

Fort Resolution Community Scoping Session summary notes Pine Point Mine Project

May 27, 2021

This report summarizes the comments and questions from people in Fort Resolution during the community scoping session Pine Point Mining Limited (PPML) environmental assessment on May 27th, 2021. Review Board staff facilitated the meeting online and were not in the community. Residents in Fort Resolution were present at the community hall.

Appendix A contains a full list of participants.

Appendix B reflects the cards written during the meeting using the Stormz software platform.

This report also contains links to both the Review Board and developer's presentations.

Presentation links

The Review Board presentation shown at the community meeting is here:

May 27 MVRB presentation Fort Resolution community scoping meeting

Pine Point Mining Limited presentation is here:

Pine Point Mining Limited Community Presentation





List of Acronyms

DKFN	Deninu K'ue First Nation
DAR	Developer's Assessment Report
EA	Environmental Assessment
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources
FRMG	Fort Resolution Métis Government
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
NPMO	Northern Project Management Office
PPML	Pine Point Mining Limited
ToR	Terms of Reference

May 27 afternoon: Pine Point Mining Ltd. presentation - Q&A

The following is a summary of questions asked by people in Fort Resolution with responses by Pine Point Mining Limited except where questions are answered by Review Board staff as noted.

Q - want more time to see slide 17 – (this slide has suggestions on mine design from earlier engagement with community residents)

A – went through the items on this slide one by one.

Q – need clarification on tailings storage in pits and capping

A - We will put tailings in old pits and then recycle the water. For the problematic former Cominco well, W-85, we will bring in a large drill rig this summer to plug the hole

Q – water very important, tailing in pit might get into aquifer. That will spread tailings all over the place

A – purpose of Confirmation and Exploration Program, Type A Water Licence, is to understand how tailings in pits will behave. Dolomite rocks in pit walls, so it might plug up pit walls to some extent. Placing tailings above ground (eg. old Teck tailing facility) needs more maintenance than placing in mined-out pits. Water into old pits ends up in groundwater.

Q: putting tailings into the pits is unacceptable. It is karst topography, tailings that you put in pits means it will be spread out all over. Results in a dead zone. Got to find different way, otherwise it will kill land for future generations.



A: Looking at alternatives to tailings deposition.

Q: - Caribou don't just overwinter at Big Buffalo River. They are there year-round. Another proposed project in the area is for the pellet mill, old growth forest will be harvested. Are you considering compensation for mine disturbance? Like maybe paying for programs for youth in Fort Resolution? Need to meet us half-way.

A: We will avoid caribou and caribou habitat where we can. GNWT has told us where caribou are based on collar information. There are both brownfield and greenfield areas, can avoid some disturbance by using brownfield areas where possible.

PPML very much want to be involved with youth.

Q: dewatering – slide 23, dewatering around pits? In the past this resulted in drawdown of water table, and all of the vegetation and trees around there died. Don't want that to happen again. Trees for miles around were dead.

A: Thank you - heard you.

Q: Back when Pine Point was operating, we never benefitted from it. Mine benefitted from Taltson, we neve benefitted from Taltson. Jobs and contracts are the number one priority for me. Mine not open but right now only people benefitting are from Hay River. How does Hay River get the jobs? This is our traditional territory. We have never benefitted.

What kind of agreement does PPML have with us? This is our traditional area, the mine is closest to traditional territory of DKFN. Want this known. Pine point is my traditional area.

Seems like scope of work changes as you go along. No consultation, you just change it. Hay River is a regional centre, but the smaller communities signed the treaties (Fort Resolution), not Hay River.

You are using the same pits as Cominco. Who cleans up the past development? There is a big mess there now. It was left in a bad state. It is not protecting animals.

Have a lot of land users from Fort Resolution with cabins in that area. Will they be compensated? They have every right to be in area of this development.

Caribou monitoring and wolves. For caribou collaring and monitoring, ENR hired Hay River people. Any monitoring going on belongs to DKFN. Want to be consulted on collaring of caribou and wolves.

