

Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba Community Information Sessions Summary Report

For the NIRB's Assessment of
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's
“Meliadine Extension” Project Proposal
related to the Meliadine Gold Mine Project



NIRB File No. 11MN034
March 31, 2023

Full Report Title: Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba Community Information Sessions
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"Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal related to the Meliadine Gold
Mine Project
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Cover Photos by: Brydon Beattie, Communications and Systems Coordinator
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) would like to thank all those who participated in the Community Information Sessions held in Northern Saskatchewan and Northern Manitoba as part of the NIRB's assessment of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's "Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal (Extension Proposal or the Proposal). The objective of these meetings was to inform the public about the Proposal, the NIRB's impact assessment process, and most importantly to hear the public's concerns, questions, or comments about the Project Proposal.

The NIRB would like to acknowledge the many Elders and community members who actively participated in the public meetings, sharing their knowledge, and raising their questions and comments about the Project Proposal. Comments from communities potentially affected by the proposed project play a very important role in the NIRB's process and final decision.

Finally, the NIRB would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the communities for the warm hospitality offered to the NIRB staff. The meetings were successful owing to the participation, assistance, and generosity of community members, leadership and local organizations.

Sincerely,



Heather Rasmussen
A/ Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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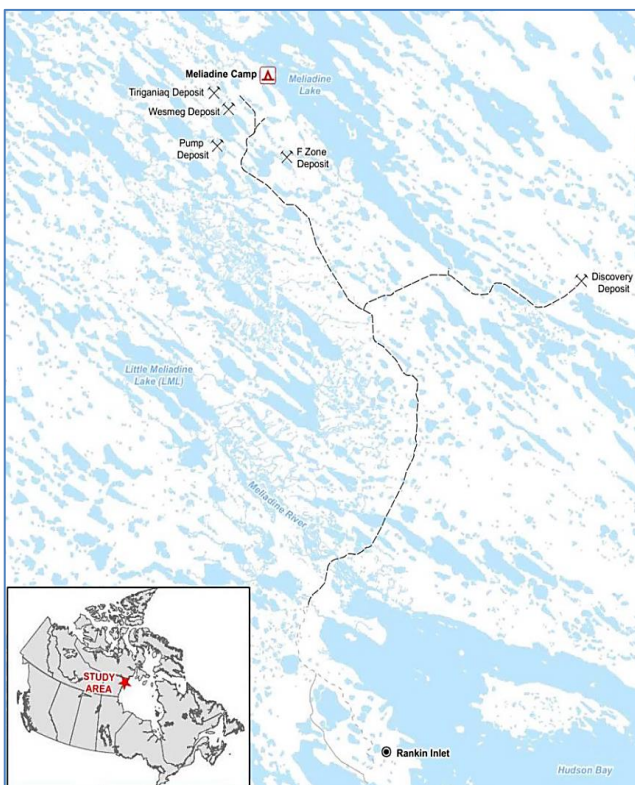
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description



1.1.1 Existing Project Components

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's (Agnico Eagle) Meliadine Gold Mine Project includes the construction and operation of a gold mine located in the Kivalliq Region, approximately 25 kilometres (km) north of Rankin Inlet on Inuit-owned lands. The Project areas include a fuel storage and barge laydown area at Itivia Harbour in Rankin Inlet, a bypass road around the community, the All-Weather Access Road, and the mine site. There are five (5) deposits approved for surface mining (Tiriganiaq, Discovery, Pump, Wesmeg, and F-Zone), with only Tiriganiaq including underground mining. The mine site has a camp, water and waste management infrastructure, and all other associated mining infrastructure.

In 2019, the Meliadine Gold Mine Project Certificate No. 006 was amended to allow discharge of a portion of the saline effluent (salty groundwater flowing into the Tiriganiaq Underground Mine) to the marine environment during the open water season. This salty groundwater is trucked to a tank located at Itivia Harbour and then released into the ocean at a rate of 800 cubic meters per day (m^3/day). During the rest of the year, saline effluent is stored at the Meliadine site in designated areas. Information related to the original project and amendment 1 of the Project Certificate are located on the NIRB's public Registry at www.nirb.ca/project/124106.

In 2020, Agnico Eagle applied to amend its Project Certificate to change the transportation method of saline effluent from trucking to waterlines constructed alongside the All-Weather Access Road and to increase the volume of saline effluent discharged to between 6,000 to 12,000 m^3/day . The Waterlines Proposal included an alternative to also discharge an additional 8,000 m^3/day of treated surface contact water (fresh water that contacts the mine site from precipitation, freshet etc.). The NIRB issued the second amendment to the Project Certificate on March 2, 2022. For further information on the NIRB's assessment of the Waterlines Proposal, please see the NIRB's Public Registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125515.

1.2 Outline of the Project Proposal

The “Meliadine Extension” Proposal includes modifications to the existing Meliadine Gold Mine Project. Information received and pertaining to the Extension Proposal is accessible via the NIRB’s online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125684.

