



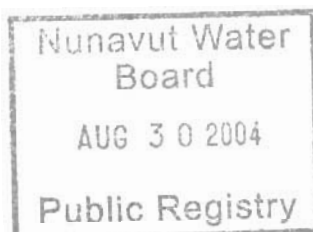
**Yellowknives Dene First Nation**  
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August 12, 2004

Philip Dipizzo, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 119  
Nunavut Water Board  
Gjoa Haven, NT XOB 1J0  
FAX (867) 360-6369



Dear Mr. Dipizzo,

**RE: Request for Participatory / Intervenor Funding for the Jericho Tahera Diamond Mine and the Bathurst Port and Road Licencing and Regulatory Proceedings.**

The Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) is participating in the Tahera Diamond Mine Water Licencing and the Bathurst Port (BIPAR) and Road environmental assessment. The YKDFN will also participate in the licencing and authorization phase of the BIPAR project. These Nunavut based projects also impact valued ecosystem components vital to the well-being of the YKDFN.

The YKDFN do not have the financial resources to participate in the assessment and licencing of these projects. Financial resources provided by Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) Interim Resource Management Agreement (IRMA) are fully allocated. The attached 2003/04 IRMA report describes the YKDFN's challenges and initiatives for which its resources are currently dedicated. Essentially, current resource development pressures in the NWT are consuming all available IRMA funds. There is no surplus to dedicate to Nunavut projects impacting the YKDFN.

INAC Nunavut Region informed the YKDFN on July 28, 2004 that it does not have the funding mechanism to facilitate the participation of the YKDFN in the environmental assessment and regulatory processes in Nunavut. INAC suggested communicating our needs to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB). The YKDFN understand that NIRB then requests the Nunavut Implementation Panel, who in-turn then provides the Minister of INAC its recommendation for additional funds to conduct a Part V review under Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Similarly, the NWB can also request funding through the Nunavut Implementation Panel for the YKDFN's participation.

It is challenging to participate in environmental assessment and regulatory proceedings in Nunavut. However, we believe it is of the utmost importance that YKDFN views, knowledge, and values be considered in the assessment and licencing of projects that will directly impact the YKDFN.

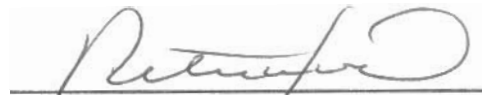
The YKDFN is taking INAC's advice, and is pleased to provide the NWB with the following request for participant funding. Ms. Rachel Ann Crapeau, our Manager of Land and Environment is available to discuss and present this submission if requested.

**Table 1: NWB Participation Budget**

| <b>Activity</b>                | <b>Jericho's Tahera<br/>Diamond Mine</b> | <b>BIPAR</b>       | <b>Total</b>       |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Travel Expenses                | \$ 5,000.00                              | \$ 8,000.00        | \$13,000.00        |
| Accommodation Costs            | 2,000.00                                 | 4,000.00           | 6,000.00           |
| L&EC Costs                     | 1,000.00                                 | 2,000.00           | 3,000.00           |
| Administration and<br>Overhead | 500.00                                   | 500.00             | 1,000.00           |
| Community Outreach             | 1.50                                     | 3,500.00           | 3,501.50           |
| Professional Expertise         | 15,000.00                                | 20,000.00          | 35,000.00          |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$23,501.50</b>                       | <b>\$38,000.00</b> | <b>\$61,501.50</b> |

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Chief Peter Liske – Dettah  
Chief Darrell Beaulieu - Ndilo



**2003/04**

# **YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION**

## **IRMA Annual Report**

*August 16, 2004*

*From*

*Rachel Anne Crapeau  
Yellowknives Dene First Nation  
Manager, Land and Environment  
Fax: (867) 669-9003*

*To*

*Kate Hillman  
Program Coordinator  
Indian and Northern Affairs  
Environment and Conservation  
Bellanca Building  
PO Box: 1500  
Yellowknife, NT. X1A 2R3  
Fax: (867) 669-2701*

## 1. Background

The L&EC is responsible for the management of YKDFN land and water interests. It does this by: reviewing applications for land and water use, participating in the environmental and socio-economic monitoring at BHP and Diavik, assisting in the development of new NWT legislation and policy, compiling mapping knowledge on land use and participating in environmental assessments.

