



File# ITI-21-22-G-085

SENT VIA EMAIL: [Kevin OReilly@ntassembly.ca](mailto:Kevin.OReilly@ntassembly.ca)

October 19, 2021

Mr. Kevin O'Reilly
MLA Frame Lake
PO BOX 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Request for Access to General Information

Your request for access to general information held by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment was received on September 16, 2021. You have specifically requested:

" Notes and summaries (including any attachments) from the bi-weekly GNWT-Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group meetings held with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment officials (including the Deputy Minister) from March 1, 2020 to present."

This request for information was processed under the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the *Act*).

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) has decided to grant you partial access to the records requested. Portions of the records requested contain information that is excepted from disclosure under the *Act*. Attached is a sections guideline listing to better explain the specific sections of the *Act* that were applied.

The requested records for the period of March 1, 2020 to March 3, 2021 were provided in response to your ATIPP Request File# ITI-20-21-G-060 and records from March 1, 2021 to April 16, 2021 were provided in response to your ATIPP Request File# ITI-21-22-G-011. However, amendments to the *Act* came into effect on July 30, 2021, which affect the application of exceptions in those responses. The records have been reassessed and our decision regarding disclosure has been adjusted to align with the new amendments. Therefore, we are providing the affected records again as a part of this response. Documents that were not affected by the changes to the *Act* are not being provided again and the previous decision regarding their disclosure remains unchanged, including all records provided in response to your request File # ITI-21-22-G-065.

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Please note, meetings scheduled for August 18, 2021, September 8, 2021, and September 22, 2021 were cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. Therefore, there is only one additional set of meeting notes for the period of time since your last request.

Under section 28 of the *Act*, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review our decision to deny access to portions of the information you requested. You have 30 days from the date of this notice to request a review by writing the Information and Privacy Commissioner at:

Mr. Andrew Fox
Information and Privacy Commissioner
PO BOX 382
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N3

If you wish to request a review on the matter of the decision to deny access to portions of the information requested, please provide the Information and Privacy Commissioner with the following information:

1. A copy of this letter and all attachments.
2. A copy of your original request for information that you sent to the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment; and
3. The reason why you are requesting a review.

If you have any questions about this letter, please write or call Ms. Danielle Webb, Information and Privacy Analyst at Danielle_Webb@gov.nt.ca or call me at (867) 767-9256 extension 82102.

Sincerely,



Pamela Strand
Deputy Minister
Industry, Tourism and Investment

Attachments

Section 14 - Advice to Officials

Section **14(1)** provides that a public body may refuse to disclose information if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal information such as:

- *Advice, proposals, recommendations, analyses or policy options developed by or for a public body or a member of the Executive Council (section **14(1)(a)**);*

Section 14(1)(a) is a discretionary exception intended to maintain candor in the giving of advice, recommendations and related analytical alternatives for potential courses of action.

This exception was applied to the analysis and advice. In looking at the application of this exception we undertook the following analysis:

- **Does the information requested qualify as an exception under the Act?**
 - *Yes. The analysis and advice is clearly advisory in nature intended to assist Department of ITI officials in regards to the working group,*
- **If the information fits the exception, then would disclosure of the information reasonably be expected to reveal the particular class of information involved?**
 - *Yes. On review of the analysis and advice we believe disclosure of information that was advisory in nature, would affect responses provided by Department of ITI officials and other working group members. The result of this would be less candid and frank advice received in the future and could hinder the relationship between the GNWT and the NWT-NU Chamber of Mines.*
- **Should the Department exercise its discretion to disclose or not disclose the requested records?**
 - *In review of this matter, we determined that the provision of this advice must be protected in order to ensure the provision of frank and candid advice and analysis in the future.*

14(1) *The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant where the disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal:*

(g) Information, including the proposed plans, policies or projects of a public body, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in disclosure of a pending policy or budgetary decision

This paragraph provides protection for all policy and project planning in public bodies where disclosure of the information could lead to premature disclosure of a policy or budgetary decision.

Section 23 - Personal Privacy of Third Party

When considering disclosure of a third party's personal information a public body is not allowed to disclose personal information to an applicant where the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

Where this is noted in the records we have severed the excepted information so that we could disclose to you the remaining information in the records. The *Act* defines personal information as recorded information about an identifiable individual, including:

- the individual's name, home or business address or home or business telephone number;
- the individual's race, colour, national or ethnic origin or religious or political beliefs or associations;
- the individual's age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, or family status;
- an identifying number, symbol or other particular assigned to the individual (e.g., social insurance number, personal health number);
- the individual's fingerprints, blood type or inheritable characteristics (e.g., DNA profile);
- information about the individual's health and health care history, including information about a physical or mental disability;
- information about the individual's educational, financial, criminal or employment history;
- anyone else's opinions about the individual; and
- the individual's personal views or opinions, except where they are about someone else.

This section of the *Act* establishes a mandatory exception (i.e., the public body has no discretion to release) for personal information if disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy. Section **23(2)** sets out the particular types of personal information, the disclosure of which is *presumed* to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

Sections of the information have been excepted from disclosure under **23(2)(d)** and **23(2)(h)(i)**:

(d) the personal information relates to employment, occupational or educational history;

(h) the personal information consists of the third party's name where

(i) it appears with other personal information about the third party;

This exception to access is mandatory and has been applied to a portion of the information requested. Access was denied to those portions of the records which pertain to employment information, as well as names of third parties.

Section 24 - Business Interests of a Third Party

Section 24(1) creates a mandatory exception to the public's right of access to information that, if disclosed, would harm third party business interests.

A *third party* is defined in the *Act* as a person, other than the person making an access request or a public body. *Person* includes corporations and organizations as well as individuals.

Sections of the information have been excepted from disclosure under 24(1)(a)(i)(B), (ii) and (iii):

(a) information

i. that would reveal

(B) commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information

ii. that is supplied, explicitly or implicitly, in confidence, and

iii. the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to

(B) prejudice the competitive position of a third party

(D) result in similar information not being supplied to a public body

These exceptions to access are mandatory and have been applied to a small portion of the information requested. Access was denied to those portions of the records that pertain to labour relations or financial information supplied in confidence, the disclosure of which could prejudice the competitive position of a third party or result in the third party not supplying similar information in the future.

**Agenda for GNWT ITI – Chamber of Mines Working Group to
Advance Minerals Industry Recovery from COVID**

Time/Date: 2-4 PM / June 5, 2020

By Teleconference: or Video Conference

Attendees:

GNWT ITI:

Pamela Strand, John Ketchum, Angela Norris, Menzie McEachern; Benji Straker, Lora Archer

Chamber of Mines:

23(2)(d)

NOTES:

Introductions

Develop Project Charter – See Draft for consideration / approval

Create a linkage to Emerging Strongly Plan and BAC.

Talk more about COVID in the mission

We needed fixing before; now COVID, and beyond. Get economy stronger than ever before.

Weave in the short, medium, long term themes in here.

- Menzie: you've built your plan around the three time themes). Need to be careful to not bite off more than we can chew. Focus on a few clear actions. Ensure that the actions are those that we can make progress on.
- John K: we discussed with Feds and CanNor about organizing that. He sees this group as feeding into the larger business advisory group currently being set up.
- 23(2): It's a starting point. He agrees that the groups should be coordinated to ensure that efforts are focused, and that action items are with the appropriate group (to ensure that action can be taken).
- 23(2): Look at short, med, long, but then look at the short term and pick three priority items that the group can actually affect.
- Pam: There's a disconnect currently in the focus of efforts – the Territorial governments are focused on relief, and the federal government is more forward looking. Currently there is Pan Territorial letter drafted for signature by Premiers ensuring that the federal government is on board with the relief priorities.

- Pam: The EMMC will meet virtually in August. We are really focusing our efforts on relief in the short term.
- 23(2) The letter should emphasize that supporting the North is supporting Indigenous communities.
- 23(2) 23(2)(h)(i) said three Senators penned new letter today, and will forward this letter to Pam (Pam will distribute the letter to GNWT members).
- Industry supports small business too.
- 23(2): In the charter, under participants, add Roles and responsibilities, e.g. on how meetings will be organized.
- Pam: Maybe generalize about bringing in observers like Indigenous governments. The Charter should define roles & responsibilities. A general catch-all could be useful in this context.
- 23(2) Meet more often. Meeting weekly would be good until the group is up and running.
- Comments by Tuesday end of day. Next meeting Thursday at 3 pm.
- Even if not full attendance, meetings will go on. (Chamber)
- GNWT (Menzie, Angie, and/or Benji) to send scheduler. Point persons to be identified.
- Create a work plan from the charter.

Create a Mineral Resource Development COVID Recovery Action Plan

Discussion around Chamber document: "Towards a 'North of 60' Mineral Resources Recovery Plan: Actions to assist the COVID and Post COVID Needs of the northern minerals industry"

Starting to open earlier:

- John Ketchum has been starting to work with the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) on how workers can fly into the North and proceed to work sites.
- For example, T=truckers currently have a 30 hour reprieve without having to self-isolate – learn more
- What are mines doing? They are not self-isolating
- NU is looking to be OK with 23(2) coming in through YK
- The Territories may start working together to ensure that there is consensus.
- 23(2) Get some numbers out on economic effects of COVID to start analyzing the risk/reward of the restrictions related to the Pandemic.
- Pam: We are working at zero risk right now.
- 23(2) if we could 14(1)(a) [redacted], that could work.
- John: There are opportunities within the current public health orders to move forward. CPHO are seeing ability to accommodate, e.g, they see 14(1)(a) [redacted] Apr 27 order allowed 35 hours

reprieve. Scenario presented to CPHO and hope to get response this weekend or early next week. Keep 14 day record when you arrive and it's proof you're being diligent. John has been working to interpret these orders recently. He said that he would share what he's learned.

- 23(2)(d) currently has robust procedures in place to ensure the safety of workers arriving and departing, as well as monitoring COVID-19 on site. Testing is currently being done on site prior to being sent home, also workers are having their temperatures monitored every day. Their temperatures are checked by a medic before they get on the plane They also have to have a mask to get on the plane. Also Dr. Kandola requires a form signed by the company President that says that a person is a mine worker in transit that they can show in an airport. In canteen every morning, they get their temp taken before they are allowed in.
- 23(2) 23(2) has interpreted 4/4 and 2/2 so you've actually quarantined people.
- Menzie: issue of arriving in YK – can you overnight in YK? How?
- John: it's a "when you're not working, you're self-isolating". That's what Apr 27 order says. What we're expecting, is largely following the Chief Public Health Officer's orders.

Short term actions:

Mineral Tenure Relief news

- Extending the June 26 (90 day) pause but have a plan going forward for approval.
- 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- Saskatchewan has already got similar legislation in place.
- Delays in enacting legislation in the NWT because of the different levels of consultation that need to be understood and completed. 14(1)(a)

Land Use Permit extensions

- 23(2)(h)(i) said that the MVRMA is not currently able to allow these extensions, however they are proposing three different approaches to Permit extensions:
 1. 14(1)(a)
 2. 14(1)(a)
 3. 14(1)(a)
- 23(2) will share his approaches with Pam and her team.

- 23(if you can't access your property, principle would be to extend by the time lost. I like idea of 14(1)(a) ; any levers they have?
- Menzie: GNWT has initiated work on policy direction to Boards. Canada says no changes to legislation or reg's, so where is there manoeuvring room. We are starting to engage Canada to see if they will allow policy direction to boards. Work in progress. Working with Jamie Fulford at EIA.
- Pam: Talking to Board a good one. Maybe 14(1)(a)
- 23(situations might be so unique 14(1)(a)
- 23(only 23(2)(h)(i) has reached out. But no other members have raised this with us and we haven't chased it directly as a result. In NU companies are dealing directly with the Boards.

Comment [MM1]: Since the meeting, it has become clear that Canada doesn't want to provide policy direction to the Boards, so 14(1)(a)

Flow through problem

- Feds understand this, but no solution has been given

Assistance for northern service and Supply and juniors

- Falling through cracks as lumpy revenues
- Menzie: we have met with Feds and raising issue of juniors and service and supply not getting assistance. We seem to be getting heard, but still no concrete action by Feds
- 23(: \$5B in three territories over 10 years raised by exploration. It's a concern that south is opening up faster.
- 23(CEWS consultation closing today
- 23(2 What we submitted was juniors, and 14(1)(a) he comments that have been received from industry are that they are currently not qualifying for relief because of revenues. Also, mines are currently compensating vulnerable workers to stay home. Would it be possible for 14(1)(a)
- 23(: Agrees with 23(2) point. We are currently working at a lower capacity because of safety measures in place to keep workers from vulnerable communities and situations safe. We have also invested in a testing machine. We are also working with the CPHO to get vulnerable employees back to work. We are being impacted and you're right, wages for vulnerable workers eats into our revenues
- 23(2) From a service company perspective, future revenues are seriously impacted from the COVID-19 restrictions (Ekati, Diavik, GK slow down). Revenues from 2019 are not indicative of revenues of 2020 and beyond.
- John Ketchum: Pan-Territorial letter does ask for such compensation.

Royalty deferment to 2021

- 23(asked if 14(1)(a) The funds could be used in the mean time to recover.
- John Ketchum: Mines have asked for relief on Gas and Carbon taxes which was refused. However 14(1)(a)
- Pam: Confirmed that 14(1)(a)

Tax Relief/Credit for Mines

- From Federal – mines need to ask
- No uptake on this.
- John: Finance would be responsible for Tax Relief/Credits.
- Pam: Royalties Schedules are currently being reviewed, if there are suggestions, then those can be reviewed at the same time.

Open land access

- Make it medium term
- 23(2 Under interim land withdrawal can Indigenous groups stake on their land?
- Pam: This is not allowed.

MIP funding:

- Pam: ITI is currently 14(1)(a) . 14(1)(a)

Surety bonds

- Double edged sword, if not used correctly this could lead to lasting damage.

Comment [MM2]: Not understanding this point.

Any other short-term ideas?

- Menzie: There is currently a push for a program similar to the inactive and orphaned well programs in AB, BC and SK to extend to the cleanup of contaminated sites in the North. In a Pan territorial letter 14(1)(a)
- This program would accelerate clean-up of sites and promote the use of Indigenous companies to do work on the sites. Pam: There is also discussion about the Critical Minerals/Metals plan, and trying to get Feds to incent exploration with roads, eg, Avalon, Norzinc, etc.

- John: sounds like Feds are going to restart GEM and Geoscience programs (we heard TGI).

Discussion

- 23(2) Can you look through the short term and say what you can do now?
Suggest we come back to it at the next meeting
- John: We can 14(1)(a)
- 23(2) What are the best short term goals? What's doable?
- Pam: CanNor is offering relief for northern companies to \$100k. 14(1)(a)
You have to be incorporated in the north with a business license. 14(1)(a)
- 23(Not a bad idea? Worth bringing up with them.

Medium and Long Term

- 23(2) we can look at medium and long term goals and put our heads together, and GNWT come back with short term actions that are workable.

INTEGRATING WITH PAN TERRITORIAL APPROACH

Pam: So far Pan-Territorial – Federal meetings have been about sharing information. It would be good if the meetings were more action oriented. This group could feed into the discussions at the Pan-Territorial-Federal level.

Pam: Add communications to this – issue news release once charter is complete to feed into BAC and for our own purposes. Who it represents, and why, etc.

Pam: Focus is important in these meetings, collaboration is critical to success. The councils need to be aggressive to establish what they want to see.

Summary

- GNWT will take away list of short-term measures and provide feedback.
- Next meeting will be on Thursday, June 11 at 3pm.
- Charter will be reviewed by Tuesday and presented at next meeting.
- 23(2) will send out a communication once the Charter is approved to let everyone know that work is done.

- Medium and Long Term Measures will be saved for a discussion on another day, the Short-Term Measures will impact what is doable in the Medium and Long Term.

DRAFT

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group
MEETING NOTES – FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2020

In attendance:

Pamela Strand, Deputy Minister, ITI

23(2)(d) [REDACTED], NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d) [REDACTED], NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

John Ketchum, ADM ITI

Menzie McEachern, ITI

Angela Norris, ITI

Lora Archer, ITI

Review of Working Group Project Charter

- The Updated charter was reviewed.
- Funding – Chamber of Mines requested \$150,000 for coordinating the efforts of Industry.
- Delegates should be integrated into the charter.

ACTION – The Chamber will review the Charter and provide comments next week.

Review of Economic Recovery Actions Table

- The table produced by ITI was presented, highlighting the priorities of ITI.
- The table was produced based on the Chamber of Commerce's table.
- The table could use more comments/organization/information.
- The table was reviewed line by line.

Project Flow-Through Funding

- Industry's perspective is that flow-through funding is essential for industry. Industry is disappointed that the federal government has been slow at delivering the relief program.
- Flow through moneys that need to be spent by Dec 31, it is requested that the funds can be delayed beyond the deadline.
- Northern focus recovery/relief priority is expanding the Mining and Exploration Tax
14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- It's believed that the reason that there is hesitation because of past abuses/industry of the tax credit program.

ACTION – GNWT will provide the Pan-Territorial Letter that has been drafted and signed by all ministers. The letter is addressed to Ministers O'Reagan and Vandal. The letter may not have been sent to the addressees.

