
SECTION 5 • DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

5.1 ORGANIZATIONS & INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED

Cumberland has made it a priority to keep the community informed of all advancements since 1995 when project exploration began. Cumberland has contacted local and regional residents, organizations, resource users, and governmental entities regarding the proposed project to allow each group the opportunity to express its unique concerns and to create constructive dialogue between all parties. This has provided a framework for addressing future opportunities and concerns.

Various public meetings and open houses have been held since 1996 to promote public awareness and demonstrate to the general public and relevant governmental bodies the potential economic benefit of the proposed mine development. Maps, slides, posters, and computer-assisted presentations have all been used to familiarize the public with the project, mine site, and surrounding environment. Cumberland will continue to present such information to the public during all upcoming phases of project planning and operations.

A brief overview of Cumberland's involvement in the community is outlined in Table 5.1. A more detailed description and updated table will be presented in the EIS.

5.2 GENERAL RESPONSE TO THE PROJECT

A detailed evaluation of the community's response to the project will be included in the EIS. However, based on Cumberland's contacts to date, support for the project has been strong. Specifically, Baker Lake residents want the mine to be developed providing they receive economic benefits and contract support services, and that any negative impacts to the VECs and VSECs (see Sections 3.2 and 4.1, respectively) are mitigated and appropriate monitoring programs are implemented.

5.3 HOW CONSULTATION HAS AFFECTED PROJECT DESIGN

A complete discussion of how consultations have affected project design will be included in the EIS. As discussed in Section 2, numerous mine elements have been planned based on community input, including mine access, location of the mill and camp, tailings and waste locations, proposed work schedules, and training programs.

5.4 EXISTING & PLANNED INFORMATION MATERIALS

Maps, slides, posters, handouts, and computer-assisted presentations have contributed to public familiarity with the mine site, proposed project, and surrounding environment (an example is provided in Figure 5.1). Cumberland will continue to provide information to the public during upcoming exploration and project planning phases.

