



MEETING AOC **102-19-21**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

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MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2021
COMMITTEE ROOM "A"/VIDEOCONFERENCE
7:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters
 - a) Public Briefing on Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road 2021 Operating Season COVID-19 Controls
5. In-Camera Matters
 - a) Wrap-Up Discussion
6. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment



Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road

2021 Operating Season
COVID-19 Controls

Record Number # TCWR-RCD-GEN-064:
Owner: TCWR Joint Venture
Date: 03-Feb-2021
Template #: TCWR-TEM-001.09



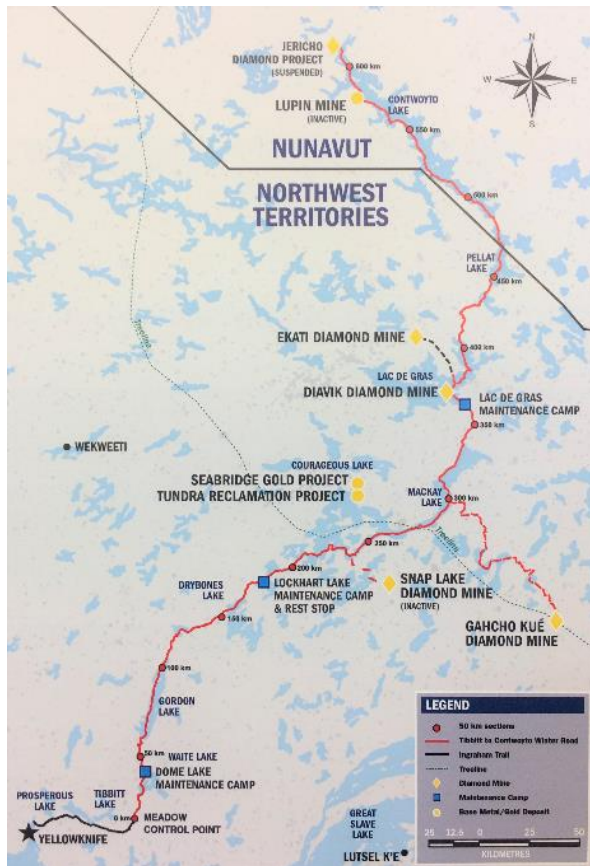
Health & Safety Share



- On December 13, 2020, a piece of equipment went through the ice in shallow water during the construction of the Southern Section of the Winter Road
- The operator was able to easily get out of the unit before it went down
- The investigation is ongoing, however the root cause is the operator deviated from the procedure of staying on profiled ice (which is determined to be safe) and went onto unprofiled ice to accomplish additional tasks
- Whether safety programming or COVID-19 prevention, continual reinforcement with personnel and auditing of controls is critical to preventing a negative outcome in the workplace



Winter Road Overview



- The Winter Road which is operated by a Joint Venture of the three diamond mines and covers 400 kilometres
- 85% is built on the lakes with 55 portages that cover 42 kilometres of the road
- There are three winter road camps that support the construction/operations and a dispatching facility in Yellowknife
- At its peak during winter road operations there will be 160 people working for the Joint Venture with 95% based in the camps



Winter Road Overview

TIBBITT TO CONTWOYTO WINTER ROAD

ABOUT THE 2020 WINTER ROAD

- Operated through a Joint Venture with the Davik Clearoad Miles Inc., Clearoad Clearoad Miles LLC and De Beers Canada Inc.
- Total length of the TCRW ~400 km
- 80% of the Winter Road is constructed over ice
- All Protocols along the full length
- Operational Season - February and March
- Comprehensive Ice Safety and Quality Assurance Program
- All drivers receive formal training on the Winter Road Rules and Regulations
- Speed Limits:
 - 75 kph (healthier vehicles on ice)
 - 25 kph empty vehicles on ice or unless otherwise advised
 - 25 kph on full payloads, unless posted otherwise
 - 30 kph for all trucks on portages
- 24 Motor security assets enforcing the Rules of the Road

WINTER ROAD ROUTE

Historical Stats

WB Season	Number of Trucks	Sum. Km. Oper.	Sum. Tm. (hrs)	Sum. Tm. (Days)	Total System Hours (March 8, 2020)
2009	35,075	835	69	146	4,760
2010	7,580	89	29	3,26	25,060
2011	4,847	350	85	3,31	3,382
2012	3,148	69	24	3,19	12,000
2013	4,832	67	66	1,73	2,769
2014	6,321	859	10	1,12	2,846
2015	4,111	51	11	1,21	2,220
2016	7,389	318	128	6,01	24,928
2017	8,710	1,111	1,08	5,08	28,212
2018	8,241	1,115	1,13	5,20	27,481
2019	8,339	717	1,43	5,62	48,122
2020	7,400	488	1,19	4,76	28,178

