



MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL

IMPACT AND REVIEW BOARD

PRAIRIE CREEK ALL SEASON ACCESS ROAD

CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION

COMMUNITY HEARING

Mackenzie Valley Review Panel:

Chairperson	Joanne Deneron
Board Member	David Krutko
Board Member	Joe Handley
Board Member	Yvonne Doolittle
Board Member	Bertha Norwegian
Board Member	Sunny Munroe

Fort Simpson, NT

April 25, 2017

## 1 APPEARANCES

2	Chuck Hubert	)MVEIRB Staff
3	Mark Cliffe-Phillips	)
4	Catherine Fairbain	)
5	Catherine McManus	)
6	Robyn Paddison	)
7	John Donihee	)Counsel
8		
9	David Harpley	)Canadian Zinc Corporation
10	Alan Taylor	)
11	Wilbert Antoine	)
12	Joseph Lanzon	)
13		
14	Peter Marcellais	)Nahanni Butte Dene Band
15	Mark Pocklington (np)	)
16	Jayne Konisenta	)
17	Lena Marcellais	)
18	Flora Cli	)
19	Gina Marsley	)
20	Trevor Timbre	)
21	Maurice Vital	)
22	Jean Marie Konisenta	)
23	Leon Konisenta	)
24	Francis Betsaka	)
25	Josh Bertrand	)

1	APPEARANCES (Cont'd)	
2		
3	Brian Ekotla	)Nahanni Butte Dene Band
4	Clayton Konisenta	)
5	Helen Ekotla	)
6	Christian Betsaka	)
7	Garth Wallbridge	)Counsel
8		
9	Allison Stoddart	)Parks Canada
10	Jonathan Tsetso	)
11	David Walker	)
12	Olinto Beaulieu	)
13	Jonah Mitchell	)
14		
15	Paul Mercredi	)GNWT
16	John Ritchie	)
17	Lorraine Seale	)
18	Monica Wendt	)
19	Steve Gooderham	)
20	Jarret Hardisty	)
21	Kyle Christiansen	)
22	Dianna Beck	)
23	Laurie Nadia	)
24	Carl Lafferty	)
25	Simone Tielesh	)Counsel

1 APPEARANCES (Cont'd)

2

3 Sarah Robertson ) CanNor

4

5 Jerry Antoine ) Liidlii Kue First Nation

6 Dean Holman )

7

8 Carrie Breneman ) Dehcho First Nation

9 Dahti Tsetso )

10

11 Shane Thompson ) Member of the Public

12 Kirby Groat )

13 Jonas Antoine )

14 Dolly Tsetso )

15 Ray Michaud )

16 Lory Ann Bertrand )

17 Walter Mcpherson )

18 Nick Sibbeston )

19 Jim Antoine )

20 Leah Keats )

21

22

23

24

25

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1 --- Upon commencing at 1:17 p.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon. We  
4 would like to start the hearing, please, with an  
5 opening prayer. And our opening prayer will be done  
6 by Elder Jonas Norwegian -- Jonas Antoine, sorry.

7

8 (OPENING PRAYER)

9

10 OPENING COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON:

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Jonas, for  
12 your prayers.

13 Good afternoon, and welcome to the  
14 community hearing for the environmental assessment of  
15 the Prairie Creek all season road. My name is Joanne  
16 Deneron, and I am the Chair of the Mackenzie Valley  
17 Environmental Impact Review Board.

18 For those of you requiring translation,  
19 there are receivers available at the back table. And  
20 English is on channel 2, and South Slavey is on  
21 channel 3.

22 First off, I would like to acknowledge  
23 that we are holding this hearing in the traditional  
24 territory of the Liidlíi Kue First Nation. Thank you  
25 to the town of Fort Simpson and thank you to the Fort

1 Simpson Metis Association.

2                   After my introduction I would like to  
3 invite the chief of Liidlii Kue First Nation to make  
4 some opening remarks. And then I will ask Senator  
5 Nick Sibbeston for some opening remarks, as well.

6                   We have scheduled this community  
7 hearing from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. this evening. We will  
8 have health breaks this afternoon. And dinner will be  
9 provided for you around 5:00 p.m.

10                  We are here today to listen to your  
11 views about the Prairie Creek all season road. The  
12 developer is Canadian Zinc Corporation, or Can Zinc.  
13 The project consists of the construction, the  
14 operation, and closure of 180-kilometre all season  
15 access road from the Prairie Creek Mine to the Liard  
16 Highway at the Nahanni Butte access road.

17                  Approximately half of the mine road is  
18 located within Nahanni National Park Reserve. The  
19 purpose of the mine road is to supply the Prairie  
20 Creek mine with operating materials and to transport  
21 lead and zinc concentrate from the mine to market.

22                  Canadian Zinc will provide a detailed  
23 presentation of their project shortly. The Review  
24 Board is a co-management body established under part 5  
25 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. The

1 Review Board is responsible for the environmental  
2 assessment and environmental impact review of  
3 developments in the Mackenzie Valley.

4 Board members here are all northerners  
5 nominated by First Nation organizations and the Tlicho  
6 territorial and federal governments. The Review Board  
7 endeavours to make its decisions by consensus. Our  
8 goal is to make decisions that will protect the  
9 environment, including the social, economic, and  
10 cultural well-being of all residences of the Mackenzie  
11 Valley now and for future generations.

12 I would like to introduce our Board  
13 members as well as our Board staff and counsel. So if  
14 Board members could introduce themselves, please, and  
15 then our staff.

16 MR. DAVID KRUTKO: David Krutko.

17 MR. JOE HANDLEY: Joe Handley.

18 MS. SUNNY MUNROE: Sunny Munroe.

19 MS. BERTHA NORWEGIAN: Bertha  
20 Norwegian.

21 MS. YVONNE DOOLITTLE: Yvonne  
22 Doolittle.

23 MS. ROBYN PADDISON: Robyn Paddison.

24 MR. CHUCK HUBERT: Chuck Hubert.

25 MS. CATHERINE FAIRBAIN: Catherine



1 Fairbain.

2 MR. MARK CLIFF-PHILLIPS: Mark Cliffe-  
3 Phillips.

4 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: John Donihee. I'm  
5 Board counsel.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: And we have another  
7 staff member at the front door when you signed in when  
8 you came in, and her name is Catherine McManus. She's  
9 waving to you back there in the green with the camera.  
10 James Wah-Shee is also another Board member. And,  
11 unfortunately, he isn't able to make this hearing and  
12 sends his apologies.

13 The project was referred to  
14 environmental assessment by the Mackenzie Valley Land  
15 and Water Board. The Review Board hosted issues,  
16 scoping meetings in Nahanni Butte, Fort Simpson, and  
17 Fort Liard to prioritize and focus the environmental  
18 assessment.

19 Canadian Zinc submitted its developers  
20 assessment report in April of 2015. The developers  
21 assessment report was considered adequate to proceed  
22 to the technical review phase in the spring of 2016.  
23 Since then, there have been two (2) rounds of formal  
24 written Information Requests and responses, a four (4)  
25 day technical session in Yellowknife, and a cultural

1 impact workshop in both Nahanni Butte and in Fort  
2 Simpson.

3                   Based on all these steps, parties  
4 submitted their final technical reports in March of  
5 2017. The Prairie Creek Mine and winter road were  
6 assessed in 2010 and '11. In that environmental  
7 assessment, the Review Board determined that use  
8 beyond the winter road operating season could have a  
9 significant adverse impact. This current  
10 environmental assessment considers any changes to the  
11 assessed and permitted winter road that was previously  
12 constructed in the 1980s.

13                   The scope of this development  
14 assessment includes design considerations for the  
15 entire length of the road, and these considerations  
16 include road design standards, upgrades to any  
17 features, any realignments, and any stream crossings.  
18 The scope of the assessment will consider the  
19 construction, operation, closure, and post-closure of  
20 the project.

21                   The purpose of this public hearing is  
22 for the Review Board to hear the views of the  
23 community members on the proposed Prairie Creek all-  
24 season road. The Mackenzie Valley Review Board is  
25 independent, and not a government agency. The Review

1 Board is not involved in any issues or activities  
2 other than the proposed Prairie Creek all-season road.

3 To be clear, road construction and  
4 activities by Nahanni Butte over the past -- past few  
5 months and related legal matters are not the purpose  
6 of today's hearing, as well as concerns over  
7 overlapping traditional territory issues. As Chair, I  
8 will use my discretion to keep our discussion focussed  
9 on potential impacts to the environment and people  
10 from construction, operation, and closure of the  
11 Prairie Creek all-season road.

12 Today, the Board wishes to hear the  
13 views and opinions that members of the  
14 community of Fort Simpson may have regarding the  
15 Prairie Creek all-season road. This community hearing  
16 is intended to be distinct from more formal hearings  
17 later this week. Over the course of the day, we ask  
18 that you do your best to help the Review Board to  
19 understand your views about the impacts of the  
20 proposed development. This includes your opinion on  
21 potential environmental, socioeconomic, and cultural  
22 impacts, and your view on the potential significance  
23 of these impacts.

24 The Review Board will fully consider  
25 these views while it's deliberating on its decision in

1 this environmental assessment. Once the decision is  
2 made, the Board -- the Board will be able to write a  
3 report to the environmental assess -- on the  
4 environmental assessment and send it to the Minister  
5 of INAC for a decision.

6 I have some final comments on today's  
7 proceedings that I hope that will make sure that  
8 everything goes smoothly. The Review Board wants to  
9 hear what everyone has to say. The Review Board will  
10 be producing an official transcript of this hearing,  
11 and this transcript will be available through our  
12 website on the public registry.

13 Representatives from the GNWT and the  
14 Government of Canada are also present at today's  
15 hearings. These individuals will not make  
16 presentations today, but are available to answer  
17 questions that you may have. There will be no  
18 questions between the Developer and the government  
19 representatives during this community hearing. The  
20 remaining time today will be for community members to  
21 ask further questions of the Developer and government  
22 officials that are present.

23 Community members here today are  
24 welcome to speak to the Review Board, make a  
25 statement, or to ask questions. If you would like to

1 speak, please identify yourself to Catherine at the  
2 back table where you were signed -- where you came in  
3 to sign in, and your name can go on the list. And  
4 after the break and after Canadian Zinc's  
5 presentation, we'll have an opportunity for the  
6 speakers to come up and speak.

7                   When you're speaking, just a reminder  
8 to please say your name when you begin speaking,  
9 because this is all being recorded. Questions must be  
10 asked with a microphone so that everyone can hear and  
11 the transcriber can make a properly recorded question  
12 -- or answering the ques -- or recording the  
13 questions.

14                   I ask that you speak slowly and  
15 clearly, as we have interpreters that need to also  
16 transcribe the words into Slavey.

17                   We would like to have some photos of  
18 the event today, so if you have any concerns about  
19 having your photo taken, please let Catherine know at  
20 the back table where you signed in and put your hand  
21 up, and the photo will not be used.

22                   And for the courtesy of others, we just  
23 ask that you turn your cell phone ringers off. I did  
24 hear some nice music just a few moments ago, so if you  
25 can be reminded just to put it on silent.

1                   We will now continue the other opening  
2    comments, and first we'll start off by Chief Jerry  
3    Antoine.

4

5                   (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7    OPENING COMMENTS BY LIIDLII KUE FIRST NATION:

8                   CHIEF JERRY ANTOINE:    So I'd like to  
9    say my language today -- today we all gather here and  
10   sitting together, and we're going to be talking about  
11   very important issues. And I'd like to thank every  
12   one of you for in -- being in attendance.

13                  And the people that are here with the  
14   Review Board -- that's you in front of us, and David,  
15   and Sunny, and Joanne, and Bertha, and Yvonne -- I'd  
16   like to thank each one of you for being here today.

17                  How -- whatever we think about and  
18   whatever issues that arise in front of us, we need to  
19   discuss those issues and come up with a -- a good  
20   answer at the end of the day. And I'm glad we're here  
21   to listen to all of us.

22                  And all of us that live -- that are  
23   living here, we are the Dene people from the Dehcho  
24   area.

25

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 (NOT SWITCHED TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

4

5 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM

6 SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

7

8 (NOT SWITCHED TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

9

10 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

11

12 CHIEF JERRY ANTOINE: I'd like to  
13 thank you again. They say when we think about  
14 ourselves, we have to think about our Elders as well.  
15 All our Elders are the one that has given us great  
16 stories and that we are the Dene people of the Dehcho  
17 area, and this is our land. And that was exactly how  
18 the story was passed to us from our Elders.

19 And now as -- when I'm sitting here  
20 taking a looking at myself, I am the Chief from Fort  
21 Simpson. And today I am standing on the stories of  
22 our great Elders. Whatever stories that the Elders  
23 have given us in the past, we have to take care of our  
24 land.

25 And all the young people that's

1 following us, the young generation, they are going to  
2 need to -- our land at the end of the time. So that's  
3 how I think. And so I'd like to thank you.

4

5 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

6

7 (NOT SWITCHED TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

8

9 CHIEF JERRY ANTOINE: ...I just wanted  
10 to let the Dene speaking members here understand how -  
11 - the context in which I'm here. And so I just wanted  
12 to touch on the things that -- that I had said in the  
13 Dene language, and that is I -- growing up, just to --  
14 like, I want to share this in my opening bec -- to --  
15 to put -- put things into context because I'm not here  
16 for myself. I'm -- I'm here as a Chief of Liidlili  
17 Kue.

18 And if you look at the whole historical  
19 context is that -- is that things have not been in  
20 sync with us. Things that we have in our history, in  
21 our culture, in our social life, in our business life,  
22 in our spiritual life, in our relationships, we -- we  
23 have all that intact. And if you look back at just  
24 the recent while, there's a lot of things that have  
25 been where we've been taken apart.



1                   The functions that we have somebody  
2 else is taking it. So who takes on these  
3 responsibilities? So if you look at all that that  
4 I've said, is that there's a lot of things in play.  
5 And as Dene people we seem to be all over the place,  
6 and it has a tremen -- a tremendous impact on our  
7 well-being.

8                   And so in the Dene language, what I --  
9 what I reiterated is that we're Dene. This is our  
10 land. And people want to use the land. People want  
11 to use the resources. The track record hasn't really  
12 been very beneficial for us. And we're not going to  
13 be sitting aside and being quiet.

14                  We -- we need to take the  
15 responsibility from what our Elders had provided us,  
16 the assurances, the things that -- that we have as  
17 people, and to move forward in a good way. So one of  
18 the things that's really -- that is really -- is  
19 needed is to protect the land. Our ancestors have  
20 used the land and they have gone -- have gone on, and  
21 today we're -- we're using the land, and we're going  
22 to go on.

23                  The ones that follow us is the one that  
24 we have to think about, and they need to be able to  
25 have the land to be able to -- for them to utilize in

1 a good way -- in a -- in a good environmental way. So  
2 the bottom line is that the land must be protected.

3 The -- the second thing is that if  
4 we're going to use the land, in other words of wisdom  
5 for our Elders during the Berger inquiry is that  
6 things have to be balanced. And that's our challenge.  
7 And one of the things that -- that has happened is  
8 that people are taking from the land, and not putting  
9 things back.

10 If you look at the Giant Mine right  
11 now, look at where that -- that mess is, and I'm sure  
12 people behind me in my community will -- don't want to  
13 have that mess like Giant Mine. And it's the  
14 taxpayers that eventually pays for that.

15 And the other thing is that -- is that  
16 in the Dene way there's a certain way that -- that you  
17 take care of the land. And in the processes that I've  
18 -- I've shared with you it shows that thi -- this way  
19 of doing things is not valued.

20 So if you look at the process that have  
21 gone on, this is -- this is that particular role. So  
22 -- so if things are going to move ahead -- or what I'd  
23 like to see is that when things move ahead it has to  
24 be valued and it has to be taken care of in that -- in  
25 that special way.

1                   The other thing -- the other thing,  
2 too, is that, as Dene people, even like, we say we  
3 live on the land. It's the same way as we say that we  
4 live in a house and the same way as in a house we have  
5 different functions, bedroom, kitchen, things like  
6 that. The way the Dene people look at that from being  
7 in their home, the land, is that there's certain  
8 functions that happen, and -- and I'll give you an  
9 example.

10                   Here there's a very specifical (sic)  
11 spiritual, historical function that does happen,  
12 (NATIVE LANGUAGE SPOKEN). If you look at that word it  
13 tells you that there's a -- there's a special place  
14 here that is historically a gathering place, and  
15 that's the function. And the Dene know all these  
16 different functions.

17                   Chief Marcellais talked about  
18 Tthenaago. There is a particular function that  
19 happens. This whole first set of mountain range they  
20 call Shihke Deni la. That is connected to that  
21 creation of that Tthenaago.

22                   Way at the end in -- over at the North  
23 Nahanni there's a mountain they say (NATIVE LANGUAGE  
24 SPOKEN). That says that that's the one that sits  
25 alone, and in English they call it lone -- lone

1 mountain.

2                   So -- so what I'm -- what I am sharing  
3 with you is that us Dene, we're connected to each  
4 other. We're related with each other. This land that  
5 we know, all of it that we know, we use it all.  
6 There's certain functions, certain seasonal patterns  
7 that we do go to, to do those things.

8                   And the underlying thing that -- the  
9 messages that our Elders gave us it to take care of  
10 the land; it's really important. And I know that,  
11 like, mining hasn't really been having a really good  
12 track record of about taking care of the land.

13                   And so I'd like to caution the panel  
14 that you need to really look at this because it's --  
15 it's going to have impacts. And, as Dene people, I  
16 explained that we went through a lot of things, and we  
17 understand impacts. And we don't want those kind of  
18 negative impacts to happen again. We want to move  
19 forward.

20                   And in terms of economics, if you look  
21 at the Dene economics, is that we work all our lives  
22 to put food on the table; that's the economics. And  
23 the way that people talk about that, they look at it  
24 as being primitive, but it's not, it's a way of life.  
25 It exists. It's going to continue.

1                   The other thing is that, in -- in the  
2 wage economy, if you look at it, is that it's another  
3 way of working to put food on the table. The emphasis  
4 there is to say make lots of money, take all you want,  
5 so there's two (2) different concept of economic. And  
6 I would like to advise the panel not to dismiss or  
7 devalue this -- this Dene way of life because it -- it  
8 -- it is here. It has been here. It's here. It's  
9 going to continue.

10                   The challenge to all of us is how this  
11 fits in there, how does it enhance that. That's the  
12 challenge. And if you look at it, it really makes  
13 good business sense.

14                   The other thing is that during the  
15 hearing we're going to have people from my community  
16 coming up. And I encourage them to voice their  
17 concerns because they're legitimate. The other thing  
18 is that other interests in our community and, you  
19 know, it could be a business, but the -- the business  
20 is that they have to work with us. And when things  
21 are going to happen, we have to benefit. And I'm --  
22 I'm not looking at it just only economically, but  
23 socially we have to benefit. We have to -- we also  
24 have to benefit spiritually, too. So all these  
25 different things that our Elders talk about, it has to

1 all have a play in what goes on from now on.

2                   The other thing the panel is that, I'd  
3 like to welcome you to Liidlil Kue. As you can see  
4 it's a historical gathering place. And our community,  
5 through a collective approach, we rebuild the cre --  
6 the teepee. And it started to really begin this  
7 really positive energy in our community that we could  
8 see a light at the end of the tunnel. And as Liidlil  
9 Kue, we like to move forward like that.

10                   And there's going to be challenges,  
11 there's going to be hurdles, but at the end is that  
12 we're going to -- we need to really look at how we  
13 need to move forward. That will benefit our community  
14 and our -- and -- and also benefit our future.  
15 There's a lot of things in play and we're smart  
16 people. We're intelligent people. We're very  
17 creative. We have all of that with us. So we like to  
18 move forward.

19                   And one -- one of the -- other things  
20 is that Canadian Zinc has to also work with us. So I  
21 see a lot of good things that will come out of the way  
22 that Liidlil Kue is going to move forward. So during  
23 the week, we're going to be -- there's going to be  
24 other people and there's going to be other times that  
25 we're going to have an opportunity to touch -- to

1 touch on the reason why you're here. You want -- you  
2 want evidence and you also want views. Then we're  
3 going to be bringing these things there.

4                   And the other thing is that as a  
5 participant we understand that when the other people  
6 are going to be up here, we're going to be asking them  
7 some questions because at the end of the table I want  
8 to see this whole picture. Because this will -- this  
9 will give us an indication of what we need to prepare  
10 ourselves for.

11                   And the other thing is that it'll give  
12 us an opportunity to look at how we're going to  
13 benefit business-wise, how we're going to benefit  
14 socially, how we're going to benefit spiritually. So  
15 all of these things, we could see that it'll be  
16 balanced. And I -- and -- and I say it with the  
17 spirit of Liidlíi Kue, because Liidlíi Kue, if you  
18 look at Liidlíi, it means the -- these two big,  
19 gigantic rivers flowing in -- into each other. This  
20 is the Dene, one side and then there's this  
21 approacher. It's all going to be flowing into each  
22 other. That's how I see it and that's how it needs to  
23 work. Masi.

24                   THE CHAIRPERSON:     Masi, Chief Antoine.  
25 We have opening remarks. If I could ask Senator Nick

1 Sibbeston to come to the mic, please.

2

3 (BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5 OPENING COMMENTS BY SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON:

6 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: Thank you.

