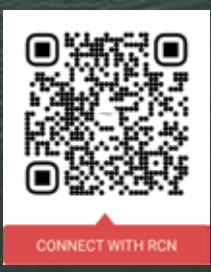




RESOURCE *Connector* 2025



REPRESENTING RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Final Surge: Site C Dam approaches the finish line

Arbios Biotech's first-of-its-kind facility to convert forest residues into sustainable bio-fuel

Nickel for your thoughts: FPX's Baptiste Nickel Project could be one of the world's largest nickel operations

**Export
Navigator**

Grow Your Business

Export Navigator provides **free** localized export support for all businesses in BC.

CONTACT US AT INFO@EXPORTNAVIGATOR.CA OR 1-855-667-2270



We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation, and the Government of Canada through Pacific Economic Development Canada.

BRAFASCO **NATIONAL** **BROCKWHITE**
Concrete Accessories
WHITE CAP COMPANIES

IS NOW



SAME PEOPLE, SAME SERVICE, **NEW LOOK!**



SAFETY
SUPPLIES



CONCRETE TOOLS
& ACCESSORIES



FASTENERS &
ANCHORS



MASONRY



POWER &
HAND TOOLS



CUTTING &
ABRASIVES



GEOTEXTILES



BUILDING
ENVELOPE

WHITE CAP PRINCE GEORGE
1706 OGILVIE STREET, PRINCE GEORGE BC
(250) 564-1288

WHITECAPSUPPLY.COM



@WHITECAPSUPPLY

BUILDING TRUST ON EVERY JOB™

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|----|
| Message from Resource Connector North Board..... | 5 |
| RCN 2024/2025 Board of Directors | 6 |
| RCN Bursaries | 7 |
| RCN bursary winner: From cabin renovator to carpenter | 8 |
| Message from the Premier of British Columbia..... | 10 |
| Multi-year aerial leak survey of decommissioned wells released By the BC Energy Regulator..... | 12 |
| Forestry in B.C.: A cornerstone for prosperity By the BC Council of Forest Industries..... | 14 |
| In the home stretch: Site C approaches the finish line | 16 |
| Northern B.C. plant first of its kind: Arbios biotech facility to convert forest residues into sustainable bio-fuel | 18 |
| One step closer: Angus Project well into EA process..... | 20 |
| From local to global: How exporting can advance your B.C. business By Export Navigator | 22 |
| Nickel for your thoughts: FPX's Baptiste Nickel Project has the potential to be one of the largest nickel operations in the world | 24 |
| B.C. mining round up: Notable news..... | 28 |
| Cedar LGN project achieves positive final investment decision | 32 |
| Innovation and opportunity: The allure of rural living in the Northern Rockies | 34 |
| Index to advertisers..... | 38 |



Published by

DEL Communications Inc.

www.delcommunications.com

President & CEO

DAVID LANGSTAFF

Editor

TAMMY SCHUSTER

tammy@delcommunications.com

Advertising Sales Manager

DAYNA OULION

dayna@delcommunications.com

Advertising Sales

BRIAN GEROW

ROSS JAMES

DAN ROBERTS

ANTHONY ROMEO

MICHELLE RAIKE

GARY SEAMANS

Production services provided by:

S.G. Bennett Marketing Services

Creative Director / Layout & Design

KATHLEEN CABLE

©Copyright 2025. Resource Connector North. All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may not be reproduced by any means, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the publisher.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in and the reliability of the source, the publisher in no way guarantees nor warrants the information and is not responsible for errors, omissions or statements made by advertisers. Opinions and recommendations made by contributors or advertisers are not necessarily those of the publisher, its directors, officers or employees.

Publications mail agreement #40934510

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

DEL Communications Inc.

Suite 300, 6 Roslyn Road

Winnipeg, MB R3L 0G5



Communications Inc.

PRINTED IN CANADA | 01/2025

MESSAGE FROM THE RESOURCE CONNECTOR NORTH BOARD



Resource Connector North has utilized social media to connect with more of our members more often. We registered our website www.resourceconnector.ca where new members can register online (<https://www.resourceconnector.ca/membership/become-a-member>) and our current supporters can update their business information online. We have also increased our LinkedIn presence with a webpage (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/resourceconnector-north/>) and use of Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ResourceConnector>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/ResourceNorth>) to promote RCN's activities and broadcast resource projects to our followers.

Hallmarks of RCN Networking events for 2024 include:

- Support of Vitreo Mineral's Angus project 100 km north of Prince George.
- Promotion of the development of Artemis' new Vanderhoof project in Vanderhoof, Quesnel, Williams Lake, and Prince George.

We are also happy to announce RCN supports the development of people in northern B.C. and has broadened our reach to all areas within our mandate to facilitate business development for the resource sector of northern B.C. at:

- Northern Lights College
- Coast Mountain College
- College of New Caledonia, Trades programs (2)
- University of Northern BC, School of Engineering
- Thompson Rivers University, Williams Lake

The Resource Connector North Board has a new director, Heidi Booth from HubSpace. Regrettably, Garrett Turner and Norm Adams left the Board to spend time on their respective businesses.

We are excited to once again be working with DEL Communications to develop our 2024-2025 RCN Membership Directory and Magazine. You can check out the 2024 and past issues of the Resource Connector North Directory and Magazine here: <https://www.resourceconnector.ca/resources/magazine>.

We wish you all the best for 2025 and we look forward to connecting with you to enable business to develop as a result of our region's bountiful resources.

Signed on behalf of the Board,

Fraser Deacon
President, RCN Board ☆

RESOURCE CONNECTOR NORTH 2024/2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Fraser Deacon
President



Sidney Friend
Director



Sydney Hall
Director



Nolan Nicholson
Director



Heidi Booth
Director



Francois Cardin
Director

MISSION STATEMENT:

To promote economic growth in the natural resource sector for the benefit of all British Columbians.

VISION AND POSITIONING STATEMENT:

We serve business and industry related to natural resource development. We are a conduit of connectivity between business and natural resource sectors by:

DELIVERING services and products;

CREATING an environment of exchange of trade; and

SUPPORTING investment in Northern B.C.



SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS



MAGAZINE



BECOME A MEMBER



RESOURCE CONNECTOR NORTH

Bursaries



The RCN's bursary and scholarship program was established to help encourage future generations who have chosen to pursue careers in the resource sector. RCN provides bursaries to students at the University of Northern British Columbia, College of New Caledonia, Coast Mountain College, Thompson Rivers University, and Northern Lights College who are enrolled in trades programs with an emphasis on the resource industry. We are proud to support our many recipients and celebrate their success.

While the 2024 bursaries are still being awarded, the RCN would like to congratulate bursary recipient Elaine Kennedy who is attending Coast Mountain College in Terrace. Congratulations on your achievement!

The RCN currently offers:

- Two bursaries in the amount of \$1,000 each are given to the College of New Caledonia in Prince George.
- Two bursaries in the amount of \$1,000 each is given to Coast Mountain College in Terrace.
- One bursary in the amount of \$1,000 is given to Northern Lights College in Dawson Creek.

- One bursary in the amount of \$1000 is given to University of Northern B.C.
- One bursary in the amount of \$1,000 is given to Thompson Rivers University.

