



Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees

JS BULLETIN

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Building Capacity Among Inuvialuit Youth...

As oil & gas activities heat up in the Beaufort-Delta, there has been a lot of talk and much co-operative action to quickly develop needed programs to train a Northern aboriginal workforce to meet the increasing demands for jobs on seismic lines and production rigs. However to date, in our view, not enough attention has been paid to supporting Inuvialuit youth to finish high school and continue with their studies to become the ISR's future resource managers and scientists. The Canadian Polar Commission's 2001 report entitled *Indicators of Polar Knowledge Report 1999* paints a grim picture of post-secondary involvement by northern youth today. In 1998, only 197 students from the Northwest Territories were enrolled in post secondary university studies.

The Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) and its co-management partner Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO) have long recognized this need, offering the FJMC Student Mentoring Program to Inuvialuit youth for the past 5 years. This summer, a total of four students were enrolled in our program, with 3 completing their terms. Thanks to our students Northern Beattie, Mary Anne Francey, and Kyle Kisoun Taylor for a great summer of science related activities.

Funding and support for the Program in 2001 was provided by: Fisheries Joint Management Committee, Joint Secretariat, DFO, GNWT-Education & Culture, Enbridge, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), Parks Canada, GNWT - Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development, Aurora Research Institute, Geological Survey of Canada, Inuvialuit Environmental & Geotechnical, Kavik-AXYS, and William & Clara Day. To learn more about our successful student program visit FJMC's website at www.fjmc.ca.

- Ed McLean, FJMC



2001 FJMC Mentoring Students (l to r): Mary Anne Francey, Kyle Kisoun Taylor, and Northern Beattie.

New Staffing at the Joint

As predicted in the last issue, the increasing pace of exploration activity in the region is keeping all of us busier. In order to somewhat alleviate this increased workload stress, we have recently hired the first of three new technical positions to assist our present staff. This has been with the assistance of Indian & Northern Affairs (DIAND), and by the time these words are read, Robin Fonger will be in place. She will be involved primarily with community capacity-building (for an idea of why this is necessary, see photo in the pipeline story on back page). We also welcome Diane Dillon as the new HTC Administrative Support Officer, and student Mary Anne Francey as our new casual Office Clerk.



Christmas is coming soon and hard working Joint staff are eagerly anticipating what has become a longstanding Joint tradition of Holiday breakfast by Norm!

In the "musical jobs" department, we welcome the new Game Council RP Nelson Perry, who has replaced Katherine Thiesenhausen, who has moved over to replace Brian Johnston as the new WMAC (NWT) RP. Brian has moved on to Parks Canada. JS Chairs and Staff will be undertaking an IFA Workshop Community Tour in January (Jan 7-14), the ISR Climate Change Project (ITC/IISD) has been delayed but should be starting any time soon, and a Sea-Ice variability workshop with Inuvialuit emphasis is being planned for some time in the next few months - just to show that we do have some tasks that are not Development driven!

- Norm Snow

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How Much Activity is Too Much?

With all the natural gas exploration programs in the Mackenzie Delta Region last winter, the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) and the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) have heard concerns from community members about the amount of activity that is occurring and what effect the activity might have on the environment and harvesting. This has encouraged the EISC and the EIRB to look more closely at cumulative effects.

Cumulative effects are the environmental effects of one development in combination with the effects of all other past, present and reasonably foreseeable developments. In simpler terms, cumulative effects examine how much activity the land can withstand before there starts to be a significant effect on its resources. Both the EISC and the EIRB consider cumulative effects when they screen or review developments. Assessing whether a proposed development could have a significant negative cumulative effect presents a difficult judgment call for the EISC and the EIRB given the complexity of natural systems and land use activities. To help themselves become better equipped for dealing with cumulative effects, the EISC and the EIRB have been working on the following projects.

KAVIK-AXYS Contract

The EISC and the EIRB have commissioned a consulting firm to do some work on cumulative effects. The first phase of the contract involves the review of tools that are currently and potentially available for examining cumulative



Examining cumulative effects in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region includes looking at the balance between development and harvesting.



effects. The second phase involves the preparation of guidelines for the EISC and the EIRB to use when they are considering the cumulative effects of proposed developments. Also as part of the second phase, guidelines for developers are being produced that will help potential developers or their consultants to write the cumulative effects sections of their submissions to the EISC or the EIRB. Three reports from this initiative are available on the internet (www.bmmda.nt.ca, go to Downloads, then ISR) or from the Joint Secretariat.

