



Crown-Indigenous Relations  
and Northern Affairs Canada

Relations Couronne-Autochtones  
et Affaires du Nord Canada

# FCSAP Engagement Session – April 25, 2023

## Northern Contaminated Sites Program



Canada



# Objectives

- Provide an overview of the Northern Contaminated Sites Program and its Funding Programs
  - Background
  - Objectives and goals
  - Partnerships and Initiatives
- Provide an overview of FCSAP Contaminated Sites in the Northwest Territories





# Northern Contaminated Sites Program

- Through the Northern Contaminated Sites Program, the Department is responsible for the management of contaminated sites in the North representing an estimated \$6.3 billion in environmental liabilities.
- Most of these sites originate from private sector mineral exploration and development activity and were abandoned to the federal government when their owners became insolvent.
- The sites became the responsibility of the Department as owner of last resort in the territories.
- The objectives of the Program is to reduce risks to human health and the environment, decrease federal liabilities, and maximize socio-economic benefits for Indigenous Peoples and Northerners.
- The Program works closely with Public Services and Procurement Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Indigenous partners, territorial governments, and the private sector to manage its sites.





# Northern Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program and Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan

- The Northern Contaminated Sites Program receives funding from two sources:
  - *Special Purpose Allotment*: Northern Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program (NAMRP) – \$9.1 billion over 15 years; and
  - Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) - \$188 million for CIRNAC over five years.
- The “Big 8” projects to be managed under NAMRP are the following: Faro, United Keno Hill, Mount Nansen, Ketzka River, and Clinton Creek mines in Yukon; and, Giant, Cantung and Great Bear Lake group of mines in the Northwest Territories. The program allows the Department to better address the unique scale, duration and complexities of these projects.
- Funding for the Department’s other 100+ Northern contaminated sites will continue to come from FCSAP, a horizontal initiative led by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Treasury Board Secretariat.





# CIRNAC Sites by Territory

Total Federal Contaminated Sites: 24,013

Total CIRNAC Contaminated Sites: 1,003

	Sites in Territory	CIRNAC Sites in Territory	CIRNAC Liabilities
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	1,665	673	\$3.1 B
<b>Suspected</b>		3	
<b>Active</b>		75	
<b>Closed</b>		595	
<b>Yukon</b>	147	11	\$3.1 B
<b>Suspected</b>		0	
<b>Active</b>		8	
<b>Closed</b>		3	
<b>Nunavut</b>	807	319	\$0.17 B
<b>Suspected</b>		10	
<b>Active</b>		67	
<b>Closed</b>		242	





# Legal Framework – Why we are Involved

- Legal authority
  - *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act* provides a mandate for the North and responsibility to administer public real property and public lands in the territories.
  - *Territorial Lands Act* and *Federal Real Property and Federal Immovables Act* provides the authority to manage federal lands.
- Devolution Agreements
  - Legal obligations under the Yukon and Northwest Territories Devolution Agreements. Nunavut Devolution Agreement currently being negotiated.
  - General principle is that Canada is responsible for costs of cleaning up contamination that occurred prior to devolution.
- Modern treaties and Self-Government Agreements
  - Legal obligation to consult and deliver socio-economic benefits to local Indigenous communities, including training and employment opportunities.
- Legislative and regulatory requirements
  - As responsible operator or owner, the federal government must comply with environmental legislation and regulations.





# Core Activities Related to Contaminated Sites

- Investigation and assessment of suspected contaminated sites.
- Care and maintenance of sites during or in advance of remediation.
- Development of remediation or risk management plans.
- Securing regulatory approvals for remediation activities.
- Implementation of remediation.
- Long-term monitoring and adaptive management of remediated sites and permanent infrastructure.
- Intergovernmental relationships with territorial partners.
- Management of insolvencies and re-commercialization of abandoned mines.
- Throughout the process – Consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities.







# Stakeholders and Partnerships

- The Program has built strong relationships with territorial governments, Indigenous partners, and other stakeholders.
- Indigenous communities are engaged throughout the life of a project to inform the selection and implementation of remedial options.
- A Waste Sites Management Committee was created under the Northwest Territories Devolution Agreement for Indigenous groups to provide input into the management of federal contaminated sites.