The scope of activities described within the Extension Proposal includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

Infrastructure at Meliadine Mine Site

- Addition of underground mining at the Pump, F Zone, and Discovery deposits, which were previously approved for open-pit mining
- Development of a new portal and associated infrastructure, including two (2) access roads to the Tiriganiaq-Wolf deposit
- Construction and operation of a windfarm with eleven (11) wind turbines, associated infrastructure, and an access road
- Use of additional borrow pits and quarries to replace depleted sources and build a road to the windfarm, Tiriganiaq-Wolf portal, airstrip, road to Discovery and other deposits
- Extension of the operation phase (i.e. mine life) by 11 years to 2043
- Increase in employment to 905 employees
- Addition of three (3) wings at the camp to accommodate increased personnel
- Ongoing use of existing infrastructure at the Meliadine Mine Site as previously approved: power plant, mill, camp, helipad, maintenance shop, laydown areas, Meliadine tank farm, emulsion plant, quarries and borrow pits, AWAR, Bypass Road, Discovery Spur Road, access roads, and mining at approved deposits

Infrastructure at Itivia Harbour

- Ongoing use of existing infrastructure as previously approved including: laydown areas, tank farm

Ore Management

- Additional temporary ore stockpiles adjacent to Pump, F Zone, Tiriganiaq-Wolf, and Discovery

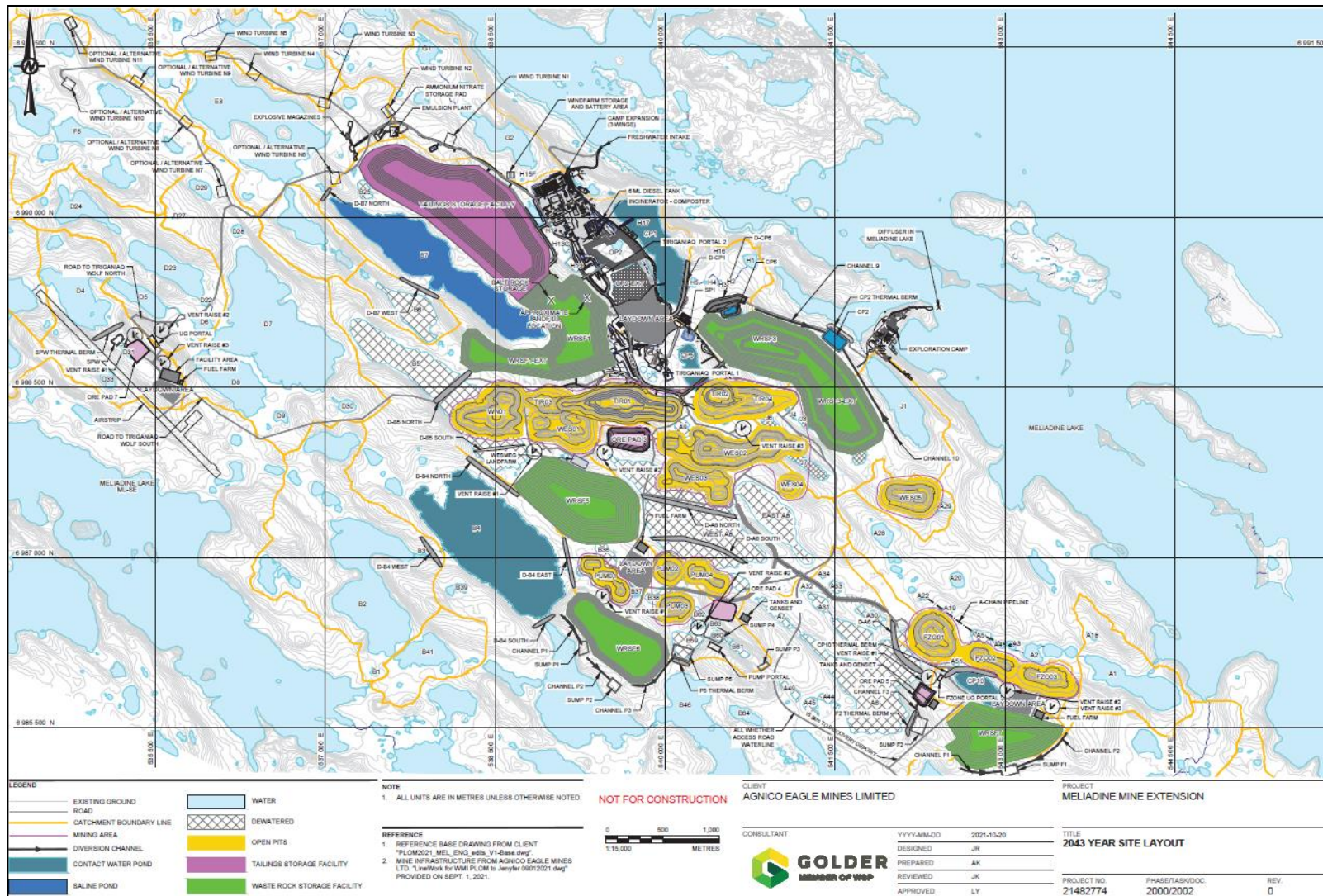


Figure 1: Meliadine Extension – Mine Site¹

¹ Please note that although an airstrip is depicted in the figure, Agnico Eagle has removed the airstrip and associated infrastructure from the scope of proposal.