For more information about RCN bursaries, visit the College of New Caledonia at cnc.bc.ca, Coast Mountain College at coastmountaincollege.ca, Northern Lights College at nlc.bc.ca, Thompson Rivers University at tru.ca, or the University of Northern B.C. at unbc.ca. ★

FIREWEED

HELICOPTERS

Whitehorse
867-668-5888

Mayo
867-996-2100

Dawson City
867-993-5700

Operating:
 Bell 206B
 Bell 206L4
 Bell 204C
 Bell 407
 HU500D
 MD520N

**Box 26,
 Whitehorse, Yukon
 Y1A 5X9**

info@fireweedhelicopters.ca
www.fireweedhelicopters.ca

RCN BURSARY WINNER

FROM CABIN RENOVATOR TO CARPENTER: A JOURNEY OF PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE



By Elaine Kennedy

Three years ago, I embarked on an unexpected journey into carpentry when I purchased a dilapidated cabin in Usk. Originally intended as a seasonal retreat, the cabin quickly became my full-time home. With leaks in the roof, rot in the floors, and no plumbing or hot water, the challenge was daunting. Armed with online tutorials, YouTube videos, home improvement books, and a lot of trial and error, I transformed the cabin into a cozy, warm, and sturdy sanctuary.

As a single woman navigating the world of renovations, the process was both challenging and empowering. My first attempt with a circular saw ended with a severed power cord, yet I persisted. Each project, from floor repairs to flawless window installations, deepened my passion for carpentry. This hands-on experience taught me that with patience, perseverance, and planning, even the most overwhelming tasks become achievable.

Today, I am a student in the Carpentry Foundations Program at Coast Mountain College in Terrace, where I aim to refine my skills and transition from self-taught renovator to professional carpenter. My goal is to contribute to addressing the housing crisis by building energy-efficient homes and renovating older properties to ensure they are safe and comfortable for years to come.

Beyond building homes, I am committed to breaking down gender barriers in trades. In a class of 15, only two of us are women, highlighting a significant gender gap in carpentry. By excelling in my craft, I hope to inspire other women to pursue careers in the trades, proving that gender should never limit passion or potential.

Awards and bursaries will be invaluable in supporting my journey, allowing me to focus on my studies and upgrade my toolkit. With the RCN's support, I can turn my vision of empowering communities—and women in trades—into a reality. ★



Clear Blue Water SYSTEMS LTD.
Servicing BC, AB, SK, Yukon & NWT
250-827-3737 Toll Free: 1-844-827-3700
info@clearbluwatersystems.ca
clearbluwatersystems.ca

Specializing in Remote Camp Portable Water Treatment Buildings

Clean Water Clean Choice

- Water Softeners & Iron Filters
- Portable Water Treatment Systems
- UV Sterilization & R.O. Systems
- Cistern Installs & Tank Cleanings
- Pump Sales & Installs
- Storage & Re-pressurisation
- Water System Supplies
- Flow & Pump Testing



Sinkut RADIATOR SERVICE Inc.
& ALUMINUM COOLER REMANUFACTURING

We are an industrial radiator shop focused on servicing all types of radiators, coolers, and heat exchangers in the mining and forestry sectors. We have a large inventory of complete high flow upgraded radiators and coolers and are a fully insured NARSA HD Certified shop with trained and certified award-winning technicians.

Mailing address and shop location:
4786 Griffith Road, Vanderhoof, BC V0J 3A1

1-250-567-2627 rick@sinkutradiator.com
www.sinkutradiatorservice.com



START



SOMETHING



NEW

STARTSOMETHING.DAWSONCREEK.CA



LOCATED IN PRINCE GEORGE & HOUSTON, B.C.



WWW.SMPRV.CA

HOUSTON
1-800-665-3151

PRINCE GEORGE
1-888-217-0511



MESSAGE FROM THE
HONOURABLE DAVID EBY
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO RESPOND TO AMERICAN TARIFF THREATS

Our province is blessed with a bounty of natural resources at a critical moment. As the world moves to a clean energy future, we are well positioned to be responsible low-carbon suppliers of energy, critical minerals, and other natural resources in demand around the globe.

Natural resources are a key to prosperity for all of us.

A 25-per cent tariff, as proposed by U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, would not only have severe negative consequences on B.C.'s natural resource sector but would cost American families and business, as well.

Instead of further integrating B.C. natural resource goods into U.S.

supply chains, trade tariffs of this magnitude will drive up costs for Americans, while also pushing these in-demand goods towards other markets that are keen to supplant their American rivals.

Our response to this threat has two parts. First, I am working with my colleagues across Canada to convey to our friends and contacts in the U.S. – in no uncertain terms – that these tariffs will have a devastating effect on their side of the border, turning the economic advantage of US-Canada trade into a disadvantage on both sides of the border.

Second, we must prepare ourselves and our industries for these threats to become a reality. B.C.'s exports to the U.S. are relatively less than Ontario and Quebec – that is the result of expanded trade ties we have with Asian-Pacific markets. We must

continue to foster and expand those trading relationships, so we are less reliant on U.S. imports.

The Government of B.C. can assist our natural resource industry in exploring and securing more diversified trade opportunities.

This is a critical moment for Canada and for British Columbia. We are working with other provinces and the federal government, as well as with labour leaders, to respond with a united voice. And we are bringing the business and labour community together because these tariffs are a risk to us all – so we must have an all-hands-on-deck response.

I have named a dedicated team to help create the conditions for us to thrive despite the threats we face. Veteran MLA Jagrup Brar is the new Minister of Mining and Critical Minerals, while the experienced Adrian Dix is Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions. They will be assisted by Parliamentary Secretary Steve Morissette, who is responsible for rural development.

As we fight for workers and all those who benefit from the forest sector, we're also working to build a more sustainable and prosperous industry for future generations. Leading these efforts will be Ravi Parmar, our new Minister of Forests. Ravi is a hardworking listener who has hit the ground running. He understands the enormous challenges the sector faces and was meeting with key stakeholders and local leaders within hours of being sworn in.

My entire team – a mix of veterans and newcomers – is hard at work for you.

McElhanney

Local and international, big and small, McElhanney has worked on projects supporting the resource sector since 1910.

www.mcelhanney.com

As we fight for workers and all those who benefit from the forest sector, we're also working to build a more sustainable and prosperous industry for future generations.

In this time of change and uncertainty, of polarization and division, we have been asked by the people of British Columbia to work together to get things done. British Columbians expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and deliver results that make a real difference in their daily lives.

The world's transition to a clean energy and technology is a generational opportunity to be seized, not squandered. And this work will be enabled and accelerated by advancing a true, lasting and meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. By doing so, we will end uncertainty, we will benefit all communities, and we will all move forward on the path to a prosperous future for us all.

Haisla Nation is leading the development of Cedar LNG, the world's first Indigenous majority-owned, hydro-powered, floating LNG facility. Cedar LNG is a shining example of how natural resource development should work in our province — in full partnership with First Nations. By working together with industry and First Nations, we can build a stronger and cleaner economy that creates opportunities and benefits for all.

The construction of the LNG Canada facility at Kitimat continues. It is on schedule to begin exporting LNG by the middle of this year. At the peak of construction, LNG Canada's workforce was more than 9,000 people, while more than 35,000 have worked on the project. The export of LNG, from Canada to Asian markets will help contribute to decarbonization in that part of the world.

Some of our greatest opportunities lie beneath our feet.

