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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.

Welcome Peter Bannon



The Review Board is pleased to welcome its newest member Mr. Peter Bannon. Recently appointed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Bannon was nominated to the Review Board by the federal government.

“With Peter’s educational background, and extensive northern public service experience, Mr. Bannon brings an excellent set of skills and knowledge to the Review Board,” said

Chairperson, Richard Edjericon, welcoming Mr. Bannon to the Review Board.

Mr. Bannon has over 30 years experience in environmental management, land claims, self-government and devolution in various locations in the Northwest Territories for both the federal and territorial government. During his career he participated in the development and implementation of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, as well as the *Northwest Territories Waters Act*. Mr. Bannon was also a member of the Environmental Impact Review Board for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region for 12 years.

Peter Bannon holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree and an Environmental Engineering Technology Diploma. Welcome to the team Peter!



- Proposed development in environmental assessment or environmental impact review
- Visit reviewboard.ca and click our **Interactive Map** for more information

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Active environmental assessments

▶ Nico Project

Fortune Minerals Ltd. EA0809-004
Status: Scoping. Waiting for developer response.

This is an open pit and underground cobalt-gold-bismuth mine, located approximately 50 km north-north-east of Whati. The Review Board has asked the developer to identify the proposed transportation route. The developer must respond before the Review Board can conclude the scoping stage.

▶ Yellowknife Gold Project

Tyhee NWT Corp. EA0809-003
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This is a proposed open pit gold mine, located 88 kilometres north of Yellowknife, near the old Discovery mine site. The Review Board is waiting for Tyhee to produce its Developer's Assessment Report.

▶ Prairie Creek Mine

Canadian Zinc Corporation EA0809-002
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This is a proposed underground lead-zinc mine, located in the Mackenzie Mountains within the South Nahanni River watershed, and in proximity to the Nahanni National Park Reserve. The Review Board released the final Terms of Reference and workplan for public comment in late June. The Review Board is now waiting for Canadian Zinc to produce its Developer's Assessment Report.

▶ Giant Mine Remediation Project

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada EA0809-001
Status: Waiting for Developer's Assessment Report

This is a proposed development to reclaim the Giant Mine site, located within the City of Yellowknife. The development includes the

future disposition of 237,000 tonnes of arsenic trioxide currently stored underground. The Review Board is waiting for the developer to produce its Developer's Assessment Report.

▶ Taltson Hydroelectric Expansion Project

Dezé Energy Corporation Ltd. EA0708-007
Status: Waiting for information request submissions

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 has extended the deadline for parties to suggest information requests to July 15th 2009.

▶ Mineral Exploration at Howard's Pass

Selwyn Resources Ltd. EA0708-001
Status: Deliberations

This is a proposed mineral exploration program on the NWT and Yukon border. This is a proposed mineral exploration program on the NWT and Yukon border. The Review Board is finalizing its Report of Environmental Assessment.



The Review Board members and staff have lost a good friend and former colleague with the sudden passing of Gordon Wray. Gordon was a member and Vice Chairperson of the Review Board from December 3, 1999 to

October 2003. He will always be remembered for his passion and dedication to protecting the people and environment of the Northwest Territories. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Gordon's wife, Rita and family.



Active environmental impact review



► Gahcho Kué Diamond Mine

De Beers Canada Inc. EIR0607-001

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

The Review Board established the independent Gahcho Kue Review Panel to review this proposed diamond mine near Kennady Lake. De Beers has informed the Panel that it will advise further on a completion date for its Environmental Impact Statement in Oct. 2009.



► Mackenzie Gas Project

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EIR0405-001

Status: *The Joint Review Panel is drafting its Report of Environmental Impact Review*

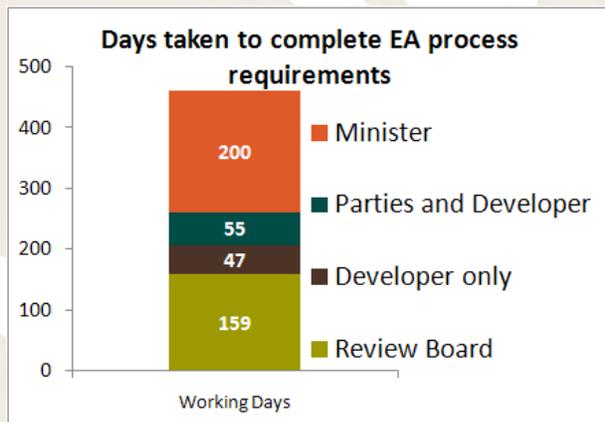
The Review Board, the federal Minister of Environment and the Inuvialuit Game Council jointly established the Joint Review Panel to independently review this proposed gas pipeline. Visit www.ngps.nt.ca for more information.

Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision

► Crab Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-005

Status: *Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision*

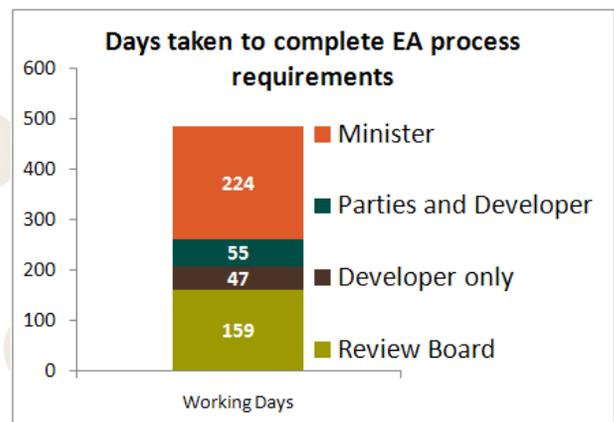


This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the Dubawnt River Watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

► EL Lake Mineral Exploration

Bayswater Uranium Corp. EA0708-004

Status: *Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision*



This is a proposed mineral exploration program in the upper Thelon River watershed. On September 12, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers reject this proposed development without ordering an environmental impact review. The Review Board is of the opinion the proposed development will cause significant adverse cultural impacts on Aboriginal people by impacting an area of very high spiritual importance.

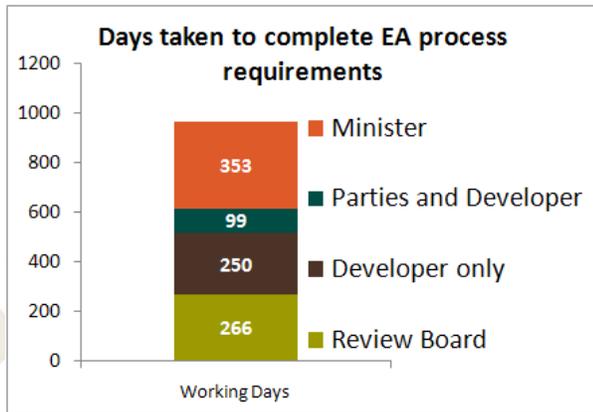


Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision

► Mineral Exploration Program

Sidon International Resources Corp. EA0506-006

Status: Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision

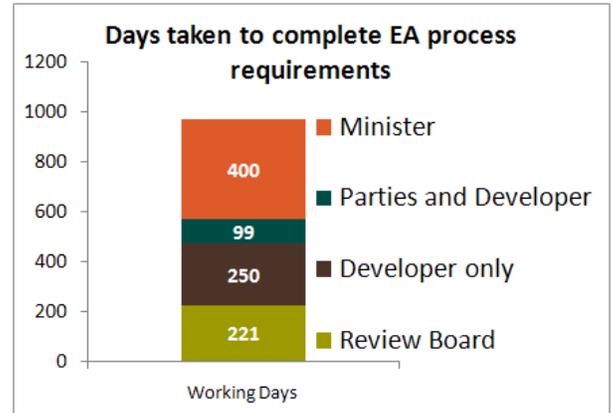


This is a proposed mineral exploration program at Defeat Lake. On February 6, 2008, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

► Mineral Exploration Program

Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. EA0506-005

Status: Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision



This is a proposed diamond exploration program in the area of Drybones Bay. On November 30, 2007, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow the proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of Environmental Assessment*.

Wishing them all the best

Recently the Review Board recognized former board members, John Stevenson and Nora Doig for their significant contribution during their terms with the Review Board. Their commitment to the Review Board's vision and contributions were invaluable. John and Nora continue to sit as Gahcho Kue Panel members. Thank you John and Nora for your time with the Review Board! We wish you continued success in your endeavors.

In addition, it is with heavy hearts that the Review Board is bidding farewell to Alistair MacDonald, who will be moving south with his family. Alistair, always quick to try and make people smile, has been an invaluable member of the environmental assessment team. In particular, he was instrumental in developing the socio-economic impact assessment guidelines and the work started for the cultural impact assessment guidelines. We will miss you Alistair.