- This year there are 600 drivers expected to service the road with almost all of them coming from outside the NWT
- 90 to 95% of the drivers working the winter road will stay in the NWT bubble
- It is estimated that the carriers will bring up to 100 people (dispatchers, mechanics, safety, etc.) into their employment to support the trucking activities
- Full construction activities and camp staffing start on December 27, 2020 and go through to the start of the trucking activities on the Winter Road on February 8, 2021



Proposed Winter Road Loads



2021 Projected Loads

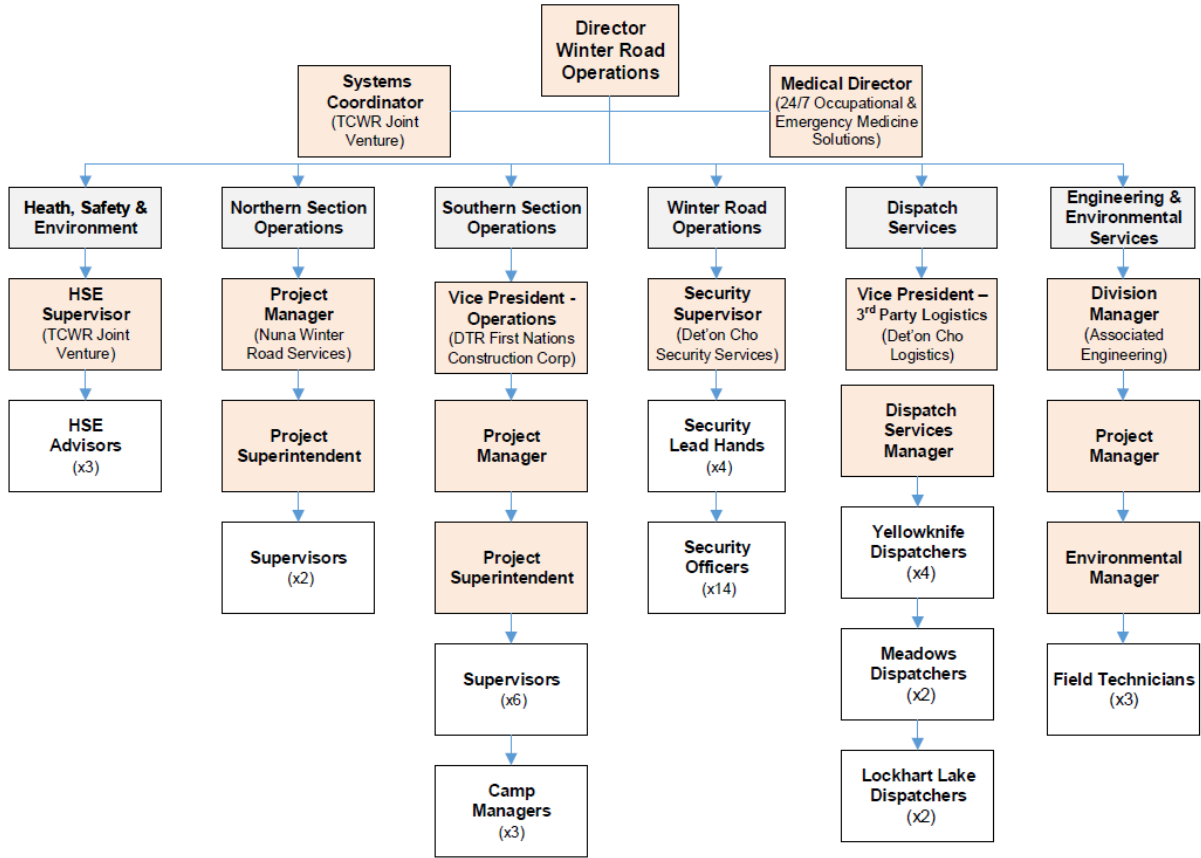
Diavik Diamond Mines	3522 Loads
De Beers Gahcho Kue Mine	1774 Loads
Dominion Ekati Mine	743 Loads