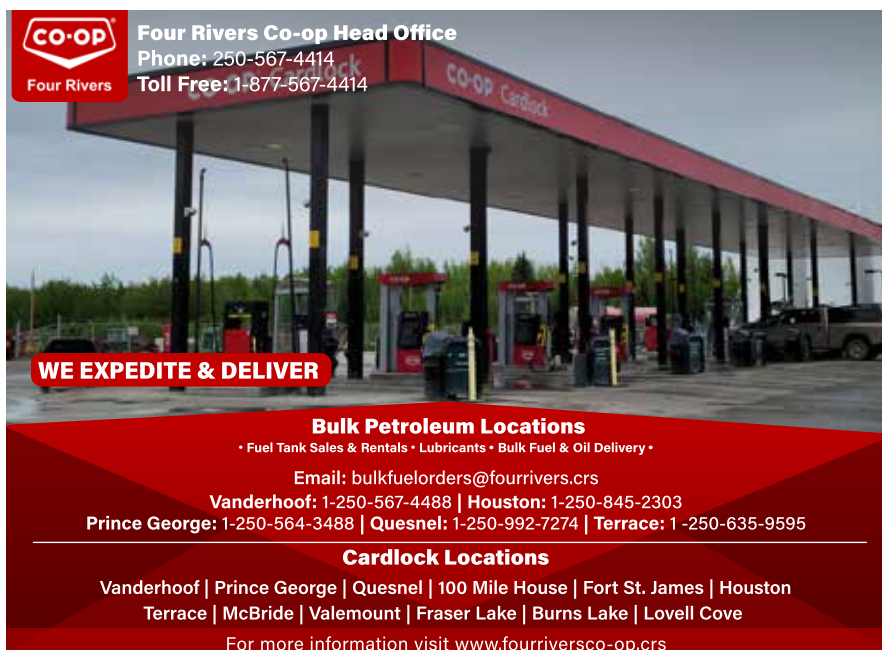
The world needs critical minerals as essential components in such products as batteries, solar panels, wind turbines, electric vehicles and electrical transmission lines. B.C. is Canada's largest producer of copper and the only producer of molybdenum, two essential critical minerals. Our province produces 16 of the 31 critical minerals identified in the Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy.

We are committed to making permitting more efficient. Artemis Gold's Blackwater gold and silver mine near Vanderhoof will begin operations soon. The estimated capital investment for Blackwater is \$645 million and will provide more than 450 jobs when operational. From final application to green light, the mine's owner obtained its operating permit within a year. As well, Osisko Development Corporation has recently received permits for the Cariboo Gold Mine.

British Columbia, a growing province, needs to double the power we generate by 2050 to answer the current and future demands for energy to develop these resources. BC Hydro's \$36-billion, 10-year capital plan, called "Power Pathway: Building B.C.'s Energy Future," will twin an existing high-power transmission line between Prince George and Terrace, while also making investments in other assets across the system.

British Columbia has a growing reputation around the world as a centre for innovation and cutting-edge technology. This is a place to invest, because opportunity is everywhere.

We must not allow damaging tariffs to shut the door on this promising future. By working together, we will expand markets for B.C. resources even as we convince our American friends about the folly of turning our shared border into a barrier blocking shared prosperity. ★



CO-OP Four Rivers
Four Rivers Co-op Head Office
Phone: 250-567-4414
Toll Free: 1-877-567-4414

WE EXPEDITE & DELIVER

Bulk Petroleum Locations
• Fuel Tank Sales & Rentals • Lubricants • Bulk Fuel & Oil Delivery •
Email: bulkfuelorders@fourrivers.crs
Vanderhoof: 1-250-567-4488 | Houston: 1-250-845-2303
Prince George: 1-250-564-3488 | Quesnel: 1-250-992-7274 | Terrace: 1-250-635-9595

Cardlock Locations
Vanderhoof | Prince George | Quesnel | 100 Mile House | Fort St. James | Houston
Terrace | McBride | Valemount | Fraser Lake | Burns Lake | Lovell Cove
For more information visit www.fourriversco-op.crs

MULTI-YEAR AERIAL LEAK SURVEY OF DECOMMISSIONED WELLS RELEASED BY THE BCER



The multi-year aerial survey improves the British Columbia Energy Regulator’s (BCER) understanding of the potential for abandoned well leaks and the long-term risk of methane leaks at decommissioned well sites, while providing well integrity oversight.

A multi-year aerial survey of 1,221 decommissioned wells undertaken by the BCER in northeast B.C. between 2017 and 2023 found less than one per cent had a confirmed methane leak.

The aerial surveys were conducted using a methane detector mounted on the underside of a helicopter, flying at 90–150 metres (300-500 feet) above ground level. The methane detector uses lasers directed downwards to illuminate an area on the ground and is reflected back to the detector.

Where methane is present in the path of the beam, the reflection is weaker due to absorption of the laser. This survey method allows easier access to sites in very difficult and inaccessible terrain. It’s fast, cost-effective, and can detect very low concentrations of methane.

Wells were selected for the BCER’s inspection using a variety of measures, including legacy wells, wells with a known surface casing vent flow or wellbore integrity history, over-pressured zones, sour gas (H2S) content, surface casing set depth or the presence of an open hole abandonment plug. Of the 1,221 aerial surveyed wells, 25 had initial indications of methane leaks. Subsequent investigations of the indicated sites, through ground inspections, confirmed six abandoned well leaks – or less than one per cent - 10 with no methane

leaks with nine currently under further investigation. The BCER’s 2024 aerial survey of almost 250 wells in an area northeast of Fort St. John close to Pink Mountain is currently being analyzed. Through this work, the BCER continues to explore emerging technologies and utilize the latest science to effectively manage energy resource activities including well integrity oversight.

The 2017 aerial survey, the first year of the program, took place around Fort St. John and surveyed 105 wells, including non-decommissioned wells with known methane emissions. The aerial survey identified one potential leaking abandoned well. A subsequent investigation determined the well was not leaking.

The 2018 survey was also conducted around Fort St. John and surveyed 103 decommissioned wells. Two sites were identified as potentially having methane emissions. Subsequent investigations confirmed one abandoned well leak and determined the other well was not leaking.

The 2019 survey targeted an area east of Fort Nelson, surveying 104 decommissioned gas wells, with possible methane detections noted at six wells. Subsequent inspections confirmed three abandoned well leaks, two well sites with no leaks and the one other well was placed under investigation.

The 2020 aerial survey was conducted for 98 decommissioned gas wells in the foothills area

| Year | # of Wells Surveyed | Initial Methane Indication | Confirmed Abandoned Well Leak | Wellsites Under Further Investigation |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2017 | 105 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2018 | 103 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 2019 | 104 | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| 2020 | 98 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 2021 | 144 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2022 | 373 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| 2023 | 294 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Total | 1,221 | 25 | 6 | 9 |