Table 5.1: Community Involvement to Date

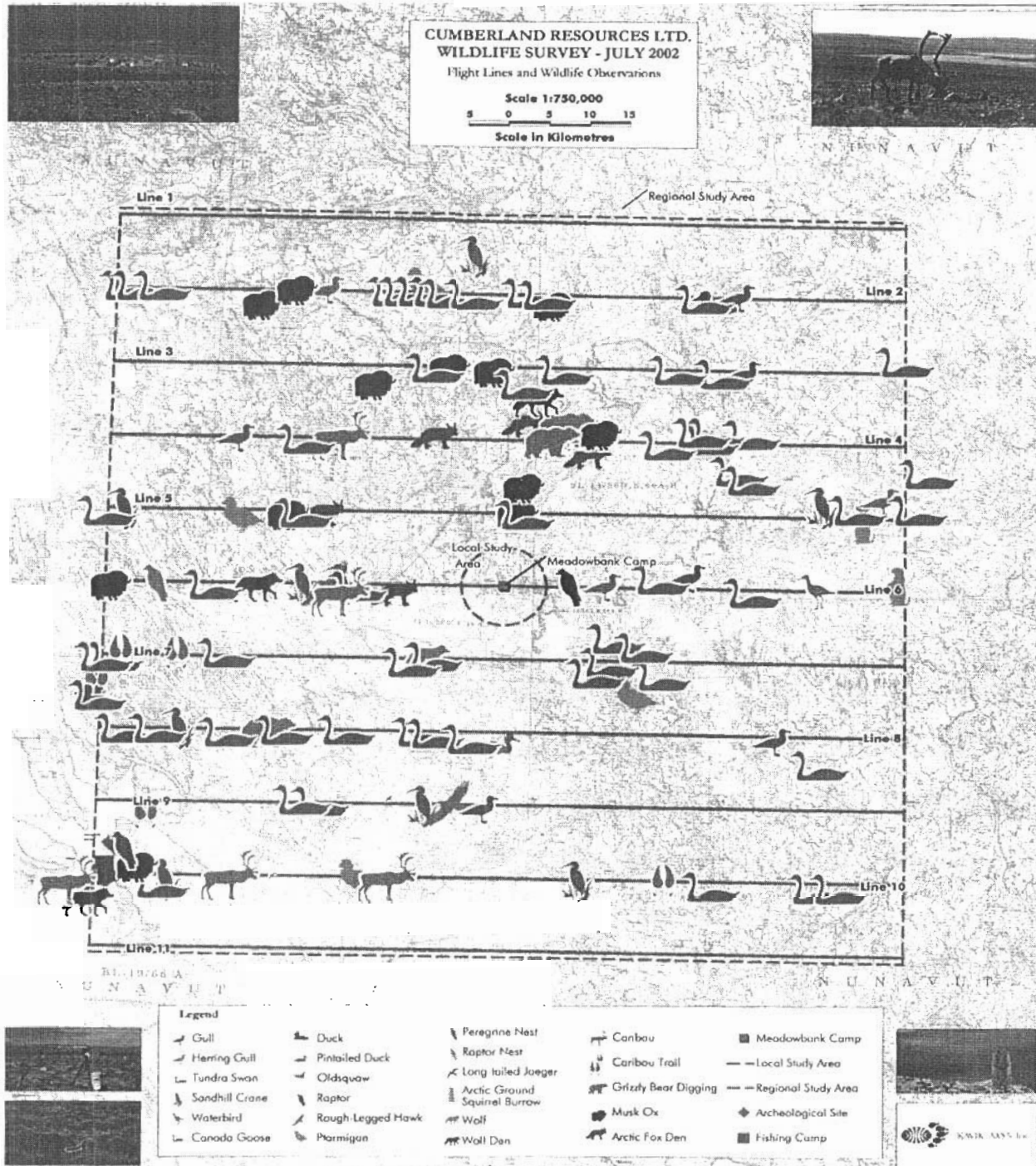
Year	Description
1995	Cumberland first made contact to obtain licenses and permits for exploration work.
1996	Cumberland met with the Baker Lake Prospectors Association, the graduating class from Arctic College, members of the HTO, and various Elders. A public meeting was also held at the Igloo Hotel where displays were set up and presentations made regarding the status of exploration activity and to explain future plans for the area.
1997	Jacob Ikinilik, Elder and member of HTO, toured the project site to obtain information regarding traditional use and potential archaeological sites. He identified grave sites and local hunting areas, and indicated he was pleased regarding the number of local people employed at the camp. A second public meeting was held at the Igloo Hotel to provide information and project updates.
1998	Two meetings were held at both the HTO/KIA office and at Hamlet Chambers to provide project development and environmental studies updates and to identify the primary concerns of the Inuit residing near the Meadowbank property. Mine development, wildlife protection, and the financial needs of the local community were the primary topics of discussion. All of these meetings were well attended. Attendees included: Cumberland officials; Nunavut Environmental Ltd.; Mayor, David Tagoona; KIA director Edwin Evo; and the HTO representative, Harold Etegooyuk A year-end summary report was submitted to the following: Hamlet of Baker Lake; CLARC (Baker Lake); HTO (Baker Lake); KIA (Rankin Inlet); KIA (Baker Lake) NWB (Gjoa Haven); NIRB (Cambridge Bay); and NTI (Cambridge Bay). A traditional study consisting of interviews with thirteen local Inuit Elders (men and women) was also undertaken in 1998 to determine traditional use and traditional ecological areas within and around the Meadowbank project development boundary.
1999	Two meetings were held in Baker Lake. The first convened in the Hamlet Chamber and included the mayor, William Noah; various council members; HTO representatives; the director of the KIA, Edwin Evo; and members of the general public. The second was held in the Igloo Hotel and included Nunavut's MLAs. A field trip to the mine site followed and was attended by Premier Paul Okalik and Ministers Jack Anawak, Peter Kilabuk, and Kelvin Ng. The objectives of the meetings were to present the current status of the mine site and encourage public interaction. Discussions centered on concern for local employment and the protection of caribou. There was general agreement among the local Inuit to proceed with mine development providing there are environmental and social protection measures in place and there will be significant economic gain by the community. A year-end summary report was submitted to the following: Hamlet of Baker Lake; CLARC (Baker Lake); HTO (Baker Lake); KIA (Rankin Inlet); KIA (Baker Lake); NWB (Gjoa Haven); NIRB (Cambridge Bay); and NTI (Cambridge Bay).
2000	After the prefeasibility study report showed that more resources or a better gold price was required to economically develop the mine, only a minimal amount of exploration work was conducted in 2000. A public meeting was held and summary reports were submitted to the following: Hamlet of Baker Lake; CLARC (Baker Lake); HTO (Baker Lake); KIA (Rankin Inlet); KIA (Baker Lake); NWB (Gjoa Haven); NIRB (Cambridge Bay); and NTI (Cambridge Bay).

