



SUMMER 2023 | VOL 14  
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## What's Inside?

HONOURING THE ROUTE OF OUR ANCESTORS CANOE TRIP

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP IN PARIS

UPDATES FROM THE COMMUNITY LAND TECHNICIANS

Ya'thi Néné Land and Resources' purpose is to protect the land, water, and air of Nuhenéné and to promote the people of the Denesuline First Nations and Athabasca communities that live there.

# INSIGHTS AND IMPACT AT THE NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY'S 3RD STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP IN PARIS



The Nuclear Energy Agency's 3rd Stakeholder Involvement Workshop was held in Paris, France from September 5th to 7th. This global event brought together nuclear regulators from around the world with a shared goal of advancing the development of a framework for optimized decision-making that includes all stakeholders. Among the attendees were Mary and Garrett from Ya'thi Néné Lands & Resources (YNLR), who co-delivered a keynote speech that outlined YNLR's unique experience in stakeholder involvement, or what we refer to as "rightsholder engagement."

In their keynote address, Mary and Garrett provided invaluable insights, sharing the challenges faced in Canada's nuclear industry and highlighting the lingering effects of colonialism. Their speech resonated with the audience, shedding light on the complexities and sensitivities involved in rightsholder engagement within the nuclear sector.



They took a moment to acknowledge their partnerships, recognizing organizations like Cameco, Orano, Denison, and the CNSC for their contributions to fostering rightsholder engagement. However, they didn't shy away from recognizing the ongoing challenges with other organizations and governments that may place less value on this critical aspect of decision-making. During their presentation, they identified four key attributes essential for successful rightsholder engagement: respect, communication, negotiated agreements, and capacity. These attributes, drawn from YNLR's extensive experience, serve as a roadmap for organizations looking to enhance their stakeholder involvement efforts.

YNLR's presence at the workshop was made possible with the help of key partners: the Nuclear Transparency Watch and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), who facilitated the invitation and participation of the YNLR team. Mary and Garrett were deeply honored to represent YNLR at the workshop, where they not only shared their experiences in Nuhenéné but also had the opportunity to learn from peers worldwide. The workshop provided a platform for exchanging knowledge and experiences with regulators, proponents, and civil society organizations from diverse backgrounds and regions. This exchange of ideas and best practices will undoubtedly contribute to improving stakeholder involvement across the global nuclear community.

YNLR's participation in the Nuclear Energy Agency's 3rd Stakeholder Involvement Workshop was a significant milestone in advancing the cause of rightsholder engagement within the nuclear sector. The keynote address, which delved into the challenges and opportunities of stakeholder involvement, left a lasting impact and inspired fruitful discussions among the attendees. As YNLR continues its journey to promote inclusive decision-making in nuclear energy, our insights and experiences will continue to shape the future of the industry.

## SETSNE' CHU' SETSIEKWI BENAKA'NENI

(Caring for my grandmother and grandfather)

We are excited to share an update on a remarkable project aimed at strengthening the well-being of our Elders in the Athabasca Basin Denesųliné First Nation communities. This project is funded by Employment and Social Development Canada, and aims to provide essential services and unwavering support that not only meets their day-to-day physical and mental health needs but also enriches their social participation and inclusion.

The Denesųliné people have a deep-rooted connection to our land, where we've long embraced traditions of travel, hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering. It's a way of life that has shaped our identity and continues to be a source of pride for our community.

We are committed to serving our Elders, and have crafted a thoughtful work plan that ensures the provision of vital support services. By providing these indispensable services, we're enabling our Elders to continue living independently in the comfort of their own homes, surrounded by the warmth of their families and friends. Together, we are strengthening the bonds and keeping traditions alive that make our communities so unique.

### Elders' Corner

**"We must cherish the land and protect the land and water. This helps us with mental health, reconnecting with the land, being out on the land."**

- FDLDFN member

#### Warmth and Comfort:

Harvesting and delivering firewood to our Elders, ensuring their homes are cozy and inviting throughout the year.

#### Nourishing the Soul:

Preparing traditional foods, including game and fish, both fresh and dried, to sustain our Elders with the meals they love.

#### Heartfelt Connections:

Making friendly visits to our Elders' homes to offer moral support and foster a stronger sense of belonging and connection within our community.

#### Health and Safety:

Arranging transportation to medical appointments, and ensuring safe grocery store visits, avoiding potential accidents on rough or icy terrain.

# Indigenous Protected Conservation Areas

## “Honouring the Route of our Ancestors” Canoe Trip

By Tina Giroux-Robillard

As the early morning mist rose on Bompas Lake, Amber Eddibar (14) was looking at a map of where we had started, and how far we had already come in a short time. “Boy, we really went far! I’m pretty impressed with myself!” Having hiked and paddled for a few days by then, this was a comment echoed by most of the youth on the trip, pride that the hard work they were putting into each day was enabling them to see the land in a way most had never seen before, by canoe!