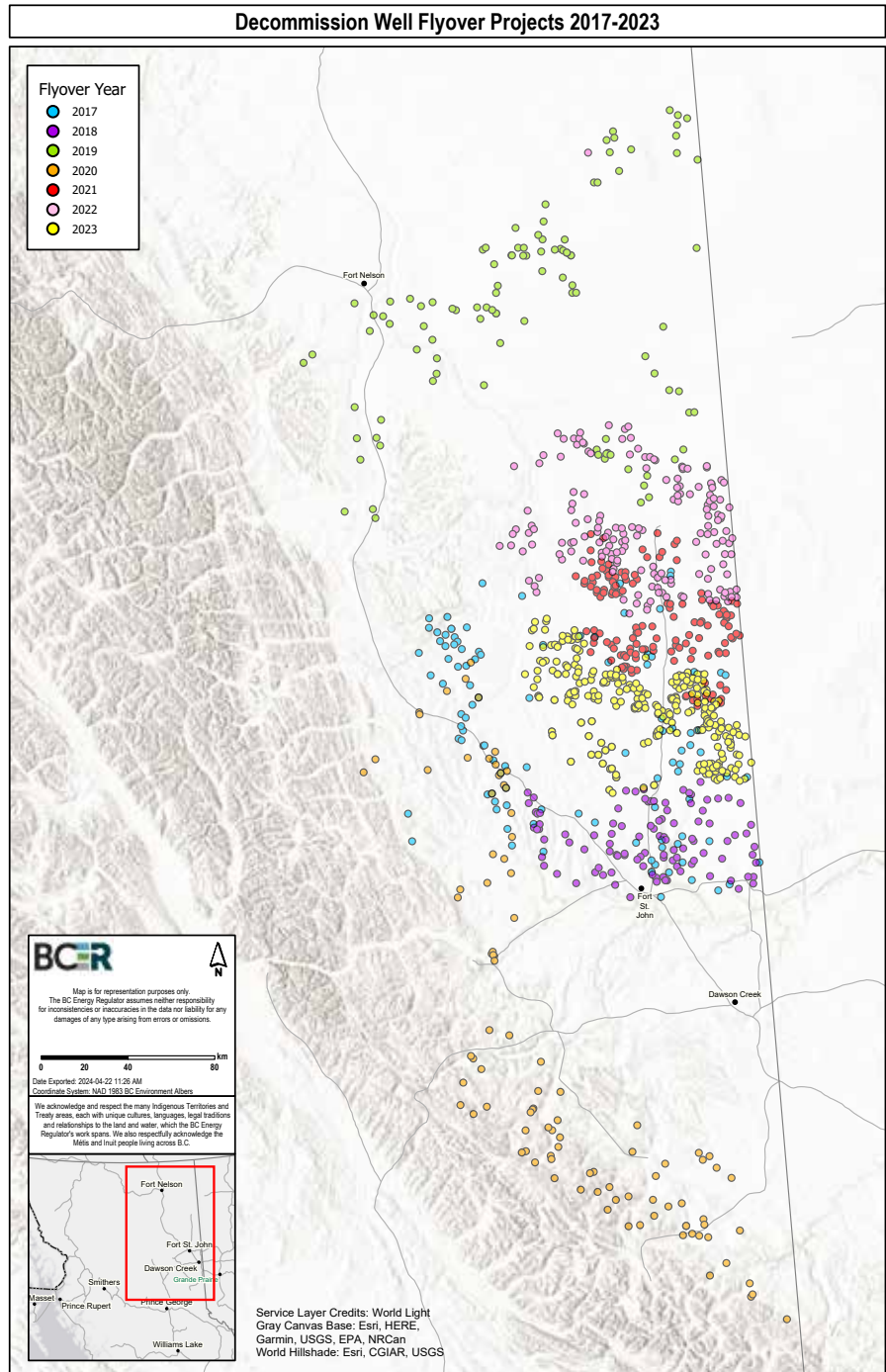
between Hudson's Hope and the Alberta border. Three well sites had shown initial indications of methane. Subsequent site inspections determined no evidence the wells were leaking.


The 2021 aerial survey of 144 decommissioned gas wells was located between Fort St. John and the Milligan Hills area. One location was noted as having a small methane indication, outside the lease area. A subsequent inspection by BCER staff was completed and determined no evidence of the well leaking. Further in 2021, the BCER began information sharing with First Nation communities within the area of the program, notifying them of tentative start dates, the area of inspection, fuel-staging areas and providing a detailed map of survey locations.

The 2022 aerial survey targeted 373 decommissioned gas wells southeast of Fort Nelson where eight potential methane indications were identified. Subsequent inspections confirmed two abandoned well leaks, two wells not leaking with the remaining well sites placed under investigation.


The 2023 aerial survey was conducted over 294 decommissioned gas wells located north of Fort St. John to Nig Creek and the surrounding Peejay area. Of the wells analyzed, four sites were noted as potentially having methane emissions. The four wells were subsequently inspected and require further investigation.

More information on the multi-year aerial methane survey can be found in the summary report on bc-er.ca (<https://www.bc-er.ca/files/reports/Aerial-Leak-Surveys/Multi-year-Aerial-Leak-Survey-of-Decommissioned-Wells.pdf>). ★





www.delcommunications.com



**Helping your members stay connected is
WHAT WE DO.**

We offer outstanding personal service and quality in the areas of...

- Creative Design • Website Design • Advertising Sales
- Print and Web Magazine Publications
- Online E-newsletters • Online Directories

FORESTRY IN B.C.: A CORNERSTONE FOR PROSPERITY



By Linda Coady, President & CEO of the BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI)

For generations, British Columbia's forest sector has been a cornerstone of the province's economy and community wellbeing. Supporting over 90,000 workers across every region, the sector provides family-supporting jobs while reinforcing B.C.'s reputation as a global leader in sustainable resource management.

Today, as B.C. faces significant economic, environmental, and social challenges, the forest sector is uniquely positioned to help provide solutions. Sustainable forest management practices can generate high-value wood products for affordable and low-carbon homes and new bioproducts made from wood waste and residuals. Active forest management can also reduce wildfire risks, support community safety, and conserve B.C.'s ecosystems and biodiversity.

Yet, to realize this potential, restoring confidence in the sector is essential. Workers, families, and communities rely on forestry for their livelihoods. Action is needed to address the challenges we face together and there is broad agreement among industry, labour, First Nations, and political leaders that the status quo is no longer acceptable.

URGENT PRIORITIES

1. Stabilizing fibre supply

A predictable, sustainable fibre supply is the backbone of B.C.'s forest sector, ensuring mills remain operational, workers stay employed, and communities thrive. Setting a target for predictable access to a minimum harvest of 45 million cubic metres annually that can be reliably available to mills and manufacturing facilities is a critical step to revitalizing the industry. Stabilizing fibre supply is key to attracting investment, advancing technology, and fostering innovation in both primary and value-added manufacturing. By streamlining permitting and strengthening connections across the supply chain, we can secure the fibre necessary to keep B.C. workers at the center of the sector's success.

2. Strengthening partnerships with First Nations communities

Reconciliation with First Nations is a practical foundation for the future of resource industries. COFI members are actively working to build equitable partnerships with First Nations through agreements that create shared economic opportunities, drive innovation, and support community prosperity. Expanding revenue-sharing frameworks and fostering

Indigenous participation across the forestry supply chain are vital steps.

3. Accelerating land-use planning and innovative forest management

Land-use planning must evolve to reflect today's realities. By scaling up promising pilot programs in innovative forest management, we can align ecological, social, Indigenous, and economic priorities. Collaborative planning processes that include all stakeholders—First Nations, industry, workers, and communities—are essential to achieving shared outcomes.

In tandem, protecting biodiversity remains a core commitment. By adopting innovative conservation strategies and leveraging tools such as the B.C. Conservation Fund and the Tripartite Nature Agreement, we can achieve biodiversity goals while ensuring sustainable forest management practices that respect ecological values, cultural heritage, and economic interests.

A SHARED OPPORTUNITY FOR B.C.'S FUTURE

Forestry is about more than economics—it's about people. Standing up for workers means not only securing their jobs but also ensuring they play a central role in building a sustainable future

for B.C.'s forest sector. Despite current challenges, there is growing consensus that meaningful change is both necessary and achievable. By stabilizing the fibre supply, adopting innovative technologies, and implementing creative strategies, the sector can move forward with renewed confidence. This approach will ensure forestry continues to drive the province's economy while contributing to affordable housing solutions and strengthening environmental stewardship.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE 2025 COFI CONVENTION

From April 2 to 4, 2025, COFI will host its annual convention in Prince George, the heart of B.C.'s resource economy. Under the theme "Where do we stand? Strategies for competitiveness and sustainability", the convention will explore how innovation and collaboration are reshaping the sector.

The 2025 COFI Convention will serve as a platform for industry leaders, policymakers, First Nations, and community stakeholders to come together and chart a path forward. A new study will compare B.C. with other global forest jurisdictions on competitiveness and sustainability indicators, providing critical insights. Discussions will focus on key topics such as Indigenous reconciliation, trade diversification, wildfire resilience, and fibre utilization. The convention will also highlight how improvements in permitting, partnerships, and technology can create new pathways for growth and investment.

