



October 27, 2026

Note to File

To all parties:

RE: Mackenzie Valley Highway – Meeting with Chief Shawn Grandjambe regarding the Highway Environmental Assessment Rescoping Process

Purpose of Meeting

The meeting was held on October 26, 2026, to discuss the ongoing rescoping process for the environmental assessment of the proposed highway project and to provide information regarding opportunities for participation in the current review process.

Participants:

- Chief Shawn Grandjambe, Fort Good Hope Dene Band (K'asho Got'ine)
- Edwin Erutse, Fort Good Hope Resident
- Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Discussion Summary

Chief Shawn Grandjambe sought clarification regarding the current proposed scope of the environmental assessment and how the Fort Good Hope Dene Band may provide comments to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board regarding the proposed updated scope and Terms of Reference for the environmental assessment.

The discussion focused on the environmental assessment procedures currently underway and the opportunity for parties to provide written submissions regarding the proposed scope of the assessment. It was explained that any concerns, recommendations, or proposed changes related to the scope of assessment or Terms of Reference should be submitted to the Review Board in writing for consideration as part of the rescoping process.

Chief Grandjambe specifically asked whether the currently proposed scope of the environmental assessment would limit the ability of the Fort Good Hope Dene Band or other local organizations to undertake potential early works in support of future highway construction activities. Examples discussed included:

- Construction of an access road from Fort Good Hope to the proposed highway right-of-way;
- Brushing or clearing activities;





- Quarrying or extraction of materials on Sahtu Community Lands or other Sahtu Lands; and
- Other preparatory activities that may support future construction.

It was explained that the environmental assessment process and the scope under consideration are matters related to the assessment of the proposed development and currently do not include these activities.

Any determination regarding whether early works may proceed would depend on the nature of the activities proposed, applicable regulatory requirements, and any required authorizations from the Sahtu Land and Water Board, other regulators and landowners. It was mentioned that currently the activities mentioned are outside of the proposed scope of assessment, but a determination would need to wait until the issuance of the final terms of reference and scoping decision by the Review Board.

Next Steps

Participants were advised that any comments regarding the proposed Terms of Reference, the scope of the environmental assessment, or related concerns should be provided to the Review Board in writing. Submissions may be filed through the Online Review System (ORS) or sent directly to the Review Board for inclusion on the public registry.

Chief Grandjambe was advised that written submissions should be received by the Review Board prior to the established deadline of **October 30, 2026**, to be considered during the current phase of the rescoping process.

For questions or more information, please contact Senior Environmental Assessment Advisor Catherine Fairbairn at (867) 766-7054 or cfairbairn@reviewboard.ca and Environmental Assessment Advisor Clémentine Bouche at (867) 766-7051 or cbouche@reviewboard.ca.