Exploration Wage Subsidies

- Currently exploration workers are not eligible for Wage subsidies, a letter has been prepared and will be sent to the Federal Ministers addressing this issue.

Land Use Permits and License Support

- Suggested paths: 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- GNWT has reached out to CIRNAC to see if policy direction could be sought from the Federal Minister. This did not appear feasible. 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Action dates should be associated with the action items.
- This issue should be addressed in a "one-page" letter to see if there is flexibility. Keep the issue/resolution simple. 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- This is likely just a request for an extension to the permits.
- Policy change may still be required.

ACTION - 23(2) and 23(3) will draft a letter/approach the board from the Industry Perspective.

ACTION - John and Menzie will approach the board from a GNWT Perspective.

Service and Supply Companies

- Service and Supply Companies have accepted that no relief is coming. Minister Vandal was made aware of the issue, however this didn't seem like a priority. The relief was intended initially for companies that couldn't operate, and then big business, however service and supply companies seem to fall through the cracks.
- It will require more discussion with the Federal government to address the issue.
- Traction for this issue would 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Next steps could include 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The Pan-Territorial letter addresses this as well.

ACTION - At the next meeting of the Federal-Territorial meeting, the GNWT can raise this issue to highlight the need as well.

Mining Royalties

- This issue may not be as relevant as it once was. There are some tax implications that need to be considered before industry determines if this is a priority.

ACTION – 23([REDACTED] will let the group know if this is a priority.

Tax Relief for Mining Companies

No Comments

Provide Mining Wage Subsidies

- Some mining companies are starting to receive CEWs however exploration and service and supply companies (secondary and tertiary companies) are not receiving CEWs.

Open Land Access to Exploration

- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- However, there needs to be work done on this issue now. The perception is that there is not enough available land to explore.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- A meeting should be planned on this issue with GNWT Representatives, and Industry. This issue needs its own conversation. That conversation can start now.

ACTION - The Federal/Territorial working group should be made aware of this issue (GNWT will action).

Make Financial Opportunities Available

- Federal Guarantees would be good if available.

Reclamation Surety Bonds.

- Surety bonds may not be feasible
- Agreed that this action item is scrapped.

Incent Exploration Investment

- Moved to Short Term from Medium Term as this is doable.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Plan has not been released yet.
- This could be a way to encourage investment into the Territories if this is pursued though.
- Canada and US will be having a discussion in June about the Critical/Strategic Minerals.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- A 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Two federal tables to consider: critical minerals and battery minerals.

ACTION - ITI will create a jurisdictional scan on what is being done for critical minerals for the next meeting.

GeoScience Forum

- Chamber is prepared to cancel the GeoScience Forum.
- Look at other alternatives, smaller virtual events that could replace the big event.
- It might be a good time to rebrand, and decide how to approach this moving forward.
- NTGS would need to consider what needs to be achieved moving forward. The northern infrastructure for virtual events may be limited.
- A public announcement should be made jointly from Chamber, ITI and NTGS.
- A statement could be developed by the end of June.

MIP Update

- MIP has been oversubscribed. Could MIP Funding be increased?
- Application deadline was June 5. 28 application, asking for \$2.8 million. Last year was 28 applications looking for \$2.5 million. However, the number of prospector applications didn't go up dramatically.
- Evaluations include people outside of NTGS as well.
- CanNor may not be the best group to approach for more funding, and was directed to NRCan.
- This is a pan-territorial request, part of the letter that will be shared.

Opening the NWT to Exploration

- The CPHO is aware of the urgency of this issue.
- The April 10 Mineral and Petroleum Industry Order Is the primary order for exploration camps as well. There are not a lot of additional considerations for companies coming in for exploration.
- It is expected that workers will undergo 14 days of self-isolation before coming into the NWT. It is recommended that workers go from a hub community to camps ASAP. Access to Nunavut through NWT will need to be considered/added into the orders as well.
- The order should be fairly simple, and very similar to the Mineral and Petroleum Industry Order.
- The order will be sent out by the NWT as soon as it is released/approved.
- If there are any issues the GNWT can bring it back to the CPHO.

ACTION - GNWT will circulate the document when it is received to get the perspective of Industry/Nunavut operating Industry, on the operating orders.

Next Meeting (Thursday, June 18 – 3-4pm)

ACTION - GNWT will send out the invitation. May already be out.

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020

11:00AM – 12:00PM MST

Attendees

23(2)(d) [REDACTED], Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

John Ketchum, ADM, ITI, GNWT

Menzie McEachern, Director, Mineral and Petroleum Resources, GNWT

Angela Norris, Manager,

Benji Straker, Manager, Mineral Resource, GNWT

1- Review of June 12 Meeting Minutes and Action Items

- Some edits are required to minutes; any changes will be sent to Lora Archer to adjust meeting minutes.
- Any comments on the revised charter are still welcome.
- Last meeting focused on the short-term recovery strategies.
- Pan Territorial Letter was sent to the Minister of Northern Affairs and the Minister of NRCan. This letter was sent to the membership of this working group last week. Many of the short-term strategies were touched on in the letter to Canada.
- With regards to Regulatory Relief, 23(2) and 23(2) were going to 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- 23(2)(d) [REDACTED] will be 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Industry's identified barriers are costs and time limitation. At this point there is no access to the project area or lab to have sampling conducted; would be interested in looking for relief on the timelines. Also looking for relief on the frequency and the required information to meet monitoring requirements that may not be possible at this point. A letter has been prepared addressing these issues.

- GNWT is willing to assist in the editing of the letter from Industry if that would help.
- 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- It is unclear if the 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- Reclamation’s surety bonds will not be focused on by this group at this point.

Critical Minerals Discussion

- Critical Minerals discussion was opened. Cheetah had sent a letter to Canada, which was supported by Fortune and Avalon. The discussion is now open about the critical minerals supply chain and ways to support it.
- Currently there is some action being taken from the Federal Government, and we have some critical minerals projects in NWT that could benefit.
- Industry’s perspective is that 14(1)(a) [Redacted] This also ties into the green economy push of the Federal government. These minerals are critical to the technology needed to move away from fossil fuel dependence. It would be 14(1)(a) [Redacted] It would be a good base for seeking the investment needed for that infrastructure as a shift for our minerals strategy. It would 14(1)(a) [Redacted] There is the potential for 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- Federal support and funding is critical for this. Territorial-Federal discussion will be happening this week to determine what the appetite is for Critical Minerals as well as follow-up on the Pan Territorial letter. **ACTION: GNWT can provide an update at the next working group meeting on the progress of both files.**
- There is a green economic recovery group that has been established, and it would be good to determine if we can start a discussion with that group to advance this file as well.

Comment [MM1]: Not sure what this group is or who is leading it?

- A Critical Minerals Secretariat has been established within NRCan to advance the critical minerals file.
- The Arctic and Northern Policy Framework is also a lever that can be used in this conversation. There is also the Canadian Mine and Metals Plan that can be used to leverage this issue. During the Federal and Territorial meetings these will be emphasized. Industry 14(1)(a) [REDACTED] This is a priority for the GNWT to focus on.
- The Pan Canadian Geoscience Strategy will be producing a report that highlights Critical Minerals as necessary for the Green Economy.
- **ACTION – Progress on Action Items will be inserted into the Matrix. GNWT will take the lead on the matrix. The Matrix will become a tracking matrix that GNWT will keep up to date.**

Opening NWT to Exploration

- There was an email sent out last night with the document with guidance on CPHO's order on how workers can enter the territory for work within the exploration industry.
- In brief, the guidance is straightforward. There is good access to the territory for workers. The orders emphasize minimizing layovers in urban areas and move to work sites as soon as possible.
- The document was made in a partnership between ITI and the CPHO. ITI will be acting as a communications contact point which will then work with the CPHO.

MIP

- The applications for this year's MIP program have been reviewed, and the funding decisions have been made. Communications are being prepared to let applicants know who was successful and not. Because of a limited pot of funding some tough decisions were made with regards to who qualified.
- Application deadline was June 5th. Were 28 applications, asking for \$2.8 million. Last year there were 28 applications looking for \$2.5 million. The number of prospector applications didn't go up dramatically.
- There is a plan to 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- The letters will be sent out hopefully by the end of the week.

Comment [MM2]: Or should this be reversed? Need to double check.

PDAC

- GNWT spoke with the PDAC team. They are on board with the asks that this working group is looking for, as well as the asks in the Pan-Territorial mining Ministers' letter to NRCan and Northern Affairs. They are working with Finance to try to get a commitment on funding.

- A targeted Geoscience Initiative Project will be moving forward in the near term. Critical Minerals will likely be part of this. They are concerned with the availability of land for exploration.
- The PDAC team appreciates the information coming from different jurisdictions to get a good picture of the regional challenges.

Next Meeting

- It was determined that meetings would happen Wednesdays at 9 am. However, next meeting will be Thursday, July 2 at 10 am to accommodate Canada Day.

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING AGENDA – THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020

10:00–11:00AM MST

In Attendance**Pamela Strand, Deputy Minister, ITI**

23(2)(d) [REDACTED], Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)

23(2)(d)

23(2)(d)

23(2)(d)

23(2)(d)

23(2)(d)

Angela Norris**Benji Straker****Lora Archer****1- Review of June 23 Meeting Notes and Action Items**

- Letter from Industry is close to being finished, this will be sent to the working group once it is completed.
- Critical Minerals Jurisdictional Scan was not received by working group. Lora will send it out again immediately. Research found that other jurisdictions have not formally published their action plans for critical minerals, however this research will continue.

ACTION – Lora will continue to research the Critical Minerals File

- The “Tracking Matrix” for the working group needed some alterations including adding a date and making changes to ensure that it is more easily understood.

ACTION – Lora will update the “Tracking Matrix” and work to make it more usable by the group.**2- Finalize Project Charter**

- No other issues identified. Accepted as presented.

3- Review Industry Recovery Action Table

a. Update from GNWT on short term actions

Maintain Mineral Tenure Security

- ITI is still working on the detailed package on the plan.

Protect Flow-Through Obligations

- Letter has been sent. It is unclear if the Feds will do anything.
 - Industry has not had any updates with regards to this.
 - PDAC's update has been that Finance is onboard at this point; however, there has been no action taken on this. No explanation for the delay has been provided. COM will be having a meeting this afternoon; an update can be provided.
 - Clear communications are required at this point.
 - 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
 - 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
 - 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Work is not being undertaken in the North because of these issues.

ACTION – 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]

ACTION – COM will update their letter with details, the content can be used in the follow-up discussion.

Provide Exploration Wage Subsidies

- This is covered in COM's letter. Still an important issue for Industry.

Regulatory Permit and License Support

- Letter has been drafted to MVRMA regarding this issue.

ACTION – COM finalize letter and send to ITI for review before sending it out.

Service and Supply Companies Wage Subsidies

- This issue is covered in COM's letter.

Mining Royalties

- This issue is closed unless there is a demand from industry.

ACTION - Industry will let the Working Group know if this is still an issue.

- o 23(1) has determined not an issue.
- o 23(2) will follow up.

Tax Relief for Mining Companies

- Rejected by GNWT Finance. This item will be closed.
- Reasons were not provided in the response item.

ACTION – ITI can determine what the reasons for the rejection.

ACTION – ITI can share the letter with the working group.

Providing Mining Wage Subsidies

- The wording in this section is not clear.
- There has been an impact on costs for Southern workers, however, there has not been much done for Northern workers.
- Some of this arose because of CEWS funding, however Northern companies are receiving his now.

ACTION – COM will reword the action items in this section to make it clear what they are looking for.

Open Land Access to Exploration

- This is the critical issue for exploration.
- This is a short-term issue with long term implications.
- If this is not fixed, there will not be exploration in the Territories moving forward.

ACTION – 14(1)(a)

ACTION – 14(1)(a) GNWT will report back on what was said during the group.

ACTION – 14(1)(a) on their next meeting with them.

Make Financial Opportunities Available

- Making financial opportunities available and 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- This should be moved into the Medium-Term action items

ACTION – Lora will update the Matrix

Surety Bonds

- This is not going to be included moving forward.

ACTION – Lora will update the Matrix

Incent Exploration Investment

- Incent exploration with 150% work assessment.
- GNWT is agreement.
- This should be completed by September.

Medium Term Actions

- Incent Exploration Investment specifically for Critical Minerals
- Move to short term actions.
- This is important to reinvigorating mining in the North.
- We need the right incentives and programs to be available to allow exploration and advanced exploration projects to move forward.
- Looking for Federal Investment like CanTung.
- However, this working group should make this a priority.

ACTION – ITI will make sure that Federal-Territorial Working Group is reminded of the importance of Critical Minerals to the North.

ACTION – 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].

Review of Ministers' letter to Ottawa

- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]

- 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)

Public messaging of economic ramifications/consequences of industry effects

- The focus has been on health concerns to date. It would be good to start to understand the economic impacts of the pandemic to the North.
- Analysis of worst-case scenario economic impacts of Diamond Mine Closures to the NWT. This study was done already. Could this information be made available to the public?
- When will the studies be made available? GNWT thinks the next week or so.

General Comments

- Industry is generally frustrated by the delays in Business Advisory Council because of administrative delays in getting information out.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 8, 9-10AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020

10:00–11:00AM MST

Attendees

Chamber of Mines

- 23(2)(d)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

GNWT

- John Ketchum, ADM ITI
- Angela Norris, Manager, CSCR, ITI
- Lora Archer, Mineral Resources Specialist, ITI

Review of July 2 Meeting Notes and Action Items

Review of Meeting Notes from July 2, 2020

There was some clarification needed as to who the responsible Minister is for opening Land Access, either O'Reagan or Vandal. It was recommended that 14(1)(a)

It was recommended that 14(1)(a)

The GNWT recommended that 14(1)(a)

Industry emphasized that 14(1)(a)

There are also some interest in IUCN definitions; e.g. two protected bird sanctuaries on Banks Island should be included.

ACTION: GNWT will discuss Interim Land Withdrawals and how they can be addressed to facilitate mining activities.

Review of Action Items from July 2, 2020

ACTION – Lora will continue to research the Critical Minerals File

- Ongoing

ACTION – Lora will continue to research the Critical Minerals File

- Completed

ACTION – 14(1)(a)

- No Update

ACTION – COM will update their letter to the Boards with details, the content can be used in the follow-up discussion.

- Chamber of Mines sent letter to Boards and GNWT yesterday regarding land use permits and water licenses. Menzie had helped.

ACTION - Mining Royalties Relief

- 23(2) confirmed this is not issue for Diavik.

ACTION - Tax relief and rejection letter.

- Hasn't received by COM.

ACTION – Providing Wage Subsidies

- COM to reword action items – but will update with table work so not issue.

ACTION - Open lands to access.

- GNWT report back on Federal - Territorial WG. Recent meetings have been cancelled for some reason. John will bring up at next meetings
- COM did raise protected areas concern with GN.

ACTION - Make Financial Opportunities Available

- Lora moved from short term to medium term actions

ACTION - Update matrix to exclude surety bonds.

- Lora greyed out in matrix.

ACTION - Moving critical minerals to short term actions and making Federal -Territorial WG aware of those.

- 14(1)(a)

Review new Action Table

GNWT Presented a newly formatted action table that provides an overview of the actions that the Working Group is undertaking, the prioritization of the Action Items, a rough schedule for work on the Action Items and a summary of the work that has been undertaken, and the progress to date of actions.

The working group recommended some changes to the look and feel of the action table, ensuring that the table is printable; that the short, medium and long term goals were easily distinguishable, and some adjustments to colour to make the tables easier to follow.

It was suggested that the wording of “Incent Exploration Investment specifically for Critical Minerals” be changed by adding to get “Incent Exploration and Development investment” as Industry would appreciate government and Indigenous equity participation in “shovel ready” projects like NICO, Nechalacho, and perhaps Cantung and Mactung as well.

It was determined that “Open Land Access to Exploration” can also be medium to long term actions. There might be different actions for each time frame, e.g., IUCN argument for medium term.

ACTION - Lora will make changes to the table.

Discuss Prioritization of Action Items

GNWT presented the draft prioritization methodology to prioritize action items.

Some discussion about the measurements resulted in the Federal Priorities ranking changing to being scored from (1 to 5) to (1 to 4) – where 1 is the highest priority - by combing Federal Mandat and Mandate Letters. Territorial Priorities were also changed from being scored from (1 to 5) to (1 to 4) by making both Legislative Mandates and COVID-19 Response items the highest priority items (ranked as 1).

Ranking based on Time Sensitivity was also added, so that items needed to be worked on first would have a higher ranking.

Prioritizing based on impacts and Timeframe were thought to be the two most important issues.

COM had a good meeting with MP McLeod July 14. It is important to get the priorities sorted in the next few months or the recovery action items could get punted to next budget.

Specifically, 14(1)(a)

14(1)(a) . Recovery plan actions need to be determined quickly.

14(1)(a) . We should align our actions to get into the Federal COVID Recovery plan.

The action item critical minerals should include 14(1)(a)

ACTION - Lora will update the table and send out later today and we can populate this.

Can GNWT take a Different Approach with Feds to Treat the North Differently?