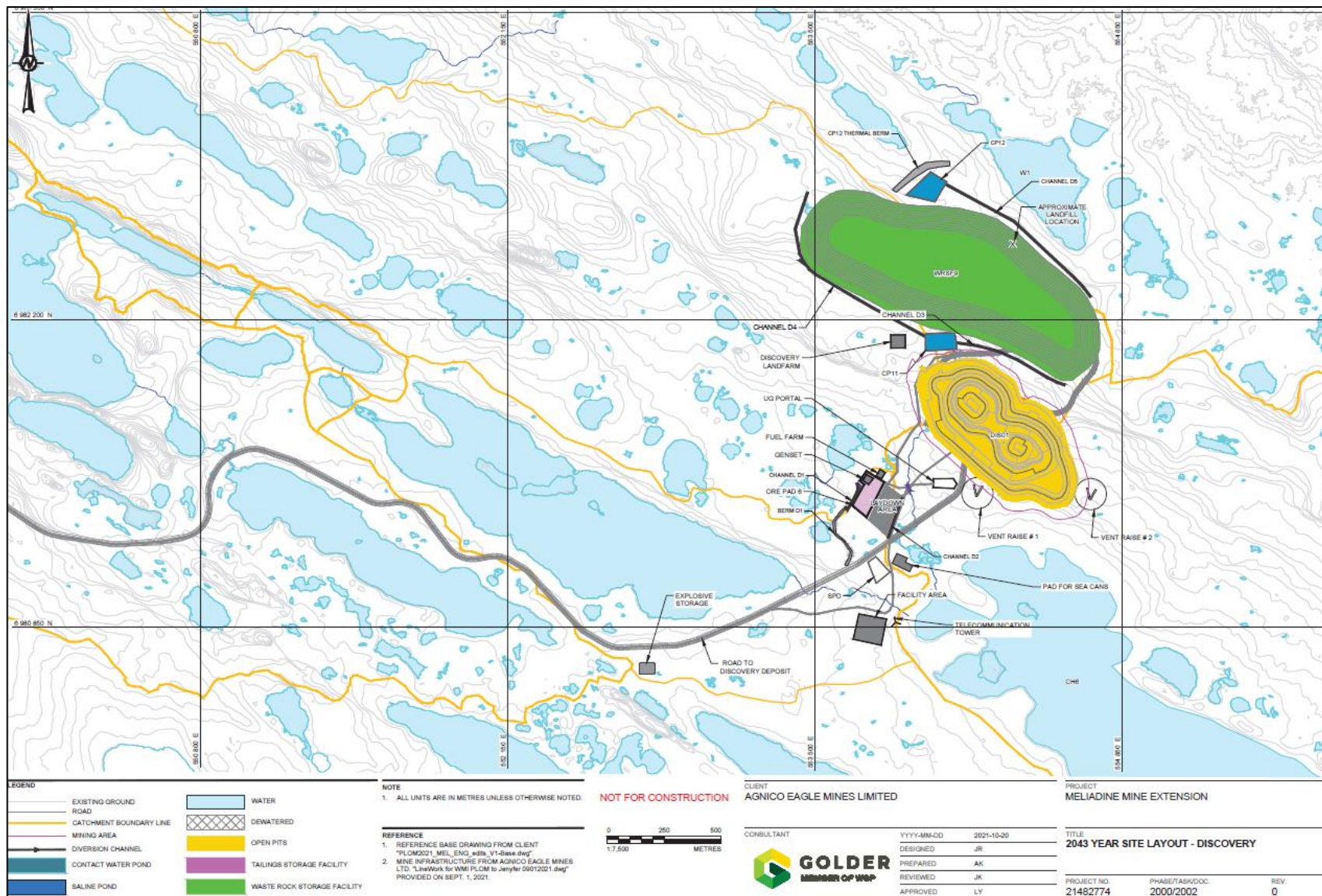


Figure 2: Meliadine Extension - Discovery Site

Water Management Infrastructure

- Continued use of the previously approved waterlines, marine pipeline, and diffuser for discharge of saline effluent (salty groundwater) and surface contact water to Melvin Bay
- Construction and operation of a waterline running from the Discovery deposit to the mine site along the Discovery spur road and AWAR for treatment of saline effluent before discharge to Melvin Bay through the existing waterlines
- Addition of saline ponds at F Zone, Tiriganiaq-Wolf, Pump and Discovery to collect water originating from underground mine activities
- Water management structures (i.e. dykes, berms, etc.) to be built as needed
- Ongoing use of existing freshwater sources and water intake, potable water treatment system
- Continued use of water management infrastructure (e.g., saline and contact water collection ponds, channels, dikes, berms, jetties, pump systems and pipelines, and culverts), and contact and saline treatment systems
- Increase in capacity of sewage treatment plant
- Option for storage of saline discharge in exhausted pits

