other elements of the mine effluent
9 known to biocumulate or bioconcentrate
10 or build up such that these levels --
11 the levels of these elements do not
12 exceed existing levels in Prairie Creek
13 at all times."

14 First of all, there was a decision to
15 modify the recommendation. And rather than reading, such
16 that the levels of these elements do not exceed existing
17 levels in Prairie Creek at all times, the recommendation
18 has been modified to read:

19 "...such that these levels do not
20 exceed levels that can cause short or
21 long-term harm to the aquatic
22 environment."

23 And again, the appropriate levels can be
24 determined through implementation of departmental
25 recommendations, including the setting of balanced water

1 quality criteria noted in recommendation 1. And that's
2 again taking into account the need to find some balance
3 between Canadian Zinc's position on water quality
4 criteria and the responsible department's position on
5 that criteria.

6 Recommendation 5 was that the draft
7 wildlife management plan to be expanded to become more
8 proactive, to include science and TK based monitoring and
9 not just incident and sighting documentation, and that
10 this redrafting be carried out by Canadian Zinc in
11 cooperation with the Naha Dehe Dene Band, Parks,
12 government, and if they choose to or the -- the GNWT.

13 And the final plan should be reviewed and
14 approved by the proposed technical advisory committee
15 required to any required regulatory approvals. I believe
16 Parks may have some authority over that issue.

17 Again, this recommendation will be met
18 through implementation of departmental recommendations.
19 The only addition I guess that needs to be clarified is
20 that the band ask that the approach taken to wildlife
21 management suggested by Parks Canada should be applied or
22 implemented to animal populations to the east of the park
23 boundary so that you have a consistent wildlife
24 management plan for the entire haul road as well as the
25 mine operation rather than having differing plans similar

1 to the -- to the road issue.

2 The sixth recommendation, there was a
3 concern about cultural materials. And the band had
4 recommended that the Government of the Northwest
5 Territories, that's through the Prince of Wales Northern
6 Heritage Centre, continue to oversee the archeological
7 assessment work and that the required archeological
8 impact assessment that was proposed by the GNWT be
9 carried out as planned this summer with direct Naha Dehe
10 involvement.

11 And the Band further recommends that any
12 cut and fill activities associated with access road
13 construction in or around the sites of main concern, and
14 those were mainly the mountain passes, be monitored by an
15 archeolog -- archeological technician and/or informed
16 Nahanni Band members to ensure protection of potential
17 heritage resources.

18 This matter will be partially addressed
19 through the requirement of the GNWT for Canadian Zinc to
20 complete a archeological impact assessment, and that's on
21 the new road alignments, by the way, not the entire road.

22 And the issue of site monitoring at
23 mountain passes or in other sensitive areas during road
24 construction could simply be addressed through a
25 commitment by Canadian Zinc. And I believe I heard that

1 today, but we'll touch base with the -- there will be
2 environmental monitors and that they could be employed or
3 utilized for that purpose. I'm not going to put words in
4 your mouth but we can discuss that, but certainly it
5 seems to be an issue that can be resolved.

6 The seventh recommendation was that the
7 Band recommend that -- and I'll make it easier for the --
8 for the interpreters. The Naha Dehe Dene Band had
9 originally wanted to be able to restrict access to the
10 winter haul road, and that was supported by Canadian
11 Zinc. It was certainly in both party's interests to
12 limit or restrict access. It took a while, but it was
13 concluded, certainly through statements and responses by
14 Indian and Northern Affairs, that restricting access
15 would not be possible.

16 So the second option is that a Naha Dehe
17 Dene Band staffed checkpoint be established near the
18 entry point to the road during winter operations, and I'm
19 not going to go through them but that there be a number
20 of strict rules that would make it clear that use of that
21 road is at the person's own -- own risk and that there
22 might be limits set on parking and et cetera, a number of
23 issues.

24 And again, with that, that particular
25 recommendation will be addressed through a current

1 commitment by Canadian Zinc to establish a Naha Dehe
2 operated checkpoint as well as through discussions with
3 the proposed Prairie Creek technical advisory committee
4 to finalize road restrictions and warnings. So that
5 would be a useful role or one (1) of the roles for the
6 advisory committee, and I'll speak to that shortly, to be
7 able to assist in setting some of those limitations.

8 The eighth recommendation, set of
9 recommendations actually, came out of a human resource
10 and community economic development survey that the Band
11 conducted, where it went out and interviewed a fairly
12 wide cross-section of community members on their
13 interests in the mine, work, training, et cetera, as well
14 as their concerns at that time, and that was again a
15 report that was given and presented or submitted to the
16 Board and is on the registry.