The GNWT has talked a bit of this and will share their thoughts. The equity investment part is more difficult, eg, to establish a fund like Quebec. We'd have to appeal Federally. The GNWT thinks that investment in infrastructure specific for projects would be the easiest.

The COM believes that Pan Territorially equity investment will be important. Not much exploration is happening in the North right now. In the South, there is a massive difference. T40 years. So, exploration is not great. However, it's hot in BC, and there's lots in ON, so COVID-19 is not an excuse in the north. While infrastructure is great, COM would urge GNWT to work with other territories to get exploration moving. In NU, China takeover of Hope Bay is an embarrassing situation that no Canadian companies have even taken an interest in running the mine. COM is also disappointed the Federal-Territorial Working Group has not met.

COM also had questions about the Arctic Strategy and the Arctic Policy Framework.

ACTION – GNWT (John) will follow up with COM on Policy and Strategy issues.

23(2) : Any burning issues?

Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 29, 10-11 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

Attendees

Chamber of Mines

- 23(2)(d)



GNWT

- John Ketchum, ADM ITI
- Menzie McEachern, Director, ITI
- Angela Norris, Manager, CSCR, IT
- Benji Straker, Manager, MRD, ITI
- Lora Archer, Mineral Resources Specialist, ITI

Review of July 15 Meeting Notes and Action Items

ACTION: GNWT will discuss Interim Land Withdrawals and how they can be addressed to facilitate mining activities.

- Work still needs to be done on this action item to be able to brief working group.

ACTION: ITI will continue to research the Critical Minerals File

- Ongoing. Menzie will provide an update on the Critical Minerals Discussion later during the working group.

ACTION: ITI will send an amended Action Table to the working group to prioritize.

- ITI will present the results of the Action Table later in the meeting.

ACTION: GNWT (John) will discuss with COM on Policy and Strategy issues.

- ITI updated on recent meetings. Highlighting that Federal/Territorial working groups have not been meeting. ITI will push to have meetings, COM will continue to pressure on their part for meetings.

Review Action Items Prioritization

GNWT presented the prioritization table for review. It was pointed out that there was not significant response to the table. Options were presented to reformat the prioritization methodology into a survey.

Some items in the prioritization list had already been actioned, and therefore they are no longer relevant to be prioritized. The example mentioned was that the Mactung/Cantung projects are progressing and do not require the intervention of the working group. It was recommended that this action item be removed. However, because some interested parties to this action item were not present during the conversation, removal was deferred to a later date.

It was determined that the best method for review would be for the working group to have one more week to review the prioritization and the results would be presented in the next working group meeting.

ACTION – Working Group members to review action table, provide feedback.

ACTION – GNWT to compile results and present a new action table organization at the next working group meeting.

Critical Minerals Opportunities

ITI presented an update to the current discussions that are occurring related to Critical Minerals. Recent discussions with NRCan had highlighted that the CMMP is the primary vehicle to advance work on Critical Minerals. Critical Minerals will be advanced through NRCan and other government departments.

The working group discussed that NRCan is not always in a decision making role when critical minerals is being discussed. It was discussed that, where possible, it was important to engage NRCan as a decision making body.

The working group discussed that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]

ACTION – ITI will continue work on how to capitalize on the Critical Minerals Strategy will report back to the Working Group.

Innovative Supports to the Mining Industry

As ^{23(2)(d)} [REDACTED] was not present to discuss, this item was moved to the next working group meeting.

ACTION - This agenda item will be discussed at the next Working Group Meeting

Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 12, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

Attendees

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



GNWT

Pamela Strand
Menzie McEachern
Benji Straker
Angela Norris
Lora Archer

Review of July 29 Meeting Notes and Action Items

Land Withdrawals

- ITI recommended that 14(1)(a) 
- Industry views that 14(1)(a) 
- ITI agrees that this is an important, ongoing issue, and that this should be discussed with other departments in the GNWT.

ACTION: ITI will schedule a meeting with other departments to discuss (Pam and John will come up with next steps).

Federal – Territorial Coordination

- ITI met with CanNor – to discuss the inaction of the Federal Territorial working group and how to make this meeting more effective moving forward. It was emphasized that this group is seen by ITI and by the COM as an integral piece of moving recovery efforts forward.
- A secretariat has been established to do research and set agenda items, however this secretariat needs more direction on how to move forward. There is a need for a structured research project that would be undertaken to identify projects and policy items to advance to ensure meaningful actions are taken away from this group.
- CanNor has agreed to take the lead in discussing this with other colleagues in the Federal Government and report back later in the month as to how things will be moved forward.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]

ACTION: ITI will arrange a meeting with the Federal Government (CanNor/CIRNAC and NRCan) and COM (NWT/NU and YK if possible) to ensure that the needs of Industry are being heard.

Critical Minerals

- ITI stated that a Critical Minerals Strategy is important to recovery and that ITI will continue to be worked on and pushed at all levels.
- What ITI wants to see from Canada, is what part of the Critical Minerals supply chain will be the thrust of their efforts?
- The letter from Cheetah to the Federal Ministers gave a good starting point for the focus, however this may need to be further refined.
- Industry asked who in the feds should be talked to about a Critical Minerals Strategy? How can this strategy be accelerated? 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]

- ITI reported that MP McLeod has been contacted to make this happen, however more work needs to be done to find solutions. We need to determine what the actions are that we see as priorities and begin communicating this to the Federal government.
- ITI needs to create more of a plan that emphasizes existing projects as well as deposits and would provide ways to secure the investment to back Industry.
- The timeline is short on this, as this would need to be done by September/October.
- Industry recommended that 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].
- COM believes that other priorities should also be identified to the Finance Committee as priorities for the Northern mining Industry. There are some other “out of the box” solutions that should be identified.
 - 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
 - 14(1) [REDACTED]
 - 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Sovereignty element as well should be emphasized for the North, i.e. who is actively operating mines in the North (e.g. TMAC).
- COM pointed out that we’ve missed the opportunity to send written submissions to the Finance Committee. At this point we would need to put together a compelling presentation to the committee about the opportunity for critical minerals and investments.
- COM received word from MP McLeod that we have missed the opportunity to have something presented to the finance committee.
- COM mentioned that 23(2)(d) [REDACTED] has authored a report that speaks to the economic opportunities associated with the mining industry.
- COM suggested that they can also reach out to some senators to advocate as well.

ACTION: ITI will work on developing a Critical Minerals Strategy. Including promotions and how to get this to market. Develop pillars for the strategy within one month. Will put together documentation, do a desktop review, and develop priorities on how to promote our projects and resources.

ACTION: A draft slide deck will be presented at the next working group meeting.

ACTION: ITI and COM will work together to flush out the 3 priorities.

ACTION: COM will provide written submissions by August 14.

ACTION: 23(2) will reach out to 23(2)(d) to get a copy of the report.

Consolidated Action Table

- ITI briefly presented the consolidated action table to make the action items more easily understood when presented.
- There were no major objections to the table. Some minor edits will be done.
- The table will be used to assist in the development of strategies and for focusing discussion in the future.

Innovative Supports to the Mining Industry

- This was not discussed during the meeting. This will be discussed in bilateral conversations with ITI and brought up at the next working group meeting.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 26, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING AGENDA – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

10:00–11:00AM MST

In Attendance

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d) [REDACTED], Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

Industry Tourism & Investment

John Ketchum, ADM, ITI

Menzie, Director, Mineral and Petroleum Resources, ITI

Angie Norris, Manager, Client Services and Community Relations, ITI

Benji Straker, Manager, Mineral Resources Planning, ITI

Review of August 12 Meeting Notes and Action Items

Land Withdrawals

- ITI suggested that the group needs to figure out how to approach this. It is an overwhelming issuing, need to determine how to move this forward. Potentially have a meeting focused on how to proceed on addressing Land Withdrawals in a separate meeting.
- COM suggests 14(1)(a) [REDACTED] that can be used as a starting point.
- There was agreement that this is a critical issue for the working group.

ACTION – ITI and COM will coordinate a meeting time to discuss this item separately.

ACTION – COM will forward a the MAC paper.

Federal-Territorial Coordination

- ITI has been working to kick-start the working group again. There will be a meeting next Thursday.
- The agenda for the next meeting was shared. The presentation to be discussed later in the meeting will be shared within the meeting. ITI has been allocated for only 15 minutes. ITI will narrow in on a few slides that drive the key messages on recovery.

- COM has a letter from Minister Vandal that outlines the progress to date. That will be shared with the group.
- There is also the possibility of having a federal territorial meeting that includes the COM. This meeting would be separate to the meeting on Thursday. ITI suggested a meeting could include all territories or just focus on the NWT.
- COM could start to work with the Chamber of Mines in the Yukon and with the GN to get buy in on our approach.
- COM suggests that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]
- COM is willing to have a local meeting with CIRNAC and CanNor, limited to NWT representatives.
- COM emphasized that they wanted to ensure that we have enough time to table the issues that are a concern to industry, to ensure that the meeting is productive and the salient issues are brought forward in the meeting.
- ITI suggested that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED] suggests focusing on a short list of items.
- COM suggested that focusing in too much on individual items could mean that the bigger issues are never addressed. It's important to tie everything together to ensure that it is understood how the industry is currently affected and the measures that need to be taken to recover from COVID.
- COM reiterated that we need to recover from COVID stronger than we were before COVID. IUCN document will highlight this.

ACTION – ITI will set up a meeting with ^{23(2)(d)} [REDACTED] and the COM/ITI Working Group.

ACTION – ITI/COM will have a strategy meeting to discuss approach for this meeting?

ACTION – COM will share letter from Minister Vandal.

ACTION – COM will work with counterparts in GN and the Yukon Chamber of Mines to discussion a shared vision for recovery.

Critical Minerals

- There's work progressing within ITI on research.
- Do we want to pursue value-added activities in addition to mining exploration?
- COM suggests is ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]
- ²³⁽²⁾ [REDACTED] suggests that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]

- 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- NWT's strategy should focus on getting the mines going. Near-term small scale critical minerals projects should be the focus with the supports (financing and stockpiling of the production) required to get the mines started. Once the mines are over the hump.
- Critical Infrastructure will also need to be considered – enabling the mines to open and operate.
- 23(2) suggests that a cross government discussion is required to ensure that mining is advanced.
- COM has not presented to the DMs within the GNWT for many years.
- ITI will bring this up to the DMs in a multi departmental forum, to ensure that the development is understood as a priority and links are understood.

ACTION – ITI will make a presentation at an upcoming DM meeting. Will ensure new minister is briefed.

ACTION – ITI will reach out internally to look for the 23(2)(d) reports.

Review of Presentation

- COM suggested that the proposed investment fund could be included in the presentation.
- ITI replied that this may be premature
- Slides 7 and 8, show the peak employment and where we are now. Will be more impactful.
- Focus on the small scale impacts as well.
- Also include stats on what the Economy would look like in the NWT without the mines.
- Consensus to share this presentation.

ACTION – ITI will share the fund proposal idea by Friday, September 11

ACTION – ITI will add slides on peak economics

ACTION – ITI will look for stats on what the impact would be to the economy if the mines close.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 16, 9-10 AM

- Requested Agenda Items – MVRMA regulatory guidance documents update at next meeting.

ACTION – ITI will reach out to the MVRMA about a table related to the MVRMA.

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

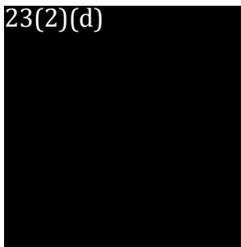
MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

In Attendance:

Chamber of Mines:

23(2)(d)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the names of the Chamber of Mines attendees. The text '23(2)(d)' is visible in the top left corner of the redacted area.

GNWT ITI:

Pam Strand
John Ketchum
Menzie McEachern
Benji Straker
Angie Norris
Lora Archer

COM-ITI Minister's Meeting

- A meeting will be taking place between the newly appointed Minister of ITI and COM, that will discuss the mining in general and the work being done by this working group.
- Proposed agenda items for Minister's Meeting:
 - Surface Lease Issue
 - Critical Metals Progress
 - Federal Territorial Meeting Discussion

Review of September 2 Meeting Notes and Action Items

Land Withdrawals

- COM reported that MAC will likely back off the approach proposed in the IUCN document that they shared. PDAC will be taking the lead. There was a Seal River Watershed Indigenous Protected area in Manitoba that has raised concerns for MAC.
- COM is concerned that there is a lot of adhoc protection that is being given to lands by Federal organizations in the process of settling land claims, etc. COM is concerned that the adhoc approach to meet obligations without engagement with the provincial and territorial government. It was discussed that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]
- ITI will be engaging more with ENR on boreal caribou range planning. They are currently working on different levels of impact to the herd. ENR is currently looking for data on where mineral and oil and gas potential will be in the next 10 years. COM has not weighed in on this issue. There has not been a lot of overlap with the boreal caribou range.

Federal Territorial Coordination

- COM provided a letter from Minister Vandal. COM also received a letter from Minister Vandal about the Hope Bay issue.
- ITI had a meeting with the three territories, with CIRNAC, CanNor, NRCan.
 - Canada provided a backward looking update on initiatives.
 - Nunavut and Yukon provided a more COVID impacts oriented update
 - NWT provided an update on our action plan, and how we see recovery moving forward.
 - Canada is impressed with the three items, and want to progress those actions moving forward. Nunavut was also supportive.
 - ^{23(2)(d)} [REDACTED] is taking the lead from the Federal Level.
 - ITI and CanNor will be meeting with the Secretariat to assign work and advance research and planning.
 - COM will figure out who can help on each of the action items.

Meeting with Minister of ITI

- DM ITI recommends that 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].
- ITI has been discussing with 23(2)(d) [REDACTED] and 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].
- COM agreed that they could work with ITI on this to emphasize the importance of the North and mining for the Federal Government.
- COM suggested that 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].

ACTION – Put together some briefing materials for the Minister to keep her updated

ACTION – Have a meeting with COM, ITI and the Minister

ACTION – COM will reach out to 23(2)(d) [REDACTED] at the Chamber of Mines in Yukon to see if they can support the action items.

ACTION – ITI will reach out to the Government of Yukon to see if they support the priority action items.

ACTION – COM will reach out to the three senators.

Critical Minerals

- DM ITI was thinking about how to pitch the Critical Minerals. Was thinking about how to better pitch this idea so that it better resonates with the Federal Government? The sales pitch to change the dialogue.
- COM agreed that the argument needs to be changed to fit the Federal Government's needs. 23(2)(d) [REDACTED] could be useful in
- ITI recommends that 14(1)(a) [REDACTED].
- COM highlighted a public opinion survey that was supportive of critical minerals.
- This marketing initiative would have multiple audiences, and could be used by many groups to support mineral development.
- ITI reported that the critical minerals will have a bigger profile in the CMMP moving forward.

- There should be an approach that is brought to the intergovernmental council. It would be good to get everyone on the same page moving forward.
- Two allies that could help are 23(2)(d) and 23(2)(d). 23(2) continues to put on his forums. They should be engaged to help progress this.

ACTION – ITI/COM will look for the public opinion survey.

ACTION – COM will get a meeting put together between COM/ITI and 23(2)(d) and 23(2)(d)

Review of Presentation/Slide Deck

- Suggested changes to Slide 17 – 14(1)(a)

ACTION – Lora add something to say that facilities could have future uses on Slide 17.

ACTION – The group could go through the slides again individually to make the show more crisp.

ACTION – 14(1)(a)

ACTION – Lora will coordinate the review of the slide show, Lora will send out the slide show again.

Review of Mineral Development Fund Initiative

- The group discussed the need for some work on the Mineral Development Fund Initiative. The group agreed to review the document in its current form to have comments by next Wednesday.

ACTION – Working group will provide comments on the Mineral Development Fund Initiative.

MVRMA Regulatory Guidance Documents Update

- 23(2)(d) wrote a letter to various groups on the Regulatory Review. COM suggested that the

- Regulatory Dialogues were worked on previously at ITI. They have been in draft form for three years. ITI is willing to contract the updating of these documents and making them available for public use. The document should be shared with 23(2)(d) who's been developing an online tool to help navigate the regulatory process. This was a deliverable from the MDS. This would also be something that ITI would want to make available online in an easily usable format.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 30, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group**MEETING AGENDA – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020****9:00–10:00AM MST****Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NWEyY2NkN2EtYThkYi00MGMxLWlwNDItYjkyOGI1Y2Q3MDIj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22fbed2b1d-0f61-40ad-b7d5-2010c3c93e93%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%225cb4a6c9-3acb-4be6-b448-7d5cc4686ffc%22%7d

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OR

phone 1 867-675-1042 Conference ID: 935 547 373#

1- Welcome***Review of 3 Priority Items*****2- Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects****3- Critical/Strategic Minerals****4- METC****5- Regulatory Dialogues****6- Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 30, 9-10 AM**

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

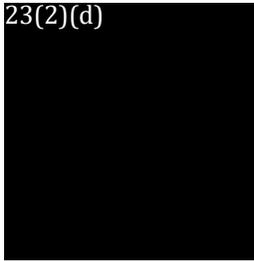
MEETING NOTES– WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

In Attendance

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)

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GNWT – ITI

John Ketchum

Menzie MacEachern

Benji Straker

Angela Norris

Lora Archer

Changes to Agenda

- COM requested an update on the Territorial Ministers Meeting
- ITI will provide an update on the Geosciences Forum

Review of 3 Priority Items

1 - Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects

- ITI had a meeting with counterparts in Nunavut and Yukon. There is interest in moving forward as a collective on a study to determine what investment is required for Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects.
- The meeting determined the scope of the project. To determine the investment mechanisms that would be needed in the North. The study will not determine the specific projects needed at this point.

