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Kugaaruk Sewage Lagoon and Solid Waste Facilities Status

The lagoon has been leaking for years, and at times, although there have been attempts at repair by local crews, the berm has failed, spilling effluent. In 2005 a contract was awarded to Dillon Consulting, and a design for a new lagoon on the existing site was completed. Other sites were considered, but it would have been impossible to guarantee that the effluent path would not affect near-by cottages. At that time, the berm failed again, and emergency repairs were undertaken by Kudlik Construction, designed by Dillon, which included the use of bentonite to create a more impervious berm and berm-bedrock interface. Unfortunately, it was late in the season and the early onset of freezing temperatures created conditions whereby the berm and the interface between berm and bedrock was imperfect. As a result, the berm has been leaking all winter and is again in need of repair.

Kudlik Construction is the only contractor in the hamlet, and was the only bidder on the construction tender to build the new sewage lagoon. However, Kudluk is on site ONLY because of work being undertaken with the DEW line cleanup. That work is now complete, and Kudlik has kept its equipment there in order to complete the sewage lagoon contract this season. Otherwise, they would have removed their equipment, and it is doubtful that they would be interested in bidding on such a small job. That would leave the community in the very real position of having no one to do the work, and the GN in the position of not having sufficient funds to pay for the work. As it is, it is well over-budget.

We are in need of a new lagoon, and want to work with the NWB and INAC to find solutions to these very real problems and time and budget constraints.

