

## WHAT'S INSIDE:

**Community Emergency Social Services** MACA and HSS are working together to better support communities in case of emergency. Read more on...  
**PAGE 2**

**Pipeline Document Library** A clearinghouse of documents and reports available to help communities prepare for resource development. Read more on...  
**PAGE 3**

**Pipeline Readiness Services Program** is designed to provide communities with access to no-cost research and analysis to support preparation for the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project. Read more on...  
**PAGE 4**



# newsletter

February 2006

## Maximizing Benefits and Minimizing Impacts Supporting Communities as they Prepare for the Pipeline

The proposed Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) includes development of natural gas fields, gathering lines and processing facilities in the Mackenzie River Delta and transportation of natural gas and natural gas liquids through pipelines along the Mackenzie River Valley. While the project has the potential to bring many benefits to Northerners, such as opportunities for employment, investment and business, it is important that community governments examine all impacts associated with resource development.

The first two months of 2006 saw the start of hearings held by both the National Energy Board (NEB) and the Joint Review Panel (JRP). As these two panels travel to Northwest Territories communities examining the issues around the development of a pipeline, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) is working to ensure that community governments have the tools and resources needed to assess the impacts and benefits associated with the MGP and that they use the review process to ensure their interests are represented.

The impacts of potential resource development activity on community programs and services and community infrastructure is one of the key areas of concern for many community governments. In light of these concerns, MACA has developed a series of measures designed to assist community governments with the necessary preparations. Specifically, the Pipeline Readiness Services Program provides community governments with access to funding that will allow them to acquire the professional services required to research and analyze potential infrastructure impacts and to develop strategies designed to maximize benefits or minimize impacts.

MACA is committed, through the programs and services detailed in this newsletter, to support communities in their efforts to advance their comments and views through both the NEB and JRP review processes.

For more information on any of the programs or services offered by the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, please contact your Regional Superintendent.



NEB Hearings began in Inuvik in early January 2006.

## MACA's Pipeline Readiness Team

### Michael Kalnay

*Director, Pipeline Readiness*

Headquarters

(867) 873-7565

Michael\_Kalnay@gov.nt.ca

### Murray Cutten

*Coordinator, Community Agreements*

Headquarters

(867) 873-7977

Murray\_Cutten@gov.nt.ca

### Jessica Iveson

*Policy and Planning Intern*

Headquarters

(867) 873-7300

Jessica\_Iveson@gov.nt.ca

### Wilson Dimsdale

*Resource Development Impacts Advisor*

Dehcho Region

(867) 695-7242

Wilson\_Dimsdale@gov.nt.ca

### Chris Hewitt

*Community Planning and Resource*

*Development Impacts Coordinator*

Dehcho Region

(867) 695-7205

Chris\_Hewitt@gov.nt.ca

### Shannon Johnstone

*Resource Development Impacts Coordinator*

Inuvik Region

(867) 777-7441

Shannon\_Johnstone@gov.nt.ca

### Jenny Vandermeer

*Resource Development Impacts Advisor*

Sahtu Region

(867) 587-7104

Jenny\_Vandermeer@gov.nt.ca

## Community Emergency Social Services

### Re-examining the Emergency Plan to Better Support Communities

MACA is working with the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) to examine current territorial arrangements for coordinating the provision of emergency social services.

The NWT Emergency Plan provides the framework to guide the government's response in the case of an emergency. The Plan sets out how GNWT agencies and their partners will support local emergency operations and provide a prompt and coordinated response for territorial emergencies. In the current version of the NWT Emergency Plan no territorial department has been designated as having the responsibility for assisting communities with the provision of emergency social services. The provision of these services, which includes emergency food and shelter as well as registration and inquiry, has been designated as the responsibility of the community government.

MACA and HSS are re-examining the existing arrangements in the NWT Emergency Plan to determine the most appropriate means of ensuring a coordinated approach to providing emergency social services across the Territory. The departments also want to ensure the GNWT is able to properly support communities in providing these services when more than financial assistance is required.

MACA will provide an update on this review during the Northwest Territories Association of Communities Annual General Meeting in May 2006.

## Impact Assessment and Mitigation Fund

### Assisting communities to review the MGP Proposal

MACA has established an application-based program to provide funding to directly affected communities and communities with intervener status to support their preparation for the Mackenzie Gas Project. Communities are encouraged to access funding to review the project proposal. Here are examples of how communities are using this funding:

**Nahanni Butte Dene Band** has hired a consultant to conduct a human resource survey and develop a community business plan that incorporates potential economic opportunities that may develop from the Mackenzie Gas Project.

**Town of Hay River** is planning to develop a comprehensive Land Development Strategy that will consider an evaluation of future land use needs in conjunction with existing levels of supply and demand.

**Katlodeeche First Nation** has created a Resource Development Advisor position to support the Band Council, Lands Committee, and Land and Trust Manager by coordinating meetings and providing expertise concerning the Mackenzie Gas Project.

**Kasho Gotine Charter Community Council** has hired a consultant to update their general Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw, to identify future quarry sites within the municipality and to review the Environmental Impact Statement in preparation for the Joint Review Panel and National Energy Board hearings. The consultant will also review and comment on the Mackenzie Gas Project Land Use Permit Applications.

# Pipeline Document Library

## A partnership to support community governments

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, in partnership with the Local Government Administrators of the Northwest Territories (LGANT), has developed a Pipeline Document Library. The purpose of this new library is to provide community governments with a venue through which they can share the information they have about the potential pipeline.

The new document library can be found on the LGANT website at the following address: [www.lgant.com/pipeline.asp/login.asp](http://www.lgant.com/pipeline.asp/login.asp). All documents and reports prepared through the Pipeline Readiness Services Program will be made available through this online library. These and other documents and reports are posted as they become available and community governments are encouraged to check the site on a regular basis.