- GNWT will be drafting a statement of work for the project, and will get consensus from the other two territories. There is \$50,000 on offer from CanNor, there is the possibility of top off from the other two territories.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- The details on how the fund or investment mechanisms could be determined in the course of the study.
- The study is intended to be collaborative. ITI will need the input from COM on how to make the investment scheme work for industry. Collaboration will also be emphasized with the other territories.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- COM also advanced that the fund could include indigenous participation in the investment mechanisms.
- ITI agrees that the fund could include a principle that would include indigenous participation.

2 - Critical/Strategic Minerals

- ITI asked if there is anything that the GNWT could do to promote and market critical minerals projects at either the early exploration stage or at the mine development stage.
- ITI has a budget allocated for trade shows/promotion and marketing that cannot be spent this year. The GNWT is looking to spend this budget in a productive way.
- COM said that the perception is not good for investing because the areas where there is potential for minerals is tied up in land negotiations or land that is set aside for other uses. This makes it difficult to attract investors, when there's uncertainty about where there can be development, and understanding that there are the political issues in trying to access the areas, it is difficult.
- COM asked if ITI could do work with the Indigenous groups to generate interest in mineral development.
- ITI said that the communities themselves have to get together and decide how they want to have their lands developed. It's tough to get one voice to speak for all the communities or an individual community.
- COM asked if it would be possible to spend time in the communities discussing the scope of the projects, and to understand that the industry is not the same as it was in the past. Education may be needed to reach the communities'.
- ITI has done some work on the education piece, and will continue to try to push the education. The best approach may be to get the Dev Corps on side and to get organizations like DII on board in the education process.

- ITI mentioned that there has been success in developing regional mineral development strategies through MDS funding. There are now strategies in place for the IRC and the GTC.
- ITI asked if there is a particular area to prioritize for the critical minerals. If there's an area/advanced project that the GNWT can help push forward.
- COM replied that there is an interest in getting help from the GNWT to push
- ITI is interested in knowing what mechanisms that could be put in place to help projects push forward.
- COM said that the GNWT could play a bigger role in engagement with indigenous communities.
- COM said that land being tied up and permitting headaches are big inhibitors to investment.
- The example of direction being given by CIRNAC to the regulatory boards to help advance projects that are being not fully adopted by the boards, which is creating distrust by investors.
- COM will provide the letter and the emails providing clarity to the boards.

ACTION – 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

ACTION – 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

ACTION - 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

3 - METC

- ITI provided an update on the work being done on the METC by CIRNAC in conjunction with NRCan. 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

Regulatory Dialogues

- ITI reviewed the Regulatory Dialogues document that would be discussed at the steering committee meeting on October 8. Because it is a lengthy document, there was a focus on key priorities/sections.
- Priority 2 – Joint Consultation and Engagement Policy from the Boards - 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
 - 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- Priority 3 – Tool for Estimating Security

- COM indicated that the Boards have sent out the estimator for consultation, there is a deadline of October 25 to respond. COM has sent this out to their membership to respond to.
- Reclamation formulas may also need to be reviewed.
- Priority 7 – Build Awareness.
 - ITI asked if there was a priority that should be focused on, this is something that ITI could be working on.
 - COM indicated that number 7, building awareness could be a priority moving forward.
 - COM also emphasized the importance of making things easier for early exploration. Priorities 1 and 2 would support this.

ACTION – ITI will meet to discuss an engagement strategy.

ACTION – ITI will provide an update at the next COM/ITI WG meeting and a strategy can be developed.

Update on Territorial Meeting

- ITI will be briefing a minister tomorrow that will happen on October 15 with Minister O'Reagan and the three territorial ministers. It is unclear if there's been a call with the three territorial ministers outside of this call.

Geoscience Symposium

- There was a call for expressions of interest for the Geoscience Symposium. There was 55 presentations requested, which is a cross section from energy, geoscience and regulatory updates. Permafrost, Geoscience Research, and ... followed by Exploration.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, 21 October, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020

10:00–11:00AM MST

In Attendance

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



ITI

Pam Strand

John Ketchum

Menzie McEachern

Angela Norris

Benji Straker

Lora Archer

Update on Minister O'Reagan Call

- ITI had a call with Minister O'Reagan October 15.
 - Minister O'Reagan was taken by surprise, with how well prepared the territories were for the call.
 - Reviewed the Pan-Territorial Letter, and ministers made it clear that this is a Pan-Northern voice and that it would be a priority moving forward.
 - Yukon highlighted the costs that are associated with the COVID-19 Restrictions. \$12 million to date that they have spent as a government.
 - The Minister from Yukon was vocal. He wants people back working and wants subsidies that support exploration and the service industries that support it.
 - Northern site rehabilitation (mostly oil wells) and contaminated sites was also presented as a priority. This was presented as an opportunity for remediation capacity building.
 - The Territories also reviewed the need for a Northern METC program.
 - Matching of MIP by the federal government for the Territories was asked for again.
 - 14(1)(a)
- 

- NWT Minister focused on Critical Minerals. O'Reagan is open to all suggestions with regards to advancing this initiative.
- 14(1)(a)
- A joint letter will be sent summarizes the meeting and how the North sees development of the mining industry moving forward.
- O'Reagan was surprised at the level of coordination and preparation in the North.
- COM asked if ITI addressed creative funding ideas for projects. ITI replied that the call focused on the top priorities, however this would fit within the investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects. Having a paper and a study done through the RFP will advance this.
- COM asked if the Deputy Ministers or Ministers are planning to meet on a regular basis? ITI replied that they can commit to figuring out a consistent plan on how to coordinate with the other territories.
- ITI is keen to get the Investment Study done and have a Critical Minerals Strategic Plan done by January.
- COM stated that they have been in contact with CIRNAC, and they are keen to see a Strategic Plan related to Critical Minerals.

ACTION – ITI will send the Pan-Territorial Letter to the Group.

ACTION – COM to send any other discussion items to bring up with CIRNAC to ITI

Review of 3 Priority Items

Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects

- Territorial colleagues have been contacted with regards to this initiative. 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- It is important to build in the Indigenous participation in the fund. There is also potentially some funding that could be taken advance of, and investment houses in Toronto/Vancouver that focus on indigenous capacity building.
- COM said that they could ask around to find out about that segment of the financing market. They said that there is an increased interest in this type of funding. There could be more pools of funds available from the Feds in terms of supporting indigenous capacity development.
- COM asked when the money needs to be spent for the RFP? ITI replied that the study would have to be completed this fiscal year. The study could be done in the last quarter of the fiscal year. Could be done sooner? All agreed that it would be great, however we could be limited by government procurement process.

ACTION – ITI will forward the Investment Fund SOW when the initial review has been completed.

ACTION – COM will do some research into private sector investment into indigenous capacity building.

Critical/Strategic Minerals

- ITI wants to create an Action Plan to focus efforts. They would like to start thinking of what this could look like, ITI is looking to start brainstorming. An example of an initiative/strategy is Promotions and Marketing.
- Promotional and Marketing
 - Promoting hotspots to industry
 - Internal to NWT engagement, outreach, education, and promotion to communities to build support and interest in critical mineral development.
- 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- COM asked when a more in-depth conversation could happen to start discussing what this action plan would look like. ITI replied that they were not sure if the focus was on NWT or Pan-Territorial. The group discussed the importance of focusing on the NWT first.
- COM suggested 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]

METC

- The project work is advancing. There is good alignment with the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework.
- CIRNAC is working on this file.
- There will be more to report after the Federal-Territorial meeting later this week.

Direct Investment into Northern Mining Operations

- COM highlighted that this is a key part of the Investment Fund review. This is the most creative part and what they think will have the biggest impact on the industry in the North.
- How can subsidies be better directed to mining operations to spur development?
- This should not fall off the table.
- COM wants a sustainable long-term approach. Russia has been investing in the North for years; similarly, China has taken an approach to make a shipping channel through the North. Canada should take an approach that recognizes the value in investing in

companies in the North. This investment needs to be broad-based not focused just on Critical and Strategic Minerals.

- There is the potential to create many complementary programs through this investment.
- ITI highlighted that the Road to Whati is a modern example of this. This was built based on multiple considerations.

ACTION – ITI will ensure that this concept is built into the SOW

Update on Mineral Tenure Relief

- There is work that is being advanced with the department of Justice for regulation changes. The date has been extended. There is a relief package that has been released. The information is available on the MRO site.
- The relief package is in line with what is offered in other jurisdictions.

Reporting Protected Areas to ECCC

- ITI will coordinate with ENR to determine how reporting to ECCC will be done.

ACTION - ITI will contact ENR to determine what the mechanism/process will be.

ACTION – COM to provide ITI with any specific questions that they might have by Friday, October 22.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 4, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

In Attendance

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)

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ITI

John Ketchum
Menzie McEachern
Benji Straker
Angela Norris
Lora Archer

Additions to Agenda:

ITI asked to add an agenda item, an update on the Mineral Tenure Relief package.

Mineral Tenure Relief Package

- ITI presented the final Mineral Tenure Relief Package. ITI reported that the final package has been delayed in being released because GNWT shares resource revenues with IGOs, therefore there is a consultation stage that has to happen that doesn't necessarily happen in other jurisdictions. This happened in September/October.
- The Financial Management Board needed to approve the package prior to going to Cabinet. This happened in October.
- With regards to fees, there is no waiver option available for fees. However, the fees can be deferred, and will be deferred to December 31. Starting January 1 the fees will be incurred again. This decision was made as to not penalize the IGOs who would not

receive any resource revenue for this fiscal year. 3 months of resource revenue will be provided during the current fiscal year.

- ITI recognizes that this may not be the option that will make industry happy, however it was a balance that had to be struck between the IGOs and Industry's needs.
- ITI reported that claims are being treated differently. Claims will be deferred for the entire fiscal year.
- COM asked if that since the lease payments are not big money, however is there any thought to the number of lease holders that will be disadvantaged by this policy?
- ITI replied that it's about 25 leases that are impacted. 24(1)(a)(i)(B), (ii) and (iii)(B)
- COM stated that 14(1)(a)
- ITI stated that there is an extra year to pay the lease. There are a number of other jurisdictions that are doing deferrals as opposed to waivers.
- COM asked if this is the final package, or if there is still room for negotiation?
- ITI stated that further consultation could not happen between now and the end of the fiscal year. However ITI can take this feedback and move forward with it next fiscal year.
- ITI stated that they realize this situation isn't perfect, however this was the balance that they were able to achieve.
- ITI stated that there things that could be done.

ACTION – ITI will provide details of the Mineral Tenure Relief Package in writing.

Review of 3 Priority Items

METC

- ITI reported that there was a presentation from CIRNAC at the last Intergovernmental Working Group on Northern Minerals Sector, that was provided in the meeting invite for today's meeting. CIRNAC is looking at how to level the playing field in the north from a tax regime perspective. They are not necessarily looking at a cost differential perspective.
- COM's perspective is that 14(1)(a)

- ITI believes that the NWT/North can be working on how to advance critical mineral projects. There are a number of relevant projects that should be highlighted.
- ITI reported that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]
- COM stated that ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]
- ITI's perspective is that there will be some room for the North to determine what it believes are critical minerals.

Reporting Protected Areas to ECCC

- ITI reported that ENR has committed to providing some answers to COM's questions. ENR's is committed to meet afterwards to discuss the answers.
- COM stated that there was a Parks Canada submission made on IUCN designations. They could share this with the group.

ACTION – ITI will share the letter

ACTION – COM will share the Parks Canada Submission

Other Discussion

- COM asked if government is looking at all mining as being important? The worry is that the focus on Critical/Strategic Minerals may overshadow the importance of all mining to the North. Minerals of all kinds are critical to Indigenous reconciliation.
- ITI replied, that they agree that all minerals are important, however the current federal government focus is on Critical/Strategic Minerals, and that this would have to be navigated in order to ensure funding for our initiatives.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

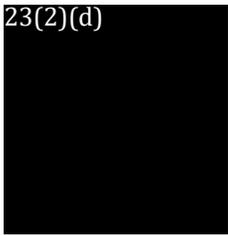
MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

A. Welcome

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)

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ITI

Menzie McEachern

Benji Straker

Angela Norris

Lora Archer

B. Review of 3 Priority Items

1- Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects (For Information)

- ITI has been working with the other territories on a Statement of Work for a study to accelerate investment and mineral projects North of 60. The document is provided for information. It was prepared with input from Nunavut and the Yukon governments.
- COM asked if there is an opportunity for comments, ITI replied that it took a considerable amount of time to get the document to this stage, and that it wouldn't necessarily be in the interest of getting the SOW to the RFP stage. ITI stated that the COM will be a key stakeholder, and there will be many opportunities to engage with the consultant to influence the findings of the study.
- COM replied that they wanted to ensure that there is direct help for Canadian exploration companies.

- ITI emphasized that the benefits are intended to flow to Northern Indigenous Development Corporations, Northern and Canadian Items.
- COM asked that the 4th requirement should be changed to include “other northern companies”. ITI stated that this would be done.

2- Critical/Strategic Minerals

a. NRCan Criticality Framework

- ITI reported that Canada presented their Critical Minerals “Criticality Framework”. This is representation of the work so far in the Critical Minerals Task Team.
- ITI reviewed the criteria for what will be on the Critical Minerals List: something on an ally’s critical mineral list, and Canada has a competitive edge to produce it; something that is essential to Canada’s economic security and there’s threats to its supply; and, essential to Canada’s national security. There are currently approximately 25 minerals on the list.
- COM asked about what happens with materials that are needed for military technology that is made somewhere else. ITI believes that those materials would still be on the critical minerals list.
- COM asked if the preliminary list could be shared? It would be good to see what has been produced so that there is context for what minerals are being chosen.
- ITI believes that the list is intended to be dynamic. The criteria are meant to be a guide to choose what minerals will be on the list. As the economic environment and defence environment evolve the minerals required may change.
- COM asked if other criteria could be minerals essential for green/clean technologies. ITI believes that these minerals are included in both the first and the second criteria. COM believes that mineral potential for a greener economy is a good way to emphasize the importance of these minerals moving forward.
- COM also asked about whether the minerals that are essential to maintaining a regional economy. This would include diamonds for the NWT economy. ITI

believes that there are scales that are going to be applied. The regions are going to be able to create their own list that will be slightly different from the Canadian list. COM suggested ^{14(1)(a)}

^{14(1)(a)} ITI agreed that this was a good concept.

b. Prospectus Discussion (COM Lead)

- COM wanted to raise this as an example of a useful promotional document. ITI believes that this material is similar to what have been produced in the GNWT, with Mineral Commodity Fact Sheets. Prior to COVID these were put into a booklet form with tabs which showed where different mineral showings are. The GNWT also has a standard slide deck that emphasizes the mineral potential. However, ITI doesn't believe that the information has been put together in the same way that this Australian document has.
- COM suggested that marketing critical minerals (and other minerals) with other regions to alert them to the potential in the Northwest Territories.
- ^{14(1)(a)}
- COM asked if the GNWT is working on a Critical Minerals Development Strategy? ^{14(1)(a)}
^{14(1)(a)} COM agreed that a package approach could make the strategy more nimble.
- COM asked if there could be a COVID Recovery Development Strategy.
- COM suggested Lab access and regulatory are two issues that are not currently in our list of priorities for recovery that should be added. An additional issue is Land Tenure security is also something that is essential to COVID recovery, to ensure that developers have certainty on what lands can be explored.

- ITI replied that these issues are noted and that there is work currently underway to address these. They are good issues to highlight to be able to continue to move forward
- COM asked about what was happening with Regional Mineral Development Strategies since the Minister announced it in the Legislative Assembly on November 3. ITI stated that the work will be continuing based on what has already happened with the IRC and the GTC, as well as trying to move forward with Sahtu and the Akaitcho to try to promote the work of regional mineral development strategies.
- COM stated that ^{14(1)(a)} 

ACTION – By next meeting ITI will produce actions which can be taken by the GNWT to move forward with a Critical Minerals Plan.

ACTION – Can COM think about whether there should be any other issues that should be added to our list of 3 priorities for COVID recovery.

3- METC (No Update)

C. Diamond Benefits Report

- ITI will follow up with COM about what details are needed.

D. Protected Areas

- ITI reported that there was a response to the questions that ²³⁽²⁾  had about how protected areas are determined in the NWT.
- COM stated that they received the documents, however it would be something that they would want to circle back to this discussion to have a more fulsome discussion.

E. Next Meeting – Wednesday, December 2, 9-10 AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12th, 2020

9:00–10:00AM MST

Attending

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



ITI

Menzie McEachern

Benji Straker

Items Added

Meeting with Official Leader of the Opposition

- COM was invited to meet with Official leader of the opposition on January 13th. This is an opportunity to champion Northern needs.
- It is a short meeting, therefore a focused but interesting message needs to be developed.