7 I'm not unfamiliar with boards and meetings such as  
8 this where the public is invited to make their views  
9 known on projects. Since the 1970s when I began my  
10 career, I've been before many boards. Firstly, in the  
11 early '70s there was the Mackenzie Valley gas  
12 pipeline. Everybody was opposed to it, but the board  
13 decided -- well, a decision was -- was deferred,  
14 anyway and Berger inquiry came into existence. But  
15 everybody down the valley was against the -- the gas  
16 pipeline.

17 Then there were highways. A highway  
18 came into Simpson without much discussion, but people  
19 didn't mind because, you know, you can get in and out.

20 Then there was a highway to Fort Liard,  
21 and you will remember, Mrs. Deneron, the views. Some  
22 were for it, some were against it. There was a debate  
23 about it, and the val -- the highway eventually came  
24 about.

25 Then there was the highway to -- from



1 Fort Simpson north to Wrigley. And people in Wrigley  
2 were very concerned to the point where the road was  
3 stopped I think about 15 miles south of there. And it  
4 took a number of years before the -- the highway was  
5 eventually put through.

6 Then there -- in the '80s, there was  
7 the Norman Wells oil pipeline. Everybody that I heard  
8 was against it. It went ahead anyway.

9 Then there was Cadillac Mines, the very  
10 mine that we're talking about. Everybody for the most  
11 part was against it. And I remember the guy, the  
12 environmental guy, saying, Oh, the system, the sewage  
13 system, was going to be so good, you could take a  
14 glass of water.

15 He held a glass of water in the  
16 community hall over there, saying, If this is the --  
17 the -- if this the -- a glass of water that comes out  
18 of the sewage system, you could drink it and it's  
19 fine. Nobody believed him basically. And again, the  
20 project went ahead.

21 So we have experiences with -- with  
22 boards and we have experience with projects. This --  
23 what we're talking about today is an all weather road  
24 from Prairie Creek Mine that will eventually end up  
25 somewhere in the Nahanni Butte area, the land of the

1 Nahanni Butte Dene.

2                   People are generally in favour. I get  
3 the impression, in speaking to -- to the Nahanni Butte  
4 people and some people here who are interested in jobs  
5 and business, that they are not opposed to it. The  
6 mine is way off to the west of us, far away in the  
7 mountains. You have to really look to find it, and  
8 eventually land and it's there.

9                   The only kind of significant concern is  
10 the tailing pond. In the past, it's kind of  
11 overflowed in the spring with high water, and there's  
12 been instances of contamination. But apart from that  
13 issue, I feel that -- that people are not greatly  
14 concerned about the highway.

15                   The mining company, Canadian Zinc, over  
16 the past few years have done a good job, decent job of  
17 convincing people that the mine can benefit them.  
18 They've hired Wilbert from in town and area. They've  
19 hired people from the area.

20                   I've been at the mine and seen with my  
21 own very eyes people working there from Nahanni, from  
22 -- from Liidlii Kue here. So the promise of jobs and  
23 business opportunities I think is just not a -- is not  
24 a frivolous one. There seems to be some -- some truth  
25 and some validity to the possibility of jobs and

1 people benefiting from it.

2                   So in my view, all the elements are  
3 there. People are in favour of it. It's crossing  
4 Dene lands, and those most affected, whose land it is,  
5 seem to be in favour of it. The mining company seems  
6 to be serious in their -- in their quest for hiring  
7 people and businesses benefiting.

8                   So in my view, all the elements are  
9 there for a positive decision. I'll just say this  
10 much now, but I have to ask you, Madam Chairman, you  
11 said initially that you didn't want any comments about  
12 the legal actions. But in my view, that is like a  
13 sort of muzzling of -- of public comment.

14                   The situation in that case is that  
15 people in Nahanni Butte want it to work. They went  
16 through the process of getting permits. The system in  
17 place is very slow and cumbersome, so the people began  
18 to work. They asserted themselves. Governments and  
19 the world, the people ought to be glad that Dene  
20 people are asserting themselves, going on their lands.  
21 It's not the Commissioner's land. Who is the  
22 Commissioner? Ask anybody in Nahanni Butte who the  
23 Commissioner's land -- and whether it's Commissioner's  
24 land, and they will say, No, it's our land.

25                   So people began working. They began

1 asserting themselves, working on what could have been  
2 part of the pipeline, and the government took action.  
3 The government reacted in vengeance. Stop orders.  
4 You know, and what's that other word -- what's the  
5 other word, legal word, where they stop you?  
6 Injunction. Right.

7                   And so I think it's fair to comment on  
8 that because it's related to the highway, and it's  
9 related to how people began -- what people did to work  
10 and take -- get things going. So I would like, when I  
11 have a second chance later on, will -- will provide  
12 you with more details and my comments on that  
13 particular aspect.

14                   So I hope that I will be allowed, so.

15

16                   (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

17

18                   SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: So I'm just  
19 going to speak to this -- and whatever people think  
20 I'm going to -- going to speak -- share. And I want  
21 to say how it -- how much the people want the -- want  
22 the road, and how -- how they want to walk in that  
23 mine. So I will talk about that as -- as loud as I --  
24 as -- as strong as I can, and then I will also speak  
25 with my heart.

1                   So I will do that. I will speak again.

2 Thank you.

3

4                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

5

6                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. I would just  
7 like to make a comment in regards to where the Chair  
8 was coming from, and Nick's statements there to say  
9 that we are -- are trying to muzzle the people.

10 That's not the intent.

11                   Our role here today is to listen to the  
12 concerns, to the comments regarding the Prairie Creek  
13 all season road. The overlap issues that you have, or  
14 the lands issues, anything else is for another table,  
15 but our responsibility here is to listen to the  
16 Prairie Creek all season road comments and  
17 presentations, and -- presentations from the people,  
18 and also from Canadian Zinc. So if you understood it  
19 to take it as we're trying to silence the people,  
20 that's not our intent.

21                   And I would also like to make a  
22 comment. I'm not sure that -- if the translation is  
23 working. Some people are having still problems,  
24 Norbert, with the -- the receivers here. There's a  
25 lot of static.

1 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Yeah. We'll  
2 just --

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Could you go to the  
4 mic, please, and just let everybody know? At least  
5 that's working, the mic is working.

6 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: The mic is  
7 working so let's just go to -- okay, so channel 1 is  
8 the floor, channel 2 is English, and then channel 3 is  
9 Slavey.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Channel 3 in Slavey  
11 --

12 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Yeah.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- is completely --  
14 it -- we can't even hear it up here. It's completely  
15 static for us.

16 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Okay, because  
17 I'm just listening to it here and it's -- it's just  
18 clear.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

20

21 (BRIEF PAUSE)

22

23 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Okay. So maybe  
24 we'll have to change the batteries on -- we'll change  
25 the batteries on them then. So if you need -- if --

1 if you're getting a lot of static we'll try to change  
2 the batteries, and we'll see. Yeah.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: The next  
4 presentation that is coming up is Canadian Zinc, so  
5 that will be done in English but my main concern is  
6 for the Elders that need to have it in Slavey.

7 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Yeah.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: So if we could just  
9 take a five (5) minute break while Canadian Zinc --

10 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Yeah.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- could get set up,  
12 and just make sure that the translation --

13 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Okay.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- receivers are all  
15 working.

16 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: Okay. Maybe get  
17 -- maybe we could ask the people if they have -- if  
18 they -- if they could hear on channel 3 right now --

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

20 MR. NORBERT POITRAS: -- because mine  
21 is pretty clear. And those two (2) are clear, so --

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Please, put  
23 your hands up if you need help with your translation  
24 receivers.

25

1 --- Upon adjourning at 2:05 p.m.

2 --- Upon resuming at 2:19 a.m.

3

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: The Can Zinc  
5 presentation please. They're still dealing with some  
6 technical issues, but on channel 3 the Elders in the  
7 room here will be able to hear the Slavey translation,  
8 so they'll be able to hear Slavey on channel 3 as soon  
9 as our interpreters come back. They were there.

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: They're on their  
14 way. I think they're just waiting for them to come  
15 back.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Also, for members,  
20 the presentation, Can Zinc's presentation, there's  
21 copies of their presentation at the back table, so  
22 you're more than welcome to help yourself.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25



1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    The chair would also  
2 like to recognize Grand Chief Herb Norwegian waving at  
3 the back. Welcome. We'll hear from the Grand Chief  
4 on tomorrow's hearing. Okay, at this time, then we  
5 would like to ask Can Zinc to come to the table and to  
6 do their presentation.

7

8 PRESENTATION BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

9                   MR. ALAN TAYLOR:    Yes, it's Alan  
10 Taylor. I'm chief operating officer for Canadian  
11 Zinc. I'd like to thank Chief Antoine and band  
12 members for entertaining us here, and along with the  
13 Metis and all community members. And I'd like to also  
14 acknowledge the large presence of Nahanni Butte  
15 people, also, thank you for making this trip, and the  
16 Board members for listening to us.

17                   Firstly, I'd like to introduce my  
18 colleagues at the table. And I have VP of Environment  
19 Permitting, David Harpley. And he'll be giving the  
20 main presentation shortly after my remarks. I also  
21 have our Government Affairs VP, Joseph Lanzon.

22                   And next to him but the seat is vacant  
23 right now is Wilbert Antoine, our northern manager.  
24 And another manager that we have is in the crowd, I  
25 believe, Clayton Konisenta somewhere. Perhaps he

1 stepped out.

2                   Anyway, thanks for getting together.

3 And I thought I'd give you a little bit of background.

4 I won't spend a lot of time on it because, as you  
5 mostly know, this project has a lo -- lot of history  
6 here. But the history is important to recollect at  
7 times in order to put things in perspective.

8                   So we're here today to talk about our  
9 all season road. And access is very important from a  
10 mining perspective, and that dates back, if we look  
11 back into the history, back to 1926 when the Vitell's  
12 out of Nahanni Butte guided Poole Field from the gate  
13 on the south Nahanni River by foot into the Prairie  
14 Creek area which led to the eventual staking of the  
15 mineral -- first mineral claim in 1928 in Prairie  
16 Creek.

17                   And from -- from '28 through the early  
18 '60s it was fairly -- it was very remote access by --  
19 by -- mostly by hiking in there, but there was a small  
20 airstrip that was developed on a -- on a gravel bar at  
21 Prairie Creek. It apparently had had a very  
22 interesting approach and takeoff, very limited, but  
23 that's part of the development of -- of the project.

24                   And as they discovered more and more of  
25 the potential of this site they needed to have better

1 access. And the first actual winter road into the  
2 Prairie Creek Mine was put in from Camsell Bend in '74  
3 or '75, and they were able to bring in some small  
4 equipment and set up a bigger camp, and which provided  
5 better exploration of the area.

6 And that, in turn, led to an ever  
7 expanding demand to increase the detail of the deposit  
8 and to determine if it's a possible viable operation.  
9 And that's partly when the -- the Hunt brothers got  
10 involved and it took -- it became known as Cadillac  
11 Mines.

12 And in tandem with that Highway 7 was  
13 being constructed and they put a road in -- a winter  
14 road in from Lindberg Landing off Highway 7 into the -  
15 - into the Prairie Creek Mine site and operated that  
16 winter road for two (2) seasons and moved in a  
17 significant amount of infrastructure that we see  
18 today.

19 Moving further in time, as the -- as  
20 the project develops it's getting a larger and larger  
21 reserve base because of the further exploration  
22 development. And Can -- Canadian Zinc became involved  
23 when it become known as Canadian Zinc from San Andreas  
24 Resources Corporation in 1999, and was working towards  
25 creating the ability of the -- to contemplate an

1 actual mine there.

2 And in 2008 we submitted operation  
3 certificates, including land use permits and water  
4 licences to the water board and they were, of course,  
5 referred to EA and went through the regulatory  
6 process, which resulted in the issue of the water  
7 licence and land use permits, along with the winter  
8 road for the operation of the Prairie Creek Mine.

9 With that in hand, the Company was able  
10 to seriously discuss matters with the marketing  
11 people. That's the -- that's the people that actually  
12 buy the product of our concentrate, the lead and zinc  
13 concentrate and those are mostly smelter groups. And  
14 with that in hand, the smelter groups were -- were  
15 willing to sit down and discuss matters in a serious  
16 fashion with us.

17 And when we detailed it out there was  
18 much concern about the -- the access and the risk  
19 associated with the access via winter road. And they  
20 would -- would have preferred delivery of their  
21 product on a much more consistent basis and with much  
22 lower risk. And from our logistical point of view  
23 that would work out much better, too, if we could  
24 actually contemplate doing it through the year.

25 And I might add that the winter road

1 permit that we received with -- along with the  
2 operating permits was more or less grandfathered  
3 through the process because it was associated with the  
4 prior Cadillac Mines. So that led to our decision of  
5 2014 to apply for an all season road application to  
6 further access the mine and give it the ability to  
7 become a more viable mine. Because even though the  
8 mine is there, it's half built. Don't be surprised  
9 that it's still very much a challenge in order to make  
10 it go.

11                   And we needed this all season road to  
12 make it look and appear like a -- a viable project,  
13 and we're in that process of proving that up now in --  
14 in the form of a feasibility study. And I hope that  
15 gives you some of the reasons for why we're here today  
16 and some of the background as to our long history  
17 associated with this remote project. And with that in  
18 mind I would like to hand over the mic now to David  
19 Harpley to do a -- a presentation on the all season  
20 road application. David. Masi cho.

21

22                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY: We're okay now.  
25 Good afternoon. It's nice to be here. Thanks,

1 everybody, for attending. I did want to say to begin,  
2 to thank the Chief for his comments and from the  
3 senator. I did want to just follow-up on one point  
4 from the senator's opening remarks, if I may, Madam  
5 Chair. I know it's not directly related to the road,  
6 but seeing as -- as it was mentioned I just want to  
7 correct it for the record.

8                   It's regarding the comment about a leak  
9 from the tailings pond. To my knowledge there was  
10 never a leak. Perhaps the senator was referring to  
11 the back slope of the pond failed shortly after the  
12 construction back in the early '80s, but there was no  
13 actual leak from the containment. In fact, there was  
14 -- at that point, there was no tailings in the  
15 containment. So it's never been used for tailings.

16                   It may also be a -- a comment related  
17 to discharge from the mine. The mine was built as an  
18 adit, so it does actually freely drain water. And  
19 prior to Canadian Zinc acquiring the project, there  
20 was no treatment of that water. Now we do treat it,  
21 so it's a legacy we've inherited, but we are managing.

22                   So I don't know if that's what the  
23 senator was referring to, but I just, as -- as I say,  
24 wanted to have that corrected on the record.

25                   So then, having said that, I do now

1 want to get into the presentation regarding the all-  
2 season road. It's quite a large hole here. People at  
3 the back, I'm sure you can't see the screen very much.  
4 And I didn't see any binoculars on the table when I  
5 came in, so I think you're going to struggle to see  
6 what's going on -- on up here.

7                   Hopefully, you picked up one of the  
8 handouts that give you a printout of the presentation,  
9 and you can follow along. I will also say that it's  
10 quite a lengthy presentation. I -- I'm not going to  
11 go through all of it. I think you can look at the  
12 material at your leisure.

13                   I wanted to kind of give you a flavour  
14 of what the project is about and what's contained in  
15 our submissions. But if I go into detail, then I -- I  
16 will take a couple of hours, and you'll all be asleep  
17 before I finish. So I'll give you kind of an  
18 overview.

19                   A couple of reasons that I -- that I --  
20 I've made the presentation quite long. One is that  
21 there's a lot of pictures in there. We may actually  
22 refer to them during the discussions this afternoon.

23                   And the other reason is I -- I wanted  
24 to give you an idea of how much work goes into these  
25 kind of projects, these applications and the

1 assessments. You'll get a sense, I think, from all of  
2 the detail that's in there how many issues are  
3 considered and that -- that we try to address.

4                   So having said that as an introduction,  
5 I'll kind of get into the talk itself. So I think  
6 pretty much everybody knows where we are. We're  
7 currently here. Actually, Fort Simpson is off this  
8 map, but you can see here this is the alignment of the  
9 proposed road.

10                   This is the Liard Highway, and the  
11 Liard River's in here. South Nahanni is here. The  
12 new park boundary since 2009, and here we are at the  
13 mine on a enclave of territorial land within the park.

14                   This is one of a number of figures that  
15 I've included to give you a sense of what the actual  
16 alignment looks like and what the road will actually -  
17 - actually looks like now, and what it will look like  
18 when the road's constructed.

19                   I -- I won't spend too much time on  
20 this. You can look at each of the -- the pictures in  
21 your handouts. This is the western end of the road.  
22 Here is the mine. And the road starts by travelling  
23 upstream adjacent to Prairie Creek, and then it heads  
24 east up Funeral Creek and then into -- further on into  
25 Sundog Creek.



1                   If you're looking at your handout,  
2 you'll see that there's a figure in here, for example.  
3 You won't be able to see this if you're sitting at the  
4 back, but what we tried to show here is that the  
5 existing winter road in a few locations such as this  
6 one is a -- a kind of a -- a tight switchback where it  
7 changes direction.

8                   And if we build the all-season road,  
9 the intention would be to improve locations like this.  
10 In this particular location, we are -- we'd be opening  
11 out the turn into a much wider turn.

12                  So this is an example of, basically  
13 throughout the road, we've looked at locations where  
14 we can improve the road either in a turn radius, in  
15 the slope of the road, in the grade of the road.  
16 Essentially, we've -- we've looked at the whole thing  
17 in terms of: How can we make it better and safer?

18                  So moving east, again, I'm not going to  
19 spend too much time on this, but we have a number of  
20 fairly significant water crossings that we have to  
21 make with the road. And we've provided pictures in  
22 here that kind of show you what a bridge crossing will  
23 actually look like once it's built.

24

25                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

1                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY:    So here we are get  
2   -- getting towards the eastern end of the road, and  
3   this is the actual crossing here of the Laird River  
4   close to Nahanni Butte.  And from the crossing, we are  
5   utilizing in part an existing old logging road that  
6   was developed by Nahanni Butte in the past, and  
7   eventually, we get to kilometre 170 on the road which  
8   joins into the existing Nahanni Butte access road.  
9   And we would use -- utilize 10 kilometres of that  
10  access road to get to the highway.

11                   An important consideration in the -- in  
12  the project was:  How do we control access?  That's  
13  important for a couple of reasons.  One (1) reason is  
14  simply for safety.  We want to know who is on the road  
15  at all times just so we can be cognizant of where they  
16  are, and what they're doing, and alert our truck fleet  
17  and maintenance crew so we minimize the potential for  
18  an accident.

19                   Our -- our truck fleet will be equipped  
20  with either radios or GPS tracking, or perhaps a  
21  combination of the two (2).  We hope that they will be  
22  able to communicate each other -- with each other and  
23  control, so we can be aware when the trucks are  
24  approaching either obstacles or other traffic.

25                   We also have to allow for the trucks

1 being able to pass if they're -- the -- the -- kind of  
2 the -- the later vehicles are arriving and the earlier  
3 vehicles are now leaving to go back to the mine. So  
4 we'll have to schedule passing with respect to passing  
5 lanes. So safety and knowing who is on the road is  
6 important at all times.

7                   The other main reason for access  
8 control is that there is a -- a concern about road  
9 being used by people from out of the region that might  
10 come to hunt, and hopefully we want -- or at least the  
11 band have told us that they want to deter the kind of  
12 out-of-region hunting because of concern of hunting  
13 pressure.

14                   So we've looked at measures that would  
15 legally allow us to do that, and we are told by GNWT  
16 that in order to cross the river and for the  
17 activities that we propose to cross the river, we will  
18 need surface leases for the areas on both side of the  
19 river above the high water mark, and also stating  
20 areas attached to those surface water lots, as they're  
21 called.

22                   So in effect, we're going to have,  
23 based on our applications and -- and acceptance of  
24 those, we will have surface leases on both sides of  
25 the river. And with those leases, Canadian Zinc would

1 be responsible for all activities that occur on the  
2 lease areas, including materials and reclamation, and  
3 basically anything to do with land management and  
4 protection.

5                   Associated with that, we are able to  
6 control access to the leased areas. And in effect, it  
7 would be very difficult for people to use the road and  
8 gain access to the north side of the river without  
9 going through our leased areas. We can't guarantee  
10 that it -- that it will basically control all access,  
11 but it would just make it very difficult for people to  
12 bypass the crossing.

13                   So in effect, we feel that that is a --  
14 an effective access control mechanism. We've also  
15 made the commitment to -- to Nahanni Butte that their  
16 members would actually operate this crossing on our  
17 behalf, and manage the staging. And we've also made  
18 the commitment that we will have a -- a control point,  
19 a checkpoint, a kind of check if you -- checking  
20 in/checking out situation so they can actually monitor  
21 the use of the road, again for a safety aspect as  
22 well.

23                   And we've also committed to the band  
24 that we will engage environmental monitors that will  
25 basically travel up and down the road and observe

1 what's going on, and relay that information back, and  
2 also record instances where they see wildlife on the  
3 road and -- and relay that information to drivers as  
4 well.

5 I've got three (3) slides here which  
6 provide a -- a fair amount of detail on the schedule  
7 and timing of road construction. I -- I don't want to  
8 go into a lot of detail. You can read these  
9 yourselves. But the essential idea here is that it  
10 will take approximately three (3) years to build out  
11 the road. It occurs in a couple of steps.