17 It became clear when there was sort of
18 individual surveying carried out that there are mixed
19 opinions in this community. There's certainly a desire,
20 and I -- I think that's not a mixed opinion. I believe,
21 from the work I've done and -- that there is -- is a
22 absolute interest in ensuring that the environment is
23 protected to the best that can be done.

24 But out of the socio -- or the human
25 resource community economic development survey it was

1 clear that members wanted -- the recommendations that
2 came out of that were that there be support by Canadian
3 Zinc and/or government agencies to fund training
4 priorities for Band members; to assist the Band and
5 individual members in getting access to capital partners
6 and expertise in order to take advantage of business
7 opportunities; to help support and fund better
8 counselling and healing programs to address any substance
9 abuse issues that might arise; to support and fund money
10 management programs, I believe that Canadian Zinc spoke
11 to that this morning; to support culture and the language
12 programs and to ensure that community members are allowed
13 time off for the fall hunt if they choose or ask for
14 that.

15 And it was also from that survey that
16 there was support -- came out that there was support from
17 the community for a three (3) week in, three (3) week out
18 shift option even though that certainly contradicted what
19 the GNWT was calling for.

20 So it was important to go ask the members
21 what they were comfortable with, and there was comfort
22 with the three (3) weeks in, three (3) weeks out, but
23 that be assessed after perhaps a year of operation.

24 With respect to that set of
25 recommendations that came out of the human resource

1 community economic survey, it was clear that in terms of
2 how those were being addressed, clearly the environmental
3 issues are being addressed through the Band's
4 intervention and the environmental assessment process.

5 Most of the socioeconomic concerns are
6 being addressed through the impact benefit agreement
7 signed this past January between Naha -- Naha Dehe Dene
8 Band and Canadian Zinc Corporation. However, the band
9 will still need ongoing support from government agencies
10 to ensure that it has the capacity to fully implement and
11 benefit from -- benefit from the IBA. There's capacity
12 building issues that need to be addressed with support
13 from a variety of agencies.

14 The Naha Dehe Dene Band is aware that the
15 GNWT is calling for a socioeconomic agreement between
16 Canadian Zinc and the GNWT, but as this would be a
17 territorial agreement it would not override the IBA with
18 the Naha Dehe Dene Band.

19 So it -- it -- really, I guess, Nahanni
20 won't -- won't speak to or comment on that. It's
21 satisfied with the socioeconomic conditions and clauses
22 in the IBA.

23 And then the final recommendation was that
24 the Naha Dehe Dene Band recommends that Canadian Zinc
25 and/or INAC, or Aboriginal Affairs Northern Development

1 now, and/or Parks Canada provide the funding necessary
2 for the Band's full participation in the proposed Prairie
3 Creek technical advisory committee.

4 And there is support for this committee.
5 It's being supported by Canadian Zinc, obviously, Parks
6 Canada. Environment Canada also supports the role of
7 this committee, and assisting in the design of monitoring
8 programs. But funding for the Naha Dehe Dene Band
9 participation has yet to be addressed, and so that's an
10 iss -- issue that remains under discussion.

11 So those were essentially the -- the
12 concerns raised through the TK assessment, and the status
13 of them. The third path the TK assessment, environment
14 assessment, was the IBA negotiations or impact benefit
15 negotiations.

16 There was a memorandum of understanding
17 signed in the fall, and the date is wrong, it was the
18 fall of 2008. And the MOU led to the negotiation of an
19 impact benefit agreement that was signed off, as I
20 mentioned, in January 2011.

21 This IBA acknowledges the Naha Dehe Dene
22 Band rights and interest in the mine impact area,
23 provides a range of direct and potential benefits to the
24 Band, and those were identified earlier today, and does
25 not restrict the Band from continuing to participate in

1 certainly what I've heard today in -- in my role from --
2 from the membership that spoke is that there is a need
3 for these parties to really get together and hammer out
4 some of these issues that are -- where there is some
5 disagreement, and do it with due haste so that the -- the
6 next steps, decisions, can -- can be made. Ka (phonetic)
7 mahsi.

8

9 QUESTION PERIOD:

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Peter
11 Redvers, Nahanni Butte Dene Band presentation. What I'm
12 going to do is I'm going to go to the Board members to
13 ask questions to your presentation.

14 I'm going to go to my far left. I'm going
15 to go back to Darryl Bohnet, Board member. Does he have
16 any questions for Peter Redvers on his presentation?

17 MR. DARRYL BOHNET: No, thank you very
18 much.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.
20 Board member James Wah-Shee...?

21 MR. JAMES WAH-SHEE: I have no questions,
22 thank you.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
24 Board member Percy Hardisty...?

