

# 2023 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT



## INTRODUCTION

In June 2022, several Baker Lake residents expressed strong opposition toward uranium exploration near the Thelon basin in Nunavut. Forum committed to taking a step back to listen and engage further. We hired an Indigenous-owned consulting company to help create a community engagement strategy and support a return to the community.

Meetings began in February with the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA-CLARC), the Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO), civic leaders for the hamlet, as well as local businesses and Elders. Here, Forum listened to community concerns and set the stage for collaboration. Because of these conversations and community engagement Forum made great strides throughout 2023 at building a relationship of trust with the people of Baker Lake, and in accessing the permits necessary to pursue a small drill program with the support of the community. As Forum prepares for further exploration in 2024, its commitment to respectful engagement and ongoing communication continues.

## FEBRUARY MEETINGS

In preparation for in-person meetings in Baker Lake, Forum developed a communications and engagement plan to establish a framework based on community preferences for receiving information. The plan included coordinating letters to specific groups in both English and Inuktitut, PowerPoint presentations to share before in-person meetings in the community, leveraging local channels to improve awareness of company activities and regular visits. These visits include an effort to participate and learn more about the community as well.

Letters and presentations were sent in advance of the February 2023 meetings to Baker Lake's mayor and council, KIA-CLARC and the HTO. Concerns around uranium and the safety of Baker Lake residents continued to be discussed during this meeting which prompted Forum to commit to future nuclear literacy discussions. Many agreed that sharing information and insights from community members in northern Saskatchewan near uranium mines would help build a general understanding of the ways community priorities and the uranium industry can co-exist.

### Meetings

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Baker Lake Mayor

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KIA-CLARC

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HTO

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Elder's Coffee Come-and-Go (X2)

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## Baker Lake Mayor and Council Meeting

Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, Nunavut February 21, 2023

### ATTENDEES:

Hamlet of Baker Lake	
Name	Role
Richard Aksawnee	Mayor
Paula Hughson	Deputy Mayor
Becky Tootoo	Councillor
Joedee Joedee	Councillor
David Owingayak	Elder
Sally	General member of the community

Forum Energy Metals	
Name	Role
Rick Mazur	CEO
Rebecca Hunter	VP, Exploration & Senior Geologist
Patrick Young	Archaeologist, WSP
Hugh Ikoe	Interpreter
Brett Bradshaw	Engagement, Creative Fire
Carol Crowe	Engagement, Creative Fire

### MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Archaeology Site Maps; Translated Powerpoint; Translated Letter Detailing Misunderstanding On Camp

## Meeting Overview

- Review of archaeological assessment; including explaining what was discovered on six sites and the 30-metre buffer to help ensure the protection of significant areas
- Reintroduction of Forum, the history of the deposit, and the role of regulation on the nuclear industry from exploration through to decommissioning.
- Explained the follow-up taken after the June meeting to investigate the camp that was not cleaned up by another company.
- Discussed proposed activities and opportunities including hiring local wildlife monitors to ensure there is no disturbance to the caribou and emphasized that the guidelines set out by CIRNAC & KIA will be followed closely.
- Questions about the proposed activities were answered including what is surveyed from the air, what happens with drill core, and how drill holes are capped.
- The councillors expressed the need to hear from communities in northern Saskatchewan who have been living and working proximate to the uranium industry for several decades. They also referenced the Elders' Society, a young hunters program and prenatal care as important initiatives that need support in the community.



