

April 2 and 3, 2003, Dettah Public meeting.

About 70 people in attendance

Video taped

Recorded

Translated

The large map with significant amounts of traditional knowledge information on it
Photo's on the wall of recent activities at Drybones Bay

Diamond North Graham Gill and Rick Hoos EBA Engineering
Consolidated Goldwin Lawrence Stevenson
Snowfield Resources Max Braden
New Shoshonie Ventures Bob Patterson.

Greg Empson- facilitated the meeting

Rachel Ann Crapeau- arranged the meeting

Agenda

Opening prayer

Introduction by facilitator

Presentation by mining companies

Question and answer period

Closing question and answer period

Closing prayer

Meeting about Wool Bay and Drybones Bay.

Introductions by Rachel Ann Crapeau, Ernie Campbell Resource Manager, is in attendance, Tom Andrews PWHC, people for Lutsel K'e

Alfred Baillargeon provided the opening prayer.

Rachel Ann provides an overview of agenda in Dogrib. She invited the Lutsel K'e people to provide opening comments. Rachel Ann provided a brief history of Drybones Bay and its social and cultural importance to the Dene.

Greg provided an introduction. Informed the people of the format of the meeting. Company will be asked to leave at the end of the meeting. The leadership will then meet in-camera to decide how they want the permits to proceed. Each speaker was provided 15min. or as needed to present their information and receive questions.

Mr. Max Braden from New Shoshoni Ventures

Thanked for the opportunity and why it's asking for a permit to continue the permit. Recently finished a drill program. Lived in YK since 1964. Life long knowledge of mining industry. Was involved in the G10 claims at Drybones and again in 1996 with avance drilling at Drybones bay. New Shoshoni is optioned from Mr. David Smith. Now

trying to do more drilling to prove up an economic ore body. It may take two to five years depending on the success of each part of the program. June to September and January to March work periods each year. The results of the work will dictate where future work happens if at all. Wants to use the existing tent frame camp that has been there about a year. Continue drilling to prove up economic grades.

Question Greg: Wants to drill in June of 2003?

A: Yes

Q: Equipment?

A: Diamond drill transported by barge and move it by barge or helicopter. 4 people on the drill rig a geologist and maybe a helper.

Q: Have you sought help from First Nations to ID. Areas that are sensitive to FN.

A: Worked through the PWHC for that information.

Q: Fred Sangris trapper and band councilor. Who owns New Shosoni and where are they based?

A: Vancouver. Principals are people that have been involved in exploration almost all their lives.

Q: Principal holder of the property you are drilling?

A: David Smith of Yellowknife. The money they spend earns them an interest in the property.

Q: Need to speak out because this is our land. We can't let them take over our land. Lot of things have been destroyed on our land over the last 50 years. Before they found Gold. There is lots of grave sites around. You will destroy the grave sites. You must pay for that. We can't just sit back as you take over the land. You have to inform Chief and council about what you are doing. You have to tell the community You can't treat us like tied up dogs. We need to talk to and respect each other. People lived there before and you can't treat us like this. You are destroying everything on our land. We can't drink our water and eat our fish. You only want the money from our land. You have to tell our community what you are doing on our land.

Michel Paper born 1913 – 1934 con and giant mine were discovered and there were not white people. The water was fresh, lots of fish in the lake. After the white people started coming around. They made a village at Burwash and I worked for twenty-five cents an hour. The white people and us were afraid of each other. The white people went around and changed things. Look at Giant and Con mine. People have died because of the pollution and arsenic. This is the Native peoples land. Giant and Con mine they have destroyed the land and did not get any royalty from the mines. Today we explain to the young people what has happened to the land. You destroyed our land and you have not helped us. You have to help the native people. You need to respect our land and we can be happy. Keep us informed what is happening on our land. We need to support each other. We need to work together. I worked for the highways for 26 years, also at the

mines and RCMP. We need to help each other. We need to get royalty from what you are doing on our land. We can't say no to you. Its not good to say no to anybody. This is YK Dene land. This is lots of fish in Great Slave Lake. Once the water gets polluted they will get sick and die. Who will eat the fish? When the lake and water get polluted people will get sick to. We were here before the white people. This is our land and our ancestors lived in this area. You have to help us for what we ask for. Its not good to say no, we have to learn to live with each other. We can't let what happened at Con and Giant mine happen again. One can't drink the water around Yellowknife. There use to be many good berries, fresh water. Today there is not much fresh water especially around Giant Mine.

There are not many elders anymore. We have to teach our young people and pass on our knowledge to our young people. There is Moose, fish, and graveyards at Drybones Bay. Respect our land out there.