ALCES (A Landscape Cumulative Effects Simulator)

The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs has offered a site licence for the ALCES model to a multi-stakeholder group in the Mackenzie Delta Region, including the Joint Secretariat, the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development. The model has been offered to help address the cumulative effects associated with the increased hydrocarbon activity in the Region. ALCES is a computer model that takes into consideration several different land-uses, and natural components of the environment. It provides users

predictions about what the landscape will look like in the future if certain activities, such as natural gas exploration, take place. While the group has a good start on making the model operational for the region, the majority of the work remains to be completed. The success of the model will depend on the quality of information that is entered into the model and continued cooperation between many different groups and individuals.

What the Future Holds

With activity in the Delta not likely to slow down anytime soon, cumulative effects will become an increasingly important issue for everyone involved in resource management in the region, perhaps most importantly the beneficiaries who ultimately will have to live with the consequences of increased activity. To date the EISC and the EIRB have been the bodies spearheading the above-mentioned initiatives, but cumulative effects is and will continue to be an important issue not only for the EISC and the EIRB, but for all individuals, agencies and organizations with an interest in resource management in the Mackenzie Delta Region.

- Eric Chernoff, EIRB



Inuvialuit Game Council

The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) represents the collective Inuvialuit interest in wildlife. This also includes the environment that the wildlife is dependent upon. The IGC includes one voting member from each of our local Hunters & Trappers Committees' (HTCs) Board of Directors and a member-at-large that can come from the local Board of Directors or the local membership at large.

Although we are not a part of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) umbrella, we do work closely with the IRC on issues of mutual interest and concern where and when needed. This includes the *National Firearms Act*, the proposed *Species at Risk Act*, Yukon Development Assessment Process, just to name a few.

We are also working with the exploration com-

panies within the ISR on trying to minimize the impact on our harvesting practices, the wildlife within the ISR, and the environment. This will include some form of compensation where it has been identified, wildlife research, and the monitoring that our relevant HTCs provide to the exploration as they are mandated under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

We are in the process of setting up a wildlife monitoring workshop that will provide much needed training in firearm safety, first aid, and the roles and responsibilities of a monitor when in the field.

The IGC is also working with the HTCs, the Inuvialuit Land Administration (ILA), and regulatory bodies such as Indian & Northern Affairs (DIAND), Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) and Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) to try

and coordinate the inspections that take place within each exploration program.

We are occasionally required to travel outside of the ISR to explain our harvesting rights under the IFA at various territorial, national and international forums. These sessions establish the process for drafting up legislation that may otherwise conflict with our rights, and we have to ensure that our rights are protected.

The IGC would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Nelson Perry as the new acting Resource Person (RP) for the Inuvialuit Game Council.

– **Nelson Perry**

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Environmental Impact Review Board

No recently proposed developments have been referred to the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) for public review, but the Board has been keeping busy through their involvement with issues such as cumulative effects (see cover page story). Here are some of the other things keeping the EIRB's hands full.

Criteria for Husky Lakes

According to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), the EIRB is responsible for setting criteria for the Husky Lakes Area (Area Number 2, Annex D, IFA). The criteria will establish acceptable environmental standards for developments in the Area, and they will evaluate a developer's standard of performance should any development occur.

The EIRB undertook the development of these criteria in hopes that the criteria will prove useful in the land use planning process that is currently being undertaken by the Inuvialuit Land Administration for Husky Lakes. Anyone wishing to comment on a draft of these criteria is encouraged to contact Eric Chernoff at the Joint Secretariat.



The EIRB carries out detailed environmental impact assessment and public review of development projects that are referred to it by the EISC (Photo courtesy of Parks Canada).

Northern Impact Assessment Seminar

The EIRB organized the Northern Impact Assessment Seminar in late October 2001 for examining common issues amongst those with an interest in impact assessment in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon. In attendance were representatives from impact

assessments groups, such as the EIRB, regulatory agencies, advisory groups, industry, non-governmental organizations and consulting firms.