14(1)(a)

- 14(1)(a)

MVRMA Workshop in 2021

- The MVRMA Workshop is being planned for March 9-11, 2021.
- The theme for the workshop is Well-being and the MVRMA: Making good resource co-management decisions in the Mackenzie Valley.
- It is anticipated that there will be a session economic well-being, COM suggested that it would be good idea if it is not done by industry. COM’s recommendation:

- 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- 23(2)(d) [Redacted] 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- 23(2)(d) [Redacted] 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- ITI recommended that the following people could be reached out to as speakers for MVRMA Workshop:
 - 23(2)(d) [Redacted]

ACTION – COM will send 3 or 4 speaker suggestions to the group.

Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects (RFP Release)

- The RFP for the study related to the Northern Infrastructure and Strategic Investment Fund should be released later today.

Critical/Strategic Minerals

- ITI has been working on developing a baseline jurisdictional scan, Lora will provide an update prior to Donny Days.
- To give advanced exploration projects some visibility they will be promoted at Roundup and PDAC.
- Roundup and PDAC will be held virtually this year, the GNWT will be producing videos with spokespeople for the event; 23(2)(d) [Redacted] is helping. 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- COM recommended 14(1)(a) [Redacted]
- ITI added that there will be two panel discussions moderated at Roundup with three or four companies per panel. ITI is working with a company in Toronto to help promote

ACTION - Lora will provide an updated Critical Minerals baseline jurisdictional scan.

ACTION – ITI to 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

Diamond Benefits Report

- COM reported that they found errors in GNWT's product. COM has submitted their spreadsheet of proposed changes which were incorporated into the report.

Identifying Community Champions

- COM suggested we get ESG (Environment, Social Impacts, Governance) champions from various communities. This was an issue that was brought up by ^{23(2)(d)} [REDACTED] at the BAC sub-group.
- COM also discussed replacing REDI by hiring local people to do the work in their home community, they felt this would save on travel expenses for staff, and have people embedded in communities that can promote mining.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 13th, 9-10AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

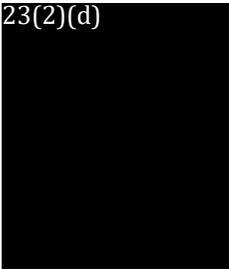
MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021

9:00–10:00AM MST

Attending

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



ITI

Menzie McEachern

Benji Straker

Angela Norris

Lauren Bengts

Items Added - Land Use Permit Extensions

- The MVLWB has not received a response from GNWT about the Land Use Permit extensions yet.
- Department of Lands or ENR is responsible for these responses, not ITI.
- Benji got draft response, will get it to Menzie today.
- ITI should be able to see the response and have their input.

ACTION – Chamber to share their submission with ITI

ACTION – Benji and Angela to provide comments on draft response before forwarding to Menzie.

Meeting with Official Leader of the Opposition

- Meeting is later today, will provide update once meeting is done

MVRMA Workshop in 2021

- Do have ITI reps attending, not yet on Agenda.
- ITI asked if Mike Byrne can be on planning committee, 23(2)(d) with MVLWB said there was no room for ITI.
- The MVRMA Workshop is being planned for March 9-11, 2021.

ACTION – Benji reach out to 23(2)(d) about getting ITI on agenda

Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects (RFP Release)

- Waiting for submissions to be sent in, deadline is January 18.
- Reminder, it is pan-territorial project with Nunavut and Yukon

Critical/Strategic Minerals

- E-mails have been submitted, waiting on NRCan to process all comments and respond.
- Heat Map only show lands that are formally unavailable but fails to categorize lands that are effectively unavailable.
- There is a need to create awareness and training programs in communities.
- Angela going to the Sahtu next week to discuss RMDS.
- GNWT would like to start conversations of development with Deline

ACTION – Benji to come up with 5 critical mineral actions for next meeting.

Mining Sector 101 Online Course

- Meeting by Zoom next week to look at content and costs.
- One for technical information and one geared to communities.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 27th, 9-10AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

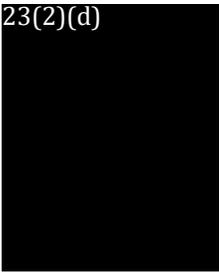
MEETING NOTES – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

9:00–10:00AM MST

Attending

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



ITI

Benji Straker
Angela Norris
Tejas Kashyap
Lauren Bengts

Meeting with Official Leader of the Opposition

- 23(2)(d) provided overview of the deck.
- They reached out to us, good sign.
- Finance Minister, Deputy Premier Chrystia Freeland reached out to COM, another good sign.
- No commitments were made, just discussion.

MVRMA Workshop in 2021

- Angela and Mike spoke with 23(2)(d) regarding putting ITI on agenda.
- 23(2)(d) advocated to get us on agenda, everyone seemed to agree.
- Inference not that industry should be supporting the communities, rather they have been all along.
- Could be opportunity for ITI to promote RMDS and its benefits.

Action – Mike is looking for feedback on approach he wants to take – set up meeting.

Action – Angela to ask who is on committee from Feds.

MV Operational Dialogue Workshop (Item Added)

- CanNor has funding to help hold workshop.
- For now, just want to confirm budget, next step get planning group together.

Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development Projects (RFP Release)

- RFP closed last week.
- Lora Archer still ITI lead. Coordinating schedules with Yukon, Nunavut and CanNor
- Two proposals received, hopefully award contract on Friday.
- Share with this group next meeting
- Desktop study, could be completed by March 31, might need slight extension.

Action – Benji send terms of reference to 23(2)(d)

Critical/Strategic Minerals

- 5 actions will be brainstormed later this week.
- COM had their experts submit thoughts in a letter to Ottawa.
- Should focus on things we can deliver from territories that fits some niches.

Action – Once 5 actions decided, Benji will send to group.

Mining Sector 101 Online Course

- Introduced 23(2)(d) to Boards, highly recommend for training to leaders and executives as well as community education.

CoM/YK MOU

- City had MOU's with every other sector but mining.
- Everyone seemed on board except 2 councillors.
- Everyone seems on board now, expected to be signed and a group formed.
- A representative from GNWT should be on the board.
- Ideal to do it at opportune time such as PDAC.

Action – Benji and Angela to discuss what it could potentially look like

Business Advisory Council

- The BAC stood itself down
- Have not heard back from Minister.
- 14(1)(a)

Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 10, 9-10AM

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING AGENDA – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

9:00–10:00AM MST

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

teams@gnwt.onpexip.com

Or call in (audio only)

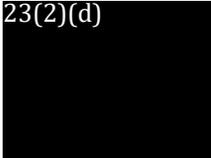
[+1 867-675-1042](tel:+18676751042),681395701# Canada, Yellowknife

Phone Conference ID: 681 395 701#

Attending

Chamber of Mines

23(2)(d)



ITI

Menzie McEachern

Mike Byrne

Angela Norris

Benji Straker

Tejas Kashyap

A. Welcome

B. MVRMA Workshop

- a. ITI's approach
 - Planning for a two and half hour event on March 10 23(2)(d) and 23(2)(d) have made themselves available.
 - It will be great to have Minister –ITI speak at the event. If not, the DM or the ADM can read the Minister's message.
 - It is also important to confirm the speakers, and the time slots. Fill the speaking time with presentations and focus on having constructive dialogue about resource development and the Socio-Economic benefits of mining industry. It will be taken seriously if the message is delivered by the Minister – ITI or senior management of Indigenous business corporations.
 - It is also important have the particular company/ representative from industry speak at the event. Alternately, it is proposed that 23(2)(d) (NWT and Nunavut

Chamber of Mines) speak on behalf of the industry, and Dianna Beck/ Benji Straker speak about benefits from diamond mines.

- Another topic to focus on is the capacity building and training opportunities in communities – Either GNWT deliver the message, or have a subject matter expert deliver the message. Highlight NWT’s accomplishment that we the jurisdiction with highest percentage of indigenous employment in mining sector in the world.
- **Action Item** – Angela Norris and Mike Byrne will develop the agenda

C. Mackenzie Valley Dialogue Workshop

- Secured funding from CanNor, and this will solidify the next steps
- Workshop Report was circulated last week. Recording and the copy of transcript available.
- Recommendation 1-8 – 14(1)(a)



D. Investment in Northern Infrastructure and Mineral Development (Infrastructure Fund Study)

- Rounding up with Yukon and Nunavut Governments, and the RFP process is complete. The contract is awarded to PwC, and they will kick off with meetings this week.
- Recommendations will be focused on having access to mineral exploration funding and increasing public/ private investments in mineral sector
- PwC – will provide us their recommendations to by the end of March as its mostly desktop study

E. Critical/Strategic Minerals – Critical Minerals and Metals Action Plan Next Steps

a. Critical Mineral Actions

- Internal Meeting this week to put together action items necessary to develop critical metals in NWT
- 5 action items including what minerals will be included for NWT Context, and How NWT can cater to the demand, study the initiatives undertaken by other jurisdictions in Canada
- It is also necessary to study the geology and the associated projects for critical and strategic minerals – the level of advancement, the supporting infrastructure and our geology.

- We will need to reach out better to communities, as we should have a full catalogue for critical minerals, geology, communities involved and the application of the minerals.
- Recently, the deputy PM recognised that NWT has potential for critical and strategic minerals, we need to capitalise on this

AGENDA ITEMS CARRIED OVER TO NEXT MEETING

F. COM Presentation and meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Freeland

G. OECD Mining and Cities EOI

H. Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 24, 9-10 AM

23(2)(d) s notes from:

GNWT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

MEETING AGENDA – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

9:00–10:00AM MST

GNWT: Menzie, Angie, Tejas, Dianna Beck, Mike Byrne

Chamber: 23(2)(d),

A. MVRMA Workshop – March 10

- a. ITI's approach – is to share ITI's perspective on socioeconomic benefits.

Menzie:

23(2)(d) : What's the Diavik cultural determination?

Mike Byrne:

- Cobbled together an agenda with 23(2)(d) focused on economic well-being
- Industry has participated in these in the past. But the audience is more cultural, environmental, anti-development and often industry folks get raked over the coals. But given focus is on well-being,
- We've always tried to emphasize that MVRMA contains socio-economic well being.
- So want to emphasize that we invite industry in.
- 23(2)(d)
- 23(2)(d) speak along lines of ABQ magazine article
- Also get Minister live or canned, Pam, then Dianna Beck with agreements
- Then maybe a panel session: flexible on name and whether we want one. And don't have
- Ideas on potential topics
- Need to confirm speakers now.
- Urgency: Thursday the 25th there is a 2021 virtual workshop overview and we want to finalize by then.

Menzie: Pam says Minister can't make it. But Pam will represent the Minister and open our part of the workshop. Also spoke to 23(2)(d) and he is keen to participate.

23(2)(d) : 14(1)(a)

23(2)(d) would be able to speak to this too. Getting people onto how to get more speaks to getting support for mining.

23(2)(d) : 23(2)(d) would be good here with the TASR road.

23(2)(d) How to diversify the economy. **14(1)(a)**

Mike: We'd have to get someone quickly. 14(1)(a)

23(2) nothing on the infrastructure bank for example.

Menzie: We are pretty short on time.

23(2) maybe 14(1)(a)

I believe these are meant to be educational.

Mike: Important for a good moderator. 14(1) suggested as one, but maybe he needs to be on the panel. Maybe someone from the Boards 23(2) maybe 14(1)(b)

23(2) I like a panel. But that doesn't mean you open it to the floor necessarily. Moderator asks the questions. And perhaps only if there is time left over do you open it to the audience. Who is the audience? What are their outcomes, is there anything that comes from this?

Mike B: This year, probably the most diverse audience than ever. Board staff and members, regulators, others. But not sure of exactly who. Group hug. Virtual panel too. Not sure how they will go down. Often propensity to Elders, first at the microphone.

23(2) 14(1)(a) Good relationship.

Menzie: 14(1)(a) Could also do a scenario note that explains the next level of detail. Who are the broader facilitators?

Mike: 14(1)(a)

, just don't know how it works. Anticipate some of that. Need to tout how

23(2) : two questions: are Board staff speaking to what they look for from industry? And can 23(2) be the moderator?

Mike: looking at the agenda 23(2)(d) then a fellow from UofWaterloo, then 23(2)(d). I'll share with you folks.

23(2) What about Mike Byrne as moderator?

23(2) Time is tight. Layout is good. Make a decision on the format. Just do it and then allocate time for the speakers as it is relatively short.

Menzie: Thinking too of virtual environment, maybe just have panels one after another.

Mike: I'll talk to 23(2) about how they are doing other panels, etc. and will let you know. I'll ask folks like 23(2) to ask 23(2)(d) to get strong messages out.

23(2) : 14(1)(a)

23(2) : I like the 23(2)(d) trio as working well together. Keep those three together. Sticky dollars and how do you contribute to that?

Menzie: sounds like stars of the show are those people.

B. Critical/Strategic Minerals – Critical Minerals and Metals Action Plan Next Steps

a. Critical Mineral Action

Menzie: look at the 5 actions we discussed internally:

- 1. Adding ones that don't fit in the Federal list, eg, sand, phosphate, quartz
- Ask Chamber if they want to add to these.

23(2) : 14(1)(a)
(c)

2. research policies, eg, OECD

3. Outreach, communications, etc:

4. Cross jurisdictional, eg,

- SK and REE processing plant (maybe partner with them?) Quebec a bit distant perhaps.

5. Marketing

Tejas: Quebec is moving fast and in the last 6 months launched a whole plan on this. Three days ago, they invested in Telesat for \$400M

23(2) Why quartz, sand? I think all minerals in the NWT are critical to our economy.
(c)

Menzie: Came from NTGS.

23(2) We often have discussions on what should be defined as critical and strategic. I'd say diamonds are critical.
(c)

Menzie: I'd say we don't include diamonds in this part, but should be part of bigger picture.

23(2) Definition of scale. Impact of diamonds is strategic. In 23(2)(d) letter 23(2) signed on critical minerals, ... I think if we have no diamonds, then we have nothing.
(c)

23(2) maybe define it.
(c)

23(2) Do you have an Emerging Wisely plan for ITI? Something you can lay on the table publicly on what you are doing to help supercharge the NWT with resource development, eg, supporting Critical minerals is one, and supporting diamonds, zinc, etc are in another action. [infrastructure, project support, etc are others]
(c)

23(2) maybe stick with the Federal one right now rather than cramming other ones into this list.
(c)

Menzie: Refresh of mineral development strategy.

Mike B: Quote Chrystia Freeland on why north will be important in future

23(2) We have three most advanced critical minerals. We told Freeland the same. Just to reinforce her words, she said at our meeting too.
(c)

Menzie: we will refresh in our Mineral Development Strategy.

23(2) : I thought the MDS is on hold?
(c)

C. COM Presentation and meeting with Minister Vandal planned

23(2) Re Freeland meeting. She was engaged in our meeting and said all the right things. We will need mining and more mining. What message didn't resonate was the conservation one. She
(c)

did circle back on Indigenous business, and he did a great job on that. She also spoke to the sovereignty.

23(2) With Vandal, we want to take on the approach to Vision and his work on Arctic Policy Framework.

D. ITI Minister meeting – March 5

Menie: Can you share your agenda with us once you have developed it?

23(2) It was at Pam's suggestion. Circling back to the MvRMA workshop, it would be good for her to speak as Minister of Finance too as that is doubly important.

Menzie: We can't ask her to do that, we'd have to take it through the Finance DM on that. I will raise it with Pam again today.

Mike: the Leg is in session and it is her role as two ministers that she is so busy. That's why we suggested a pre-recorded piece for her.

E. Mineral Tenure Relief

We have indicated to Pam that the NWT did not do as much as the provinces in supporting tenure relief and some companies and hope ITI can do more. Discuss the status of this.

Menzie: We are still looking into that. Analysis being done. Looking at **14(1)(a)**. Have Laura Faryna and MRO looking further into that.

Mike: high degree of interest in what Nunavut has done.

F. Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 3, 9-10 AM

Two weeks from now will overlap with the MVRMA workshop and week of PDAC too.

Let's look at next week then, March 3.

Notes of Meeting

GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP ONLINE - VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING – 3 MARCH 2021 (9:00 – 10:00)

GNWT: Menzie, Angie, Tejas, Mike Byrne

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

1. OECD

CanNor response: Once again this year, CanNor received many excellent applications from across the region, and demand for funding greatly exceeded available funds. Following an initial assessment of all applications received, the application was not selected as part of the first round of projects moving on to further review and assessment, it was found to meet the basic eligibility criteria for this EOI. As such, the Agency will be retaining application for further consideration at a later date, pending upcoming decisions on program funding allocations for next fiscal year. Once the size and composition of CanNor's funding envelope for next fiscal year has been fully confirmed, we will be contacted to submit further information for a detailed assessment of your proposal

Proposal to organize a call with the OECD team.

Action Item: 23(2)(d) will organize a meeting with OECD. Will invite Cannor and CIRNAC to it as well?.