Jimmy Beaulieu: I have big concerns about Drybones Bay. We should let the mining companies talk first then we can ask questions. Should let the mining companies speak up first then we can ask our questions.

Bob Patterson-Snowfield Development Corporation New Shesonie. Thanked for the opportunity to present and to participate. Incorporated in 1987 in Vancouver. Snowfield registered in the NT to do business. Exploring in Drybones for about one year. They were in agreement on certain claims and have added additional. In February initiated and completed a diamond drill program east of Drybones bay. Now further exploration on 1,2,3,10, and 5 mineral claims. The current program would go on for about 6 weeks and restart in the summer with surface sampling. Latter next year on Drybones 4 they would want to drill in that area.

Diamonds North: Graham Gill Exploration Manager. G, 1, 2,3, and 5. It's a new company, started last year in May, and spun off from commander resources. Before we even go on the land we look at to find the best ways of doing that include community consultation. Have contacted PWHC about known heritage sites. He noted the large map had additional sites not identified by the PWHC. Will first do some ground magnetic survey and use that data to determine where to drill. Drilling will last about 4 to 6 weeks. Helicopter supported. Full removal of everything when completed. Also asked for a community observer to participate.

Mr. Laurence Stevenson on behalf of Consolidated Goldwin. Company around for about 12 years. Some of the directors are long term northerners. Applied for a drilling program. Its out in the lake. They intend to drill just off Drybones bay. About 500m off shore and 500m off hump island. They believe it is an economic deposit. They have a very prospective kimberlite. The potential here is very high. Plan on drilling about 8 holes and it will take 4 to 6 weeks. They are also planning to drill on the Hearn Channel south east of the Drybones Bay. Has worked in Northern Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario. Is sensitive to archeological value and will not destroy or disturb them. Looks forward to working with the YKDFN. Very preliminary and non-intrusive and won't disturb you land at this point.

Paul Cowley is a consulting geologist from Vancouver. **North American General Resources (NAG)**. Exploration South of Wool Bay. Caring for the land is a duty and respects and admires the land, and the wildlife. NAG is a small company about one year old. There are two directors. Himself and another business man. The drill site is about 20km south east of Yellowknife. It is an ice based drilling program. It is accessible by ice road and won't require any camp facility. This is the first pass on this project and have not done any work on the ground yet. The exploration program would take about 8 to 10 days and they would skid the drill around to drill. They would use a tidy tank on the back of a truck to deliver the fuel. They are using a polydrill to take the cutting off the site. He would be on site to make sure what he says happens. Everything will be removed from the site. Have contacted the PWHC and have not heard about any sites out there. Can carry out the program in a clean, efficient and responsibly way.

Q: drill on the lake underwater?

A: Yes, put in a casing and drill

Alfred Baillargeon:

Q: We should have a meeting alone on this. Maybe they should go. We can't just let them go ahead. It's the place where we go for moose, beaver, muskrat. It will impact the animals going around there. Maybe we should have a meeting alone on this.

Jimmy Beaulieu: It is true; the two mines have really impacted the land and water around Yellowknife. They are going to drill on our lake. I use to go trapping and canoeing with those elders over there. If there is mining everything will be different. Maybe we should tell him how people use to live around there in the area. Mining companies say nice things but the possibilities, but.... The stories told say that Dettah down to Drybones Bay, there were tents all the way down. This was the stories they use to tell. Last year he and Stan, were out there, with a D-10 and a Cat and Drill. Its important that YKDFN get sufficient notice in advance. If I found something in your back yard you would want to get paid for that. For us Drybones Bay and Wool bay is like our "national park" there is moose, muskrat, beaver and lots of animals down there. As a kid, when I traveled down that way the elders showed me where all the graves where. That area use to be a village (Drybones) bay. There is an old stove made out of rocks down there to. We can't stop you. Today we are suffering in different ways. The white people are hiring people from down South over Aboriginal people from the North. It would be good if the elders spoke out.

Patrick Charlo There is about 10% aboriginal people at the mine site the rest are from down south. The people are getting dismissed for missing planes. They have lots of good qualities. Its discouraging to see people getting fired at the mine site. Drybones area. On my two weeks off I take my two boys down there. Opening up the area by winter road encourages skidoo travel and that damages traps and disturbs animals. Down there we also hunt for geese in the spring. There is nothing we can do to stop you but we want you to express our concerns.

Q: How many kimberlite pipes are there?

A: Two known kimberlite in the area (Diamonds north). If you count snowfields there are three known kimberlite intersections.

Q: Have you put money aside for clean up?

A: They do progressive reclamation. So they clean up as they move from site site. There is money in the budget for clean up.