Afternoon break

Facilitator Alan Ehrlich (MVEIRB):

Q: Groundwater: Past slide said ground water a secondary issue. Instead it should be a primary issue together with tailings. One slide showed all kart topography – this groundwater connects



to Wood Buffalo National Park and to Fort Smith. The water flows freely through the park. PPML is planning to deposit tailings into pit. Pit walls not bedrock, it is karst and there is a linkage to groundwater. Cominco mined there for 25 years, still dealing with aftermath of that today. If this mine happens will be dealing with aftermath of tailings deposited into pits and connection to groundwater. Recommend a better method for dealing with tailings.

Q: Roads construction in the past created dams, diverted water and left big ponds, and standing water. There was no drainage. If PPML wants to build more roads need to have culverts for drainage.

Monitoring, Is PPML going to monitoring themselves? Is there a neutral company that can help with monitoring?

Boreal caribou. Species of concern. The mine is right in middle of migration route and calving ground.

Highway – Mine will make a lot more traffic. There are lots of soft spots on that road, results in damage to highway. All these concerns have to be addressed.

Groundwater, should be a primary issues and how tailings are deposited in pits.

Q: is PPML doing the monitoring?

A: Review Board - Regulators and inspectors have that role.

A: PPML – The mining company arranges for sampling/monitoring to be done by their teams, then it is reviewed by an external company. Have not gotten to that point yet. Fair to explore independent monitoring.

Q: Want to make sure questions are answered. One deposit is right by highway. How do they mine that? Deposit is right on road. Re-route highway? Want to be involved in monitoring at Pine Point first.

A: PPML – Yes, one deposit is close to the highway, but no mine plan for that deposit right now. No plan yet for what to do with the highway if it gets mined.

Q: Mine is very unique mine in terms of our involvement. This mine is so close to community of Fort Resolution. The DKFN and FRMG and Hamlet all have to be involved. Want to make sure that to MVRB, and PPML, and people of Fort Res are all involved. Particularly traditional land uses. As rep of DKFN, we also have tech Mark D. But want to allow public to comment. Want to be involved in how mine iis operated, and left at the end.

Social and economic issues: Bad experience with past mine. Legacy left a lot of anger and frustration in community and a bad taste. We want that land cleaned up. Cannot get anyone to clean this land up from the past mine. No real benefit to DKFN from the Cominco mine.



Residents took all the negative aspects of past mining but saw minimum benefit. This is a big problem. Mine is so close to community.

We are not opposed to mining in general. We are opposed to irresponsible mining and we want to be involved from cradle to grave for this mine. Want legacy that benefits us. We want government and regulators and companies to realize that the Pine Point legacy needs to be addressed. Big chunk of brownfield area that we want cleaned up. Want it restored. This includes Taltson. A lot of the past from Pine Point was bad. Fort Resolution was a nice community until mine, dam (Taltson) and road showed up. Then came drugs and alcohol. Had a hard time because government did not consider us. We suffered from the old mine. When you say well-being, bad legacy of area because we did not get jobs, struggle with kids maintaining healthy relationship.

Have to talk about social ad economic impacts. Don't want economic aspect to trump social aspect. Then we will relive negative impacts of past. You need to be respectful of us.

Should not have said territory of NWT Dene, do not know what you said at the beginning. it is territory of DKFN and FRMG. Want to do this in a way that respects FN and metis people. Words matter, recognition matters. We can help you do things better. Going to make sure you do things better. If you take something give something back. Needs to be balance.

We have our own cultural ways of telling you about land and water. Want to ensure our cultural criteria is used. If you are going to say water is drinkable then you should drink it, should look good. If so say land is good we should feel it and have confidence in it.

Need to trust each other so we can work together. Believe you based on how you act. If idea is should see it flourish. Our people have experience in bush on water but also in the mines. Our objective is to make sure that if mine benefits us, if not we don't really want it. If we don't feel right about what you are doing with old pits, maybe should not do it? Tired of living with Pine Point legacy. Hope this company has more initiative to help reclaim brownfield areas in a way we can live with.

Mark – some comments directed at Review Board staff. Will share what you have said with the Review Board. Should have made land acknowledgement of where project is taking place, in DKFN and FRMG traditional territory. Will make sure our process meets the intent and purpose of your traditional ways of knowing.

Q: One political faction cannot speak for entire community. DKFN and FRMG and Hamlet in Fort Resolution are all part of community. Prefer to meet in person rather than separately.