Community governments have been forwarded their login information; however, if you do not yet have your password please contact Jessica Iveson at (867) 873-7300 or at [Jessica\\_Iveson@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Jessica_Iveson@gov.nt.ca). As well, please send documents you would like posted to the online library to Jessica Iveson.

## Baseline Infrastructure Assessment Preparing for the New Deal for NWT Communities

As part of the preparation for the New Deal for NWT Communities, MACA has initiated work to complete an infrastructure assessment for Community Public Infrastructure in all communities in the NWT. The purpose of the infrastructure assessment is twofold: to identify any infrastructure issues prior to the transfer of assets to community governments that will take place as part of the New Deal; and to provide information that communities can use as a basis for planning for future capital investments in infrastructure in their community. The data collected through the assessment will be a useful baseline for communities dealing with measuring the potential impacts of resource development on community public infrastructure.

The infrastructure that will be assessed in each community includes most assets listed on the community's asset listing through the Northern Community Insurance Program as well as assets built and owned by the GNWT that would be considered MACA funded assets, such as community halls.

Please contact your Regional Superintendent if you have any questions or require additional information on the baseline assessment.

Do you have  
something you would like to  
see included in the MACA newsletter?

We are always looking for content submissions.

Please forward your ideas to:

[amy\\_hacala@gov.nt.ca](mailto:amy_hacala@gov.nt.ca)

# STAFF CORNER

## Photos of our active MACA staff over the past few months.



A group of MACA HQ interns getting ready to enjoy the SMC sponsored lunch for staff on December 13, 2005. L to R: Amber George, Corporate Affairs, Cory Emsley and Katarina Miklosovic, Sport, Recreation and Youth, Jessica Iveson, Pipeline Readiness, Karin Kronstal and Jared Hall, Corporate Affairs.



Violet Horesay, Administrative Assistant - Lands Administration and Tina Ouelette, Administrative Assistant - Community Operations enjoy the Christmas Buffet Lunch held on December 16, 2005.



MACA bid a fond farewell in January to Bev Stevens, Senior Financial Policy Advisor - Corporate Affairs. Bev moves on to a position in Edmonton with the Government of Alberta.

## Contact us at:

MACA Newsletter  
Municipal and Community Affairs  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
Suite 600, 5201-50th Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S9  
email: amy\_hacala@gov.nt.ca  
www.maca.gov.nt.ca

## What's Going On? MACA News & Events

### Nominate an Outstanding Volunteer!

You probably know a volunteer who deserves special recognition - a friend or neighbour who is always helping others. MACA and Volunteer NWT are asking for your help in honouring these outstanding volunteers. Brochures and nomination forms for the 2006 NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards can be picked up at your local community government offices, at MACA offices or can be found on the MACA web site. The deadline for nominations is March 7! For more information please call (867) 873-7988 or visit the MACA web site at [www.maca.gov.nt.ca](http://www.maca.gov.nt.ca).

### Regional Youth Conference in Inuvik!

MACA's Inuvik office is a proud partner in the Inuvik Youth Centre's regional conference, "Building a Healthy Teen" to be held in Inuvik from March 24-26, 2006. The conference will focus on cultivating positive physical, mental and social health of youth. The engaging sessions will include community presentations, an RCMP Role Reversal, youth development sessions and engagement in the proposed pipeline project. For more information please contact Yvonne Carpenter at MACA in Inuvik at (867) 777-7312.

### Call for Nominations - Board of Revision

MACA is currently seeking nominations for individuals wishing to sit on the Board of Revision for the General Taxation Area (GTA). During their one-year term, members will hear assessment related appeals from individuals and businesses for property assessments in the GTA. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest along with a summary of relevant experience by March 31, 2006. For more information visit the MACA website or call the Secretary to the Board of Revision at (867) 873-7125.

## For more info:

Contact the Regional Superintendent in your region to learn more about MACA's programs and services.

## Pipeline Readiness Services Program Research and Analysis for Community Governments

The Pipeline Readiness Services Program is intended to provide community governments with access to no-cost research and analysis to ensure they have the opportunity to identify and prepare for pipeline and resource development opportunities and impacts. The services accessible through the program include engineering expertise, legal research and advice, planning and communications.

A working group of community leaders and administrators convened to identify pipeline and resource development issues of common interest to all affected communities and to undertake projects to address these issues. We would like to thank the team members who volunteered their time to work on projects of benefit to all communities.

Here is a list of a number of projects currently underway:

### Legal review of bylaws:

- Heavy Truck Traffic and By-law Enforcement By-laws
- Emergency Response By-law
- Business License By-law
- Zoning By-law

### Legal Review of Contract and Request For Proposal documents:

- Service Contract
- Construction Contract
- Equipment Purchase Contract
- General Instructions for Tender

### Studies:

- Road standards and traffic control
- Review of salaries and job description for municipal employees
- Planning to determine preparedness to manage impacts of the MGP

Other communities will have access to the results of this work through the Pipeline Document Library available on the LGANT site. For more information on the new Document Library, please see the article on page three or visit the site at [www.lgant.com/pipelineasp/login.asp](http://www.lgant.com/pipelineasp/login.asp)

## New Pipeline Readiness Team Member

MACA is pleased to welcome Jenny Vandermeer to the Pipeline Readiness Team. Originally from Deline, Jenny will work as the Resource Development Impact Advisor in Norman Wells for the Sahtu Region. Her primary role will be to work with communities in the Sahtu as they prepare for resource development in the North.

With her background in Biological Science / Renewable Resources and Environmental Science Jenny is a valuable member of the MACA team.

**Welcome Aboard!**