The team left Black Lake early morning on Saturday, August 19th to tackle the longest portage of the trip – the infamous Chipman Portage. Once completed, this 4 km trail opens up to a series of lakes and smaller portages that Denesųliné ancestors used to access the north and barren-ground caribou herds. Although, for this portage we did get some help from a quad to carry our heavy food barrels, youth and chaperones still had to carry their gear and canoes the distance. This portage proved to be a challenge, but one that was met with enthusiasm.



As we paddled, Elder Freddie Throassie shared stories from various locations that were important to the Denesųliné. Seeing the exact spots where Denesųliné stories and important events occurred was fascinating. We documented ancient tipi rings, and burial sites while we were there.

The team’s goal of reaching Selwyn Lake happened on August 23rd after paddling/portaging for 5 days. As we entered Selwyn Lake, the team stopped at the shrine. It was known that this shrine was damaged, as the Virgin Mary’s statue had disappeared several years ago. The youth immediately began cleaning up the site and found the statue laying near the shrine. Youth and chaperones repaired the shrine and packed out garbage that was found around the popular resting/praying spot.



Selwyn Lake was rough when we arrived, and the team decided to wait out the wind and spent the night at a nearby island. The next morning, Selwyn Lake welcomed the paddlers with mirror-like water. The goal that day was to make it to the Ya’thi Néné Lands & Resources cabin, approximately 17 km away. Since the water was so calm, the team made it there in record time. After stopping for lunch, and an impromptu chicken hunt, the team decided to take advantage of the calm lake and continued to paddle.



This day, we paddled an estimated 40 km! The youth were tired, but happy to have made so much progress. Our supply plane was scheduled to deliver groceries and supplies that day, and also care packages from families back home. The youth were happy to receive munchies!



The next day, the wind conditions were favourable to allow for the team to sail down Selwyn Lake! This gave everyone’s arms a rest as we very quickly made our way down Selwyn Lake to the mouth of the Porcupine River.

The team entered the Porcupine River and experienced some rapids. “That was so much fun!” stated one of the youth, as they dried their gear from the waves that splashed into their canoes.

Although the team had to bypass the most extreme whitewater on the Porcupine River for the safety of the youth, we were able to experience more rapids near the mouth of where the Porcupine and Fond du Lac River meet.



# Exploring Environmental Remediation Efforts: Site Inspection of Gunner and Lorado CLEANS Project

By Linda McNabb

In August, YNLR participated in the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) coordinated site visits to the Gunner and Lorado mine and mill remediation sites, as part of their Cleanup of Abandoned Northern Sites (CLEANS) project. Linda McNabb (YNLR) was accompanied by other visitors, and SRC staff, including representatives from Fond du Lac First Nation, Stony Rapids and the Prince Albert Grand Council. During the visit, all participants were treated to guided tours of both remediated areas and ongoing remediation efforts.

The journey began on Monday, August 21, 2023, as we reached the Gunner site by air. After our arrival, we settled into the camp and were given an orientation to the site, followed by an informative tour of the camp itself, including the opportunity to meet the on-site personnel.

On Tuesday, August 22, 2023, we were taken on a comprehensive tour of the Gunner site, where we explored a remediated tailings area that had been seeded with various grasses and plants; there was evidence of wildlife thriving in the revitalized surroundings! We also visited areas actively undergoing remediation.

Throughout these site visits, we received insightful briefings on the history, the remediation work and future monitoring plans for the former open pit mine, the old mine shaft, former town site, and a secondary tailings area.

Wednesday, August 23, was marked by a tour of the incineration system used for refuse and the dehydrator used for food waste. Both are designed to minimize environmental impact while they conduct ongoing remediation. We then flew by floatplane to Uranium City and concluded our tours at the remediated Lorado mill site and the former mine site. From there, we returned to our home communities.

The visit provided YNLR with an opportunity to observe the sites and the completed and ongoing remediation activities. The remediation efforts appeared to utilize current acceptable practices with a goal of reducing the negative effects of past mining operations. YNLR observed that there was some evidence of wildlife usage.