The Land L&EC reviews land use applications, water license applications and provided by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and other relevant applications respecting land and water from the City of Yellowknife, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Federal Government of Canada. The L&EC has also prepared a detailed land use and occupancy document. To date, work on the mapping project has included the compilation of land use information on maps that are currently in the possession of the Treaty 8 negotiators. This information is invaluable to the long-term successful management of YDFN lands and resources.

The L&EC also participates in environmental and socio-economic monitoring management of the BHP and Diavik Diamond mines through the respective monitoring and management boards. The Land and Environment Committee contribute to managing YKDFN land and waters using the knowledge of elders and the active involvement of young people in the communities.

The L&EC also contributes to the development and review of new legislation on behalf of the YDFN, and is active in the closure plans for various mines around Yellowknife and Great Slave Lake. It also works with local agencies and the school system in to facilitate on the land programs for the youth.

## 2. Achievements in 2003/04

The L&EC undertook a significant amount of environmental management work in the 2003/04 fiscal year. The work included:

- Five environmental assessments, all in the YKDFN territory.
- 252 preliminary screening files in YKDFN territory and the engagement of the YKDFN L&EC with major resource exploration companies (SouthernEra Resources, Diamondex Resources Ltd., Ashton Mining, Fortune Minerals Ltd., GMD Resources Corporation, Monopros Ltd., Navigator Exploration Corporation, and the Tyhee Development Corporation).
- Participation in resource management policy and legislation enhancement including the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Framework, the creation of one Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency for the De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Mine and initiation of a regional monitoring agency for the slave geological province for diamond mines, and Bathurst Caribou Monitoring Board.

The 2003/04 the L&EC requested \$218K. The budget was developed based on an analysis of the resource development pressures and demands being placed on the YKDFN, and on outstanding projects of significant community value. Appendix One summarize the 2003/04 funding request by project activity.

### 3. Looking Forward

#### Enhancing Community Capacity – Resource Management Activities

The L&EC wants to keep doing what it does well; working with the youth and elders on the land. To that end, the YKDFN L&EC will continue its operational activities associated with general land management and environmental assessment, and monitoring. In addition, the L&EC will expand its TK western science research sessions in the Drybones, Wool Bay areas in the summer of 2004 to include more youth.

The L&EC is also eager to move forward on several outstanding resource management projects and it wants to initiate a new project that will help the YKDFN membership understand and get more involved in environmental assessments, environmental agreements and environmental monitoring.

Much information exists that is currently not being used for resource management purposes. There are hundreds of hours of tape recorded elder interviews. There is a completed comprehensive community land and resource use questionnaire survey, and the Yellowknives Dene traditional land and resource use map. However, all of these resources are in a format that is inaccessible and difficult to share or use. The L&C wants to consolidate this information. It wants to undertake the following:

- Transpose tape-recorded information from elders onto maps and into electronic databases for future retrieval and analysis.
- Complete the YKDFN membership land and resource use questionnaire survey by transposing paper questionnaire response information onto maps and consolidating the questionnaire results.
- Preserve valuable traditional knowledge information that exists only on the Akaitcho Treaty negotiators map by digitizing it.
- Start using the information that exists to help manage YKDFN lands.

### 4. Environmental Assessments

#### Background

The Land and Environment Committee was formed in 1994 by the YKDFN Chief and council to help council make recommendations on land use requests from mining companies, northern residents and members of the YKDFN and other First Nation groups.

