



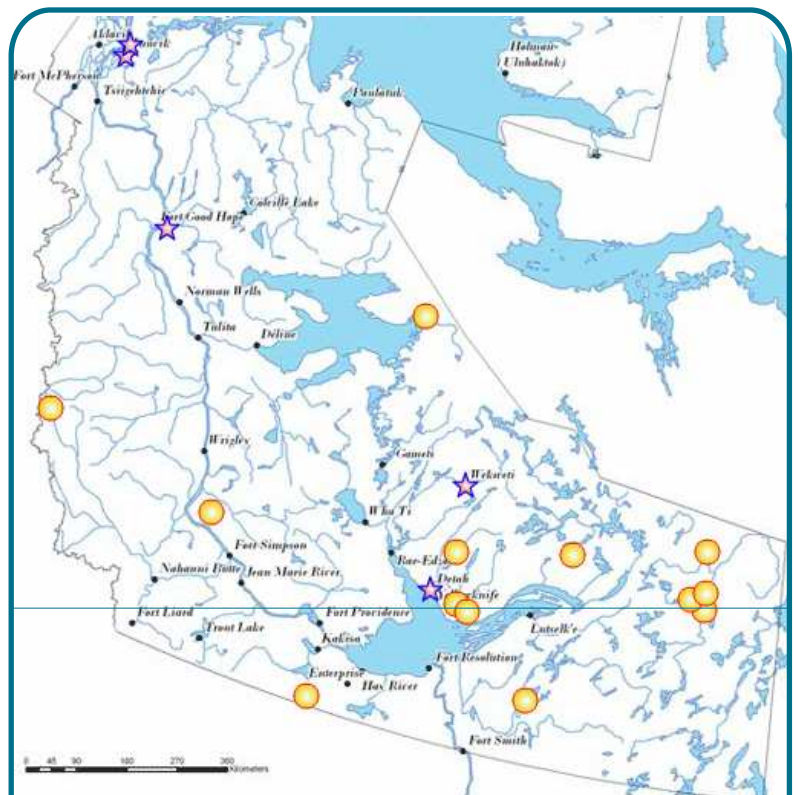
*The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality environmental impact assessments that protect the environment and the social, economic, and cultural well being of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley and all Canadians.*

## New Chairperson and board members appointed

During the month of March, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada appointed Richard Edjericon as the Review Board's new chairperson. Percy Hardisty and Fred Koe have also been appointed as board members. Please visit page 2 of this newsletter for more information on the recent changes.

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● Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review

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## Chairperson and board member appointments and goodbyes



The Review Board and staff congratulate Mr. Richard Edjericon on his new role as chairperson. Because of his experience gained as a board member, his prior leadership experience in the community and his commitment to the people and the environment in the Mackenzie Valley, Mr.

Edjericon was one of two board nominees for chairperson. The Review Board supports his three year appointment.

In 1999, Mr. Edjericon was elected Chief of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, a position he held until 2003. Prior to that, Mr. Edjericon worked as a carpenter in Yellowknife. In addition, he has served as a district project coordinator for GNWT Housing Corporation, and Housing Manager for the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. He is a graduate of programs at both Thebacha College in Fort Smith, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) in Edmonton. Mr. Edjericon replaces Ms. Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott, whose term as chairperson expired this month.

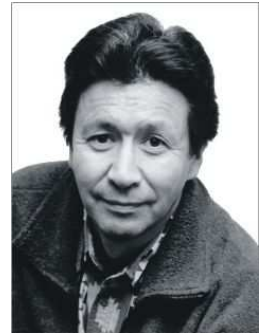
During Ms. Mackenzie-Scott's term, the Review Board was at its busiest time in history, managing up to thirteen environmental assessments at a time. Ms. Mackenzie-Scott's quiet confidence and strong leadership helped the Review Board navigate the complex issues in the Mackenzie Valley in a fair and balanced approach. The Review Board would like to thank Gabrielle for her commitment and dedication over the past three years. She will be missed.



Mr. Richard Edjericon plans to continue building on the Review Board's momentum. "I have tremendous respect for the Review Board and what it has accomplished over the past three years under

Ms. Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott's leadership," said Richard Edjericon. "I am honoured by the appointment and I look forward to furthering the Review Board's vision over the next few years."