## Forum - KIA-CLARC Meeting

Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, Nunavut, February 22, 2023

### ATTENDEES:

KIA-CLARC	
Name	Role
Joan Scottie	Chairperson
Eva Elytook	HTO
Valerie Niego	Admin support
David Owingayak	Elder
Jamie Kataluk	Lands and Resources

Forum Energy Metals	
Name	Role
Rick Mazur	CEO
Rebecca Hunter	VP, Exploration & Senior Geologist
Patrick Young	Archaeologist, WSP
Hugh Ikoe	Interpreter
Brett Bradshaw	Engagement, Creative Fire
Carol Crowe	Engagement, Creative Fire

### MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Archaeology Site Maps; Translated Powerpoint; Translated Letter Detailing Misunderstanding On Camp

## Meeting Overview

- Forum shared a desire to step back and listen and learn from the community in an effort to do things right.
- Review of archaeological assessment; including explaining what was discovered on six sites and the 30-metre buffer to help ensure the protection of significant areas
- Overview of key findings from the field assessment conducted from August 27 to 29, 2022. Identified items included tools, stone flakes, pointer rocks, caches, etc.
- The archaeologist pointed out gravesites and explained how they would be protected.
- A thorough explanation of the project was provided, explaining the small footprint and proposed activities, and a plan to slow the timeline down if needed.
- Participants raised concerns about the risk of a mess being left after industry activity and Forum committed to being good stewards of the lands and the caribou. The four levels of inspection that happen every year were also noted.



## Baker Lake Hunter and Trappers' Organization

Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, February 23, 2023, at 10 am

### ATTENDEES:

HTO	
Name	Role
Harold Putumiraqtuq	Chair
Brian Pudnak	Coordinating Contact
Eva Ekalook	
John Etegoyok	
Judy Mannik	
Alex Justin Iqqaat	
Harold Purumiraqtuq	
Angel Oxsonie	

Forum Energy Metals	
Name	Role
Rick Mazur	CEO
Rebecca Hunter	VP, Exploration & Senior Geologist
Patrick Young	Archaeologist, WSP
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### MATERIALS PROVIDED:

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- Review of archaeological assessment; including explaining what was discovered on six sites and the 30-metre buffer to help ensure the protection of significant areas
- Reintroduction of Forum, the history of the deposit, and the role of regulation on the nuclear industry from exploration through to decommissioning.
- Discussed proposed activities and opportunities including hiring local wildlife monitors to ensure there is no disturbance to the caribou and emphasized that the guidelines set out by CIRNAC & KIA will be followed closely.
- Participants expressed the need for clarity around exploration and mining activities. They explained there is greater openness to exploration over mining. They also shared that there is a need for economic opportunities for the children and grandchildren and were interested to see Forum return.



## MAY 2023 RETURN TO BAKER LAKE FOR HAMLET DAYS

For continuity, Forum wanted to return to Baker Lake for Hamlet Days to connect with the community and meet with community stakeholder groups again. The timing was ideal, as the meetings and job fair fell right after the announcement of a summer drill program in April, scheduled to start in June or July. Job opportunities were posted online, on local radio, and in the newspaper and presented in-person at a Forum-run job fair in Baker Lake on May 3. The demand for good quality jobs was apparent with the positions garnering a significant response.

While safety concerns were raised related to wildlife monitors encountering bears or other aggressive animals, the focus remained on employment prospects rather than industry-related concerns.

Meetings held during Hamlet Days provided a good indication of how public sentiment continued to shift positively for Forum and uranium exploration in the area. Relationships grew and Baker Lake's commitment to working with the community was appreciated.

**50 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED THE  
JOB FAIR, +500  
ENGAGED WITH  
DIGITAL ADS**

### Meetings

KIA-CLARC

Baker Lake Mayor

HTO

Elder's Coffee Come-and-Go (X2)

### KIA-CLARC

May 2, 2023, Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, Nunavut

This meeting was scheduled for the full committee, however, only Jamie Kataluk in the Lands and Resources role met with Forum. The relationship that has been established with him is valuable and he has continued to be an important contact.

#### ITEMS COVERED INCLUDED:

- The plan for a small summer drill program without a camp was shared with a map noting the site.
- Local job opportunities including two wildlife monitors, a drill helper, a geotechnician and a labourer were discussed, and a job description was provided for each so Kataluk and his colleagues could make recommendations and provide feedback.
- The potential for homeland and site visits was also discussed as was an opportunity for a longer-term community liaison role.

