



MEETING EDE 46-19-20

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENT**

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**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020
COMMITTEE ROOM 'A' / TELEMERGE
1:30 PM**

AGENDA

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters:
 - a) Briefing with Northwestel
5. In-Camera Matters:
 - a) CRTC Briefing Note
 - b) Wrap-up Discussion
6. Date and Time of Next Meeting: At the Call of the Chair.
7. Adjournment

Investing in NWT telecommunications

Curtis Shaw, President
December 16, 2020



Acknowledging the North's Indigenous people

Northwestel operates on the traditional territories of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples. We are grateful for the many Indigenous partnerships over 41 years that have helped build a strong northern network.

We acknowledge the Indigenous government support we have received as we take this next step. We commit to moving forward in consultation and collaboration with local communities and governments.



Northern Community Advisory Council



Megan Pizzo-Lyall



Darrell Beaulieu



Jordan Peterson

Investing in Northern jobs



500+ employees living and working in North



NWT's largest tech employer with 140+ employees in territory



25+ technicians in communities



Investing in Northern infrastructure

\$57 million contribution to NWT economy per year

\$40 million+ per year in capital improvements across North

Fibre-to-the-home in **Hay River and Inuvik** with zero public financing



Investing in Northern communities



**Stanton Territorial
Hospital
Foundation**



**Inuvik Sunrise
Festival**



**National
Indigenous
Peoples Day**

Northwestel invested over \$230,000 in NWT community partnerships in 2019



A trusted partner in delivering for the North

Won through competitive process

Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link

Canada North Fibre Loop

Nunavut's Tamarmik Nunaliit

CRTC Broadband Fund (4 projects)



COVID-19 response measures

- **Temporary Internet usage relief:** removed data usage overage charges on residential cable and fibre plans, and increased data usage on residential DSL and Satellite plans
- **Assisted Self-Installation and Repair program:** technicians can now safely perform service installations and repairs from outside the home, while guiding customers remotely through the necessary steps if work inside the home is required.
- **Permanent Internet usage increase:** permanently increased data usage on most residential Internet plans
- **Retail store changes:** enhanced safety precautions to ensure safety of employees and customers including health prescreening, masks, extra sanitization and store capacity limits






Every Community project

“Our Northern strength lies in our communities – each with their own stories and culture to share. When we erase distance and bring our communities together, our potential becomes... **unlimited.**”

Northwestel's Every Community Project will bring high speed, unlimited Internet to households across Yukon and the NWT. With funding from the CRTC and our own investments, we will harness world-leading Fibre-to-the-home and Low-earth-orbit satellite technology to make these territories among the most connected jurisdictions in Canada.

Every community connected

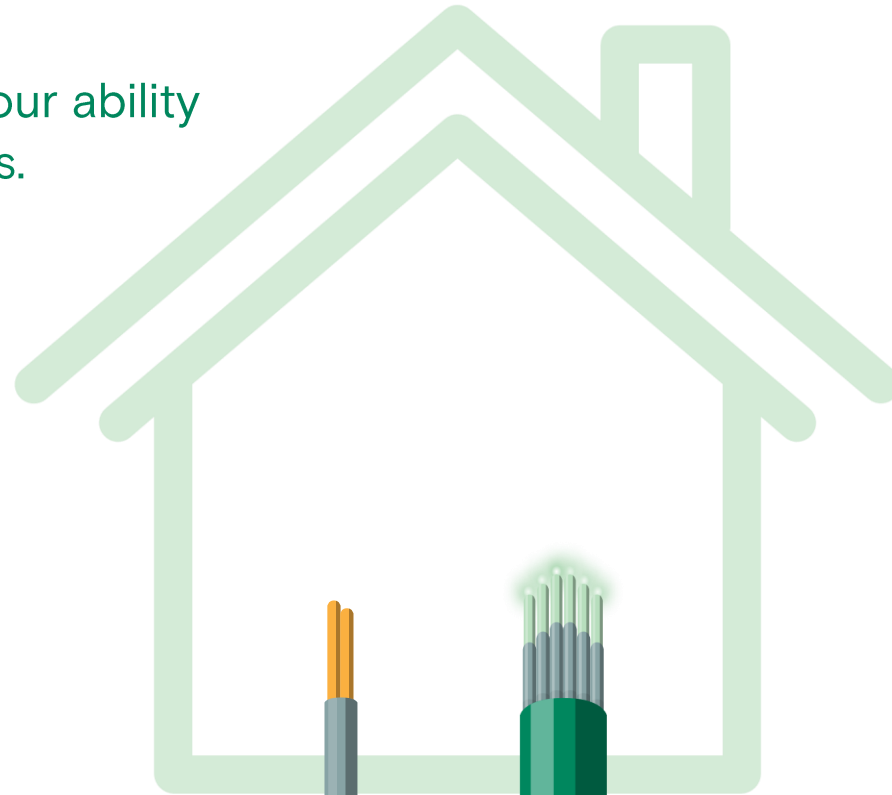
-  Fibre-to-the-home (FTTH)
-  Low-earth-orbit satellite (LEO)
-  Hybrid fibre-coax (HFC)



