

PUBLIC RELEASE

Better Information, Better Decisions: New Regional Database and Major Project Review Tool

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories – May 13, 2026 – The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, with support from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, is launching a new online **Regional Database and Major Project Review Tool**. The new tools will help deliver timely, coordinated, and evidence-based decisions on major projects in the Slave Geological Province within the NWT.

This initiative supports improved coordination across regulatory and assessment processes by bringing together publicly available environmental, socio-economic, mapping, monitoring, and project information into a single accessible platform. The tool is intended to strengthen understanding of cumulative effects and improves transparency and access to information. It will support Indigenous governments, communities, regulators, and proponents as they navigate large and complex project reviews.

Quotes

“Interest in major infrastructure, energy, transportation, and resource development projects across the North continues to grow. These tools will support more informed and coordinated decision-making by improving access to regional information, strengthening understanding of cumulative effects and project context. This will help all parties navigate complex project reviews while maintaining the integrity and transparency of northern environmental assessment and regulatory processes.”

— **JoAnne Deneron, Chair, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board**

“The North is central to Canada’s economic future and sovereignty. This initiative supports timely, transparent, and evidence-based decisions on major projects across the North. By strengthening coordination across regulatory processes and supporting Indigenous partnership, this tool will advance responsible development while protecting the lands and waters that Indigenous communities and Northerners depend on.”

— **The Honourable Rebecca Chartrand, Minister of Arctic and Northern Affairs and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency**

Looking Ahead

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board will continue expanding the tool with Indigenous governments, regulators, and government partners. Future updates will enhance project and engagement tracking, monitoring information, and relevant regional indicators. The platform is intended to support long-term readiness for increased resource development, infrastructure planning, and cumulative effects management across the North.

Ultimately, better information today will help support stronger, more coordinated and informed decisions for tomorrow.

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About the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board is an independent co-management board established under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. It ensures that development in the Mackenzie Valley is carefully considered to protect the environment and the social, cultural, and economic well-being of residents.