The idea for the Seminar arose from organizations, such as the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), who meet regularly to discuss common issues in impact assessment. It was recognized that organizations like IAIA were useful, however, it was noted that the topics they discussed were not always relevant to what is happening north of 60. Future gatherings similar to the Seminar may be organized through a newly forming northern affiliate of IAIA.

Reappointments

In June 2001 Robert Horal was reappointed for another three-year term as Chairman of the EIRB. Peter Bannon, Tom Butters and Andrew Williams were also reappointed in the summer of 2001 as members of the EIRB for three-year terms.

– **Eric Chernoff**

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Environmental Impact Screening Committee

Screening Business

The Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) has been extremely busy over the past six months – holding nine meetings and toting around 6-inch meeting binders. On several occasions, the EISC found it necessary to defer consideration of developments to allow HTCs or other groups additional time to comment. Some proponents were required to resubmit because their original proposals were not complete. One such proposal came from Leader Fishing to conduct an exploratory fishery; they chose not to resubmit this year. The other companies did resubmit and are mentioned below.

In spring, the EISC received numerous research proposals as people prepared for the summer field season. The EISC approved submissions from Laurentian University (paleoecology), the University of Ottawa (environmental history), the University of Sussex (geology), Parks Canada (archaeology, vegetation, Dall's sheep), the Geological Survey of Canada (geology), the

Aurora Research Institute (contaminants), Japex Canada (gas hydrate), and AEC West (heritage resources). The EISC also decided that developments from Petro-Canada (gravel quarries), Anderson (summer marine seismic program), Shell (water permit), and Nahanni River Adventures (filming project) would have no significant negative environmental impact.

The summer meetings were also dominated by research submissions, this time concerning proposed gas exploration or pipelines. The EISC approved programs submitted by Inuvialuit Environmental and Geotechnical (biophysical and aquatic surveys), Tera Environmental Consultants (biophysical baseline studies), the Alaska Gas Producers Pipeline Team (marine, coastal and terrestrial environmental studies), and the Mackenzie Delta Project Team (aquatic resources plan). The EISC also approved submissions from the Geological Survey of Canada (coastal hazards, sea-level change, climate impacts, offshore technologies), Arctic

Oil & Gas Services (camp airstrip extension), the Canadian Coast Guard (navigational aids), Anderson (water use), and the Inuvialuit Land Administration (heritage site inspections).

In fall, gas exploration companies submitted proposals in readiness for the coming operating season. The EISC screened and decided that the seismic programs from Chevron (Ogruknang, Tumma, Ellice, Mallik, North Langley), and AEC West (Burnt Lake) would have no significant negative environmental impact. There was a similar finding for Petro-Canada's Napartok drilling program, Shell's water licence application, and Anadarko's Immerk field reconnaissance program.

Reappointment

Marsha Branigan was reappointed for a second three-year term as the GNWT Member.

– **Linda Graf**

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Fisheries Joint Management Committee

West Side Fishing Plan Under Construction

In January 2001, the West Side Working Group was established to coordinate the development of a new community-driven integrated fisheries management plan for North Slope rivers and streams of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region west of the Mackenzie Delta to the Alaskan border. The Group is chaired by Carol Arey of Aklavik and currently has 4 members representing the Aklavik HTC and Elders Committee (*Danny C. Gordon, Jacob Archie, Donald Aviugana, and Rhoda Kayotuk*), 2 members from the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) (*Billy Day and Burton Ayles*), 1 member from Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) (*Sam Stephenson*), and 1 member from Parks Canada (*Ian McDonald*). Since their first meeting, the Working Group also met in June and October, developing terms of reference, a work plan, operating budget, and a proposal to conduct a traditional knowledge fishing study for the North Slope in the new year.

DFO Reallocates Staff to Better Serve the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)

Recently, the FJMC has been quite concerned



West Side Working Group members met in Aklavik in October to plan a TEK fishing study.

for, and critical of Fisheries & Oceans Canada's ability to meet the challenges related to the accelerating pace of hydrocarbon development in the Beaufort-Delta. However, in September the FJMC was very pleased to learn of the Department's plan for a substantial re-deployment of DFO Western Arctic staff to this region to better serve the ISR, including reassignment of 3 habitat biologists dedicated to reviewing oil & gas proposals and a commitment for more enforcement officers to inspect industry sites to ensure compliance with fisheries guide-

lines.