12 The first step would be to build a  
13 winter road so that you can actually gain access for  
14 the construction. The second step is you would pla --  
15 place the base layer, That's what we call the  
16 subgrade. And this is the kind of bulk material that  
17 would form the -- the base of the road. There would  
18 be a period of settling of that base in most parts  
19 where -- particularly in the lowlands, when the --  
20 where the soils are softer.

21 And then after a period of settling we  
22 would come back and place the top surface layer,  
23 gravel layer that the trucks would actually drive on.  
24 We -- we would not need to allow for a settling of the  
25 subgrade in some part of the road like in the west,

1 for example, where there's a lot of rock and gravel  
2 already, that kind of firm surface. So in -- in those  
3 locations, we could likely place the subgrade and  
4 surfacing almost at the same time.

5                   So the -- the approach will differ  
6 somewhat depending on where we are on the road, but  
7 the general philosophy is to have a two (2) step  
8 subgrade, and then top surface placement over three  
9 (3) years.

10                   During the construction, we will have a  
11 number of temporary construction camps. These will  
12 basically scale up and scale down as the construction  
13 progresses from east to west, for the most part.  
14 We've detailed out the locations where we propose to  
15 have these camps.

16                   For the most part, these will be in  
17 locations that are -- would be already disturbed  
18 because they are -- would be in locations where we  
19 propose to have a borrow pit to acquire the material  
20 for the construction.

21                   A couple of locations we would likely  
22 retain the camps in a smaller capacity during  
23 operations just to support road maintenance. And  
24 those camps would literally consist of maybe an area  
25 to -- to locate supplies, park a couple of vehicles

1 periodically, perhaps have a trailer for day use,  
2 really no more than that.

3                   Camps always mean that there will be  
4 sewage, so we're going to have to manage sewage. We  
5 differentiate sewage in-between grey water, which is  
6 typically your shower water or kitchen water, and  
7 brown water, which is your toilet water.

8                   Grey water we will either take offsite  
9 for disposal or we will dispose onsite after  
10 filtration and in a location that would be  
11 sufficiently distant from a watercourse, so we  
12 wouldn't anticipate any environmental effects.

13                   And then brown water, again, we would  
14 either take it offsite for treatment or we would  
15 actually have an onsite treatment plant. And -- and  
16 the effluent from that plant would be managed just  
17 like the grey water with -- with an onsite sump.

18                   We're obviously going to make sure that  
19 the specifications of -- for the treatment plant would  
20 be acceptable. If we can't ensure that, then we --  
21 most likely, we're going to take it offsite for -- for  
22 treatment. We won't exactly know what facilities are  
23 available until we hire -- we -- we go through a bit  
24 of process and hire the actual road construction  
25 contractor. But then, at that time, we will determine

1 if the approach is acceptable that he's -- that he's  
2 proposing, and if not, then we will go offsite for  
3 treatment.

4 In terms of the operation of the road  
5 once the road is built, we'll basically have two (2)  
6 seasons of road operation. We will have the -- the  
7 winter operation that we're currently already  
8 permitted for with the winter road for the periods of  
9 January through to March, and crossing the Liard River  
10 will be a via an ice bridge.

11 Then after that, after breakup, there  
12 will be a period where we're not able to cross the  
13 river, and there's also a period where currently,  
14 we're not able to travel on the Liard Highway with any  
15 significant weight because of the potential of damage  
16 to the highway.

17 But then after the spring period there  
18 would be the summer haul period, which would be the  
19 bulk of the -- the hauling. And pro -- at this point,  
20 we're projecting that it could start around the middle  
21 of June and go to early November.

22 Another big important consideration  
23 with operation of the road is the potential for  
24 accidents and for environmental impacts. So we've  
25 spent quite a bit of time looking at how to manage



1 this situation and how to mitigate this potential. So  
2 just to start from what we're actually transporting on  
3 the road, going east out of the mine, the main  
4 quantity that we're transporting is the mineral  
5 concentrates. So this is a solid material, like a  
6 sand-like material, that would either be in bags  
7 inside a truck with a solid lid, or it would be in  
8 bulk in kind of a containerized vehicle transport  
9 situation, again with a lockable lid.

10                   So the intent really is to have the  
11 concentrates in a secure locked situation, clean  
12 vehicles leaving site, so we're not tracking the  
13 concentrate dust up the roadway. You can appreciate  
14 that this is where our money comes from, so we  
15 obviously don't want to lose any of it, including in  
16 the dust. So that's the material that's going out.

17                   And the material coming in is -- this  
18 is just some of the material, but it's the -- probably  
19 the more important ones to consider. Some of it is  
20 solid material, like sodium sulphide, a solid. That's  
21 a water treatment reagent. The acid is obviously a  
22 liquid. That's also for water treatment. And then we  
23 have some explosives.

24                   But I -- I think the main concern that  
25 I would have is the liquid supplies, so primarily a

1 diesel and your acid, because they have more potential  
2 for migration and impact. For diesel transport, at  
3 this point, we are planning on bringing in diesel in  
4 tanks, dedicated tanks, that are associated with the -  
5 - the transport trailers. These tanks will be able to  
6 carry 5,100 litres at a time, so we're not talking  
7 about a diesel fuel tanker as such, with a  
8 considerable quantity of liquid. We're basically  
9 taking the approach that by placing the material in  
10 small containers, if indeed we have an accident, then  
11 it's a relatively small quantity that we're  
12 potentially spilling.

13                   Some lot situation -- similar situation  
14 with acid. The acid would come in 1,400 litre totes,  
15 so these are the bulky kind of plastic looking totes  
16 that are -- they're -- they're a decent size. They're  
17 kind of the size of a table, if you consider the table  
18 to the ground as kind of a cube. It's that side of a  
19 -- kind of a size. But they're pretty robust  
20 containers, and again, if they happen to leak, it's  
21 not a huge quantity of liquid.

22                   So having said that, how do we avoid  
23 the actual accidents from occurring? Well, the -- the  
24 main approach as -- as I said earlier, is to make the  
25 road as safe as we can. We're operating with Ministry

1 -- BC Ministry of Forest guidelines, as far as road  
2 design. It'll be a -- a 5 metre wide road for the  
3 most part. There are some parts of the road in the  
4 west where it will be somewhat narrower, potentially 4  
5 metres. That's because in those locations, we have  
6 some -- some rock areas that we're going to have to  
7 blast to provide for a roadway. And in those  
8 locations, there would be additional controls put in  
9 place for safety, such as speed reductions,  
10 consideration of barriers, perimeter barriers, on the  
11 road.

12                   In similar situations the -- the  
13 blasting will actually be what's called a "cut  
14 through," and that's where you have a -- a blasting  
15 through a rock section where you end up with a slope  
16 both on the inside and the outside of the road. So  
17 effect -- effectively, you'd have a natural rock berm  
18 on the outside. So we think that's a fairly safe  
19 situation.

20                   So with all that considered, it's --  
21 it's only two hundred (200) and -- approximately 220  
22 metres of road, 4 metres wide, without a -- currently  
23 without a perimeter berm. But this is something we're  
24 going to review again during detail design, and if  
25 there are additional meas -- measures considered

1 necessary, such as a perimeter berm, then we will  
2 employ it -- employ it at that time.

3                   As I mentioned, we've -- we've looked  
4 at straightening the road and improving corners and  
5 grade. There are quite a number of -- of crossings  
6 that will be designed and built. And particularly,  
7 there will be a lot of signs on the road advising  
8 drivers of speed limits and hazard zones and corners  
9 and that sort of thing.

10                   The important thing to consider,  
11 though, is that the average speed on this road will be  
12 -- for these trucks will be 30 kilometres -- 30  
13 kilometres an hour. So we're not talking about a  
14 highway here. We're talking about a very slow-moving  
15 vehicle on a resource road. And -- and we believe  
16 that, merely because of that situation, we minimize  
17 the potential for an accident.

18                   Also consider that the vehicles are  
19 operating in con -- will be operating in convoy for  
20 the most part, probably in a series of convoys.

21                   So, you know, with a truck travelling  
22 by itself, then obviously you're relying on that  
23 particular one (1) driver to obey the speed limits and  
24 not to speed at any particular point, where you can  
25 appreciate if the road -- if the trucks are operating

1 in convoy, it's very difficult for anybody to do that.  
2 They have to basically all go at the same speed.

3                   So we think that's kind of a natural  
4 restraint on the -- on somebody not following the  
5 rules as we've specified. But we're not going to rely  
6 on that. This is going to be a very controlled  
7 transport situation where we have a supervisor  
8 monitoring the whole operation, and we have monitors  
9 on the road just ensuring what's actually happening.

10                   And if we have GPS tracking on the  
11 trucks, then we could literally have somebody at a  
12 control observing what speed the trucks are travelling  
13 at at any particular point on the road.

14                   So they would operate with a journey  
15 management system where the -- the driver would  
16 basically check in and check out so we know where --  
17 that they've completed their trip. And -- and they  
18 can also record what they've seen en -- en route,  
19 whether they've seen a particular issue such as a  
20 washout, for example, or -- or perhaps a few animals  
21 in a specific location near the road.

22                   So we will have the -- the radio  
23 communication, and the vehicles would be -- would go  
24 through a pre-trip check, as would the drivers. We  
25 want to make sure the vehicles are suitable for the --

1 for the job. We also want to make sure that our  
2 drivers on a daily basis are up to the task as well,  
3 that they're not sick, they're not tired, or any other  
4 issue.

5                   So having explained that kind of  
6 overview and approach, we still went through a process  
7 of risk assessment, and we assessed the potential for  
8 accidents to occur.

9                   And the conclusion we made earlier --  
10 fairly early on is that an all-season road is  
11 inherently safer than a winter-only road because  
12 obviously winter conditions have their issues in terms  
13 of visibility and the potential for a slippery road  
14 surface whereas, for the most part, in summer we can  
15 rely on much better conditions and a gravel surface  
16 without too much slippery issue.

17                   And given that most of the transport  
18 would occur in the summer period, inherently we feel  
19 that an all- season road is -- is much safer than a  
20 winter-only road.

21                   So I've mentioned the speed  
22 restrictions. We can also note here that -- other  
23 design considerations such as sloping the road into  
24 the bank will be important so that if -- if a road  
25 does -- if -- if a truck does lose traction, then it

1 would slip into the bank rather than off the road  
2 surface downslope.

3                   We also considered the consequence of  
4 an accident. We -- we considered the cargo properties  
5 and we -- we covered that. We also considered the  
6 location of fish-bearing streams that we have to  
7 cross, and also that, in a portion of the route, in  
8 the Ram Plateau, we're covering karst which in some  
9 locations is -- has cavities.

10                   So putting those combinations aside, we  
11 basically developed a -- an index of risk along the  
12 roadway. And that enabled us to focus our mitigation  
13 efforts of -- of both minimizing potential for an  
14 accident and actually responding to an accident should  
15 one occur.

16                   So the main response approach is -- is  
17 clearly spill contingency. And we will have spill  
18 kits and we will have trained groups, both at the  
19 mine, the -- the maintenance crew, and the crew at the  
20 river crossing. They will all be trained for spill  
21 response and have spill response materials available.  
22 So no matter where an issue arises on the road, we  
23 want to be able to bring to bear the resources, the  
24 response as quickly as possible.

25                   In addition to that, there are certain

1 locations on the road, particularly in the western  
2 part, where the road is somewhat elevated from the  
3 bottom of the valley such that if there is an  
4 accident, it -- it may be difficult to actually get to  
5 the location of the accident. And the concern is that  
6 -- that if there is a leak, then how do you get to the  
7 -- sort of ahead of the leak and cut it off, and --  
8 and minimize the impact?

9                   So that's where we come to control  
10 points. We've selected a number of control points in  
11 strategic locations along the route where we will  
12 place material and resources such as a pump, and --  
13 and kind of sandbags, or dams, or that -- that type of  
14 thing so that if we're not able to get to an accident  
15 location that's off-road with -- with vehicles, then  
16 people on foot can actually go to a control point and  
17 -- and mount a control stop, if you like, to minimize  
18 the spread of -- of a -- of a spilled substance.

19                   The Board hired a third-party risk  
20 assessor called Oboni Riskope. They did their own  
21 risk assessment, and for -- on behalf of the Board,  
22 and they came up with a number of conclusions.  
23 Canadian Zinc and -- and our consultants, we didn't  
24 feel that the risk assessment that Oboni did was  
25 appropriate in some aspects, which we pointed out.



1                   For example, we felt that they compared  
2 our slow speed resource road to other examples they've  
3 worked on which were higher speed, not as controlled  
4 in the -- in the environment, and so we had some  
5 issues with direct comparison of those two (2).

6                   We also felt that the -- the number --  
7 they call them off-road excursions but we can  
8 basically call them accidents, we felt that their  
9 estimation of accidents was an order of magnitude too  
10 high, and we used statistics from BC -- BC Forestry  
11 road operations to -- to illustrate that it appeared  
12 to us that their projections were an order of  
13 magnitude too high.

14                  You should also bear in mind that BC  
15 Forestry statistics -- I need a drink -- are based on  
16 -- largely on forestry vehicles -- forestry resource  
17 road vehicles that will be travelling -- or do travel  
18 at considerably higher speeds than we're proposing.  
19 So even with that factored in, those statistics are  
20 still an order of magnitude less than what Oboni --  
21 Oboni has estimated.

22                  We also thought that Oboni was at a  
23 disadvantage because they didn't actually visit the  
24 area and look at the road for themselves first hand.  
25 They were really only relying on drawings and reports.

1 And so we -- we felt that they were at a significant  
2 disadvantage of really not understanding the terrain.

3                   So of course, we -- we wrote all this  
4 technical response in the process, and unfortunately,  
5 we didn't really get any reasonable constructive  
6 response from Oboni other than that they -- they just  
7 disagreed. We didn't -- didn't really feel that they  
8 responded, and -- and to tell us appropriately why  
9 they disagreed. So we -- we remain, I guess, how --  
10 with a difference of an opinion.

11                   Despite that, we did undertake --  
12 subsequent to the Oboni study, we did undertake a kind  
13 of reassessment of our risk assessment, if you will,  
14 and we came up with some additional mitigation  
15 measures. And these are probably measures that we  
16 would have come up with during the detailed design  
17 process anyway, but no harm that we've done it now a  
18 little earlier.

19                   So some of the things we've come up  
20 with is that in addition to the cargo, it's important  
21 that the actual drives of these vehicles are safe, as  
22 well. And our concern is that, if -- if there is an  
23 accident, then -- then there's a potential for a truck  
24 rollover.

25                   So we think it is important in the

1 planning stages of the project to -- to really review  
2 the restraining measures for drivers so they will  
3 actually be safe. We will look in more detail at  
4 anchoring cargo in the vehicles. Just like any type  
5 of -- whether it be a truck or an aircraft moving,  
6 it's critical that the cargo actually stays in place  
7 from a safety point of view, so we're certainly going  
8 to pay attention to that.

9                   We will look at the road. As I  
10 mentioned, we will look at the road where there are  
11 concerns regarding risk or bends or anything of that  
12 nature. And we will consider additional mitigation  
13 applications, such as making the road nominally wider  
14 in those locations and/or considering perimeter  
15 barriers.

16                   So now moving on from the project  
17 description more into the actual environmental side,  
18 other than the -- the accidents that we've just  
19 discussed. We do expect to encounter perm --

20                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Excuse me, Mr.  
21 Harpley. Yes?

22                   SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON:   With all due  
23 respect to you, it's boring and I don't think there's  
24 anybody interested in this. Why don't you just submit  
25 that to the Board and get on with real -- real --

1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Excuse me, Mr.  
2   Sibbeston, you're out of order.

3                   Please carry on, Mr. Harpley.   I  
4   apologize for the disruption.

5

6                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

7

8                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY:   Thank you.   Yes, I  
9   accept it probably is boring for a lot of people.   I'm  
10   trying to get through it as quickly as I can.

11                   So we do expect to encounter permafrost  
12   along the route.   And largely we plan to address that  
13   by a construction approach that minimizes effects to  
14   the soil, and that is what's called an overland  
15   construction approach, and -- and this consists of  
16   using actual trees that have been felled in the  
17   clearing of the -- the road alignment as is called  
18   corduroy.   But basically you incorporate the trees  
19   into the -- into the subgrade and you -- you  
20   essentially build a floating layer that minimizes  
21   impact on the ground.   But we will be doing site  
22   investigation in the preplanning phase of the road and  
23   we'll adjust our design and approach accordingly.

24                   I mentioned concentrate.   We will be  
25   taking samples of soils along the route so that we

1 have a baseline, and we -- we will be repeating that  
2 sampling during operations to ensure that our control  
3 and securer of the concentrate is adequate and that  
4 we're actually not losing any material and causing a  
5 contamination.

6                   We did quite an extensive review of  
7 terrain issues along the road and terrain hazards. We  
8 did not find any significant issues, but we did  
9 actually make some adjustments to the alignment to  
10 minimize the areas where there are some issues with  
11 terrain, like soil creep and potential instability.

12                   Some sections of the road like this one  
13 we are somewhat interacting with the creek. And this  
14 is Sundog Creek in the -- in the lower part. And we  
15 had a choice to make here on how to route the road and  
16 manage the creek itself. And I just want to show you  
17 that the -- the road will actually go down the south  
18 side of the -- the flood plain here.

19                   But then at this particular location  
20 the -- the creek is up against the bank, and -- and  
21 also in here, and it's actually very difficult to --  
22 to build the road and -- and not interfere with the  
23 creek.

24                   So we had two (2) lo -- two (2) -- two  
25 (2) options. We can either build bridges, and I'm

1 showing you the locations here, or we can move the  
2 creek channel over to some extent. We considered this  
3 with our engineers.

4                   We also discussed this with -- in a  
5 meeting with the Nahanni Butte folks, and I think we  
6 both concluded that the best option was to adjust the  
7 creek channel in the locations where it's -- where the  
8 road bed needs to go. This -- this is a big system  
9 and periodically a significant amount of water  
10 actually comes down the system. So putting structures  
11 like bridges and abutments in the way of that kind of  
12 flow, I think, would be dangerous and -- and has the  
13 risk of significant damage.

14                   So our preferred approach is that we  
15 will put a dike in here and actually divert the -- the  
16 flow of Sundog Creek into an old channel. And this is  
17 an old -- this is the old channel. And this is the  
18 current existing channel of Sundog Creek. This  
19 photograph was taken in August and you can see that at  
20 this particular time this portion of the creek was  
21 dry. And there's a bit of water here, but further  
22 downstream it actually peters out as well. So it  
23 doesn't contain water all the time.

24                   I'm going to flip over these, but this  
25 is really just a design of where the road's going to

1 be along the south side. And then this is the  
2 realigned channel on the -- on the north side. We  
3 modelled flows and we wanted to know what the flows  
4 would look like in a flood situation, and this is the -  
5 - the flow in the -- the realigned channel. And you  
6 can see here that there's a -- a double channel that's  
7 formed. So we will be deepening this channel in  
8 locations to ensure that flood flows stay in the --  
9 the revised channel.

10                   Because we are moving the channel we're  
11 actually losing fish habitat, so we have to provide  
12 for an offset of fish habitat. We're proposing to  
13 construct a deep pool in that location as  
14 overwintering habitat, which is important habitat for  
15 fish and is lacking in this system.

16                   This is what the area looks like  
17 downstream, and it's a photograph, again, taken in  
18 summer. And you can see that there are long stretches  
19 of the creek that are dry. So we would be doing this  
20 realignment construction in periods of time when there  
21 is no flow in the creek. We -- we won't be operating  
22 in flowing -- water. We will prepare the new channel  
23 in dry conditions, and then put in the dike, and then  
24 when the next spring comes the -- the new flows would  
25 occupy the revised channel, not the existing channel.

1                   We will also be employing a number of  
2 measures to control sediment, so that when those flows  
3 do occur we don't get a high pulse of sediment in the  
4 system. We -- during the road construction process,  
5 we will be wanting to protect water quality, so we --  
6 we have developed in draft already and will revise a  
7 number of plans for sediment control to maintain the  
8 road, to inspect the road, and to make adjustments as  
9 necessary.

10                   I'm not going to go through these. You  
11 can look at these, but these photographs show you the  
12 major creek crossings and you can see each one (1) has  
13 an indication of how the crossing will be built. In  
14 this particular location there would be berms placed  
15 to direct the flow of the creek underneath the bridge  
16 structure and out to Prairie Creek. But each one (1)  
17 has its particular design requirements, and we've  
18 provided them so you can refer to them to see how we -  
19 - we plan to cross these water courses.

20                   And this is Liard River crossing. The  
21 barge would actually operate in -- in this kind of a  
22 location and -- but in wintertime the ice bridge would  
23 be proposed to be a little further downstream, simply  
24 because we -- we've noted in the fall and early winter  
25 there's an open bead of water in here because the



1 channel is deep.

2                   So coming to wildlife, occasionally we  
3 do see mountain caribou along the road. We don't  
4 typically see very many. They're usually a couple at  
5 a time. We had a road program a couple of years back  
6 and we were out there for about ten (10) days with a -  
7 - with multiple crews. And in all the time we only  
8 saw three (3) caribou in one (1) group. Parks Canada  
9 has collared a number of animals that they -- they  
10 collared in the area, and that data is now becoming  
11 available.

12                   And I'll show you some of that in a  
13 minute, but we will have mitigations built into the  
14 road operations so that drivers actually do stop when  
15 there's animals on or near the road and allow them to  
16 move away. And we're going to be recording all this  
17 information, and if we need to make some adjustments  
18 like further speed restrictions and warning zones,  
19 then we will apply those.