### MAYOR AND COUNCIL

May 2, 2023, Baker Lake Hamlet Office, Nunavut

The Forum team went to the Hamlet office for this meeting to provide an update on plans to proceed with a small summer drill program. Local business and job opportunities were shared. The administration was supportive, and the mayor, Richard Aksawnee, brought a potential candidate down to the job fair.



## HTO

May 2, 2023, Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, Nunavut

The lunch meeting with the HTO was relaxed and included a good showing of members from this influential group. We could see the positive impact of the February meeting and ongoing communication. Discussion continued around the map with members offering insight into the areas. The Forum team shared the job opportunities and the HTO made suggestions for the wildlife monitoring roles.

### ATTENDEES:

HTO	
Name	Role
Angel Oxsonie	Chair
Eva Ekalook	
Judy Mannik	
Alex Justin Iqqaat	
Harold Putumiraqtuq	
<b>Absent:</b> Timothy Kiliagvak, John Etegoyoqk, Hosea Iksiraq	

Forum Energy Metals	
Name	Role
Rick Mazur	CEO
Rebecca Hunter	VP, Exploration & Senior Geologist
Kevin Milledge	Logistics Manager
Hugh Ikoe	Interpreter
Brett Bradshaw	Engagement, Creative Fire
Carol Crowe	Engagement, Creative Fire



## JOB FAIR

May 3, 2023, Nunamiut Lodge Hotel, Baker Lake, Nunavut

This event was held from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. to provide Baker Lake citizens with an opportunity to meet the Forum team and learn more about the roles in a come-and-go setting. Several attendees brought resumes or sat with a member of the Forum team to provide their information as a way of application and indicate which role they were most interested in. This helped break down the barriers to applying and allowed time for people to ask questions and engage in one-on-one conversations.



Throughout the hiring process, Forum utilized both the Forum Facebook page and the Baker Lake Bulletin Facebook group to generate interest, promote job postings and respond to general inquiries. Outside of social media, Forum purchased digital and print ads from the local newspaper, Nunavut News, as well as sharing the information with the local radio station. As a result, five local summer hires started work at the drill site in early July, monitoring wildlife, assisting the foreman and providing valuable assistance to the head geologist. The successful hires included Victor Noah as geotechnician, Roy Noah and David Attutuva as wildlife monitors, Tommy Amaruq as construction/foreman's helper and Ron Ikinilik who helped with construction projects.

## DIGITAL RESPONSE

Forum Energy Metals leveraged digital platforms effectively to disseminate information and engage with the Baker Lake community. Facebook proved instrumental in promoting job opportunities and facilitating conversations, with targeted ads yielding significant reach and engagement. Overall, the ad reached over 3,000 people in the Baker Lake area with multiple conversations and engagements stemming from this strategy. Similarly, Indeed served as a valuable recruitment tool during the hiring phase, with over 5,000 people seeing and hundreds responding to the ad.





## SUMMER 2023

In July and August 2023, Forum conducted uranium exploration over their property, 100 km west of Baker Lake. Exploration included almost 1000 m of diamond drilling and ground geophysics. Drilling results at the Tatiggaq area were positive in discovering additional uranium mineralization. The positive results from the 2023 program have allowed Forum to raise additional money to continue exploration activities into 2024.

Forum worked with many local businesses that provided supplies, lodging, truck rentals and transportation to and from the site, including the Nunamiut Lodge, Peter's Expediting, Ookpik Aviation, BLCS, the Northern Store and Baker Lake Co-op.