2001 Beluga Monitor Program

FJMC's annual Beluga Monitor Program has finished another successful season and the total number of whales landed by subsistence harvesters in 2001 is about the same as last summer. In addition to recording harvest information, taking whale measurements and samples, our monitors also kept track of aircraft traffic over and around whale camps. Beluga monitors logged over 450 sightings of airplanes and helicopters while they were working at whale camps around the ISR this summer. The volume of air traffic logged this season was over three times the amount recorded last year, an increase possibly due in part to oil and gas scoping and research activities along the coast. Thanks to all our beluga monitors for their hard work in 2001: Joseph Felix Jr., Chris Felix, George Edwards, Nellie Arey, Ned Kayotuk, James Rogers, Bill Wolki, and Peter Ruben.

– Ed McLean

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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

Shared Wildlife Management & Endangered Species

Many species move in and out of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) during their seasonal migrations (e.g. Porcupine caribou), or because they have large territories that include areas outside the ISR (e.g. North Beaufort polar bear population). The WMAC (NWT) shares management of these transboundary species with other regions. This sometimes requires meeting with these regions outside the ISR. Two examples were the August RENEW workshop in Ottawa, and the September Wildlife Management Boards' Co-Chairs meeting in Yellowknife, both of which Larry Carpenter, Chair, WMAC (NWT), attended. RENEW stands for Recovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife. It's particularly important for the ISR



Trevor Lucas and Dick Kerbes at a research marker at the Egg River Snow Goose colony, Banks Island, June 2001.

as the High Arctic and Banks Island populations of Peary Caribou are listed as endangered. Federal and territorial legislation on endangered species is being developed. The WMAC (NWT) has been commenting on this legislation and involved in efforts to incorporate traditional knowledge into the process. Council representatives accompanied John Nagy, RWED, to Sachs Harbour and Holman to discuss John's July 2001 Banks Island and NW Victoria Island Peary caribou and muskox survey results with the communities. Reporting back to the users about research is an important part of wildlife management.

Quotas

At the December meeting the Council will discuss quotas and any requests from the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) for changes. The WMAC (NWT) recommends to the Territorial Minister of Resources, Wildlife & Economic

Development whether harvesting quotas should be adjusted, based on population information and subsistence needs. Quotas help ensure that wildlife is still around for future generations.

Reappointment of Members

Both Inuvialuit members Frank Pokiak of Tuktoyaktuk and William Day of Inuvik were reappointed in October by the IGC for another three-year term on WMAC (NWT). Their continuing dedication to wildlife management on behalf of all Inuvialuit is much appreciated.

New Resource Person

The WMAC (NWT) bids a fond farewell to their Resource Person (RP), Brian Johnston. The Council thanked Brian for his dedicated service to them for the past four years. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours. The new RP is Katherine Thiesenhausen, who spent the last two years as Game Council RP.

– Katherine Thiesenhausen

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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NS)

WMAC (NS) held its fall meeting in Whitehorse, in mid-October. In addition to dealing with its regular business, the Council received an update on the review of the Herschel Island Management Plan from Dave Ladret of the Yukon Government. Richard Gordon, the Park's Senior Warden, presented a summary of the activities on the island last summer and explained what was planned for the winter. Members of the Alaska Pipeline Producers Team gave a presentation on the fieldwork they undertook in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region over the summer and fall. Don Toews provided the Council with a briefing on the Yukon Government's initiatives to implement the *Species at Risk Act*. Council members discussed a number of projects that WMAC (NS) would like to conduct in the next few months. These include a traditional knowledge assessment of the Yukon North Slope Species Status Reports, and the updating and conversion of two information databases.