25 MR. PERCY HARDISTY: Mahsi, Mr. Chair.

1 No questions.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

3 Board member Rachel Chapeau...?

4 MS. RACHEL CHAPEAU: Thank you. No
5 questions. I will be reading more on the
6 recommendations. I'll -- written out, for example,
7 recommendation 2 -- 1 to 2, I'll be paying attention to
8 those. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

10 Richard Mercredi...?

11 MR. RICHARD MERCREDI: Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman. No questions this time.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

14 Board member Danny Bayha...?

15 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16 I just had one (1) question. In -- in your hopes that --
17 that you mentioned, or in your -- in your presentation
18 you mentioned that you wanted: I would like to see some
19 sort of consensus, team building, or team kind of
20 exercise, to hammer out some of the different issues, and
21 hopefully reach some sort of an agreement between all the
22 parties before.

23 Wasn't sure what your thoughts were there
24 on whether it's before permitting, or before mine
25 operation, and if you could maybe elaborate on that, what

1 -- what your expectation, or the Band's expectation is,
2 of that agreement between the different parties and
3 different organizations that would help see that
4 environment is protected while still development happens?

5 So could you maybe just give us a picture
6 of that? Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.
8 I'm going to go to Peter Redvers, Nahanni Butte Dene
9 Band.

10 MR. PETER REDVERS: Well, I -- I think
11 the first step would be perhaps to put a process in place
12 to do that.

13 That would maybe -- maybe be the first
14 step, is that there could be an agreement on a process
15 with some time lines to -- to speak to and resolve some
16 of these issues. That would certainly help.

17 Some of the -- as you heard from the
18 presentation, there are differing views on some key
19 issues, and it's very technical, it's very complicated,
20 and you've got essentially experts disagreeing.

21 So it's -- it's very difficult to try and
22 really read into that what is accurate and what is not.
23 But I -- I -- probably the simplest, if time, and I think
24 time is an issue, would be to, as a first step -- I'm not
25 sure who would do that or who would play the lead on it,

1 it's -- I don't think it's the Naha Dehe Dene Band's role
2 to do that -- would be to -- for the parties to simply
3 establish and agree on a process with some timelines to
4 resolve some of the outstanding issues.

5 That's all I could suggest at this point.
6 Perhaps that might be discussed in more detail at the
7 technical hearings tomorrow and Friday, once the --
8 there's a little more understanding of the depth of the --
9 - some of the issues that -- in -- that need to be
10 resolved.

11 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you, Mr. Redvers.
12 I guess the final question, suppose that at the end of
13 the day that all the recommendations the Band had was not
14 be able to be achieved by the time the mine is permitted
15 and -- and went ahead.

16 Would the -- the Band still -- would they
17 -- they would see themselves being involved in this
18 process, so they can get moving it along so that some of
19 the recommendations can be realized, or -- or is that --
20 what -- would that change the position of the -- the
21 Band? Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.
23 Peter Redvers...?

24 MR. PETER REDVERS: It's certainly in the
25 --the Band's interest to get these issues resolved, and

1 so as noted that, if there was a role to play for -- for
2 the Naha Dene Band to be part of that process and move
3 that along, if that would help, and it is agreed upon, I
4 -- that would be up to Chief and counsel to determine at
5 that moment.

6 But certainly it's -- from what I hear
7 through discussions and also through some of the
8 presentation, there is a desire to -- to resolve some of
9 these issues sooner rather than later, and if the Band
10 can play a role in doing that then certainly there would
11 be some interest in doing that.

12 I'm not sure who that would be, but the --
13 there is a role, or may be a role to play.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Redvers.
15 Danny Bayha...?

16 MR. DANNY BAYHA: Thank you. That'll be
17 all.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bayha.
19 Mr. Peter Bannon...?

20 MR. PETER BANNON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 I -- I don't have any questions now but I'm trying to
22 formulate one for tomorrow. You will be making a
23 presentation tomorrow? Thank you.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,
25 Mr. Redvers for your presentation on the Nahanni Butte

1 Dene Band.

2 What we'll do is we'll take a fifteen (15)
3 minute break, but prior to taking a break what I'll do is
4 that after we come back is that I'm going to continue to
5 take questions from the Community. Either from the
6 Community the questions can be posed towards the
7 developer or any parties that made presentation here
8 today. So maybe while we're talking a break if maybe,
9 Chief, anybody from your Community that want to come up
10 and express their issues, concerns, or statements, that
11 would be good.

12 So we'll take a fifteen (15) minute break.
13 Thank you.

14

15 --- Upon recessing at 2:25 p.m.

16 --- Upon resuming at 2:53 p.m.

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If I could get
19 everybody's attention we could start. Actually this is
20 the first time I've been to a meeting like this where the
21 cell phones don't go off. It's really good.

22 So if I could get everybody to come and
23 sit down and we could start. Just before we broke we had
24 the Nahanni Butte Dene Band do their presentation and
25 then we took our fifteen (15) minute break.