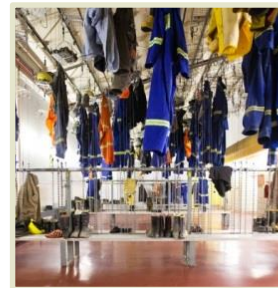






# Socio-economic Impacts

- The Program represents a strategic opportunity to promote northern and Indigenous economic development.
- Success has been realized through the Procurement Strategy for Indigenous Business, Indigenous Opportunity Considerations contracting provisions, and collaborative partnerships with communities and training providers.
- As major projects move towards implementation, there will be a focus on leveraging investments to maximize Indigenous and northern access to opportunities.



## Employment

- Over 12,000 jobs for Northerners since 2005
- 27% Indigenous employment

## Training

- 247,800 hours of training to Northerners, 53% to Indigenous peoples since 2005
- Partnerships with northern colleges and training providers

## Business development

- More total than 11,000 contracts to northern companies
- \$354 million to Indigenous companies since 2010 (30% of contracts)





# Strategic Initiatives

- The Program manages active mining insolvencies and leads commercialization discussions with potential investors.
- Some sites have remaining resources or exploration potential of interest to the private sector, which can reduce federal liabilities.
- The Program also participates in negotiations with the Government of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut on matters related to post-devolution and Nunavut Devolution, respectively.





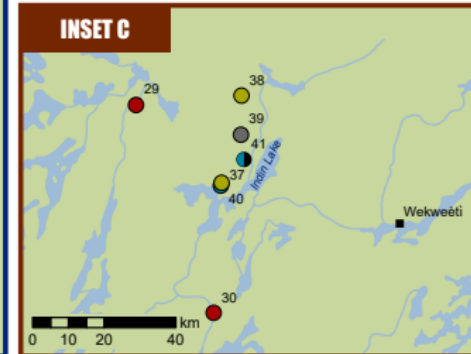
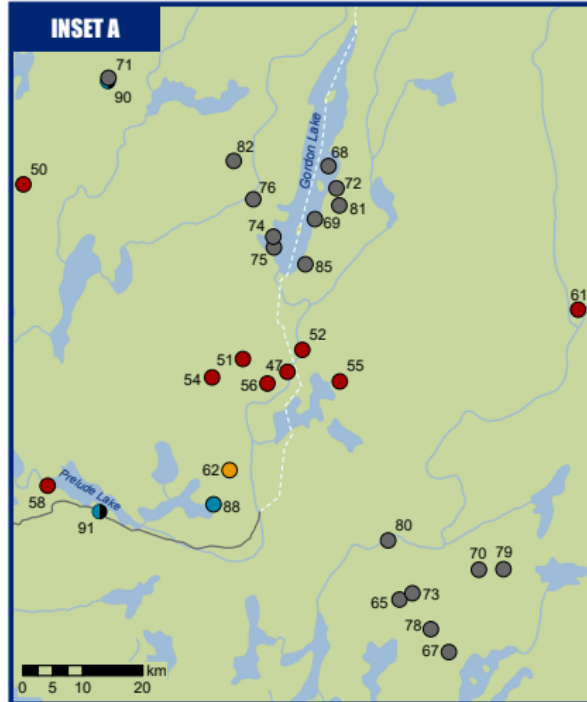
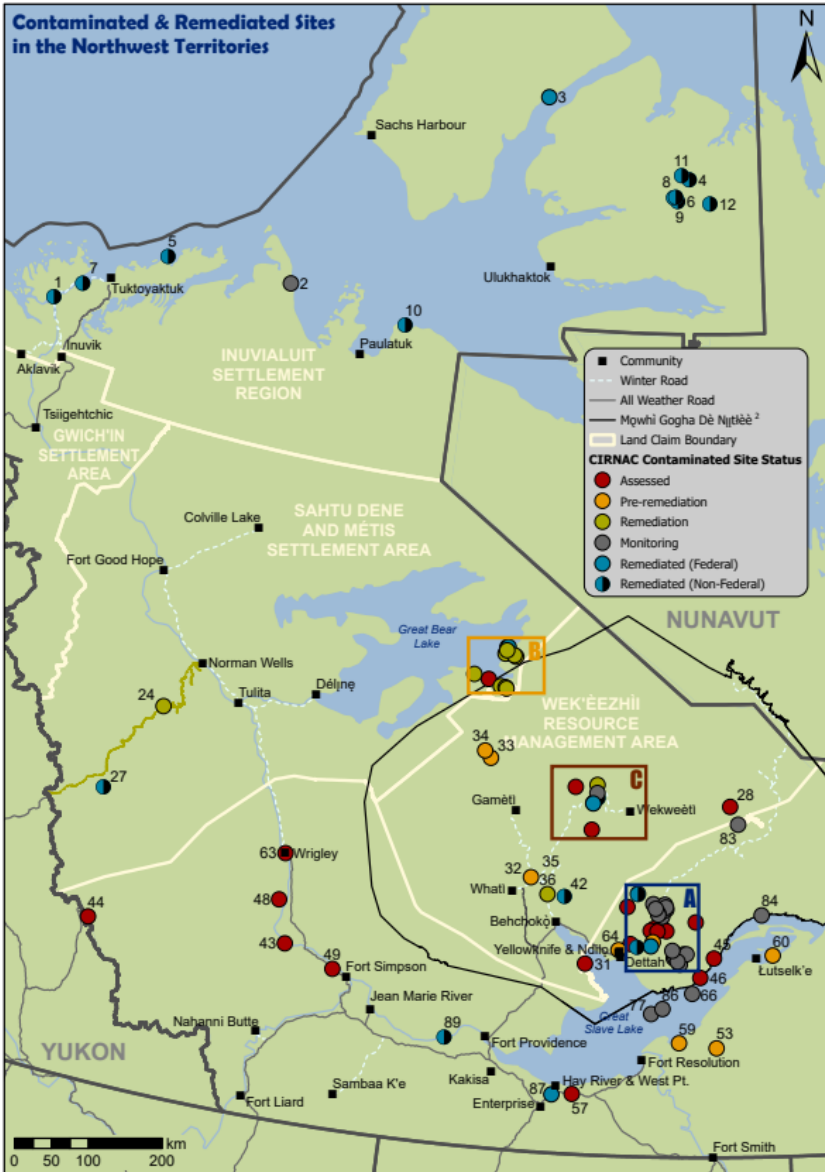
# FCSAP Site Successes to Date