WMAC (NS) hosted a Muskox Management Workshop in Aklavik, October 24-26. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together community, co-management board and government representatives to exchange scientific and traditional knowledge about muskox behaviour and biology. The workshop was also an opportunity to review and expand the scope of the Yukon North Slope Muskox Management Plan to include all interests within the Canadian range of the population, and to make recommendations for a harvest quota and regional allocation. Participants included representatives of WMAC (NWT), the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), the Aklavik HTC, the Yukon and NWT governments, Parks Canada, the Aklavik, North Yukon, and Fort McPherson Renewable Resource Councils and the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation. Many Aklavik community members also attended. The workshop benefited from the special

knowledge and experience of David Ruben (Paulatuk HTC) and Peter Esau (Sachs Harbour HTC) who were in attendance to educate participants about muskox management and harvesting. More information on the North Slope muskox can be found at our recently developed website www.taiga.net/wmac/species/muskox/index.html.

WMAC (NS) member Herbert Felix attended the Annual Meeting of the Northern Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network, in November, in Yellowknife. Topics covered during his three-day meeting included a review of other northern regional ecological monitoring initiatives and the role, responsibilities, and resource requirements for EMAN-North over the next few years. There was also a special session on water monitoring.

– Aileen Horler

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Joint Secretariat provides administrative and technical support to the wildlife and environmental co-management boards set up pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and to the Inuvialuit Game Council.

Upcoming Meetings...

EISC	December 3 - 5 January 14 -16 February 27 - March 1	Inuvik Inuvik Inuvik
EIRB	February (tentative)	location tba
FJMC	January 6 - 8 March 4 -5 March 18 -19	DFO-Winnipeg location tba Inuvik
WMAC (NWT)	December 10-11 March (tentative)	Inuvik location tba
WMAC (NS)	Dec 10 -11	Inuvik & Aklavik
IGC	December 11-14 March (tentative)	Inuvik location tba

New Staff & Positions...

- Nelson Perry, Resource Person, IGC
- Katherine Thiesenhausen, Resource Person, WMAC (NWT)
- Robin Fonger, HTC Technical Resource Person, JS
- Diane Dillon, HTC Administrative Support Officer, JS
- Mary Anne Francey, Casual Office Clerk, JS

HTC Support News

Hello everyone, lots has happened since Mrs. Price's departure from this position. She now is the chair for Tumitchiat Outfitters and the vice chair for the HTC. The good news is that we will be getting an HTC Technical Resource Person starting in November. Her name is Robin Fonger.

I have been very busy since I took over from Esther. We have new people working for the HTC's. Lillian Kanayok in Holman, Agnes Tardiff and Faye Gordon from Aklavik, Rebecca Day from Inuvik, Bill Ruben in Paulatuk, Eleanor Ross in Tuk and Florence Elanik from Sachs and of course myself Diane Dillon as the HTC Administrative Support Officer.

This fall, I attended the Game Council meeting in Yellowknife where I reported on the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistant Program (IHAP). It has already been completed for the year in each community but for those new people, the IHAP Committee meets once a year,

reviews applications submitted by harvesters, and the board makes the decision on the applicants and maintains a list.

There were complaints about problem bears in Paulatuk this summer and around the Delta bears were breaking into cabins.

We had some troubles with Joe Upien's ski-doo. The supplier made a mistake in Yellowknife and the ski-doo never made the barge. There was a bill to pay for freight.

We will be holding board development training for each community some time in January or February.

Our family has lost a member, Roger Carter Dillon passed away on October 15, 2001 he will be sadly missed. God bless everybody.

Ilaatnilu,

– Diane Dillon

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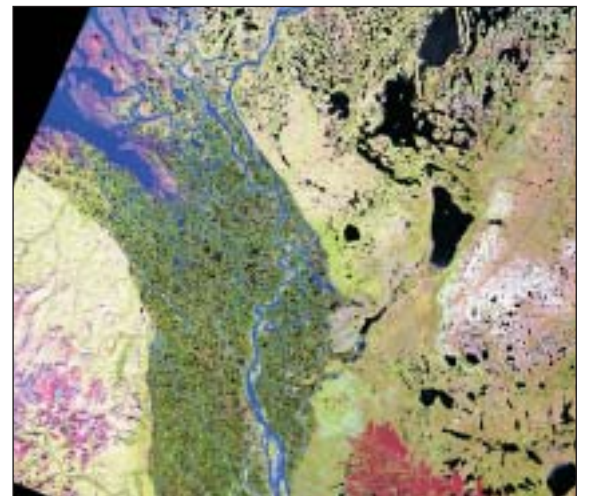
GIS Services