1 The next part I got on the agenda here is
2 questions from the community. The questions could be
3 directed to the developer or parties. The -- the
4 Mackenzie Valley Review Board here will sit here and
5 listen. We already listened to some of the Elders spoken
6 already earlier.

7 So I'm -- I'm going to put this out to the
8 Chief from the Nahanni Butte Dene Band that if you have
9 any further members from your community that want to make
10 comments, questions, statements to the developer or any
11 parties that made presentation in case we forgot them, or
12 we -- we missed them, they're welcome to come up and make
13 a comment, or there's a roaming mic, I believe, as well.
14 The staff have a roaming mic.

15 So, Chief, if you have anybody from your
16 community that want to make some further comments or
17 statements.

18 Thank you. Have we got a roaming mic here
19 somewhere? The gentleman in the back that has his hand
20 up and if you could maybe state your name and then your
21 question, or a statement.

22

23

(BRIEF PAUSE)

24

25

THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I'll go to our

1 Elder here.

2 ELDER ROBERT VITAL: Yeah, my name is
3 Robert Vital and I was just thinking things over again
4 during the break. Again, I stress that our -- our youth
5 really have to play a big part in -- in -- in everything.

6 And again I want to stress we have to get
7 -- get along. This has been ongoing like George -- my
8 friend George said, and it's just got to the point where,
9 you know, we don't -- we don't know really what's going
10 on, even the Band, you know. It's just ongoing, ongoing.

11 I've been to quite a few places in my life
12 and back when I lived in Alberta I -- I went to a lot of
13 major, big, big Bands down there. My -- my partner was a
14 member of the big -- a big reserve.

15 And we had, you know, we had things -- we
16 had -- we had -- especially in the oil and gas field, we
17 had agreements done in two (2) or three (3) years, you
18 know, rather than ten (10) or twenty (20) years.

19 And the Bands down there -- for instance,
20 you can look right now at the Lubicon Band in Alberta,
21 and look -- and they're smaller than us. And you can
22 imagine what they're doing right now. They're -- they're
23 negotiating. They're -- they're getting along with the
24 companies that are working with them.

25 And I want to stress again, our younger

1 people are leaving our community, like I said before.
2 These people are -- these young people are -- are
3 computer wise, you know, and they -- like I said, they
4 have to go to Grand Prairie for their school.

5 And then when they graduate, they have no
6 -- they have no choice but to go to people down south or
7 wherever, wherever they're -- they can get work, which
8 they're qualified for. And like I said before, they
9 cannot come back to Nahanni Butte and cut grass, you
10 know, because -- and well, it's kind of comical for me.

11 Anyways, I'd like to say that I -- I have
12 been -- again, I have been on a bull trout study with
13 Canadian Parks and Wilderness, as well as Department of
14 Fisheries and Oceans, and we have -- we have -- found no
15 fault in Prairie Creek, or Funeral Creek, and again the
16 road -- the road goes long up Funeral Creek.

17 And even under the coverage we found fish,
18 you know, and so -- and then again once they -- they did
19 a cleanup, I was on that cleanup at cat camp. We burned
20 all the fuel. We burned the whole works, as well as
21 Grainger River. It was burned. I wasn't there, but my
22 brother was there, and -- and it was burned. So that
23 shows me, you know, Canadian Zinc is really interested in
24 working with the environment.

25 So I just want to stress again that we

1 have to get along and get things done. Thank you very
2 much.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you
4 for your statement. I'm going to go to the gentleman in
5 the back here. Again, state your name.

6 MR. CLAYTON KONISENTA: Yeah, hello. My
7 name's Clayton Konisenta from Nahanni Butte. This
8 question is for INAC.

9 I have a paper here. It says, "INAC
10 Technical Report." I know that none of you have it, but
11 it's on page 19. It says in there:

12 "An Aboriginal subsistence fishery
13 exists at the mouth of Prairie Creek."

14 I'd like to know where they got that from
15 and -- and what do they mean by that, because that's new
16 to me, and I'm from the community.

17 And as a young person, I go up the river,
18 and the only fishing we do that -- that I know of is at a
19 place called White Sprays, and this is new to me. I'd
20 just like to know what they're talking about right there,
21 at the mouth of Prairie Creek. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Clayton.
23 I'm going to go to INAC, Teresa Joudrie, if she can come
24 up and respond to that question?

25 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Hi, Teresa Joudrie

1 for INAC. Thank you for the question. We received that
2 information through the confidential TK study that was
3 provided to us by the -- by the Band. So that's the
4 basis for which we made that statement.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Teresa. I'm
6 going to go back to Clayton. Do you have further
7 questions, and comments?