Several mining companies applied for land use permits to explore for diamonds at Wool and Drybones Bay. The companies were referred to environmental assessment after the April 3 public meeting in Dettah because of public concern. The companies are:

- 1) Snowfield Development Corp., Drybones Bay exploration development. Referred June 30, 2003.
- 2) New Shoshoni Drybones Bay exploratory drilling. Referred May 28, 2003.
- 3) North American General Resources Corporation Wool Bay exploratory drilling. Referred April 21, 2003.
- 4) Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc. Drybones Bay exploratory drilling. Referred April 10, 2003.

The Yellowknives Dene First Nation Land and Environment Committee has prepared or helped to prepare the following reports on the Drybones and Wool Bay areas.

- 1) Archaeological Overview Assessment of Mineral Exploration and Aggregate Extraction near the Drybones Bay, Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories.
- 2) Preliminary Report on the Cultural and Historical Resources of the Drybones and Wool Bay Areas.
- 3) Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), Department of Resources Wildlife and Economic Development, Wildlife and Wildlife Related Activities in the Wool and Drybones Bay areas, and Great Slave Lake. July 2003.
- 4) A section of the traditional knowledge map used for negotiations with the government of Canada.
- 5) Indian and Northern Affairs, Government of Canada, Drybones Bay Trip Report from Environmental and Conservations Division (Request for the report has been made to INAC).

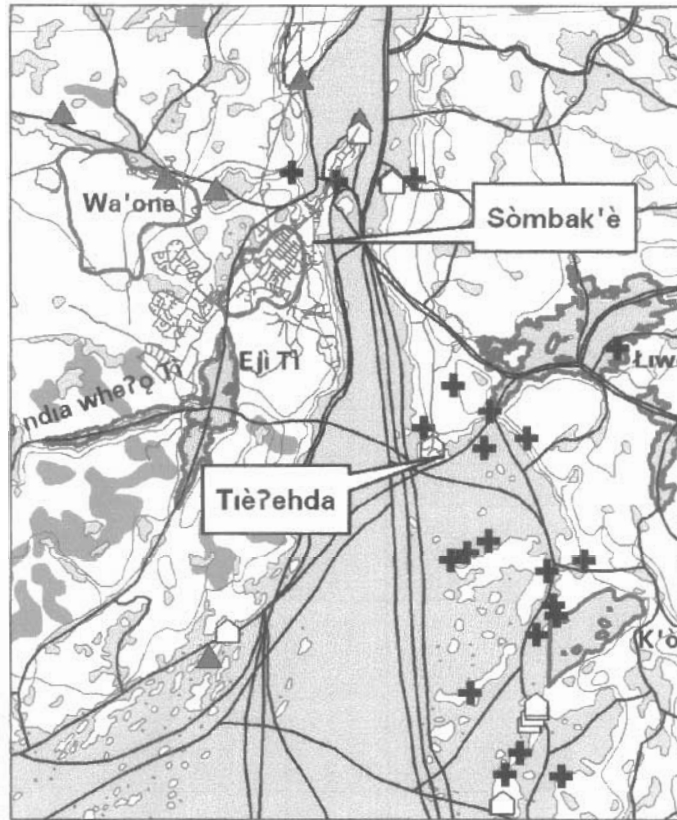


Figure 1: YKDFN Mapping Project – Digitized Portion

## 2003 Wool and Drybones Bay Field investigation

To support the statements made by Yellowknives Dene membership, the Yellowknives Dene Land and Environment Committee sponsored, and provided support resources for a two and one half week field camp at Drybones and Wool Bays. Elders that grew up at Drybones Bay and Wool Bay directed the effort of two archaeologists, a biologist, and resource management officer, from the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (RWED).

The purpose of the fieldwork was to collect baseline information, baseline Traditional Knowledge information and to enable the parties to share their respective knowledge in the area where the developments were proposed. For example, the fieldwork revealed a previously undocumented seasonal migration of moose. RWED biologists had the opportunity to meet and speak with Dene who described the seasonal movements. The field sessions were open to all the parties and companies.