Q: Waste rock esp. at Wool Bay where would you put the waste rock from Wool Bay? And the same thing with Drybones Bay. But you go up to moose bay and Moose Lake and that is a pretty traditional area to.

A: here is no mining plan yet. This is purely exploration. Once we move towards mining we need to prepare a mining plan and submit a big reclamation bond that is posted to make sure the clean-up is done.

Fred Sangris: Concern about potential impact on our land. Local trapper. They got lots of furs from the area and others did as well. There is also a gentleman that has a cabin out in front of the drill sites. The PWLIC does not have 100% knowledge of the historical information of the site. We can tell you what is there. If you disturb a spiritual site you will be approached and removed. You have been over there for a while, but this is the first time I have seen you come into the community. We have rights and this is our homeland you are operating on. We continue to use those trails near Moose Bay and Drybones Bay. There are spiritual sites, archeological sites, and a number of burial sites, old villages. This is an important area. There are archeological sites off the Wool Bay. You will have a significant Impact on the Land.

Q: How are you going to manage and enforce good environmental work practices?

A:

Q: As Treaty 8 we don't support the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. We oppose it because it was forced on us. If Mackenzie Valley issues a permit it will be challenged. The community does not support what is happening on the land on these projects and their impacts on our Treaty rights. This is our home land and we will be watching.

Chief Richard Edjericon: Welcomed everyone in the room. FNs were here first. We have a treat signed in 1900 in Fort Resolution and elders always say protect the Treaty. It seems like companies and developers have greater control over land then the people that live here. We spend lots of time and energy trying to protect our land. We have gone to court with Mackenzie Valley on Patterson to protect our land. We have all learned very much from the first agreement that was reached with BHP. In our territory we have an on-going process called a treaty entitlement process. We are getting Canada to implement an existing treaty. Interim Measures Agreement and issues of selecting land right under the feet of FNs begs the question of just who has the authority. Get title issues with Treaty 8 resolved before permitting anymore mines. We have concerns about a mine right in our back yard. A week ago the chiefs got together in Lutsel K'e with the elders and

they said "protect the land" Need to slow down development until certain things are done. What land will be left for our kids? In 50 years the water will be worth more than diamonds or water.

Judy Charlo: I use to trap and hunt at Wool Bay and Drybones Bay area. There are many grave sites at the areas also. There are lots of elders' trails. The previous mining companies never consulted us. This is our land. Drybones Bay and Wool Bay, that is where the hunt and trap. At Wool Bay I raised all my kids there. I have a house there. Its where I raised my kids. They say when the mine is finished it will all be put it back. I don't think so. Those places are also good fishing places. There is muskrat and moose down there. Wool and Drybones Bay is our trapping place. Those places are our back yard without consulting. This will be a big impact on us. Our people have been impacted but they did not get anything from it. We have experience with what has happened to our land with mines. I can see fore myself. She said she was concerned about her children and her children's children.

Cindy Allen: Ndilo councilor. To the companies! I hope you will be coming back more than once and that this fulfills your consultation obligations. Also, this is our land and we can do something. The companies need to get our permission to do their work. We have not sighed off on a land claim. We have our Treaty Rights. They are sacred to us. Nothing is agreed to yet. If we agree to the exploration and that there is some diamonds that we would like more than IBA. We want an equity position, equity share in the mine. Real benefits and real money and real management say about the mine and its development. Noted opposition to the MVRMA and expressed she was glad to have so many people coming out for the meeting. It's a bit of a shock that all this is happening and our permission was not asked.

Mary Rose Sundburg Dettah Councilor: We see so much change and damage to the environment associated with mining. These proposed projects will impact the water, Great Slave Lake. We need to think ahead to our children's children. We see them every day bring things on the ice road every day, back and forth, we know they are going down to Drybones and Wool Bay and we are very concerned. they are going ahead without even consulting. This is our land and I feel proud to say I am Chief Drygeese great-great grand-daughter, who made Treaty for us and we still have this right, right now that makes us in control of this area. The land is more important than the money. The projects are just too close to the community to consider approving it. The Mackenzie Valley board, the gnwt don't know our land and the importance to our people and yet give permission to develop and change it. I absolutely don't agree with what's happening there.

Cathy Sangris: She said the senses that all people care about is money. That area where people want to invest, You need our permission before you do anything there. I am the great granddaughter of Suzie Drygeese and I won't let you just walk in. That was my area when I was young. I spent every summer there. That is our homeland. You push you way in, you get your permit. You take step after step and just bully your way around. She was glad her MLA was here and that he listens to his constituents. We in the long run will be paying for your decisions.