2. Fraser Report – Annual Survey Report 2020

Dismal rankings this year - lower in the bottom half of the 77 surveyed. Fraser Institute has mentioned that they received more than 10 responded but refuses to disclose any further details. Major detractors are land claim uncertainty, land access uncertainty, regulatory uncertainty, infrastructure deficit, protected areas uncertainty.

3. COM Meeting with ITI Minister

23(2)(d) Revised Agenda:

- Our current work with ITI on federal asks
- Federal meetings to reinforce those asks

- NWT Mineral Tenure – address this to catch up to the south
 - 23(2) We had a long chat with Pam that they are trying to come up with something. 14(1)(a)
 - 23(2) simply acknowledge that Pam is looking at and trying to find. I don't know how many would take it up, but the offer would be meaningful. 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- Minister's thoughts on the BAC stepping back
- Improvement idea: Add OECD idea here – we may bring up with Vandal – needs much support from various governments and money too

ITI has hired two individuals who will add project management expertise. It is 14(1)(a)

It is important to articulate the Mining North Works initiative and its success.

The Chamber of Mines has started to see potential cutbacks in funding from governments, and has admitted that their membership base is reducing. Also, a lot of the members of the chamber of mines are running out of business.

4. MVRMA Workshop

Chamber of Mines is very effectively pushed Indigenous investment to the forefront, and the workshop is now focused on Indigenous business investment and ITI speaking to community wellbeing.

Afternoon of Wed, 1:30-3 next week.

Menzie:

5. Next Meeting – Yet to be scheduled.

Meeting Notes

GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP ONLINE - VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING - 24 FEBRUARY, 2021 (9:00 – 10:00)

1. MVRMA Resource Co- Management Workshop

The MVRMA workshop is planned for 10 March 2021, and will focus on the resource development projects in NWT and the socio economic benefits to Indigenous communities and Indigenous business corporations.

The draft agenda's aim is to have presentations from 23(2)(d) and 23(2)(d) and have the ITI Minister deliver a message. If the Minister is unable to attend the event, the Deputy Minister will be requested to deliver a message on behalf of the minister.

The workshop will include individual presentations from the speakers and a panel discussion. It was suggested that 23(2)(d) be the moderator for the panel discussion.

ACTION ITEM – Reach out to 23(2)(d)

It is necessary to note that as NWT is recovering from the economic downturn caused due to the pandemic, we can diversify our economy with resource development (mining and petroleum) as springboard to new sectors. Also, it is critical to find new ways to increase employment and have a strong and broad Arctic policy framework

The Arctic Economic Policy Framework will focus on infrastructure, sovereignty of our nation and vision for northern economic development – especially within the communities. It will be great to invite the Federal Government to make a presentation at the workshop as well.

ACTION ITEM – Invite the Federal Government (CanNor or CIRNAC)

We will also need to develop a Scenario Note - step by step template that is generally used for conference events. Other speakers will include Menzie McEachern or Dianna Beck 14(1)(a)

ACTION ITEM – Develop the Scenario Note

2. Update on Critical Metals Action Planning and Meeting

Menzie McEachern provided an update for ITI's Critical Metals Planning meeting that was held on 4 Feb 2021.

For the NWT, it is important to not only learn what commodities classify as critical metals and strategic metals, but also important to define what constitutes for a critical metal and what constitutes a strategic metal

A cross jurisdiction scan to learn what other jurisdictions are doing in this space will be helpful.

As mining is a vital component of NWT's economy, it will be important to consider diamonds as critical/ strategic element.

ACTION ITEM – Define NWT's Critical and Strategic Elements, and decide if it is necessary to include diamonds in the list.

AGENDA

GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP ONLINE - VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING – 31 MARCH 2021 (9:00 – 10:00)

1. Pricewaterhouse Coopers Study (23(2)(d) [REDACTED])
2. Life after Diamond Mining (23(2)(d) [REDACTED])
3. Mackenzie Valley Operational Guidance Process
4. Mineral Tenure Relief (Menzie McEachern)
5. Critical Metals Action Plan – carried over from last meeting (Menzie McEachern)
6. Next Meeting

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP ONLINE - VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING – 31 MARCH 2021 (9:00 – 10:00)

GNWT: Menzie, Tejas, Charlene Squibb, Angie, Mike
Chamber: 23(2)(d)

1. Pricewaterhouse Coopers Study (23(2)(d))

PwC Study: The engagement of PwC by territorial governments to conduct a study assessing policy options to encourage investment in mineral exploration and mining in Canada's territories. **Two issues: limited interviewees, and missing project specific funding.** According to COM, few from industry on our working group have been invited to participate.

- NWT interviewees: only Osisko and Mountain Province. Can you add Gold Terra and Fortune or NorZinc (missing grassroots exploration where we have problems). Also, include Nunavut: North Arrow for exploration and a contact at Agnico Eagle Mines
- And 23(2) at the Chamber.
- Also missing key issue – project specific funding which we have pressed with you guys since the beginning.

Action Item: Benji will reach out to Laura who oversees contract to see about changes.

Issue with the questionnaire. This is just step one in the project. It will be a report with recommendations and just a phase 1. If we expand the network to speak, they could speak on the other issues.

The objective is to have Pan Territorial study that sought out Connor funding to support North of 60 – what could be some innovative financial and investment things to accelerate resource development in the north? To make things go faster.

23(2) To be clear, we have pushed and worked with you and Vandal, Freeland, O'Toole on 4 items: enhanced METC, critical minerals, project specific funding, and regional infrastructure. They have missed the project specific funding. It needs to be put back.

2. Life after Diamond Mining 23(2)(d)

23(2) thanks for comments from 23(2) and others and 23(2) Overview of how it started:

- De Beers has 3 mines to close out in the coming years – 2 in Canada one in S. Africa
- We want to look at closure differently. De Beers has new strategy, building forever, talks about leaving a legacy and contribute to regional development in the future. Reimagining closure. Is there something that can contribute to the development of the area: repurpose, re-use site for something else in future.
- We met with minister, Pam. We have hired ERM and Watershed, ERM is doing our closure work all around the world. We chatted with Minister, IBA partners to have a discussion on reimagining closure, eg, 14(1)(a)
- 14(1)(a)
- We want to have the discussions with the stakeholders. We want to hear from GNWT to participate. Have meetings between now and end of Sept.
- Meeting with Pam on Thursday.

- Consultants will meet with others.

CSCR mentioned that John Ketchum and Angela Norries have meeting with 23(2)(d)) on this, and Pam will also attend this as it goes forward.

23(2) You might want to also in addition to change the web page title, but also some words, eg:

- o 14(1)(a)

COM: The ERM proposal: Life After Diamond Mining: Change the Name firstly, and the project will explore how mining companies, communities, and governments can collaboratively discuss the future of the Slave Geological Province (SGP) and how reimagining mine closure can support a future that meets everyone's aspirations. Learn more about the project: lifeafterdiamondmining.com. Kick-off Session April 15, 2021, 1-4:00pm MST.

Two concerns:

- few from industry on our working group have been invited to participate. (In fact, we don't know who has been invited as ERM hasn't answered).

3. Mackenzie Valley Operational Guidance Process

COM - we are not seeing improvements in the NWT and seem to be stuck. I know our member participants are getting frustrated that a year into this, and we don't have a lot show for it, except for more quarterly meetings to come. To quote from the recent MVRMA Environmental Audit: "Despite the efforts of LWBs, small exploration companies continue both to struggle with the application process and to meet its requirements. If allowed to persist, this disconnect between industry and regulators will continue to affect the level of exploration activity in the territory which, in turn, will affect the NWT's socio-economic environment." Is the Audit a powerless tool for change?

23(2) met with 23(2)(d) on this yesterday, so that she understands and hopefully can see about improving the process.

Menzie: Can we use the Environmental audit as a tool here? Traditionally it's not been acted upon. Not sure why. Maybe with governmental renewal it can change. Your quote is a good one to be used at the next operational guidance meeting.

Benji: I did miss the last planning committee meeting. I spoke with 23() prior to that meeting, and looks like we will move into shorter meetings. Sentiments are not lost on me, and we need to streamline the process for a specific goal to improve investment. It's been a year, and COVID no doubt had an effect, but now a year later, we need more focus. 23(2)(h)(i) in the spring, so could help too.

23(2) can you not have the ministers responsible for the audit take the boards to task and ask them for performance.

23(2) problem is MVRMA being owned by Feds, and need to be devolved to GNWT.

Mike: Feds are in the driver's chair. The audit could be instrumental to bring politicians together to meet with Board chairs. But real work is in the MVOD - there are good items and places where ITI has not delivered, due to capacity issues. We need to be down in the weeds and make tweaks and changes. Boards are ready.

ITI: 14(1)(a)

4. Mineral Tenure Relief (Menzie McEachern)

Menzie: Looked into idea to use S51 of the mining reg's to provide relief this year, but 51(2) spoke to "proponent waiting to receive some sort of authorization which is preventing them from doing work". COVID restrictions yes, but no real thing that stopping work, etc. so doesn't work well. So Charlene has found an ^{14(1)(g)} [REDACTED]

Charlene: approach suggested ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]

Menzie: ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]

Charlene: ^{14(1)(a)} [REDACTED]

Menzie: we will mention that the Chamber of Mines supports this in briefing note to Minister.

5. Critical Metals Action Plan – carried over from last meeting (Menzie McEachern)

Carry over to next meeting

6. Next Meeting

14 April

NOTES TWH

**GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID 19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP
ONLINE - VIDEOCONFERENCE
MEETING – 14 APRIL 2021 (9:00 – 10:00)**

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

GNWT: Menzie, Benji, Val Gordon, Tejas, Mike Byrne, Lora Archer, Angie Norris

1. Mining North Works

- Tom: At our meeting with the Minister in March, she indicated that she / you would be reaching out to Minister Simpson and ECE. We're wondering how you are making out with that? Ece we have been pushing rope, and if they actually pulled by recognizing the need, we would get stuff done. There is still a need for this.
- Menzie: We will look into this. Also feel ECE's response was weak to MNW.

2. Menzie added: support for juniors this season from CPHO perspective

- Menzie: 14(1)(a) ? Mines already have the capacity themselves. Perhaps 14(1)(a) 14(1)(a) . Or do juniors have capacity on hand.
- 23(2) If they're looking for ideas to help exploration, encouragement from cpho was vaccination would solve this. But now it appears it isn't. So why are we still having to self-isolate for 14 days? If someone comes vaccinated and has a test back to back then they should be able to go.
- 23(2) I'm in BC now, and even wit a second dose, they are reluctant to let seniors outside of their homes after 15 months lock down?
- 23(2) What 23(2) says about vaccinating explorers would be like vaccinating all the miners. How is that working, 23(2)
- 23() GNWT is brining in nurses to our sites. 24(1)(a)(i)(B), (ii) and (iii)(D) They will only talk to our medical professionals. You need a medical person to talk to them. If ou want to help explorers, ou wil need a medical person.
- Mike B – we have a good system with generic ITI. Maybe we want to create a greater awareness to get explorers into NWT and beyond, eg, Blue Star into Nunavut.
- Menzie: We have rave reviews that our system to get explorers to Carter Stirling
- 23(2)(d) – at Diavik. 24(1)(a)(i)(B), (ii) and (iii)(D) Conversation on what happens after is still happening. Working with Carter is the best.
- 23(2) costs of vaccinations. AstraZeneca is less than US\$5, and others similar. How many exploration people will come? Even if 1,000 it's minimal cost. \$10k is very small. Could send a strong message to the public and investors that we are serious about supporting exploration.
- Menzie: we will take idea forward.
- 23() totally reasonable for NWT to be careful. Shit show in the provinces. For those who are not at the mines, there is a case by case ability for rotational workers to get vaccinated. Find out what has been the approval rate by CPHO to get these. Eg, some air crew coming up are getting

vaccinated. We are kind of blind right now, as no formal program, rather case by case basis. Where are we at on the spectrum.

- 23(2) CPHO is looking at people who will be frequenting the NWT, eg, my mom. Anyone who is frequenting the NWT. Good to have CPHO come out and formalize that. Getting vaccine and just roaming around is not that simple. Doesn't mean you can't spread the virus if you're vaccinated. There should be something that can be done. Sounds like CPHO is going to reduce the isolation time to 7 days and 10 day test. (Benji also has heard similar rumour)

3. Access to Lands – Update on Akaitcho and Dehcho Interim Land Withdrawals and Progress on Removing the Withdrawal. 23(2)(d)

- 23(2) Where is this at? 2007 for Akaitcho withdrawal is getting a long time for interim.
- Mike B: YK Dene are pushing hard for claim negotiations to be resolved. Deninu Kue in same position. LKDFN is on a conservation economy. Akaitcho probably ahead of Dehcho which is in doldrums. In SE corner, SK Dene are advancing, but Feds have put a lockdown to resolve something.
- 23(2)
- Val: Nahco Nyak Dun overlap with Sahtu
- 23(2) Can we get a more formal update?

4. Critical Metals Action Plan (Menzie McEachern)

Benji:

- Plugging along on action plan. Internal WG, (John K, Benji, Angie).
- We have shared the draft proposed actions. Also with the DM right now
- Proceeding based on these actions. Also a draft Table of Contents
- Dates pushed back to late May for final document – will be public facing document.
- Working on the backgrounder and jurisdictional scans

23(2)

- Add to the Critical Path, March 11, Canada identifies Cdn critical minerals including Zinc and copper. This might influence the action plan
- when and how will you identify the action plan items?
- Draft actions under #2 Policies, not sure OECD fits here;
- Another action might be to use the arctic Policy as one tool, use the lack of green energy in the north to get Canada to help advance our projects using green energy;
- I don't see any Goals. Are they there? Actions would then support reaching those goals. Our goals should include:

- o 14(1)(a)
- o 14(1)(a)

Menzie:

- agree link actions to goals. Similar Canada critical minerals list will be helpful and zinc and copper.

23(2)

- Draft actions #3, 14(1)(a)

Benji:

- Use good point, and Angie brings this up all the time. Targeted community and resident buy in. We've been hearing that from you guys all the time.
- Angie:
- Action #3 is our CSCR role. While action plan is being developed and written. We have developed some promotional items, and using Inukshuk and Inkit to produce Fact Sheets, social media items. Stay tuned. Scott Cairns suggested and easy to ready two pager on how Indigenous gov'ts fit into the regulatory process. So communities will understand when you show up.
- 23(2) That is good news. Concerned that regulatory dialogue with Feds they just say we will just send out information, not engage.
- Angie: Fits into REDI program too. Looking at a REDI Session in the fall.
- Mike: Communities have always good at asking what's in it for us. Governments have not been very good at explaining that to them. Tangibles about what's in it for them. We at CSCR have always been doing that and now have a platform for this. Conversation has begun to change. At MVRMA workshop we got good feedback.
- Menzie: At Federal table, really focused on downstream part of value chain. Battery production, etc. We have to remind them constantly to include the entire value chain.
- 23(2) Maybe that's a good REDI fact sheet to produce: "Mineral Resource Development: What's in it for me?" There are various "me's" and you could answer the question for communities, government,

5. Update – PwC Investment Study

- Lora: PwC has done a lot of work since then. About 75% through the project.
- I shared draft report with Tom for comments. Meeting this Friday to discuss comments and have another draft
- 23(2) Are you adding any other interviewees? Only two from each territory, and we want to add more people. Only Osisko and Mtn Province in NWT and AEM and North Arrow. They have a narrow view.
- Ken: Who on GN side has reviewed it as we haven't heard a peep from them.
- Lora: 23(2)(h)(i)
- Ken: I'll touch him then.
- Benji: Some Chamber comments two weeks ago when it was our year end. Intent was to get that part of PwC contract out by year end. I touched base with them and told them that we needed to add and if we needed to throw any more money at it. We won't let that fall off the table.
- Menzie: now in new fiscal year, we have freedom to add scope as long as it's not extravagant.

Last comments:

- Mike Byrne: re item on land withdrawals, if I were the Chamber, 14(1)(a) [REDACTED] For years industry has been meat in the sandwich, and we don't want to do that anymore, but want to help.
- 23(2) Can you provide a contact for 23(2)(h)(i) ?
- Mike: 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- 23(2) good point – maybe we can 14(1)(a) [REDACTED]
- Angie: I can get 23(2) contact information.

- Angie: Conversation with Aurora College on a course for SME training for communities.
- Menzie: across multiple departments here, by mid-May we will have completed 23(2)(d) Mining Essentials course. 3 different sessions.

6. Next Meeting

DRAFT

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING – 28 APRIL 2021 (9:00–10:00)

Chamber: 23(2)(d) [REDACTED]

GNWT: Menzie, Angie, Charlene Squibb, Tejas, Valerie, Mike Byrne

Notice from MVLWBs

Yesterday, the Land & Water Board issued a notice on 4 items.

Chamber: At the operational meeting, I asked for the goals to be identified to improve investment, as economic wellbeing is part of the goals of the MVRMA.

COM shared the document. Two comments were received - 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Chamber: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Chamber: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Chamber: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Chamber: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

ITI: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

Chamber: 16(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]

***Action:** Speak to GNWT and get Shelagh into a meeting.

Conservation Areas, Land Access and Critical Metals

Chamber: There is no need for more protection as we are over 30%. The projections are that we will need 10 times the mining to make a green economy world with battery minerals, REE's, etc.