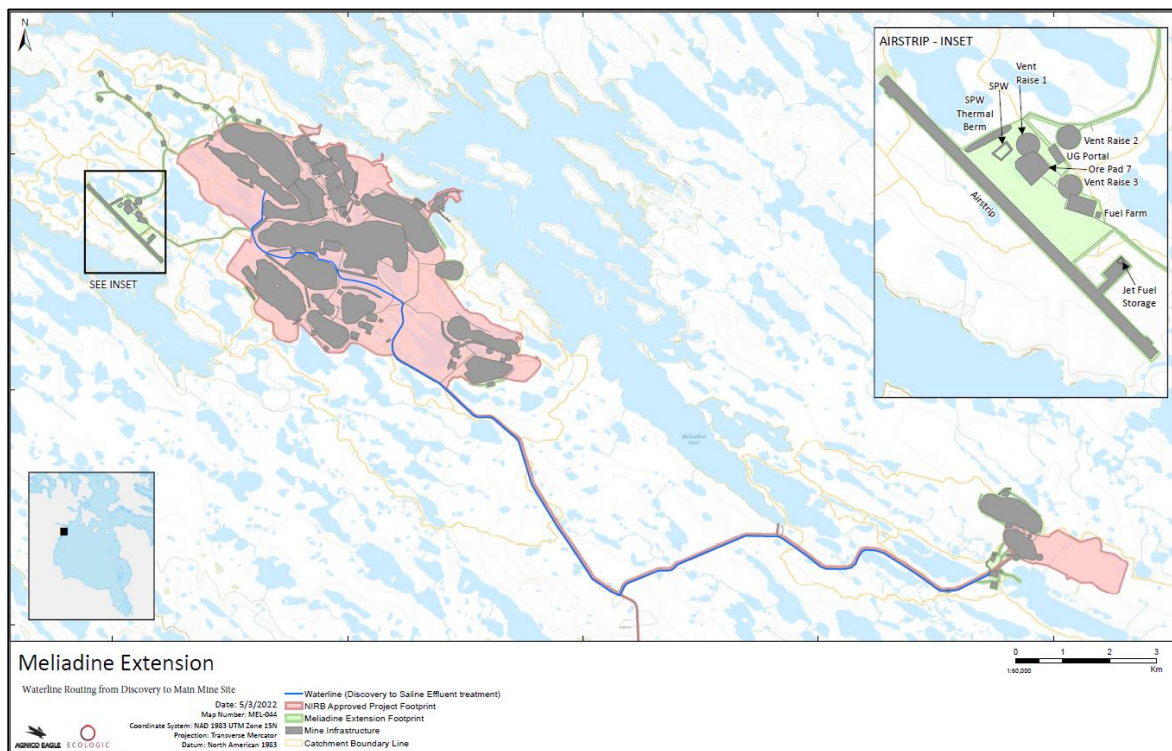


Figure 3: Meliadine Extension Footprint²

² Please note that although an airstrip is depicted in the figure, Agnico Eagle has removed the airstrip and associated infrastructure from the scope of proposal.



Figure 4: Alternative - Exhausted Pits for Tailings Storage

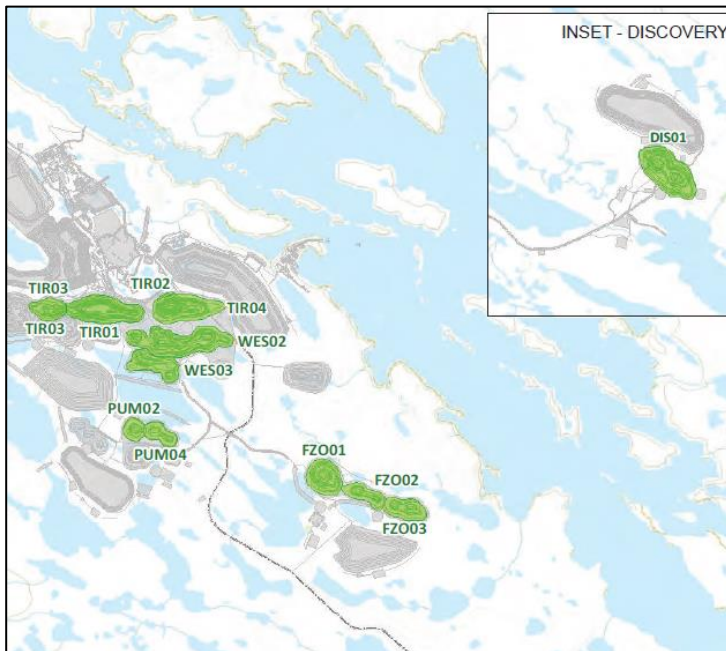


Figure 5: Alternative - Exhausted Pits for Waste Rock Storage

Waste Management

- Expansion of existing waste rock storage facilities (WRSF), addition of new WRSFs, and continued use of existing WRSFs
- Addition of temporary salt waste rock piles for underground waste rock;
- Option for waste rock storage in open pits
- Use of the dry stack Tailings Storage Facility within the existing approved footprint
- Option for in-pit slurry tailings deposition in exhausted pits
- Additional landfill to be built within the Discovery WRSF
- Addition of landfarms at the Wesmeg and Discovery deposits
- Inclusion of a composter and second incinerator
- Ongoing use of existing landfills, landfarms, and incinerator

Fuel and hazardous material

- Installation of fuel storage tanks and containment facilities at Pump, F Zone, Tiriganiaq-Wolf, and Discovery. Each site will consist of four (4) 75,000 litres (L) and one (1) 50,000 L tanks for a total of 350,000 L per site
- Addition of a 6,000,000 L fuel storage tank and secondary containment at the existing main site
- Option to install two (2) 50,000 L aviation fuel storage tanks adjacent to the potential airstrip;
- Ongoing use of approved hazardous waste material

1.2.1 Project History and Current Status



2 NIRB COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

2.1 Overview

The NIRB hosted community information sessions in the communities of Black Lake, Fond du Lac and Hatchet Lake, Saskatchewan, and Tadoule Lake, Manitoba on March 6-10, 2023, to discuss the Extension Proposal. As requested by community leadership, the Lac Brochet meeting (scheduled for March 9, 2023) was cancelled due to recent deaths in the community. The NIRB sends its sincere condolences to the community members and is considering alternative methods to provide the information.

The NIRB information sessions had the following objectives:

- Provide an overview of the NIRB's environmental impact assessment process;
- Provide information on the Extension Proposal and how communities and the public can be involved;
- Give community members opportunities to ask questions and provide feedback;
- Discuss current and upcoming stages of the NIRB's process for the "Meliadine Extension" Project Proposal; and
- Encourage participation throughout the reconsideration process.

Agnico Eagle was present at each session to assist in presenting, answering questions and talking to community members about the Project Proposal and impact statement addendum. NIRB staff were also joined by Natalie D'Souza from the Northern Projects Management Office to observe each meeting.

This Report focuses on the Community Information Sessions held in Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba. For details on the Community Information Sessions held in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut please see the associated report on the NIRB's Public Registry (Doc ID 342479 [English] and 343076 [Inuktitut]).



2.2 NIRB Community Information Sessions

To facilitate a better understanding of the assessment of the “Meliadine Extension” Proposal, the NIRB and Agnico Eagle gave a presentation that included:

- A discussion of the NIRB process and next steps;
- Information on the developments, activities, and key components proposed as part of the Extension Proposal;
- Potential impacts identified that could result should the Extension Proposal be approved to proceed;
- Previous comments and concerns heard by community members; and
- A discussion as to how interested parties and community members could participate in the NIRB’s process.