8 MR. CLAYTON KONISENTA: No.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mahsi, Clayton,
10 thank you very much. Anybody else from Nahanni Butte
11 Dene Band that want to make comments, statements?
12 Gentleman in the back, please state your name.

13 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Good afternoon.
14 It's Burton Campbell, Nahanni Butte. Yeah, the -- I
15 have a few questions to Canadian Zinc.

16 Your tailings, like -- like, it's waste.
17 Can you take that tailings down south with you?

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Clayton --
19 oh, sorry, Burton Campbell. Mahsi. I want to go to
20 Nahanni Butte -- sorry, Canadian Zinc.

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yeah, this is Alan
22 Taylor, Canadian Zinc. Unfortunately, the volume of
23 waste tails that is produced by the proposed operation is
24 too large to contemplate hauling down to somewhere else.
25 And when you place them underground they -- they become

1 relatively benign underground as -- as waste material.
2 And that's our proposal. It's just too expensive
3 otherwise to contemplate shipping.

4 Yeah. And in -- in addition it's not just
5 a economic thing. We're -- we're looking at it from the
6 environmental closure point of view in that the waste
7 tails would be put into the voids and they would be
8 sealing up basically the -- a lot of the groundwater
9 movement. Thanks.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,
11 Canadian Zinc.

12 Burton Campbell, Nahanni Butte Dene Band,
13 further questions?

14 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes. So what are
15 you saying, twenty (20) years we'll be -- or maybe fifty
16 (50) years we'll be stuck with this then?

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I don't know if,
18 Alan, you had -- understand that question?

19 Maybe, Burton, can you re-phrase your
20 question.

21 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Maybe I'll put it
22 little more terms. Are you going to put the tailings in
23 the rock or underground? Are you going to seal it and
24 it's going to be there? Is it going to be hard to come
25 out or -- or are we going to be stuck with two cells on

1 top?

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you,
3 Burton. I'm going to go to Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc.

4 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman. The -- the paste tails will be placed
6 underground in the voids that we mine out. And it
7 doesn't matter the longevity of the mine, if it's a ten
8 (10) year or twenty (20) year operation, those -- those
9 voids will continually be opened up and will be
10 continually to be replaced as the mine progresses. And
11 they will be sealed up upon -- upon closure, and that's
12 what I referred to the sealing up of the hydrology system
13 underground.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,
15 Canadian Zinc.

16 Burton Campbell, any further questions?

17 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes, you know, like
18 the -- everybody goes with the prices -- with the stocks
19 on lead and zinc. What if it crashes tomorrow, what are
20 you -- what is your plans to -- for cleanup?

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I'm
22 going to go to Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc.

23 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: In the life of any
24 mine, any mine is dependent upon the commo -- commodity
25 prices and those commodity prices are subject to global

1 economics. And in the life of any mine there is a
2 possibility that there might be a temporary shutdown but
3 that would only be a temporary, and upon full closure
4 everything would be backfilled and closed.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor,
6 Canadian Zinc.

7 I want to go back to Burton. Any further
8 comments or questions?

9 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes. I guess
10 that's between the Nahanni Band and the -- the IBA. Is
11 that the IBA just only on the mine itself? What if you
12 find other materials around the site, like your little
13 donut shape?

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, I want to go to
15 Alan Taylor because this is a -- I just want to say that
16 the IBAs are in agreements between the community and the
17 proponent or the developer here in this case, and I think
18 those are private deals. So I guess maybe I'll put it
19 back to Alan Taylor, that would be your -- in your court,
20 I guess.

21 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.
22 Chairman. You know, while the I -- IBAs are confident in
23 -- in part, this one that we have signed with Nahanni
24 Butte directly relates to the facility of Prairie Creek,
25 not any other mines if that's the point of the question.

1 I'm not sure exactly if that was it.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Alan Taylor.
3 Burton Campbell...?

4 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Okay. That
5 answered my question. Okay, the other question is: I
6 was hearing this morning that a thousand (1,000) or
7 thirteen hundred (1,300) tonnes that you're going to do
8 in a day and that's going to go south. Now are you
9 saying if the pro -- the profits, are they going to go,
10 you know, towards the mine or towards the community?

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Maybe -- I don't
12 know if the -- Alan Taylor, we'll probably need
13 clarification on it. Can you rephrase your question
14 again, Clayton -- I'm sorry, Burton?

15 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yeah, well, they're
16 saying a thousand to thirteen hundred (1,300) a tonne
17 you're going to haul, now that profit you're saying, is
18 that going to go towards the Community or the mine or...?

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. I
20 guess maybe I'll turn it over to Alan Taylor. It sounds
21 like a question that you guys probably worked out with
22 the Community. Thank you.