## Forum's Commitment to the Community

Throughout 2023, Forum supported community initiatives and programs:

- Donations of diapers, formula and feminine hygiene products to the Baker Lake Health Centre and prenatal nutrition project (February, May, June)
- Sponsorship of a Baker Lake Volleyball team so they could participate in the Laura Gauthier Memorial Tournament in Rankin Inlet
- Kids Summer Day Camp BBQ (August)
- Kids Winter Day Camp

## Regulatory Overview

Due diligence and efforts to build relationships and provide information in advance of applications helped secure the following permits to proceed with exploration:

Permit	Number	Expiry
KIA Permit	KVL322C0	October 31, 2025
Nunavut Water Board Water Permit	2BE-NUP2227	October 12, 2027
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Land Use Permit	N2022C0008	August 29, 2027

Nunavut Planning Commission: Letter of Conformation: NPC File #149824

Nunavut Impact Review Board Screening Report: NIRB File No: 22EN032

# APPENDIX

# APPENDIX



# FORUM ACKNOWLEDGES

that we work and travel on the lands  
and waters of Indigenous peoples.

**Thank you for hosting us today.**

We acknowledge that the  
Lands and Waters here are the  
Inuit homelands of Nunavut.

# WHO IS FORUM?

- Based in Vancouver B.C.
- We are an energy metal exploration company with uranium, copper, nickel and cobalt projects in Saskatchewan.







# WHY URANIUM NOW?

It's the only carbon-free energy source that can reliably deliver power day and night, through every season, almost anywhere on earth, that has proven to work on a large scale.







# NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

The nuclear industry is one of the most highly regulated industries in the world.

Official regulatory organizations oversee every phase of exploration, construction, operation and decommissioning of all operations involved in the nuclear fuel cycle to protect workers, local communities and the environment.