Closing the fibre gap

Old legacy technology within communities limits our ability to bring high-speed Internet to customers' homes.

We'll solve that by laying fibre-optic cable right to the home – either along poles or buried underground.



Copper phone wires

Limited capacity
Deteriorates over time
Not designed for Internet

Fibre optics

Massive capacity
Durable & reliable
Designed for modern broadband

Connecting to fibre

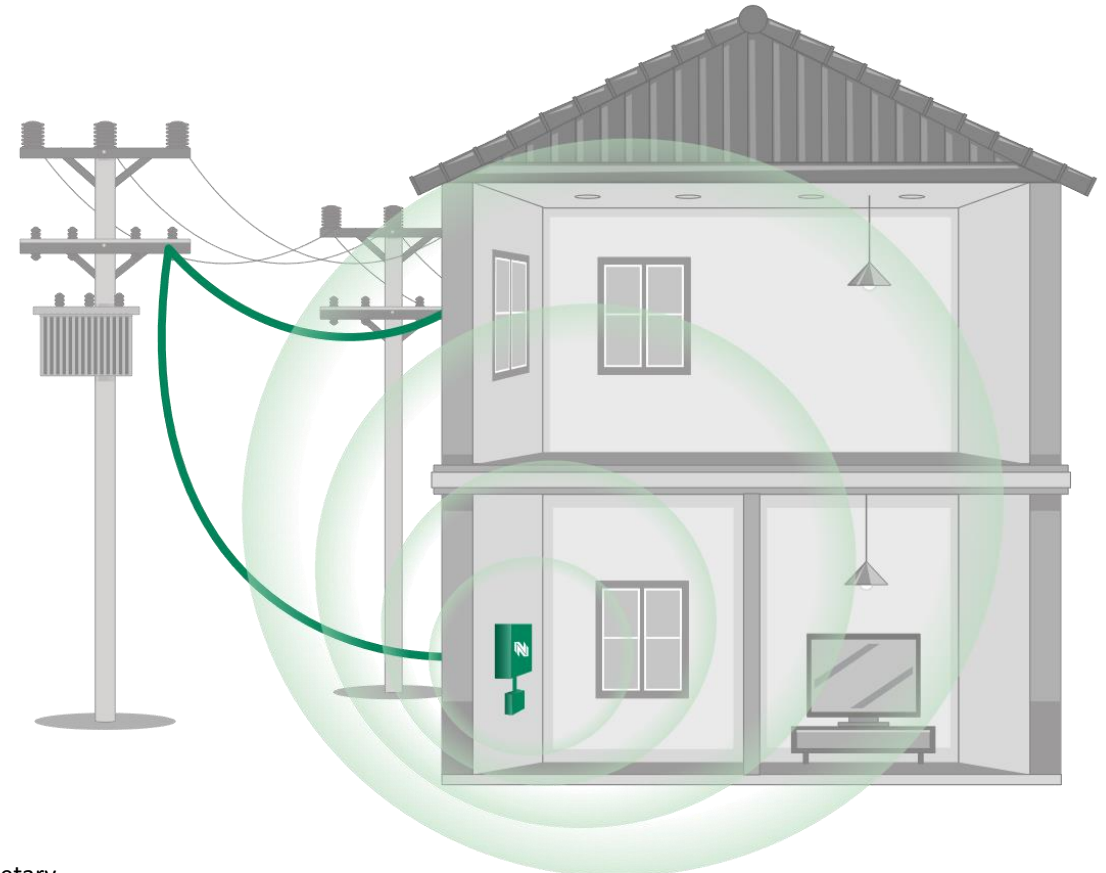


Extending our fibre backbone

We're adding even more fibre-optic cable to our transport network to strengthen connections for our customers in Faro, Ross River, Mayo and Dettah.