Figure 2: 2003 Drybones Bay Research Camp

The Land and Environment Committee wanted to ensure that there is sufficient quality baseline information about the areas that are potentially affected before the Review Board decided what to do with the projects. The Land and Environment Committee also wanted to make sure there was no doubt about assertions made from the outset of the licence application process, that the areas proposed for development are of immeasurable value. The Yellowknives have consistently said the areas are part of a living history that contains a rich story of the historical and contemporary lives of the North and of Yellowknives Dene.

### Method

The first phase of the fieldwork consisted of three days of surveys around the coast of Drybones Bay and in interior areas likely to contain socio-cultural value. The second phase focused on the area around Wool Bay and the proposed development areas. The third phase focused on select areas at Drybones Bay to confirm and augment previous work.

The survey fieldwork was not exhaustive, and there is no doubt, once having reviewed the Yellowknives Dene reports, of the need for more extensive fieldwork before any exploration work is undertaken.

On July 14, 2003 Dene Elders: Alfred Baillargeon, Mike Francis, Modeste Sangris, Therese Sangris, Eddie Sikyea, and Helen Tobie, assisted by Lawrence Goulet, Morris Martin, Adeline Mackenzie, and Margaret Martin traveled with Callum Thomson (Archaeologist with Thomson Heritage Consultants, Calgary) and Randy Freeman (Historical Geographer with DownNorth Consulting, Yellowknife) to Drybones Bay.

A base camp was set up at a site on the south side of the bay where New Shoshoni Ventures Ltd. had previously established a camp. From July 15 through on July 18, elders guided



Thomson and Freeman to various locations in Drybones Bay, on Burnt Island, on Beniah Islands and to Jackfish Cove. Callum Thomson returned to Calgary on the afternoon of July 18 and Randy Freeman continued the work of recording and documenting sites. From July 18 to July 21, elders revealed additional sites in Drybones Bay and guided Mr. Freeman to view sites in Moose Bay and on the north shore of the large bay north of Matonabee Point.

During the afternoon of July 18 camp was moved to an island in the Wool Bay area and work continued, until the afternoon of July 23, documenting sites on and around the small island where drilling is planned for this winter. On July 23, the group returned to Dettah.

From August 5 to 7, a return trip was made to Drybones Bay. Present were Lawrence Goulet, James Sangris, Paul Mackenzie, Randy Freeman and four youth from the YKDFN Land and Environment program. The purpose of this trip was to attempt to locate a previously reported but unrecorded gravesites. A number of additional sites were also recorded during this phase of the study.

An additional day trip was made to Drybones Bay on August 14 to provide staff of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) with a first hand look at the area. Helicopter tours of the bay and surrounding areas, along with a running commentary by Randy Freeman, revealed not only the number and density of sites recorded during previous visits but also, by flying over the area where exploration work is currently taking place southeast of Drybones Bay, showed the impact that exploration can have on the land.

By viewing the Drybones Bay area from the air, it was possible to see additional sites that were not recorded, and to identify areas where additional sites are likely present. The head of Drybones Bay is one such area. It is a large flat or gently sloping sand and/or gravel plains similar to others in the area where both habitation and burial sites have been found. The sandy area to the south of the head of Drybones Bay is rumoured to contain a gravesite. A drill site, where trees and brush had been cleared from the land, was easily visible. In the area north of the head of the bay, where Robinsons Trucking Limited may one day extract sand and gravel, an archaeological site was visible from the air and it is possible that additional habitation and/or gravesites will be found within the area.

### **Key Findings**

The fieldwork completed under the direction of the Dene elders, recorded, and documented by professional archaeologists confirms the existence of at least 64 valued areas representing pre-historic, historic, and contemporary periods. These initial findings are merely a preliminary quantification of the areas' resources. There is still much work to do to ensure the lives and the stories of those that came before us are not lost. Development has impacted one site already.