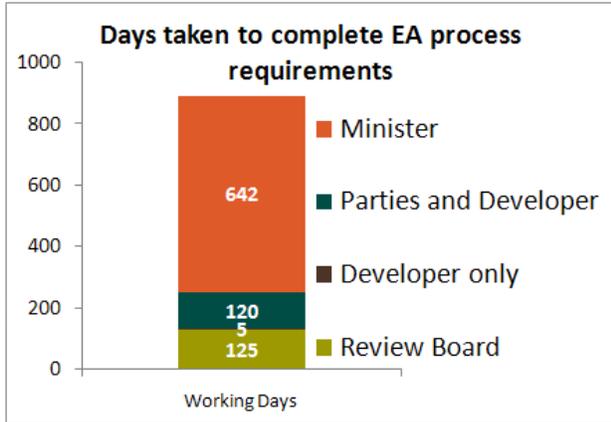


Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision

► SDL-8 2D Geophysical Program

Paramount Resources Ltd. EA0506-007

Status: Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision

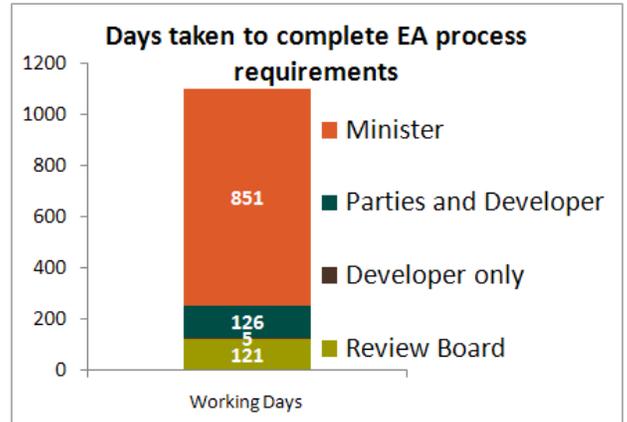


This is a proposed oil and gas geophysical program in the Cameron Hills area. On November 14, 2006, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers allow this proposed development to proceed to the regulatory phase, subject to the measures the Review Board outlined in its *Report of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

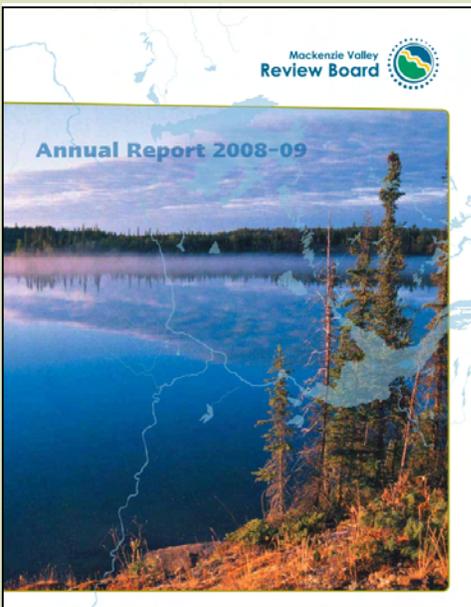
► Dehcho Geotechnical Survey

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. EA0304-009

Status: Completed. Waiting for a ministerial decision



This is a proposed oil and gas geotechnical program in the Dehcho region. On February 28, 2005, the Review Board recommended the federal and responsible ministers 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 ministers.



2008-09 Annual Report

The Review Board is pleased to announce that it has released its 2008-09 Annual Report. Inside the report, you can read about all the assessments, impact reviews and strategic initiatives the Review Board worked on over the past fiscal year.

As part of our commitment to reduce our paper use, this document is only available in electronic format. You can download a copy from reviewboard.ca in the Reference Library.



This is what we do: History of the MVRMA



The *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* established the resource management regime in the Mackenzie Valley. This legislation's roots date back to the 1970s when the Indian Brotherhood of the

Northwest Territories (which later became Dene Nation) and the Métis and Non-Status Indian Association (which later became Métis Nation) argued that although Dene and Métis people signed treaties with the Government of Canada, they never gave up their land. In 1973, Justice Morrow's decision to place a caveat on 650,000 square kilometres of land in the Mackenzie Valley, and halt all development in the area was a precursor to negotiations between the Dene and the federal government to establish and clarify land rights.

In the early 1980's, the Dene and Métis began to negotiate a comprehensive Land Claim with the Government of Canada. Resource management in the Mackenzie Valley formed a major part of these negotiations to safeguard the traditional lifestyle, culture and spirituality of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley. To do so, the Dene and Métis negotiated a series of co-management boards so that First Nations and governments share decision-making powers.

Although the *Dene - Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement in Principal* was initiated by the parties involved, disagreements over negotiated points led to its disintegration and the five regions of the Mackenzie Valley began their own regional claim. However these regional claims negotiations continued to be negotiated based on the principles of the *Dene - Métis Comprehensive Land Claim*.

In 1993, a working group was created to set up the principles and guidelines of the legislation

that was to become the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* to govern resource management. The Sahtu joined in the working group when they settled their land claim in 1994. Although the negotiations were mainly with the Gwich'in and Sahtu because they had settled their land claims, the working group distributed the information to other Aboriginal groups still in land claim negotiations. When the Tlicho began making significant progress toward their final agreement, the Gwich'in/Sahtu Working Group invited them to observe the process. The *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* came into effect December 22, 1998.

In 2003, the Tlicho approved their self-government agreement, which supported the principles of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. The Dehcho and Akaitcho regions continue to negotiate their land claims based on the co-management principles. Time will tell how the land claims in those regions will fit within the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

Masi Cho,

- *Jessica Simpson*
Community Liaison Officer

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

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