Bringing fibre to the home

We attach fibre-optic cable directly to our customer's homes through an overhead utility line. By connecting fibre directly from our network to customer's homes, we improve their Internet service.



Closing the satellite gap

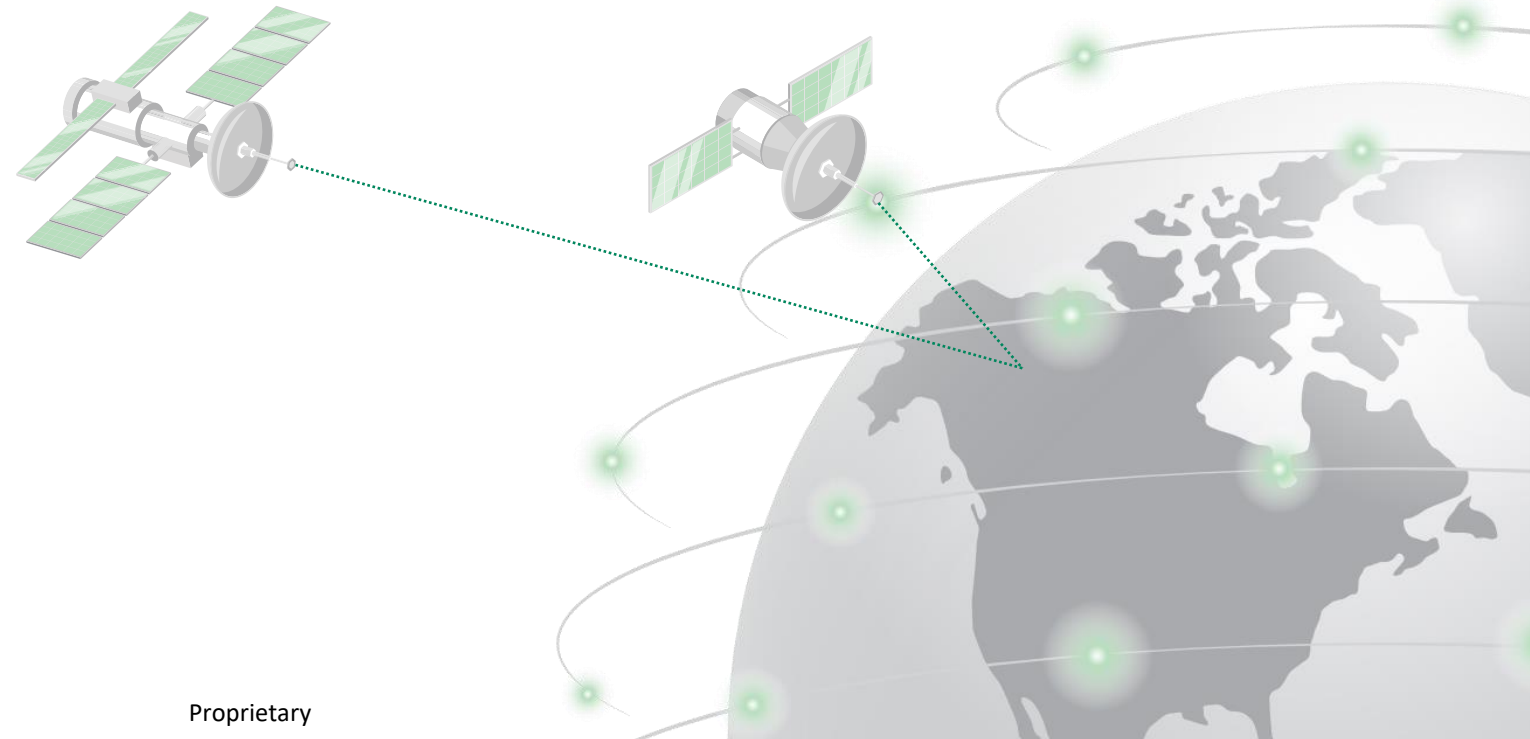
The long distances and limited capacity of geo-stationary satellites limit Internet speeds in remote areas of the North.

We'll solve that by harnessing Telesat's Low-earth-orbit satellite constellation, projected to launch by 2022. We'll also invest in next generation wireless to the home technology to bring fast speeds to the doorstep.

