



# Working Together

Building trust through transparent  
& responsible exploration

Community Presentation | November 2025

# Respect & Land Acknowledgment

**With Respect to the Land  
and People of Kugluktuk**

**We acknowledge that our work takes place on the traditional lands and waters of Kitikmeot in and around Kugluktuk.**

We honour the Elders past and present, and the generations who have cared for this place.

As guests, we commit to listening, learning, and working together—protecting culture, respecting harvests, and safeguarding wildlife, especially caribou.

# Three Key Takeaways

What we would like you  
to hear first



## Small Footprint, Strong Protection

We minimise disturbance and protect wildlife—especially caribou.



## Best Practice, Above & Beyond

We operate to industry best standards and seek to exceed them.



## Working Together

We hire locally, listen openly, and support community initiatives.

# Who We Are

About Somerset Minerals and what we do



## What we do

Exploration-stage mineral company focused on discovering metals for the clean energy transition, including copper.



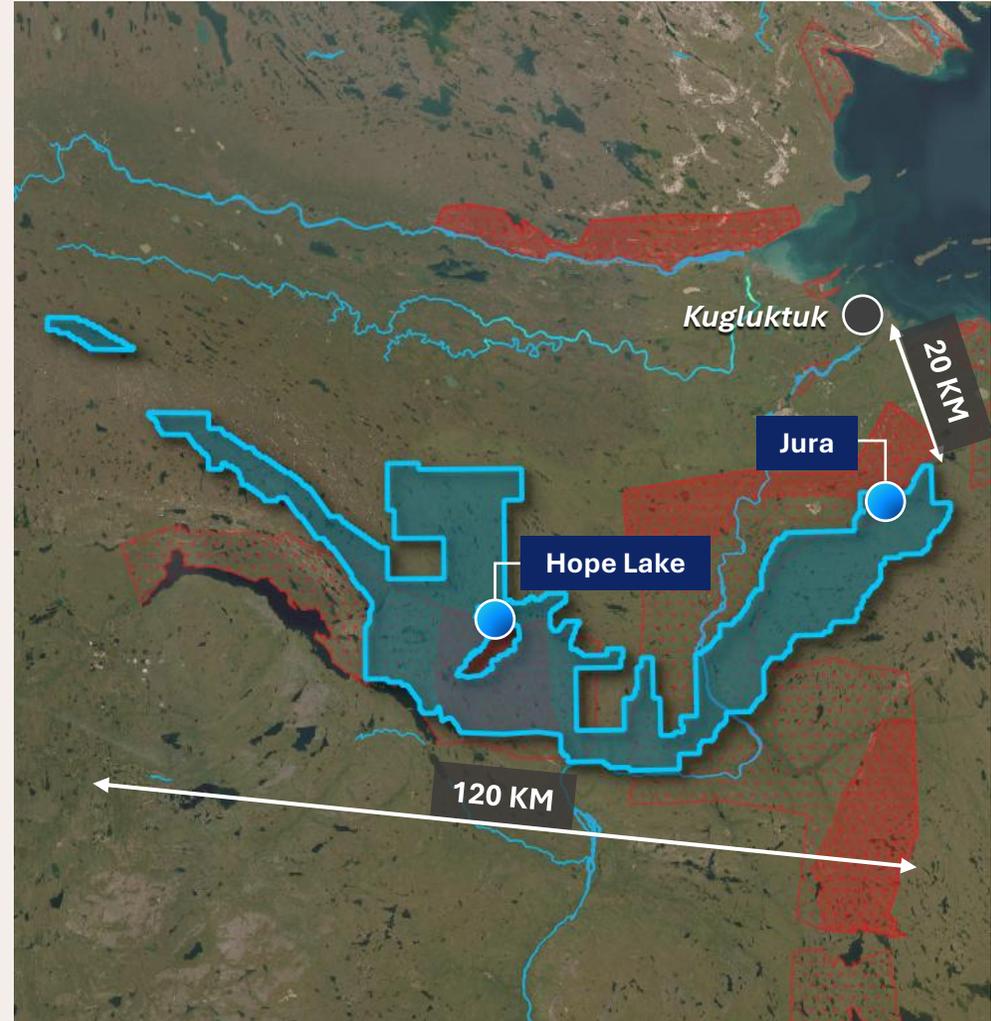
## Where we work

Licence area around Kugluktuk, with key prospects including Jura.



## How we work

Small crews, careful planning, clear communication with the community and regulators.



