



GNWT PIPELINE UPDATE

Issue 2 July 2005



Northwest Territories Industry, Tourism and Investment

Sustaining ecological, cultural and economic values in the Mackenzie Valley

The NWT Protected Areas Strategy Implementation Advisory Committee developed the Mackenzie Valley Five-Year Action Plan (Action Plan) in response to the escalating pace and scale of development affecting the North. The Action Plan uses existing conservation management mechanisms to limit the amount and type of human activity on special areas of land.



As development proceeds, there is a need to protect important areas and connect them to form a network of protected areas. Communities, with support from Protected Areas Strategy partners, need to take immediate action to work towards their long-term conservation goals in the Mackenzie Valley.

Pehdzeh Ki Deh, near Wrigley, is one of the areas moving through the Protected Areas Strategy process in the Mackenzie Valley. *[Raquel Cli-Michaud photo]*

Ensuring a sustainable future for northern people and wildlife requires that our environment remain healthy. New development should add to the quality of life for the people of the NWT, without detracting from the intrinsic values provided by healthy landscapes and populations. A long-term balance of ecological, cultural and economic values in the Mackenzie Valley requires conservation planning.

a collaborative effort between various levels of government, communities, environmental organizations and industry. The plan will help communities ensure responsible economic development is undertaken within a sound environmental management framework.

The Action Plan outlines timely and effective planning in the Mackenzie Valley. It represents

More than \$16 million is available to implement the Action Plan. The Governments of the Northwest Territories and Canada have committed funding over the next five years. World Wildlife Fund, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Canadian Boreal initiative and Ducks Unlimited Canada also committed funding.

This newsletter is distributed by e-mail.
 Contact mvpo@gov.nt.ca, or (867) 874-5400 to receive the *GNWT Pipeline Update*.

\$500m socio-economic fund for Mackenzie Valley communities

On July 18, the Government of the Northwest Territories and Aboriginal organizations announced they had reached an agreement with the federal government that will see millions of dollars help manage socio-economic impacts associated with the proposed pipeline.

The federal government is prepared to provide \$500 million over the next ten years to address socio-economic impacts on communities related to the planning and construction of the pipeline. Contributions to the fund will depend on project milestones being met.

"I'm pleased with the way we worked together on this agreement," says Hon. Brendan Bell, Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment. "This agreement provides a level of certainty we've been looking for to help answer questions around socio-economic impacts associated with the pipeline."

The announcement comes about 12 weeks after Imperial Oil, the lead company on the proposed pipeline, said it wanted some certainties about the project's development and wanted governments to address socio-economic concerns raised by Aboriginal organizations.

Issue Highlights	ITI offers financial management course for Dehcho businesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$500m socio-economic fund • Socio-economic workshops • Funding for community governments • MVPO: what it is and what it does • Pipeline Operations Training Committee <p>This newsletter is distributed by email. To receive this publication, call (867) 874-5400, fax (867) 875-4078, or e-mail mvpo@gov.nt.ca.</p> <p>The <i>GNWT Pipeline Update</i> is published by the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office, a division of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.</p> <p>Find the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office on-line: www.itl.gov.nt.ca/pipeline/index.htm</p>	<p>Do you own a business in Wrigley, Fort Simpson, Jean Marie River, Trout Lake, Nahanni Butte or Fort Liard?</p> <p>Want to maximize financial management for your business?</p> <p>Industry, Tourism and Investment may have the answer.</p> <p>For two days in September, Dehcho business owners are invited to a management and planning course in Fort Simpson. ITI will pay for the course delivery. Participants are responsible for transportation, lodging and meals. Travel days are September 26 and 29.</p> <p>For more info: Joseph Nayally (867) 695-7465 Mike Watson (867) 695-7460</p> 

Regional social impact workshops

The GNWT hosted two of the three Social Impact Workshops in the Dehcho and the Beaufort-Delta regions in June 2005. Workshops in the Sahtu are still in the planning process. The first two workshops provided a forum for communities and governments to examine the anticipated social impacts of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project and to initiate collaborative planning to monitor and manage those impacts over the next twenty years. Twenty-nine participants from the Dehcho region and thirty-four participants from the Beaufort-Delta region were chosen by community leaders to represent their impacted communities. They gathered in Fort Simpson and Inuvik respectively. For two days, participants focused on the following questions:

*What are the social impacts from the community perspective?
What is the community's perspective on which social indicators need to be monitored?
What resources do communities need to manage social impacts?
What do communities and government need to do to collaborate on managing impacts?*

Facilitators from local GNWT departments lead the focus groups and encouraged debate. GNWT presentations on government resources, current social conditions and monitoring impacts provided delegates with background statistics and technical knowledge to assist their discussions.

Despite the great geographical separation between the two regions that will anchor either end of the proposed pipeline, delegates in both workshops voiced many similar ideas and concerns. There was a shared understanding that the Mackenzie Gas Project will result in an exacerbation of existing social issues and that mitigation efforts should emphasize community control and capacity building.

These two regional conferences were the first steps in building community capacity to prepare for and manage social impacts. It was an excellent opportunity for dialogue that increased awareness of the differing – but often similar – perspectives of the GNWT and the communities. If social impacts from the Mackenzie Gas Project are to be adequately addressed, it is important that communities and governments effectively communicate their needs, collaborate on finding solutions, and coordinate their management efforts. By using these workshops as a starting point, and continually sharing knowledge and resources, communities and government can work together to reap the benefits of the Mackenzie Gas Project while ensuring the health and social well-being of everyone.