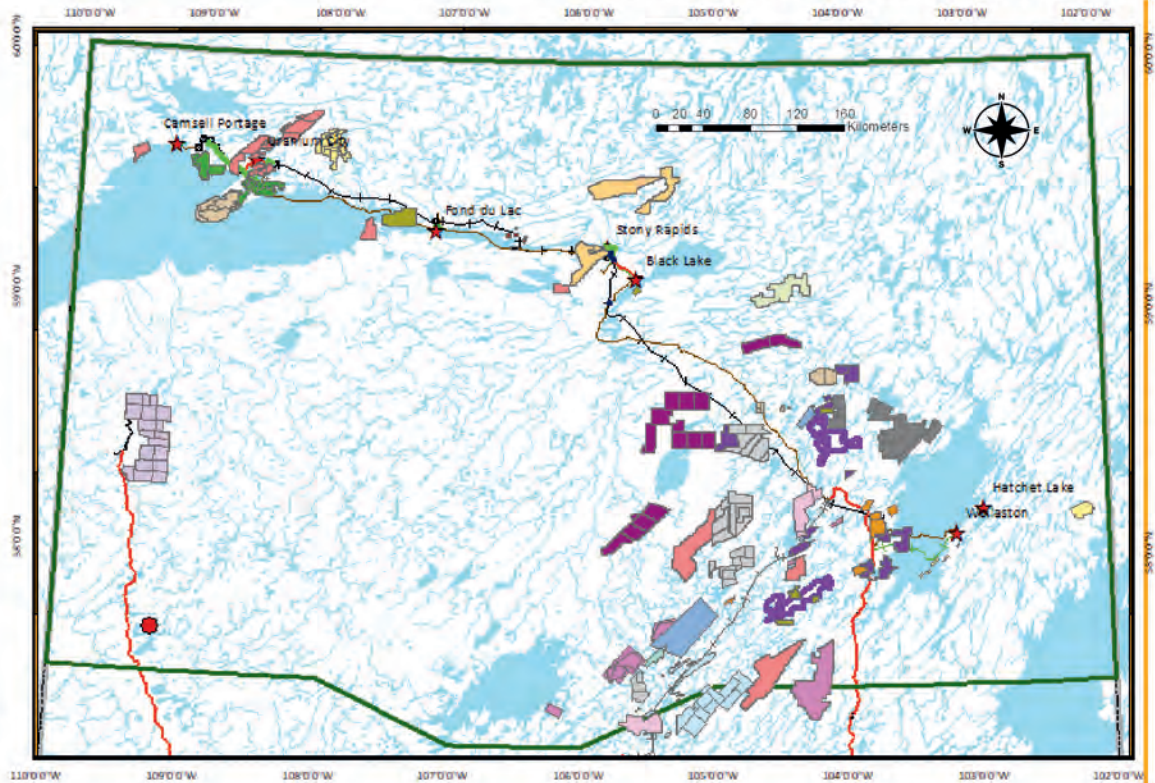
See how we're doing things differently at [redefiningmining.ca](https://redefiningmining.ca)

 **Enison Mines**

# YA' THI NÉNÉ and the

# DUTY TO CONSULT

- 92 Energy
- ALX Exploration
- Appia Rare Earths & Uranium
- Basin Uranium
- Cameco
- CanAlaska Uranium
- Denison Mines
- Eagle Plains Resources
- Fission 3.0
- Fortune Bay
- IsoEnergy
- MoHighways
- NexGen Energy
- Orano
- Okapi
- Pegasus Exploration
- Purepoint Uranium
- SaskPower
- Standard Uranium
- Skyharbour Resources
- Terra Uranium
- UEX
- Valor Resources
- Athabasca LUP Area
- ★ Athabasca Communities
- Highways (Sk Road Network)
- Winter Roads (Sk Road Network)
- Other Roads (Sk Road Network)
- Powerlines