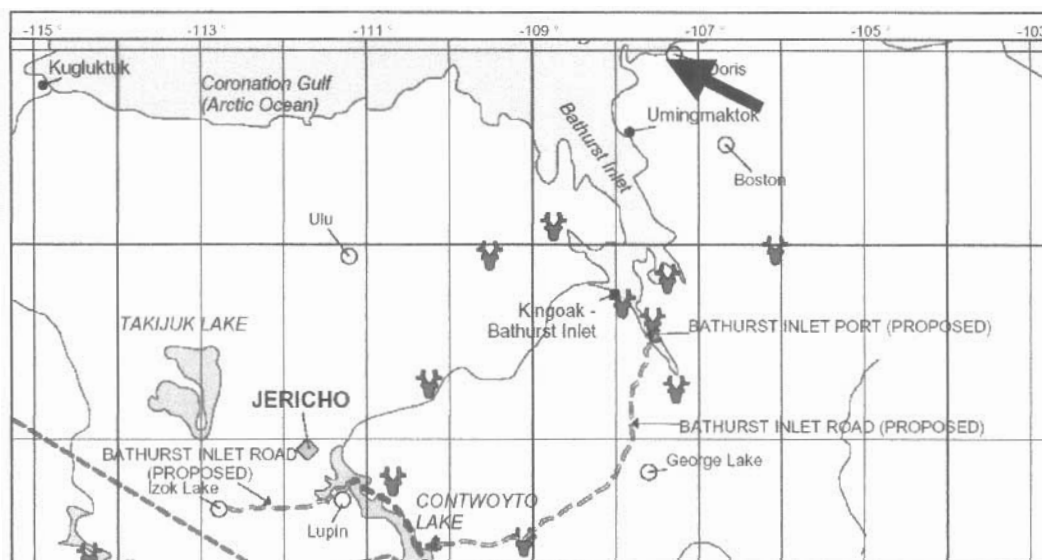
Figure 3: 2003 YKDFN Wool and Drybones Bays Research

### Bathurst Port and Road

The L&EC is very concerned about the proposed Bathurst Port and Road because it is anchored by a deep-water port in a primary caribou calving area and transects a significant portion of the caribou's fall and summer ranges. In addition, the YKDFN believe the road has the potential of significantly altering the livelihoods of the YKDFN because it will profoundly change the economics of mining development and cause irreparable changes on scales of a regional and territorial level. This environmental assessment is a high priority for the YKDFN L&EC.

### Miramar Doris North Gold Project

The environmental assessment public hearings of the Miramar gold project are forthcoming in the summer of 2004. The YKDFN have not yet reviewed the environmental assessment documents, nor has a consultant retained to provide the advice required. This project is important to the YKDFN because location immediately north of the Bathurst Caribou calving grounds and its potential impacts on them.



## 5. Regulatory Process

The following Table shows 52 land and water related authorizations reviewed by the YKDFN L&EC for the first five months of 2004 alone. Appendix Two reports the L&EC's 2003 land and water related demands. In addition, usually associated with each water licence are research permit and scientific licence applications for review.

### Current Applications (updated in 2004)

| Application Number | Type  | Company                           | Class | Activity                       | Location            | Status                     | Last Updated |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| MV2004C0024        | Land  | Mike Murphy                       | A     | Mineral Exploration            | Boulder Lake Area   | Approved                   | 08-Jun-04    |
| N7L2-1645          | Water | Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.         | A     | Mining & Milling               | Lac de Gras         | Report Submission          | 08-Jun-04    |
| MV2001L2-0002      | Water | De Beers Canada                   | A     | diamond mining                 | Snap Lake           | Approved                   | 08-Jun-04    |
| MV2003C0003        | Land  | Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc | A     | Amendment                      | Drybones Bay        | Amendment not within scope | 08-Jun-04    |
| MV2001L3-0012      | Water | GNWT - DOT                        |       | License Extension              | Yellowknife Airport | Approved                   | 08-Jun-04    |
| MV2003L8-0015      | Water | Great Slave Lake Lodge            | B     | Domestic Use - Outfitting Camp | Great Slave Lake    | License Approved           | 27-May-04    |
| MV2004C0021        | Land  | Fortune Minerals Ltd.             | A     | Mineral Exploration            | Meridian Lake       | Application                | 27-May-04    |
| MV2004C0026        | Land  | Allyn Resources, Inc.             | A     | Mineral Exploration            | Goodwin Lake        | Application                | 27-May-04    |