	Remediated and Closed Sites	Sites in Long- term Monitoring	Expenditures since 2005-06
Northwest Territories	36	28	\$377.2 M
Yukon	2	0	\$21.8 M
Nunavut	25	12	\$172.5 M
Total	63	40	\$571.5 M





# Northwest Territories



- Inuvialuit Settlement Region**
- 1. BAR-C - Tununuk (Imperial Oil Ltd.)
  - 2. Horton River BAR E
  - 3. Johnson Point
  - 4. Area #21 Exploration Camp
  - 5. Altkinson Point BAR-D
  - 6. Grand Roy Mines Camp
  - 7. Kittigazuit Bay
  - 8. Muskox Mines Airstrip
  - 9. Muskox Mines Camp
  - 10. Pearce Point PIN A
  - 11. Victoria Island
  - 12. Western Mining Co. Camp

- Sahtu Settlement Area**
- 13. Great Bear Lake Outfitter Camp
  - 14. Bear Portal
  - 15. Contact Lake Mine
  - 16. Contact Lake Portal
  - 17. El Bonanza Mine
  - 18. Mystery Island
  - 19. Sawmill Bay
  - 20. Silver Bear - Norex/ Graham Vein
  - 21. Terra - North Mine
  - 22. Silver Bear - Northrim
  - 23. Silver Bear - Smallwood
  - 24. Canol Trail (24 sites)
  - 25. Port Radium
  - 26. Glacier Bay
  - 27. June Lake

- Wek'èezhii/Tiçho Resource Management Area**
- 28. Courageous Lake
  - 29. Norris Lake
  - 30. Wijnnedi Lake
  - 31. Wrigley Point
  - 32. Horn Plateau/Marian Lake Area - REX
  - 33. Hottah Mine
  - 34. Indore Mine
  - 35. Rayrock Mine (Kwetjraab)
  - 36. Sun Rose Claim
  - 37. Diversified<sup>1</sup>
  - 38. Spider Lake<sup>1</sup>
  - 39. Colomac Mine
  - 40. North Inca Mine
  - 41. Chalco Lake
  - 42. Russell Lake/Marian Lake Area

- Areas with ongoing negotiations**
- 43. Camsell Bend
  - 44. Cantung Mine
  - 45. Copper Pass
  - 46. De Staffany Mine
  - 47. Dome Lake
  - 48. FPC Tenco Root River I-60
  - 49. Highway #1 km 508
  - 50. Johnson Lake
  - 51. Mitchell Lake Mine
  - 52. Myrt Lake
  - 53. O'Connor Lake
  - 54. Old Parr and Liten Mine
  - 55. Peg Tantalum Mine
  - 56. Pensive Lake Mine
  - 57. Pine Point Railbed