Q: - re fish. Band is doing fish studies. Should do some tests on fish. PPML could look at testing fish near Pine Point – at island with the seagulls.

Covid - cases in YK held up earlier meeting in Fort Resolution. Now hear there are no cases. Should not be an excuse for your not to come here. Had never seen PPML guy (Andrew



Williams) before. Now at least we have seen him. Suggest meeting with all 3 leaders, do a community tour. Right now, all benefits go to Hay River not Fort Resolution. PPML should come to Fort Res so benefits do not all go to Hay River. Have to make sure the money is there to clean up Pine Point. If cannot clean up mine should not let it go. Nice to meet new guy from PPML (Andrew Williams).

Q: Welcome to our home here in Fort Resolution, show respect. When you take things from our backyard, (Pine Point Mine), give something back. Language is one of most important things. I just spoke in my Indigenous language but we do not have a way to translate. There are traditional medicines on the land. If land is sick cannot use. If water bad cannot use. We harvest berries, spruce gum, chaga (mushroom), animals. Few caribou left. Need management so they don't disappear. Traditional medicine really important – needs to remain healthy.

If injecting water into water table – are you cross contaminating? Are you making our medicine sick? I am an elder. Speaking for my children's children. Priorities are #1 Language, 2# traditional medicine and #3 water. Also #4 clean-up. Have interpreter here but no way to translate.

If you take stuff from my backyard, have to compensate somehow. Cannot leave us with nothing.

Q: Question for the Board. A lot of cancer in the community. Do not know if it is from Pine Point, the water? Concern with cancer and health.

Q: GNWT question and comment. We will direct questions heard here at some of our departments (ie Environment and Natural Resources for caribou collars and Health and social services for health concerns). We will respond back to you. Who should we respond to as a contact person?

A: You can respond Shawn MacKay and he can pass around the response to others in the community.

5-:10 – 6:10 pm break for dinner

May 27 evening meeting

Q&A and facilitated discussion summary.

The following is a summary of questions asked by meeting participants with responses by Pine Point Mining Limited except where questions are answered by Review Board staff as noted.



6:10 MVRB presentation – (shortened)

Pine Point Mining presentation (shortened)

PPML – Slide 17 - We heard this morning that Fort Resolution did not benefit from the historic Pine Point Mine. Our goal is to reverse that so that there are benefit. Employment, small local business to provide services to the mine.

Q: - question about monitoring and adaptive monitoring. Can you give us an insight into these plans?

A: - Very early days, plan to involve communities in monitoring, this includes employment, maybe something along the lines of the GK Ni Hadi Xa. Intend to involve communities

A: process steps where public can participate (slide with yellow highlighter).

Facilitation -

Q: I used to work there. Not happy with how it went. Most people who worked there died of cancer. Worried about water. Worried about the future of our kids, what will happen to them, worried about health. Tailings area, don't want to breathe that, don't know what is in there. Tailings are not just lead and zinc - there is other stuff in there. Tailings are too close to the lake. Concerned about health, cancer from tailings and water at mine.

Q: People who worked there originally were from Hay River but not many hired from Fort Resolution Fort Resolution felt more of the impacts. We are close to the mine area. We are closer than Hay River. Fort Resolution should be recognized first.

Q: Traditional medicine: Water from mines and tailings ponds. Won't that kill the vegetation? Are there contaminants in tailings or the water? Would like to know about that. Want to know about connection between water quality and link to traditional plants and medicine.

Q: Main concern is about bioaccumulation. Contaminants already there from past mining. Proponent should consider this within footprint but also overall zone of influence. When engaging community of Fort Resolution, proponent would get an idea of location of plants in theses areas. It would help if proponent actually visited community to find this out. Locations, kinds of plants and bio-accumulation. Is it safe to harvest these plants now?

Q: one of the reasons we do not support linking this project with remediating railbed. Prefer to see these 2 projects separate. Want to see railbed remediated to fullest extent. Do not want to see PPML adding to or spreading the railbed contaminants. Food chain linkage between contaminants in plants to small wildlife up to large animals. Want to keep both projects separate.

A: PPML:

Q: I represent DKFN in EA and we have support from Mark D'Entremont our env tech. Trappers and cabin owners in area. These harvesters will participate in future meetings.