Table 5.1 - Continued

Year	Description
2001	A public meeting was held for members of the general public and HTO, the Elders, Hamlet Councilors, Mayor, and Glen McLean, MLA for Baker Lake. A year-end summary report was submitted to the Hamlet of Baker Lake; CLARC (Baker Lake); HTO (Baker Lake); KIA (Rankin Inlet); KIA (Baker Lake); NWB (Gjoa Haven); NIRB (Cambridge Bay); and NTI (Cambridge Bay).
2002	Favourable economic conditions made 2002 a busy year, and an active program of exploration, drilling, and environmental baseline monitoring was pursued and several site visits and meetings were held. On 2 May 2002 a meeting was held with the Elders of Baker Lake at the Elders Center, during which Cumberland presented a translated slide show of its 2001 activities and 2002 plans, and reviewed the past five years of environmental studies and plans for the 2002 Environmental Program. On 3 May 2002 Cumberland made a similar presentation at the Nunamit Lodge, attended by representatives from the HTO, CLARC, KIA (Baker Lake), and the general public. The presentation included a detailed description of the proposed new camp, the primary airstrip construction, locations and necessity. There was a 30 to 45 minute question period following both meetings. Site visits to camp by David Aksawnee (HTO Chairman), Phillip Putumiraqtuq (HTO Secretary/Treasurer), Josiah Nuilalik (Elder), Norman Atungala (Elder), Joe Niego (Wildlife Officer/Mayor) and Jacob Ikinilik (Elder) were organized. A meeting was held with the Baker Lake HTO to discuss findings of the wildlife and aquatic program, and to collect local knowledge from HTO members. The meeting was well attended by both HTO members and Cumberland officials. A year-end summary report was submitted to the Hamlet of Baker Lake; CLARC; HTO (Baker Lake); KIA (Rankin Inlet); KIA (Baker Lake); NWB (Gjoa Haven); NIRB (Cambridge Bay); and NTI (Cambridge Bay).

Note: For an explanation of abbreviations, see the glossary in Appendix A.

Figure 5.1: Wildlife Symbol Observation Map



5.5 FUTURE CONSULTATION

There are several plans for consultation in 2003. These include:

- TEK meetings and workshops in February, March, and April to discuss impacts, mitigation, and monitoring
- Public meetings in April, July, and September
- Site visits by community members to the project
- The establishment of a Baker Lake office
- Meetings with the various wildlife management boards (HTO, KWB, BQCMB)
- Meetings with KIA and regulators (DIAND, DFO, NWB)
- Meetings with the CLARC and Hamlet council
- Meetings with the Elders
- Presentations at the high school
- Meetings with the local business community
- Meetings with the Nunavut government representatives in Iqaluit

More meetings and contacts may be required and/or planned depending on the wishes of the community and regulators.