ITI: Yes, we can say enough is enough. Also allowing money from philanthropic organizations from the south is something we will be watching, so it doesn't influence land use planning with more protected areas.

Chamber: Isn't this federal legislation? The current government overturned it. Outside people influencing the NWT shouldn't be allowed.

Chamber: These groups are the first into the communities and influence them.

Chamber: An example is Great Bear Lake Tsá Tué, this was done outside of the GNWT, without permission or Federal participation. There are no rules apparently.

Definition of Strategic Minerals for NWT

Chamber: The Federal Government came up with 31 minerals with little consultation with us. Other countries include economically important minerals to them, eg., Korea and iron ore. Canada didn't look at what is important to the Canadian economy. ^{14(1)(a)}

^{14(1)(a)}. Just call it strategic minerals of our own economic growth. I've told MAC that we need a different look at this. Can ITI take look at this?

ITI: the draft list goes beyond the Canadian list. We haven't considered a pan-territorial list but could talk to other territories.

Chamber: Why are we dependent on Federal list? ^{14(1)(a)}

^{14(1)(a)}. Do we need Canada's support? ^{14(1)(a)}

ITI: We acknowledged the point.

Update on OECD Proposal

ITI: We have read out to both the Swedish and Spanish. Sweden has responded, while Spain was busy, they would like to share their thoughts. Briefly Sweden said it was a fantastic experience and has tremendous value. We are going to have to get the Feds to help support it, eg, through CanNor and CIRNAC for 50%. The DM is supportive.

2021 Budget – What it Entails for Northern Miners

ITI: It was a nice analysis the Chamber conducted. No METC, yes to battery development, but no upstream mining. The extension of NTCF was good.

Chamber: Their description of the MVH shows they don't understand.

Chamber: It is missing the project specific funding. But NorZinc did apply for funding for their road from NTCF.

ITI: We wrote a letter of support for NorZinc's application, but they are competing with governments for this fund. I guessing the public sector might get it.

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING – 12 MAY 2021 (9:00–10:00)

Attendance:

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

ITI: Valerie, Angie, Mike Byrne, Tejas

Stats Canada Observation about NWT

Chamber: TWH: Stats Canada says NWT worst in Canada for GDP drop

- What actions, comments, reactions from GNWT?
- Can IGC sit up and take notice?

Requires serious action. Although, people will point fingers at Ekati, it is important to note that We have been mining only diamonds, and had we been mining other products, would have diversified the risk.

Will bring this up as a topic when COM meets with Minister.

***Action:** The Chamber wants to meet with the minister again.

ITI: There is now a new special advisor to the Minister.

Chamber: Highlight on the brutal portrayal of NWT GDP. What does the IGC think about economic development. Who leads that discussion?

It is necessary to discuss the decline in the GDP as a critical factor, and we will need some action taken about it.

PwC Investment Study

ITI: The majority of additional interviews have been completed. A draft report this week will be circulated, where the review progress will occur in late May and finalized in June. We met with a member from NRCan and they want to see if it can fit into their mid-long term strategy.

COM has suggested 14(1)(g) ? Also the focus on critical minerals and the RCF interview? And the Chamber also learnt that they did not speak to anyone in DeBeers. It was mentioned to PwC 14(1)(g).

ITI: I would raise Yukon as an example where they created coalition of industry and government and went on major roadshows. NWT has some cutting-edge socio-economic aspects that we can sell out there (ESG). We could do a lot more to market the Northwest Territories.

Chamber: 4 or 5 more 45 minute interviews is a small investment to get straight answers.

Chamber: The Chamber is talking about big picture policy, and it's importance. ITI's suggestion is valid but the need for marketing internally is critical.

Chamber: Reminder that we started with CanNor paying for PwC last year. And only 2 interviews per territory. GNWT paid for more interviews.

***Action:** The Chamber will add to the agenda for tomorrow's meeting with CanNor.

ITI: there was scope change for more interviews.

ITI: I've sent the link to IGC. It's a good group for you to talk to as you link to their work.

Chamber: We wanted to meet with IGC but never accepted.

ITI: There was a strong interest from them. But the election got in the way and getting the MRA passed before then. The Sahtu was a stronger advocate for getting industry to the table. We are working to get that to happen on the MRA regulatory process.

ITI: There are a couple other departments besides ITI, Lands, and ENR that have an interest.

ITI: IGCS has used consultation on the MRA as an example of how to do it right.

Update about the Workers Credit Program Extension

ITI: This idea was presented to this group a few meetings ago to expand the work credit program to expand relief for this year. We did get ministerial approval. Also, it has been approved to expand credit for this year. There is a 75% of the required deposit. The client only puts down 25% instead of full 100%. There is a bulletin and application on our website. We will share the bulletin with the Chamber to share with others.

ITI: The Timelines in regulations still apply. So, you are required to apply in the 90-day window.

Chamber: I think it's a best-case scenario for this situation. My concern is that another free pass compounds the problem, but it does provide relief. It's a reasonable solution to the problem.

MRA Activity

Chamber: What's going on in the territory? There is a lack of success when we have had to deal with the Feds and making changes to the system. We thought it was an easy win for LUP extension. We spent a lot of time with no success. The diamond mines built up industry without government support. We aren't getting a lot of help.

ITI: I think we are seeing some progress. Focusing on MV Operational Dialogue, I think we can do a lot at that venue. IGOC went that way years ago and government participation got bigger.

ITI: They realized last meeting was too short. I think they are asking for another meeting now in a doodle poll for early June.

***Action:** Check to confirm.

ITI: I just wanted to confirm that Chamber wants a meeting with Minister in next week to discussions on JR. Do you want to us to give a heads up to other Ministers too? We would need to move it up to the Minister.

***Action:** Recommend a meeting with both Ministers for efficiency.

ITI: We commit to looking at IGC and see what potential there is to get the Chamber in front of that group. Not the Secretariat, but the leaders and have a look at the site. Talking to Indigenous groups is likely the right approach.

Chamber: The idea that we meet with the Ministers, we should get your minister on a call as priority. Or brief them separately.

MRA Update:

MRA work is ongoing. We kept our research and discussion groups going to formulate options going forward. We had a bit of renewal with the new director and created three positions: Director and two resource specialists. We already restaffed the director. Process picking up steam. There have been One or two meetings with the IGCS to get things moving. Each of the departments want to advance this. We don't have the capacity to deal with that, and we are trying to get coordination with the IGCS. In meantime, we are still working to prepare for when the IGCS process starts again.

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/ CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING – 26 MAY 2021 (9:00–10:00)

Attendance:

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

ITI: Tejas, Charlene, Angie, Menzie, Valerie, Mike Byrne, Benji

***Action:** Additional items to add to agenda: Add OECD update.

Chamber Judicial Review

Chamber: We will submit the Judicial Review today. Also, the press release is ready.

Chamber: We have support from MAC and are waiting on PDAC support. It isn't a major issue, but a profound frustration on the regulatory path. It's not perpetual renewals as thought. There is an ongoing dialogue, and ideally it leads to more discussion which will potentially help the regulatory dialogue.

ITI: Regarding the news release – Would the Chamber be able to send us a copy (Completed). Would the Ticho become an intervenor?

Chamber: Not sure, but they might. They have a strong interest.

ITI: Forestry, municipalities, petroleum and government have applied to LUPs.

ITI: The same with a lot of our files. We have a mandate to support industry, while other departments don't. Most often it gets delegated.

Chamber: It leads to a point that we have made, it has to start at the top from Minister, Premier, etc. and departments cannot put barriers.

ITI: We are pushing the whole of the government approach. Exploration and mining are key driver of the economy.

Chamber: There was a BAC meeting yesterday at Minister's behest. A member of the GNWT gave a presentation and Emerging Wisely doesn't mention the mineral sector. Would you be able to be send a copy of the presentation? The Green economy means mining for metals to be used in low carbon economy and this will entail 10 times the amount of mining.

ITI: We will put it on the Minister's agenda. Also, there is a MVOD meeting coming up and we may potentially raise better participation.

Minister and GNWT seek a Red Alert for Minerals Industry

Chamber: The document I sent around this morning with bullets on chronology of economy is apart of the news release today.

ITI: The Minister and others need recommended actions.

Chamber: 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

Chamber: Access to land is the biggest problem. All active projects in the NWT were discovered 10-20 years ago, and they are there because they are on grandfathered lands, excluded from conservation and land claim lands. 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

Chamber: 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

Update on Pan Territorial Working Group meeting

ITI: At the last meeting, we had a presentation on the N60METC concept. It was very encouraging and results showed a N60METC would be a high value policy and materially help exploration investment north of 60 without breaking the Federal budget. The question is, what to do with the study results? There is advocacy within the Federal ecosystem, and ultimately Finance Canada. It didn't happen in this budget, but there now is a window for the next budget.

Chamber: We had a call with Cannor and CIRNAC. CIRNAC indicated that we'd be invited to the Pan Territorial Working Group meeting.

ITI: We met with the Norwegian clients of the OECD case study. They relayed it was a very worthwhile experience. Great things were said about OECD study team. They had to do a lot of work to support the OECD with stakeholders, meeting organizations, touring, etc. They will be using one for their own Mineral Strategy, and to push their Federal government, since devolution hasn't happened there. A member from CanNor was also at the meeting and heard the same things. I shared with this with the DM seeking to advance this in partnership, hopefully with CanNor and CIRNAC. This could be a good foundation for our next mineral development strategy.

Mining North Works

ITI: Update from Nunavut. ITI, COM and Nunavut folks were on the call to talk about options to keep the ball rolling. Both jurisdictions said they want to keep the brand; however, we were unsure how to execute. We believe Ming North Works is effective and a good forum for promotional actions. There were good proposals that came out of it from COM and we have put it before the DM. 14(1)(a) [Redacted]

14(1)(a)



ITI: The NU Government has a mineral outreach group, one person now, and staffing up to 3 or 4. Some work can be done by them.

NWT Critical Minerals Designation Update

ITI: We are waiting on the sign off on action items that the Chamber contributed to. First step are glossy, high level goals. To phrase the action items as goal statements. We are waiting for the DM's approval before we continue writing. It's an aggressive critical path, but doable, and we will share the draft document with this group when it's ready.

ITI: Given it will be short and the high-level goals, we won't engage on it much when it is released.

Chamber: It would be good to write something in the critical minerals piece around that observation of other study groups that the green economy will make 10 times more mining. We have a good reference for that work.

***Action:** COM find the references for this.

ITI: Good idea. Also, if the Chamber has the Quebec information, can you share it with ITI. It's not super urgent but could help and be useful going forward.

PwC Investment Study – Status Update (ITI)

ITI: Once PwC gets the contract, we will receive the draft report to comment on.

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING – June 9, 2021 (9:00–10:00)

Attendance:

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

ITI: Angie, Benji, Charlene, Mike Byrne, Tejas, John Ketchum, Menzie

Introduction

Chamber: Pre-COVID, we would have multi-ministry meetings, and we should start again. We need to get in front of others too. Same with regulatory issues as we are not talking for all multi-ministry meetings.

ITI: Yes, it is necessary for industry to support the economy, and the mining industry provides new jobs to many in the communities. We will plan some meetings with other departments like lands and ENR.

ITI: It would be good to get same participation with the Feds too. Meeting at tables with other ADM's are productive. We are getting improvements.

Updates on Foundational Goals and OECD

N60METC

ITI: Based on analytical work by CIRNAC, are you still supportive?

Chamber: 14(1)(g)

Chamber: We have been invited to participate at the Intergovernmental Working Group next week. We will identify which items carry the most currency to take forward to the meeting with the minister. 14(1)(g)

Chamber: We received a gridded comparison to tax rates across the country. In comparison, we are not competitive. We need to understand why we are not to be better than the rest of the country. We need to discuss with the person who put together that grid.

ITI: The analysis CIRNAC did provides that. But how to best communicate this to Finance to deal with the current grid that they use?

ITI: There is significant emphasis on the Federal government to keep it alive.

Chamber: I think they are asking that we keep that message alive, which will help them keep it alive.

Chamber: It Might help if GNWT-Finance could help us keep it alive.

ITI: And the author of the METC deck. Both would be helpful.

***Action:** Get GNWT Finance involved.

Project specific funding (in PwC study?)

ITI: We provided additional scope to PwC. When we asked for the study two days ago, it seems to have been lost in email. Sent May 30. We will circulate once we find it.

ITI: With positional transition, it may have become lost.

Regional Infrastructure

Chamber: There was some discussion on Taltson in the house last week, from a MLA. The Minister provided a good update on Taltson, and I'll put it in our newsletter.

OECD Update

ITI: We are seeking meeting with Federal counterparts on this one.

ITI: I've reached out on this to identify other Federal funding partners.

Chamber Judicial Review

Chamber: Also segueing into regulatory improvements with LUP the terms aligned with the water licenses, Tlicho interest in regulatory improvements, etc. Boards are required to reveal their information to respond to the JR request. It might go away if regulatory changes are made.

ITI: Also, if water license changes.

Letter to Minister

GNWT: We don't yet have a position on this. We are in the fact-finding stage. We need to talk to other governments, groups as well. There are both risks and benefits. In addition, there is potential for an RSEA which could help specific projects move along faster.

Chamber: The devil in details. Shouldn't this be an environmental, socio-economic review? Be careful not to get twisted into something else.

ITI: Indeed, socio-economics would be included.

Chamber: We are concerned about the Diavik closure becoming more real.

ITI: Note the letter from the Chief did refer to balancing socio-economics.

Chamber: I can't speak for the Tlicho Government, as historically things have gotten out of control. I don't think it's to stop items, but to go with the right intent going forward. We've had many discussions

like with SGP and the necessity of it to expand. At Diavik, people are starting to realize it's a reality. I told them that 4 years ago. I think they want to be sure it's done right. We can make this an advantage for everyone in the region, eg, streamline things, or things will get hung up.

Chamber: YKDFN will be involved too, and they also have strong economic understanding and needs.

ITI: Land use planning is moving forward too.

ITI: The Reimagining closure Initiative has had one steering committee meeting so far. The second meeting is today. We will talk about RSEA too, so it's on the radar screen. We should consider how they will be linked too.

Critical Minerals

ITI: We are trying to move the critical minerals action plan ahead. Recently, the direction to look at running a workshop to accompany development of an action plan was touch upon. COM has looked into it already. We can begin the technical work now, and I've circulated by email a draft initial list of critical and strategic minerals of the NWT. The list is a draft, the Chamber is probably the most informed of what the ultimate list should look like. We seek your feedback.

Number of columns, including Canada's list – likely is the simplest approach. There are some issues of that list that the Chamber pointed out and how it was developed. We have some room to play with this.

Second column is a list of Canada's that are critical to the NWT. Some may be more important than others, but there is need to discuss.

Also, the idea of strategic minerals and materials (rocks and minerals), there are 13 shown at the moment, and open to debate. It will likely change going forward.

There's a bit of a community's strategy in here too, as there are people who might realize dimension stone, or artisanal salt in Ft. Smith, etc. which need to advertised more.

It is open for discussion.

Chamber: Under strategic minerals, why wasn't tungsten on the list?

ITI: It's because it's in the critical minerals list. It's an odd table the way they constructed it here. Tungsten is in the Canada critical minerals list.

Chamber: Is there any gain for a workshop to work with Nunavut and Yukon? I think there is messaging that provinces and territories should be able to put this forward, eg., metallurgical coal is not on the list in BC.

ITI: This will be an action plan, not a strategy, and it will fit under the Minerals Strategy.

Regulatory / Policy changes

Chamber: We will discuss with the Minister this afternoon.

Federal Regulatory changes sought – MVLUR.

Policy direction sought for boards to fix the grassroots exploration investment identified in the audit.

Federal Policy direction to Boards / and GNWT Cabinet direction to ENR and Lands to address the grassroots problem as highlighted in the NWT Environmental Audit faced by industry.

Territorial Regulatory changes sought – Waters regulations and maximum water usage.

Update on Private Members Royalty Bill

ITI: It's possible that the Standing Committee will look for public consultation. We already have a plan under the MRA and we have a royalty policy paper ready to be published. They will be out to the public soon.

Chamber: Who would chair that standing committee. Likely a MLA.

Chamber: Check into what's already done under the Extractive Sector Transparency Act.

Chamber: Just an observation, but nobody from the Leg has reached out to us to ask for our advice and thoughts on how to improve the minerals industry. Instead, we burn up time on bureaucratic nonsense that could better be used to help make improvements.

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING -June 23, 2021 (9:00-10:00)

Attendance:

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

ITI: Mike Byrne, Angie, Benji, Charlene, Jennifer Dallman-Sanders, Nancy Ngo, Menzie, Lora Archer

Planning for the Importance of Mining and Building Appreciation for our Mining Sector

ITI: The discussion of strengthening the mineral sector related to messaging and support messaging at the GNWT is a new topic.

Chamber: I'm not sure if there was any specific talks the executive director wanted to share. We might be better off waiting for him to address it when he's available and move on to the next item on the Agenda.