20                   This is the official mountain caribou  
21 species range map. Here's our road down here, and  
22 this is the actual official range which is mostly to  
23 the north and to the west of the mine and the access  
24 road. And you can see here the locations of where  
25 Parks Canada actually collared animals.

1                   So this is some of the tracking  
2 information that's coming back from those collars, and  
3 there's -- there's a series of figures here showing  
4 you the tracking data during the year.

5                   This is the -- the early period,  
6 springtime, and you can see that there -- sorry --  
7 there are a few concentrations to the north of the  
8 road in here. There are a couple of animals, however,  
9 that do actually periodically cross the road.

10                  And that pattern more or less stays the  
11 same during the course of the year, the concentrations  
12 being to the north and to the west, and then with some  
13 crossing in this particular location.

14                  Bor -- boreal caribou. We're largely  
15 out of boreal caribou range. The road does actually  
16 cross what's called buffer range to boreal caribou.  
17 For the most part, the road is an upland terrain which  
18 is not preferred by mountain caribou.

19                  So in all the studies we have  
20 undertaken, we have not seen any boreal caribou. But  
21 folks in Nahanni Butte do periodically see a few  
22 animals in proximity of the Liard River crossing. And  
23 in fact, they've recently saw a group and actually  
24 harvested a couple of animals. But it doesn't appear  
25 to be a very common occurrence.

1                   In terms of traditional harvesting,  
2 this is information that Nahanni Butte provided us  
3 with -- to basically give us the sense of what  
4 traditional harvesting is going on proximal to the  
5 road. So the harvesting is primarily opportunistic in  
6 areas that are easily accessible, and that is along  
7 the rivers primarily.

8                   We are aware that there are trap lines,  
9 particularly on the -- near the eastern end of the  
10 road. There's trap lines in the Grainger Gap area,  
11 and Raymond Vital from Nahanni Butte has a cabin in  
12 that area, but he told us he hasn't been there for  
13 about a decade. So he's actually looking forward to  
14 road access so he can access his trap line.

15                  We've done two (2) previous heritage  
16 resource assessments on the road. We targeted the  
17 high-potential areas that were defined from  
18 traditional knowledge, and we didn't find any heritage  
19 resources.

20                  Despite that, we have made the  
21 commitment that we will be doing a follow-up envi --  
22 archaeological impact assessment prior to road  
23 construction. And we also made the commitment that we  
24 -- it will involve members from Nahanni Butte in the -  
25 - the surveys so we can do additional ground-truthing.

1                   And we will involve professionals as  
2 well for more guidance. And we'll develop protocols  
3 basically to minimize the potential for impacts, and  
4 also a policy that, if we find anything that's  
5 potentially a heritage resource, then we can apply  
6 protection immediately.

7                   With any project, we have to provide  
8 for closure and reclamation, and we've developed  
9 closure plans, reclamation plans, both for reclamation  
10 of borrow pits that would be developed during road  
11 construction and also at the end when the mine closes  
12 -- and it will close at some point. And we have to  
13 provide for reclamation of the road itself, so that  
14 information is on the record.

15                  We hope that the road actually brings  
16 positive impacts as far as employment. We think it  
17 will. We think that there are many jobs, direct jobs,  
18 related to the operation like drivers and monitors.  
19 But we also think that there's going to be a  
20 significant amount of indirect spin-off in terms of  
21 services providing the operation.

22                  And of course, we have an existing  
23 socioeconomic agreement with GNWT which we would  
24 honour, and it would extend to the all-season road.  
25 Thank you very much.

1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you, Mr.  
2 Harpley. I would just like to remind speakers that --  
3 and the public there that when they're making their  
4 comments, to be respectful of everyone's comments.  
5 Everyone has a right to be heard, and Can -- Can Zinc  
6 has worked hard on this presentation. So please be  
7 respectful.

8                   At this time, after Can Zinc's  
9 presentation, I would like to call a fifteen (15)  
10 minute break right now, and coming back after the  
11 break, the floor will be open to questions or  
12 comments. And we have some people already signed up  
13 so that they can make general comments or questions,  
14 and at the back table there, they have a list with  
15 names. And I think our secretary is around there.

16                  And you can just sign up there, so I  
17 can just call you up to come to speak to one (1) of  
18 the mics. So if we can have a fifteen (15) minute  
19 break. Thank you.

20

21 --- Upon recessing at 3:15 p.m.

22 --- Upon resuming at 3:43 p.m.

23

24                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    If we could have  
25 everybody take their seats, please, so we can start.

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: There is some  
4 changes now with the -- the receivers. The Slavey  
5 channel is now on channel 4, so the sound people have  
6 fixed the system, and Slavey is now on channel 4.

7 Just before we start here, there is a  
8 supper break. And it is open to everyone in the  
9 community, and it's taking place right here in this  
10 building, so the supper will be served at the back  
11 there. And dinner is from 5:00 til 6:00, so  
12 everyone's invited.

13 At this time, we would like to open the  
14 floor to public comments, and some people have signed  
15 up here. You will also have an opportunity after  
16 dinner to sign up for comments or questions. And the  
17 first name I'd like to call is the MLA, Shane  
18 Thompson, to the table and to make comments or  
19 questions.

20

21 PUBLIC COMMENTS:

22 MR. SHANE THOMPSON: In the  
23 legislative assembly they just turn on magically for  
24 us, but not here. Okay.

25 Thank you very much for allowing me to

1 present here. I'd like to recognize Chief Jerry  
2 Antoine, that we are in his traditional territory, and  
3 also the Fort Simpson Metis local and the Village of  
4 Fort Simpson.

5                   Good afternoon, members of the  
6 Mackenzie Valley Review Board. I would like to -- to  
7 thank you for taking the time to come to Fort Simpson  
8 today and Nahanni yesterday to hear from the community  
9 that will be affected by the proposed all-weather  
10 road.

11                   I think it is very important that you  
12 hear from the residents and the Company as you make  
13 your decision. I thank you for taking on this  
14 important task. When looking at this potential all-  
15 season road, I reflected on what has happened with the  
16 Tlicho all-weather road and Inuvik to Tuk all-weather  
17 road. I realize it is different in a number of ways,  
18 but there are some similarities, too.

19                   I've heard from a number of residents  
20 in Nahanni Butte and Fort Simpson regarding this  
21 project. The biggest thing I've heard is the  
22 potential for employment and the training for our  
23 youth. You need to give them the opportunity to be  
24 successful in our own community and their ability to  
25 stay here instead of moving on.

1                   The development of all-winter road --  
2 weather road would do this and provide the mine to be  
3 more feasible. I believe Canadian Zinc in their mine  
4 development will be a good opportunity for this  
5 region. I've heard this from the community of Nahanni  
6 Butte very clearly, and a number of people in this  
7 community.

8                   As I stated previously, the region  
9 needs jobs and stimulus. As well, there is indirect  
10 positive impact of goods and services, and these jobs  
11 will -- will be created. It gives the people in the  
12 region the opportunity to have careers in this area  
13 instead of being either unemployed or have to move  
14 away from work -- move away for work, as I previously  
15 stated.

16                  I've seen too many of our youth end up  
17 moving away. It saddens me. They are our prized  
18 possession and resource, and people need to realize  
19 that. What does a job do for our youth and our  
20 people? You feel more fulfilled as the time -- as  
21 lines between the work life and pers -- personal life  
22 blurs, a job is a much more personally fulfilment in  
23 growth as it is about paycheque. You are more  
24 productive. You study -- studies have shown that  
25 employees who are engaged in their work have a higher



1 productive rate and want to be more productive in  
2 society.

3                   You're more motivated. A job gives you  
4 extra motivation to meet your goals, and when you do,  
5 the sense of accomplishment is outstanding, i.e.,  
6 getting your own personal vehicle, your own home,  
7 looking after yourself and providing that opportunity  
8 and not relying on the government.

9                   You're more -- you become a source of  
10 motivation to others. Someone who genuinely loves  
11 their job or has a job is like -- unlikely to  
12 complain. Instead, he or she will be engaged in their  
13 work and interested in motivating others and showing  
14 other people what they can be doing. This all-weather  
15 access road will help that.

16                   Your family and peers look up to you.  
17 As a person who is working, it is important to be a  
18 role model for our youth, our siblings, and our peers.  
19 This will inspire them to find a career that fulfills  
20 them and that they are passionate about.

21                   Your mental health improves. It is a  
22 struggle in our region. Mental health, we see in  
23 every community as a big hindrance in this riding. It  
24 is important to do something we love for the living  
25 because our life's -- lives -- our -- our work life

1 will then provide mean and per -- means -- meaning and  
2 purpose, which also associations with the  
3 psychological well-being and health of our residents.

4                   You want to keep learning and  
5 improving. If you're passionate about your job or  
6 this career, you are likely to take on active  
7 interests in learning every aspect of the business and  
8 the other opportunities that are available. You  
9 become a more effective leader. With a deep-seated  
10 conviction for the work you do, it is possible to  
11 convince others to engage and follow your lead in  
12 their dreams.

13                   Your work doesn't feel like a chore.  
14 You're doing something that you love to do and you're  
15 making a positive impact on your community and your  
16 people. You push yourself to succeed even more. When  
17 you love what you do, you are compelled to push others  
18 against you -- or push others to do their success,  
19 too.

20                   You want to be where you are and  
21 challenge yourself, and encourage other people to  
22 challenge themselves, as well. You are competing with  
23 yourself and achieving your vision.

24                   As we go through this, some of the  
25 stuff that I've heard which will kind of divert from

1 my speaking out was the import of the environment.

2 I've had to had thank Mr. Antoine, who's been forty-  
3 five (45) years into the mining business. He's seen a  
4 growth in how the industry has made the environment a  
5 priority and tried to make it work better for the  
6 people.

7 I think with new technology and move --  
8 way of people moving forward, and the commitment of  
9 this company, I think we can -- the environment is a  
10 priority. As you've seen by the presentation, a lot  
11 of their safety, 30 miles -- or 30 kilometres an hour  
12 on a road is unheard of in a lot of places in  
13 industry, so they are taking that task the -- look at  
14 the environment.

15 They're looking at the habitat.  
16 They're looking at the effects of the hunting.  
17 They're looking and listening to the people in the  
18 region, which is the -- probably the most important  
19 aspect to the Nahanni Butte. That's their traditional  
20 territory. As Chief Jerr -- Jerry Antoine talked  
21 about, it is also Liidlii Kue's traditional territory  
22 as well, as Fort Liard. And now this has given them  
23 an opportunity to present here and talk about it.

24 The development of the mine and all-  
25 season road will likely be a catalyst for other

1 development improvements in this region, such as  
2 improving -- improvements to Highway 7, and tourism  
3 opportunities not only for Nahanni Butte, Fort Liard,  
4 and Fort Simpson, but for the region. Now it gives us  
5 an opportunity, open and access a beautiful scenery  
6 area of the territory that not too many people can  
7 see. And it also gives us opportunity for tourism,  
8 and employment for local people.

9           The all-season road will provide  
10 controlled access in traditional territory of the  
11 Nahanni Butte and will improve access for them. They  
12 are able to control who is there and who is coming in,  
13 but it also gives them access to this traditional  
14 territories. I've had the opportunity to listen to  
15 the -- the Chief, and a number of councillors, and the  
16 residents of Nahanni Butte talk about this all-weather  
17 road. It also gives them the opportunity to develop a  
18 treatment -- or a health -- wellness centre, or a  
19 regional youth area that will use the traditional  
20 knowledge that is provided.

21           That there is important, is to listen  
22 to the people and that's what they're saying. This is  
23 a way to solve some of their challenges and issues.  
24 And they're also opening it up to the region, which is  
25 important for our youth. So if we're willing to work

1 with these people, we need to do that, and this gives  
2 an opportunity. It's just not mining, but it's the  
3 other aspects of this area.

4                   In regards to the all-weather road and  
5 the mine, it needs to be done in the most  
6 environmental friendly way, as I talked about. And  
7 we've heard in the presentation they've talked about  
8 that as well. We need to protect the water,  
9 headwaters. And I think Mr. -- Chief Antoine talked  
10 to me about this again, is the importance of the  
11 waterway. And I think the -- the mine company, and  
12 the communities, and the environmental people are  
13 looking towards that, and you're looking at that. But  
14 it needs to make sure we're looking after that.  
15 That's our most important resource, after our youth.  
16 Water is everything.

17                   There's a concern from Elders that it  
18 needs to be -- they need to be part of the process.  
19 It is my understanding that Canadian Zinc has an IBA  
20 with both Liidlii Kue First Nation and Nahanni Butte.  
21 This is a very important step, and it needs to be  
22 continued. And it shows the community -- the Company  
23 is working and it's listening to the people.

24                   But one (1) of the biggest challenges I  
25 have, and I've been very vocal about this in other

1 communities, is with IBAs, we need to train our  
2 people. We need to build capacity. I do not want  
3 them to get the jobs just the -- being the low people  
4 on the totem pole. I believe, and to my conversations  
5 with Zinc, they talked about that. It's building the  
6 capacity of our people, our youth. We need to keep  
7 them here and we need to build their capacity.

8                   So when apprenticeships come up, it  
9 should be our people, the Nahanni Butte, the Liidlii  
10 Kue First Nation, Fort Liard. Those are the people  
11 that should be getting the apprenticeship jobs, and it  
12 should be the government working with the Company to  
13 make sure this happens. And if we don't, we're going  
14 to lose out this opportunity. If we do not build  
15 capacity, we're going to be left out in the -- at the  
16 end of the day.

17                   Now, I would like to talk about, as my  
18 personal experience in working with this company and  
19 Mr. Antoine. I've had the opportunity for the last --  
20 probably about fifteen (15), sixteen (16) years to  
21 work with them. They work on a number of projects.  
22 They don't have to do this, so everybody has -- has to  
23 understand. They don't need to be doing this. They  
24 made a point of doing it.

25                   They host an annual golf tournament

1 here. It's probably the biggest one in -- in our  
2 region and in our golf course. Everybody looks  
3 forward to it. It's an opportunity to meet the staff,  
4 to play, and have a good time, but also meet a -- a  
5 community obligation for them. So they're good  
6 corporate citizenship -- they're a good corporate  
7 citizen.

8                   They also sponsor local youth. I've  
9 had the opportunities of seeing them provide uniforms  
10 for kids, provide funding for our youth so that they  
11 can go on to some of the things that they want to do.  
12 They also provide community barbecues, and they also  
13 go on into the community of Nahanni Butte and done  
14 Winterfest.

15                   This is something that they've  
16 developed, and the community looks forward to it.  
17 It's a day of activities, and a meal, and a  
18 celebration at the end, which is very appreciated by  
19 the community. And my -- for myself, I see this as a  
20 positive growth to it.

21                   They also helped during the flood.  
22 They didn't have to, but they come out, they put --  
23 besides morale -- moral support, they've also put  
24 financial support to it. So it has had an impact on  
25 that community. So this company is a -- a part of the

1 community. It is a fragment of the association.

2 I -- I talked about Mr. Antoine. This  
3 community here has opened a regional office here in  
4 Fort Simpson. The office manager has forty-five (45)  
5 years' experience in the mining industry, so he knows  
6 what he's talking about. He understands the needs.

7 We're very fortunate that this person,  
8 this office manager, is from this region. He has a  
9 strong historical family connection to this. He knows  
10 what it is to do. He's gone out and got training, and  
11 he's come back. But I'm hoping, you know, we can  
12 utilize his experience that will help that reflect  
13 onto our youth.

14 As well, he's always providing updates,  
15 helping out with Elders, and seniors, and youth alike.  
16 As well, he takes time to chat with the youth about  
17 the benefits, and education, and work in the mining  
18 field, in the industry. So he's taking the -- his  
19 passion and then sharing it with the people in this  
20 region.

21 I've also witnessed how Canadian Zinc  
22 and their staff are respectful with all groups in the  
23 region and engage with the municipal governments,  
24 especially the bands and the Metis associations. This  
25 is unheard of in some areas. The bands and the Metis



1 are the traditional people of this territory, and they  
2 should be recognized and should be worked at -- with.  
3 And Canadian Zinc has done that.

4 I know it sounds like I'm selling --  
5 that I'm trying to sell Canadian Zinc. I'm just  
6 telling you what I've heard from the young people and  
7 from the communities here in Fort Simpson and in  
8 Nahanni Butte.

9 They're affected by what's going on.  
10 This all-weather road has a huge impact on them, but  
11 also the region and the territory. And if we continue  
12 to do that and we look at that, we can move forward.

13 I must recognize that Mr. An -- or  
14 Chief Antoine and Senator Sibbeston, they spo --  
15 spoke, but they spoke from the heart, and I thank them  
16 for that. You need to understand, when people speak  
17 from their heart, that has a very huge impact on me.

18 And I appreciate you listening and  
19 taking the time. If there's any questions -- if not,  
20 I will thank you very much for allowing me to speak  
21 here. Thank you. Okay. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
23 Thompson.

24 Our next speaker that we would like to  
25 invite to the mic is Kirby Groat. And Kirby is with

1 the Fort Simpson Chamber of Commerce. Welcome, Kirby.

2

3 (BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5 MR. KIRBY GROAT: Good afternoon, and  
6 I'd like to welcome the Board and all of our guests  
7 and visitors to Fort Simpson and the Dehcho. I do  
8 hope you're enjoying our beautiful spring weather  
9 we're having around here.

10 On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of  
11 Fort Simpson, I'd like you -- to thank you for the  
12 opportunity to speak to you in favour of Canadian  
13 Zinc's Prairie Creek Mine all-weather road and the  
14 successful opening of the Prairie Creek Mine.

15 Business in the region looks forward to  
16 the opportunities to work closely with Canadian Zinc  
17 in the construction phase so we can maximize the  
18 regional benefits. We live in a false economy in the  
19 region, as there are many levels of government.

20 Consequently, most businesses earn  
21 their income primarily from working directly for the  
22 government. Government employment far exceeds small  
23 business employment. Our ratios are way off in the  
24 region.

25 We also want to create a positive and

1 progressive working relationship for the life of the  
2 mine. The needs of the mine may make it a large  
3 consumer of supplies, which opens up business  
4 opportunities. It is a large private-sector venture  
5 not seen in the Dehcho in a long time, and we do need  
6 it.

7                   The all-weather road construction and  
8 Prairie Creek Mine reconstruction, followed by years  
9 of ongoing mine operations, provide private-sector  
10 opportunities for people in the Dehcho. The full-time  
11 employment created provides apprenticeship  
12 opportunities, management training, and will help  
13 create skilled workers.

14                   John, Dave, Alan, Joseph, and Wilbert  
15 of course, are welcome in Fort Simpson area, and are  
16 well known here with an office and permanent staff in  
17 Fort Simpson. Our hope is we can grow our community  
18 with expanded Canadian Zinc presence, and also  
19 attracting families to the region for long-term  
20 employment.

21                   Canadian Zinc is a major supporter of  
22 our golf course and many other events here in the  
23 region, and is a good corporate citizen. I thank you  
24 from the Fort Simpson Chamber of Commerce, and I have  
25 one (1) more little statement here.

1                   In May 9th, 2014, Canadian Zinc  
2 Corporation made the Application for permits for the  
3 all season road to Prairie Creek mine. I do not  
4 understand how it takes three (3) years and we are  
5 still doing public consultation. The final pro --  
6 report will probably take another year to complete.  
7 This process is far too lengthy, and definitely needs  
8 to be streamlined. Thank you.

9

10                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Groat. Our next speaker invited to the mic is Jonas  
14 Antoine.

15

16                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18                   ELDER JONAS ANTOINE: Masi cho. Thank  
19 you very much. Welcome. The Board, we know, you've  
20 got a job on your hands. All you have to do is listen  
21 to us. I'm going to be speaking from the heart.

22                   I have been asked by several to speak  
23 as an older person, perhaps an Elder, with a lot of  
24 experience not only here but throughout the rest of  
25 the world. I say that because back in January when

1 Donald Trump was being sworn in, my memory kicked in  
2 going back forty-eight (48) years ago I was in  
3 Washington, D.C. for Richard Nixon's inauguration.  
4 This is why I bring up the world. I guess that's a  
5 different world over there, you know.

6 Masi cho. Anyways, I agree with the  
7 Chamber of Commerce that this is far too lengthy. We  
8 have a process here in the Dehcho that everybody knows  
9 about, and we all have to realize that some day when  
10 the process evolves and gets to where the Dehcho wants  
11 it to be we'll have our own government. And Canadian  
12 Zinc also has to kind of understand that, and this may  
13 happen.

14 That's just little things that I wanted  
15 to bring up, you know, and -- because we're all  
16 striving for the same thing. You know, a better  
17 future for the people following us. I know what  
18 Nahanni Butte is going through because I've worked  
19 with them for many years on other fronts, and I know  
20 where they're coming from.

21 And we have to understand here in  
22 Liidlili Kue we understand that and this whole process  
23 Nahanni Butte is in the front of this whole thing.  
24 And we have to understand that, and we acknowledge  
25 that, you know. They want something that we all want

1 which is a better future for our people following us.

2                   And -- and the picture that I saw  
3 listening to one of their younger people is that  
4 twenty (20) years from now perhaps she wants to be a  
5 leader. She wants things better for her people and  
6 for herself as well. And her Elder said, This is not  
7 just for us, but for everybody. And this is the Dene  
8 thinking of sharing. So when Nahanni Butte steps  
9 forward they're not just thinking about themselves.  
10 When Liidlili Kue steps forward, they're not just  
11 thinking about their -- themselves here, you know. We  
12 all have to do this together, you know.

