



Grand Chief Herb Norwegian  
Dehcho First Nations  
PO Box 89  
FORT SIMPSON NT X0E 0N0

VIA FAX and EMAIL

Dear Grand Chief Norwegian:

**Participation in the Canadian Zinc Corporation – Prairie Creek All Season Road (EA1415-01 [2014]) Environmental Assessment**

The Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands (the GNWT) is writing to you in reference to the environmental assessment (EA) of the proposed Canadian Zinc Corporation's Prairie Creek All Season Road (the Project). The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) is currently in the technical review phase of the EA. As you may be aware, MVEIRB held technical sessions in Yellowknife June 13-16, 2016. MVEIRB is now planning to hold Traditional Knowledge and Culture Workshops in Nahanni Butte and Fort Simpson on July 4 and 5, 2016.

The GNWT encourages the Dehcho First Nations to participate in the upcoming workshops. These workshops provide an opportunity for potentially affected Aboriginal governments and organizations to communicate any concerns regarding potential impacts of the proposed Project to MVEIRB. When providing such input, GNWT encourages the Dehcho First Nations to:

- clearly indicate, in as much detail as possible, whether any adverse impacts on their established or asserted Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights are anticipated as a result of the Project; and, if so,
- clearly indicate the specific right(s) that may be affected, the specific impact(s) on those right(s), how those impacts can be mitigated, as well as any evidence that will help in understanding those impacts; and,
- support the MVEIRB in understanding the evidence, including traditional knowledge, with respect to both potential impacts and mitigations.

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The GNWT is responsible for ensuring that it has met its duty to consult with respect to any aspects of the Project within its jurisdiction that might negatively affect asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. The GNWT will rely on MVEIRB's consultative processes and the engagement activities of the proponent, Canadian Zinc, to assist in fulfilling the GNWT's duty to consult.

Throughout these processes, the GNWT will carefully monitor and track Aboriginal government and organizations' statements of any potential adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights. The GNWT will assess whether any potential adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights have been adequately addressed and ensure that the GNWT has met its duty to consult before any decision is made under section 130 of the MVRMA. The GNWT will work closely with federal government representatives in completing this assessment.

The GNWT encourages your participation in the upcoming Traditional Knowledge and Culture Workshops, the second round of Information Requests, and the overall MVEIRB process. The GNWT also encourages you to work closely with the developer, Canadian Zinc, who is the best source of information on the proposed Project.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the GNWT in the Project EA, please contact Melissa Pink, Manager, Project Assessment Branch, Department of Lands, at (867) 767-9183 ext. 24069 or [melissa.pink@gov.nt.ca](mailto:melissa.pink@gov.nt.ca).

Sincerely,



Lorraine Seale  
Director, Liabilities and Financial Assurances  
Department of Lands

- c. Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge, Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation  
Chief Gladys Norwegian, Jean Marie River First Nation  
Chief Lloyd Chicot, Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation  
Chief Gerald Antoine, Liidlil Kue First Nation  
Chief Peter Marcellais, Nahanni Butte Dene Band  
Chief Dolphus Jumbo, Sambaa K'e Dene Band  
Chief Courtney Cayen, West Point First Nation  
Chief Darcy E. Moses, Pehdzeh Ki First Nation  
President Marie Lafferty, Fort Simpson Métis Nation  
President Clifford McLeod, Fort Providence Métis Council  
Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental  
Impact Review Board  
Matthew Spence, Director General, Northern Projects Management Office,  
Government of Canada