### Current Applications (updated in 2004)

| Application Number         | Type         | Company                           | Class    | Activity                                                    | Location                                        | Status                         | Last Updated |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| MV2004F0006                | Land         | RTL - Robinson Enterprises Ltd.   | A        | Maintenance and operation of and existing Winter Road Route | Tibbitt Lake to Pellatte Lake at the NWT Border | Land Permit Approved           | 27-May-04    |
| MV2001C0012 & MV2001L20002 | Land & Water | DeBeers Diamonds                  | A        | Diamond Mine                                                | Snap Lake                                       | Land Permit Approved.          | 18-May-04    |
| MV2004F0007                | Land         | Robinson Enterprises Ltd          | & A<br>A | Winter Road                                                 | Ingraham Trail to Bullmoose Lake                | Application                    | 14-May-04    |
| MV2003L2-0013              | Water        | BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc         | B        | Application renewal                                         | Ekati Diamond Mine                              | Summary of Changes             | 04-May-04    |
| MV2001C0006                | Land         | GGL Diamonds Corp                 | A        | Mineral Exploration                                         | Awry Lake                                       | Amendment Approved             | 27-Apr-04    |
| MV2004C0010                | Land         | Kelman Technologies Inc           | A        | Mineral Exploration                                         | Gordon Lake                                     | Approved                       | 27-Apr-04    |
| MV2003C0039                | Land         | Shear Minerals                    | A        | Geological Exploration                                      | Yamba Lake Area, XYZ Property                   | Approved                       | 27-Apr-04    |
| MV2003C0003                | Land         | Consolidated Goldwin Ventures Inc | A        | Mineral Exploration                                         | Drybones Bay                                    | Approved                       | 08-Apr-04    |
| MV2001C0006                | Land         | GGL Diamonds Corp                 | A        | Mineral Exploration                                         | Awry Lake                                       | Amendment Application          | 05-Apr-04    |
| MV2004X0012                | Land         | DIAND Contaminated sites          |          | Misc                                                        | Tundra Mine                                     | Approved                       | 30-Mar-04    |
| MV2003C0006                | Land         | Shear Minerals                    | A        | Geological Exploration                                      | Aylmer Lake                                     | Approved                       | 30-Mar-04    |
| MV2004F0006                | Land         | Robinson Enterprises Ltd          | A        | Winter Road                                                 | Tibbit Lake, Contwoyto Lake                     | Application                    | 26-Mar-04    |
| N1999Q0112                 | Land         | City of Yellowknife               |          | Quarry                                                      | Prosperous Lake                                 | Final Clearance                | 16-Mar-04    |
| N1999C0104                 | Land         | David Smith                       |          | Mineral Exploration                                         | Dry Bones Bay                                   | Storage Authorization Approved | 16-Mar-04    |
| MV2003C0050                | Land         | Seabridge Gold Inc                | B        | Mineral Exploration                                         | Courageous Lake                                 | Approved                       | 08-Mar-04    |

