

EA1617-01 March 29, 2018

The Honorable Louis Sebert Minister of Lands Government of the Northwest Territories P.O. Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Via email: Louis Sebert@gov.nt.ca

Dear Minister Sebert,

Re: EA1617-01 Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision for the Tłįchǫ All-Season Road Project, Government of the Northwest Territories.

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is pleased to submit the attached *Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision* (Report of EA) for the Tłįcho All-Season Road Project.

The Review Board recommends, under sub-paragraph 128(1)(b)(ii) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, that the approval of the Tł<sub>2</sub>chǫ All-Season Road Project be made subject to implementation of the measures described in this Report of EA, which are necessary to prevent significant adverse impacts on the environment and people. This recommendation depends on the developer implementing its commitments to mitigate impacts to the environment, including people, as described in the Report of EA.

The measures recommended by the Review Board include requirements for the GNWT and others to:

- Track and manage project-related changes to well-being of Whati residents, including harmful behaviours associated with increased access to drugs and alcohol, traffic accidents, safety of young women and changes in harvest success.
- Require policies that increase the safety of young women in work camps and communities.
- For boreal caribou (todzi) in the Project area, make a range plan with actions to reduce or avoid impacts and protect boreal caribou, offset habitat, and create a temporary no-hunting corridor where non-Aboriginal hunting of boreal caribou (todzi) will be prohibited.
- Use Traditional Knowledge in barren-ground caribou (2ekwò) habitat monitoring.
- Complete the Bathurst Caribou Range Plan as soon as possible.



- Create an Integrated Fisheries Management Plan that prevents significant impacts from additional fishing pressure resulting from increased access.
- Monitor harvest and manage wildlife to help maintain successful Aboriginal harvesting.
- Conduct, and take actions based on, a bird survey before construction.
- Include important details in the Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan.
- Establish and fund the Tłycho All-Season Road Corridor Working Group.

The environmental assessment for the Tłįcho All-Season Road Project was completed using 11 months of Review Board time, within the 16-month timeline set out in the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

If you have any questions regarding this Report of EA please contact our Executive Director, Mark Cliffe-Phillips, at 867-766-7055 or by email at <a href="mailto:mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca">mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

JoAnne Deneron Chairperson

Cc. Willard Hagan, Deputy Minister, Department of Lands Kate Hearn, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Lands