Overview of Operating Seasons

2021 Season	6089 Loads
2020 Season	7072 Loads
2019 Season	7489 Loads
2018 Season	8209 Loads
2017 Season	8241 Loads
2016 Season	8766 Loads

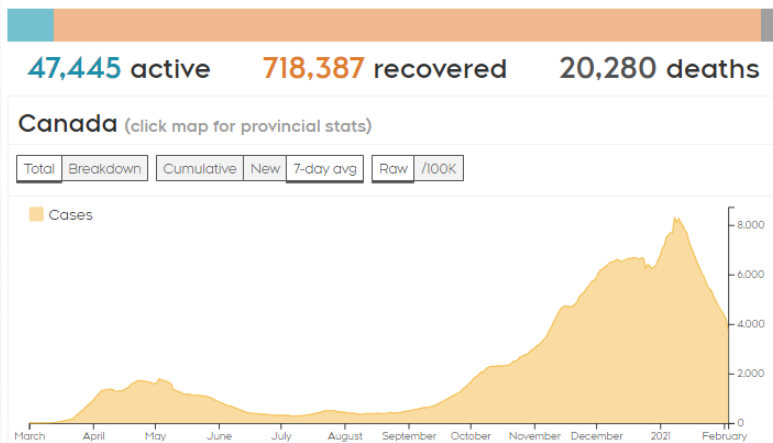
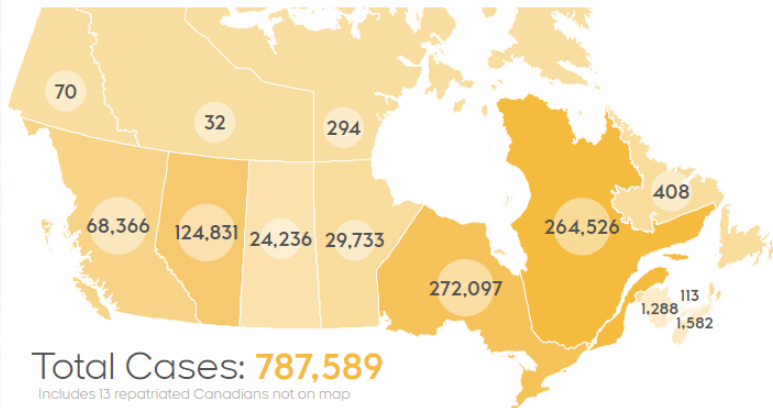


2021 Organizational Structure





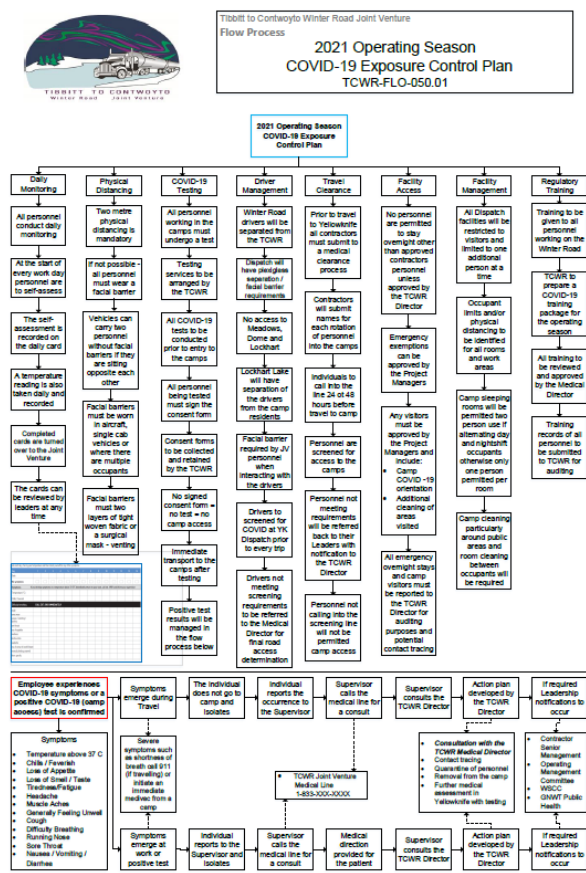
COVID-19 Operational Threat



- COVID-19 is the biggest operational threat this year to the Winter Road (next to the weather)
- An outbreak in one of the small winter road camps or with one of the carriers could quickly impact the performance of the project
- Additionally the Winter Road camps merge a southern workforce with Northern workers from small remote NWT communities
- Additionally the issue of COVID-19 and the Winter Road was brought forward in the NWT Legislature Question Period (See November 5th Hansard –Page 33 to 35)