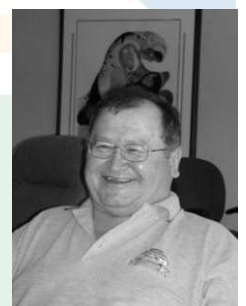
The Review Board is also pleased to welcome back Mr. Percy Hardisty who has been re-appointed to the Review Board for a three-year term with the support of the Dehcho First Nation. Percy Hardisty previously served on the Review Board from November 2003 until August 2004, at which time, he took a leave of absence to serve as a Joint Review Panel Member for the Mackenzie Gas Project. Mr. Hardisty continues to sit as a Joint Review Panel member while also serving on the Review Board. Welcome back Percy!



This past month, the Review Board said farewell to its longest serving and perhaps most dedicated board member, Mr. Charlie Snowshoe, whose term expired at the end of February. One reflection of his commitment and dedication to the Review Board's mission was that the Western and Northern

Canada Affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment awarded Mr. Snowshoe its 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award in Environmental Impact Assessment.

To serve as the new Gwich'in nominee, the Review Board welcomes a new face to the Review Board, Mr. Fred Koe. Mr. Koe comes to the Review Board having a long and distinguished career in the NWT government, starting initially as Settlement Secretary in Fort McPherson in 1973 and rising to Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Director of the NWT Development Corporation and finally President of the NWT Housing Corporation. Fred also served as MLA for the Town of Inuvik from 1991 to 1995. Welcome Fred!





## Active Environmental Assessments

### ► Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

Dezé Energy Corporation Ltd. EA0708-007

Status: Terms of Reference and workplan finalized.  
Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This proposed development adds 36 megawatts of power generating capacity to the Taltson Twin Gorges Plant and includes a 690 kilometre transmission line to the diamond mines. The Review Board released the finalized Terms of Reference and workplan for this assessment. The Review Board anticipates Deze Energy Corp to submit its Developer's Assessment Report sometime in the summer 2008.

### ► Hunter Bay Mineral Exploration

Hunter Bay Minerals Inc. EA0708-006

Status: Waiting for developer's response to request for additional information

This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the McTavish arm of Great Bear Lake. The Review Board is waiting for the developer's response to the Review Board's request for additional information about the proposed development.

### Bayswater Uranium Corporation's Mineral Exploration Programs

Status: Waiting for responses to evidence transfer/scoping questionnaires

The following two mineral exploration programs are being proposed in the Dubawnt River Watershed of the Thelon River Drainage Basin. The deadline for responses to the evidence transfer/scoping questionnaires is April 7th.

### ► Crab Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-005

### ► E1 Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-004

### Uravan Mineral Inc.'s Mineral Exploration Programs

Status: Waiting for responses to evidence transfer/scoping questionnaires

The following two mineral exploration programs are being proposed in the upper Thelon River watershed. The deadline for responses to the evidence transfer/scoping questionnaires was April 7th.

### ► North Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-003

### ► South Boomerang Lake Mineral Exploration

Uravan Minerals Inc. EA0708-002

### ► Mineral Exploration at Howard's Pass

Selwyn Resources Ltd. EA0708-001

Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report.

This is a proposed mineral exploration program on the NWT and Yukon border. The Review Board is now waiting for the developer to complete its Developer's Assessment Report.

### ► Yellowknife Gold Project

Tyhee NWT Corp. EA0506-004

Status: Waiting for developer confirmation of a project change; Terms of Reference issued in August 2005

This is a proposed gold mine located approximately 88 km from Yellowknife. The developer has notified the Review Board of a likely change to the project description. The assessment remains on hold until the developer gives more information to the Review Board.

## Active Environmental Impact Reviews

### ► Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine

De Beers Canada Inc. EIR0607-001

Status: *Waiting for Environmental Impact Statement; Terms of Reference were issued in **October 2007***

This is a proposed diamond mine near Kennady Lake. The developer expects to submit the Environmental Impact Statement in June 2008.

### ► Mackenzie Gas Project

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EIR0405-001

Status: *Public Hearings complete. The Joint Review Panel is drafting its Report of Environmental Impact Review*

The Review Board, the federal Minister of Environment and the Inuvialuit Game Council jointly established the Joint Review Panel to independently review this proposed gas pipeline. Visit [www.ngps.nt.ca](http://www.ngps.nt.ca) for more information.