By addressing the challenges and opportunities ahead, B.C.'s forest sector can remain a cornerstone of the province's economy while leading the way in sustainable resource management.

We invite you to join the conversation in Prince George this spring.

Together, we can build a future where the forest industry thrives—restoring confidence in the sector, creating more jobs, driving innovation and making B.C. better for all.

To learn more, visit cofi.org. ★

YXT
Terrace-Kitimat

GET CONNECTED THROUGH THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL AIRPORT

Capacity
Executive board room, full service restaurant and vehicle rentals (National, Hertz, Budget & Driving Force)

Connections
Connections to Vancouver, Calgary, Prince George, Bob Quinn and Dease Lake with unrestricted aircraft accommodation including 757, 737 and 767

Reliability
State of the art Instrument Landing System and RNP-AR commissioned 2021, Reliability for flight completion at 99.9%.

Safety
Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Category 6

Port Edward
1 hr 30 mins

Meziadin Junction
2 hrs 30 mins

Terrace
15 mins

Kitimat
35 mins

JUST A SHORT DRIVE AWAY

Northwest Regional Airport
Terrace-Kitimat

103-4401 Bristol Rd., Terrace BC | (250) 635-2659 | www.yxt.ca

CAPACITY • CONNECTIONS • RELIABILITY • SAFETY



HOME STRETCH: SITE C APPROACHES THE FINISH LINE

By Melanie Franner



Decades in the making in the concept stage and 10 years in construction alone, Site C is so close to finally nearing completion. The clean energy project is the third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeastern B.C.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Site C is the first significant dam to be built in B.C. in the last 40 years. When fully operational, it will provide 1,100 megawatts (MW) of capacity and produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity each year – enough to power about half a million homes or 1.7 million electric vehicles annually.

Site C will add about 8% to BC

Hydro's total annual electrical capacity and generation. It will produce electricity for more than 100 years. And having reached some major milestones, Site C is fast becoming able to deliver on these expectations.

Reservoir filling began in late August and took about 11 weeks before the water levels at the dam site increased by the required 43 metres. The filling of the reservoir allowed for the generating station, spillways, turbines, and generators to be put into operation.

The first of the six units at the dam became operational in October 2024. "The next unit is expected to be operational by February 2025," says Brian Knoke, Vice President of the Dam Site for BC Hydro on Site C.

"Our goal is to commission each of the remaining units every two months so that it will be fully operational in the fall of 2025."

The decade-long construction schedule was dealt a couple of setbacks along the way thanks to the pandemic, supply-chain issues, geotechnical issues, wild fires, and even a few earthquakes.

"It's been pretty intense at times," says Knoke, adding that the project adhered to the revised schedule that was revised in 2021. "At this stage, we're about 90% complete."

CLOSE ENOUGH FOR COMFORT

With the final stages of the project underway, the 30 to 40 current site staff will slowly transition to permanent status. At the peak of construction last August, that number was close to 6,000 (three shifts of approximately 2,000 each).

"The workforce has been fairly consistent from local groups, as well as from all over the country as



needed,” says Knoke, who himself has been working on the project since 2017. “It’s definitely been a journey, one that wouldn’t have been possible were it not for the teamwork and collaboration required across all disciplines.”

For Knoke, one of the highlights of the projects was the completion of the river diversion.

“That was a huge challenge at the time,” he says. “It was October 2020, and we were in the middle of a pandemic. There was only a very narrow window to do the diversion. The fact that we were able to accomplish that was a major victory for everyone on the team.”

THE FINISHINGS

The latest updates from the site see various activities continue at the dam site, including road maintenance, drainage tunnels and channels work; preparation for the permanent dam safety monitoring equipment; diversion and outlet channel decommissioning; and hauling of aggregates.

Work will also continue at the powerhouse station in preparation for the remaining units, while commissioning activities will continue at the permanent fishway, while ongoing interior architectural,

electrical, and mechanical work will continue for the emergency response team building.

Debris management at the reservoir will also continue, as will reclamation activities at various parts of the dam. “Once Site C is fully operational, we will focus on the reclamation, decommissioning, and rest of the activities involved in winding down the project,” says Knoke.

A LESSON IN DEDICATION

For Knoke and his team, Site C has been a lengthy and, at times, challenging journey. How anyone can sum up years and years of experiences may be near to impossible. But perhaps one can cast light on the achievement itself.

“This has definitely been a massive undertaking,” says Knoke. “We’ve been able to accomplish what we have because of the people who have been working on this project, because of their resilience and perseverance to get through the tough times and get this project done.”

That’s not to say there weren’t some extraordinary experiences along the way, like reaching goals sooner than anticipated.

“I think that the fact we were able to get power six weeks ahead of schedule is a testament to the years of hard work that everyone put into this project,” concludes Knoke. “We were all committed to doing everything we could to make it work. And I’m proud to say that we’ve done it.” ★



NORTHERN B.C. PLANT FIRST OF ITS KIND



Arbios Biotech facility to convert forest residues into sustainable bio-fuel

By Jim Timlick



COO Stefan Muller says the Chuntoh Ghuna facility will use a hydrothermal liquefaction technology developed by Licella known as Cat-HTR.

Forest residues such as slash is generally an afterthought at most logging operations if it's thought of at all.

A unique partnership is looking to change all that with a one-of-a-kind facility being built in northern B.C.

Arbios Biotech is a collaboration between global forest products leader Canfor and Australian tech company Licella. The partnership is building the first of its kind facility in Prince George that will convert low-value biomass residue materials into a high-value renewable bio-oil that can then be refined into sustainable fuels for anything from vehicles to airplanes.

The Arbios facility in Prince George has been named Chuntoh Ghuna (pronounced Chan-toh Hannah), which means 'the forest lives.' It

was given that name by the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation on whose unceded territory the facility is located. Construction is scheduled to wrap up before the end of this year and the production of renewable bio-oil will start soon after.

Arbios COO Stefan Muller says the driving force behind the project is a strong desire on the part of the two partner companies to create a high-value, renewable bio-oil while at the same time contributing to a low-carbon economy.

"This is something that clearly with some of the climate change impacts that we're seeing is becoming more important," says Muller, who has worked in the renewable fuels industry for more than 20 years. "People are starting to see that more and more. That's why we've gotten support and buy-in from (a number of) people to do this."

The Chuntoh Ghuna facility will use a hydrothermal liquefaction technology Licella has been developing for the past 16 years known as Cat-HTR.

The process used to convert residue materials into bio-fuel is surprisingly simple. The biomass is first dried before being mixed with water that has been super heated and highly pressurized. The entire process of converting the biomass into bio-fuel takes just minutes.

"When you compare us to petroleum

feedstocks, those have been converted into biomass under heat and pressure into petroleum products," explains Muller. "We're doing something similar, but not quite to the same extent, at a much accelerated scale by increasing the temperature and increasing the pressure (over) what nature does.

"We're doing in minutes what nature would do in millions of years."

Muller says there are multiple benefits to using this hydrothermal liquefaction process to convert forest residues and biomass waste such as bark into renewable bio-oil.

First and foremost, bio-oil produces a much lower carbon footprint than conventional fossil fuels. Secondly, most low-value residues at logging operations are either left on the ground to decompose or are burned, which releases greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. The Cat-HTR process involves no burning and produces very little waste material. And because it converts low-value residue into a higher value product, that helps to solidify the economic position of any company using the process.