- 58. River Lake Portage
- 59. Rocher River
- 60. Stark Lake
- 61. Sunset Lake Mine
- 62. Thompson-Lundmark Mine
- 63. Wrigley Dismantled Refueling Station
- 64. Giant Mine
- 65. Beaulieu Mine
- 66. Blanchet Island
- 67. Bullmoose Lake Mine
- 68. Burnt Island
- 69. Camlaren Mine
- 70. Chipp Lake Mine
- 71. Discovery Mine
- 72. Goodrock Mine
- 73. Joon Mine
- 74. Knight Bay - Kidney Pond
- 75. Knight Bay - Treacy
- 76. Murray Lake
- 77. Outpost Island
- 78. Spectrum Lake
- 79. Ruth Gold Mine
- 80. Storm Mine
- 81. Storm Property
- 82. Try Me
- 83. Tundra Mine
- 84. Waldron River
- 85. West Bay Mine
- 86. Wilson Island
- 87. Frobisher Gas Wells
- 88. Hidden Lake Mine
- 89. Axe Point
- 90. Discovery Mine Power Line
- 91. Ingraham Trail km 35.4

Map notes: (1) Conveyance and Reclamation Agreement with Nighthawk Gold Corp; (2) Mqwhi based on metres and bounds description in Tiçho Agreement.





# Northwest Territories FCSAP Project Portfolio - 2023-2024

## Remediation Planning

- Thompson Lundmark
- Pine Point Rail Bed
- Rocher River
- Stark Lake

## Remediation Implementation

- O'Connor Lake Mine
- Rayrock Mine

## Adaptive Management (Pre-LTM)

- Bullmoose-Ruth (7 sites) – Remediated 2018

## Long Term Monitoring (LTM)

- Tundra Mine
- Gordon Lake (9 sites)
- Great Slave Lake (4 sites)
- Colomac Mine
- Port Radium Mine

*Other sites in portfolio do not require monitoring in 2023-24*





## Remediated Sites and Major Milestones

- In the NWT, CARD has already remediated ~54% of its portfolio of confirmed sites (62/115 sites) that were identified in the NWT Devolution Agreement.
- During the current Phase of FCSAP, we expect the following 13 sites will have completed Step 9 (remediation and confirmatory sampling complete):
  - 4 Rayrock sites (all except Rayrock itself will require another year)
  - 1 O'Connor Lake Mine site
  - 1 Pine Point Railbed site
  - 7 Bullmoose/Ruth sites (currently in Step 9/adaptive management)