## Waiting for Ministerial Approval cont'd

### Reports submitted in 2008

### ► Mineral Exploration Program

Sidon International Resources Corp. EA0506-006

Status: *Waiting for Ministerial approval. Report of Environmental Assessment submitted in **February 2008**.*

This is a proposed mineral exploration program at Defeat Lake. On February 6th, 2008, the Review Board recommended that the Minister of INAC allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its Report of Environmental Assessment.

### Reports submitted in 2007

### ► Mineral Exploration Program

Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. EA0506-005

Status: *Waiting for Ministerial approval. Report of Environmental Assessment submitted in **November 2007***

This is a proposed diamond exploration program in the area of Drybones Bay. On November 30th, 2007, the Review Board recommended that the Minister of INAC allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its Report of Environmental Assessment.

### Reports submitted in 2006

### ► SDL-8 2D Geophysical Program

Paramount Resources Ltd. EA0506-007

Status: *Waiting for Ministerial approval. Report of Environmental Assessment submitted in **November 2006***

This is a proposed oil and gas geophysical program in the Cameron Hills area. On November 14th 2006, the Review Board recommended that the Minister of INAC allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its Report of Environmental Assessment.

### Reports submitted in 2005

### ► Dehcho Geotechnical Survey

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EA0304-009

Status: *Waiting for Ministerial approval. Report of Environmental Assessment submitted in **February 2005***

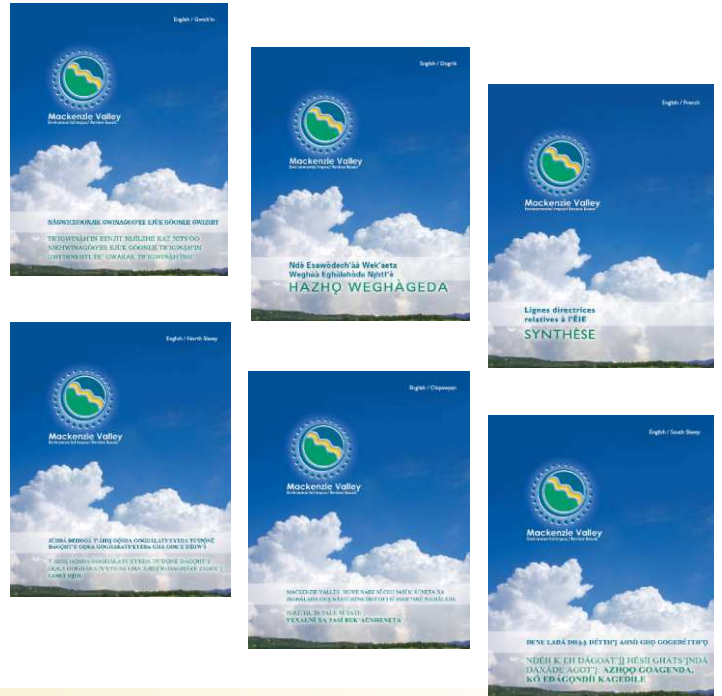
This is a proposed oil and gas geotechnical program in the Dehcho region. On February 28th 2005, the Review Board recommended that the Minister of INAC allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its Report of Environmental Assessment. In June 2005, the Minister of INAC initiated the consult-to-modify process. The Review Board continues to wait for feedback from the responsible ministers.

## EIA Overview Booklet has been translated

Over the past year, the Review Board has been working with Chipewyan, French, Gwich'in, North Slavey, South Slavey, and Tlicho translators to translate the EIA Overview booklet. The booklet is a condensed version of the board's *Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines* and is aimed at assisting people navigate through the Review Board's processes.

If you would like to download a copy of the guidelines in the language of your choice, please visit the Reference Library Guidelines section online at [mveirb.nt.ca](http://mveirb.nt.ca)

Please call Renita Jenkins, Manager of Communications at 867-766-7051 if you would like a hard copy of the guidelines overview.



## This is what we do: Pre-hearing Conferences



Hearings can be long and complicated sessions. To sort through any logistics or issues that may complicate the hearing more, the Review Board hosts pre-hearing conferences to make the actual hearings more efficient.