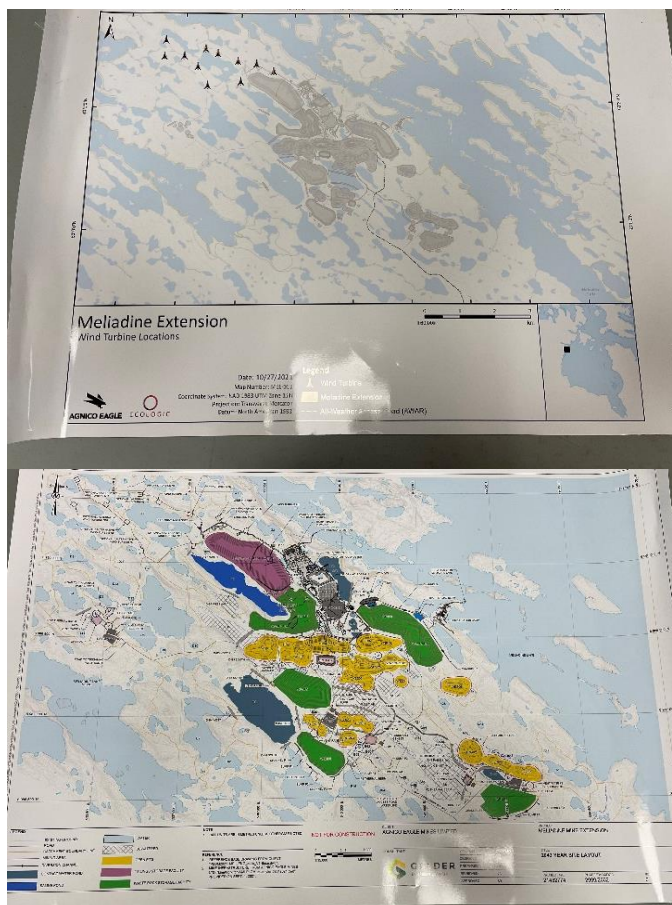


Figure 6: Posters presented by Agnico Eagle at meetings

The presentation was in English with simultaneous interpretation in Dene. The public was encouraged to comment and ask questions relating to the NIRB’s process, activities undertaken, predicted impacts, and any concerns related to the Proposal. Both written and verbal comments were accepted and recorded by the NIRB staff.



2.3 Meeting Materials

The following materials were provided were provided at each meeting. An electronic version can be accessed on the NIRB's Public Registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125684 or by searching for the following document ID numbers.

Document	Doc ID No.
The NIRB's PowerPoint presentation	343598
Final Environmental Impact Statement Addendum (electronically)	340917 (main doc)
The Project Proposal Summary, provided by Agnico Eagle	343603 343606
Caribou Management at Meliadine Handout, provided by Agnico Eagle	343600
Meliadine Gold Mine Project video	343605
Posters of Proposal components	See Figure 6
<i>The Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada</i>	N/A
<i>The Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act</i>	N/A
Comment Forms	343601 343602
NIRB Contact Sheet	343599

Catering and door prizes were also offered to attendees.

2.4 Agenda and Venues of Community Information Sessions

The NIRB staff consulted with community organizations and considered travel requirements in determining the timing of the Community Information Sessions. The NIRB visited each of the following communities:

Community	Venue	Date	Time
Black Lake	Band Hall	March 6, 2023	2:00-4:00 pm
Fond du Lac	Band Hall	March 7, 2023	2:00-4:00 pm
Hatchet Lake	Band Hall	March 8, 2023	2:00-4:00 pm
Tadoule Lake	Peter Yassie Memorial School	March 10, 2023	2:00-4:00 pm

2.5 Advertisements

Public notification is essential for effective public engagement and is a prerequisite of the NIRB's community information sessions. The NIRB informed the communities of the upcoming meetings through various advertisements including by radio and community Facebook Groups, where available, and posters with meeting details sent to Band Offices and Band and/or Northern Stores.

3 MEETING NOTES FROM THE NIRB'S COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

The following is a summary of verbal and written comments discussed during each session. Comments are sorted by topic in no particular order of interest.

3.1 Black Lake

Interpreter: Freddie Throassie

Attendance: 49





Biophysical³ Comments and Questions

Blasting

- In 2009, went to Mclean Lake and couldn't find animals because of blasting and radiation. Company wasn't telling the truth about impacts.

Caribou

- I am on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board. This type of conversation is good. We depended on caribou before Europeans were here.
- I understand some Inuit communities are concerned about the road and the airstrip. I can understand how hard Inuit have been working. We have to have a very good understanding and a very good plan for caribou. I saw a video about caribou having a hard time crossing the road.
- What is the possibility of building some kind of underpass for caribou?
- Last time we saw a big caribou herd was 1980. It would be nice if we had caribou back in our traditional territory. Beverly Caribou have been declining since 1980.
- We don't want water and caribou to be affected by the mines for future generations.
- Mining on calving grounds is very important. First Nations need shares for operations on the land.
- We depend on caribou, and they (Inuit) depend on caribou. The only difference is the language we speak.
- Qamanirjuaq and Bathurst caribou herds come near the community but we haven't seen Beverly herd in a long time.
- Concerns of impacts to caribou from noise of mine and powerlines.

³ While the terminology used in the *Nunavut Agreement* and *NuPPAA* is "ecosystemic impacts," for ease of reference and translation purposes the NIRB generally uses the term "biophysical" when referencing effects on the biological and physical components of the environment.

Climate Change and Emissions

- Wind turbines reduce emissions.

Noise

- Turbines are good because they reduce noise.

