

# **Media Information Sheet**

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Public Hearings

EA1617-01 Tłįchǫ All-season Road, GNWT Infrastructure

#### November 15-17, 2017, in Whati, NWT

The Review Board is holding public hearings in Whatì for the proposed Tł<sub>i</sub>chǫ All-season Road. The developer of the proposed road is GNWT, Department of Infrastructure. The project consists of the construction and operation of a 2 lane, 94 km all season gravel road. The proposed road would begin at km 196 of Highway 3, west of Behchokǫ̀, and continue north to an existing road near Whatì. Road construction is expected to take 4 years to complete. The proposed all-season road is permanent and would replace the existing winter road. Approximately 80% of the all-season road would be on territorial land with the remainder on titled Tł<sub>i</sub>chǫ lands.

#### WHAT- Public hearings

The purpose of the public hearing is for the Review Board to hear the views from the developer, parties, governments, Aboriginal organizations and community members on the proposed Tłįchǫ All-season Road.

WHEN/WHERE –	<b>Wednesday, November 15, 2017</b> public hearing 11:00-7:00 pm, Whatì, Culture Centre
	<b>Thursday November 16, 2017</b> public hearing 10:00-7:00 pm Whatì Culture Centre
	<b>Friday, November 17, 2017</b> public hearing 10:00-6:00 pm Whatì Culture Centre

Media representatives are requested to sign-in at the hearings and speak to staff on site for designated areas to set up.

**Board Members and staff will not be available for interviews during the proceeding.** If you wish to set up an interview, please contact Mark Cliffe-Phillips to arrange a time following the meeting.

Media contact-	Mark Cliffe-Phillips
	Executive Director
	867-766-7055
	mcliffephillips@reviewboard.ca

Please see pages 2-3 more information and instructions on media conduct during meetings and interviews.



# Environmental Assessment of the Tłįchǫ All-season Road

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) is an independent administrative tribunal responsible for conducting fair and timely environmental assessments in the Mackenzie Valley region of the Northwest Territories. In an environmental assessment, the Review Board must determine if a project is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on the environment or cause significant public concern. If the Review Board decides that a project can proceed, it may require mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts to the environment or people so that they are no longer significant.

For more information about the Review Board and environmental assessment process, please see our website: <u>http://www.reviewboard.ca/about/</u>

For more information about the hearing, follow this link to the hearing agenda

# Media conduct during the hearings

Media are advised to follow public registry updates on the Review Board's website for EA-1617-01

Media personnel are required to sign in to the public hearings and advise Review Board staff of their attendance, as staff must announce the media's presence to the participants in the room.

The Review Board respectfully requests that all media personnel please observe the following courtesies:

- Please do not set up your equipment too close to the front of the hearing venue. This could distract Board Members, staff and other hearing participants from their work.
- Please do not take the front seats for the audience if it appears there are many Elders present who may want to sit up close.
- Please do not sit at the reserved tables set up for registered groups who will be presenting to the Review Board.

Typically, the Review Board does not set up special tables for media personnel unless there is a request in advance of the meeting. The resources available to the Review Board to assist the media are limited, so be prepared to bring all of your own equipment and power supplies.

Review Board staff are not available for interviews during the public hearings. Therefore, please call the Review Board office to arrange for an interview, which will likely occur a few days after the hearing has ended. Please request your interview far enough in advance to allow Review Board staff to coordinate their availability with your deadline.

### **Interview guidelines**

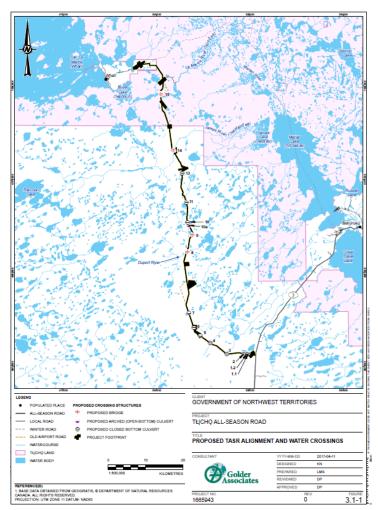
Because of the court-like nature of the Review Board, there are certain limitations to what the Chairperson, Board Members and staff can speak about. For this ongoing environmental assessment, you will only be able to interview Review Board staff. The staff member designated as the spokesperson for a particular file will comment on the process only. The Chairperson and Board Members are not permitted to comment on ongoing matters before the Board.



Review Board decisions, submissions made by other parties or any other evidence speaks for itself. The staff cannot provide interpretation or explanations of any information that is on the public record. All the evidence is available on the <u>public registry</u> for the Tł<sub>2</sub>ch<sub>Q</sub> All-season Road. You are encouraged to speak to the individuals or groups that are participating in the hearings and get their views on the project. If you would like to gain a better understanding of a particular piece of information on the public record, please contact the groups, individuals or outside expert who submitted the document.

## Finding background information and other interview sources

In addition to the sources linked in this document, media may contact the developer of the project under review and visit its website to learn specific details about the development. The developer is the best source to describe its own project. Review Board staff are only able to provide a cursory overview of the project. Review Board staff will not describe the project for you in an interview.



Tłįchǫ All-season Road alignment from Adequacy Statement Response (<u>PR#110</u> p3-3)