



Voyageur Exploration Ltd.

The Tharsis Rare Earth Element Project

2022 Land Use Permit Application

Engagement Plan

v. 1.1



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Introduction

Voyageur Exploration Ltd. (“Voyageur”) was established in July 2018 as a Canadian-based mineral exploration company. Engagement with local communities is a top priority for VEXP and the company believes that strong relationships with local communities is the only way to have a successful long-term project. This inaugural version of the Engagement Plan for the Tharsis project is for submittal with the Land Use Permit application being submitted March 2022 and has been composed with heavy reliance on the *Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits from the Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley* (“Engagement Guideline”). This is a living document that will be regularly reviewed and updated as feedback and experience from our engagement dictates.

Potentially-Affected Parties

Through the Resource Pathfinders at the Government of Northwest Territories and the Regulatory Manager at the Wek’èezhii Land and Water Board, the following parties have been identified as being potentially-affected by the potential work done at the Tharsis Property:

- Tłı̨chǫ Government
- Akaitcho Dene First Nation
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation
- Deninu Kų́é First Nation
- Łútsəl K’é Dene First Nation
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- North Slave Métis Alliance

We understand that this list may not be exhaustive and may need to be updated as the project progresses and additional parties are identified.

Engagement Plan

Approach

Voyageur uses the Engagement Guideline definitions for this document. Therefore, engagement is defined as:

“The communication and outreach activities a Proponent undertakes with affected parties prior to and during the operation of a Project”



As the Tharsis Project is in the infancy of its lifespan, we do not wish to inundate the parties with information but rather want to ensure that this Engagement reflects the scale, location and nature of the proposed activities. Our common goals of this Engagement process are to: (1) share information about Tharsis to help parties develop an understanding of the project, (2) gather feedback throughout the engagement process on issues of concern, (3) work towards building relationships between Voyageur and all parties in the area; and, (4) gain an understanding of the social, cultural and environmental conditions in the area in order to adapt and improve the Tharsis Project in response.

Table 1 presents the methods of engagement and when they are to be applied. The method by which Voyageur will engage potentially-affected Parties varies depending on the nature of the communication and the preferred engagement approaches of each party. While an in-person meeting is often the best way to communicate ideas, the events of the COVID-19 pandemic have taught us that this method may not always work and can lead to engagement fatigue for all parties involved.

Table 1 Methods of engagement.

Engagement Type	Examples	Application
Written Notification	Letter, Email.	Requests to meet in-person, minor insignificant updates, follow up to face-to-face meetings.
Face-to-Face Meeting	Virtual meeting (e.g., Zoom, Skype, Teams), in-person meeting, telephone meeting.	Discussing and attempting to resolve any issues, updates to program that involve significant explanation.
Community Public Meeting ¹	Informal public meeting where everyone in the community is invited to attend.	Discussing the project when broader community input is required. If the project grows to the point of requiring a Type A Water Licence, or at the direction of Tłı̨ch̨o Government.
Site Visit		As appropriate and requested by Parties.
Workshop		When information needs to be shared with many people or technical issues arise that are best discussed with all relevant parties present.

¹ To include the nearby Tłı̨ch̨o Wekweèti community.



Engagement Procedures

Table 2 presents details on the specific engagement triggers. When engaging with affected Parties, it is important that information is accurately captured and responded to in a timely manner. In the event of a dispute, opposing opinions and concerns must be recorded and tracked. While engaging with Indigenous Government and community responses, all comments and questions will be recorded and addressed by Voyageur, usually during the teleconference, meeting, or workshop. In cases where this is not possible, Voyageur is committed to providing responses at the earliest opportunity. Depending on the nature of the question or request, the response provided may be in writing, during a follow-up meeting, or in some other form. In the event of a dispute between Voyageur and a potentially affected Party, Voyageur is committed to meet and discuss the matter in order to resolve the dispute. These discussions may progress from operational and project staff to senior management as Voyageur works to resolve the outstanding issue. If it is not possible to resolve the dispute, Voyageur will note the disagreement in the Engagement Log.

Table 2 Specific engagement triggers.

Engagement Trigger	Purpose	Typical Methods	Typical Participants
<i>All Affected Parties</i>			
Regular meeting annually (to bi-annually as project evolves) between Voyageur senior management and Indigenous Government/Community Leadership and members ² .	Input into the operations at the Tharsis project. Provide update of activities as required (completed and planned).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face-to-face meeting • Community public meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community leaders • Community members
Application for new Land Use Permit or Water Use License.	Prior to application engagement allows discussion of concerns and answer and record any questions. Opportunity for community input.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face-to-face meeting • Community public meeting (as required) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community leaders • Community members • Community technical staff • Additional local land users
Indigenous Government or Community requests for engagement.	Respond to Indigenous Government or Community requests for engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As appropriate to request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As appropriate to request
Indigenous Government or Community request to adhere to Indigenous Government/Community-developed Engagement Plans.	Adhere to Indigenous Government/Community-developed Engagement Plans as requested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As appropriate to request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As appropriate to request

² To include the nearby Tłı̨chǫ Wekweèti community.



Project-based changes (determining drill locations, changes in project design, updates to plans).	Ensure all parties are aware of any changes and allow opportunity to provide input or ask questions as required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification • Face-to-face meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community leaders • Community members • Community technical staff • Additional local land users
<i>Additional Specific Engagement Triggers with the Tłı̨chǫ Government</i>			
Seasonal opening and/or closing of the camp.	To communicate seasonal opening or closing of camp and answer and record any comments or questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification • Face-to-face meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Tłı̨chǫ Government contact
Transfer or Sale of Properties.	Update on transfer or sale of property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Tłı̨chǫ Government contact
Expansion or amendment of Water Licence and/or Land Use Permit.	Provide update on application to expand or amend Water Licence and/or Land Use Permit; answer and record any comments or questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification • Face-to-face meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Tłı̨chǫ Government contact
Results of the exploration program.	To relay results of Voyageur’s exploration and answer and record any comments or questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification • Face-to-face meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Tłı̨chǫ Government contact
Archeological Overview Assessment (AOA)	To ensure Traditional Knowledge can inform the identification of areas with high-potential for cultural heritage resources or artifacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notification • Face-to-face meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Tłı̨chǫ Government contact



Discovery of artifacts, heritage sites, and/or burial sites	To determine course of action for the discovery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written notification³• Phone⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manager of Research Operations
Moving any artifacts or disturbing any ground within 150 m of a burial site	To ensure the area is protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written notification• Phone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manager of Research Operations
Other	To address any other requests or concerns raised by the Tłı̨chǫ Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As appropriate to request	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As appropriate to request

³ lands@tlicho.ca

⁴ 867-392-6381 ext. 1357