

Government of Gouvernement des Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

September 27, 2021

Mr. Arthur Beck, President Fort Resolution Métis Government PO BOX 137 FORT RESOLUTION NT X0E 0M0 REGISTERED MAIL

Dear Mr. Beck:

Response to Information Request #47

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is writing the Fort Resolution Métis Government (FRMG) to respond directly to information requested during the Ekati Technical Workshop for the Point Lake Project Type A Water Licence Amendment and Type A Land Use Permits Application. Information Request #49, as issued to the GNWT by the Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board, read:

IR #49 for GNWT: How can GNWT work with FRMG to improve the engagement process for FRMG concerning the mitigation of negative socio-economic impacts from Ekati (Related to Jay Measure 8-1)?

The GNWT is committed to fulfilling the requirements of Measure 8-1 from the Report of Environmental Assessment for the Jay Project. The GNWT has been working to improve engagement with diamond mining communities, and to explore the topics identified in the Measure to adaptively manage health and wellbeing.

Measure 8-1 is supported through activities related to the implementation of Socio-Economic Agreements (SEAs). The SEAs benefit the Fort Resolution Métis through clauses regarding employment, training, and contracting for Indigenous peoples and residents of the Northwest Territories.

Measure 8-1 is also supported through the implementation of Measure 6 from the Diavik Processed Kimberlite to Pits Report of Environmental Assessment (EA 1819-01), which aims to produce a definition of cultural well-being, establish indicators, and propose possible monitoring options, which also addresses the suggestions of the Jay Project's Report of Environmental Assessment. FRMG is participating in the GNWT's Technical Advisory Panel to create and approve its own definition and indicators of cultural well-being and to discuss possible monitoring.

To discuss how GNWT can better collaborate and engage with FRMG for current and future initiatives, we would like to schedule a meeting between FRMG and the Deputy Ministers of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) and Education, Culture and Employment, Ms. Pamela Strand and Mr. John MacDonald respectively. We would like to discuss possible approaches with FRMG to improve engagement under the SEA for Ekati mine. Please contact Ms. Rachel Marin, Senior Administrative Coordinator to ITI Deputy Minister Ms. Strand, to schedule this joint meeting. She can be contacted at 867-767-9060, extension 63000 or by email at Rachel_Marin@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Caroline Wawzonek

Minister

Industry, Tourism and Investment

c. The Honourable Caroline Cochrane Premier

Mr. Garry Bailey, President Northwest Territory Métis Nation

Mr. Allan Heron, President Fort Smith Métis Council

Mr. Trevor Beck, President Hay River Métis Government Council

Ms. Shaleen Woodward Principal Secretary

Mr. Martin Goldney Secretary to Cabinet/Deputy Minister Executive and Indigenous Affairs Ms. Shawn McCann Deputy Secretary, Indigenous and Intergovernmental Affairs Executive and Indigenous Affair

Mr. John MacDonald Deputy Minister Education, Culture and Employment

Ms. Ursula Vogt Executive Director Northwest Territory Métis Nation

Mr. Ryan Fequet Executive Director Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board

Ms. Lorraine Seale Director of Securities and Project Assessment Department of Lands

Ms. Sherry Strand Office Manager Fort Resolution Métis Government