Reclamation

- Things can never be returned to the way they were. Taking things out of the ground removes energy from the Earth.
- Will never be able to clean everything up.
- Picture of Gunnar Mine passed around by a community member (Figure 7). Mine left with no clean up in 1962. \$280 million to clean up.
- Concerns about radiation in lakes around McClean Lake.

Terrestrial Wildlife

- Animals chewing on seacans holding garbage were a problem at Hope Bay.



Figure 7: Photo of Gunnar Mine shared by a community member during the Black Lake meeting



Socio-Economic Comments and Questions

Benefits

- Whose land is the mine on? Do the royalties go back to the Inuit communities?
- Nunavut communities are getting royalties, but nothing comes to communities here.
- If I was Chief, I would request a lot of money for mines to operate on my land.
- How much is paid for water used by the mine?
- Anything that effects the environment affects everything. According to mining companies they can use anything. Who gave them permission to use resources? How much money is put to First Nations? First Nations don't have right to benefit? Companies and government are taking advantage of First Nations. Nobody seems to understand First Nations.
- Why don't First Nations have shares in companies that extract resources?

Consultation/Engagement

- Requests and discussion about a site tour (Tour will be arranged in June or July by Agnico Eagle to bring community members to site)
- What is a good time for elders to do a tour?
- I'd like to thank you for the consultation that's taking place. As elders, we need to see what's taking place out there.
- Consultation comes and goes and nothing happens.
- Is it possible to get the documents translated into Dene syllabics? We have young people with university degrees who would benefit.
- You guys travelled a long way for this information, thank you for coming to speak with us. If we win our traditional area back, I'll feel a lot better about the future. Make sure you get employment. We all learn together. We're talking about mines in our area too. This community Black Lake, a lot of projects have been proposed but nobody agrees with the idea that's why we're poor. I'm so proud you guys are out there consulting with us. I'd like to thank you again. We have nothing here in Black Lake to look forward to, there's no future project. Maybe in the future our young people will work out there. Look at the pickup points to make it easier for young people. I'd like to thank you for listening to me.
- It's good you're here to consult.

Cost of Living

- Cost of living is very high (light bills, hydro payments, gas etc.)
- Costs for fuel and electricity are too high. Mining companies are making millions and if they come into our area we'll ask for a share. A lot of people are poor and it's hard for me to look at them because they are struggling.



Employment

- We are looking for employment in mining industry. People go to work for 4 or 5 days and get laid off. Concern about high cost of living.
- Lots of people are unemployed and happy when companies come in, but companies don't provide enough money to communities. Communities need money.
- What are the top jobs at the project?
- Will there be an opportunity in the future for members to be employed?
- What is the mine schedule (shifts)?
- There is a need for a pickup point for people in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. See a potential for Dene and Inuit to both be employed by working together. We have people with a lot of experience working at mines, and people with university degrees. Let's do it.
- Are there any Dene employed at the mine?
- What types of jobs are there? In the mines in Saskatchewan, Dene always get the lowest paying jobs.
- What type of training is there?
- Back in 2012 they promised there would be lots of jobs but for some reason it didn't happen. (Proposed hydro project)
- If company requires manpower, consider hiring from Dene communities.
- There are a lot of grads in our communities, but no one is getting jobs.
- We need jobs, but if we're not dedicated it's hard. Drugs, alcohol, and booze, that's why our people are suffering. I have 11 kids, all of them are educated, all of them are working, my grandkids and my great-grandkids too.
- We have to make changes, this is about the future, this is about jobs. I have a grandson who works at the diamond mine in the Northwest Territories. It's a good job, pays well.



Other Comments and Questions

- I understand how important it is for the Dene and Inuit to work together.
- In the future if we want to work together, we have nothing. We've talked about wind turbines but we need to work together on it.
- What year was the mine started?
- I worked in mines for much of my life. I know what it's all about at the mines. I know safety and regulations are monitored. The mine I worked at was operated and shut down. There's still fish at the lakes. Don't be scared of mines. We used to have a lot of elders working in the area. When I look at these mines, it's the uranium dust that creates a lot of hazard and affects the animals. The mine you are proposing, I'm not scared of it.
- I was a miner myself, but this mine has no radiation, so I think it's safe. Thank you for coming here so we can work together.
- Effects - can be 20 or 30 years before they are seen.
- Question regarding negotiations over transboundary agreement.
- Question on Treaty 8 and Treaty 10.
- If you set a net, you'll catch fish, if you hunt you'll get caribou, if you collect berries, you'll eat. You need to respect the community, to help one another.

3.2 Fond du Lac

Interpreter: Jenny Lidguerre

Attendance: 19





Biophysical Comments and Questions

Birds

- Are there any impacts on birds?

Caribou

- After the construction of the road to Diavik we are seeing a decrease in the amount of caribou coming from that direction. If there's a road built up toward the mine, will it cut off caribou from the other direction?
- What are the blasting effects on caribou?
- Is there information collected on the actions of caribou on roads?
- We would like to see maps of caribou migration routes. Information is not provided to the people by the negotiating teams who see them.
- Is there hunting in the area of the road?
- Is there a fence around open pits or around the mine?
- Isn't 5km a short distance to the mine for caribou protection?
- The tailings could be a problem for caribou.
- There's something wrong with some of the caribou we've seen.
- Hunters should be informed more of studies being carried out. There used to be a program that hunters participated in but it isn't happening any more.
- Caribou are our main source of food, and our children will need it for the future.
- Caribou is our main source of meat
- Caribou are smart like people, you can't trick them. What if we lose the migration on our end?
- Caribou would be eating everything around the project area.
- Suggestion that North of 60 do caribou health sampling.

- Concern that with caribou management plans, may not be able to hunt here anymore.

Climate Change and Emissions

- You're trying to get away from diesel to instead use wind?