# Meet the Team

Please come and talk to us after

## Chris Hansen Managing Director

“ I’m Chris. I work in metals and mining, but first and foremost I’m someone who values respect for the land and the people who care for it.

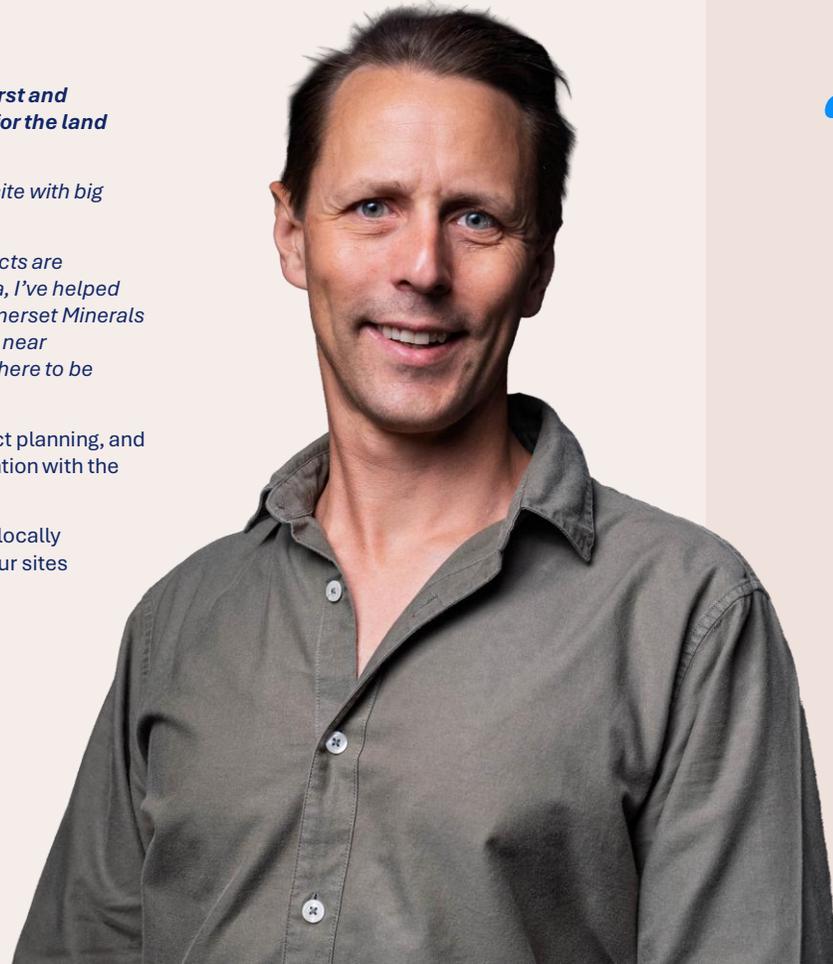
*I started my career learning the basics out on site with big companies like Fortescue and Barrick.*

*I later spent time in London learning how projects are financed and built well. Back home in Australia, I’ve helped grow projects and teams and now support Somerset Minerals as we plan careful, small-footprint exploration near Kugluktuk. I’m also a dad, and I want our work here to be something our kids can be proud of.”*

**What I bring:** practical field experience, project planning, and a commitment to safety and open communication with the community.

**How I hope to work with you:** listen first, hire locally where possible, use small rigs, and clean up our sites properly.

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## Alex Vilela Exploration Manager

“ I’m Alex—a New Zealander, a field geologist, and a dad.