Project Name	Permit Length	Permitted Activity	Project Name	Permit Length	Permitted Activity
92 Energy Clover	Aug-25	exploration	IsoEnergy Edge	Nov-23	exploration
92 Energy Cypress	Dec-23	exploration	IsoEnergy Geiger	Jun-24	exploration
92 Energy Gemini	Mar-24	exploration	soEnergy Hawk	Jul-23	exploration
92 Energy laydown site land disposition	2027	exploration	IsoEnergy Larocque camp land disposition	2027	exploration
92 Energy Powerline	Dec-23	exploration	IsoEnergy Larocque East	Mar-25	exploration
92 Energy Tower	Mar-24	exploration	IsoEnergy North Thorburn	Dec-24	exploration
92 Energy Wares	Apr-25	exploration	IsoEnergy Radio	Dec-24	exploration
92 Energy Dorado	Jul-25	exploration	IsoEnergy Ranger	Nov-24	exploration
92 Energy Wormboiler	Apr-25	exploration	IsoEnergy Thorburn	Dec-24	exploration
ALX Resources Gibbons Creek	Mar-24	exploration	IsoEnergy Trident	Dec-23	exploration
ALX Resources Flying Vee	Mar-24	exploration	MoH 74P009	decades	infrastructure
Appia Alces Lake	Dec-23	exploration	MoH 74P011	decades	infrastructure
Appia Loranger	Nov-23	exploration	MoH 74P012	decades	infrastructure
Appia Eastside	Nov-23	exploration	NexGen Rook Island site infrastructure and confirmation	---	exploration
Basin Uranium Mann Lake	Sep-23	exploration	Okapi Newnham	Jul-24	exploration
Cameco Cigar Lake Lease Amendment	---	mine	Orano Waterbury UEM	Dec-23	exploration
Cameco Dawn Lake	Dec-23	exploration	Pegasus Pine Channel	---	exploration
Cameco Read Lake	Sep-24	exploration	Potzus Aggregate Extraction	---	gravel pit
CanAlaska Cree East	May-23	exploration	Purepoint Red Willow	Mar-26	exploration
CanAlaska Geikie exploration	Dec-23	exploration	Purepoint Turnor Lake	Aug-26	exploration
CanAlaska McTavish	May-23	exploration	SaskPower C2W	Dec-23	vegetation clearing/maintenance
CanAlaska North Millennium	May-23	exploration	SaskPower Camisell Dams	Dec-23	vegetation clearing/maintenance
CanAlaska Waterbury	May-23	exploration	SaskPower Island Falls	2027	vegetation clearing/maintenance
CanAlaska West McArthur	May-23	exploration	SaskPower ST511 Distribution Line	Dec-23	vegetation clearing/maintenance
CanAlaska Laydown Site industrial permit	Mar-28	exploration	SaskPower ST512 Distribution Line	Dec-23	vegetation clearing/maintenance
CanAlaska Seal Lake Camp	Mar-28	exploration	SaskPower WPMP Rebuild	Mar-24	vegetation clearing/maintenance
Cree Lake Lodge	33 years	airstrip lease	SaskPower P3R	Dec-24	vegetation clearing/maintenance
Denison Bell	Dec-23	exploration	SaskPower W3B	Dec-24	vegetation clearing/maintenance
Denison Candle, Darby & Johnston Lake	Dec-23	exploration	Selwyn Lake Lodge	2025	legitimize an existing lagoon
Denison Moon Lake and Moon Lake South	Oct-23	exploration	Skyharbour Russell Lake	Apr-25	exploration
Denison Johnston	Dec-23	exploration	Skyharbour Moore Lakes	Mar-26	exploration
Denison Waterbury	Nov-24	exploration	Standard Uranium Atlantic	Dec-23	exploration
Denison Wheeler drill & surveys	Aug-25	exploration	Standard Uranium Canary	Feb-24	exploration
Denison Advanced Wheeler R Project Area	2027	exploration	Standard Uranium Sundog	Jun-24	exploration
Eagle Plains Pine Channel	Aug-23	exploration	Terra Uranium Parker Pasfield HawkRock	Dec-23	exploration
Fission 3.0 Bird	Feb-24	exploration	UEX Christie Lake	Mar-24	exploration
Fission 3.0 Murphy Lake	Sep-23	exploration	UEX Dwyer Lake	Dec-23	exploration
Fission 3.0 Seahorse	Dec-23	exploration	UEX Pow Bay	Dec-23	exploration
Fission 3.0 Hearty Bay	Mar-24	exploration	UEX Vixen Lake	Dec-23	exploration
Fission 3.0 Cree	Mar-24	exploration	UEX McClean South	Jul-26	exploration
Fortune Bay Murmac	Oct-24	exploration	UEX Horseshoe Raven	Mar-24	exploration
Fortune Bay Strike	Nov-24	exploration	Valor Cluff Lake	Feb-24	exploration
Fortune Bay Goldfields	Oct-24	exploration			

# COMMUNITY LAND TECHNICIANS in the FIELD

## Protecting Geike River and Sandy Island

By Jean Tsannie

In July, Jean and Trisha set off to Geike River. Traveling by helicopter, they conducted a site visit part of a comprehensive set of visits that include pre-inspection, ongoing monitoring, and final inspection. Our primary objectives were to ensure that the drilling and exploration activities carried out by the exploration company were in strict adherence to environmental protocols and permits.

One key aspect of our visit was an examination of the core shacks and core samples used in the exploration process. This allowed us to verify the company's commitment to responsible resource extraction practices. It was heartening to observe CanAlaska's use of helicopters for site access, as this minimizes damage to the delicate natural surroundings. Heavy land machinery would have disrupted the ecosystem, potentially harming both the land and its inhabitants.

One of the things we paid close attention to was the company's oil spill containment measures. It's crucial that companies operating in such environments are prepared to handle any accidental spills to minimize their impact on the fragile ecosystem. We were pleased to note that CanAlaska had taken appropriate measures to protect the environment.



