



Northwest Territoriesmi

Ihuriat Malirutaliatigun

MEETING EDE 21-20-24

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

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THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024
EAGLE ROOM, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY / ZOOM
1:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters: Briefing on Regulatory Regime with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
5. In Camera Matters:
 - a) Debrief
 - b) August Planning
 - c) Work Plan
6. New Business
 - a)
7. Date and Time of Next Meetings: At the Call of the Chair
8. Adjournment



Northwest Territories - Regulatory Initiatives

Presentation to the Government of the Northwest
Territories - Standing Committee on Economic
Development and Environment, July 11, 2024





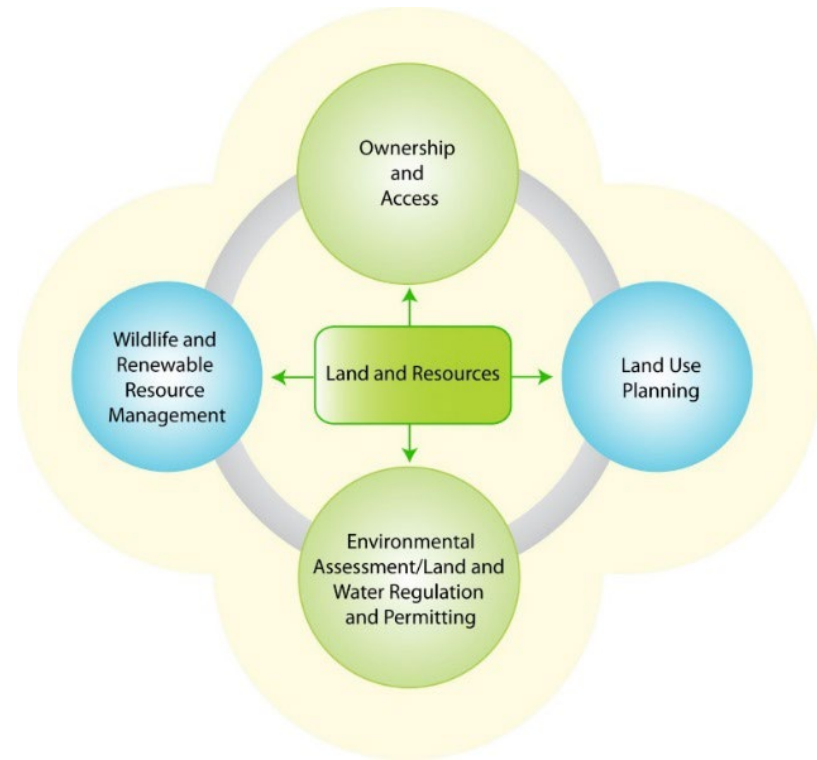
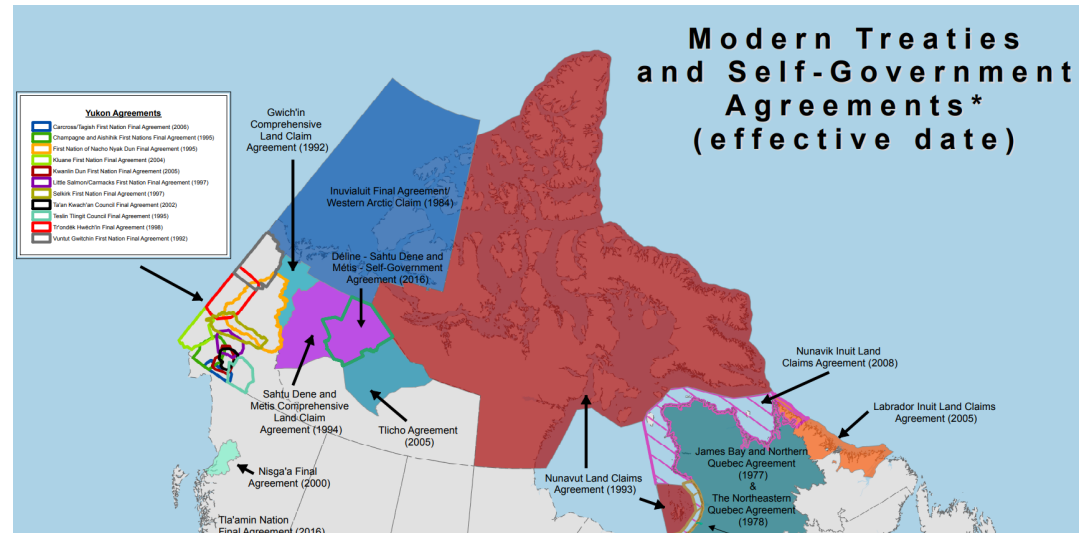
Presentation Outline