Fish and Fish Habitat

- Need to monitor fish and aquatic life.

Noise

- What about the noise caused by generators? The noise could disrupt caribou.
- What are the noise levels of the wind turbines? Is it less than generators?

Vegetation

- What are the impacts to lichen? That is caribou food.
- The mine company needs to look at all flora, there is a chain cause and effect.
- How far from the mine do you monitor vegetation?

Waste

- Tailings needs to be prevented from getting into the environment.
- Concerns on levels of cyanide in tailings and questions on how cyanide is removed.

Reclamation

- The mine here left and left a big mess behind.





Other Comments and Questions

NIRB Process

- How do you become a community representative?

Project Proposal

- Do you have a map showing where the turbines will be?
- How many turbines are you planning to build?
- Would the wind turbines power the entire site?
- Is there access to the mine via the road?
- Is the plan to go underground once the pits are done? Will there be a mine shaft?
- Does the mill keep operating during shutdown?
- Are open pits fenced off?
- Is the mine on Treaty land?

Other

- We all share this big blue ball and we need to take care of it.
- Concern that there is no community leadership representatives at this meeting.
- What's the status of the proposed Manitoba road?
- What's the status of the proposed fibre-optic cable?

3.3 Hatchet Lake

Interpreter: Due to a schedule conflict, there was no interpreter for this meeting. The NIRB greatly appreciates the help of community members to help in presenting material and conversing with Elders to ensure equal participation, and that the Elders could be heard.

Attendance: 6



Biophysical Comments and Questions

Climate Change and Emissions

- Southern black bears are moving north. The tree line has moved north. The ice road is being built later than it used to be.
- Over the last 10 years, black bears and polar bears seen in areas they're not supposed to be.
- Hunters in Rankin are starting to see polar bear, grizzly bear mixes.
- Elders say weather is going to change.
- Concerns from acid rain from mine. In areas near the mine here trees are not growing because of acid rain.
- The cold weather is going to go south, the warm weather is going to go north.
- The ice conditions have changed in January and February.





Air Quality

- There are already fumes from diesel in the air. Do you measure these?

Caribou

- It requires a lot of energy for caribou to make their migration.
- Caribou haven't been close to the community for 10 years.
- Caribou are having a harder time getting food because of climate change causing more frozen layers of ice over their food.
- Roads affect migration, making them change their route.
- Normally people have to travel 30 minutes out of town for caribou.
- In 2017-2018, people had to travel to Manitoba to get caribou.
- Bathurst herd doesn't come around this area anymore.
- Herd went by in November, lots of caribou seen from aircraft.
- The mine is already there so it won't affect the caribou.
- We take samples of bone marrow, jaw, etc. to examine caribou health.
- Primarily see caribou around Philips Lake and Shannon Lake, they usually use the whole range.

Reclamation

- Gunnar Mine left with no clean up, water and fish from Athabasca Lake went into the mined out pit.
- Eagle Point – during consultation they said that the dyke would be completely removed, but instead they cut it level to the ground, so it is still there.
- We have experience of closure not happening as it was promised.
- Are there securities and money in place for closure?

Socio-Economic Comments and Questions

Consultation/Engagement

- What were the community concerns on the waterline?
- I like that the airstrip was removed for the community, and it won't be taking away business.
- Request for a tour of the mine.
- Maybe you could set up a visit for the grade 12s to visit the site?

Employment

- Is it mostly people from Nunavut working at the mine?
- My son and other family members have to drive to Edmonton to work at a mine in the Northwest Territories. Being able to fly to mines from nearby would make it easier for young people to work.
- Not a lot of jobs here.
- There is a lot of Grade 12 and University graduates that need jobs.
- After high school, it's a dead end for youth
- On-the-job training would be nice, youth are probably sick of school.
- People are having to take jobs down south and then they don't want to come back.

Tradition Activities and Land use

- How does Agnico Eagle work with trappers?
- Hunters use all of the caribou, no wasting.



Other Comments and Questions

Project Proposal

- Will there be powerlines that go with the wind turbines?
- How does the mine get power?

Other

- Is there going to be a fibre-optic cable?

3.4 Tadoule Lake

Interpreter: Ila Bussidor

Attendance: 21

Written Comments: One (1) written comment was provided by a community member at the meeting which can be accessed on the NIRB's Public Registry (Doc ID: 343604).



Biophysical Comments and Questions

General Environment

- Fish and birds along the coast will be affected.
- We have concerns on the impact on the environment and animals and the water. It doesn't matter how nice you make the project sound, it will have an impact. It will be a long-term impact.
- Would Agnico Eagle pay for monitoring studies to protect caribou, birds, and the environment?
- Permafrost, air, caribou, weather, and ground will all be affected.