Issues of brownfield and greenfield areas: Need to be clear about how that is dealt with. Bring back greenfield to way it was. How does it relate to brownfield ares? Hard to comprehend that you can take old pit that we would never use, then put tailings in there. So how does that still stay as brownfield? It is changed by filling it up and leaving it there. Perhaps could try to remediate these filled in pits, not just leave it.

Right now pits are giant lakes with water. Just filling it up and leaving, may be a good idea, but maybe not due to karst and limestone. PPML can do things to make them it a little better than what it is like now. Brownfield vs. greenfield needs to be discussed. Not a good feeling at Pine Point now. People just do not feel good there, but before Cominco mine people did.

Area was a place where we go to heal in past, now it just makes us sick, angry. Not good to be around there, makes us feel angry. Hope this is not the intent of this mine. Hope new mine will make us feel good. Numbers and water quality criteria - not easy to explain. We have a long history here. Noticing area at former mine slowly coming back. Medicines used to heal are slowly starting to come back. Don't want what is recovering to be ruined. Corporations owe people they take things from us, have to give a little back.

Q: Is there room for people with traditional knowledge to help the Board? Need these benefits of people with traditional knowledge. Worried that mine water and tailings will seep into bedrock and kill medicinal plants. Elders use these medicinal plants, this needs to be studied, monitored. We want to do these studies with you on this issue.

A: PPML We are adding to the TK information that was collected about 10 years ago. PPML is committed to including TK. We are in negotiations now with DKFN, FRMG on this.

Q: It is not just about using TK. But need right methods for collecting TK. These methods should be planned with community. Should be using community of Fort Res when collecting TK. PPML should ask how to collect TK from both DKFN and FRMG. Use methods of respective groups and people at large.

Q: Traditional knowledge: Should consider creation of a TK committee with people in Fort Resolution. Using people with TK in area. For things like camps, history and significance of area, how people utilized the areas, significance of these areas, so that the knowledge is passed on. Mine will effect opportunity to pass on TK. I lived at Pine Point, Dad worked at the mine. Drove thru yesterday, looked at where I used to live. Moved away when it closed – it was a company run town. Need TK camps so that knowledge can be passed on . Plants, berries, needs to be known. Also could shed some light on archaeological sites. Proponent needs to come to community to engage directly and find out about these important locations and what they mean, and significance to community.

We did not get numbers today at this meeting that we had back at the April meeting which was cancelled. Recommend that June 2nd should be in person. People would feel more comfortable. Important to do this in person. We can send a letter saying that it has to be done in person.



Appendix A- Participants List

May 27

Pine Point Mining and Golder Associates- Andrew Williams, Kristine Mason, Damian Panayi

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board - Chuck Hubert, Alan Ehrlich, Catherine Fairbairn, Jeremy Freeman, Catherine Janz, Kate Mansfield, Mark Cliffe-Phillips

GNWT- Marie-Christine Belair

Government of Canada- Katie Bakker, Boyan Tracz,

Participants in Fort Resolution -

- 1. Henry Mckay
- 2. Ronald Beaulieu
- 3. Gordon Beaulieu
- 4. Patrick Simon
- 5. Catherine Boucher
- 6. Archie Smith
- 7. Freddy King
- 8. Tom Unka
- 9. Angela Mckay
- 10. Marc Casaway
- 11. Lucy Fabien
- 12. Carol Collins
- 13. Lester Mckay
- 14. Wilfred Beaulieu
- 15. Melvin Mandeville
- 16. Joe Fabien
- 17. Teagan Larocque
- 18. Shawn Mckay
- 19. Rosy Bjornson
- 20. Raymond Norn
- 21. Derek Beaulieu