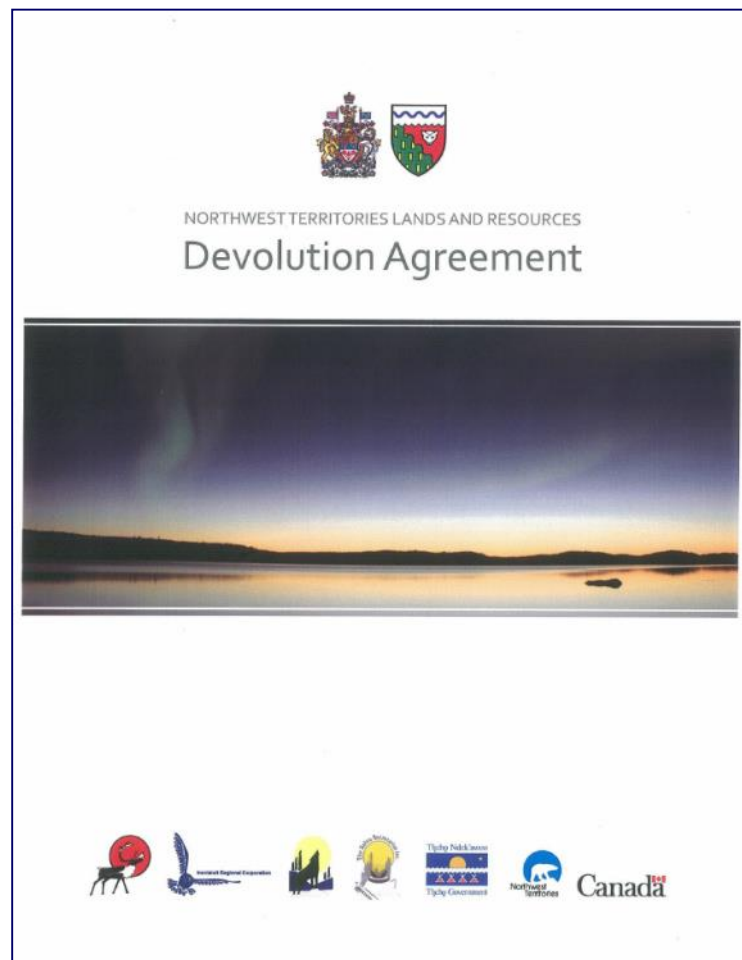






# Waste Sites and the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement

- Devolve (from Canada) the administration and control of public lands, resources, and rights in respect of waters in the Northwest Territories to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories
- Effective date April 1, 2014
- Chapter 6 is the Waste Sites Chapter (Waste Sites = contaminated sites)
- Contaminants and Remediation Division (CARD) is Responsible for Managing Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Contaminated Sites/Waste Sites in the NWT
- The Waste Sites Management Committee (WSMC) includes the Parties to the Devolution Agreement





# Waste Sites Management Committee

- Membership includes all signatories to the Devolution Agreement – Inuvialuit, Gwich'in, Sahtu, Tlicho, NWTMN, and several community-level organizations (SRFN, DKFN, ADK, KFN). Committee chaired by CIRNAC.
- Provides an opportunity for Parties to review, discuss and consider, and provide advice and recommendations to Canada regarding Waste Sites.
- Meets at least twice annually.

**Schedule 8**  
**WASTE SITES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (WSMC)**  
**Terms of Reference**  
**(section 6.72)**

1. Purpose:

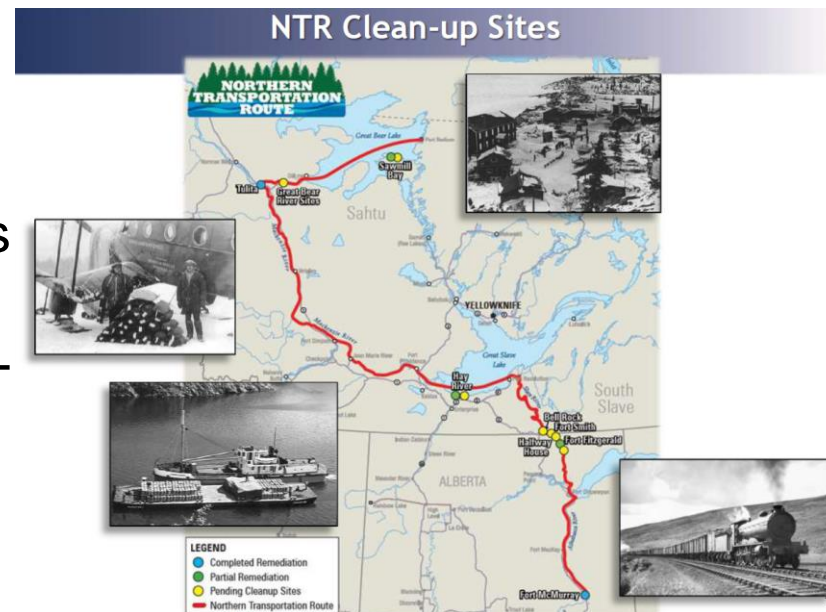
The WSMC shall be established as an intergovernmental committee created to monitor the implementation of the Waste Sites chapter ("**Chapter 6**") of the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement ("**Agreement**") including to review, discuss and consider, and provide advice and recommendations to Canada in respect of, the Management of Waste Sites for which Canada remains legally responsible, in accordance with Chapter 6 (such waste sites in these Terms of Reference, "**Waste Sites**"). Defined terms used but not defined in these Terms of Reference shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Agreement.





# NWT Waste Sites Requiring Remediation

- 97 Waste Sites in the Devolution Agreement
- 93 are CIRNAC's, 1 is ECCCC's (Mould Bay) and 3 are AECL (NTR)
- The Waste Sites remain under the administration and control of Canada and were excluded from transfer to the GNWT
- The exclusion boundaries were mostly matched to mineral claim boundaries
- Waste Sites located on settlement lands were not transferred to the GNWT
- Contemplated transfer of sites to GNWT once remediated





# Key Contacts

## Northwest Territories

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