23 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: The product that we
24 generate in the form of concentrates, that will be the
25 only material that is sold to the market, and that will

1 determine the economics of the mine. And as the
2 operation proceeds, the Community will benefit from the
3 operation. As the revenues come in, the Community will
4 benefit through this IBA, which right now I -- I can't go
5 into a lot of detail but they will benefit.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you, Alan
7 Taylor and Canadian Zinc. Burton Campbell, you got
8 anymore questions?

9 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes, one more.
10 Monitoring of the water, is that going to continue after
11 close? Are you going to -- are you going to continue,
12 like -- you know, like, in next fifty (50) years, sixty
13 (60) years are you going to continue that water
14 monitoring?

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you.
16 Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc...?

17 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's David Harpley.
18 Burton, we will be monitoring the water until such time
19 as we can confirm that our assumptions for the closure
20 are correct. The whole purpose of the backfill is to
21 seal the underground so that we don't have a long-term
22 collection and treatment issue with the mine water as we
23 currently do today. That's why we specifically do want
24 to backfill the tailings.

25 Our work to this point indicates that

1 there won't be significant loss of metals from the
2 backfill after closure but that will be subject to
3 monitoring to confirm that before we basically leave the
4 site and consider it stable in the long term.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Any further
6 questions, Burton Campbell?

7 MR. BURTON CAMPBELL: Yes, I got one (1)
8 more. I just want to state to them: Can you promise
9 that the water will be safe next forty (40) years, sixty
10 (60) years? Thank you.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you,
12 Burton Campbell, for your final question. I'm going to
13 go to Canadian Zinc.

14 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Dave Harpley.
15 "Promise" has a number of connotations but I -- I'm going
16 to put it this way: I -- I very much doubt that
17 government would allow us to retrieve our bond for the
18 project until we have demonstrated that it's satisfactory
19 -- satisfactorily closed and stable. So that is the way
20 of the government ensuring that the Company keeps its
21 promise for suitable closure.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, David
23 Harpley, Canadian Zinc. Any further comments from the
24 Nahanni Butte Dene Band, comments, questions?

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I don't know if
4 I see any hands up but I think everybody had an
5 opportunity probably to make comments from Nahanni Butte
6 Dene Band in regards to this public hearing here today.

7 Chief, you have any questions?

8 CHIEF FRED TESOU: This -- this mine has
9 been -- I think this was -- this mine has been going on
10 for I don't know how many years, ten (10) years, fifteen
11 (15) years. I think we got to start working together
12 here to push this mine going 'cause it's lot of
13 opportunities for jobs, education. There's lot of
14 opportunity for the North here.

15 So we need to be working together as --
16 you know, as one, like all of us here inside this gym
17 here. So it'd be good if we push this mine into
18 production 'cause there's lot -- like I said, there's lot
19 of opportunities for jobs, education. There's -- there's
20 opportunity for the North. Thank you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you very
22 much, Chief. That's all from Nahanni Butte Dene Band.
23 Mahsi. And I want to say thank you to your members and
24 your leadership for making comments.

25 I'm going to go on to continue on with the

1 agenda of the day. Since there's nobody else in the
2 community making comments and questions of the developer
3 or parties, I'm going to ask that Canadian Zinc be given
4 the opportunity to make closing statements. We could do
5 that now.

6

7

(BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: I had one (1) request
10 here before you do your closing comments, Mr. Taylor. I
11 think we have one (1) more person from Nahanni Butte that
12 want to make a comment or a statement. Just introduce
13 yourself.

14 MS. ANNA TETSEL: Hi, my name is Anna,
15 Anna Tetsel (phonetic). And I'd just like to say that --
16 okay. I'd just like to say that we're -- it sounds like
17 we're getting kind of off the topic. The ma -- our main
18 concern is the water. And I stand behind my mom, Elsie
19 Marcellais, that our water should be protected. Thank
20 you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you
22 for you statement. And I just want to let you know that
23 the Review Board is here to listen to everybody's issues
24 and concerns from this community, including your mom, and
25 I want to thank her for that. And once we're done here,

1 we're going to go to Fort Simpson tomorrow. And Friday
2 we're going to be doing the same thing over there, as
3 well.

4 Then after we're done, then the Board will
5 meet probably in a month or two (2), it depends how long
6 it takes to get everything done. Then we'll make a
7 decision. So everything that's been said here today will
8 be noted in part of our decision, as well, including your
9 mom's statement, so mahsi for that.

10 So with that, I'm going to go to Alan
11 Taylor, for Canadian Zinc, to do your closing remarks.

12

13 CLOSING COMMENTS BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

14 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr.
15 Chairman. Canadian Zinc owns the Prairie Creek mine
16 site. This is a unique situation, as I said earlier in
17 our presentation, but I cannot emphasise it more in that
18 this proposed operation, most of the facilities are there
19 already. The mine site is established.

