

Consultation Report

To: Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN)

From: Mount Nansen Remediation Limited Partnership (MNRLP)

Date: November 27, 2024

RE: Dan Yedek'i Consultation Report – October 1, 2024 – Site Tour

1. INTRODUCTION

LSCFN developed the Dan Yedek'i (Consultation and Accommodation) Plan for the Mount Nansen Remediation Project on April 13, 2022. The Dan Yedek'i sets out the requirements for consultation and accommodation with LSCFN on projects, and for the Mount Nansen Remediation Project. This includes meeting structures, supports, and how consultation reports should be structured. The Dan Yedek'i states that:

The proponent should provide accounts of what they heard from LSCFN and Citizens, how it was received, processed and incorporated, highlighting LSCFN priorities and key concerns. The report should incorporate all questions, concerns, recommendations, and relevant discussions on the project brought up by LSCFN citizens. There should also be a record or report that includes how LSCFN's feedback, questions, concerns, recommendations were addressed and incorporated into the project. A rationale for why or why not LSCFN's comments/concerns were included should also be included in the report. After each consultation event with LSCFN (house visits, meetings, etc.) a consultation report should be created and shared with LSCFN and its citizens. This report should be reviewed by LSCFN prior to any public release of it.

The following is the Consultation Report for the Mount Nansen Site tour held on October 1, 2024. Nine (9) community members were present for the meeting, and six (6) members of MNRLP presented about the Mount Nansen Remediation Project (herein 'the Project') and led the tour. Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) was also represented by two people. The tour was held from approximately 12:45 am to 3:30 pm. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The site tour itinerary was approximately as follows:

- **12:25 AM:** Arrived on site at the bunkhouse. Introductions and visitor safety orientation completed. MNRLP provided overall context on the project before some general Q&A.
- **1:15 pm:** Drove to the TSF and toured the former location of mobile water treatment plant (WTP), tailings storage facility (TSF), seepage pond, and existing WTP, including discharge location for treated water from the WTP. Discussed WTP operations, site water management, and remediation plan for the tailings and TSF.
- **2:15 pm:** Drove to the Open Pit. Discussed the remediation plan for waste on-site.
- **3:00 pm:** Drove to two vegetation trial plots in Open Pit/Waste Rock area. Discussed the revegetation plan and mill demolition planning.
- **3:50 pm:** LSCFN tour group left site.

2. WHAT MNRLP HEARD/HOW WE ANSWERED

Table 2-1 includes accounts of what MNRLP heard from LSCFN, how it was received, processed, and incorporated. Section 4 summarizes the LSCFN priorities and key concerns. Table 2-1 incorporates questions, concerns, recommendations, and relevant discussions on the project brought up by LSCFN citizens. It also includes how LSCFN’s feedback, questions, concerns, recommendations were addressed and incorporated into the project, and a rationale for why or why not LSCFN’s comments/concerns were included.