13                   Over the years, as many things that has  
14 happened kind of driving us forward, you know, for the  
15 Dene people it is very clear, you know, back -- they  
16 were all proclamations set a direction. And then  
17 there was the Dene declaration and the Dehcho  
18 declaration and the Dehcho process.

19                   And if you really look at all those  
20 things there -- and then there was the Berger thing  
21 that put a lot of things into place. And Justice  
22 Morrow and the Paulette case put a lot of things into  
23 place. If you really look at those things there, and  
24 you look at the land declaration on the rights of  
25 indigenous people, the very important elements of that

1 is lands, resources, and governance. And I think this  
2 is what we're striving for.

3                   And then the Liberal government says,  
4 We're going to listen to Aboriginal people. And from  
5 what I can understand from one (1) of the minister's  
6 office is that he is listening. The Prime Minister is  
7 listening. And if that happens we all might have  
8 something entirely different in this part of the  
9 world, you know. I've been involved in negotiations  
10 many, many years and a lot of times I took -- I -- I  
11 said to the people on the other side of the table, you  
12 know, All you have to do is listen to us and then you  
13 can brag to the rest of the world how well you treat  
14 Aboriginal people on -- on their lands.

15                   And there's an opportunity for this.  
16 And Canadian Zinc is in a very, very, very important  
17 position right now, you know. Here we have industry  
18 moving in here that's willing to work with us and  
19 we're willing to work with them. And we know what  
20 they want and they know what we want. And it's just a  
21 matter of working out some little things there to make  
22 all these things work. And it is not just one (1)  
23 persons' job, but it is the job of many to do those  
24 things.

25                   And I think this is why we have so many

1 people here. They want to hear things. They want to  
2 have an opportunity to have their input, to be heard,  
3 and to have their own ideas. We're not trying to put  
4 a stop to anything, you know, like, we -- we're going  
5 to move forward. I have been involved in these type  
6 of things enough that I look forward to the day when  
7 this really comes through and that I'm still alive, so  
8 I can bring the good news to the other side and tell  
9 our Elders that have passed that this is what happened  
10 with our people here, you know. I want to be able to  
11 see that, you know.

12                   There are so many things, you know,  
13 like, that can be said about these relationships, you  
14 know, and what we want and, you know, what everybody  
15 wants and you move forward. But it's too slow. I  
16 want to move it ahead, you know. All the right things  
17 are there for us to work, you know, like in the  
18 opening prayer I pointed out that miracles don't  
19 happen. The miracle is the opportunity that we have.  
20 That is the miracle. And it's our job to do those  
21 things here, you know.

22                   I don't know what else to say except  
23 encourage -- encouragement, you know. Canadian Zinc  
24 has done a remarkable job of communicating with the  
25 communities and all the players, you know. And we



1 have put in our share of support and pointing out  
2 little things that can be done. And they have always  
3 responded. I would like to see a young person from  
4 Nahanni Butte, I'd like to see her wish come true.

5                   You know, like, twenty (20) years from  
6 now I'd like to see this, she says, and she kind of  
7 blabbered on and on just without a lot of enthusiasm.  
8 And we all have that, but we're afraid to do something  
9 about it, you know. She's got that vision up there  
10 and she's trying to reach that vision, you know.

11                   And -- and visions are -- are something  
12 that is beautiful and if you want it, you got to work  
13 on it. You don't wait for somebody to pick it up.  
14 You got to start on it today, start working on it, you  
15 know.

16                   So I encourage young people like the  
17 person from Nahanni Butte to not be afraid and express  
18 their -- their vision, you know. And, gosh, she's  
19 going to be here for many years after we're gone.  
20 There's gonna be people like their -- her that's got  
21 to be leading, and all our people will still be here,  
22 you know, because we're not going to go away, you  
23 know. We've been here for how long, and we're still  
24 here.

25                   And my -- my vision, too, is that, you

1 know, the one (1) time -- I got to tell you this is a  
2 really true, true vision that I saw at one (1) of our  
3 gatherings in -- in Wrigley. We were doing a ceremony  
4 and they're standing by the fire there and there's the  
5 mountains across there. And as we're drumming and  
6 singing, feeding the fire, this vision came to me that  
7 there were skyscrapers sticking out amongst the  
8 mountains up there and I can see roads and the  
9 mountains there and we were still there drumming and  
10 singing, which tells me that we're going to be here  
11 for a long, long time.

12                   We all have to work together. I wear  
13 this shirt here today because this is a shirt from the  
14 consensus team that I was involved in, and this is  
15 very ideal. It shows a picture of two (2) people in a  
16 canoe, and they're both paddling. Ehtets'ats'endi  
17 means they're forcing together, they're helping one  
18 another, and this is what we have to do. (NATIVE  
19 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Masi.

20

21                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

22

23                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Jonas Antoine.  
24 Our next speaker on the list I'd like to invite  
25 Senator Nick Sibbeston to the table.

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: ...to -- to  
4 make a presentation I support the construction of the  
5 access road to Prairie Creek Mine. The road is  
6 critical to the future of the mine, which, in turn, is  
7 critical to the future of this region. And remember  
8 this is not building a rocket. This is not rocket  
9 science. It's not even a pipeline. It's just a road.

10

11 And it's taken many years to get to  
12 this point, so I say what's the problem, what's the  
13 hindrance, what's the impediment? And I say there are  
14 none. Let's go. Approve the road, and -- and you  
15 will have done your job.

16 In backing this road, I'm following the  
17 lead of the people of Nahanni Butte who have shown by  
18 their words and action that they support the road and  
19 the mine to follow. And they've had a few years of  
20 relationship with Canadian Zinc so that they feel  
21 confident. They're not trickery. They're not talking  
22 false -- providing false hope. They are real in  
23 providing jobs, so I commend them for that.

24 They have weighed the benefits and  
25 potential risks and have concluded that this project

1 would be good for their community. As the closest  
2 community to the mine and the one that would be most  
3 affected by downstream effect, the people of Nahanni  
4 Butte know better than most whether this is right for  
5 them.

6                   Jobs are desperately needed in  
7 communities like Simpson and, of course, Nahanni  
8 Butte, where there is lack of employment and means  
9 that most people have, and -- and the means so that  
10 young people don't have to leave our community.

11                   My wife and I have six (6) children,  
12 and five (5) have left Fort Simpson to work elsewhere.  
13 And I think that's the case with a lot of people whose  
14 children are educated. They go to places like  
15 Yellowknife in the south, bigger communities, to find  
16 work. So if there's a mine and if there's  
17 opportunity, there's a chance that they would come  
18 back and benefit from -- from the situation.

19                   Canadian Zinc has been working towards  
20 this day for many years, I hear nine (9) years since  
21 they started the application process, and three (3)  
22 years since they've been working on getting approval  
23 for the road.

24                   They have built relations with local  
25 people and local governments, and I said they've

1 proved themselves credible. So the last step is  
2 approval of this road. And if it's so approved, then  
3 it'll accomplish what they want, that a mine would be  
4 in existence and people from the area would benefit.

5               Earlier this winter, Chief Peter  
6 Marcellais, tired of waiting for the regulatory  
7 approval of the road to Prairie Creek Mine, commenced  
8 work on a trail, clearing bush across the land -- the  
9 area from their community, on their land, to get wood  
10 and also do some work on the road.

11              The government eventually took legal  
12 action, responding initially with a stop order and  
13 then an injunction. The Department of Lands went to  
14 the Supreme Court to obtain an injunction to stop the  
15 people from their work and their initiative.

16              And I find this so incredible that,  
17 where people in a community want to work, are willing  
18 to work, go in the bush, cut trees, that their  
19 government would somehow think that it wasn't a  
20 legitimate thing, it wasn't a good thing, so took  
21 steps to stop them.

22              People are not used to having paper to  
23 go in the bush and cut a tree. That is most unusual.  
24 People have Aboriginal rights. They have a right to  
25 use their lands, they have a right to use the trees

1 and do whatever they wish.

2 If there's anything, that's one (1)  
3 thing Aboriginal people have is the right to the land  
4 and to use it. And this is what the people in Nahanni  
5 Butte were doing when the government stepped in and  
6 tried to stop them.

7 The people were told they were  
8 trespassing on commissioner's land, and I think this  
9 is absurd. Really, whose land is it? It's the  
10 people's land. And for someone in Yellowknife to  
11 think that the people can't go on their land and use  
12 the land without a permit is ludicrous. It's just  
13 unthinkable. And I find it very difficult to accept  
14 that this is what happened.

15 Anyway, I will move on.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, Mr. --

17 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: I appreciate  
18 --

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, Mr. Sibbeston.  
20 I just want to make sure that you say -- stay on  
21 track.

22 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: Yeah.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: The Review Board --

24 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: I am.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- here is here for

1 the all-season road, and the lands issues is at a  
2 different table. So just a friendly reminder to you  
3 to stay on track. Thank you.

4 SENATOR NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman  
5 (sic) and Board members, I spent a lot of years in my  
6 life as a young person since 1970 fighting for  
7 responsible government. I fought for people, and one  
8 (1) time I even threw a cup and -- and -- to show you  
9 the determination.

10 And government being what it is,  
11 sometimes you have to do that. You have to show them  
12 that people are serious and are determined in -- in  
13 it. I -- I'll just say that, in my years, I fought  
14 for responsible government because I really thought  
15 the people locally can do a better job than being  
16 governed from afar in -- in Ottawa.

17 And so I ask in this instance where the  
18 government took those legal action, was it just a  
19 lapse of judgment, or is it an insensitivity? What is  
20 it that would make anybody try to stop people from  
21 working, and going on their land.

22 People in Nahanni Butte are a -- are  
23 not a legalistic people. They are not used to being  
24 sued. They're not used to being -- having to have  
25 permits to go in the bush, but yet this is what

1 happened. To suddenly be confronted by a stop order,  
2 and an injunction, in my view is an affront to the  
3 common sense, the decency, and well-being of the  
4 people of Nahanni Butte.

5                   And I hope this never happens to any  
6 other group of people. It is terrible. The legal  
7 action suggests that they have broken the law. That  
8 Nahanni Butte people are bad people. Now they should  
9 go to jail. They should pay a fine for simply going  
10 across the river, going on their land, and cutting  
11 trees. This is what it amounts to when you look at it  
12 in plain, plain terms.

13                   I am glad that the government  
14 eventually came to its senses, withdrew the court  
15 action, and agreed to reach a settlement. I  
16 understand that our MLA, Shane, and the Minister of  
17 Justice went to Nahanni Butte and had a -- this  
18 meeting with the people. But I understand that the  
19 Minister really didn't acknowledge, didn't take  
20 responsibility when confronted by the Chief saying,  
21 Well, you sued us. The Minister said, Well, it's in  
22 the court now. I can't say anything about it.  
23 Imagine -- imagine not taking and not being account  
24 for something such drastic as taking legal action.

25                   In my view, that is absurd and totally



1 irresponsible. That's not what I spent my years for,  
2 fighting for a responsible government. So in my -- in  
3 some sense, I -- I'm quite upset and disturbed that  
4 the government would do this to its people.

5                   In the North, we are different people.  
6 We have a consensus style of government different from  
7 the south. And we expect the people that are elected  
8 in the North to be responsible, to be accountable to  
9 the people. We're not a people that are used to  
10 legalistic actions, being sued, having to have permits  
11 to go in the bush.

12                   So I really ask and say that the  
13 Minister and our MLA should go back to Nahanni Butte,  
14 apologize to the people, and say that they made a  
15 mistake and I hope that this never happens to another  
16 group of people in the North. Masi cho.

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Mr. Sibbeston.  
18 This brings to an end the people that have signed the  
19 sheet to come and speak, but we have a staff member  
20 who has a mic and if you wish to speak, you are more  
21 than welcome to speak. Just hold your hand up, and he  
22 can bring you the mic.

23                   Dolly, we had you down for the evening  
24 but you're more than welcome to speak now.

25                   MS. DOLLY TSETSO: I'll take the time

1 now. Thank you very much. Welcome to our community,  
2 everyone that is here that is not from the community.  
3 My name is Dolly Tsetso.

4 I -- my main concern is everybody is  
5 talking about the youth getting work, the youth being  
6 trained, but we have been listening to that sort of  
7 talk for many years whereas the youth has never ever  
8 been able to do anything. They -- they use the youth  
9 to get places, and where they want to go.

10 But I am speaking to the people from  
11 the zinc mines right now. If you could put a stop to  
12 this hogwash talk about the youth and then once you  
13 get your -- your -- the camp going again, the mines  
14 going again, if you could make sure that the youth do  
15 get out there to get trained, and taught above and  
16 underneath the grounds of -- and how to take care of  
17 the grounds around the mines like that where at they  
18 can -- whereas they can learn and the experience that  
19 they need to maybe someday have it with them when they  
20 do move on and they find different areas where they  
21 may find themselves in similar situations where  
22 they'll need that experience.

23 This is what I'm really mostly looking  
24 forward to, and that -- that road that the band,  
25 Nahanni Butte Band, were wanting to finish, high five

1 (5) to Nahanni Butte. You didn't sit back and wait  
2 for the other people to say, Do this and do that, when  
3 they want it done.

4                   It's the -- the way of the Dene people.  
5 If we want to do something, we do it. If we want to  
6 get something, we get it. That's our job. And this  
7 is what the band, the Nahanni Butte Band, was doing.  
8 And why the government put up -- put up their hands  
9 and tried to stop them when the government don't know  
10 the land like the Dene people do.

11                   We are the keepers of the land. We  
12 know how to take care of it. We know when to do and  
13 when not to do, whereas no one else -- the government  
14 doesn't know anything about how to work on the land,  
15 at what time of the season and what time of the day to  
16 do these things.

17                   Let them go out in the wilderness to  
18 show us how they work on the land. They'll bring all  
19 kinds of machineries and everything else out there  
20 with them, whereas the Dene people don't need that at  
21 all. It's all in -- in the minds of the Dene people.  
22 It's all in their eyes, their ears, and their  
23 knowledge is greater than any machine put together.  
24 High five (5) to you from Nahanni Butte. Masi cho.

25                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms.

1 Tsetso.

2 Don't be shy. Put your hand up if you  
3 have any comments or questions. We have half an hour  
4 to supper. You will also have another opportunity  
5 after supper to questions or comments, so it's not the  
6 end of the day yet.

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
11 comments? Mr. Michaud...?

12 MR. RAY MICHAUD: Testing. I have one  
13 (1) question because when they were talking about the  
14 construction of the winter road, especially going  
15 through the park, they were referring to migratory  
16 birds which at that time was ridiculous 'cause it was  
17 a winter road. And I've yet to see a duck in the  
18 wintertime.

19 But now that this is an all-season  
20 road, I suspect that one (1) of the questions will  
21 come about the swans and the geese and the migratory  
22 birds. And just for -- when I worked for the  
23 government, I used to fly to Wrigley, Liard and all  
24 that.

25 One (1) of the things I did notice

1 along the highway, we do have swamps and they did have  
2 swans, and they weren't being affected by the highway,  
3 which is a full-time road.

4                   So has this been considered into the  
5 review and -- that's been done? I didn't hear  
6 anything about the migratory birds. I've heard about  
7 the caribou and all that. So this would be a question  
8 I would give to the Board if this is a consideration  
9 that they've taken into place, and has it been  
10 resolved or is it going to come up again?

11                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Michaud.

13                   The question would be to Canadian Zinc.  
14 Mr. Harpley...?

15                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's Dave Harpley  
16 here. Yes, it was considered, and in our road  
17 development plans, we -- we have noted that there are  
18 -- we've seen trumpeter swans on some of the wetland  
19 lakes proximal to the road.

20                   So in our construction plan, when we  
21 plan to work in those areas out of the wintertime, we  
22 have incorporated mitigation in the form of a certain  
23 distance activity needs to be from nesting swans.

24                   And if they're within that distance,  
25 then we propose to have environmental monitors kind of

1 observe and -- and ensure that there's no significant  
2 effects, basically find a way to build the road with -  
3 - without any significant disturbance of the swans.  
4 And if we can schedule work in another area for a  
5 particular time and -- and come back, then, you know,  
6 we can take that approach.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Harpley. Questions or comments?

9

10 (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'll call for  
13 questions or comments three (3) times, and then we'll  
14 break. Questions or comments?

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 MR. COLIN MUNRO: Colin Munro, Fort  
19 Simpson. This question is directed to David, with  
20 Canadian Zinc. David, you were talking about the road  
21 and construction of the road, and you mentioned the --  
22 the base. But then you mentioned the top surface.

23 Where do you propose to get all this  
24 material from? Thank you.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Harpley...?

1                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY:    It's Dave Harpley.  
2   We expect to get the majority of the material from  
3   borrow sources that we've identified along the route.  
4   We've identified I think something, like, seventy (70)  
5   different borrow sources, as well as what we call  
6   reserve borrow sources, so.

7                   And if we find a particular borrow and  
8   it's got an issue, for example, it's got permafrost,  
9   or the soil is too fine, we wanted to make sure we  
10   identified enough material so that we wouldn't be in a  
11   deficit situation come construction time. So we don't  
12   expect to use them all, but we think that we've  
13   identified enough reserve to ensure that we will have  
14   enough.

15                  But the other consideration is, you  
16   know, we -- we will be doing more intrusive work as we  
17   roll out the preplanning for the construction in terms  
18   of actual drilling and probing. And -- and if we find  
19   that we can actually utilize material that's in the  
20   right-of-way of the proposed route, then that would be  
21   our first preference.

22                  So it -- it minimizes the distance we  
23   have to go. It minimizes building access roads to  
24   borrows and -- and developing borrows themselves. We  
25   can kind of minimize the overall footprint, if you --

1 if you like.

2 So the first priority would be to use  
3 the material within the right-of-way, and then beyond  
4 that, we will utilize the borrows that we've  
5 identified.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Harpley. Questions? Lory Ann...?

8 MS. LORY ANN BERTRAND: Hi. My name's  
9 Lory Ann Bertrand. I'm one (1) of the community  
10 members that came in from Nahanni Butte.

11 It's more of a comment than a question.  
12 But, as a young individual from the community, I have  
13 a lot of concerns having to do with the access road.  
14 I get that there's going to be a lot of opportunities  
15 for the community members and the young members that  
16 we have in our community, but one (1) of my big  
17 concerns is that this road is going to be forever  
18 there, but it won't be forever there until the Prairie  
19 Creek closes down, but that's -- what I'm concerned is  
20 that it's going to be always there.

21 And -- and obviously, it will take a  
22 lot of time for it to grow back, but I am just mostly  
23 worried about the environment and the traditional land  
24 that a lot of the community members use, so.

25 I was outside earlier, during break,



1 and I was just thinking far up ahead, because I do  
2 work with my band, and I do get into these discussions  
3 with my counsellors, my Elders, and community members.  
4 And I was outside thinking, Okay, well, our leaders  
5 that we have today, they will not always be there, so  
6 I'm glad to have the opportunity to be here, to be  
7 involved, and to have a -- more of an understanding of  
8 what my community is getting -- is getting into, so.

9                   Sorry, I'm just really nervous. So, as  
10 a young individual, and hoping -- or, well, I will be  
11 one day a leader of my community, so I just -- I don't  
12 -- I don't know. It's just I'm -- I'm kind of in-  
13 between of the access road and not really with the  
14 access road, because -- I'm sorry, I'm just really  
15 nervous.

16

17                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19                   THE CHAIRPERSON: You're doing fine,  
20 Lory. That's okay.

21                   MS. LORY ANN BERTRAND: Just because  
22 of what Canadian Zinc shared, like, of spillage and  
23 that, they will have a kit, but, you know, there --  
24 there is going to be -- I feel like there is going to  
25 be a lot of bad than there is going to be a good

1 coming out of this project. But I -- you know, that's  
2 just my -- my opinion. So I just hope that -- I'm  
3 putting my trust into my Elders, and my councillors,  
4 and my Chief. And I'm going to -- I'm -- I'm here  
5 willing to help them and to grow to understand of this  
6 whole process. And I'm just glad to be given this  
7 opportunity.

8                   And I hope I have a -- more of an  
9 opportunity to talk to the Board and to the Canadian  
10 Zinc about -- more about this, and have -- well,  
11 hopefully -- I mean, not hopefully. Sorry. I -- I  
12 just hope we can have a discussion, because once I get  
13 going I will just keep going and going, like I was  
14 earlier outside. But I'm -- I'm -- yeah, like I said,  
15 I'm just kind of a 50/50 on this, but I know that  
16 whatever decision comes out, it's based out of the  
17 good of everyone. That's it. Masi.

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms.  
19 Bertrand. Comments or questions? Mr. Munro...?

20                   MR. COLIN MUNRO: Just trying to get  
21 us through to five o'clock, here. I'm going to direct  
22 this question to Alan. Alan, we've spoken many times  
23 about your -- your mine. And the last time and the  
24 previous times I think we spoke, you have a proven  
25 resource of twenty (20) years.

1                   Do you propose to do more drilling, or  
2 have you done more drilling to extend the life of your  
3 mine past those twenty (20) years? Thank you.

4                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Taylor...?