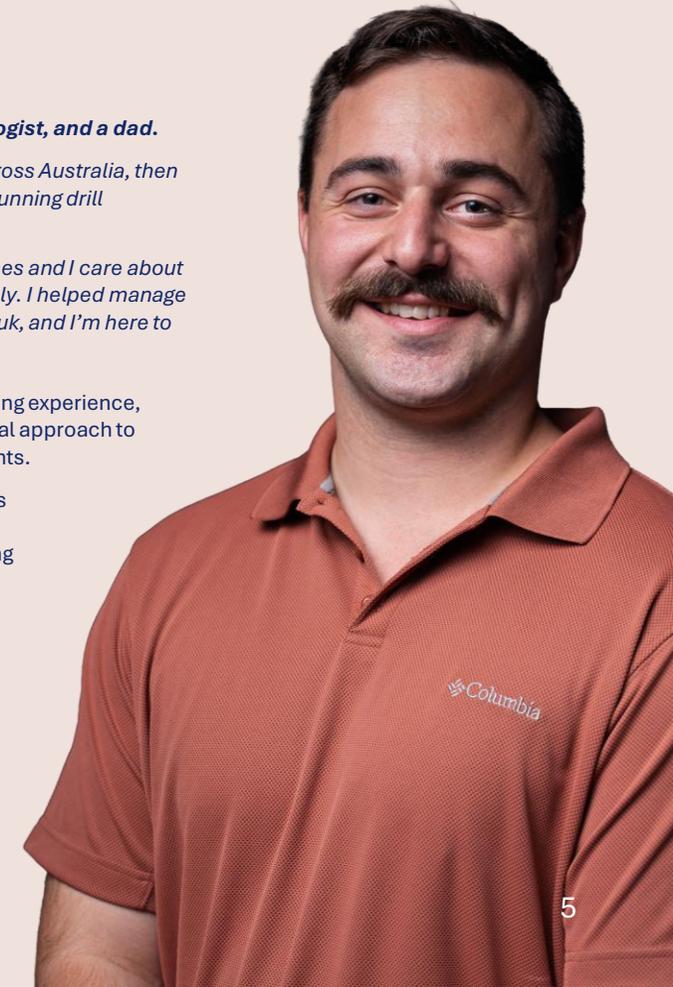
*I learned my trade on exploration sites across Australia, then worked throughout Africa and the Arctic, running drill programs and training crews.*

*I understand working in cold, remote places and I care about keeping disturbance low and working safely. I helped manage Somerset’s first field season near Kugluktuk, and I’m here to listen and plan together.”*

**What I bring:** hands-on mapping and drilling experience, careful 3D target modelling, and a practical approach to working safely in remote, cold environments.

**How I hope to work with you:** share plans early, use local wildlife monitors, keep disturbances small, and leave sites looking the way we found them (or better).

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# How We Operate: Our Commitments

What you can expect from us



## **Safety & Zero Harm**

Everyone home safe, every day.



## **Respect for Culture & Land**

We plan around harvests and cultural values.



## **Wildlife Protection (Caribou)**

Timing windows, stand-off protocols, monitors.



## **Small Footprint & Rapid Rehabilitation**

Small rigs, contained sites, proactive clean-up.



## **Transparent Communication & Accountability**

Plain-language updates and open feedback.

# Exploration at a Glance: Only Low Impact Work



What we have completed and what we are proposing for next year

	Environmental Impact			2025 (Completed)	2026 (Proposed)	Description
	LOW	MED	HIGH			
Prospecting				✓	✓	Small teams map and sample rocks/soils, mark locations, pack in/pack out; no earthworks—temporary and low impact.
Reverse Circulation Drilling				✓	✓	Air-powered drilling returns rock chips for fast sampling; small pads, short stays; low-impact with quick rehab.
Diamond "Core" Drilling				✗	✓	Retrieves intact core for detailed geology; small rigs, non-toxic fluids; compact pads and full rehab keep impacts low.
Ground Geophysics				✓	✓	Sensors on ground (mag/EM/IP) along lines, often on snow; no digging; measures geology with no surface impact.
Aerial Geophysics				✓	✓	Helicopter/aircraft sensors measure geology from the air; no ground contact; flights avoid wildlife—very low impact.
Exploration Camp				✗	✓	Compact, seasonal camp with containment, waste backhaul, bear-safe storage; minimal footprint and full restoration.

# Drilling: Smart, Low-Impact, Small-Footprint Drilling

Helicopter-portable rigs, compact pads, fast rehab - planned with wildlife mitigation and local guidance.

**What is it:** Somerset plans to use both reverse circulation (faster, returns rock-chips) and diamond/core (slower, returns intact core) drilling. Both use small helicopter portable rigs, compact drill pads, controlled fluids; short stays and quick rehabilitation to keep impacts low.

**2025:** 17 drill holes across 6 different locations

**2026:** Pending final design, but likely ~50 holes across ~10 locations

## Our commitments:

- **Wildlife-first (caribou):** timing windows; stand-off/buffer distances; minimum flight heights.
- **Immediate clean-up:** progressive rehab, pads re-contoured, holes plugged/capped; remove all waste.
- **Small footprint:** small pads, minimal vegetation disturbance; use existing access where possible.
- **Fluids & fuels:** secondary containment, drip trays, lined sumps; no attractants at camp; bear-safe storage.
- **Local knowledge:** wildlife monitors and land users observe and advise on wildlife mitigation.
- **Cultural respect:** chance-find protocol—stop, protect, notify; involve knowledgeable local people.