20 It was fully permitted in 1980/'82, but
21 those permits have since lapsed. There was due diligence
22 done at the time through water licensing and such, and
23 that we have collected a lot of database historically
24 from that perspective.

25 The waters at Prairie Creek did not start

1 when the mine started. They flowed for many, many years
2 prior to the -- to the mine every being discovered, which
3 was 1928. The -- the waters from the vicinity of
4 Harrison Creek, which is directly opposed to the
5 underground ore body, have been receiving metals and
6 anomalous elements for many years.

7 While this hasn't been documented to any
8 great extent prior to any infrastructure being developed
9 onsite, this is something that we need to account for.
10 The water quality up -- upstream of Prairie Creek is
11 different to that of downstream from a natural
12 perspective.

13 I have heard much from the community today
14 and much over the last many years from the community, and
15 I hear a recurring theme of -- of, Let's move this along.
16 But certainly water quality is a key management issue
17 here, and we aim to be the best at managing that quality.
18 And certainly with the assistance of all the government
19 agencies and the bands, that is our goal.

20 There is much to work out still, but this
21 is an environmental assessment, and the Review Board must
22 decide whether or not the project is likely to cause
23 significant adverse impacts or significant public
24 concern. And based on this, the Review Board will decide
25 whether the development should be approved, and if so,

1 with what mitigation measures. Let's all keep that in
2 mind.

3 I've heard a number of -- of requests for
4 details such as further finalization, or towards
5 finalization of -- of spill contingency plans, human
6 resource plans, road plans, and even the feasibility.
7 But all the -- besides the feasibility part, all these
8 details are part of the regulatory process and they will
9 be sorted out at that time.

10 We have been through a number of EAs with
11 our prior exploration and we think we have a good record
12 on that. But certainly compliance to the levels of -- of
13 water quality is a key issue here.

14 Our work with the -- the community is key.
15 I -- when I started with Canadian Zinc I -- I maintain
16 that I was a cornerstone of the -- of the -- of the
17 Corporation to move ahead Prairie Creek was to keep the
18 communities involved, and Nahanni being the closest one
19 (1), that is our goal.

20 In addition to that, life has got a little
21 bit more complicated for us over the course of the last
22 ten (10) years with the expansion of Nahanni National
23 Park Reserve. However, in retrospect, we -- we did see
24 that expansion coming, that there was a study that was
25 put in for us for four (4) years and we worked closely

1 with Parks Canada, and we actually signed a memorandum of
2 understanding to work collaborator -- collaboratively
3 together to suit our -- our different needs. And
4 certainly they are somewhat different and it's an
5 education for both of us.

6 And we endeavour to further that in the
7 near future as an ongoing process and an example of that
8 is our technical advisory committee, which we formed at
9 the initiation when the Prime Minister announced the
10 expansion of the Park. And we certainly invite Nahanni
11 Butte and always have a seat at the table for them for
12 this.

13 Some comments were made from one (1) of
14 our Elders that they were concerned about the water,
15 actually, from more than one (1) Elder. And certainly, I
16 can't reiterate more, and I can't emphasize that more, we
17 are too. The tailings pond, the facility there, it will
18 be -- it will -- it has been looked at from a structural
19 perspective and we don't contemplate using it as a
20 tailings pond. And it has -- it has endured for over
21 thirty (30) years with very little maintenance and it is
22 -- it is a very sound structure.

23 So Canadian Zinc scientific and technical
24 studies place particular emphasis on assessing water
25 quality at the mine including mine and process water

1 discharge and potential downstream effects on water and
2 aquatic ec -- ecosystems.

3 The Prairie Creek Mine will utilize the
4 water which flows naturally into and collects in the mine
5 as a source of process water for the mill. This water
6 has been coming out from the mine for over thirty (30)
7 years.

8 The existing large pond originally
9 designed for tailing storage will now be converted into a
10 water storage pond. Used process water and excess mine
11 water will be treated and discharged into the Prairie
12 Creek River using a specially designed double piped
13 exfiltration trench in the base of Prairie -- in the bed
14 of Prairie Creek.

15 However, the treatment and discharge
16 schedule will be varied seasonally depending on the flow
17 of the water in the river. The Prairie Creek and the
18 Mackenzie Mountains are very dynamic systems and they
19 have very variable rates of flow of water and -- and
20 receiving of waters and we have to take that into account
21 in order not to affect the ecosystem. Discharge will be
22 low during periods of low river flow in order to minimize
23 the potential for effects on the river and its downstream
24 environment.

25 Canadian Zinc developed site specific

1 water quality objectives of the highest standards to
2 ensure protection of all aquatic life. Canadian Zinc
3 also formulated management plans and operating procedures
4 that will ensure that mine operations achieve these
5 desired water quality objectives.