### Current Applications (updated in 2004)

| Application Number | Type  | Company                                      | Class | Activity                 | Location                                    | Status                                     | Last Updated |
|--------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------|
| MV2004C0002        | Land  | Peregrine Diamonds Ltd                       | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Indian Mountain Lake                        | Approved                                   | 08-Mar-04    |
| MV2003C0051        | Land  | North American General Resources Corporation | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Wool Bay                                    | Approved                                   | 08-Mar-04    |
| MV2004C0001        | Land  | Thelon Ventures Ltd                          | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Lac de Gras, MacKay Lake and Thonokied Lake | Approved                                   | 08-Mar-04    |
| MV2004C0010        | Land  | Kelman Technologies Inc                      | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Gordon Lake                                 | Application                                | 08-Mar-04    |
| MV2003C0039        | Land  | Shear Minerals                               | A     | Geological Exploration   | Yamba Lake Area, XYZ Property               | Application                                | March 4,2004 |
| MV2003C0006        | Land  | Shear Minerals                               | A     | Geological Exploration   | Aylmer Lake                                 | Application                                | March 4,2004 |
| MV2003L2-0013      | Water | BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc                    | B     | Application renewal      | Ekati Diamond Mine                          | Application                                | 01-Mar-04    |
| N7L2-1645          | Water | Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.                    | A     | Mining & Milling         | Lac de Gras                                 | North Inlet East Dike as-built<br>Approved | 10-Feb-04    |
| MV2004C0003        | Land  | Peregrine Diamonds Ltd                       | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Thistlewaite Lake                           | Application                                | 04-Feb-04    |
| MV2004C0002        | Land  | Peregrine Diamonds Ltd                       | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Indian Mountain Lake                        | Application                                | 04-Feb-04    |
| MV2003C0051        | Land  | North American General Resources Corporation | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Wool Bay                                    | Application                                | 03-Feb-04    |
| MV2001C0065        | Land  | DeBeers Canada Corporation                   |       | Amendment Request        | Long Lake                                   | Amendment Request                          | 03-Feb-04    |
| N1997F0803         | Land  | Echo Bay Mines                               |       | Winter Road              |                                             | Final Clearance                            | 03-Feb-04    |
| MV1997F0777        | Land  | Miramar Con Mining Ltd                       |       | All weather/Winter Roads | Prosperous Lake                             | Remediation Plan                           | 20-Jan-04    |
| MV2002C0006        | Land  | SouthernEra Resources Ltd.                   | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Munn Lake & Misty Lake                      | Extension<br>Amendment<br>Approved         | 20-Jan-04    |
| N1999C0081         | Land  | DeBeers Canada Mining Inc.                   | A     | Mineral Exploration      | Snap Lake                                   | Amendment<br>Approved                      | 20-Jan-04    |
| N1999C0071         | Land  | Alberta Star Development Corp                |       | Mineral Exploration      | Long Tom Lake                               | Final Clearance                            | 20-Jan-04    |

### Current Applications (updated in 2004)

| Application Number | Type  | Company                                     | Class | Activity              | Location       | Status                | Last Updated |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| N1997C0724         | Land  | Northern Hemisphere Development Corporation |       | Mineral Exploration   | Sunrise Lake   | Final Clearance       | 20-Jan-04    |
| N7L2-1645          | Water | Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.                   | A     | Mining & Milling      | Lac de Gras    | Amendment Application | 20-Jan-04    |
| N2000C0027         | Land  | Kennecott Canada Explorations Inc.          |       | Mineral Exploration   | Pelonquin Lake | Final Clearance       | 19-Dec-03    |
| N1997C0738         | Land  | Kennecott Canada Explorations Inc.          |       | Mineral Exploration   | Pelonquin Lake | Final Clearance       | 19-Dec-03    |
| N1999C0077         | Land  | Pine Valley Mining Corporation              |       | Storage Authorization | Indin Lake     | Final Clearance       | 01-Dec-03    |

The L&EC regularly met with development proponents to discuss opportunities and issues in advance of formal applications or significant development proposals. The result of having more meetings with proponents has been positive, and there is an increased level of confidence and comfort between proponents and the YKDFN.