In June, Trisha and Phillip, with the guidance of Jean as boat guide, ventured to Sandy Island. Our mission was to settle markers and reefs around the island and to ensure safe navigation for boaters.

Sandy Island is a cherished natural gem. The team's efforts to settle markers and reefs around the island were aimed at preventing accidents and ensuring that no one hits rocks, potentially causing damage to the lake and its surrounding environment. These markers will provide clear guidance to boaters, ensuring that they steer clear of dangerous areas.

Additionally, the team's activities involved retrieving buoys before the onset of winter and identifying shallow spots in the lake. This activity is crucial for safe navigation during all seasons, but it especially prevents boaters from encountering unexpected obstacles.

As the CLTs continue our day-to-day activities, we are reminded of the importance of these seemingly small yet vital efforts. By safeguarding areas like Geike River and Sandy Island and other natural wonders, we ensure that future generations can enjoy our lands and waters for decades to come.



## Inspecting Remediation Sites in the Athabasca Region

By Margaret Powder

In May and June, Margaret (YNLR) teamed up with George Bihun from Sask Environment and Mike Menzies and his team from SRC, to visit some abandoned mine sites. Margaret's first visit to these sites marked a significant milestone. For the last 15 years, Sask Environment and SRC have undertaken land inspections and cleanups, ensuring that the environmental legacy of past mining activities is addressed. Now, the YNLR CLTs have become integral to this process, adding their expertise and dedication to the cause.

As we continued our visits to the satellite mine sites, it became evident just how vital this ongoing effort is. Our journey took us to sites like Strike Lake, Donaldson Lake, Ace Lake, Beaverlodge, Martin Lake, and Cinch Lake North, all interconnected and eventually flowing into Lake Athabasca. We also made it to the Eagle Mine Site (Leonard Mine) and Lorado Mine – all former mine sites that had been abandoned, most of which had not been cleaned up when they shut down decades ago.

The most striking sight during our visit was the steel caps that had been placed over the mine openings. These caps, designed with a staggering lifespan of 1200 years, are a pioneering solution in Canada. They serve a crucial role in preventing cave-ins and ensuring the safety of these areas. Surrounding the caps, there are kilometers of steel fencing that further bolster the protection of the environment.

But why the need for such extensive measures? Decades ago, there was no policy in place mandating the cleanup of mining and exploration activities. Over time, the land deteriorated, posing risks to both people and wildlife. These cap-and-fence systems not only safeguard against cave-ins but also serve as a barrier to prevent animals from entering the danger zone. The plugged boreholes prevent contaminated water from surfacing.

The significance of our visit lies not just in the remediation efforts but also in the shift that has occurred in how we approach mining activities today. We monitor and inspect current activities with diligence and ensure that the legacy of older mining endeavors are understood and we participate in their management.



# A Glimpse into the World of Environmental Monitoring: Denison Waterbury/Tthe Heldeth Túé Site

By Ian Donard

This summer, I was tasked to team up with the dedicated folks from Ecometrix (contracted by Denison) to monitor baseline levels of species, potential contaminants, and water quality.

Our project took place in early June, with me as their guide. Alongside me were two skilled workers from Ecometrix, who brought their expertise to the table. Together, we journeyed through the Denison Waterbury/Tthe Heldeth Túé site near South McMahon Lake.

Despite some gloomy weather and a day of rain, the conditions were just right for our outdoor work. The cool climate provided the ideal backdrop for our activities. Our primary objectives included monitoring water samples and conducting a fish habitat assessment. The samples collected would later be transported to the lab in Saskatoon for in-depth analysis.

Our mission had a crucial purpose – to investigate the potential presence of contaminants from nearby exploration and its impact on the local habitat. By collecting water samples, examining the fish habitat, measuring and weighing the fish, and collecting minnows, we aimed to gain insights into the potential risks posed by such activities to our environment.

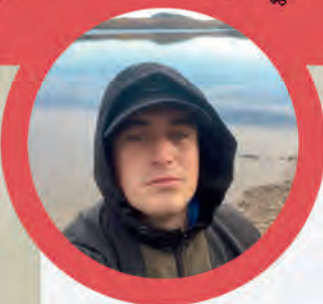
This expedition marked my first collaboration with Ecometrix, and it was truly enlightening. Working alongside these experts not only expanded my knowledge but also equipped me with answers for community members who may have questions about the environmental impact of exploration activity.

Through this experience, it became clear that organizations like Ecometrix play a vital role to ensure that our wildlife and natural habitats remain unaffected. Their dedication to environmental preservation aligns perfectly with our mission, and I am grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with them.

Together, we are working tirelessly to safeguard the beauty and integrity of our natural world. After all, it's all our responsibility to protect the environment for generations to come.