MVEIRB – Pine Point Mine Project – EA Community Scoping in Fort Resolution – STORMZ Cards		
Cluster	Title & description	
Caribou	Caribou in Big Buffalo area Caribou don't just overwinter in this area, they live there year round - they are harvested there. How will this project affect caribou there, including other future developments like the pellet mill and old growth forest harvest? Will there be compensation? For example, funding for youth in Fort Resolution. Boreal caribou	
0.1 ""	This is a species of concern and the mine is right in the middle of the migration route and calving ground.	
Other wildlife and vegetation	Dewatering can hurt vegetation In the past, drawdown of the water table lead to all the vegetation and trees dying. Trees for miles around died and don't want that to happen again.	
Traditional land and resource use	Traditional medicines If the land and water is sick, then people cannot use traditional medicines. People harvest berries, spruce gum, chaga, willows, animals. The quality of water affects the quality and safety of medicine, particularly looking into the future. Ethnohistory need an in-depth study of cultural use, language, culture, history of the area. Also interested in what methods will be used for this.	
	Response: lots of opportunity for engagement in EA process. PPMI wants to update Indigenous Knowledge studies and is looking forward to coming to the community to do this work. Traditional food and medicine Trailings and distributed as might kill our medicines. This people to be studied.	
	Tailings and dirty water might kill our medicines. This needs to be studied. Bioaccumulation Concern over already elevated levels of contaminants from past projects in and around mine area(for example, around the rail bed). How will the new project add to this? Developer needs to engage more to understand what plants and locations we're most concerned about, then give us answers so we can know if its safe to harvest. Keep rail bed remediation project separate from PPMI project.	
	Traditional Knowledge We use traditional medicines, food and knowledge to heal our people. Want to make sure that this is studied and monitored, and that communities are involved in this.	
	Methods for Traditional Knowledge developer needs to plan methods for seeking and using Traditional Knowledge with the community people. Need to build onto the old studies in good ways.	

MVEIRB – Pine Point Mine Project – EA Community Scoping in Fort Resolution – STORMZ Cards		
	Traditional Knowledge Committee	
	should consider a committee to look at how to pass on Traditional Knowledge, history, past use and significance of the area so that this knowledge isn't lost. This area was home to many of us and carries special meaning; need to consider this significance.	
Water quality	Water contamination from tailings	
	Water is very important. Worried tailings spread out in multiple pits could lead to groundwater contamination in the aquifer.	
	Tailings in multiple pits	
	Putting tailings in multiple different pits half full of water is unacceptable. It will lead to widespread groundwater	
	contamination and a dead zone in this area. Need to find a different way to deal with tailings so the land is not killed for future generations.	
	Groundwater and tailings	
	Groundwater should be a key line, not a subject of note. The karst topography runs all the way to Fort Smith and Wood Buffalo	
	Park, with all the water connected in these regions. There are still problems from past activities in the area. Need to find a	
una now	better method.	
	Road construction and surface water flow	
	In the past, road construction created water ponding - like dams creating standing water. Drainage was poor. Need to have	
	culverts for good drainage on roads.	
	Concerns over keeping water clean	
	the mine, or the tailings, is close to the big lake and might disturb the water. If the water is contaminated it will make us sick	
	(cancer) and hurts the vegetation. This is what happened in the Cominco days and I don't want it to happen again.	
Fish and	Fish contamination	
aquatic life	There have been studies on fish in the Fort Resolution area. Fish should be tested closer to the mine as well.	
	Need to see the Benefits	
	There have never been any benefits from past mining a this location, or from Taltson, which this project uses for power. Most	
	important issue is employment and contracts. Only people benefitting are in Hay River (e.g., awarding of a a garbage contract at	
Social and	pine point). This is DKFN territory.	
economic	Signed agreements	
conditions	What kind of agreements does PPML have with different group? Who has signed agreements? Need to sign with the right	
	groups whose traditional territory it is.	
	DKFN Hiring DKFN members should be bired by priority because it is their traditional territory.	
	DKFN members should be hired by priority because it is their traditional territory.	

MVEIRB - Pine Point Mine Project - EA Community Scoping in Fort Resolution - STORMZ Cards

Cabins

There are landusers with cabins in the area. Need to know about compensation for them. They have every right to be in the area of this development.

Traffic

There will be a lot of traffic. There are already soft spots on the road.

DKFN hiring

DKFN should be given priority for monitoring at Pine Point.

Consideration of many groups for this project

Involvement of various groups is unique for this project. This project is so close to the community of Fort Resolution. DKFN, FRMG, and the hamlet all need to be involved. All people of Fort Res are concerned. Particularly traditional land users. People need to be involved in how the mine is operated and how it is left at the end. Need to be involved from cradle to grave of the mine site.