6 And in comment to Mr. Redvers'
7 presentation, Canadian Zinc does not foresee any problems
8 in resolving any of these Nahanni Butte Dene Band factors
9 that he brought up today. I'm sure that we can come to a
10 consensus on that.

11 However, there -- there appears to be a
12 differing of opinion on site specific water quality
13 objectives, but we still -- we feel that there is a
14 satisfactory resolution to be had here.

15 And with that in mind, in the spirit of
16 cooperation, Canadian Zinc is interested in furthering a
17 discussion with the government agencies on a
18 collaborative approach to resolving the water quality
19 management issues.

20 However, we are interested in progressing
21 in a timely fashion here. We -- we are already in a --
22 in an extended EA here entering to -- into our fourth
23 year, and we -- we would not want to halt the time lines
24 associated with this already extended EA process.

25 So with that in mind, I'd like to

1 certainly thank chief and council and the community for
2 hosting this event, and the Board for organizing it. And
3 let's move forward on this constructively, and we'll see
4 a successful mine in the near future. Thank you very
5 much.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING COMMENTS:

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Thank you,
9 Alan Taylor.

10 Moving on with the agenda, we're wrapping
11 up now, going to the closing remarks of the Chairman.

12 I just want to take this opportunity,
13 first of all, and to say thank you to Chief Tesou and
14 your leadership and Elders in your community for hosting
15 this hearing in your community.

16 I also want to thank the -- all the cooks
17 that were able to make a meal for us here today. I want
18 to say mahsi to them.

19 And we also appreciate all the
20 participants from your community in regards to your
21 heartfelt comments, especially to the Elder that was here
22 spoken, and -- and all the elders here,

23 and speakers. Mahsi for your time, and
24 your comments here.

25 The next step from here is -- like I

1 mentioned earlier, is that we get two (2) days of
2 technical hearings in Fort Simpson. And this is where we
3 have an opportunity to also, you know, raise further
4 questions or cross-examine, so we'll probably be doing
5 that.

6 But tomorrow I'm thinking, you know, we
7 already have the presentation made by Canadian Zinc, and
8 I'm going to ask maybe if we could look at that, but if
9 you could do a summary tomorrow, and so that -- because
10 we already heard it today, and I think the proponents and
11 the presenters here also heard it, and so I want to ask
12 that maybe you guys could take a look at that for me.

13 And also there's -- I just want to
14 acknowledge again Kevin Menicoche here, mahsi, the
15 Nahendeh MLA for this region.

16 And I want to thank the Review Board
17 staff, Martin Haefele of our -- our senior manager here,
18 and John Donahee, our legal counsel. John -- Chuck
19 Hubert, who helped organize the coordination of this
20 event in this community. Jessica Simpson and Paul
21 Mercredi. There's my staff in the back here.

22 Also I just want to acknowledge that we
23 also have a sister Board, which is the Mackenzie Valley
24 Land and Water Board, that issue permits and licence, and
25 so I want to just acknowledge Kathy Richter (phonetic).

1 She's in the back here, as well. So if you could just
2 wave.

3 Our newest Board member that's been
4 appointed about two months ago is Keyna Norweigan.
5 Again, she's in the back. We also have Jennifer Potten.
6 She's on the staff of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water
7 Board so she's here somewhere.

8 Again, I want to thank the translators,
9 Celine Batsaka, mahsi. Mahsi for helping. The other
10 translator we have is Mary Jane Cazon. Again, mahsi for
11 your help.

12 And the sound is provided by Trevor
13 Bourque. He's -- he's over there. He's the one that
14 made everything possible here, and the sound. Again,
15 transcripts are Wendy Warnock. Mahsi for taking
16 everything that's been here today, and the transcripts
17 will be posted in the next few days after we conclude our
18 meetings, and it'll be put on the public registry.

19 And again, the food. Bernice Konisenta,
20 she's here somewhere, mahsi for that, and also to
21 Canadian Zinc, David Har -- Harpley, Alan Taylor, INAC.

22 We have now AANDC, Tracy (sic) Joudrie.
23 Mahsi for your presentation. Parks Canada, Mike Suitor.
24 And I hope I didn't forget anybody else here, and if I
25 did, I apologize. But I want to thank all my Board

1 members that are here. Mahsi for taking the time. And
2 again, I want to thank the Chief for hosting this, to
3 come to your community, mahsi.

4 With that, I'm going to ask for a closing
5 prayer. Maybe the Chief or an Elder from your community
6 could come up to do a closing prayer. Okay.

7

8 (CLOSING PRAYER)

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. This
11 official public hearing is officially adjourned for
12 today. Mahsi.

13

14 --- Upon adjourning at 3:27 p.m.

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17 Certified Correct

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Wendy Warnock, Ms.

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