## WELCOME OUR NEW EMPLOYEES!



Hello, my name is Victor Howald. I've been living in Fond-Du-Lac for three years. I will be taking on the role of Elder Support Coordinator with Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resources. I will be working with Community Land Technicians from Fond-Du-Lac, Black Lake, and Hatchet Lake.

I'm beyond excited to take on this role and support the Elders of the communities of Nuhenéné. During my time here I've had the opportunity to be on the land with them and I'm more than grateful for what I've been taught. It's an honour to be able to give back now. I love the North, and will do everything I can to the best of my ability to help people in need.

Hello, My name is Trevor Lidguerre. I'm from Fond Du Lac First Nation and have lived here most of my life. I am excited to be working as a Community Land Technician with Ya'thi Néné Lands and Resources for Fond-Du-Lac. Very excited to be working here in the community and to embrace this role as Land Technician. Can't wait to get started and see what's in store for me, looking forward to working with you all!

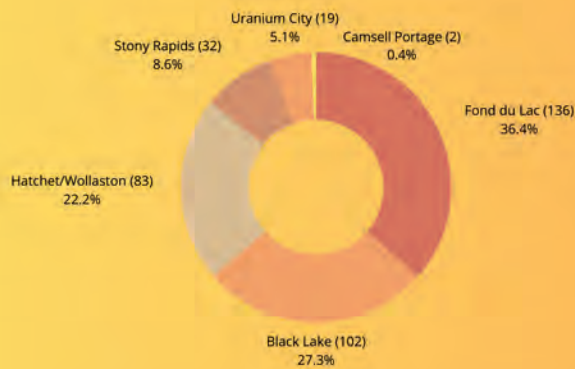


# TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

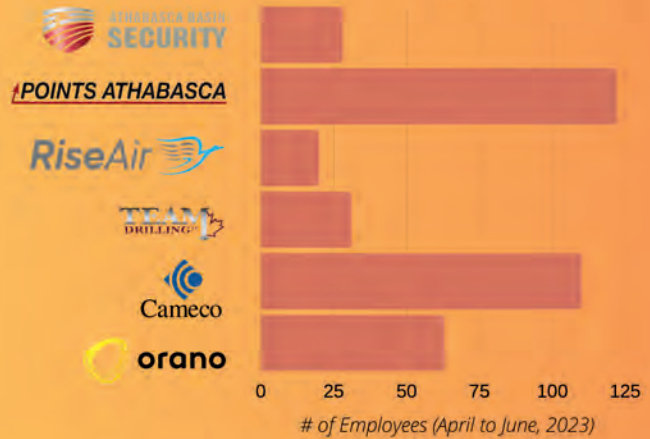
Facilitating workforce growth, business development, and lifelong learning in the Basin.

## Updates in Nuhenēnē

Employees by Location



Basin Employer Statistics



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## TO ALL 2023-24 BASIN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### Black Lake

Shenelle Echodh  
Cassidy Renie  
Candy Candace Robillard  
Pacey Disain  
Morgen Bigeye  
Allison Rae Strong  
Brianda Robillard  
Dean Davidson  
Linda Sayazie  
Darlene Sandypoint

### Hatchet Lake

Ryea Daniels  
Therese Joseyounen  
Antonia Sha'oulle  
Marian Josie  
Ilene Sha'oulle  
Junior Angus Joseyounen  
Darian Joseyounen (Gazandlare)

### Stony Rapids

Charles Dettaniba

### Fond-du-Lac

Terri Ann Randhile  
Clarissa Augier  
Raylen Adam  
Samantha Adam  
Gessika Laliberte  
Deberah Durocher  
Timothy Fern Jr.  
Dausitie Fern  
Brayden Lidguerre

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## Beaverlodge Decommissioned Properties