Low-earth-orbit (LEO) satellite

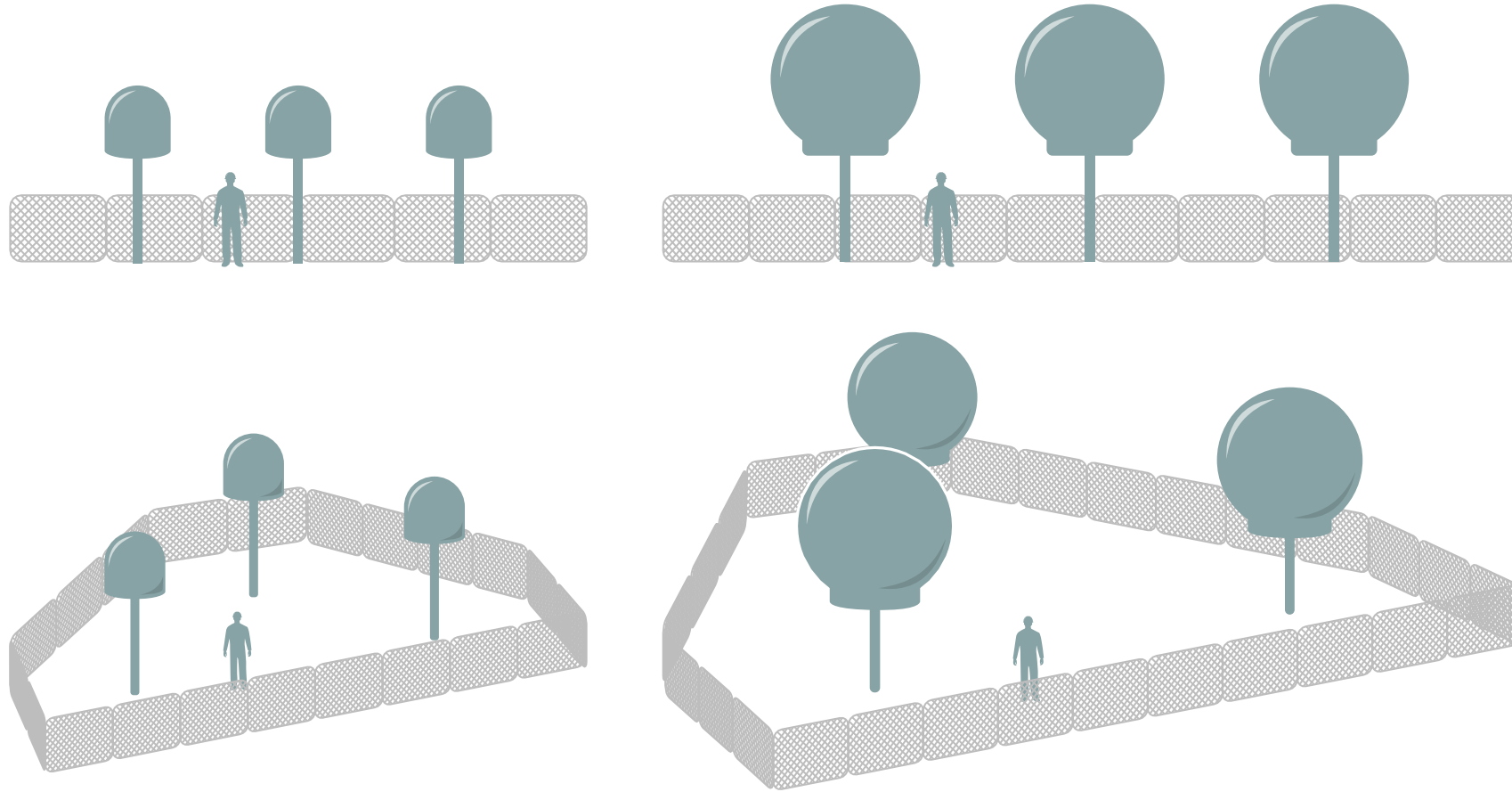
35x closer

Fibre-like performance

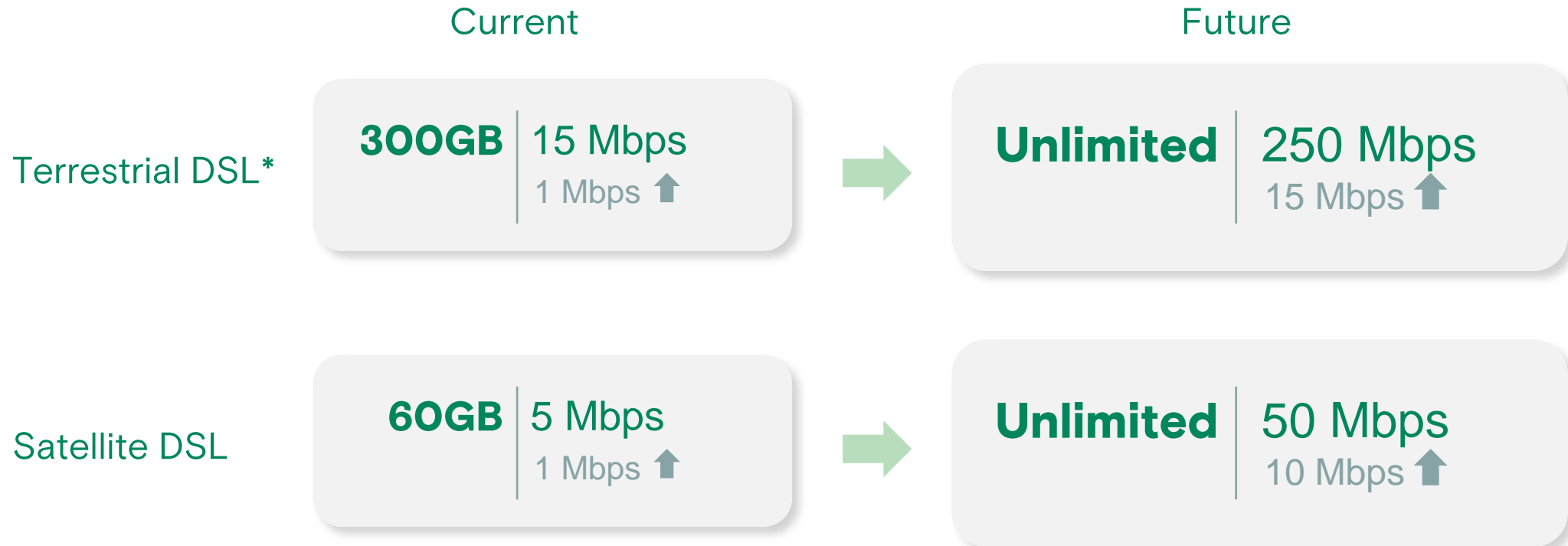


Connecting to low-earth-orbit satellites

Conceptual equipment in communities to connect to LEO satellites



A new level of connection in NWT



No standalone Internet surcharge on fibre and wireless home Internet.
 No rate increases for 5 years on Internet 50.
 Same rates in communities as in northern city centres.

Social and economic benefit



Local service. Customers will be served by technicians and customer support living and working in Northern Canada. Local Community Service Technicians in the communities will receive skills re-training so they can resolve issues on the new network within their home community.



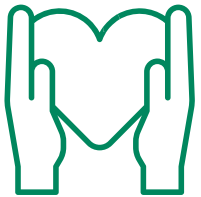
Economic development. During construction, Northwestel will seek to use qualified local and northern services, contractors and suppliers where possible, unless specialized skills are required to complete the project.



Social and economic benefit



Healthcare and education. International studies have shown that rural broadband access has a positive impact on healthcare and education outcomes. This project will reduce barriers to accessing quality government and social services, wherever you live.



Quality of life. More data and faster speeds mean more choice for families and community members, whether they use the Internet to boost their small business, stream their favourite content or share with the world. And Internet rates will always compare to what's available in the North's larger cities.



Project timelines

2020

- Stakeholder consultation phase
- Detailed plan submitted to CRTC
- Unlimited Internet in HFC communities

2021

- Permits and applications submitted for phase 1 construction
- Construction and home installations begins
- 5 communities upgraded

2022

- 4 communities upgraded

2023

- Low Earth Orbit satellite network projected to be available
- Fibre to Dettah completed
- 17 communities upgraded
- High-speed unlimited Internet available in NWT communities



Fibre technology



Low-earth-orbit satellite (LEO)



Hybrid fibre-coax



Fibre Transport

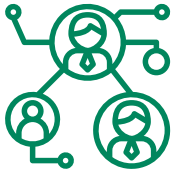
- Northwestel Fibre Network
- Dempster Fibre
(Expected completion 2025)
- Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link
- Northwestel Planned Fibre Builds
(Expected completion 2021)