5                   MR. ALAN TAYLOR: It's Alan Taylor  
6 here. Just for the information of everybody, a -- a  
7 resource is a -- is a -- is defined as a -- a mineral  
8 intercept, be it through drilling or sampling that is  
9 -- has some indications of economics. A -- a mineral  
10 reserve is a different one, where it has proven  
11 economic viability. Our resources, as Colin  
12 indicated, are probably in the order of twenty (20)  
13 years right now. And that's -- that's a resource that  
14 -- through exploration. Our reserves at this stage  
15 are fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years.

16                  But we picture as the operation engages  
17 in -- in mining, that exploration will be in tandem  
18 with that once the revenue is generated. And it will  
19 -- it will prove out further resources that will  
20 eventually convert into reserves as the mine develops  
21 and mines. So right now, we see a fifteen (15) to  
22 seventeen (17) year mine life with our reserves, but  
23 we can see resources out there that are double that,  
24 but they've yet to be proven up from a -- from an  
25 economic point of view.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Harpley -- or Mr. Taylor, sorry. You know who you  
3 were.

4 Questions or comments?

5 MR. WALTER MCPHERSON: Good afternoon.  
6 I'm Walter McPherson here. You guys are talking about  
7 all the year, year-round road. I think it's -- I  
8 think it's a good idea for -- for the younger  
9 generation and the people that's proposing to put the  
10 -- the year-round road. Back in the early '80s, at  
11 that time, it was called the Cadillac Mine. And it  
12 had two (2) brothers that worked there, and they're  
13 still here today.

14 And to come to think about it, Norman  
15 Wells pipeline has been here just about, I think it's  
16 thirty (30) years. And now it's coming to a point  
17 that maybe in the next five (5) to six (6) years we'll  
18 probably run out of -- of crude oil.

19 But for this year, the mine that you  
20 guys are talking about, it's not going to happen  
21 overnight. I think it's still a long ways to go. And  
22 I seen a couple of slides that -- where that road's  
23 going to go, I think it's either going to be blasting  
24 rock or they're going to make a road around it, and  
25 also for the water. You can see a long portion of the

1 water where it's -- where it's coming from. And I had  
2 seen aerial pictures of the area where it is. It's,  
3 like, in a -- it's deep in the mountain.

4                   And there again it's -- a year-round  
5 road is going to be built. There's going to be lots  
6 of machinery and lots of activity going on. And,  
7 first of all, you guys are talking about a winter  
8 road. And afterwards, there's going to be work in the  
9 summer to build that road.

10                   There again it's -- it's a good idea  
11 for -- for Fort Simpson, Nahanni Butte, and the  
12 surrounding communities to get -- to get a job. I  
13 have a son that he'll be turning nineteen (19) years  
14 of age of this coming July, and he's got his grade 12.  
15 And for a long period of -- of the lifespan of the --  
16 of the mine, it's not only for -- for us today, but  
17 for the generation ahead to think. And it sounds like  
18 it's a good plan, but it's not going to happen  
19 overnight.

20                   And they said it's going to take three  
21 (3) years. But within that three (3) years it can go  
22 longer because some of those places where the road's  
23 going to go it's going to take a lot of work and a lot  
24 of expertise for other people to -- to get this road  
25 done.

1                   But other than that, it sounds like a  
2 good idea, but, you know, I don't know how many times  
3 you guys got together to speak about this, and this  
4 has been going on since as long as I can no, maybe two  
5 (2), three (3) years or more. But the more we talk  
6 about it's going -- it's going further.

7                   But some of the suggestions that some  
8 people had made here today, it sounds like it's --  
9 there's a lot of power behind it. And it sounds like  
10 they're willing to go ahead with it. But, you know,  
11 it's not only for us. It's for everybody. And who's  
12 proposing that -- not to put that road through, you  
13 got to think about the long generation. I mean, it's  
14 not only benefiting -- not us, we're getting older,  
15 we're not getting younger, but for the -- for the  
16 younger generation I think it'll be great for some of  
17 these people all around the Dehcho.

18                   Thank you very much. Masi cho.

19                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
20 comments? Questions or comments? Third and final  
21 time, questions or comments?

22                   Then let's eat. We will break for  
23 supper now. And we have a supper break from 5:00 till  
24 6:00, so we'll come back at 6:00. And again the floor  
25 will be open for questions or comments. As some

1 people are working today, they get off at five  
2 o'clock, so it's their chance to speak this evening.  
3 Thank you.

4

5 --- Upon recessing at 4:44 p.m.

6 --- Upon resuming at 6:18 p.m.

7

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, are we ready  
9 to start? Can Zinc, you have your team here?

10 WALTER MCPHERSON: Yeah.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. There you  
12 are. There's a slide in front of the room here, and I  
13 would just like to read it.

14 "In regards to the Mackenzie Valley  
15 Environmental assessment legal  
16 requirements --"

17 And it's just to give information in  
18 regards to some of the comments or the questions that  
19 were put out to us just before we broke for supper.

20 "-- the Review Board must have  
21 regard for the protection of the  
22 environment from significant adverse  
23 impacts, the protection of the  
24 social, cultural, and economic well-  
25 being of Mackenzie Valley residents

1                   and communities, the importance of  
2                   conservation to the well-being and  
3                   way of life of Aboriginal peoples.  
4                   The Review Board is also required to  
5                   ensure public concerns are taken  
6                   into account, carry out its duties  
7                   in a timely manner, new timelines  
8                   were as of April 1st, 2014, and the  
9                   process is also there to make sure  
10                  that it's run fairly. Also to make  
11                  decisions based on the evidence, and  
12                  also and finally to operate in a  
13                  transparent manner."

14                 So that is the role that the Mackenzie  
15                 Valley Board deals with in order for environmental  
16                 assessment. Some of those things were said in the  
17                 opening statements I made, but this is just an add-on  
18                 for information for people out there.

19                 So at this time, I would like to open  
20                 the floor now for questions or comments. And we'll  
21                 have the mic going to the individuals.

22                 Mr. Michaud...?

23                 MR. RAY MICHAUD:   Raymond Michaud. I  
24                 have a ques -- one (1) question dealing with the  
25                 economic benefits.



1                   If the road is approved, the all-  
2 weather road, the question I have is what initiatives  
3 are you presently doing to ensure that the majority of  
4 the contractors who build the road, maintain the road,  
5 are Northern contractors? Is there -- I know that  
6 there's a lot of discussion going on with Nahanni  
7 Butte, but I do know Nahanni Butte doesn't have the  
8 manpower to supply all the services that would be  
9 required to construct a road.

10                   But in combination with Fort Liard,  
11 Fort Simpson, Nahanni Butte, we probably would have  
12 enough equipment and manpower to do a -- a majority of  
13 the construction. So the question is to the board --  
14 not your Board --

15                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    To Can Zinc --

16                   MR. RAY MICHAUD:    -- Mack -- yeah.

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Yeah.

18                   MR. RAY MICHAUD:    What -- are there  
19 any initiatives to actually look at hiring  
20 Northerners, or are we going to bring in BC  
21 contractors, et cetera, to do the construction?

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay. Can Zinc,  
23 Alan Taylor.

24                   MR. ALAN TAYLOR:    Yes, it's Alan  
25 Taylor here, Canadian Zinc.

1                   There are a number of provisions within  
2 existing agreements that relate to employment and  
3 contracting precedence within the IBAs and also within  
4 our socioeconomic agreement with the GNWT, which is on  
5 the GNWT website. And it is our intention to employ -  
6 - maximize our employment for Northern residents here.

7                   And we -- we'll be going through  
8 probably some formal tendering for -- for various  
9 things, but that will follow the protocols within  
10 those agreements.

11                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Thank you.   Raymond,  
12 you had another question?

13                   MR. RAY MICHAUD:    Yes.   I'm just sort  
14 of curious, especially with the hauling aspect of it.  
15 We talked about lockable trucks, and whatever.

16                   Is this being made -- are the  
17 contractors being made aware of what kind of equipment  
18 they will require to supply so that they could be part  
19 of this transportation deal? And also what effect  
20 would the transporter going to BC have on equipment?

21                   I think back of the logging where we  
22 could not compete because the insurance for us to haul  
23 to BC was too much, whereas for BC to haul to the  
24 territories was less, so the BC truckers got all the -  
25 - the hauling. We couldn't afford to complete because

1 of the different laws between BC and -- and the -- and  
2 the territories.

3 I think we would love to see the -- it  
4 -- it go to Enterprise versus going to Fort Nelson.  
5 But unfortunately, that's the route that you've taken.  
6 So we will have to cross the BC border.

7 So I'm wondering what initiative will  
8 be given to the territorial contractors that they're  
9 able to supply the specialized equipment to haul the  
10 product on this all-season road once it's approved?  
11 You've made deals already with Nahanni Butte regarding  
12 the ferry you mentioned a little while ago. But are  
13 there any deals being made with the construction and  
14 the hauling?

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yeah. Go ahead.

16 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: It's Alan Taylor  
17 here. Just regarding the equipment for hauling,  
18 that's to be determined. We're sorting that out in  
19 our feasibility study as we speak, the exact  
20 specifications of those and what -- and what form it  
21 would take.

22 And of course we're looking at the most  
23 efficient method possible here. And your -- your  
24 comment on going via Enterprise rather than Fort  
25 Nelson is -- the rationale for that is because it's

1 the most efficient route to go to Fort Nelson, to  
2 railhead. Enterprise is an additional 100 kilometres  
3 of truck haul, and the roads are still questionable  
4 along those highways there.

5                   So -- and in -- in reference to the  
6 trans-border issues, we don't anticipate a -- a big  
7 issue regarding that. We haven't experienced that  
8 yet, but we haven't got into the details of that yet  
9 either. But we'll certainly look into it.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
11 Taylor.

12                   Questions or comments? Mr. Antoine,  
13 you're welcome to come to the table or to use the mic.  
14 Okay.

15

16                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18                   MR. JIM ANTOINE: Masi. Good evening,  
19 everybody. It's good to see you all here, and  
20 visiting Fort Simpson and the Dehcho, and all those  
21 that come to participate in this event here.

22                   My comments, I'll -- I'll try to keep  
23 them really brief and to the point. And is this --  
24 this hearing is -- is in regards to Canadian Zinc  
25 making application to build an all-weather road from -

1 - from their mine into -- connecting into the -- the  
2 highway -- Highway number 7.

3                   And this has been going on that  
4 Canadian Zinc and its pre -- you know, the -- the  
5 previous owners of Cadillac Mine been -- been involved  
6 in leadership here in the Dehcho and Fort Simpson, in  
7 Liidlili Kue, for many years. I remember the hearings  
8 we had on Cadillac Mines when you -- your pre --  
9 predecessors were the Northwest Territories Water  
10 Board.

11                   And at that time, Cadillac Mine had  
12 some arsenic, or cyanide, or whatever up in the mine -  
13 - in the mine there, and they had it for many years.  
14 But the -- the first thing Canadian Zinc did was to  
15 take it out of there, so that alleviated a lot of our  
16 problems.

17                   And I don't think -- you know, so I've  
18 been -- I'm -- I've been involved in -- in that mine  
19 site for -- since 1970s, so I'm fully aware of -- of  
20 that whole -- what has happened to date.

21                   So -- and the discussion about building  
22 an all-weather road, for me, the point is that  
23 Canadian Zinc has a mine there and it's got ore there  
24 that they want to get out of there and put it to  
25 market and make money on it. And so how they do it is

1 -- is not a very -- very -- a very big concern to me,  
2 just the fact that -- that when we first were involved  
3 in it, it was a -- a winter road. However, it has  
4 evolved to be an all-weather road.

5                   And the all-weather road has been also  
6 in the mix in the -- in the original discussion as  
7 well, if I recall that there's a possibility that at  
8 some point they may have an all-weather road.

9                   But as Canadian Zinc has been  
10 explaining to us, and my understanding is that in  
11 their work they've identified a couple of smelters  
12 where they -- they're going to buy the -- the ore. I  
13 don't know if it was raised here before, but to --  
14 today but I understand there's one (1) in South Korea  
15 and one in Sweden or someplace. And so they have to  
16 take the ore to Fort Nelson and put it on a train and  
17 then sell it and -- and once they sell it at these two  
18 (2) sites that's -- that's where they make their  
19 money. That's putting it simply on my -- that's what  
20 my understanding is.

21                   And the reason I'm saying this is that  
22 in June of 2011, the Chief and council -- I was a  
23 Chief at that time for the Liidlil Kue First Nation  
24 from 2009 till 2012. And in June of 2011 we -- we  
25 signed an impact benefits agreement with Canadian

1 Zinc. And at that time, too, had lengthy numerous  
2 negotiations. We -- the -- the Chief and council had  
3 directed the staff and the legal counsel to -- to come  
4 up with a -- with a IBA. And -- and we did. So we  
5 did sign it.

6                   And on the -- on the understanding at  
7 that time it was a winter road project. And, like I  
8 said earlier, there was also discussion that at some  
9 point if things all fall into place there may be a  
10 permanent road put in place. So that has been in the  
11 mix before. And getting back to the IBA that we -- we  
12 signed with the Canadian Zinc, there's many different  
13 factors and many different ideas that went into it.  
14 And first of all, the Naha Dene First Nation, the  
15 Nahanni Butte First Nations is immediately in their  
16 backyard, so they were, like, the primary group that -  
17 - that had to be taken into consideration. And that  
18 happened. And Canadian Zinc did sign a IBA with them  
19 first, and following that we negotiated ours. We  
20 were, like, a secondary kind of agreement there.

21                   And that's one (1) point. The -- the  
22 other point I want to raise is that the thinking  
23 behind it is -- is that we need employment for our  
24 people. There are many of our young people coming  
25 forward that -- that need to work and this is a very

1 good opportunity for, once the mine is in full swing,  
2 that there would be a lot of different work. If -- if  
3 our youth or our people around here so choose to  
4 become miners then -- then the opportunity will be  
5 there.

6                   Secondly is contracts. And for me at  
7 that point -- and -- and I still feel that way, is  
8 that economic development is -- is a really key factor  
9 for us in -- in our whole development as a -- as a  
10 Dene people because once you're employed and you're  
11 making an income, then it adds on to the social issues  
12 that exist today. You have education. You have --  
13 you have housing. You have many factors. So -- so if  
14 we're able to secure good contracts for the Liidlai  
15 Kue First Nation Corporation and as well the Liidlai  
16 Kue First Nation companies the opportunity is there in  
17 the IBA. So that's a good benefit that way.

18                   But it's up to the Liidlai Kue First  
19 Nations and -- and the members to get themselves  
20 ready. And there's a factor in the IBA where it is,  
21 like, you have to be -- there's a readiness factor in  
22 there where you have to get yourself organized and  
23 ready to take on these contracts. And we did -- we  
24 did receive some money upfront. The agreement itself,  
25 I think, is -- is still confidential for our members.



1 But generally speaking there -- there was some  
2 monetary upfront money.

3 But a lot of the agreement is -- is --  
4 is going to be triggered on by commencement of  
5 operation. And so that still hasn't happened yet, so  
6 once they start producing at the mine and selling the  
7 product, that's a key area at that time where a lot of  
8 these things will come into play.

9 And one (1) of the arguments that we  
10 always had is that -- as First Nations, is that  
11 whenever resource development happens in our -- in our  
12 country, in our backyard, we -- we're relegated, like  
13 everybody else, to scramble and compete for little,  
14 small contracts, you know.

15 And, at this case, one (1) of the  
16 points we -- we pushed really hard was to have a piece  
17 of the pie at the end of the day, you know, so not  
18 only the crumbs that fall off the table, but an actual  
19 piece of the pie at the end of the day. And I think  
20 we did that with an -- an item called net profit  
21 interest which is we get a percentage of whatever's  
22 leftover after -- after the -- after they -- they have  
23 the -- the gross revenue. And then you subtract  
24 revenue. Whatever is left, we get a percentage of  
25 that.

1                   So there -- there is -- kind of a  
2   guarantee that we -- we're going to be getting  
3   something out of the mine at the end of the day, not  
4   only on contracts and jobs, but as well as some  
5   monetary funds.

6                   So -- so I think we -- the direction we  
7   got from our members and chief and counsel of the day  
8   was that we will get a piece of the pie at the end of  
9   the day and -- and then we have to get ourselves ready  
10  to take on the jobs, and as well as go after the  
11  contracts that are there.

12                  And in many -- there are many IBAs in  
13  this country between First Nations and -- and  
14  different corporation -- resource corporations. And  
15  we -- we should do more homework to see what's the  
16  best deal out there so that -- you know, we always  
17  want to do it.

18                  So, in our case, Canadian Zinc mine, it  
19  was -- was the first in our -- in our -- in their  
20  territory, in our region, so -- and we got to make  
21  sure we did it right and that -- I hope we did it  
22  right because it's going to set a precedent for  
23  anything else that's going to come after.

24                  And from what -- at that time, in June  
25  of 2011, we thought we had -- we -- we had a pretty

1 good deal. You know that is kind of equivalent to a  
2 lot of other IBAs that we were able to look at. But  
3 things have changed since that time, so there's this  
4 other IBAs that are even bigger and better, I guess,  
5 out there, but I'm not familiar with it today.

6 But -- so having said that, with all  
7 those reasons, and I think there's -- there's clauses  
8 in there where you could renegotiate if there's  
9 discrepancies and if there is a difference of opinion  
10 on how to proceed on these -- this IBA, so it's there  
11 and -- to improve on it and -- and to renegotiate if  
12 possible.

13 And I just -- the point about the -- my  
14 support for the all-weather road, it's there. I think  
15 it's -- it's a good deal. I think that, as Liidlii  
16 Kue First Nations, we -- we stand to -- to benefit  
17 from it if -- if we -- we really look at the IBA and  
18 make sure that Liidlii Kue First Nations and Canadian  
19 Zinc are satisfactory on -- on the -- their  
20 negotiations and that I think it'll be good for -- for  
21 everybody in this area and for -- for the North, so.

22 I'm going to speak a little bit in my  
23 language.

24

25 (INTERPRETED FROM SOUTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

1                   MR. JIM ANTOINE:    What I'm saying is  
2   that, in the past, when I was a chief previously, when  
3   I was the chief 2009 to 2012, at that time, Canadian  
4   Zinc, we -- and we negotiated with them. And we --  
5   they -- they really wanted a permit, so -- oh, they  
6   really wanted a water li -- licence and a permit, so  
7   they had talked to us. And the way we understood it  
8   is that they -- that they should make an IBA -- IBA  
9   with the Nahanni Butte people because it is their land  
10  that should be -- they should be counted first.

11                   But after you're done with them, then  
12  we -- then there was an opportunity for us to make a  
13  negotiation, so we made an IBA. So why we did that so  
14  that our people -- our people can -- can be employed,  
15  and we also have some companies that could benef --  
16  benefit from it if the opportunity became available.

17                   So they are also employment, what --  
18  whatever the Nahanni Butte don't get then we can get  
19  the leftovers. And that's how we had -- had prepared.  
20  So -- so if they -- if -- so if they made money, and  
21  how are they going -- going to -- how are you going to  
22  look at that. How can you make contracts, and how you  
23  can make money, and how the young people can work and  
24  -- and gain monetary benefits.

25                   And -- and in regard to settling the

1 lead thing, they have to sell it across the ocean so  
2 they can make some -- they make use of it over there.  
3 So -- so in regards to mining, there are -- they are  
4 spending a lot of money, and whatever they earn they -  
5 - they will have whatever is left -- whatever is left  
6 over, we will also benefit from it.

7                   We mentioned three (3) -- we came up  
8 with three (3) items, so we incorporate that. So we  
9 made a IBM (sic) in June 2011. We made a IBM (sic) at  
10 that time. And then since -- since then they've been  
11 talking about the winter road. That was the only  
12 thing that they were going to build, but since then  
13 now -- now they want an all wea -- weather road they -  
14 - they want to build a road that they can use even in  
15 the summer.

16                   So in re -- so wherever they're going  
17 to sell the metal across the ocean so -- so how  
18 they're going to sell the -- the ore so they don't  
19 think -- they don't think they're going to get so much  
20 money, so they're going to transport a -- a bid.

21                   And then after that they research that,  
22 and then they said they wanted to build a road. And  
23 that's why they're saying that's what -- the way I  
24 think of it -- so we probably can do that. So if we  
25 really discussed it some people are really going to --

1 they're going to really talk about it, and there will  
2 probably be some -- some -- the road that will be  
3 built.

4 In the summer there are some -- there -  
5 - it is going through a mountainous area, and there  
6 are some areas where there's a lot of rock, and there  
7 is some soft land. So it would be -- be good if they  
8 would tell us about that -- they will tell us about  
9 that. And after that how are they going -- how  
10 they're going to maintain the road where -- that -- I  
11 -- I am quite concerned.

12 Or even now, where do you have -- you  
13 have cut lines a lot -- all kinds of people go hunting  
14 with -- with poor -- with four (4) wheelers so I'm a  
15 little bit -- I'm a little bit concerned that it's  
16 going to open the land for that, so how -- I wonder  
17 how all that's going to happen. I do -- I haven't  
18 heard that to this date.

19

20 So -- so I want to ask -- ask them if -  
21 - ask -- ask them a question about that.

22

23 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

24

25 MR. JIM ANTOINE: And after these

1 comments. And -- and it has to do with the road. And  
2 once the road is in, I heard from David in his -- in  
3 his presentation about -- he mentioned something about  
4 putting logs on the ground, and covered with the road.