BEFORE

DURING

AFTER

# Geophysics: Reading the Subsurface, Respecting the Land

Induced polarization mostly on snow—small crews, minimal disturbance, and caribou-aware timing

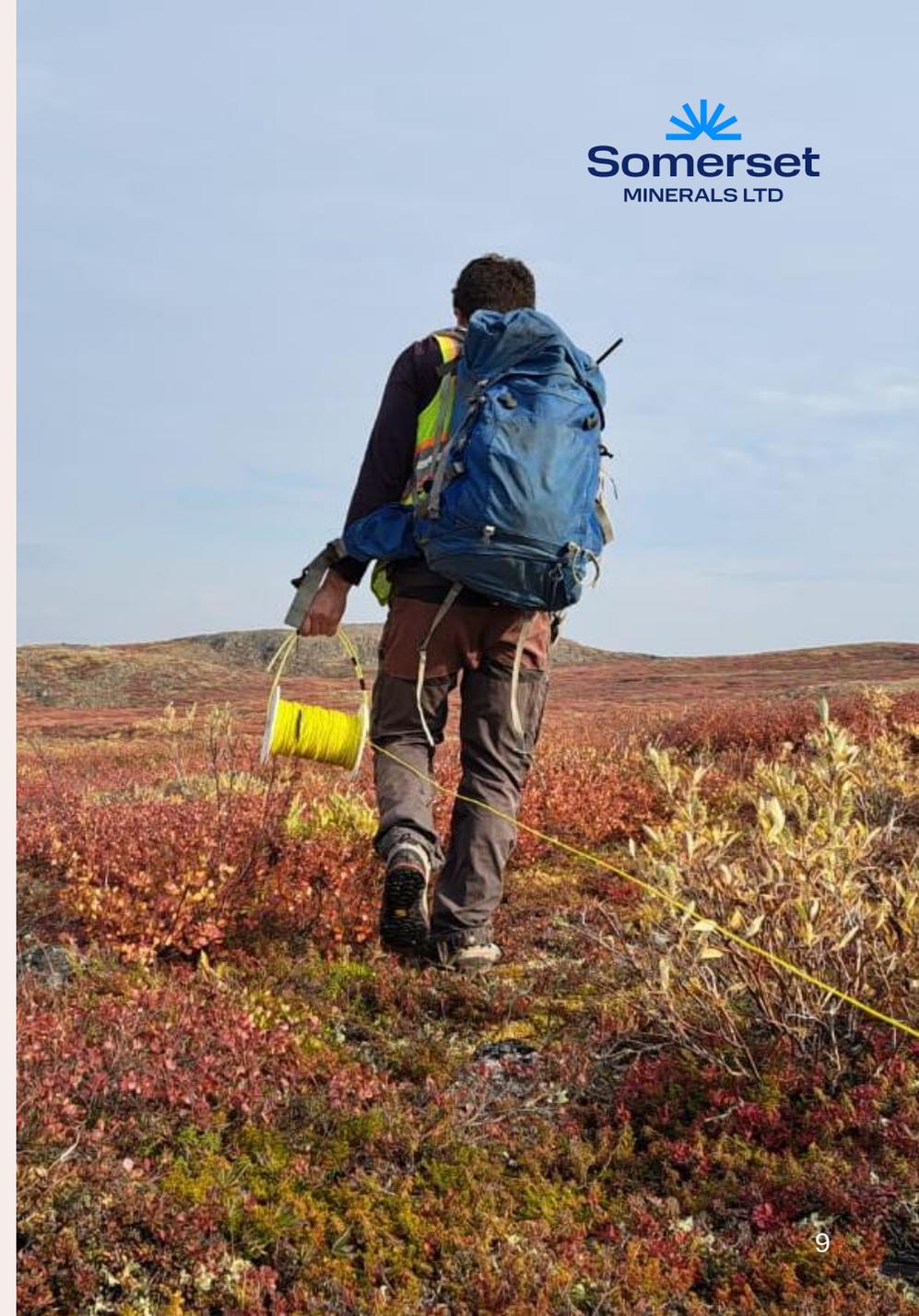
**What is it:** Somerset proposes induced polarization (IP) surveys to measure the rocks electrical properties. Crews walk or use snowmobiles to travel along preset lines with small electrodes/cables; winter/snow preferred. No impact; pack-in/pack-out. Used to detect drill targets.