The selection of the Prince George site for Chuntoh Ghuna was something of a no-brainer. It's located on property Canfor Pulp already owns for one of its pulp mills and across the street from a potential Arbios customer, an

Arbios Biotech's Chuntoh Ghuna facility in Prince George will convert forest residue such as bark and sawdust into bio-fuel.

oil refinery. Muller says that means decreased transportation distances for bringing in the raw materials for refining as well as transporting the finished product to clients. It also benefits from proximity to existing utilities infrastructure on the Canfor Pulp site.

Although 20 acres have been set aside for the processing facility, only a small portion of the site is required for the conversion plant. The rest of the site will be used for feedstock staging and product storage. This was done, in part, to allow Arbios to expand the facility if future economics warrants it.

"One of the things that allows us to do is the facility can be built in modular fashion so we can add on different operations to it or add to some of the existing operations to make it bigger" Muller says.

When the first phase of Chuntoh Ghuna is fully operational it will be able to process 25,000 oven-dried tonnes of woody biomass into about 50,000 barrels of renewable bio-oil a year.

While Arbios is using the same biomass conversion technology at pilot facilities at other locations, Prince George is the first location where such a facility is being built on a commercial scale.

Muller says one of the challenges for Arbios is that it is having to "learn as it goes" since it's the first time a facility like it has ever been built to this scale.

"Since nobody has done this before, we can't rely on past experience and say at the last plant, this is how we built this portion, or this is how we started up or ran this portion. We



have to innovate as we go along," he says.

The Chuntoh Ghuna facility currently employs over 20 people including engineers, operators, and support staff. That number is expected to rise to approximately 50 people as the facility expands.

In addition to Canfor's investments, the project received funding from the Province of B.C. in the form of carbon credits through the Initiatives Agreement Program. It also received funding during the developmental stage of the project from the Sustainable Development Technology Canada Fund, the B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Innovative Clean Energy Fund and the Department of Natural Resources Canada's Clean Growth in the Natural Resources Sector's Innovation Program.

"We wouldn't have been able to do it without them," Muller says. "It really does take a village to raise children sometimes and the same thing is true for a project of this type that's something new and exciting, but that's also extremely important for

both the local economy as well as the environment."

As mentioned, another important partner in the project has been the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation. Arbios has been working in conjunction with the First Nation since the project's inception, including collaborating on a voluntary environmental due diligence assessment. The two parties also held joint reviews of cultural and traditional land use impacts and how they could be mitigated. They are also working jointly on a Lheidli T'enneh-led B.C. Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy -funded project that will investigate the economic feasibility of decreasing the risk of forest fires by removing forest residues and turning them into biofuels.

"It was very important for us to have the Lheidli T'enneh involved in Arbios," says Muller. "First of all, we are on the unceded territory of the Lheidli T'enneh where the site is located. But also, we believe this is the right decision for the Nation to be part of our project and to be part of the decision-making right from the get-go." ★



ONE STEP CLOSER: ANGUS PROJECT WELL INTO EA PROCESS

By Melanie Franner

The first mine of significant size to produce Tier 1 silica sand (proppant) in northern B.C. is fast approaching a major milestone.

Vitreo Minerals Ltd. reports that the company's flagship project, the Angus Project, is well into the Environment Assessment and regulatory process, having achieved its Process Order in October 2024. The company has been accelerating work on the project for the past five years.

ACCENT ON LOCAL

Located approximately 60 kilometres north of Prince George (near Bear Lake), the Angus Project is anticipated to become a key local proppant supplier to meet increasing demand for natural gas production in the Montney (and potentially other oil and gas basins) in northeastern B.C. and northwestern Alberta.

The Angus Project will mine and process high-purity quartz arenite, similar to sandstone, to produce high-quality Tier-1 proppant.

Proppant is used as a critical component in well production, facilitating the flow of natural gas from the surrounding rock mass. Recognized for enhanced production and slower tail-off rates in gas production, Tier 1 proppant is quickly becoming a much-needed commodity in the region. Having local access will complement the existing supply chain significantly.

"Proppant is currently imported all the way from Wisconsin, with some smaller volumes from Alberta," says Scott Broughton, President and CEO, Vitreo Minerals. "Our proximity to the gas basins in B.C. and Alberta is expected to reduce proppant transport distances from over 3,000 kilometres to less than 350 kilometres. This will substantially offset greenhouse gas emissions created by transport alone."

By reducing the need to transport silica sand from Wisconsin, the Angus Project will decrease supply chain costs and reduce risks in delivery for existing natural gas exploration and production

companies in B.C. and Alberta. It will also help meet the needs of Canada's growing LNG industry, in addition to diversifying the North's economy.

"The demand for high-quality sand in Northern B.C. and Alberta is expected to continue to rise, especially with LNG Canada and others being considered," says Broughton.

Existing product terminals for proppants already exist in Chetwynd, Fort St. John, Taylor, and Dawson Creek.

BY THE NUMBERS

The Angus Project will be similar to other open pit mining and quarrying operations in B.C. Drilling, blasting, and haulage of the mined material will be taken to an initial processing plant. There will be no need for tailings ponds to be constructed.

Once operational, the Angus Project is expected to produce approximately two million tonnes of silica sand per year. The mine site will include a quarry, raw sand plant, water

management infrastructure, waste rock, and fines stockpiles. A separate finishing plant will be constructed adjacent to Highway 97 with all related infrastructure nearby.

Engineering and prefeasibility studies estimate that the total cost for project development will be approximately \$300 million.

“Our current timeline suggests we may attain our Environmental Assessment Certificate in early 2026, and major permits later in 2026,” says Broughton. “We hope to have a final investment decision sometime that year.”

Once the project attains the final green light, development of the facilities is anticipated to take approximately 18 months. Construction and operation hires will include residents from Prince George, Bear Lake, McLeod Lake and the surrounding areas. Estimates suggest a construction workforce of around 150 and about 140 for the ongoing operation of the mine. Another 150 jobs will be indirectly involved in the delivery of Angus proppants to well sites.

Vitreo Minerals has established good relationships with the three participating Indigenous nations; Lheidli Teneh First Nation, McLeod Lake Indian, and West Moberly First Nations Band.

“Since the beginning of our work here, we have highlighted the long-term and stable business and employment opportunities that Angus will create,” says Broughton. “We intend to make Angus a local operation providing contracting, business opportunities, and job training to local communities and Indigenous nations.”

Broughton anticipates that the Angus project will also help alleviate recent regional and local job losses stemming from announced mill closures.

“We are excited for the long term, multigenerational opportunities at Angus and proud to deliver these to our local communities,” he says.

NEXT STEPS

Once fully operational, the initial phase of the Angus Project is expected to be in production for 20 years - ongoing assessment of market conditions and mining opportunities at the site may result in a longer operating opportunity

“Working through an Environmental Assessment to build a new mine in B.C. is not for the faint of heart,” concludes Broughton. “We have spent significant time and effort in baseline studies, community engagement and regulatory work. As a company, we have learned a lot through this process, and we have also been fortunate to work

directly with various communities and Indigenous nations and within their traditional territories. Our goal is to continue those partnerships and to attain our EAC so that the project can advance to the provincial permitting process.” ★



AIRPLUS
Industrial
www.airplusindustrial.ca

SAME GREAT STAFF, SAME GREAT SERVICE FOR OVER 30 YEARS.

- Donaldson Torit Dust Collector Systems Sales
- NR Murphy Dust Collector Systems Sales
- Aftermarket Parts Sales for All Brands
- Engineering & Design Assistance

1.866.291.6855 | sales@airplusindustrial.ca

FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL: HOW EXPORTING CAN ADVANCE YOUR B.C. BUSINESS

Whether your company is big or small, exporting can grow your business. And while your local market is a great starting point, it will only take you so far. There are more than five million British Columbians today, but getting your business ready to export can open you up to new markets in the billions.

