



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Monday, April 8, 2024 at 12:05 p.m.

Report of a meeting held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chair: Mayor R. Alty,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Fequet,
Councillor B. Hendriksen,
Councillor C. McGurk, (via teleconference)
Councillor T. McLennan, (via teleconference)
Councillor S. Payne, and
Councillor R. Warburton.

The following members of Administration staff were in attendance:

S. Bassi-Kellett,
C. Caljouw,
J. Collin,
C. Greencorn,
N. Johnson,
K. Pandoo,
S. Sibley,
T. Setta,
G. White, and
S. Jovic.

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-------------|---|
| 1. | (For Information Only) Mayor Alty read the Opening Statement. |
| 2. | (For Information Only) Councillor Cochrane declared a conflict of interest with Item No. 4 on the agenda, an update regarding Giant Mine Remediation, due to his employment with Parsons Inc. (Community Relations Officer) and excused himself from the meeting at 12:07 p.m. |



(For Information Only)

3. Committee heard a presentation from Natalie Plato, Andrei Torianski and Erica Nyyssonen, representatives of the Giant Mine Remediation Project, regarding the annual project update. They provided an update on where they are in the process; 2023 wildfire and evacuation; what have they done on site already; what are they doing next on site and procurement, job opportunities and training.

(For Information Only)

4. Councillor Cochrane returned to the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

(For Information Only)

5. Committee heard a presentation from Graeme Clinton, Impact Economics, regarding *the Eyes Wide Open Report: Understanding the Effect of a Diminished Resource Economy in the NWT*. Mr. Clinton provided an economic analysis of the effects of closure of the diamond mines and of oil and gas production. Mr. Clinton noted that the NWT economy has included an active mining industry for over 90 years. Mr. Clinton further noted that despite its long history, the future for mining in the NWT is unclear. Mr. Clinton stated that in less than 10 years, all three diamond mines will be closed and the end of NWT's oil industry is almost upon us. Mr. Clinton further stated that there are a few advanced exploration projects around the territory, but none of them are certain to proceed and none represent a like-for-like replacement of the diamond mines. Mr. Clinton noted that there are no viable prospects for full-scale oil and gas industry in the territory at this time. Mr. Clinton further noted that if the territory's resource sector were to disappear the results would include: a smaller economy, fewer jobs, less disposable income, Yellowknife would be most affected, government will have less revenue and there will be fewer people.

(For Information Only)

6. Councillor McLennan left the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

(For Information Only)

7. Committee heard a presentation from Mr. Kenny Ruptash, President of NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines, regarding *the Eyes Wide Open Report: Understanding the Effect of a Diminished Resource Economy in the NWT*. Mr. Ruptash noted that they hired Impact Economics, to conduct an economic analysis of the effects of closure of the diamond mines and of oil and gas production. Mr. Ruptash further noted that have shared the Eyes Wide Open Report with Members of the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Ruptash further noted that they look forward to City's support in helping address the situation. Mr. Ruptash stated that along with MLA and Indigenous government everyone will benefit from collaboratively working to improve the situation using the NWT's vast and untapped mineral potential.

(For Information Only)

8. Committee recessed at 1:34 p.m. and reconvened at 1:44 p.m.



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- (For Information Only)
9. Committee continued its discussion regarding *the Eyes Wide Open Report: Understanding the Effect of a Diminished Resource Economy in the NWT*.
 10. In a response to a question from Committee, Administration undertook to provide information regarding current restriction on mineral exploration in municipal boundaries.
- (For Information Only)
11. Committee thanked Sheila Bassi-Kellett, outgoing City Manager, for almost 8 years of leadership as the City Manager.
 12. The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.