



September 2, 2026

President Mavis Clark
Gwich'ya Gwich'in Council

President Diane Koe
Tetl'it Gwich'in Council

Chief Charlene Blake
Gwich'ya Gwich'in Band Council

Chief Liz Wright
Te'telit Gwich'in Band Council

Roxanne Blake-McLeod
Coordinator, GRRC

Denise Robert
Coordinator, TRRC

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Mackenzie Valley Highway, Government of the Northwest Territories

Dear President Clark, President Koe, Chief Blake, Chief Wright, Ms. Blake-McLeod, and Ms. Robert,

In follow-up to the [August 28th letter](#) from Grand Chief Frederick Blake Jr., the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) would like to invite your leadership and members to participate in the **Mackenzie Valley Highway Environmental Assessment re-scoping session** to be held in **Tsiigehtchic on September 9, 2026**. This is a meeting open to the general public.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the potential expansion of the current environmental assessment to include the full Mackenzie Valley Highway corridor from **Wrigley to near Inuvik**. The Review Board is seeking input from Indigenous governments and communities before considering any changes to the scope of the assessment, building upon the [current](#) and [original](#) Terms of Reference.

Discussion topics will include:

- the proposed corridor approach for the northern section of the highway;
- potential environmental, cultural, and socio-economic considerations;
- Gwich'in Knowledge and community priorities;
- opportunities for ongoing community participation and oversight.



The meeting is intended to be an open discussion, and no decisions have been made regarding the scope of the environmental assessment. The Review Board values the knowledge and perspectives of the Gwichya and Tetl'it Gwich'in and looks forward to hearing your views.

A formal [Notice of Proceeding](#) and a [poster](#) with meeting details have been posted to the Review Board's [Public Registry for the Mackenzie Valley Highway project](#). An agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

Additionally, comments can be provided at our re-scoping session in Inuvik on September 8, at our upcoming technical scoping sessions in Yellowknife in early October, or on the Online Review System where a review will be opened shortly.

We hope you will be able to attend and participate in this important discussion.

Contacts

If you have questions, please contact Ellie Adjun, Gwichin Community Liaison (1-780-660-2263, eadjun@reviewboard.ca), or Catherine Fairbairn, Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor (867-766-7054 or cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca).

On behalf of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board,

Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director

Copied to

Grand Chief Frederick Blake Jr.
Gwich'in Tribal Council

President Michael Greenland
Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council

President Kelly McLeod
Nihtat Gwich'in Council

Chief Randy Edwards
Aklavik Indian Band

Chief Robert Charlie-Tetlitchi
Inuvik Native Band

Crystal Koe
Coordinator, ERRC

Stephanie Clark
Coordinator, GRRRC

Assistant Deputy Minister Kim Wickens
Infrastructure

Deputy Minister Robert Jenkins
Environment and Climate Change

Director General Anneli Jokela
Northern Projects Management Office

Regional Director General Ron Pankratz
Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
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Vice President Robert Jones
Major Project and Execution