Even with zero experience, by leveraging existing resources and support, you can get your business ready to export confidently.

BENEFITS OF EXPORTING

When you export your goods or services, you reach new markets with potential new customers, benefits, and cost-saving opportunities.

You can benefit from higher sales volumes when your customer base is growing. Higher sales volumes will decrease your production costs and help to create cost savings through economies of scale.

Entering new markets also means connecting with new opportunities. You could discover a grant or funding that you're now eligible for. Or you could meet with new potential business partners.

Finally, a big benefit to exporting is that it diversifies your business. This will help you by insulating your business from fluctuations in the local market, especially when competition increases in your region.

HOW TO GET EXPORTING SUPPORT

Exporting can go from daunting to exciting when you have a trusted expert in your corner.

Export Navigator is a free-to-join program supported by federal and provincial funding that connects you with an export advisor.

WHY WORK WITH AN EXPORT ADVISOR?

Export advisors are located throughout BC, and you'll be matched with one who's familiar with the local business landscape in your region. Advisors connect businesses with resources, industry connections, and support services on the way.

When you meet with your advisor, they will do an assessment of your business's export readiness. Then, they will be with you step-by-step on your export journey, allowing you to go at your own pace.

THE EXPORT PATHWAY

Export Navigator boils down a complicated process into a step-by-step system. The Export Pathway has four stages: awareness, planning, market entry, and market development and growth.

1. Awareness

This stage assesses your awareness of exporting as a growth strategy and your export readiness. You'll

also start to build your international network and work on your business expansion plan.

2. Planning

The planning stage includes identifying, researching, and narrowing down the markets that your product or service has a potential to succeed. Once you have validated the chosen markets, you'll develop an extension of your business plan that is focused on planning and executing the export strategy.

3. Market entry

The market entry stage is where the rubber hits the road. You will implement your export plan, and work towards making your first sale in your new market. This may include attending trade shows, trade missions, and B2B meetings in your chosen markets.

4. Market development and growth

Once you're in the market, it's time to sustain your presence, get help with any troubleshooting that comes up, and continue to grow.

HOW TO JOIN EXPORT NAVIGATOR

The first step to joining the free Export Navigator program is to fill out the "Find an Advisor" form. In less than five minutes, you will find out if your business is eligible for the program.

When you export your goods or services, you reach new markets with potential new customers, benefits, and cost-saving opportunities.

Entering new markets also means connecting with new opportunities. You could discover a grant or funding that you're now eligible for. Or you could meet with new potential business partners.

Then, eligible businesses are connected with an advisor. Your advisor will reach out to learn more about your business and provide you with an intake form. Once you're accepted into the program, your advisor will offer one-on-one guidance to help you reach your exporting goals.

EXPORT EDUCATION FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

If you're curious to learn more about exporting before joining

Export Navigator, then you can take advantage of free e-courses for BC businesses.

- Export Essentials – This introductory course provides you with an overview of the exporting process from start to finish.
- Exporting Your Services – This course for service businesses provides you with the knowledge and resources to export your service to a new market.

- Preparing to export agri-foods – This course for agri-food suppliers shows you how to identify your target market, navigate regulations, and identify transportation and distribution modes. You'll also be connected with additional resources and programs for support.

With so many free resources available, it's easier to export than ever before. Get started on your export journey by learning more from Export Navigator at exportnavigator.com. ★

SMP
GMC

WWW.SULLIVANGM.COM
1-877-552-6268

NORTHWEST'S LARGEST VOLUME DEALER FOR A REASON

NICKEL FOR YOUR THOUGHTS



FPX's Baptiste nickel project has the potential to be one of the largest nickel operations in the world

By Jim Timlick



The demand for nickel in this country is expected to roughly double over the next decade as more and more Canadians get behind the wheel of electric-powered vehicles. A project underway in central B.C. could go a long way in helping meet that need.

The Baptiste Nickel Project is in the early stages of development and has the potential to be one of the largest nickel deposits not only in this country, but the world. The project is located on a 408 square kilometre section of land in the Decar Nickel District and is being spearheaded by FPX Nickel, a Vancouver-based nickel mining company.

FPX discovered the deposit in 2008 and anticipates beginning the environmental assessment process for it in 2025. If the company receives the necessary approvals, construction of the mine could begin within four years, and it could be operational by 2031.

Company president and CEO Martin Turenne says the project represents a great opportunity not only for his company, but also the community.

“We think Baptiste represents a great opportunity to advance a resource project in a truly 21st century way



in full collaboration with the First Nations communities in the area, and to achieve a large-scale nickel production that can help to produce nickel for the decarbonization of our economy and the planet,” he says.

The Baptiste deposit is economically attractive for a couple of reasons. One is the scale of it. The anticipated nickel tonnage from it makes it one of the largest such deposits in the world. Secondly, the nickel at the site is present in a form known as awaruite, a type of nickel deposit that provides some significant recovery and processing advantages including lower capital and operating costs, and a lower reliance on chemical extraction than typical nickel deposits in Canada.

While nickel is a key component of stainless steel, the major factor driving demand for the mineral is electric vehicles. Today’s leading edge EV batteries with the highest energy density use up to 80 per cent nickel, compared to less than 33 per cent in most older batteries. That means they provide longer range and quicker charging times.

If successful, the Baptiste project could go a long way in meeting the future nickel needs of Canada and allied nations while making them less reliant on China, the

largest player in the global nickel supply chain.

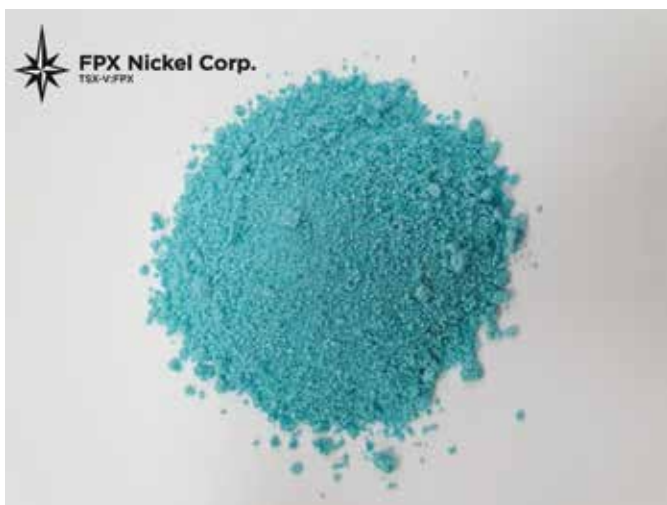
“The development of a new large nickel deposit like ours in Canada, not only can it contribute to a decarbonization of our mobility, but it can also help to strengthen our geopolitical ties with allied regions in North America and Europe and in places like Japan and Korea as well,” explains Turenne.

FPX is projecting the Baptiste mine to have a 29-year operating life. It is expected to provide 1,000 full-time jobs during the three-year construction phase and about another 1,000 long-term jobs during its 29-year lifespan.

Once operational, the mine could generate in the range of \$200 million in annual tax revenue for the province of B.C. and inject more than \$45 billion into Canada’s GDP during the lifespan of the project.

A key priority for FPX with the Baptiste project is collaborating with local communities. The mine is located on the traditional territories of the Tl’azt’én, Binche Whut’én, Yekooche and Takla First Nations.

Turenne says the company is taking a “partnership approach” to working with First Nations in the region and seeks to collaborate with those communities at every stage





of the project. As part of that, the company’s approach to sustainability is modeled on the sustainable development goals (SDGs) set out by the United Nations that provide a framework for working with Indigenous peoples and prioritize the importance of free, prior, and informed consent.