Isadore Tsetta: We use to set nets out there in the Wool Bay and Drybones Bay. Doing work on the water will impact the water, maybe doing it inland is better, but not on the lake. We should have more meetings like the one tonight. We can't just make a decision with one meeting. We need to consider this more.

Lisa Enzo from Lutsel K'e: People coming from down south are coming up here and staking land. The government does not have a right to let somebody else come in and use our land. We have people managing us who do not know us. The government is supposed to be watching our land for us, but they are not. We know the land destroys the land and because of the EKATI mine the caribou migration has changed. Now you want to go and build a mine in the middle of our prime movement area and a prime moose area. You say you won't pollute the water but I know you will. You will also want to build roads. You will get the money and we won't. You will hire your employees from the south. If we can't benefit from this we don't want this to go ahead. Maybe we should freeze our land so that nothing happens at all. You are supposed to consult and talk with our chiefs and we will not say yes because of this first hearing. You staked the area and know what was there before you even considered talking to us. You always go to government first. There are lots of ways we are not benefiting and we need to benefit. People here have not been compensated for the impacts they have experienced. There are not as many ducks anymore. I don't think we can say yes right away and consult with each other first.

Reconvened on Thursday April 3, 2003

About 25 people in attendance.

Both Chiefs were in attendance.

Rachel Ann Crapeau facilitated the community session.

4 main areas that will be focused on based on IMA provisions.

Cultural

History

Spiritual

Sidebar discussion with Rachel Ann Crapeau.

Rachel said that last night there was considerable discussion about consent and treaty rights and what people were intending to do on the land.

Rachel described the locations where the proponents wanted to drill. Lawrence provided a debriefing of what he observed at the sites. Described the location of a main ice road with a cat road coming off the main ice road into the swamps. Described the trailer that is being used to house the drill and the various locations where the trailer was moved to. He noted there was a grid pattern cut and many skidoo trails. He also noted several staking posts and several survey lines around a grave site to mark it out. They are also running tight survey grids at Drybones Bay. They GPS targeted the various disturbances and the various targets that companies were preparing for drilling. They identified 10 targets with just one company. Each company has at least 8 to 10 targets. There are also 4-5 targets south of Wool Bay. He indicated it was important to stay on top of them all the time. "I

urge you to go see for yourself" "there is a lack of respect for the land" "right now its not bad" North of the shoreline there are many new survey lines cut and many people are doing their lines and claims. There is daily helicopter traffic out there.

Did they go down to the grave sites at cabin Islands? There is a cemetery up on the hill there. Does their road disturb the graves?

There is quite a few wolverines in the area. In fact there have been cut lines made on either side of a trap line. They put in a main line then put off wing lines. Baseline and grid lines basically. They do this to take magnetic readings.

The site preparation for the drilling will disturb the area and cause habitat damage for the ducks and wild grasses. The wet lands will be impacted and the drill cuttings are going to be back into the wetlands and impact the muskrat.

Around wool bay there is an old Village there, where they plan to drill out on the water. People are noticing that there is lots of traffic going towards Wool and Drybones Bay. They will be drilling at least 30 holes if all the land use permits are approved. The land use permits however document what the proponents are proposing. That information exists and we should have it.

It seems like the way they are knocking down the trees does not look like they are following the regulations.

The land user permits are for about two years for drilling and they require community consultation before they can go there to work. All the things they have done so far it shows a lack of respect for the people of the First Nations. Any future work has to have more consultation here. Rachel noted Diamonds North was issued a permit before the community consultation.

They should come and see us first before they go to the museum. The museum only knows about the larger grave yard sites and have told them there is basically nothing there, or had given them a limited amount of information. Our concern is your hunting, trapping and fishing rights. You take your kids out in the spring, summer and fall to hunt moose there? If the muskrat habitat is disturbed? What about the ducks? Its close to our community!

Companies interested in drilling and exploration work:

**Diamond North Graham Gill and Rich Hoos EBA Engineering
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We don't want our children to travel to hunt at Rocher River because it is too far. The areas close to town are good for teaching purposes for hunting and trapping.

What can we tell the land and water board through Chief and Council?

Rachel Ann noted Chief and Council can request an EA and get more information before any development occurs, especially the cultural, social and traditional economic impacts, and spiritual significance. The things that keep peoples' minds strong. What happens if they find more pipes. They are junior companies looking for diamonds that will look for a larger corporation to develop the mines. If it changes on us what will we do Rachel Asked?