***Action:** Discussion to be had once executive director is present for commentary. Moved to next meeting.

Advancing Regulatory / Policy Changes by Canada & the GNWT

Chamber: The four points have somewhat evolved. Due to this working, their efforts and from the judicial review launched. Included, were some ideas part of our presentation last week to the Intergovernmental Working Group are to be proposed in the meeting with Minister.

Canada: Issue policy direction to Land and Water Boards to remove unnecessary exploration barriers

Chamber: This point comes from the work on judicial review. 14(1)(a)

Chamber: To add on, 14(1)(a)

Chamber: Highlighting the environmental audit, is the issue we can point the minister. The path that they are on is not helpful for exploration companies. Giving a mandate to look to when problems arise.

ITI: Is there a draft document to further clarify what the policy direction might look like? It seemed a little vague.

Chamber: Yes, on both counts. There has been a policy drafted and circulated within the chamber that touches on these four bullets.

Chamber: With consultation with the Intergovernmental Working Group, and other separate conversations with CanNOR and CIRNAC, we were often told that this would be a nonstarter with the minister. We have not been dissuaded from pursuing this tact.

ITI: It is important to note on the GNWT's side, a lot of the regulatory authority or oversight does not lie with our minister. Other departments have a big role here (ENR, Lands, and the federal role in the MVRMA). Our deputy counterparts in ENR and Lands have been contacted to begin the conversation.

ITI: Commenting on the issue of the minister issuing policy direction, on numerous occasions, we

14(1)(a)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Canada: Increase the maximum term of Land Use Permits from 5 years to 25 years under the MVLUR

ITI: When we came forward with the GNWT position with regards to the extension of land use permits, we fought hard and we got nowhere.

NWT: Increase water use threshold from 100 m³ per day to 300 m³ per day under the Waters Reg's

ITI: Water thresholds is critical and we can gain some momentum. The MVOD has helped in that regard.

ITI: This is an attractive issue, particularly because we have seen other jurisdiction have that higher water use. There's a benchmark, best practice that we can look to.

Canada & NWT: Reinstate Inspectors' expertise with the Boards, and re-enable their field decisions – GNWT provide briefing note

Chamber: We just had an audit which indicated that the balance was not being achieved. They are not doing their job. This is about the survival of the economy of the NWT. There are so many forces driving it -to be conservationist, green economy without any foundation on what that economy is.

14(1)(a)
[Redacted]

Chamber: Using the environmental audit, it is the tool to use because its irrefutable evidence that things are not working. 14(1)(a)
[Redacted]

Discussion from Intergovernmental Working Group Meeting & Minister Meeting

Chamber: Meeting with the Minister has been set. The chamber has been invited to have a roundtable with the on July 6th.

ITI: The Intergovernmental Working Group is the Federal-Territorial Mineral Sector Working Group. I understand that the chamber presented to that working group. How did that presentation go and was there any feedback received?

Chamber: It was a sharing of discussed issues, the same as the talks at this table. We did not receive a lot of pushback. A lot of time was spent pushing the North of 60 mineral exploration tax credit 14(1)(a)
[Redacted]. Was well received and positive.

ITI: I'm happy time was spent on the North of 60 mineral exploration tax credit. 14(1)(a)
[Redacted] We will continue to explore it though our channels.

Tlichon Request for an RSEA and OECD & Update on PwC Investment Study

ITI: No new information on the RSEA request from the Tlichon government to the Minister.

Chamber: We've seen the letters and there are different opinions on the chamber's side of whether we support the concept. It does introduce some uncertainty.

ITI: Understanding this bill and the potential implications on project specific environmental assessment would be key. Hopefully there's no expectation that any project specific EA process should slow down or wait for a RSEA to happen. We would like to see existing projects go forward.

ITI: There's no clarity in the MVRMA about who would lead the RSEA. I think one of the places we need clarity is whether or not the federal government will require the board to do the RSEA and follow their own direction. 14(1)(a)

14(1)(a)

***Action:** Something to be watched. If anything, new comes up, such as conversation among industry, ideas, scope elements and principals that are wanted to be put forward.

ITI: The OECD mining region case study, we had a conversation with CanNOR. 14(1)(a)

14(1)(a) They have asked for some additional information from us (rational & methodological). 14(1)(a)

The consultants have just completed the draft of the Pan-Territorial Mineral Sector Investment Study. It relates to the OECD mining region case study as well as the commitment to refresh mineral development strategy. The Investment Study is currently being reviewed by the other territories as well as select members of the GNWT. The results are very well known -our transportation and energy infrastructure deficit, simplification of regulatory system, shortened timelines, requirement of Northern Mineral Exploration Tax credit, land access issues, the link between geosciences and infrastructure development to preserve the ability to explore and continuing investments in geoscience. New information in regards to advancing or promoting technological innovations making mineral exploration a lower cost and able to overcome our many obstacles in the north. 14(1)(a)

Chamber: We look forward to seeing the study. 14(1)(a)

14(1)(a) When we look at the list of issues, the regulatory side is what we have shorter term control over. Infrastructure is about a decade or generational change where the investments need to happen now to make change to improve things. It is essential.

Chamber: The OECD is third-party and believe that third-party independence is essential.

ITI: Taking this argument back to the OECD study, 14(1)(a)

ITI: We will continue to pursue that. We will follow up on CanNOR's information request for further consideration.

ITI: 14(1)(a)

Discuss opting out of the MV Operational Guidance

Chamber: We have been hearing from some of our executives and board members that we should be questioning how much time for the Mackenzie Valley Operation Dialogue. We started the dialogue to try and address issues, but appears to be a waste of time with no solutions.

ITI: It started off with traction and meetings have become meeting on tracking the action which were decided upon a year ago, which are being commented and updated on a regular course of business. A good point at the last meeting is that we need to setup some coordinated measures and be able to link those action to actual measurable goals and refocusing. From ITI's perspective, we want to see some positive changes and brought back to the original intent of what this group was brought together for.

ITI: It is a table that we wish that we didn't have to be at. However, it is a hopeful table, where the GNWT needs to do some introspection and within ITI and other departments where there will be some good thing that come out of that. The GNWT needs to show some leadership at the table.

Chambers: I thought that meeting back in March 2020 was encouraging. Beyond that, I don't see if we've gone anywhere.

Chambers: The staff at the board were the ones to agreed to try and move forward and try and make change. I

ITI: There should be some public minutes from those board meetings. Furthermore, they tend to follow the recommendations of the board staff because many of the members do not have subject matter expertise.

ITI: We need the right people at the meetings.

ITI: It was reclarified that this is a co-chair setup. There is a rotating chair, so we do have an opportunity and should bring it up to the organization committee.

Update on Private Members Royalty Bill by MLA

ITI: 16(1)(a)(ii)

Chamber: How does this happen?

ITI: I don't know. The IGCS is a tight body that came out of the devolution agreement.

ITI: It will likely come up, in our discussions with IGCS on the mineral resources act. They have already received a very preliminary introduction to the Royalty aspects of the MRA. It's a tough subject matter.

June 29 Introductory MRAR meeting? (is this MRA Regulations process?)

ITI: It appears to conflict with Minister's meeting. Attentively scheduled for 9am-12pm on the morning of the 6th. We will need to make some adjustment internally.

ITI: Can you follow up?

ITI: Absolutely!

ITI: I have recommended internally that the chamber executive could get together with ITI to set the Agenda for that meeting.

ITI: I think there is an agenda proposed internally that we will distribute later on, but there is a plan in place.

ITI: In some of our meetings in the past with the chamber with regards to the MRA, I feel like we would have benefitted from pre-meeting input for the chamber.

MEETING NOTES

GNWT/CHAMBER OF MINES COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

ONLINE – VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING -July 7, 2021 (9:00-10:00)

Attendance:

Chamber: 23(2)(d)

ITI: Mike Byrne, Angie, Nancy Ngo, Menzie, Hendrick

COM Meeting with Minister

Chamber: Our presentation was based on the presentation to the Intergovernmental working group, based on where we see our industry fitting into both territories. We highlighted two main point of discussion as well: The North of 60 Credit and our policy and regulation proposal document. The general list of improvements dealt with conservation and infrastructure.

For the northern Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC), we felt that the analysis that his department had done was sound. 14(1)(g)

ITI: Did he say what he would do in terms of next steps with the Finance Minister?

Chamber: That it would remain at the top of the list in demands that can be done.

ITI: We have noted in the past encouraging and positive langue from the Finance Minister. Particularly recognizing critical minerals in the NWT and hopefully she will see this as a priority to have access to these critical minerals.

Chamber: It was recognized that the NWT was a potential source for mining and securing supplies of critical minerals.

ITI: 14(1)(a)

Chamber: While we are on it, we will update Nunavut and the DM on that conversation as well as it is a Pan-Territorial initiative. We reached out to the Yukon Chamber yesterday and let them know about the meeting that we had.

ITI: Our Minister does have occasional meetings with her territorial counterparts, and we can seek to get the 14(1)(g)

Chamber: Another Idea, it would be helpful if there was a meeting with the territorial finance ministers and the chamber to make a presentation on the topic.

ITI: At the very least, 14(1)(g)

Chamber: The hurdle I think in all this would be CRA. It would be good to get NRCan, CIRNAC on board and others to maintain the pressure.

Chamber: The more support we can get from the finance side, the message coming though them would be critical. (Going through the right channels)

***Action:** We will pursue this angle of getting our finance colleagues and finance minister on board.

Chamber: Something which I forgot to mention in the meeting yesterday: 14(1)(a)

Royalties Review Update

ITI: Currently we are going through the planned stages of review of the royalties. We put together the Price Water House Report that shows where the GNWT stands. A presentation was done on the Geoscience Forum which summarized the results of that report. Report was presented to Indigenous governments and Indigenous government organizations (Both those who have and haven't signed on). 14(1)(a)

Chamber: Is the Royalties Division paying attention to a certain MLA?

ITI: Yes, he has a set of viewpoints and it is hard to tell how much political sway those viewpoints will have in the future. One area being stressed is the question of confidentiality. To what degree and level should royalty information need to be held in confidence and for how long? No other jurisdiction in Canada other than Quebec releases that information. Given the environment of the federal act, as well as information in the public realm, is this question still relevant for industry?

Chamber: For me, asking the operating mines their views and on transparency. For the Territories, a consensus government, if we are to do this, let's have everything transparent. It would be good in the long run, helping governance.

ITI: That seems to be one of his main focuses. Largely the danger is of too much transparency is that the numbers and information is taken out of context. The royalties, while they are relatively simple to understand conceptually, the details behind them are often complicated. Going forward in the next meeting, seeing a short introduction similar to what I am saying now and a planned conversation once the report has been read to be discussed and to share ideas and suggestions to address some of the questions.

Chamber: The concern from the standing committee, is that the Royalties conversation is so narrow. If there is to be a public discussion about them, it needs to be a discussion of the whole picture. A narrow view from the presenters

was given -it's all about revenue and government take. This needs to be countered in some way with the path of transparency and discussion with Royalties.

Chamber: That speaks very well to industry which raises those concerns. Historically we have seen that communities haven't been good with revealing their books on benefits. It probably won't just be industry raising issues.

Chamber: I don't think communities know what benefits that they are brought by industry. There's no connection or tie in back to government money following into the community that can be tied to in part to what the industry brings to the territory.

ITI: Do we know if the MLA has the report in hand and the information that you've generated?

ITI: Yes, we gave a formal briefing to them yesterday.

ITI: I would suggest 14(1)(a) Let's anticipate and prepare for it.

ITI: I think that 14(1)(a)
The information that we collect and the analysis that we conduct will inform the policy recommendations that we make. 14(1)(a)

ITI: Hopefully we will get good input, however it is a complex topic and the MLA is passionate about it. 14(1)(a)

Chamber: If you look at this in the longer term, the current operating diamond mines have already put out an annual socio-economic agreement report where a lot of the benefits summarized. 14(1)(a)

ITI: 14(1)(a)
Your idea does make sense. We will investigate it going forward.

Reimagining Closure Initiative

Chamber: We initially reached out to various stakeholders and once we reached out to the GNWT and they felt that this was very important. We involved two individuals from the GNWT to the steering comity. We have updated the charter and identified the various stakeholders that we need to consult and they have been put in varying groups based on priority. Diavik and De Beers have been funding this initiative due to their closure projects and the desire to discuss if they can be used as enablers in the region. We have hired watershed groups and ERM to facilitate these talks. We have recently reached out to Arctic Canadian Diamond again to see if they wanted to be apart of this as they were originally. They realized they need to be apart of the discussion. Where we are right now, we are going to start engaging the various stakeholders from July-October and determine what is important for the region and everybody involved.

Also, the Chamber and Government are looking at an OED report to talk about the North and how important exploration and mining is to the area. We know that the Tlicho government is pushing for a regional study. We feel

that these discussions will help those further discussions moving forward. Hopefully by the end, we will come up with some kind of report indicating what we have heard from all our stakeholders and if there is an interest in using our assets, some enablers in the future before we tear them down.

ITI: I agree. Regardless of other regional planning or analysis projects happening, it requires federal funding if it were to go forward. The reimagining closure project can definitely provide information, analysis, advice to a RSEA project. It can be part of a larger mix of planning work that happens in the Slave Geological Province.

Chamber: This concept was brought up in the meeting yesterday, we need to be mindful that that infrastructure could help attract investment in the territory. We didn't go into detail, but it is on the list as a discussion point with the Minister.

Chamber: This is an area where it should be raised with the other premiers and the other Territories. We raised Conservation 2030 and where all the land will come from to make that promise. The territories has to come up with a position that they are for reimagining closure. So How can we get together with the GNWT and get some policy direction?

ITI: We will be completely apart of the process. At various key milestones, we will be briefing up to our deputies and ministers on the file. Once the project has results, our respective ministers will be sharing the results with their cabinet colleagues, possibly leading to a GNWT position.

Chamber: We will have the chamber of mines involved as a stakeholder. Watershed and ERM will have a session with the board of directors. We know that there is news from exploration which are different from news of operating mines. We are identifying key people involved in the discussion from organizations moving forward.

ITI: We are looking forward to getting the engagement reinitiated on this project. Indigenous organizations will be at the top of the list in terms of getting reengaged as well as industry.

Mackenzie Valley Operational Dialogues

ITI: One thing that was communicated was that in particular our federal colleagues' attention was that there was some concern from industry partners in the project that the forum wasn't making significant headway in regulatory improvements that mattered. We had a conversation on what might be needed for a bit of reset. 14(1)(a)

. I also spoke to the connection with the environmental audit and the actions in our current tracking table and the possible direct synergies or connection points in the 2020 environmental audit we are also working on what we could prioritize.

Chamber: It was suggested 14(1)(a)

Chamber: 14(1)(a)

. We were also asking for feedback on it as they might have some good ideas on how to achieve results.

ITI: 14(1)(a)

It would require a rethinking or happen separately from

MVOD table. Also, 14(1)(a)

Those recommendations on the regulation side do fall into other departments purview.

ITI: I want to compliment the chamber on this policy paper. It is Excellent, well put together and the rational is sound. I think it is an undeniable argument put forward which is within our purview. I think that if we keep on pushing, and parse it out in bits and pieces and clarify what the barriers are to early stage mineral explorations in the NWT under the MVRMA, I think we can make some progress here if we join forces.

Chamber: When we asked for a 2-year permit extension, they had an opportunity to address concerns from the communities but the consultation process isn't allowing that. The consultation process is sending things out written format and asking for comment. There is no engagement on their side in communities. There is a huge disconnect.

9:00am August 25, 2021 - Meeting Minutes

ITI and NT Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

Summary Highlights	Commitments
<p>Update on Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITI has decided not to engage in the case study for this fiscal year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resourcing factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Money and staff time • Matter of timing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential for study in the future
<p>Private Members Bill C-375</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royalty Review Regime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Payables ◦ Property Taxes ◦ Sensitivities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at it holistically • Currently a "Narrow" view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Standing committee to review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mines want Chamber to represent them • Context of the review • Mining Fiscal Review process • "Transparency" • Industry wants transparency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITI will do royalties briefing for those from the Chamber who are interested
<p>GNWT Surface Leases creating financing risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber will stay out • Ministerial Discretion • How do we as a jurisdiction become more attractive • Applicable (positive) context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Broad nature is scaring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently in discussion – no commitments at this time

<p>investors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fair and Due Notice • Legal Angle (rules based) 	
<p>The role of the Land Use Inspector in the NWT (MVLWB regions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for ground truthing the document into a briefing note <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already started <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate knowledge • Legal information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITI will ask Lands if this document is factual or not • ITI internal meeting regarding this
<p>MVLWB Water Use Reference Bulletin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MVLWB view it same way as industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Policy statement is complex ◦ Water Licenses given out by GNWT... • Involvement from broader group as a whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ IGOs, Federal Government, GNWT, MVLWB, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MVLWB will clarify on policy statement to Chamber and communicate to ITI
<p>Closing Remarks / Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Meeting Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing to Investors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal investing first • Indigenous involvement (regional marketing development plan) • Unlocking our potential brand • ESG • Strategizing YGSF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather people at ITI to receive future requests