Todd Continues Fisheries Work

The highlight of the summer was getting out of the office and doing some real work. As part of Fisheries & Oceans' (DFO) Husky Lakes research program, funded by the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC), my job was to run the black box that collected all the bathymetry and trying to stay out of the way the rest of the time. I had a fantastic time, not to mention producing some quality data. Kudos to Junior Felix, Douglas Panaktalok, Freddie Gruben, and Forest Day for being an awesome crew. The other highlight is the completion of 2 years of seal tagging. Be on the lookout for *super-cool* maps sometime in November (at schools and HTCs). Other than that, things are going well and work continues on other DFO and FJMC initiatives.

Welcome to Amir

Joining the Joint Secretariat in June 2001 as the Geographic Information System (GIS) Operator opened for me a new window to a wonderful part of the world. My arrival coincided with a meeting to discuss ALCES – a computer model- intended to be used as a strategic planning tool to help resource managers predict possible implications of current and proposed levels of land-use activities. If



Satellite view of the Mackenzie Delta

things go well, there will be lots of data acquisition and processing jobs in the future. As the Delta gas companies increase their activity in winter so does the GIS section. We produce maps showing proposed development areas for each proposal that is submitted to the EISC. Also as one of our priorities the Community Conservation Plan sites are being updated.

– Todd Slack & Amir Hassanzadeh

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Proposed Pipeline Development in the Mackenzie Delta – an Update

For those of us who live in the Mackenzie Delta region, the present and future exploratory seismic and drilling programs are quite apparent. They are keeping most people busy even in the absence of any pipeline construction, although outside the region, pipeline development continues to receive media emphasis and tends to dominate discussion of natural gas development by the general public.

Clearly, there is a link between exploring for natural gas and the building of a means of transporting it to market (pipelines). At the present time however, these activities differ in a major way. Whereas the exploratory activity in the Delta region is actually happening, pipeline development is still in the planning stage and to date no application to build a pipeline has been made to the Government.

The impression of the volume of largely technical material which such an application generates can be gained from the photograph that accompanies this story. This was the first Mackenzie Valley pipeline proposal which became the subject of the Berger Inquiry. That was some 25 years ago, and right now there is a need to re-build capacity that has been lost during that time period. There is a need for additional capacity at all levels and in most sectors, but it is likely to be most acutely felt at the



Part of the 1970's Mackenzie Valley Pipeline application and related reports.

Community level. This fact has been realized and efforts are currently underway to build up the required capacity.

Although pipeline application has been filed, the Mackenzie Delta Producers Group (Imperial Oil, Conoco Canada, Shell Canada and Exxon Mobil Canada) is studying the possibility of bringing Delta gas to southern markets via a Mackenzie Valley pipeline. It has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Aboriginal Pipeline Group for equity participation and Aboriginal economic opportunities.

Another group of companies, the Alaskan Gas Producers Team, (BP, Exxon Mobil and Phillips) is also studying the feasibility of bring-

ing Prudhoe Bay gas to southern markets by one or other of two pipeline alternatives. One is the "over the top" route which brings gas under the Beaufort Sea then up the Mackenzie Valley, and the other route is through Alaska and the Yukon ("Alaska Highway"). Both Groups have undertaken biophysical studies of route options this past year.

In order to be better prepared to deal with a pipeline proposal, Game Council, Inuvialuit Land Administration, and Joint Secretariat staff have been working with Mackenzie Valley Land Claims Boards as well as Federal and Territorial Government agencies for the past year. This Pipeline Working Group (which should not be confused with the Aboriginal Pipeline Group mentioned previously) was convened to reduce duplication in existing Environmental Assessment and Regulatory processes required under Land Claims and other Federal legislation while protecting the interests entrenched within such legislation. This Group is developing a draft Cooperation Plan for submission to the Minister of Indian & Northern Affairs, and this is a significant step in preparing for the public process attending a pipeline project, in the absence of a definitive proposal from Industry.

– Norm Snow