1. Northern Regulatory Regime Background
2. Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy - Northern Regulatory Initiative
 - Regional Study: Slave Geological Province
 - Mackenzie Valley Operational Dialogue
3. Northern Participant Funding Program
4. Next Steps and Opportunities



Background

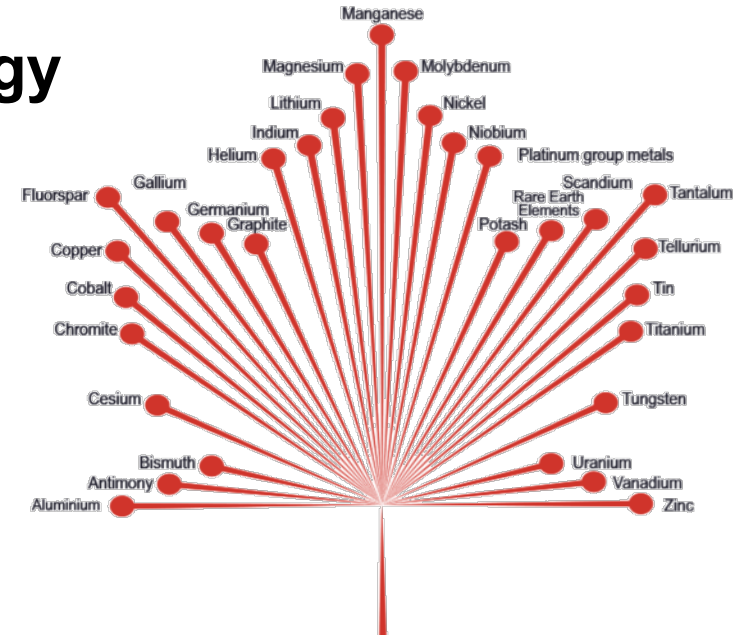
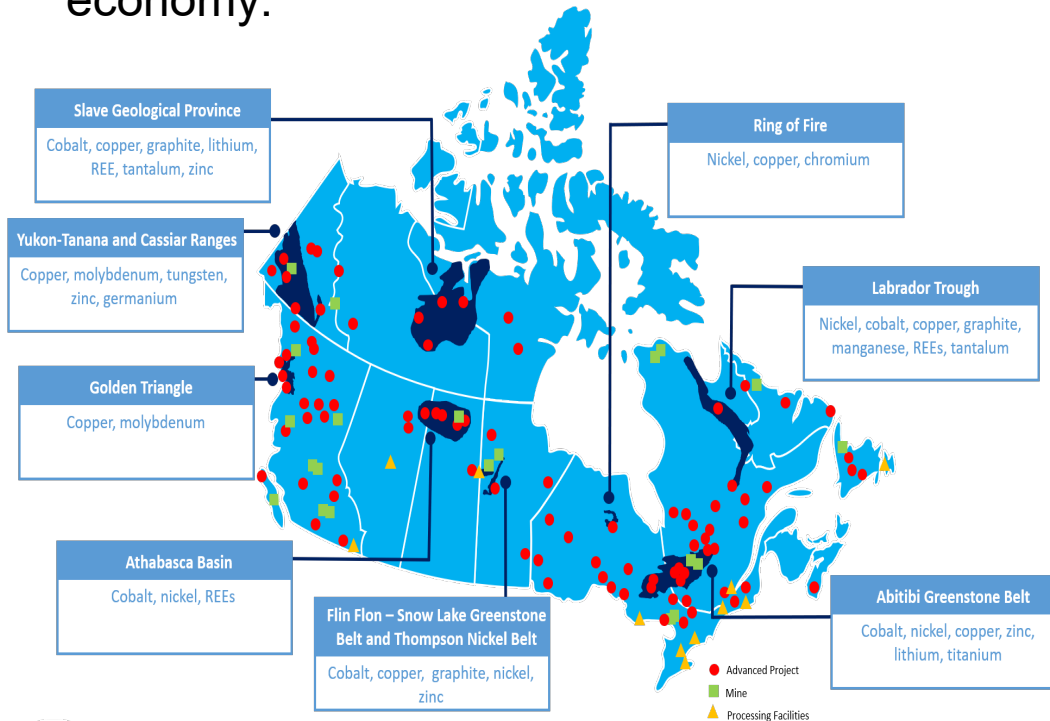
- The resource co-management regimes across the North are built on the foundation of modern land claim agreements that shape how Indigenous, territorial, and federal governments work together in the **co-management** of natural resources. They have been changing because of the devolution of responsibilities to territorial governments.
- The regulatory regimes are **integrated and coordinated**; they consider potential land, water, flora and fauna, culture and heritage, and social and economic impacts of proposed developments.
- Northern regimes establish **participatory** systems for resource co-management that relies on everybody's knowledge (traditional knowledge, local knowledge, and scientific knowledge).





Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy

- The Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy intends to increase the supply of responsibly sourced critical minerals and support the development of domestic and global value chains for the green and digital economy.

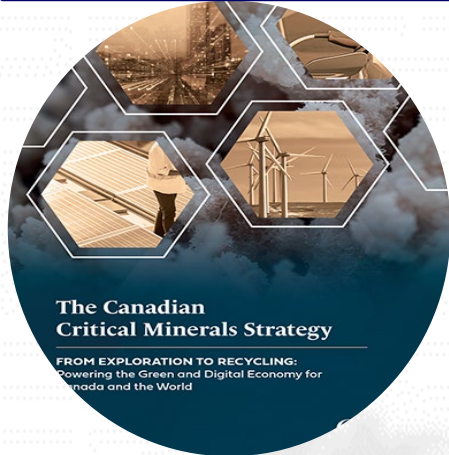


Additional CM as of 2024: high-purity iron, phosphorus, and silicon metal

- Critical Minerals are crucial to meeting Canada’s net-zero targets. The impacts of climate change have fueled the urgency to support clean technologies.
- 23 of Canada’s 34 critical minerals occur in the Northwest Territories.



The Northern Regulatory Initiative (NRI) under the Critical Minerals Strategy (CMS) aims to advance key elements of the systems that have been identified as regulatory challenges



The Northern Regulatory Initiative

includes \$40 million over 7 years to support northern regulatory processes

Objective: support efficient, effective, and inclusive northern regulatory regimes.

To accomplish the objectives of the CMS and NRI, resources will be used to support:

Participation in resource management processes (IA and LUP)

Crown consultation clarity and coordination

Regional/Cumulative Effects Studies

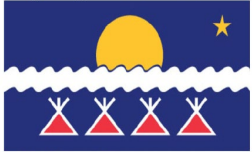
Multi-party Regulatory Dialogue Tables

Work with governments, partners, rights holders, and stakeholders in each of the three territories to advance these four areas.



Regional Studies – Slave Geological Province (SGP)

Tłı̨chq Ndek'àowo



Tłı̨chq Government

Tłı̨chq Government Grand Chief requested a Regional Study in the SGP prior to major anticipated development:

“To make good decisions about the future of this region, we need good information...An evidence-based, non-political assessment would help show the full picture of potential impacts, benefits, and trade-offs.”



Regional Studies – Slave Geological Province (SGP)

Minister's Support

“The importance of cooperation and collaboration, along with fairness and transparency, cannot be understated—partners emphasized these elements as critical to the study’s success [...] I support a collaborative approach to the design and implementation of the study.”

The Right Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs

Study Criteria

1. Fair and transparent process; maximize participation
2. Identify impacts to caribou and strategies for mitigation
3. Consider northern priorities
4. Focus on the Mackenzie Valley (NWT) portion of SGP
5. Design for near-term anticipated development (2-3 years) and into the future
6. No interruption of existing regulatory / planning processes

Status & Next Steps

- Working with governments on governance structure (i.e. Committee Terms of Reference), will make recommendations to Federal Minister
- Call-out for interest for Committee members
- Federal Minister to initiate the study (targeting Fall/Winter)





Regulatory Dialogues

Mackenzie Valley Operational Dialogue (MVOD)



- A venue for Indigenous Governments and Organizations, federal and territorial governments, industry, and resource co-management boards, to come together to discuss **operational regulatory challenges and opportunities**
- Scope focused on small-scale mineral exploration challenges (SE NWT)
- MVOD tracks progress on operational recommendations from the NWT Environmental Audit
- Updates/discussion on CMS and other regulatory initiatives