A pre-hearing conference is an informal meeting, meaning that the Review Board members are not present. It is for parties to meet with the Review Board staff and counsel to prepare for the hearings. In order for these conferences to be successful, participants are allowed to speak freely about issues that concern them about the upcoming hearing.

Basically, the agenda will be set, the process will be discussed, and so will the purpose and the procedures for the hearing. This means that any disputes that were not resolved during the previous rounds of information requests will try and be resolved at the pre-hearings conference, and they will reduce the scope of issues that can

be brought up at the hearing, and make sure that everybody agrees on the procedures and that everyone has exchanged all necessary documents. If there is an issue that you would like to have addressed, a good time to bring these up is at a pre-hearing conference where the Review Board staff can help you to have your issue resolved in the best way.

Typically there are opening remarks from the Review Board staff to explain the purpose of the conference and introduce the groups present. Next are preliminary matters, such as the needs of the participants in terms of information, time, location, and issues considered during the actual hearing or technical session. After that, everyone is asked to state their concerns and suggestions for the upcoming hearing, starting with the developer. After everyone is finished, the developer has a chance to address questions and issues that were raised by all participants.

Pre-hearing conferences are open to the public, so contact the Review Board if you want more



## This is what we do cont'd

information. If you, or your organization, have party status, you will be automatically invited to attend the pre-hearing conference.

As you may already know, hearings are a 'court like' process and some organizations find it useful to retain the services of a lawyer. It is not necessary that they attend the pre-hearing conference, but some find it helpful, especially if there are a lot of legal complexities.

These pre-hearing conferences are a good way to get prepared for the up coming hearing, because it will help you to understand how the hearing will be conducted, what topics will be brought up,

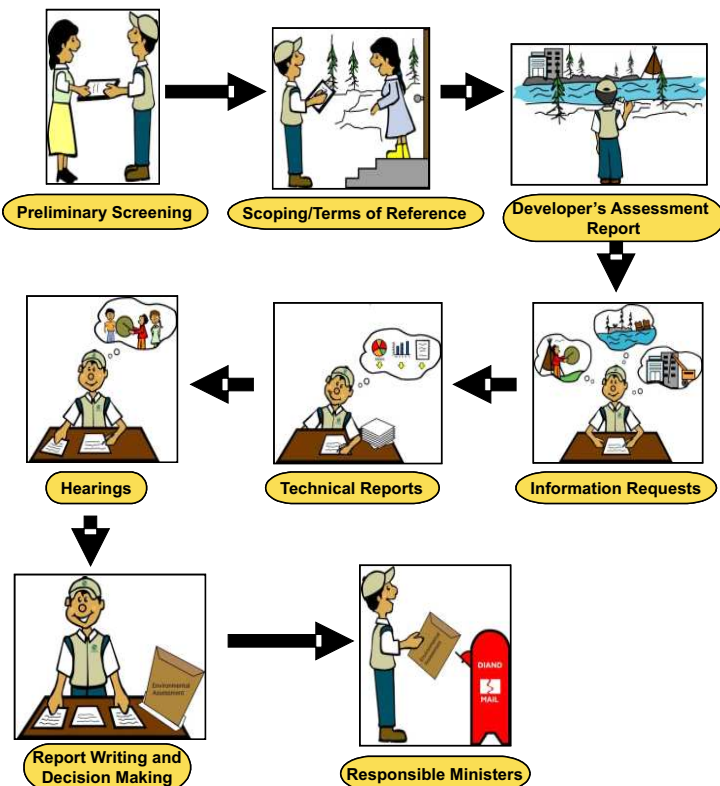
make sure that all of the necessary information has been exchanged, etc. This pre-hearing conference is something that could help you to prepare for your presentation at the hearing.

- *Jessica Simpson*

Environmental Assessment Assistant

If you have any questions about the environmental impact assessment process, feel free to call our office at 867-766-7050 or toll free: 1-866-912-3472 if you are in the NWT, NU or Yukon.

## Typical Environmental Assessment Process



Each environmental assessment is unique. Some steps conducted in one assessment may not happen in another. Every environmental assessment has its own workplan, which sets out the steps that will be taken during that particular environmental assessment. The workplan is based on the scope of the issues for the proposed development. Therefore, the workplan may change accordingly as the environmental assessment proceeds.

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