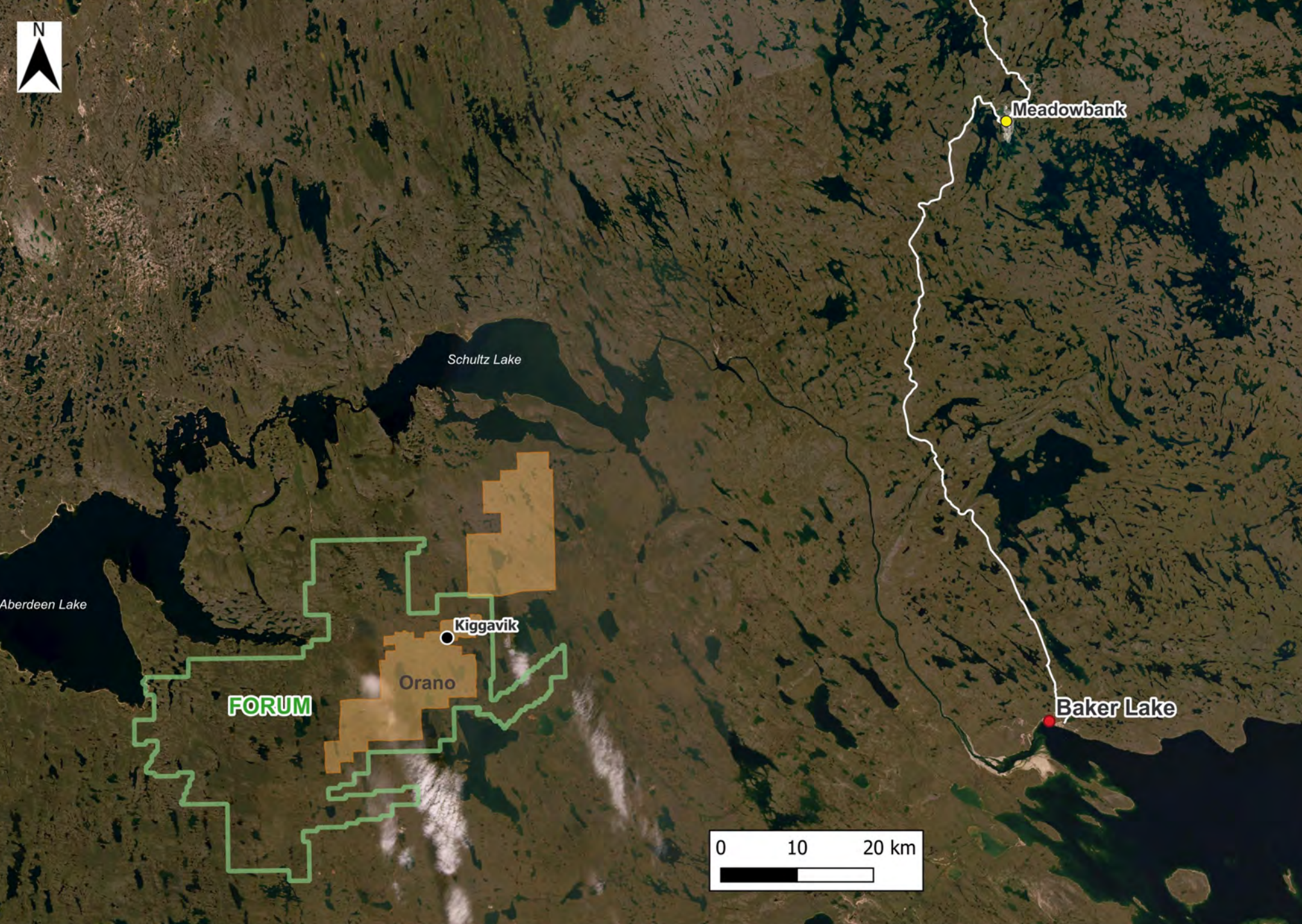
# OUR EXPERIENCE

## 2006 to 2011

Forum explored the Schultz Lake area but when uranium prices declined, we focused on exploration activities in Saskatchewan.









# OUR PLANNED PROJECT







# PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Forum would like to explore over the next 3-5 years. This includes:

- Sampling rock and soil (surface prospecting)
- Surveying by land and air to choose drill locations (airborne & ground geophysics)