**2025:** 1.5km<sup>2</sup> of IP across 2 areas; ~1,600km<sup>2</sup> aerial survey

**2026:** Pending design & input, 20km<sup>2</sup> IP over 10 areas

## Our commitments:

- **Wildlife-first (caribou):** timing windows; stand-offs; monitors observe wildlife.
- **Small footprint:** hand-carried gear; use existing trails; minimal vegetation & wildlife disturbance.
- **Clean lines:** flags/cables removed; no ground excavation; full pack-out at end of survey.
- **Local knowledge:** wildlife monitors and land users observe and advise on wildlife mitigation.
- **Cultural respect:** chance-find protocol—stop, protect, notify; involve local knowledge.



# Camps: Designed for Low Impact

Lightweight, removable sites—caribou-aware timing, clean water systems, and waste backhaul.

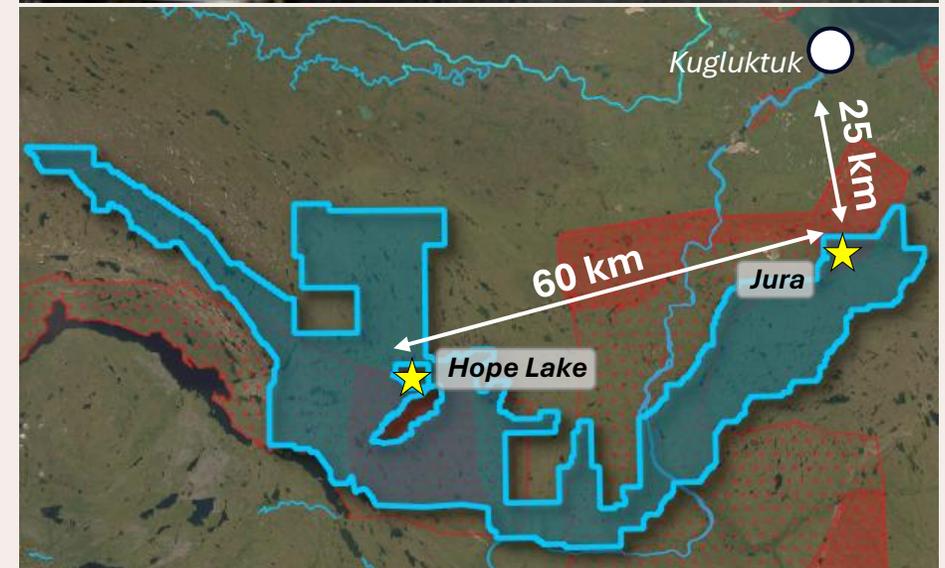
**What is it:** Somerset proposes to install two small temporary camps: one at Jura (~25 km south of Kugluktuk) and one near Hope Lake, each 60 km apart. Camps will sleep 20 people (expandable if needed), and be heli-supported with a very low footprint. Full demobilisation and rehabilitation on completion of exploration.

**2025:** Maiden exploration activities were staged out of Kugluktuk utilising local accommodation

**2026:** Subject to design & permitting, establish two small camps (~20 beds each) for exploration operations; regular waste backhaul; progressive site rehab

## Our commitments:

- **Wildlife-first (caribou):** timing windows; buffers; monitors observe caribou and provide local knowledge.
- **Water & waste:** waste management systems; lined sumps; secondary containment.
- **Small footprint:** use existing footprints where possible to minimise disturbance
- **Clean operations:** pack-out all waste weekly; no attractants; tidy pads; full demobilisation to “no trace.”
- **Local knowledge:** camp siting and access routes reviewed with land users; community visit days.