5

6 Right away I don't think that's a good  
7 idea because once you put those kind of wood in the  
8 ground they -- they eventually rot, and fall apart.  
9 And I say that because the Liard Highway, when it was  
10 originally built some sections of it at the tail end  
11 of that project were done really fast, and I think the  
12 -- the construction people did -- it was -- they just  
13 more -- they just dug up the side and piled it in the  
14 middle over all the stumps and everything, and over  
15 the years those stumps rotted, and -- and the road  
16 became really bad.

17 And it cost lots of money to repair it,  
18 so I don't know if you did enough study before saying  
19 that you're going to put logs, and it's going to be  
20 floating. I don't know if that's ever been done. I  
21 guess we know up here that these logs will eventually  
22 rot and you're going to have problems. Just one (1)  
23 comment I want to make.

24 The other one is mainly about once the  
25 road is built and how is it going to be take -- not

1 taken care of, we heard that, but mainly other people  
2 from Nahanni Butte are going to be coming into that  
3 road and using it for hunting purpose and -- and other  
4 activities.

5                   And -- and I think it's -- it's --  
6 people are concerned about that because even today in  
7 the fall time, we have all kind of hunters coming in  
8 our area here. And mainly after there's a -- up among  
9 the -- the Yellowknife area where the -- they  
10 decimated the herds there of caribou.

11                   Everybody wants meat, so there's all  
12 kinds of people coming in our area to hunt in the  
13 fall. And they're bringing like four (4) wheelers.  
14 We don't know who these people are. We see licence  
15 plates with Alberta, BC. And -- and that has to be  
16 really looked at real carefully to make sure that, you  
17 know, that whole area -- there's probably a lot of  
18 moose in there, too.

19                   So I wouldn't mind going in there  
20 myself, but I would have to ask the chief from Nahanni  
21 Butte permission. But I think -- I think that's a  
22 protocol. Like a Dene protocol is that if you go in  
23 somebody's territory, you ask them, you know.

24                   But nowadays, people from -- they're  
25 not Dene, they -- they come in our area. They don't



1 know our protocol, you know. They come in there, they  
2 say, Hey, it's a free country, this is Canada, I could  
3 go any place I want. So -- so there's a clash of  
4 cultures there that has to be taken into consideration  
5 when you do that.

6                   So, even today if I -- in the past,  
7 when we used to go for caribou hunting in the Tlicho  
8 area, like we asked the Tlicho leadership, We're going  
9 to go hunting in your area. Or if we're going into  
10 Lutsel Kue, we tell them. And then if we go to  
11 Wrigley area or we go to the Sahtu, we ask permission.

12                   That is the Dene protocol, but non-Dene  
13 people, they -- they come into our territory now and  
14 they just hunt any place they want. And we see that -  
15 - I see that up north Nahanni in the fall time and  
16 Rude River. And there's nothing you could do about  
17 it. You just go by them, and we don't know who they  
18 are.

19                   And so that's -- that is going to be a  
20 problem in -- in -- with -- with that whole area. So  
21 -- and maybe you could comment on those two (2), about  
22 your logs and about the -- the hunting. Masi. Thank  
23 you.

24                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi, Mr. Antoine.  
25                   Mr. Harpley...?

1 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's Dave Harpley.

2 Yes, thanks, Jim.

3 Regarding the logs, I'm not an  
4 engineer, and the fellow who would logically answer  
5 this question is coming tonight. Unfortunately, he's  
6 not here right now, but we can address that question  
7 later in the week. But I'd prefer not to try and  
8 answer it myself as I'm not qualified.

9 On the second point regarding access,  
10 yes, you're right, it is a -- an issue. It's one that  
11 we've wrestled with quite a bit, as you know.

12 One (1) thing I didn't mention earlier  
13 in my presentation was that, in conditions where the  
14 river's open, we're using a barge for -- for access to  
15 cross the river. Of course, it'll be our barge.  
16 It'll be private, so it won't be available to anybody  
17 else.

18 So if there are folks that want to  
19 cross the river, they'll have to figure their own way  
20 of getting across. And we accept that, if -- if  
21 people are really determined, maybe they will do that.

22 And I talked earlier about the -- the  
23 surface leases that we will be required to have on  
24 both sides of the river which we think will be a  
25 practical deterrent as far as controlling access.

1 It's not an -- it's not an absolute deterrent because  
2 again, if people are really determined, they'll find  
3 another way around.

4                   So that's the reason that one (1) of  
5 the tasks of the environmental monitors and a  
6 checkpoint at some -- some strategic location is  
7 basically to put an added check on road use and -- and  
8 try and prevent that. But it -- it is something we're  
9 -- we're going -- we're going to need to -- need to  
10 monitor quite closely and -- and -- and do the best we  
11 can. But right now those are the only legal  
12 instruments available to us. We don't have the  
13 ability to make the road completely private.

14                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay. Thank you.  
15 Questions or comments from the public? Dolly...?

16                   MS. DOLLY TSETSO:   Speaking about the  
17 highway, the road that's going to be --

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Dolly, could you  
19 just say your name again for the record?

20                   MS. DOLLY TSETSO:   Oh, I'm sorry.  
21 It's Dolly Tsetso. That -- that -- okay then, I'm  
22 from here. Speaking of the highway that -- the road  
23 that's going to be going into -- into the mines, isn't  
24 there such a thing as putting up -- maybe putting up  
25 signs stating that there's men at work? There's going

1 to be continuous work on that road apparently, I  
2 guess. Couldn't they put signs up stating not to be  
3 shooting or hunting on that road at all -- at all  
4 because of men at work continuously?

5                   And just talking with Nahanni Butte  
6 band if they can put a gate up, and use that gate only  
7 for access for the people that are going in and out of  
8 the Diavik Mine. And if the band or anyone wants to  
9 use that road for everything, then they'll have to  
10 meet with the Chief of Nahanni Butte for access, any  
11 kind of access. And then I think that would work out  
12 a lot better for everybody around rather than think  
13 you can push people away from that road. It's not  
14 going to be that easy. There are people that are up  
15 there that could be ignorant and very greedy.

16                   And -- and talking about the money part  
17 of the -- the zinc mine, at this time and stage it's  
18 like holding your wallet open -- holding your wallet  
19 open to a pie that hasn't even started to -- to be  
20 cooked or made. Right now the focus should be on the  
21 work, the road being open, and the youth put to work,  
22 training. That's another thing I want to ask you  
23 about is training. Training and whatever else you  
24 have out there to dish out for the youth that, you  
25 know, that you -- hopefully you will be hiring for the

1 project.

2                   And my question on the training, if you  
3 do get the youth out there to work, what kind of --  
4 what -- what kind and what type of training would you  
5 have available for these young people? Because they  
6 will be coming to you, I guess you could call them  
7 greenhorns. Not knowing anything or not much. There  
8 would be some that know about the land, but not  
9 nothing much more. What kind of training? And will  
10 you be expecting from them the capability and ability  
11 of being out there at a mine like your camp?

12                   That's my -- my most interest in that  
13 because I have children that -- young people that  
14 would be maybe interested to go to work over there and  
15 I wouldn't want them to be sent home because they  
16 can't do anything because they don't understand. Will  
17 you make them understand? Will you help them to  
18 understand and have the knowledge -- grow with the  
19 knowledge of knowing what happens at a mine above and  
20 under and all around? Thank you.

21                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Harpley, are you  
22 going to try to answer some of those questions? Okay.

23                   MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Yes, thank you,  
24 Chair. It's Dave Harpley here. So two (2) main  
25 points. So I'll deal with them in order. The first

1 point regarding signage and additional deterrent on  
2 the road. You're absolutely correct that part of the  
3 strategy will include signage ini -- initially saying  
4 very clearly that it's the traditional territory of  
5 the Nahanni Butte Dene band. In fact, those signs I  
6 believe are already on the highway. But most likely  
7 we would want to encourage and help the band to have  
8 additional signs kind of all the way along the route,  
9 particularly at the major junctures, such as where our  
10 road leaves the Nahanni Butte access road.

11                   And we will also have signage which  
12 makes it very clear that the road is an industrial  
13 road and it's -- and it's carrying heavy traffic, and  
14 that that -- it poses dangers to the general public.  
15 So that's a given in terms of signage.

16                   As far as gating is concerned, the  
17 gating is something that we've explored. We're not --  
18 we're not able to gate a public road. I -- I think we  
19 -- as far as I understand, we would be able to gate  
20 the leases that we would be required to hold, at least  
21 the entry to the crossing and the exit from the  
22 crossing, because it's land that we would be  
23 responsible for.

24                   Certainly, we've been told that we can  
25 control access, so I assume that includes a gate of

1 some form, at least some form of checkpoint, some  
2 operated -- you know, a manned situation where there's  
3 an obstacle involved to people that we don't really  
4 want on the road.

5 Another initiative that's worth  
6 exploring and I think the band are very interested in  
7 is -- and again, this is a follow-up to a discussion  
8 we've had with ENR, and that is it's -- it's our  
9 understanding that, if -- if there was a cabin on the  
10 road, you are permitted to post a sign that basically  
11 says there's no -- no hunting or shooting is  
12 acceptable within 5 kilometres of the cabin location.

13 So this particular angle is -- is worth  
14 exploring more. It may be something else that we can  
15 implement with -- with help from the band. So we're -  
16 - we're looking for more ways to -- to manage the  
17 situation and -- and to minimize the potential for  
18 these impacts, but we -- we have to operate within the  
19 law, so.

20 And on your second point regarding  
21 training, I -- I'm just going to go from memory here,  
22 but we've operated a number of training programs  
23 already, and the ones that I can remember, I think  
24 we've operated an environmental monitor course twice  
25 at the mine site. We've -- we've had a -- a camp

1 catering course at least once, maybe twice. We've had  
2 a -- a heavy machinery kind of road construction type  
3 course once. We've had a -- a tree felling kind of  
4 chainsaw course already, and that's to this point.

5                   What's in the pipeline at this minute  
6 is we're actively talking to MTS about a rollout of  
7 additional training programs. They needed -- as I  
8 understand it, they need to start with a -- an  
9 occupational health and safety course, which we  
10 understand. The first priority's always safety, so  
11 people have to know how to work safely before they can  
12 consider other tasks and -- and types of work.

13                   But the other kind of things that we're  
14 exploring as far as additional programs are surface  
15 mining, although that wouldn't be our case. But  
16 there's underground mining. There's mineral  
17 processing. There's geoscience field assistant, and  
18 that's a reality. Any mine always continues to  
19 explore when it's in operation.

20                   So there's a -- there's a number of  
21 programs here already. And I think the -- the  
22 momentum will build as we hopefully approach  
23 operations where we're actively seeking help from MTS  
24 to roll out the programs so people can be trained  
25 ahead of time. And to be fair, MTS have been very



1 supportive of the initiatives and helpful in bringing  
2 these programs forward.

3 ms. THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Harpley. Ms. - Tsetso...?

5 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Okay, thank you for  
6 your answers. It sounds very interesting. And I hope  
7 -- hopefully it'll work -- come out work -- working  
8 out right for everybody well. And what about -- how  
9 soon do you think the Diavik -- Mine would -- can open  
10 up for the road to begin? What's causing all that to  
11 stop? Who's doing it?

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dolly, I think  
16 you're saying "Diavik". And do you mean Can Zinc?

17 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: I --

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yeah.

19 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Yeah, I'm sorry.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yeah.

21 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Not Diavik, I'm  
22 sorry. I take that back. Canadian Zinc.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Taylor...?

24 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yes, it's Alan  
25 Taylor. I think the question is: How soon can the

1 mine be operating? We're estimating right now that  
2 the mine could go in as early as -- it would take  
3 three (3) years to -- to build and operate at this  
4 stage. It takes a while to access and upgrade and --  
5 and rebuild what we're -- what's out there already.

6 That's just an approximation. We'll  
7 have a better handle on that when our feasibility  
8 study is more complete.

9 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: What you're saying  
10 now is that you don't have any kind of training or  
11 anything for -- for the youth at -- any time soon? Is  
12 -- is that what you're saying?

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Taylor...?

14 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: This is Alan Taylor.

15 No, we intend to carry on our training.  
16 We've had training in the past -- much training in the  
17 past with relate -- relating to our exploration and  
18 development programs, and we'll -- we'll endeavour to  
19 continue that training initiative as -- as best we can  
20 into operations, and through operations.

21 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: And when is this  
22 happening?

23 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: It's Alan -- it's  
24 Alan Taylor.

25 Well, as we speak, we're actually

1 investigating a -- a training initiative that's just  
2 opening up with the Mine Training Society that -- it  
3 comes in -- in -- the funding that's available comes  
4 in waves, and we're just sorting that out as we speak,  
5 and we hope to report back to you on that shortly.

6 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: And that year-round  
7 road, what's -- what's causing the problem there that  
8 it cannot continue on?

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Mr.  
10 Taylor...? Dolly, just a reminder as to, please,  
11 address the Chair to your questions, and we forward  
12 them on. And to say your name again for the record.  
13 Thank you.

14 MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Yes, it's Alan  
15 Taylor.

16 I think the question was what's --  
17 what's holding up the road? Well, we're -- this --  
18 this is the process we're in. We need a permit prior  
19 to executing any road construction.

20 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: This is Dolly  
21 again.

22 Alan, where would you get this permit  
23 from, and your -- how long you been waiting for it?

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Just a reminder,  
25 Dolly, that you have to address the Chair. You can't

1 ask them directly. Just address the Chair in your  
2 questions. Just a moment. Do we have legal counsel?  
3 Okay. We have our executive director to respond to  
4 the question.

5 MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIPS: So just to  
6 -- to follow up -- Mark Cliffe-Phillips, executive  
7 director with the Review Board.

8 As -- as Alan had mentioned, the  
9 process right now is under review by the Mackenzie  
10 Valley Review Board to approve the -- the mine, or --  
11 or put conditions to how that approval may happen, or  
12 -- or potentially at the end of the day, they -- they  
13 can make a decision that there's significant adverse  
14 effects that may not be mitigated.

15 But in terms of the permitting, our  
16 recommendation would go to the Minister of INAC, who  
17 would make the -- the final decision on the -- the  
18 environmental assessment. And after that, the  
19 application would return to the Mackenzie Valley Land  
20 and Water Board for permitting, land use permitting,  
21 and a type B water licence. And Parks Canada for land  
22 use permits and -- and water licences within the park.

23 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Okay. This is  
24 Dolly again.

25 Just how long do you think you'd --

1 you'd be doing this? Is there any possible way of  
2 pushing it through so that you don't have to wait  
3 years and years for this anymore?

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Phillips...?

5 MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIPS: Mark  
6 Cliffe-Phillips again.

7 In terms of the process here, we're --  
8 we're at the tail end of our process. The -- this is  
9 the last of the -- the public hearings that we're  
10 having this week for this project. Concluding this,  
11 and any other further follow-up that may be required  
12 from the -- the next few days, the Board would repro -  
13 - produce its report of EAs within the next few months  
14 at the latest.

15 At that point, the -- it would then go  
16 to the Minister for their final approval.

17 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Thank you.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
19 comments? We have a speaker. I think it was -- I'm  
20 sorry, Garth, there's one (1) more speaker ahead of  
21 you and she has signed up, and it's Leah Keats. Would  
22 you -- would you like to have the mic, or would you  
23 like to come to the table? It's your choice.

24 MS. LEAH KEATS: Thank you. My name  
25 is Leah Keats, and I thank you for the opportunity to

1 speak.

2                   While I don't profess to be an  
3 environmental expert, or a geologist, I do appreciate  
4 the need to review and discuss real and potential  
5 issues and effects such a project as this might have.

6                   However, from reading -- from anything  
7 and everything that I've read to date concerning this  
8 -- the Impact Assessment Review, it appears that  
9 Canadian Zinc is dotting all their 'T' -- 'I's and  
10 crossing all their 'T's to meet the recommendations  
11 and the requirements. And short of guaranteeing  
12 things that probably cannot be guaranteed, I'm not  
13 sure what more can be done.

14                  I don't really understand why it takes  
15 more than ten (10) years -- to carry on with Dolly's  
16 train of thought -- to make a decision on this issue  
17 with all the information that's been presented over  
18 the years.

19                  And I don't know the history of the  
20 Board members, but I'm pretty sure that there's been a  
21 high rate of turnover of members in the last ten (10)  
22 years since this pro -- or more since this process has  
23 begun, not to mention that there's been five (5)  
24 federal elections, three (3) territorial elections,  
25 and several local government elections, which equals a

1 lot of different input.

2                   So I guess my question is, why so long  
3 and drawn-out a process? And if I may be so bold, my  
4 recommendation would be: Take the information  
5 provided and make a decision one way or the other.  
6 That way everybody can move on, because this all-  
7 weather road would allow Canadian Zinc to mine, and it  
8 would be a great kick-start to the economy in the  
9 whole region and would really lessen the dependency on  
10 the government. So thank you.

11                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms.  
12 Keats.

13                   Mr. Wallbridge...?

14                   MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE: Yes, thank you,  
15 Madam Chair. As -- I'm Garth Wallbridge, the legal  
16 counsel for the Nahanni Butte Dene Band. Through you,  
17 Madam Chair, to the executive director, I understood a  
18 moment as a follow-up to Dolly's question that -- I  
19 think I'm stating it correctly -- we're in the -- your  
20 group is -- your Board is now in the final steps of  
21 this. And I believe I understood that the -- the next  
22 step is this Board making a decision, and it could  
23 take a number of months.

24                   Is -- and so the question is: Is there  
25 any norm within the Board in terms of how long a

1 decision takes? Is there any way that the -- the  
2 Board can indicate tonight whether they're able at  
3 this point to determine if it's weeks, months, or  
4 years until there's a decision?

5 And so that's the question. You know,  
6 based on prior experience, when might we expect a  
7 decision? Thank you.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I'll refer  
9 the question over to the executive director. And  
10 there is a process and there is estimations.

11 MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIPS: Thank you,  
12 Madam Chair. Mark Cliffe-Phillips, with the Review  
13 Board.

14 To -- to answer your question, Garth,  
15 they -- the Board has produced a work plan. The work  
16 plan is on our -- our public registry. In terms of  
17 the timing that we estimate, I believe what -- that we  
18 -- we estimated three (3) months at the -- at the  
19 most. I'd have to refer back to our -- our public  
20 registry to -- to confirm that.

21 We do build in buffer time to allow the  
22 Board to consider all the information that's on the  
23 record and -- and give the -- the Board the best  
24 information possible for them to -- to make their  
25 deliberations.



1                   That being said, the -- the Board,  
2   depending on timing and -- and the -- the completion  
3   of the -- the potential undertakings that may follow  
4   this -- this public hearing, they may produce it  
5   sooner or later, depending on the -- the level of  
6   information that they have to consider.

7                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Follow-up, Mr.  
8   Wallbridge?

9                   MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE:   Yes. Thank  
10   you, Madam Chair. And thank you for those comments.  
11   We do appreciate that. So again, Garth Wallbridge  
12   speaking, for the record.

13                   The next step after the Board makes its  
14   decision -- and this is for the clarification of  
15   people in the audience most particularly -- I believe  
16   I understand the process would be the Board makes a  
17   recommendation to the minister.

18                   And is there any time requirement on  
19   the minister to reply with his or her decision? Thank  
20   you.

21                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Mr. Phillips...?

22                   MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIPS:   Yes. In  
23   terms of an environment assessment that includes a --  
24   a public hearing, the minister has up to five (5)  
25   months to -- to make their decision. There are

1 processes within the legislation that allow them to  
2 extend that timeline, but based on our experience,  
3 it's been within the timelines.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Questions or  
5 comments from the public?

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Michaud...?

10 MR. RAY MICHAUD: Thank you. Ray  
11 Michaud. Just to expand, after the Minister makes a  
12 decision it's not giving approval for the road. Am I  
13 correct? It goes to another board? I think it goes  
14 to the -- the water board?

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'll have our legal  
16 counsel John Donihee answer that question.

17 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: Thank you, Madam  
18 Chair. It's John Donihee. Once the Minister makes a  
19 decision, of course, it -- we're not to presuppose  
20 what -- what that is because the Minister, of course,  
21 could -- could say no. But assuming that the Minister  
22 makes a decision, the Minister's decision goes to the  
23 regulators at that point. So for the territorial  
24 lands -- the GNWT's lands that will mean to the  
25 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. It has the

1 final authority to issue land use permits and 'B'  
2 water licences for -- on those lands.

3 At the same time, our friends from  
4 Parks Canada have authority to issue water licences  
5 and land use permits for the national parks land. So  
6 there -- there's two (2) sort of regulators involved  
7 here because of the national park lands. But at that  
8 point they simply have a -- a regulatory decision to  
9 make and there are no further public hearing  
10 requirements or -- or anything like that.

11 There may be -- there may be some  
12 public engagement by exchange of -- of correspondence  
13 and that kind of thing, but this is the -- you know,  
14 by -- when this hearing is adjourned on Friday that  
15 will be the end of public hearings with respect to  
16 this particular road construction -- all-weather road  
17 construction application.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr.  
19 Wallbridge...?

20 MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE: Thank you,  
21 Madam Chair. Garth Wallbridge, legal counsel for the  
22 Nahanni Butte Dene Band. Through you, Madam Chair, to  
23 your legal counsel, just for clarification does Parks  
24 Canada have the same authority for issuing water  
25 licences and -- and the park reserve as they do in the

1 park?

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Donihee...?

3 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: Thank you, Madam  
4 Chair. John Donihee.