- Drilling



# REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

## Licenses and permits received for water and sub-surface activities from:

- Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC)
- Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
- Nunavut Water Board
- Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)



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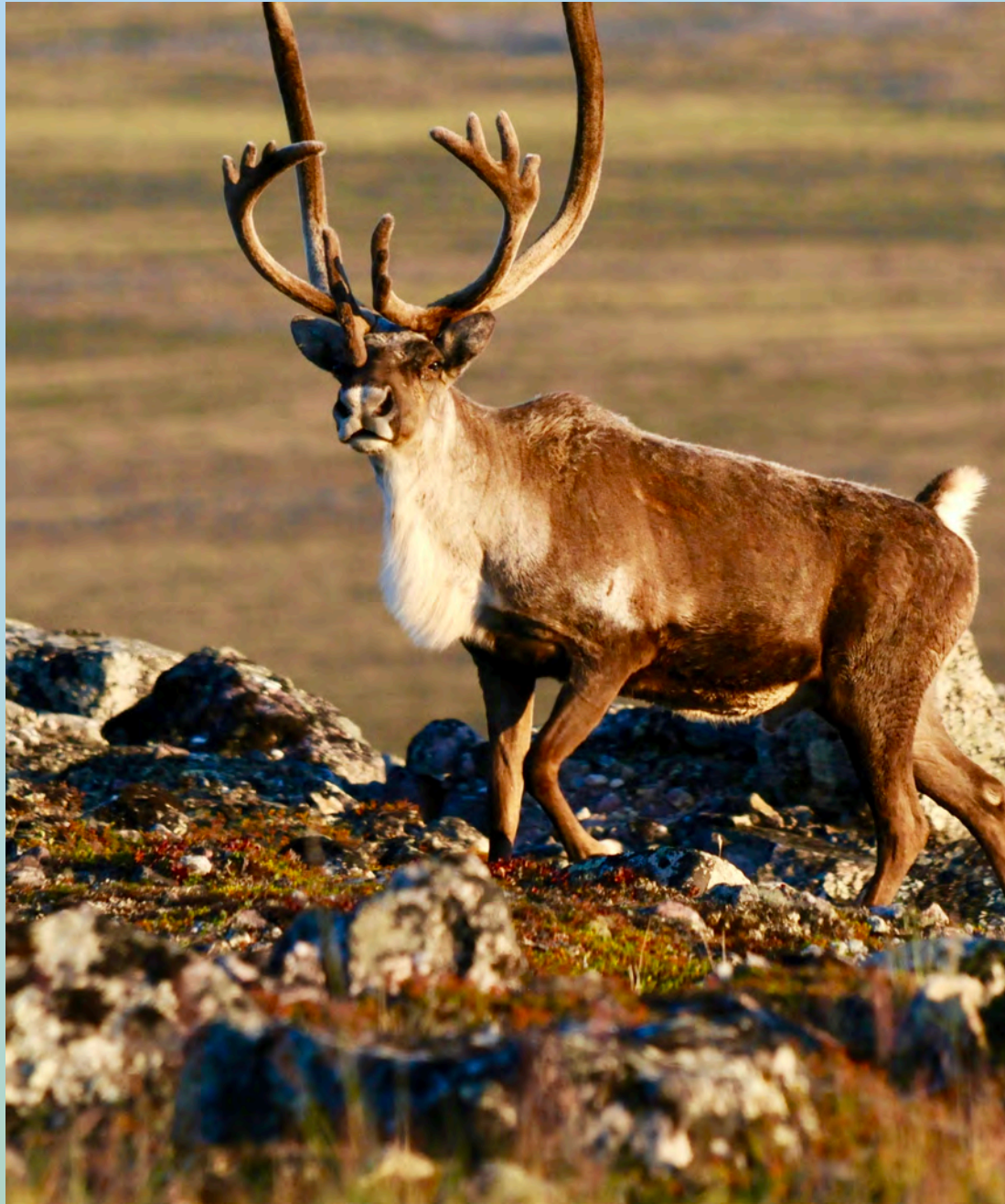
## Application:

- KIA Land Use Permit









# LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

- Community Liaison Officer
- Wildlife Monitor(s)
- Geotechnician
- Foreman's Helper



# COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

We are hiring a part-time Community Liaison Officer to act as a crucial point of contact between Forum Energy Metals and the Baker Lake community.

The ideal candidate:

- Is verbally competent in Inuktitut and English
- Enjoys working with others and interacting with residents
- Is supportive of responsible uranium exploration







# COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

## Requirements & Responsibilities:

- Be a visible and accessible point of contact for the community
- Gather information and convey key messages from Forum to the community throughout various phases of the project
- Attend virtual team meetings
- Have reliable access to WI-FI and phone service







# WILDLIFE MONITORS



We are hiring two wildlife monitors to assist us in understanding the behaviours of the wildlife population at the drilling site. The ideal candidate:

- Must be able to work 12-hour shifts
- Must be in good physical condition
- Must be comfortable working in remote sites and flying via helicopter





# GEOTECHNICIAN

This seasonal position will work closely with the Project Geologist and would be ideal for anyone who likes to be physically active and has an interest in rocks.

They Geotechnician will:

- Move, sample, split and stack core
- Measure core and label core boxes
- Help with downhole surveys
- Enter data





# FOREMAN'S HELPER

We are hiring for a seasonal Foreman's Helper to assist the Drill Supervisor through a small summer drilling program.

On the job training will be provided so candidate can:

- Assist in the build and disassemble of drill pads
- Assist with drill moves via helicopter
- Prepare supplies to be sent to the drill
- Run waterline and provide pump maintenance





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**IN BAKER LAKE**

**JOIN US**

May 3  
10 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Nunamiut Lodge



# EMPLOYING LOCALLY

Our priority is to encourage the growth of the local economy. Local applicants are preferred for all positions.