# Caribou: Caribou-First Operations

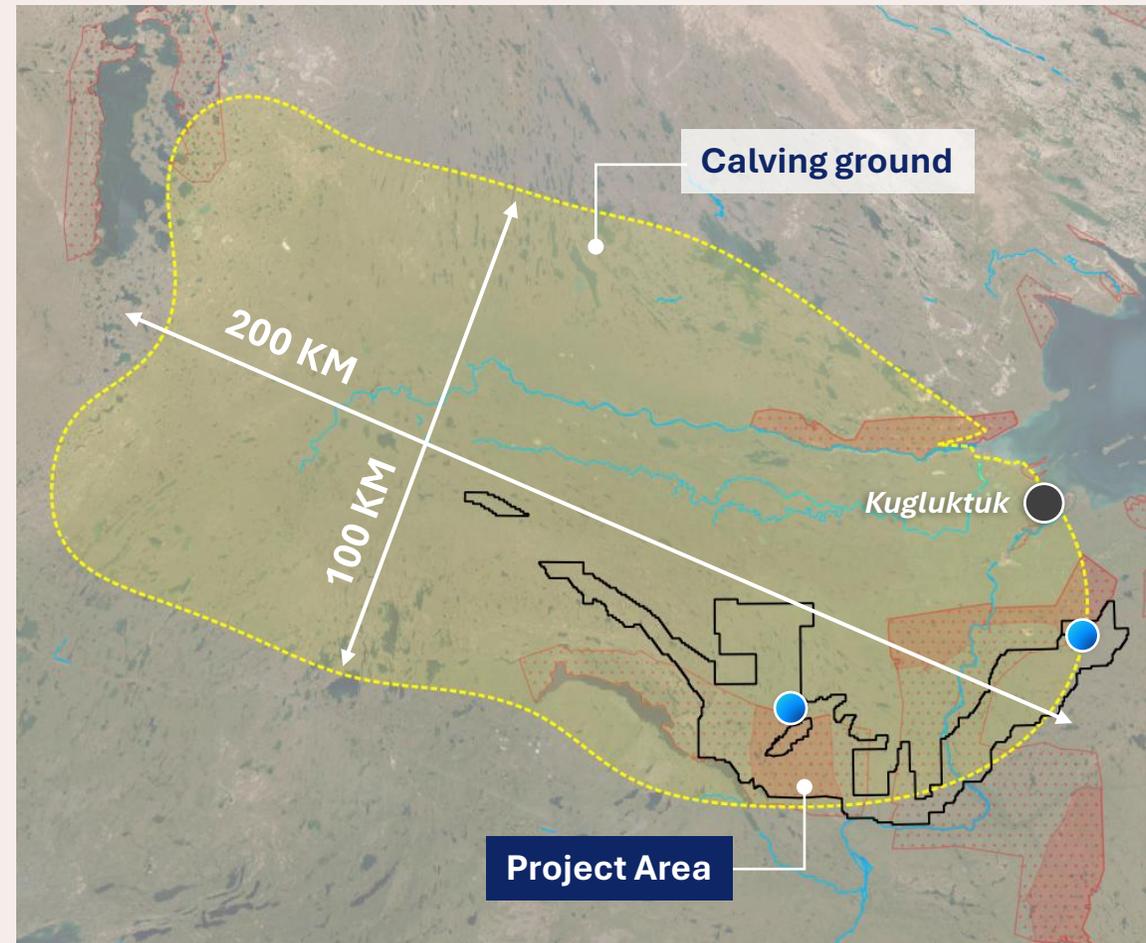
Protect calving windows & populations through a “caribou-first” approach

## Seasonal commitment (Bluenose-East Herd):

During the calving and post-calving period (May 28 – July 1), all exploration activities will follow approved caribou mitigation measures and permit conditions.

## How we operate in this window:

- **Permits:** Follow approved caribou mitigation measures and permit conditions, including work restrictions during calving.
- **Buffers & stop-work:** Maintain stand-offs around observed groups; pause/relocate work if caribou approach.
- **Flight routing:** No low overflights of caribou; reroute and maintain permitted minimum altitudes.
- **Monitors present:** Local wildlife monitors observe caribou and provide local knowledge, daily briefings & communications.
- **Camp practices:** No attractants, tidy drill pads and progressive clean-up.
- **Training & reporting:** Crew induction on caribou protocols; log sightings; simple updates to Hamlet/HTO.



# Community Benefits & Partnerships

Opportunities for local people and community programs

## Seasonal commitment (Bluenose-East):

We commit to ensuring the community benefits now and in the future from our work—through local jobs, local spending, skills development, transparent reporting and direct community initiatives.

## How we operate:

- **Hiring & training:** Potential future opportunities for wildlife monitors, camp staff, drill helpers, samplers, drivers, cooks.
- **Community support:** Currently in discussions with several community groups, and accepting applications for grants (e.g. youth sports, camps, school etc).
- **Local procurement:** Food, freight, catering, accommodation, equipment rental, safety supplies.





# Q&A and Thank You

Keep the conversation going  
& how to stay involved

We appreciate your time and guidance. Please stay after to speak with our team one-on-one.

## Contact:



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