The only venue outside of project proceedings where partners can convene to share perspectives on regulatory challenges, identify common regulatory priorities, and collectively work together to advance solutions





Regulatory Dialogues

Mackenzie Valley Operational Dialogue

Actions

- Learn histories, understand different perspectives/interests, share knowledge and information, build relationships and trust
- Help to build business cases for additional resources and learn perspectives to inform priorities/actions (e.g. requested amendments to water regulations)
- Analytics
- Ongoing outreach and education (e.g. May Lithium 101 session)

Next Steps

- Building Capacity
- Exploring the Water Regulation amendment request
- Information requirements – to scale of development (ongoing)
- Analytics (continue)
- Virtual touchstone meeting (Fall/Winter)





Other Federal Supports

Northern Participant Funding Program (NPFP)

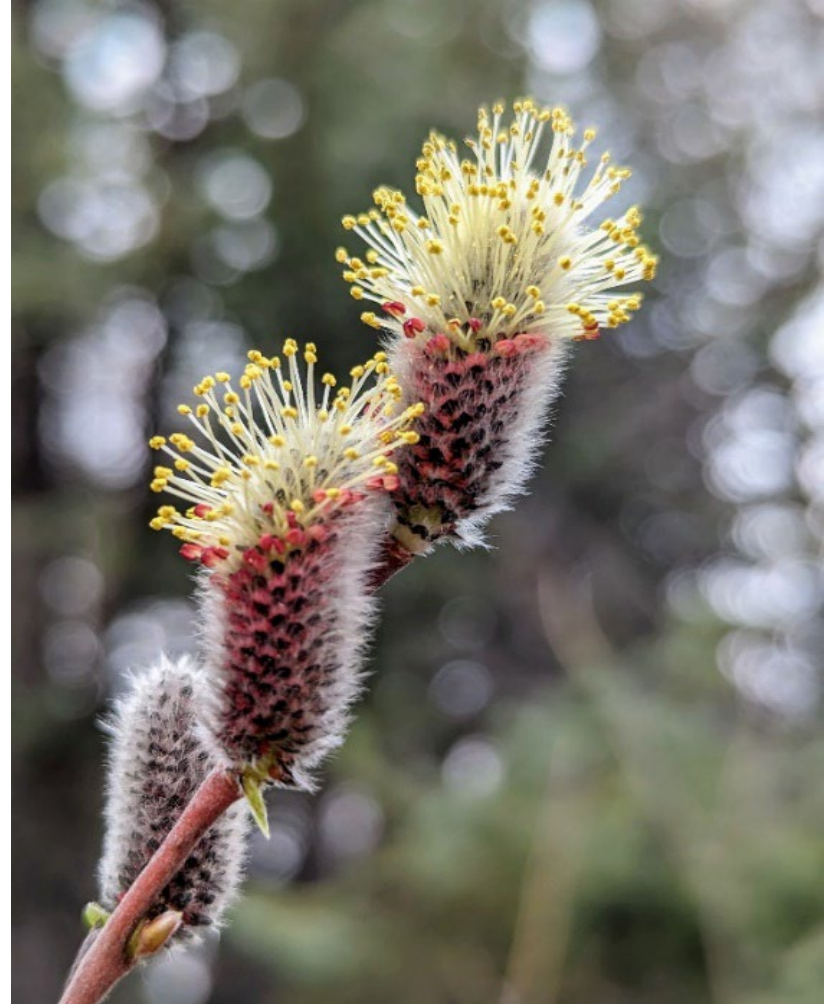
- Established in 2018 for impact assessment projects; extended in 2023 for 5 years and expanded to include regulatory processes (with very limited funding)
- Supports Indigenous governments and organizations, and northerners to facilitate their meaningful participation in the **environmental and socio-economic impact assessment processes** established under land claims agreements in Canada's three territories
- Funding is made available for impact assessments of **large, complex or controversial resource development or regional infrastructure projects** (i.e., “major” projects)





Opportunities

- Modern treaties and territorial/federal resource management legislation are inherently linked. The importance of coordination and collaboration between governments to advance resource management priorities cannot be understated.
- Actions to advance the regulatory landscape must seek to lift up the co-management system that has been developed with treaty partners and must reflect the participatory design of the regime.
- Our relationships are our strength.





Thank You