# SUMMER 2023

- Site and homeland visits
- Elder and Youth engagement





# THANK YOU

Rebecca Hunter

[hunter@forumenergymetals.com](mailto:hunter@forumenergymetals.com)

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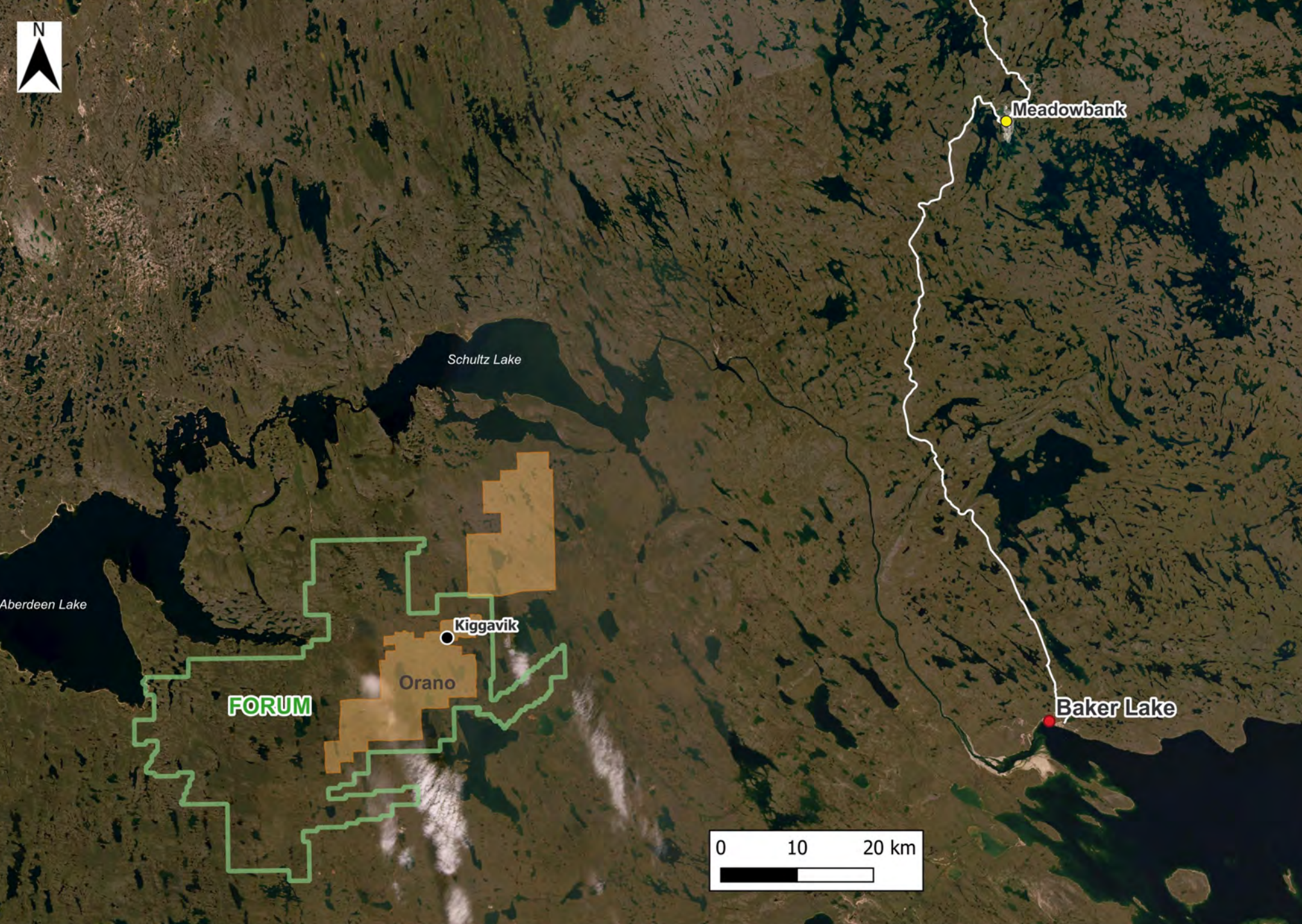
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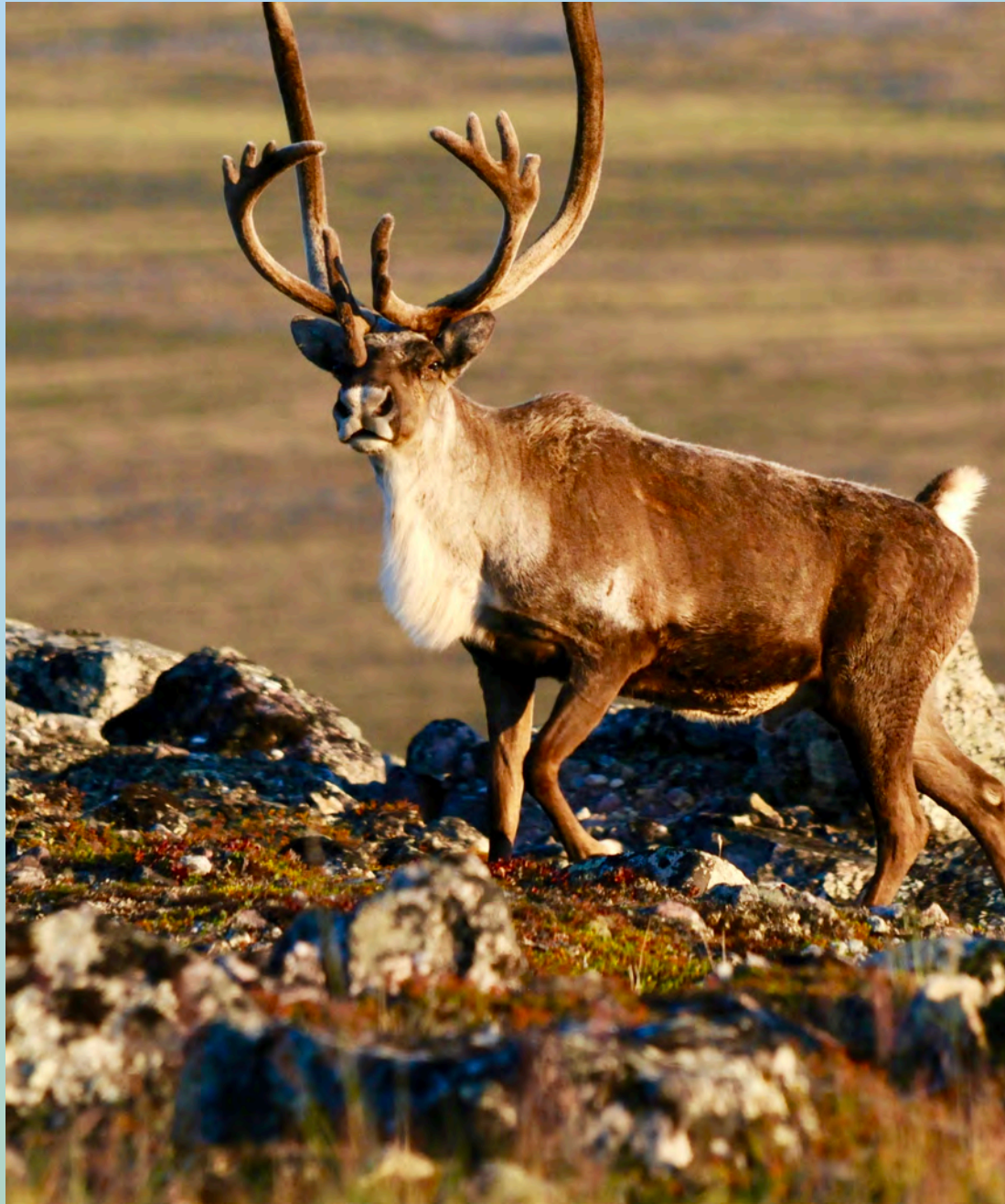
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# THANK YOU

Rebecca Hunter

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