COVID-19 Management



- An exposure control plan has been developed for COVID-19 on the Winter Road
- This plan covers the operation of the Winter Road and the strategies to control COVID-19 and prevent transmission associated with the operations
- Each Winter Road camp and the Dispatching and Security Services have a separate exposure control plan
- All plans meet the Chief Public Health Office and WSCC requirements



Medical Director

- Dr. Nick Withers has been contracted to provide medical direction for the Winter Road project
- He will act as the Winter Road Liaison to the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Health & Social Services - Chief Public Health Office (Dr. Kami Kandola and Dr. Andy Delli Pizi)
- Dr. Withers is also overseeing the COVID-19 management programs for the Rio Tinto - Diavik mine and the Arctic Canadian Diamond Company – Ekati mine





Pre-Travel Medical Clearances



Must be read: Failure to provide truthful answers in this questionnaire (including failure to disclose known possible exposure to, or symptoms of, COVID-19) can have serious consequences and may result in the removal of your winter road access

COVID-19 - Screening Questionnaire

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB (DD-MON-YY): _____
 Contact Number: _____ Email address: _____
 Company: _____ Department: _____ Supervisor: _____
 Home City/Town: _____

A. Experiencing any of the following S&S (not definitively attributable to another cause)?

Temperature $\geq 38^\circ$ Yes No **OR** New onset (or exacerbated chronic) cough Yes No **OR** Dyspnea Yes No

AND / OR 2 more of the following:

Fatigue	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Feeling unwell	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Muscle aches	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Headaches	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Loss of smell / taste / appetite	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Runny nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Vomiting / Nausea / Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sore throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

B. In the last 14 days have they:

- Travelled anywhere outside of Canada; Date of return to Canada (DD-MON-YY) _____ Yes No
- Travelled anywhere outside of the Northwest Territories (NWT residents only); Date of return to NWT: _____ Yes No
- Had close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19: Yes No
- Had close contact* with a person with acute respiratory illness: Yes No
- Had close contact with a health care worker/ hospital staff that may have been exposed to a suspected COVID-19 patient without wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment; Yes No
- Practiced physical distancing for two (2) weeks prior to entry NWT: Yes No
- Performed self-monitoring for two (2) weeks prior to entry : (You are required form to bring to the screening point) Yes No
- Taken a train or travelled on public transit: Yes No
- Do you have a household member in school/classroom/cohort, sports team, university, workplace, or other setting that is unwell or has been in close contact with any suspected or known case of COVID-19? Yes No

- Personnel traveling to the Winter Road camps will be required to complete a telephone COVID-19 screening
- Administered by medical personnel, individuals will be questioned as to the presence of COVID-19 symptoms and exposure
- In addition, personnel will be checked for compliance to the GNWT's remote worker access requirements
- Personnel failing the screening process will not be permitted to travel to a winter road camp



COVID-19 Testing

- All personnel going to work on the Winter Road and staying in the camps will be required to complete COVID-19 testing
- The Joint Venture has secured the testing services of a Yellowknife based company that will be the first to operate a testing service in the NWT (outside of the Government and the mine sites)
- Personnel will be verified as COVID-19 negative prior to deploying to the Winter Road camps.
- Additionally personnel will be tested prior to the departure from the camps
- The Joint Venture is reviewing the addition of a 7 day test after arrival at a winter road camp

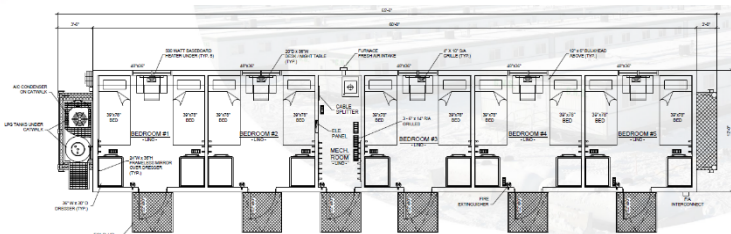




Camp Management



- The TCWR Joint Venture will comply with all GNWT Public Health orders with respect to remote camps
- This will be managed by bringing in additional sleeping units that will be advanced up the Winter Road as ice develops
- The Lockhart Lake Camp which is also a mid-journey truck stop will have extensive renovations to separate the areas used by the truck drivers from the camp workers
- The Dome Lake and Lac de Gras camps will be become restricted access



Winter Road Construction



- The Winter Road operating season will be reduced by one week (Feb 1 to Feb 8th) to allow for more time for construction.
- Additional ice reconnaissance was conducted in November 2020 to monitor for ice development particularly in the Southern Section.
- Crew rotations are being changed to comply with the Government's two week requirement for crew change-outs.
- All pick-up trucks to be used to be equipped with snow plows to provide lighter and early access to snow clearing on southern lakes.