Table 2-1: What MNRLP Heard and Answered

What MNRLP Heard	What MNRLP Answered
Is MNRLP undergoing exploratory drilling for resource development on site?	MNRLP confirms there are no current or future plans for resource exploration drilling. All drilling conducted in 2023 and 2024 for was for investigative purposes to inform development of the Project Proposal and support the Remediation of the Project. This included groundwater, contaminated site and permafrost investigations.
Are you going to open up the mine again?	The scope of MNRLP’s contract with CIRNAC is to complete remediation and MNRLP has no plans to restart mining.
What kind of jobs/training opportunities exist?	We have a full crew of Care & Maintenance site staff including three LSCFN citizens. (Note: a fourth LSCFN citizen was hired following the tour). However, there are often training opportunities for Water Treatment Plant operators and occasionally general labour positions. There are continuous environmental monitoring jobs/training, if LSCFN citizens have relevant experience or interest. MNRLP continues to coordinate with the LSCFN Mount Nansen Coordinator, Bev Brown, on opportunities.
What is the water you are treating and is that water dangerous?	The main constituents of concern (contaminants) in the tailings pond water are sulfate, manganese, cadmium, zinc, and arsenic. Arsenic is a common mineral in areas where there is gold, and occurs naturally in the Mount Nansen area. There are a few metals and minerals that are not treated, including sulfate. MNRLP is currently working with LSCFN to define water quality objectives for the site to be included in a renewed Water Licence.
The TSF dam appears to be old and not up to modern standards.	Yes, the TSF was not constructed to modern standards and we would not build a structure like this today. We have seen this across the country with tailings dams from this era and have completed many reclamation projects on similar dams. One unique aspect of this project is the ability to relocate the tailings and decommission/remove the dam structure, instead of needing to manage it in the long-term.
Have there been stabilization studies on the dam?	Yes, and these are currently being updated in 2024. Annually, a geotechnical engineer completes two Dam Safety Inspections (DSIs) each year (spring and fall), data is collected monthly from the dam instruments which are reviewed by the geotechnical engineer, and every five years a Dam Safety Review (DSR) is completed. The DSR is essentially an audit by third party engineer. In some cases, the DSI and DSR reports includes recommendations, and MNRLP commits to working with LSCFN and CIRNAC on the management approach.
Can you drink the water coming from the WTP?	It is not advisable to drink the water from the WTP or within Dome Creek. MNRLP is currently treating water to achieve the thresholds established in the Care and Maintenance Water License. Some of the constituents identified in this license are above drinking water quality guidelines
Will the tailings pond be fenced off to protect wildlife?	The construction of a fence around the tailings storage facility and the seepage pond is being planned for the 2025 field season.

What MNRLP Heard	What MNRLP Answered
Are wildlife observed on site and are they recorded? Is caribou ever seen on site?	<p>Yes, various small and large wildlife are observed on site and along the Nansen Access Road by MNRLP personnel. The larger wildlife and wildlife known to have larger ranges are recorded in the Mount Nansen Site Wildlife Log.</p> <p>MNRLP shared the Wildlife Log with Chief Tom at the end of the tour. The Wildlife Log includes observations of caribou in the region.</p>
Are the CCME guidelines for protection of human life?	<p>Yes, the CCME guidelines include some provisions for the protection of human life. These guidelines are designed to safeguard human health and aquatic life by setting acceptable concentration levels for various contaminants in different environmental media, such as water, soil, sediment, and air. The process involves rigorous scientific research and risk assessments to ensure that the guidelines are protective of human health and aquatic resources. Additionally, Health Canada provides specific guidelines for safe drinking water guidelines.</p>
What about the standing water in the open pit?	<p>The water in the open pit is monitored regularly. There are ongoing discussions on treating additional water sources on site, such as the open pit water. This will be included as part of our Water Licence renewal application currently being prepared.</p>
If the open pit water got treated and pumped through and you had a dry basin, do you still need a Water License to move the tailings?	<p>Yes, even though in that scenario we would not be directly depositing into a water body, the tailings deposit into the open pit is still an activity that requires a Water Licence.</p>
Does permitting cover Victoria Creek?	<p>Yes, Victoria Creek is monitored regularly for water quality.</p>
Where do MNRLP project personnel live?	<p>A number of key project personnel are based in the Yukon, including the MNRLP Project Coordinator, the permitting lead, the socioeconomic lead, the permafrost lead, and environmental monitoring staff. Ensero Solutions is a Yukon company with an office in Whitehorse. A few senior project management personnel reside outside the Yukon, however make frequent visits to Yukon throughout the year to visit site and attend project meetings.</p>
What about global warming?	<p>Part of the Environmental Assessment (EA) considers climate change in the effects assessment and incorporates predictions of future weather events. This is and will be further considered in engineering of the reclamation landforms.</p>
Are the solar panels useful in the winter?	<p>The battery can store some energy from sunlight it receives in the winter, but the largest benefit is in the summer when there is longer daylight.</p>

4. KEY TOPICS

- Legacy of mining impacts on LSCFN
- Future mining/exploration
- Dam stability
- Jobs/Training
- Water quality and drinking water
- Remediation Project Schedule