Legacy of past mining

There are bad experiences with past mines in this area. A legacy of anger and frustration because the land hasn't been cleaned up after past activities. DKFN members and residents experienced all the negative impacts and almost no benefits. Not opposed to mining in general, just to irresponsible mining. Need to have a legacy that actually benefits people.

Social vs. economic

Economy cannot be more important than social. If this happens we will re-live negative impacts of the past.

Cultural criteria and ways of knowing

We have our own cultural ways of knowing if the land and water is okay. Listening to science isn't enough. Need to use cultural criteria and Indigenous ways of knowing.

Traditional knowledge and experience

There is a wealth of experience in the bush and on the water, but also related to mines. This should be used.

Benefits need to go to all communities

Beneftis shouldn't just go to Hay River.

Language

Language is important.

Cancer

There is a lot of cancer in the community, and people aren't sure where it is coming from. If it is from development, from fish or water. This is a big concern.

Local jobs

need to make sure that people from Fort Resolution get jobs as a priority; in the past we didn't get jobs but felt the impacts most.

MVEIRB – Pine Point Mine Project – EA Community Scoping in Fort Resolution – STORMZ Cards

Cumulative impacts on well-being

Fort Resolution was a nice community until the mine, dam, and road showed up and brought drugs and alcohol. The government didn't consider the community enough and people suffered. The legacy of these projects has already affected the well-being of people in this area.

Land acknowledgement

There should have been an acknowledgement of this project being in the territory of the NWT Dene and Metis (DKFN and FRMG). This needs to be done in a way that respects First Nations and Metis people. Words matter, recognition matters.

Balance

Things need to be done better. There needs to be balance - if you take something you give something back.

Trust

Need to trust each other in order to build a mine or a community or relationships. Trust is build based on behaviour, on how people act.

Well-being

Parking Lot

The mine should not go ahead if it cannot be cleaned up.

Respect

Coming to some else's home, you need to show respect and have to compensate somehow. The area needs to be reclaimed.

Cancer concerns

the cancer concern is real. Need to make sure that our health is protected and that the new mine doens't harm peoples' health.

Closure that we can live with

we always challenge developers to make the greenfields even better at closure. Filling up pits with tailings and materials is not good enough; we won't use the area, drink the water, etc. It might not even be a good idea at all because of the karst. We challenge developer to remediate the area to a level that we can live with.

Site does not feel good

The land heals us and Pine Point as it is now makes us sick and angry. We hope that this mine will help to improve this and give us the ability to use the area in a way that makes us feel good and allows us to heal.

Past contamination and pits

Who cleans up past development when it is done? There is a big mess now and it is left in poor condition.

GWNT Caribou collaring

DKFN should be involved in this monitoring. Want to be consulted on collaring of caribou and wolves.

MVLWB

Scope of work changes as things go and sometimes there isn't enough consultation.

Clean up of past contamination

There are big areas that need to be cleaned up and restored. This includes Taltson.

MVEIRB – Pine Point Mine Project – EA Community Scoping in Fort Resolution – STORMZ Cards		
	Brownfield restoration	
	People are tired of living with the Pine Point Mine legacy. Need PPML to take initiative and reclaim some of the brownfield	
	areas too.	
	People need to be all together in person to be most productive	
	In person meetings	
	Covid should not be used as an excuse to not meet in person. PPML should come meet with all 3 leaders and do a community	
	tour.	
	Neutral Monitoring	
	Who will be doing the monitoring? It needs to be a neutral company that can help with monitoring.	
	PPML hasn't worked out the details of this yet, but typically the mining company would arrange it and have it reviewed by an	
	external company.	
	Deposits near the highway	
	How will the deposit right on the highway (by Paulette Bay) be mined? Will the highway need to be re-routed?	
	PPML does not have a specific mine plan for mining this area yet.	
	Monitoring Programs	
Questions	developer needs to work with the people to make adaptive management plans for environmental monitoring	
	Response: we'll look at different options for involving communities in monitoring process and reviewing	
	Public comments in closing arguments	
	Why can't community members participate in closing arguments?	
	RB Response: members of the public can speak directly to the Board and can become an intervener if they want to apply. Being	
	an intervener just means that you have to submit an intervention and cross-examine. We also accept audio comments as	
	evidence from people if they want	
	In Person meetings	
	FRMG recommends that the next meeting is in person.	