### Miramar Con Mine Abandonment and Closure

The Miramar Con Mine is located on the west side of Yellowknife Bay on the Great Slave Lake, right across from Dettah. Miramar Con Mine prepared a draft A&R plan for the MVLWB. It identifies what has to be done to remediate specific areas or problems and provides a schedule of abandonment and restoration (A&R) projects.

The A&R licensing process was supposed to take one year, and after licencing, Miramar would shut the mine down. However, that changed in November 2003 when Miramar closed operations and started to flood the mine. There is now a rush to complete the A&R plan as the mine has ceased underground operations and is quickly moving to full closure. That is, abandonment and closure of the mine is happening without a licence and during the preparation of the A&R plan.

The MVLWB has a working group preparing a draft A&R plan. The City of Yellowknife wants the closure of the Miramar mine to go to environmental assessment. It also believes the A&R plan is merely conceptual, not accepted by an engineer, and does not provide long-term monitoring and protection. Environment Canada, and Indian and Northern Affairs have many issues with the proposed A&R plan.



Figure 4: Con Mine and con mine access Road Courtesy of the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre

## 6. Participate in Consultations related to Resource Management Policy and Legislation

The L&EC continued to participate in the Cumulative Effects Management Framework development and implementation. While challenging, the committee is interested in this type of management planning because the scale and pace of development has increased significantly in the last ten years or more in the Yellowknives Dene First Nation territory. The YKDFN is unsure what the next steps in the implementation of the CEAMF are, but it is trying to understand its place in the process.

The L&E committee is also very interested in the One Regional Monitoring Board for all mines in the NWT, since there are two environmental monitoring agencies and a monitoring board for De Beers Snap Lake Diamond Project will start in September. We do not have that many experts living within the communities of Dettah, Ndilo and Enodah to have board members for every board, and therefore we would be interested in a one regional board in the future.

The Bathurst Caribou Management Plan draft was prepared this year and it is out for consultation and discussion. Once comments are received, the planning committee will provide further direction regarding the finalization of the plan.



## **7. Land and Environment Program Projects**

The L&EC has several on-going environmental programs that is operates either independently or in partnership. They are as follows:

Winter road monitoring. The YKDFN participate in the monitoring of the winter road by surveying hunters, trappers, truckers, tourists and sight-seers. There is an ongoing effort to ensure the safe use of the winter road and to ensure people using the road for hunting and other related harvesting purposes are doing so in a responsible, safe, and respectful manner.

Joint work with RWED includes wildlife monitoring and tissue sampling at various lakes in the NWT and participation in fieldwork when opportunities arise. The GNWT and the L&EC have a good working relationship developed through on going work with local biologists and renewable resource officers.

Fall and winter hunts support. The L&EC provides on-going support to hunters participating in the fall and winter hunts. The support is financial, traditional knowledge, research, sharing and monitoring.

Monitoring land use applications and developments. The L&EC undertakes an annual scan of developments in its territory to determine the status of various land uses and to find squatters or other illegal uses of the land and water. A picture inventory of cabins and other similar uses is kept with the L&EC office.

## **8. Enhance Community Capacity Development – Resource Management Activities**

Because of insufficient funding and challenges implementing the coordination necessary to undertake several capacity development projects they remain outstanding. The L&EC remains committed to transposing the recorded information the elders provided onto maps and electronic databases for future retrieval and analysis. It also wants to complete the YKDFN membership land and resource use questionnaire survey by transposing the questionnaire response information onto maps and consolidating the questionnaire results so that knowledge can be easily retrieved. In addition, there is considerable valuable information traditional knowledge that exists only on the Akaitcho Treaty negotiators map by digitizing it. This work is important to enhancing our capacity and our cultural self-awareness and part of the challenge of achieving this goal is to develop our internal capacity sufficiently to initiate the project.

## **9. Conclusion**

2003/04 was a busy year and much was accomplished. Perhaps the outstanding achievement was our elders, youth, scientists, industry, and government coming together to work collaboratively. We hope this is a trend we can continue.