Moving forward together



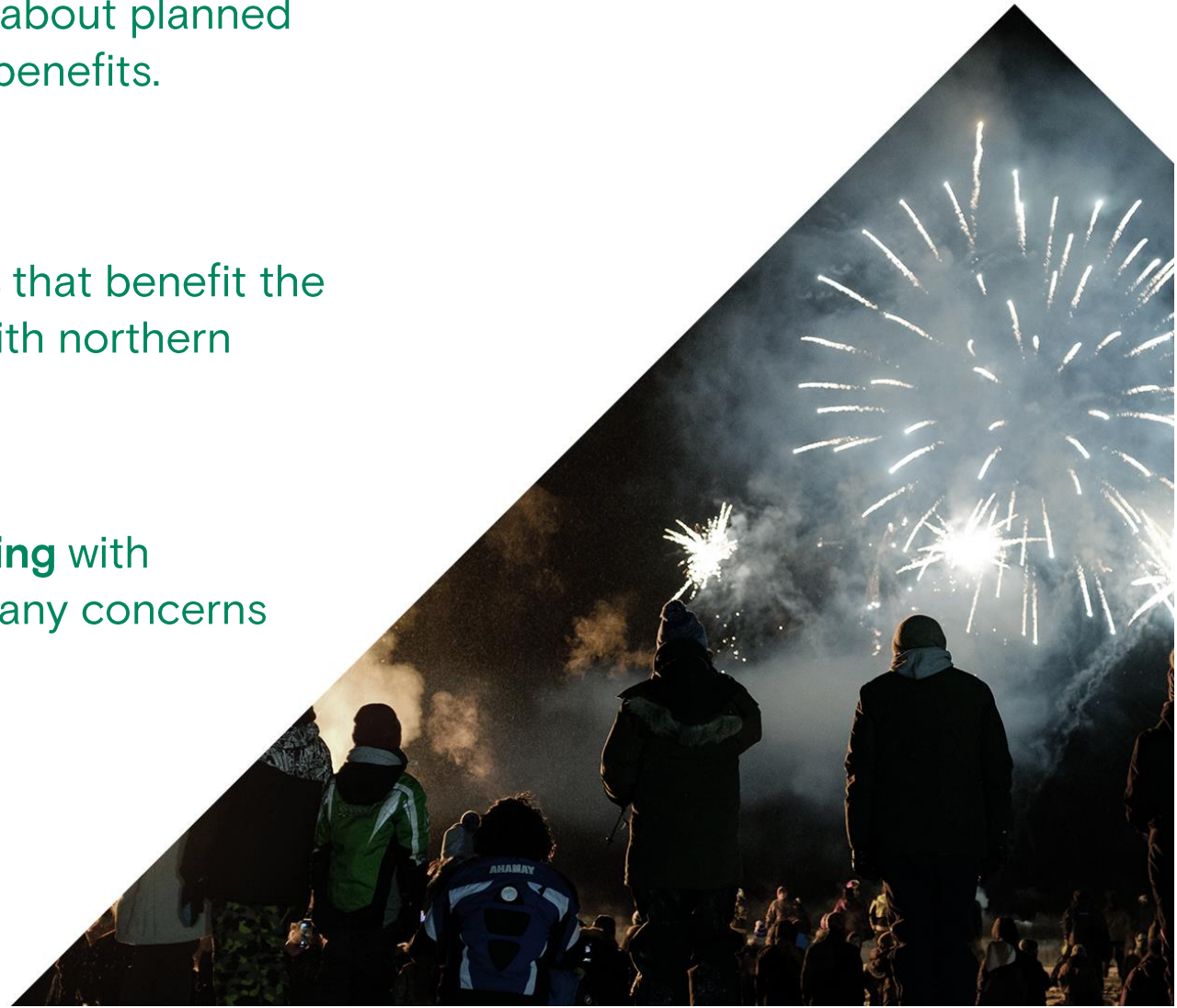
We're committed to **sharing information** about planned improvements, timelines and community benefits.



We're committed to **advancing solutions** that benefit the North and seek to **work in partnership** with northern governments to do so.



We're committed to **listening and engaging** with government partners so we can address any concerns productively and proactively



Northwestel's Every Community project.
Unlimited northern potential.