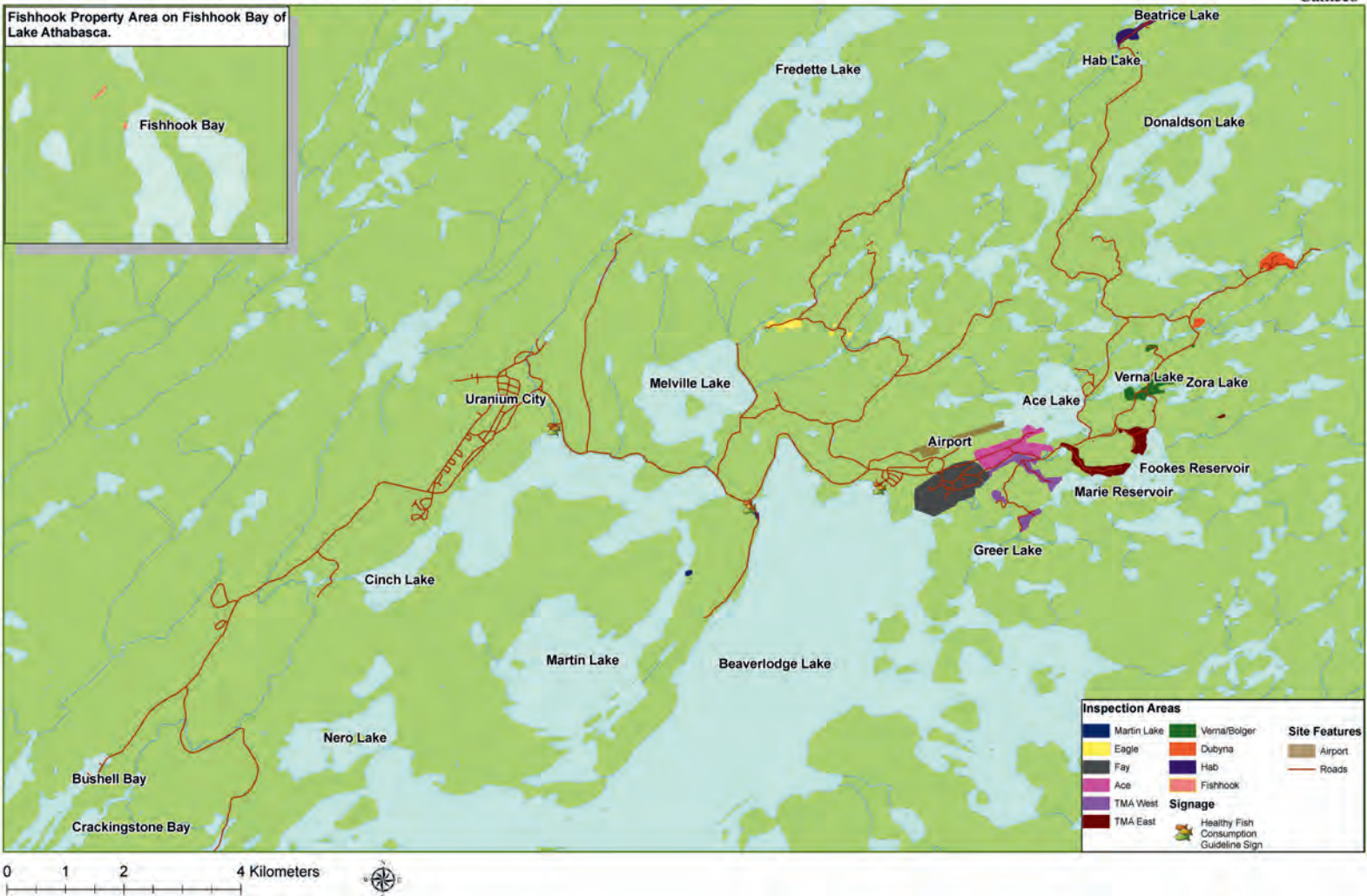
Environmental monitoring of the former Beaverlodge properties has been occurring since before decommissioning was completed in 1985. Cameco appreciates the ongoing engagement and feedback we've received from various groups as we continue to implement the Beaverlodge Management Framework.

Monitoring has shown the decommissioned properties have met the performance objectives, with 43 having entered the Institutional Control (IC) Program or released from CNSC licensing since 2009. Twenty-seven properties remain and will be proposed for transfer to the Province of Saskatchewan's IC Program.

The current monitoring program was designed to facilitate assessment of the properties and establish predictions for long-term recovery. Once all of the decommissioned properties are transferred to the IC Program, the Long-term Monitoring Program (LTMP) will continue monitoring natural recovery of the environment, with the goal of comparing to established predictions and supporting the removal of the healthy fish consumption guideline.

Cameco is incorporating feedback from local land users to shape the LTMP that will be administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources. The LTMP will incorporate the valuable insights of land users, while building off the 40 years of data collected since the mine was closed.

## Institutional Control Inspection Areas



The map above provides an overview of the areas associated with the former Beaverlodge mining and milling activities. Monitoring currently occurs in the Ace Creek watershed (Hab, Dubyna, Verna/Bolger) and within the Tailings Management Area (Fookes Reservoir, Marie Reservoir and Greer Lake). Areas are also monitored downstream of the former mine in Beaverlodge Lake, Martin Lake, the Crackingstone River and Crackingstone Bay of Lake Athabasca.



# orano

## Training Program Fuels Future Careers

Orano Canada is holding a restructured Mill Utility Training Program (MUTP) at the McClean Lake Operation for Athabasca Basin Residents from September to December 2023 (exact dates TBD). The rebranding of the original “Mill Operations” program is more than just a name change; the scope of the training is being expanded and enhanced. These efforts are all aimed at recruiting and retaining more Athabasca Basin employees.

