

**FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

**FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF A  
GIANT MINE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Purpose of this Framework**

- Set out roles, timelines and responsibilities in negotiating an Environmental Agreement for the Giant Mine Remediation Project.
- Ensure that the relevant binding Measures (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 11) from the Report of Environmental Assessment on the Giant Mine Remediation Project are implemented.
- Draft 8 of a Giant Mine Environmental Agreement (dated August 28, 2012) as prepared by the Oversight Working Group shall serve as the starting point for negotiations.

**Parties**

- The Parties to the negotiations shall be the Government of Canada, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknives Dene First Nation, City of Yellowknife and Alternatives North

**Principles and Process**

- The Parties will negotiate in good faith to reach an agreement acceptable to all Parties within three months of the acceptance of the Report of Environmental Assessment by the Responsible Ministers.
- The Parties agree to jointly appoint a facilitator to assist with negotiations within two weeks of the acceptance of the report of Environmental Assessment by the Responsible Ministers.
- If an agreement has not been reached within three months of negotiations, a formal mediation shall be initiated.
- If an agreement has not been reached within six months of the acceptance of the Report of Environmental Assessment by the Responsible Ministers, the Parties shall enter into a formal arbitration, on any and all outstanding issues.
- The Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories shall cover all costs related for the facilitator and the mediation and arbitration phases of any negotiations.

**Funding**

- The Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories shall provide a maximum of \$XX,000 to each of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation and Alternatives North to enable their respective participation in the negotiation of the agreement, excluding any costs related to mediation and arbitration.
- The negotiation funding can be used to cover legal and other expert fees, internal consultations, travel and related costs.

## **Communications**

- The Parties agree to refrain from public and media comment during the negotiation of the agreement. Any reports or media releases shall be jointly prepared and approved by all Parties in a timely manner.

21 January 2014