



June 22, 2012

File: C-095

Via Fax: 867-872-2770

Ms. Betty Villebrun
President
NWT Métis Nation
Box 720
Fort Smith, NT XOE OPO

Dear Ms. Villebrun:

This letter responds to your letter to me dated June 14th which was received by fax in our Yellowknife office on June 19, 2012.

De Beers Canada acknowledges the status of aboriginal people of Canada and it is through our ongoing community engagement activities that we ensure that their status and their rights are respected as we work to strike a balance between these considerations and other economic, social and environmental responsibilities. Please rest assured that De Beers Canada is engaging the NWT Métis Nation in discussions regarding the Gahcho Kué Project and we are providing the same community engagement opportunities to the NWT Métis Nation that we are to other Aboriginal organizations.

Since receiving your letter, Ms. Cathie Bolstad, Director External & Corporate Affairs has provided you with a formal response to your May 16, 2012 letter, addressing your concerns. I also note that in her letter dated April 23, 2012 she confirmed we would welcome the submission of a Traditional Knowledge Proposal from the NWT Métis Nation for our consideration. A Traditional Knowledge Study specific to the proposed Gahcho Kué Project Area creates a unique avenue for the NWT Métis Nation to provide De Beers with information regarding traditional and current use of the Gahcho Kué Project Area, potential project impacts and possible mitigations, as well as opportunities for inclusion of Traditional Knowledge in monitoring programs.



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In closing, I note that Ms. Bolstad has provided dates that she is available to meet with you in June and July. Ms. Bolstad has the authority for all Aboriginal consultation matters and it is in this capacity that she will continue to lead our community engagement activities, meet with the NWT Métis Nation and work to build a positive relationship with your organization. I encourage you to find an opportunity that is mutually convenient to meet and to bring forward your TK Study proposal in your meeting with Cathie for our consideration.

Yours truly,

Tony Guthrie
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Glen Koropchuk, Chief Operating Officer
Cc: Cathie Bolstad, Director External & Corporate Affairs
Cc: Mr. John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development
Canada
Cc: Robert McLeod, Premier, Government of the Northwest Territories
Cc: Mr. Chuck Hubert, Panel Manager – Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact
Review Board
Cc: Garry Bailey, President, Fort Resolution Métis Council
Cc: Ken Hudson, President, Fort Smith Métis Council
cc: Paul Harrington, President, Hay River Métis Government Council