Driver Management

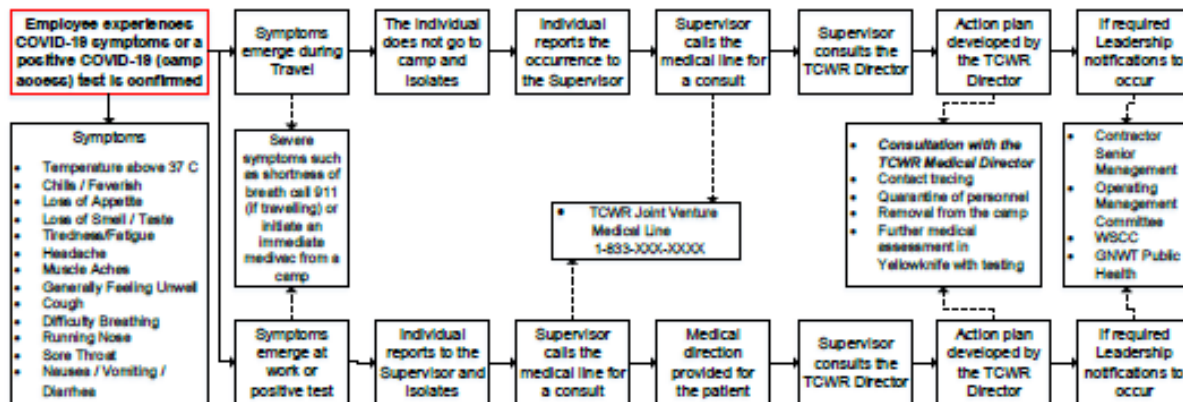
- The drivers will be screened for COVID-19 for every trip up the Winter Road.
- Screening will involve a temperature check and medical questionnaire to determine their fitness for travel on the Winter Road.
- Drivers will be segregated from Joint Venture and Mine site personnel to prevent any COVID-19 transmission
- The Joint Venture will audit all carrier facilities that support the drivers (in Yellowknife) for COVID-19 prevention.
- Winter Road drivers will be COVID-19 tested at Day 1 & Day 7 and only if symptomatic/contact tracing testing after that.
- Drivers coming from the US will not be permitted on the Winter Road.
- Drivers will be issued infrared thermometers and daily monitoring cards.





COVID-19 Case Management

- A specific plan has been developed for a positive COVID-19 cases at the Winter Road camps
- Isolation units have been created with testing services being deployed to the camps.
- All medical personnel stationed at the winter road camps have been trained and certified to conduct nasal pharyngeal swabbing
- Management of positive cases will involve the Medical Director who will work with Public Health
- Management of flu-like symptoms in the camps will be through the Medical Director





Additional COVID-19 Controls

FILL THIS IN EVERY DAY WHILE AT DIAVIK
 Date each day, check your temperature and then check yourself for any of the symptoms.

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Date														
No symptoms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Symptoms	If you develop symptoms or a temperature above 37.3°C immediately return to your room, call ext. 5001 and inform your supervisor													
Temperature (°C)														
Colds / Sore throat														
Difficulty breathing	CALL EXT. 5001 IMMEDIATELY													
Cough														
Runny nose														
Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea														
Sore throat														
Loss of appetite														
Tiredness														
Muscle aches														
Headache														
Loss of sense of smell/taste														
Generally feeling unwell														
Other: specify														

- Mandatory physical distancing (2 metres) will be in place and approved facial barriers to be used on the TCWR
- Additional housekeepers have been brought on for each camp to increase disinfection of public spaces
- Daily monitoring cards for camp residents to be implemented
- Mandatory COVID-19 training to be implemented for all personnel working or driving on the Winter Road
- Auditing of COVID-19 compliance will be conducted by the Joint Venture Team