If there are diamonds there, what about security issues? Rachel said by letting them go in there now "we are letting them take over" Right now we are not using as much and the museum people say they are not using the area. But that is not true. We need to find good reasons if it is necessary to stop the projects. We do not have Dene title to the lands yet. "there should be a land freeze" how are all these companies going around our leaders. But "this is our back yards" and "we are going to get pushed out, and this is just the beginning" In order to take our kids anywhere we will need to go to White Beach. It's sad to see it come to this point. We should have our leaders fighting, taking control, and saying this is enough. We need a land freeze to protect us. This is our back yard. This is just the first part, and then comes the mine. They only get a few diamonds but and all that is left is lots waste rock. Then there is the dust. They say the dust is not bad, but it is bad. "this is our back yard and its only the beginning, we will be out of land, our traditional livelihood will be lost, what will our kids have. There will be nothing left."

Ernie talked about moose hunting but maybe a moose survey is needed. Maybe it's important to get a work on surveys now before development proceeds to much further. Moose, muskrat, beaver, ducks, wetlands surveys should be done before work advances much further. Its like insurance to make sure nothing bad happens. The mineral activity continues all the way down to Francois River. There are at least four projects, each with many targets they want to drill and investigate.

Even the low flying helicopters and planes are doing airborne surveys and they are disturbing the animals. They run long grids using the magnetic search techniques.

Chief Darrel Beaulieu described the venture capital and exploration business and how the web of relationships works from the junior companies, to the government, to regulations, to the larger players. Darrel also gave a brief example of how the regulatory process works. He noted that government is left out of the loop. We have to do something, to develop our own process of land management to augment what government currently is currently doing. Darrell noted the nature of mining is risk and there is risk throughout the process and the regulatory process is one component of that risk. "We need to develop our list of what we want and of how we are going to base our decisions on." "we have to manage it and it's the bottom line, because over the years they have done it, they have screwed it up."

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1. The Wool Bay and Drybones Bay sites are:
Culturally important
2. Spiritual site identified by YKDFN
3. Grave sites at the bay and along the shoreline
4. Hunting
5. Fishing
6. Historic village at Wool Bay
7. Trapping (Leo A. Betsina for example)
8. Berry picking
9. Bald eagles (raptors)
10. Camp ground
11. Goose hunting
12. Duck hunting
13. Ecological unique being the largest bays on the shoreline and provide a unique microclimate and unique ecosystem.
14. Very sheltered bay used during lake travel
15. Drybones Bay is a main artery of current and traditional trails.
16. Good places for picking medicinal plants.
17. The unique habitat makes it prime wildlife habitat.
18. Trail (Patrick Charlo). The trail to his area starts at Drybones Bay
19. Main park for boats on windy days, (security, shelter and safety)
20. Wool Bay and Dry Bones bay are the birth place of many current residents of Dettah and Ndilo
21. Will result in an impact on Treaty rights and their access to the land.

Study raptors, moose, muskrat, fish, beaver, water, wildlife habitat, grasslands

Already impacting moose because of the low flying planes and helicopters.

Impact on forestry resources by knocking down trees etc..(the incidental timber cutting).

Sound effects on wildlife.

Impact on the main streams flowing into Drybones Bay and the associated impacts.

The cumulative impacts including the exploration activities including other companies that have interests in the immediate area. If five companies get permission, then other companies see the door open and move forward with their applications and this will result in a cumulative impacts. Access to the area will provide better access to the new lands and this is an added impact and the associated impacts. Outfitters will add small camps because there is a winter road. "the open door effect" Increased traffic results in increased garbage, noise and general nuisances that were not there before. If the road cannot be controlled there will be an impact including additional cabin construction. Cabin construction that is unmanaged and uncontrolled. The Snowmobile association is marking trails and opening the land up to more and more people and this is also causing an impact. Trails are being overtaken by other users.

Need signs to let people know this is Akaitcho Lands or Yellowknives Dene First Nation Lands. "You are entering Akaitcho Lands" We need rules in place to manage lands. Need visible rules

VECs included Moose, muskrat, beaver, fish, water and wildlife habitat, beavers, bald eagles (raptors), plants, trees, grasslands, wetlands for the ducks

There is discussion about a land freeze as an immediate area of influence to protect them from development.

Inform the Museum people that their information is incomplete and that they should note that in all communications

In Wool Bay the fisherman will be pushed out write to DFO about water and fisheries issues.

There is a suggestion to have a community survey to determine whether people want mining or not. Rachel Ann discussed going house to house about getting a petition signed against the development.

In two weeks Chiefs of Dene Nation will be meeting to discuss things so it's an opportunity to present the issues to broader community.

Darrell said we need to compile and consolidate all the existing information that the YKDFN currently has. Rachel mentioned the amount of transcribed materials on our areas that are in the L&E office and that this information was used for the public meeting yesterday.