The MUTP will still be conducted over six-weeks at the McClean Lake Operation and is to be delivered by the site’s Mill Operations department, Radiation Protection, and Training personnel. During the program, trainees will learn the essential skills required to work in the mining industry. Those enrolled will also gain significant opportunities to participate in job shadowing and on-the-job training in different mine and mill related positions at McClean Lake. Positions may be in the areas of Radiation Protection, Environmental Monitoring, Administration, Warehouse, Mill Operations and the Services Department, depending on current opportunities and student aptitude.

With a new emphasis on upwards mobility within the Operation and developing new skillsets, the MUTP is going to be better than ever. Trainees who successfully complete the MUTP and meet the required application criteria will be interviewed for future employment opportunities.



### Contact Us

As always, we welcome questions and comments any time. Please call us at: 306-343-4500 or reach out through our website: [oranocanada.com](https://www.oranocanada.com) or social media.

## The Return of the Athabasca Student Awards

Orano has partnered with Cameco, Ya ‘thi Néné Lands and Resource Office and the Athabasca Denesuline Education Authority to reinstate the Athabasca Student Awards. The announcement was made in-person by Orano representatives to an assembly of students at the Father Porte Memorial Denesuline School in Black Lake on June 6, 2023. This partnership aims to support the Athabasca Basin’s youth by encouraging academic achievement and student attendance.

In total, four awards per grade will be given out in each Athabasca Basin community for youth in grades seven to twelve. Categories include:

1. Academic Award – for the students with the highest academic average in each grade.
2. Literacy Award – for students excelling in literacy.
3. Math and Science Award – for students excelling in the math and science disciplines.
4. Language and Culture Award – for students excelling in the areas of language, culture and land-based programs.

The Athabasca Student Awards are scheduled to be presented in each of the communities during the Athabasca Tour October 16 to 19, 2023.

## 2022 CSR Sustainability Highlights

Orano Canada has released its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Sustainability highlights for 2022. This report provides an at-a-glance look at the company’s efforts to maintain a safe and sustainable workplace, support its employees and community partners, and to uphold its commitments to the Athabasca Basin.

The report also incorporates the International Council on Mining and Metals Mining Principles which guide Orano’s commitments to upholding high standards of ethical performance and promoting sustainability in its operations. The 2022 CSR Sustainability Highlights are available at <https://www.orano.group/canada/en/news-resources/publication>

## Summer Exploration Program

Orano’s exploration department continued this summer with a return to the Waterfound River project. A drilling program started in June and continued until the end of July. The program was a continuation of work starting during the previous winter. Approximately 10,000 metres of diamond drilling was completed for the year. Orano personnel and contractors were based out of the Points North Landing throughout the year. Orano is anticipating a drill program in 2024.

Other activities this summer include airborne geophysical work on the Close Lake project. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of September.



# Your Community Land Technicians are here for you.

Ya' thi Néné's purpose is to protect the land, water, and air of Nuhenéné and to promote the people of the Denesútiné First Nations and Athabasca communities that reside there.

That's why we're always on the lookout for issues and observations from residents of the Basin. If you or someone you know has an observation, notices something, or hears a concern related to the land and water, we ask that you report it to one of our Community Land Technicians (CLTs).

When you make a report to your CLT, they will take the time to listen to your concerns and ask you questions. After collecting as much information as possible they will refer the issue to our head office, where research and analysis will be done and actions to resolve the issue will be determined.

Updates will be provided to the person(s) who reported the issue on a regular basis. Issues that are successfully resolved will be communicated to the communities.

Some examples of issues that could be reported include:

- Seeing an outfitter abandoning an out-post camp, leaving debris and garbage
- Finding an abandoned exploration camp with waste left behind
- A sick or diseased animal (e.g. fish with unknown cysts)
- Observations on changes to the environment (animal behaviour, habitat, etc.)
- Issues with hunting/trapping/fishing/gathering

For more information, contact your local Community Land Technician or Bruce Hanbidge, YNLR Operations Manager at [bruce.hanbidge@yathinene.com](mailto:bruce.hanbidge@yathinene.com) or call (306) 477-1251.



## EXPORT

EXPORT is a web-based skills inventory and business registration database built to increase communication between community members and partners operating in the region in order to maximize training, employment and business opportunities in the Basin.

### WHAT CAN EXPORT DO FOR YOU?

EXPORT brings companies and communities together with a database of resumes of skilled individuals. EXPORT was built by and for Basin communities and people, providing a platform to give regional partners a direct connection to Basin residents and Basin businesses to better meet community needs and to maximize regional opportunity.

JOIN EXPORT NOW TO  
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EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY.



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