Have questions about the pipeline?

Contact the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office

(867) 874-5400
mvpo@gov.nt.ca

The next wave of operators

The Pipeline Operations Training Committee (POTC) was formed in 2002 to develop and implement training programs to prepare aboriginal and other northern potential workers for long-term employment opportunities with the pipeline and production operations associated with the Mackenzie Gas Project. The committee, made up of aboriginal, industry, territorial, and federal government representatives, developed two exciting training programs. The technical program is a three-year program that typically prepares participants for employment in an operation or maintenance role. The apprenticeship program typically prepares individuals for employment in a maintenance role, such as heavy-duty mechanic, electrician, instrumentation and millwright. These are four-year apprenticeship programs.

The POTC's first intake of candidates for both programs was in 2004. For the Apprenticeship

program, 38 applications were received for the six available positions. Currently, six apprentices are working with the following companies: TransCanada Pipelines, ConocoPhillips, Imperial Oil and Shell Canada. Twenty applications were received for the Technical Program, 10 qualified for entry to the Pre-technical program at Aurora College in Fort Smith. Five have graduated and are ready to enroll in their chosen two-year technical program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology or the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.

In 2004, the POTC initiative formed a key component of the NWT oil and gas sector's successful application to Human Resources Skills Development Canada under the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Program.

For 2005 intake, the application and screening processes are in progress for both programs. There are three apprenticeship positions available this year and eight applications were received. For the Technical program, 13 applications were received. Selections for both programs will likely take place over the next few weeks.

For more information:
Rory Voudrach
Phone (867) 777-7839

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment Making the Most of Our Resources

To find out more about training, certification, career planning & labour market information, contact your regional Career Centres:

Inuvik - Perry Building (867) 777-7365	Hay River - Courthouse (867) 874-9200
Norman Wells - Town Square (867) 587-7120	Fort Smith - Sweetgrass Building (867) 872-7425
Fort Simpson - Deh Cho Hall (867) 695-7335	Yellowknife - Joe Tobie Building (867) 766-5100

To find out about employer and worker rights & responsibilities, contact Labour Services:

(867) 873-7486 OR (888) 700-5707



Pipeline Information On-line

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office
www.iti.gov.nt.ca/pipeline/index.htm

Northern Gas Project Secretariat
www.ngps.nt.ca

\$1.3 million for community governments

Community governments in the Mackenzie Valley are facing many challenges in preparing for the proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline and associated exploration and development. Communities may experience a wide range of impacts on infrastructure and on municipal programs and services. Community governments must take the lead in setting priorities and taking action within their governance mandate, and to prepare strategies to maximize benefits and minimize potential negative impacts.

The GNWT recognizes communities need support in order to do that work, to review the Environmental Impact Statement, and to par-

ticipate meaningfully in the regulatory review process.

In response to community requests for assistance, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs has developed several ways to support communities.

Funding is also available to support research and analysis of common issues for NWT communities, which may include engineering, infrastructure and legal research and advice.

Community governments have been advised of the availability of funding assistance. To date, community response has been positive.

Pipeline grants available

Grants of \$20,000 are available to each of the 21 communities in the Mackenzie Valley to support preparatory work and research.

An application based program of up to \$30,000 is available for the 22 eligible communities to review proposals, assess impacts, negotiate community access agreements and undertake general planning and preparation.

An application based program of up to \$15,000 each exists for the remaining 11 communities in the NWT to plan and assess any potential impacts or opportunities from pipeline development for their community.

Contacts for grants:

Mike Kalnay
(867) 873-7565

Shannon Johnstone
(867) 777-7441

Chris Hewitt
(867) 695-7205

Barry Harley
(867) 587-7105



Staff attend the Joint Review Panel's June conference to determine if there is sufficient information to proceed to public hearings on the Mackenzie Gas Project.

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office

Working with GNWT departments for NWT residents

Brendan Bell, Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, officially opened the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office (MVPO) in Hay River on June 27, 2005. The Minister, along with various community leaders, introduced office staff to 60 or so people who dropped by for the event.

The GNWT created the MVPO to coordinate and communicate the GNWT's activities related to the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP). As the GNWT's internal coordinating unit, MVPO staff support departmental staff in their efforts to develop plans and support communities in anticipation of the MGP. A well-known collaboration was the successful "Preparing for the Pipeline Conference", hosted in Inuvik, December 2004.

The GNWT wants to make sure NWT issues and priorities are addressed, positive impacts maximized, and negative impacts minimized. The GNWT believes proper coordination, intervening in the environmental assessment



Hay River MLAs, Honourable Paul Delorey and Jane Groenewegen cut cake with Minister Brendan Bell at the Official Opening of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office.

and regulatory review processes, negotiating a Socio-economic Agreement with the gas producers, and supporting Aboriginal organizations and community governments in their efforts to prepare for the project will see northerners benefit from the MGP.

GNWT pipeline contacts

Tim Coleman	(867) 874-5400
Stacey McGaghey	(867) 874-5402
Murray Cutten	(867) 920-8954

The *GNWT Pipeline Update* is distributed by email.
To be added to the list, please contact:

Email: mvp@gov.nt.ca

Phone: (867) 874-5400

Fax: (867) 875-4078