

Kitikmeot

Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee



Spring 2012 Report

on

Third Kitikmeot SEMC Meeting

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut: 28-29 March 2012

and

Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring

Produced by the Government of Nunavut
Department of Economic Development & Transportation

Executive Summary

Summary of meeting

The Third Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (SEMC) Meeting took place in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut on 28-29 March 2012. The meeting was well attended by industry, government, and community delegates. The meeting proceeded well and ended with active discussions over a variety of issues of concern.

The meeting started with an overview of SEMCs by the Government of Nunavut (GN), followed by a presentation by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) on the role they play with respect to socio-economic monitoring as related to the SEMCs and the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan. The floor was then opened to industry to discuss the status of their projects. Sabina presented on its Back River Project, followed by MMG's Izok Corridor Project, and finally Newmont presented on its Hope Bay Project. The Government of Nunavut finished the presentations by sharing some of the socio-economic data available for the region.

A discussion followed, where three main themes emerged: Employment, housing, and crime. With respect to employment, key discussion items included: the seasonality of jobs related to mining (e.g. exploration work in the summer); the inability to take jobs due to lack of day care services; and the nature of the two weeks in, two weeks off rotations and the impacts this has on families. In terms of housing, the key issue was the unavailability of housing, and that having a job can be a deterrent for many people who live in social housing where their income passes a threshold that forces them out of social housing. Finally, discussion on crime occurred, related to the perception that the influx of alcohol, violence, and mental health issues have contributed to increased crime.

The GN, AANDC and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association met with Newmont on 29 March 2012 to discuss issues specific to the Doris North Project. Newmont provided data for the indicators they are responsible for as set out in the Doris North Socio-Economic Monitoring Program pursuant to Condition 28 of the Project Certificate.

Highlights of indicators and associated data

The Kitikmeot Spring 2012 SEMC Report contains detailed information on several indicators that aim to assess the state of the socio-economic environment in the Kitikmeot Region. The key indicators are highlighted below.

Demographics

Although the population of the Kitikmeot region continues to steadily increase, out-migration is still higher than in-migration, indicating that population is increasing faster than the net migration out of the Territory.

Health and well-being

In 2006, alcohol was perceived to be a slightly higher problem (64% of those surveyed) than drug abuse (61%). Suicide continues to be an issue, with a sharp increase in 2006 in the Kitikmeot region (161.3 suicides per 100,000 people), steadily decreasing to 51.9 per 100,000 people in 2009. Additionally, suicide almost exclusively affects the Inuit population, accounting for 100% of the total number of suicides in Nunavut from 2004 to 2008, decreasing to 96.3 in 2009. The number of community health visits has steadily decreased from 2004 to 2010, from 42,263 to 29,143 respectively in the Kitikmeot Region, representing 23% and 16% of the total number of visits in Nunavut.

Food security

The cost of a Northern Food Basket has steadily increased over the years, from \$398 in 2005 to \$429 in 2009 in Cambridge Bay. In comparison, the same basket in Yellowknife cost \$212 in 2005 and \$239 in 2009 in Yellowknife.

Education

The graduation rates of 17 and 18 year olds in the Kitikmeot region is 14% lower than that of Nunavut, at 22% in 2011 versus 36.1% in all of the Territory. Attendance rates in the Kitikmeot are different for every grade. Grade 10 has the lowest attendance rate, at 54% in 2010-2011, while Grade 4 had the highest attendance in the same year, at 80%.

Housing

In terms of housing, 63% of the total population of the Region lived in public housing in 2009/2010 (not including government staff housing), while 23% of the dwellings were privately owned. Additionally, 43% of the dwellings are considered to be crowded.

Crime

From 1999 to about 2004, crime was on the rise, but since 2004 has been slowly decreasing. The highest crime rate in the Kitikmeot Region is currently found in Cambridge Bay, at 66,667 per 100,000 people in 2010. The lowest is in Kugluktuk, at 5,571 per 100,000 people in the same year. By far, the highest type of crime falls within the property crime violation category, at 168 police reported incidences per 1,000 persons in 2009.

Employment

The participation rate in the wage economy in Nunavut hovers around 60%. In 2010, 65.1% of the total population was engaged in the wage economy. This participation drops to 57.4% when

considering the Inuit population only in 2010. In contrast, the participation rate of the non-Inuit population in the same year was at 92.3%. Since 2005, about half of the Kitikmeot region's households were receiving income support. In 2011, the rate was at 52%.

Doris North

With respect to specific impacts of the Doris North project in the Region, it has so far seemingly put little pressure on emergency health services, with only one request in 2010 and another in 2011. Newmont employed 282 people in 2011, a significant improvement from 83 and 82 in 2009 and 2010 respectively. The workforce at the company is still predominantly male and non-Inuit. The composition of Doris North's workforce was 80% male in 2010 and 2011 and 13% and 15% Inuit in the same years. The total payroll for 2011 is estimated to be at \$61.7 million, excluding contractors, and Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk accrued most of the payroll, at \$1.4 million and \$1.6 million respectively.

Conclusion

The Third Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee meeting in Cambridge Bay was successful, and allowed for participants to dialogue and exchange ideas amongst themselves. This version of the SEMC report provides detailed, yearly and community-specific information (when available) since the creation of Nunavut, and is presented in an organized way to allow for the Committee to determine the socio-economic impacts of resource development projects in the Kitikmeot Region. It is hoped that participants will review this report, and build on the data presented within to be able to start making recommendations to organizations to lessen impacts and better their socio-economic environment.