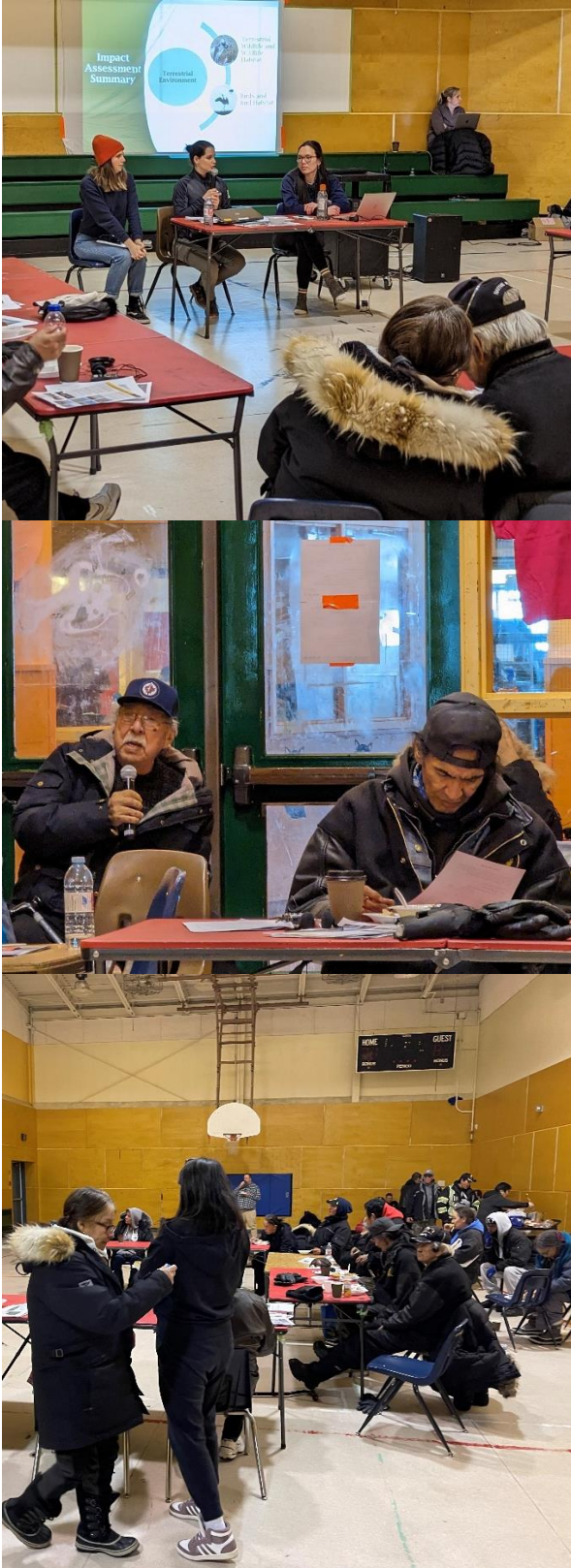
Caribou

- What is going to be left after the mine closes? Any kind of activity that impacts the caribou will impact us. There's only two types of people in the world, industrialists and environmentalists and you can't mix the two.
- We can't live without caribou. Mines destroy the environment, destroy wildlife.
- Does the mine really shut down for caribou crossing?
- Are the caribou safe to eat? Do you test them?
- How are the caribou near the mine? Are they sick or are they healthy? Who checks that?
- The caribou come from north and we hunt them. We're concerned about contaminants in the caribou.
- Would it affect the caribou crossing the road? It would. Cause and effect. Everything would affect.
- Would crossing through metals on either side of the road affect caribou?
- Caribou play second fiddle to the dollar.
- Caribou will not move to the ocean, they will migrate further west and then we won't be able to access them.
- Turbines will impact caribou.

Climate Change and Emissions

- The weather is changing. Everything effects everything.
- Are the windmills to reduce diesel?





Socio-Economic Comments and Questions

Benefits

- What do we get out of this project?
- Is the company ready to commit to the Nations that any long-term effects that may occur will be compensated? Is the mine going to compensate for going over any traditional trap lines or cabins? I heard that Elders were waiting to hear this in Rankin Inlet.
- Who does compensation for spills in international waters? Who are the regulators?

Consultation and Engagement

- We've been asked by companies to explore for uranium, but we've never answered because we don't want any mines.
- Areva did not consult with Dene about the mine near Baker Lake even though they said they did.
- Are we Indigenous people really involved?
- There are so many things we haven't done, like settling our land claims. We won't have to ask someone if we can do something on our land. We'll have more control over things, like the all-weather road to Nunavut. There's a new group of young people who will be the voices, so it would be good to hear from the young people about the long-term impact this will have.

Traditional Activities and Land Use

- Project will impact users of the land.
- We are a coastal people. We go seasonally to the coast to get geese, ducks and eggs. An elder has said to me to make sure that the coastal areas are protected.

Other Comments and Questions

Project Proposal

- The mine will just keep going deeper. When will the mine run out of gold and shut down?
- How tall are the wind turbines?
- Will there be an arsenic pond?
- How do you get the windmills to where they need to go? Is it in more than one piece?
- Why not solar?
- Does the project cross unceded land?

Other

- Generations of Dene have lived here before Europeans have arrived here and all they seem to be interested in are money. Everything you do up there affects us.
- We don't have the money to have things in a community, like a nice school. There's a generation of people that are missing.
- Stuff that happens upriver affects us.



4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Throughout the NIRB's Information Sessions, community members shared their comments and concerns on a variety of topics pertaining to Agnico Eagle's Extension Proposal including:

- Biophysical comments and questions: terrestrial wildlife (including caribou and birds) fish and fish habitat, vegetation, climate change and emissions, noise, reclamation, and waste;
- Socio-economic comments and questions: benefits, consultation and engagement, cost of living, employment, and traditional activities and land use; and
- Other comments and questions: NIRB process and the project proposal.

As previously mentioned, these comments play an important role in the Board's process and final decision, and the Board greatly appreciates community members taking the time to share their knowledge, thoughts, and questions. Where appropriate, the Board will be incorporating questions, comments, and advice shared by the communities into the monitoring program for the Meliadine Gold Mine Project.

The NIRB greatly appreciates the participation of community members in the assessment for the Extension Proposal and encourages community members to continue to participate in the next steps of the process. The Board recognizes the importance of creating sufficient opportunities for community members to understand the project proposal and to be able provide feedback on how it affects them, directly to the NIRB.

The Board would like to thank the community members for their participation and hospitality, the interpreters, community members and local businesses who assisted in the bookings, logistics, and set up of each session, the Proponent, and the Northern Projects Management Office, for helping make these sessions a success.