5 My -- my understanding is that the  
6 answer is yes, although I don't con -- purport to be  
7 an expert on the way that national parks regulates.  
8 But in -- in this case my understanding is that, yes,  
9 they will deal with both the use of land and the  
10 effects of a road within the park on -- on water  
11 through a licence.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Sorry about that.  
16 Mr. Harpley...?

17 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: Thank you, Madam  
18 Chair. Since the question was raised and it's -- it  
19 does seem that the audience is genuinely interested in  
20 understanding the process, I did want to offer a  
21 perspective based on our previous experience with the  
22 last EA. That was the EA for the -- the actual mine  
23 and the winter road.

24 I do recall that the Review Board's  
25 decision on that EA was issued in December 2011. And

1 in January 2012, we had started the permitting process  
2 with the water board. I -- I'm not entirely sure --  
3 in other words they -- the -- the water board did not  
4 wait for the Minister's response. They just carried  
5 on immediately.

6 Now, I'm not entirely sure why that  
7 was. I -- I believe it has to do with the nature of  
8 the Review Board's decision. But I -- I guess I just  
9 wanted to bring that up because there -- there may be  
10 a situation where the same would apply here. I don't  
11 know. I'm -- I'm genuinely interested myself, but  
12 maybe the audience is too.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Donihee...?

14 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: Thank you, Madam  
15 Chair. Fortunately we don't swear witnesses here  
16 because lawyers generally tend to be nervous about  
17 giving evidence. But I'll do the best I can for you,  
18 sir.

19 My understanding in -- in that case was  
20 that the Impact Review Board decided that there were  
21 no significant impacts resulting, so it was a decision  
22 under section -- or paragraph 128(1)(a) of the  
23 Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. And because  
24 of that, the ministers didn't have a decision to make.

25 What happens -- and again, you know, it

1 depends on what the Board decides, but if the Board  
2 identifies significant -- or potentially significant  
3 impacts and makes a recommendation of measures to  
4 mitigate those impacts, then that's -- that's the  
5 decision that goes to the minister. So the ministers  
6 look at the proposed mitigation. They look at the --  
7 the determination of impact at the outset. And then  
8 the -- the mitigation is proposed.

9                   If the ministers felt the proposed  
10 mitigation were onerous in some way or that perhaps  
11 they took a different view of the evidence, they  
12 literally could send it back to the Board or consult  
13 to modify. There -- there's a variety of options that  
14 -- that can happen.

15                   But to come to your question, in that  
16 case, since the Board said no significant impacts, it  
17 could go straight to the Land and Water Board for  
18 their consideration. And I -- I would say that -- as  
19 -- as you'll remember, that the mine itself, of  
20 course, was -- it was a Type A water licence, and it's  
21 mandatory under the Waters Act for there to be a  
22 hearing for a Type A water licence, so there -- there  
23 was additional process in that case.

24                   And I -- I would simply distinguish  
25 that from what we're talking about here where, you

1 know, what -- what's to follow really is simply the  
2 issuance of land use permits and a 'B' water licence  
3 for the smaller projects and that, as I said earlier,  
4 they don't -- they do not require public hearings.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
6 Questions or comments from the public? Mr.  
7 Wallbridge...?

8 MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE: Thank you,  
9 Madam Chair. It occurs to me that for further  
10 clarification for the folks in the room on this issue,  
11 I would ask through you of your legal counsel, perhaps  
12 yourself, that the minister that we're talking that  
13 you report to and make a recommendation to is the  
14 territorial minister of lands?

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mark Cliffe-  
16 Phillips...?

17 MR. MARK CLIFF-PHILLIPS: In -- in  
18 this particular case, it would be the minister of  
19 INAC. The -- the reason for that post-evolution where  
20 on territorial lands the -- the minister of lands is  
21 the -- the minister that would make a decision in this  
22 case because a portion of the project is on still  
23 federal managed lands to Nahanni National Park  
24 Reserves. The -- the minister of INAC will be making  
25 the -- the decision in this -- this EA.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
2 comments from the public?

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Ms. Konisenta...?

7 MS. JAYNE KONISENTE: Jayne Konisenta.

8 I just want to clarify what Mark just said. It's not  
9 National Park, it's Nahanni -- it's a reserve. It's  
10 still a reserve, not national. Okay, thanks.

11 MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIP: Thank you  
12 for that clarification.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
14 comments from the public? Mr. Wallbridge...?

15 MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE: Thank you,  
16 Madam Chair. Garth Wallbridge. The possibil -- the -  
17 - the response time required, so through you perhaps  
18 to -- to your executive director, the -- the response  
19 time required of the minister then is five (5) months  
20 and an extension. And that same legislation, the same  
21 requirement of time to respond and a possible  
22 extension would be the same with a GNWT minister of  
23 lands as with the federal minister of INAC?

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Cliffe-  
25 Phillips...?



1 MR. MARK CLIFFE-PHILLIPS: Mark  
2 Cliffe-Phillips. That -- that is correct. The  
3 timelines are -- are identical for either ministers.  
4 Just to -- to clarify, it's the same legislation. The  
5 -- the decision on who makes those decisions are  
6 through the Devolution Act and the delegation  
7 instruments associated with that.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
9 comments from the public?

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Final call for  
14 questions or comments from the public?

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: I just want to  
19 remind the community and the people that are out here  
20 right now attending this hearing, for the next three  
21 (3) days there's going to be a more formal hearing,  
22 and they're technical hearings. So at that point, you  
23 won't have the opportunity to ask such questions at  
24 the hearings.

25 So this is your chance here for any

1 clarification in regards to the questions that you  
2 would like to have asked. Okay.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, it's my  
8 clarification. Each of the days from 4:30 to 5:00  
9 there will be an opportunity for the community to ask  
10 questions. 4:30 to 5:00.

11 Any other questions or comments from  
12 the community?

13

14 (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dolly...? State  
17 your name again.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Okay. This is  
22 Dolly Tsetso.

23 I want to just ask one more question.

24 If it's -- I know it's going to be like battering the  
25 same question over and over, but what's going to

1 happen if the people decide to just go ahead and work  
2 on that road whether -- or with or without any  
3 comments from the government, or anybody else?

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Well, Dolly, as was  
5 stated in the opening remarks that this Board here is  
6 only responsible and to deal with the Pri -- Canadian  
7 Zinc all season road.

8 So I am not sure if you're referring to  
9 the other road that --

10 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: I am --

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- is talking --

12 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: I am referring to  
13 the all season road.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Well, we'll  
15 get our legal counsel to answer that because it's  
16 definitely a lawyer's questions and response.

17 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: Thank you, Madam  
18 Chair. John Donihee, Board counsel.

19 The Review Board has no legal authority  
20 or jurisdiction over that particular issue. I -- I  
21 think what the Chair has said several times today  
22 really is that this Board is responsible for making a  
23 decision and a recommendation about the potential for  
24 significant adverse impacts or significant public  
25 concern.

1                   And they -- the Board will write a  
2 report after the hearings is over -- are over. And as  
3 we explained a few moments ago, that report then goes  
4 to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
5 Canada. And so that's -- that's what this Board's job  
6 is, to make a decision about impacts and public  
7 concern.

8                   And with respect to the activities that  
9 take place on either territorial GNWT lands or -- or  
10 federal lands, the answer to what might happen if  
11 things -- you know, additional activities take place  
12 out there is -- is really a question for the  
13 landowners, the governments that are responsible for  
14 those lands. And at -- at the end of the day, this  
15 Board has no legal authority one (1) way or the other  
16 to make a decision about those kinds of activities on  
17 those lands.

18                   MS. DOLLY TSETSO: I -- I want to say  
19 something about that, but I best not because it's  
20 going to get some people up in -- up in --

21                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Dolly, just sta --

22                   MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Okay, this --  
23 sorry, I'm sorry.

24                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Dolly, just state  
25 your name again, please.

1 MS. DOLLY TSETSO: Yeah. It's Dolly  
2 Tsetso again. I want to thank you all very much for  
3 listening and giving us the -- giving me the time to -  
4 - to hear what I have to say. I know I'll have more  
5 questions in the days to come, but I'm going to wait  
6 for what you have to say before I say -- I ask any  
7 more questions. Thank you. Masi.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Dolly.  
9 Mr. Wallbridge...?

10 MR. GARTH WALLBRIDGE: Thank you,  
11 Madam Chair. Garth Wallbridge, legal counsel for the  
12 Nahanni Butte Dene Band.

13 My client, the Chief, has just asked  
14 that I perhaps assist Mr. Donihee. I don't think he  
15 intended to -- to limit his comments to GNWT land and  
16 federal land. There is of course also a third  
17 category of land of relevance here, and that's Indian  
18 -- the IBA land. That is of some relevance. And --  
19 and again, it's not within your Board's purview. It's  
20 just the Chief wants to be sure that that's understood  
21 as well. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you,  
23 Mr. Wallbridge.

24 Questions or comments? Questions or  
25 comments? Final questions or comments? Mr.

1 McPherson...?

2 MR. WALTER MCPHERSON: Good after --  
3 good evening. It's Walter McPherson here again.

4 The question I wanted to ask: If the  
5 road goes ahead, the winter road will be built to get  
6 all the machinery that they need on the Prairie Creek  
7 Mine site to build the all-winter road. It's like  
8 October it start to get cold, November it's pretty  
9 well into the winter.

10 Are they going to build a road halfway  
11 until it gets warm, and then wait till the snow and  
12 all that goes away so they could start the -- like the  
13 -- the main ground of the -- of the road? Are they  
14 going to start from that way and then also from  
15 Nahanni side? Are they going to work together? How  
16 are they going to go about that?

17 Like during the winter, I know it's  
18 going to be a winter road. But if they get all their  
19 equipment to the -- to the site, are they going to  
20 start from the site, work towards Nahanni, or  
21 Nahanni's going to work that way until the -- till the  
22 winter road runs out, like the winter road stops?

23 That's my questions. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Harpley...?

25 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's Dave Harpley.

1 Construction obviously requires equipment, and we  
2 don't really have the equipment necessary at the mine.  
3 So we would be building from the east, from Nahanni  
4 Butte, to go west into the mine. So we will need to  
5 wait in order to cross the -- an ice bridge over the  
6 Liard River and then head west from there.

7                   So initially, the -- the initial winter  
8 road will be later in the winter than we would like.  
9 But we are limited by how early we can start because  
10 of the lowland terrain and the ice bridge restriction.

11                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

12                   Mr. McPherson...?

13                   MR. WALTER MCPHERSON: Here again it's  
14 -- you said you were going to start from Nahanni into  
15 the mine site. There again, it's like this past year  
16 and the year before, it doesn't get like the weather  
17 that we used to get, like thirty-five (35), forty (40)  
18 below. And the terrain there, some places you might  
19 have to go over some muskeg and cross creeks. You  
20 have to make ice bridges, and wherever there's muskeg  
21 you're going to have to probably get some snow and  
22 water to make that hard.

23                   So in other words what I'm saying is  
24 when you get across on the winter road on the other  
25 side to start the project during the summer, is there

1 going to be a place there where you guys got to put  
2 all your equipment and start from there? That's my  
3 question. Thanks.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Harpley...?

5 MR. DAVID HARPLEY: It's Dave Harpley.  
6 You're absolutely right. Just in the time between the  
7 last EA, which completed in 2011 and now we've seen  
8 several years of warmer conditions. And that's partly  
9 the reason we're here today. We just felt that  
10 operationally there was too much risk with a winter  
11 road. So that's why we're looking for an all-season  
12 road.

13 But the initial winter road,  
14 unfortunately we will have to wait until conditions  
15 are suitable for a winter road. In other words, later  
16 in the winter when things are more frozen because we  
17 have to get equipment in. We have to get fuel in.  
18 Currently we're flying fuel in to the mine to sustain  
19 operations at the mine during the summertime for care  
20 and maintenance and that's not cheap. But it's a fact  
21 of life at the minute. We don't have road access.

22 So the other consideration is for the  
23 initial winter road we -- we need to get some material  
24 into the site. We need to get some construction  
25 supplies in to the site, but it's not a huge amount.



1 So provided we get a winter road in -- in the early  
2 part of the year, like -- you know, I'm talking, like,  
3 January/February time, we feel we should have enough  
4 time to get in the supplies for the first road at  
5 least to start the construction at the mine. And  
6 thereafter we would move equipment in so we can  
7 potentially start working on the all-season road from  
8 both ends of the road.

9 MR. WALTER MCPHERSON: That's my  
10 question.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or --  
12 questions or comments from the public?

13

14 (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Questions or  
17 comments from the public?

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Final questions or  
22 comments from the public? Okay.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 CLOSING COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON:

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: I have some closing  
3 remarks that I would like to say then on this hearing.  
4 We have arrived at the end of the community hearing in  
5 Fort Simpson. Thank you to everyone that spoke today.  
6 The Review Board has listened to your views on the  
7 Prairie Creek all-season road, and values the input of  
8 each and every person that has spoke today.

9 There will be formal hearings tomorrow.  
10 They start at 8:30 to 5:00, and that's from April 26th  
11 to the 28th. After these hearings are complete,  
12 Canadian Zinc and the parties will submit post-hearing  
13 filings prior to the closure of the public record.  
14 Post-hearing filings include hearings, undertakings  
15 from Canadian Zinc, closing arguments from parties,  
16 closing argument from Canadian Zinc, and the closure  
17 of the public record.

18 The Review Board will fully consider  
19 the views of all the people who spoke to the Review  
20 Board today. Your views and opinions are important to  
21 the Board, and will be considered in the report of the  
22 environmental assessment. The Review Board will  
23 complete the report after the public record is closed,  
24 and the report will be then submitted to INAC for a  
25 decision.

1                   Before I just finish following the  
2 closing remarks, I would like to ask Chief Antoine if  
3 he has any closing remarks to say on -- for the day.

4

5 CLOSING COMMENTS BY CHIEF JERRY ANTOINE:

6                   CHIEF JERRY ANTOINE:    Masi. I'd just  
7 like to say thank you, also thank -- thank the Board  
8 for coming here, and also hearing out what the idea  
9 for the all-weather road is all about, and also  
10 reviewing some of the evidence today, and also views  
11 from our community and surrounding community.

12                   I just wanted to say again -- in my  
13 opening remark, I said that there's lots in play. And  
14 the various people that have voiced really iterate  
15 that point, is that there is lots in play, and Liidlii  
16 Kue is right in the midst of it.

17                   And so one (1) thing that I just wanted  
18 to also touch on is the -- the speaker, Jim Antoine,  
19 he spoke from the capacity as a former Chief. And he  
20 laid out clearly the experience that he had with the  
21 2011 IBA. And so I -- I -- like, I am the chief now,  
22 and we've looked at this, and we certainly want to  
23 improve it.

24                   The other thing, too, is that we'd like  
25 to work with the community of Nahanni Butte. And as a

1 former Grand Chief, I always -- when we're talking  
2 about the Nahanni National Park Reserve, is that we  
3 always -- the way that I had approached it at the time  
4 was that, since Nahanni is right at the outside door  
5 of this particular por -- park, that there has to be  
6 things that flow through that community. And that's  
7 how I -- I had -- I had really emphasized that.

8                   And, also, when I was working for Parks  
9 Canada, I asked an interpreter -- there had to be  
10 stories told, clear stories, accurate stories, and the  
11 way that we dealt with it is that it has to again flow  
12 through Nahanni. They have history there. So does  
13 members of Liidlili Kue. So that means that we have to  
14 make sure that we understand how things need to flow.

15                   And in regards to the former Chief  
16 Antoine -- Jim Antoine had -- had said that -- that  
17 Nahanni Butte, it's in their backyard. And the  
18 council of today also of -- of the same view. And we  
19 know that -- that things need to flow through that.  
20 We understand that.

21                   And so -- so if you look at the -- the  
22 merit of -- of our participation is that we will be  
23 impacted. So with what we need to say, what we need  
24 to share, it needs to be considered.

25                   And the other thing, too, is that --

1 one (1) thing that I -- I want to mention is that we  
2 also see our community growing. We also see the need  
3 for capacity building. We also see our young people,  
4 as you heard today, the concerns about -- that things  
5 needs to be balanced and about the possible impact on  
6 environment. And, you know, we have to listen to  
7 these young people. And I'm here to listen to also  
8 the young people.

9                   And so what I envision is that these  
10 young people need to become our experts. So that's  
11 how we envision things to move forward. So this  
12 project has a potential to be able to benefit our  
13 needs. And we see that it -- it has to definitely  
14 benefit Nahanni Butte.

15                   And the other thing, too, is that we  
16 need to work together. And we need -- like, as our  
17 Elders said, is that we're Dene and this is our land,  
18 and so we own it collectively and we need to work with  
19 each other to do that just so that way we maintain,  
20 you know, the -- you know, we make sure that the  
21 environment is protected.

22                   The other thing is that we have young  
23 people in our communities that need -- would like to  
24 move forward, and we have to listen to them to look at  
25 how we could be able to have them become our -- our

1 experts. So that's the view that we have, and we  
2 certainly would like to move on.

3                   And I'd like to thank everybody for  
4 voicing the -- the matters that they have risen today,  
5 and also I'd like to thank Canadian Zinc for making a  
6 presentation, because this environment -- this  
7 environment Review Board depends on your information.  
8 And I know that our community have concerns about why  
9 it has taken so long, and I think one (1) of the  
10 things that I want to point out is that it depends on  
11 your information.

12                   You need to get all your stuff together  
13 so that way these people can have that information so  
14 they could make an assessment. So there's  
15 responsibilities that go to your community, to -- to  
16 your -- your business, so you have to live up to that.  
17 And for us is that we seem to be in the middle.

18                   And -- and the thing is that we're  
19 here. We're going to be here once that mine closes,  
20 and finishes what you wanted to do. And we have to  
21 live with the consequences. And just recently, you'll  
22 notice that there's this Giant Mine issue out there,  
23 and we certainly don't want to have that kind of mess  
24 in our backyard.

25                   So we have some legitimate concerns,

1 and -- however, we need to look at things openly. We  
2 need to look at how it's going to benefit us in -- in  
3 socially, economically, and also spiritually. So  
4 that's how we'd -- we'd like to move forward.

5                   And I'm sure our neighbours, our  
6 surrounding community, Nahanni Butte, would like to  
7 move on like that in that way. So we seem to be in  
8 the same boat. And we need to -- like as -- an Elder  
9 was showing the picture about the boat, we need to be  
10 paddling it together. So I -- I see a lot of good  
11 things coming out of what we need to do. Masi.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Chief Antoine.  
13                   Closing remarks from Canadian Zinc...?  
14

15 CLOSING COMMENTS BY CANADIAN ZINC CORPORATION:

16                   MR. ALAN TAYLOR: Thank you, Madam  
17 Chair. It's Alan Taylor, Canadian Zinc.

18                   The Prairie Creek Project has a long  
19 history, and our goal is to improve the Project and --  
20 and work on improving it through a -- a term we call  
21 optimization. Optimization is a -- is a process that  
22 our -- the mining group refers to it as an ongoing  
23 process for any project, albeit in the exploration,  
24 development, or operations phase.

25                   And optimization is creating more

1 benefit of the -- of the operation to the region, and  
2 through more efficient use of technology. And the  
3 all-season road actually produces the optimization  
4 that the mine needs, I think, to become a viable  
5 operation.

6                   And we -- we'll certainly -- more than  
7 willing to work with the communities here as we've  
8 shown in the past, and we endeavour to do that in the  
9 future so that all may benefit from this project, and  
10 we make it a nice, safer project. And we look forward  
11 to further discussions on this through the next three  
12 (3) days of technical sessions, and shortly  
13 thereafter, we'll continue our discussions with the --  
14 with the -- everybody here in the communities.

15                   And we certainly thank everybody for  
16 participating in this hearing today. Thank you,  
17 Chief, and -- and LKDFN for entertaining this hearing.  
18 And thanks to the Board members for listening. Masi  
19 cho.

20                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you -- thank  
21 you, Mr. Taylor.

22                   As the close of this hearing is -- is  
23 coming to an end, I would like to thank the following  
24 individuals who helped to make this hearing  
25 successful. Definitely to the caterers, Kathy Sims



1 (phonetic) and her group there, to keep us all happy  
2 and fed very well. We appreciate the food. Thank  
3 you.

4 To our interpreters, Betty and  
5 Maryjane, thank you for your patience and  
6 understanding in trying to get the word out to each  
7 and every one of us here in your translations.

8 To Pido for the sound, and Norbert for  
9 running around and handing out all the transceivers  
10 when they were full of static. Thank you for getting  
11 that done. Bob for the transcription services, thank  
12 you.

13 Liidlili Kue First Nation for your  
14 hospitality, masi cho.

15 To the Village of Fort Simpson for the  
16 use of the facility, and definitely to the Board  
17 members that sat here and listened to all the comments  
18 and questions that were presented.

19 We had an elder that was identified  
20 that would do the closing prayer, and I don't know if  
21 he's still here. And it was Percy Hardisty. Is Percy  
22 hiding and I just can't see him? Oh, he is. Okay.  
23 Yeah. He's behind Francis.

24 So if we could all stand, and if Percy  
25 could be given a mic so he could -- or come up, Percy,

1 to use the mic for the closing prayer.

2

3 (CLOSING PRAYER)

4

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Percy.

6 With the closing prayer, the community

7 hearing for the Prairie Creek all-season road in Fort

8 Simpson is adjourned. Masi cho.

9

10 --- Upon adjourning at 7:46 p.m.

11

12

13

14 Certified correct,

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17

18 \_\_\_\_\_

19 Bob Keelaghan, Mr.

20

21

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23

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25

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