FPX is currently working with First Nations led and owned businesses to collect the baseline data required for the company to enter into the environmental assessment

process. Turenne says this will allow the company to design the project to mitigate the impact it has on key species in the region such as fish, moose, caribou and bears as well as vital plants and vegetation.

“Beyond that, we want to look at developing programs in collaboration with First Nations communities that would seek to look at not just mitigation of impacts, but where we can make investments to try to enhance habitats for key species like salmon and caribou, or vegetation like white

Kitimat Bound

kitimatbound.ca/entrepreneurs

Choose more freedom and adventure

Choose more investment opportunities

Choose more affordable homes

Choose to do business in Kitimat.



bark pine which is an endangered tree species,” he says, adding his company is also seeking to ensure economic and employment opportunities are prioritized for First Nations people.

“That just makes good business sense operating in Canada in a responsible way in the 21st century.”

Turenne says it’s important to note a project like this might not be possible without the support of multiple

partners. To date, it has received funding from the Government of Canada as part of its Critical Mineral Strategy. Also Sumitomo Metal Mining, Japan’s largest mining and metal processing company, and Outokumpu Oyj, Europe’s largest stainless steel producer, have made significant investments in the company.

“What these investments do is create the right conditions for the project to advance in a way that meets the needs of all groups.” ★

TRITON
Environmental Consultants

- Experienced professionals
- Responsible development
- Practical solutions
- Collaborative partnerships
- Local relevance
- Social license

triton-env.com

B.C. ROUND UP: NOTABLE NEWS

By Melanie Franner

Seabridge Gold's KSM Project.



Mining activity in B.C. continued to be in full throttle in 2024, with many mines reporting significant milestones throughout the year. The following is a quick overview of some of the highlights.

GOING FOR GOLD

Ascot Resources made headlines earlier this year when it began to pour gold at its 100%-owned Premier Gold Mine located 25 kilometres from the town of Stewart, on Nisga'a Nation Treaty Lands.

During 2Q 2024, the company poured 839 ounces of gold and 1,288 ounces of silver, and an estimated 3,178 ounces of gold-in-process remained in the mill circuit. Project to date development (2Q24) is 3,861 metres, of which 89% relates to Big Missouri and 11% relates to Premier Northern Lights deposits.

The operation is moving from mining lower-grade commissioning ore from the development headings to mining of the planned higher-grade stopping areas. Cash balance as of June 30, 2024 was approximately C\$12 million.

REGULATORY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Cariboo Gold Project, 100%-owned by Osisko Development, is an advanced-stage feasibility level, gold project located in central B.C. in the historical Wells-Barkerville mining camp.

The total land package covers an area of 192,000 hectares and includes approximately 80 kilometers strike of mineral targets providing prospective opportunities for future discoveries.

Osisko Development announced in November 2024 that the Mines Act permit for its Cariboo Project has been referred for decision to the statutory decision maker in the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.

The review of the Environmental Management Act permits has been completed as well, and the company is awaiting a referral to the statutory decision maker in the immediate future. The company anticipates receiving final decisions in Q4 2024.

Osisko has reached participation agreements with the Lhtako Dené Nation and the Williams Lake First Nation, and remains committed to reaching an agreement with the Xat'súll First Nation.

MONIES PROCURED

Located in the heart of B.C.'s Golden Triangle region, Skeena's 100%-owned Eskay Creek Project is a high-grade, volcanogenic massive sulphide deposit that previously operated as an underground mine from 1994-2008.

In June 2024, Skeena Resources announced that it has secured a financing package totaling US\$750 million



The Cariboo Gold Project. Photos courtesy of Osisko Development.

(equivalent to over C\$1 billion) with Orion Resource Partners for the development, construction, and general working capital required to advance the Eskay Creek Gold-Silver Project.

This complete funding package significantly de-risks the project and provides Skeena with optionality, flexibility, and stakeholder alignment as Eskay moves towards production in the first half of 2027. The package provides a significant portion of financing prior to Skeena’s receipt of required permits in respect to the Eskay project and therefore, allows Skeena to advance the project on the most efficient and expedient schedule to production.

LICENSE RENEWAL

Seabridge Gold announced in 3Q24 that the B.C. government renewed the License of Occupation (“LoO”) for the Mitchell Treaty Tunnels (“MTT”) at Seabridge’s KSM Project until September 27, 2044.

The LoO provides Seabridge’s wholly owned subsidiary, KSM Mining ULC, with the right to occupy the area in which it intends to construct the MTT (the two 23-km long parallel tunnels planned to connect the east and west sides of the KSM Project Mine Site). The original LoO was scheduled to expire on September 27, 2024.

Prior to this renewal, Seabridge Gold announced that KSM has received its “substantially started” designation from the B.C. Government, which affirms the validity of the B.C. Environmental Assessment Certificate for the life of the KSM Project.

GROUNDING CONFIRMATION

Pacific Ridge announced in October 2024 that the induced polarization (IP) geophysical survey recently completed at its 100% owned Redton copper-gold project confirmed a porphyry exploration target within three kilometres of

OMINECA
DIAMOND DRILLING LTD.

**For all aspects of
Exploration Drilling,
Geotechnical Drilling &
Geological Services.**

Bruce Hiller · Tony Clovis
info@ominecadrilling.com · 250-698-3745

www.ominecadrilling.com

CDDA



Artemis Gold's Blackwater Mine. Photos courtesy of Artemis Gold Inc.

Northwest Copper Corp.'s Kwanika South Zone copper-gold-molybdenum porphyry deposit.

Redton is located in the prolific Quesnel terrane in northcentral B.C. It is over 34 km² and adjoins the eastern boundary of Northwest's Kwanika, which hosts two deposits: the Kwanika South Zone copper-gold-molybdenum porphyry deposit and the Kwanika Central Zone copper-gold porphyry deposit.

The 2024 Redton IP survey comprised 7.5 line-kilometers in three reconnaissance lines to test three target areas in the northern half of the project. The survey was conducted in early September.

The project features a five-kilometre-long north-northwest trend of porphyry copper-gold targets located within the Hogem intrusive suite, 3.5 kilometres northeast of the NNW trend of the Kwanika deposits.

DRILLING FOR GOLD

Thesis Gold Inc. has announced the assay results from the 2024 drill program at Lawyers, part of the 100% owned Lawyers-Ranch Project, located in the prolific Toodoggone Mining District of northern B.C.

The recently completed, positive Preliminary Economic Assessment outlined a 90% Measured and Indicated potentially mineable resource. Consequently, the 2024 drill program was strategically focused on infilling, upgrading and potentially expanding the most impactful of the 10% inferred ounces by targeting those that could significantly contribute to the upcoming Prefeasibility Study planned for late 2025.

Results from the 2024 drill program successfully confirmed high-grade, near-surface mineralization, while deeper intercepts confirmed modelled stopes and point to the potential for expanding the underground mining scenario with future drill campaigns. These results will be incorporated into the upcoming Prefeasibility Study (PFS), which is expected to further define project economics and resource classification..

PROMISING FINDS

In October 2024, Scottie Resources Corp. reported new assays on the Scottie Gold Mine Project in B.C.'s Golden Triangle, including several high-grade intercepts on the Road, Fifi, and Lemoffe vein zones along the Blueberry Contact. The Scottie Gold Mine Project, which includes the 100% owned historic mine, and the adjacent Blueberry Contact Zone, (BCZ) is located 35 kilometres north of the town of Stewart, along Granduc Road.

Recent work highlights in the Blueberry Contact Zone include:

- Fifi / Lemoffe vein zone drillhole SR24-321 intersected 8.78 grams per tonne (g/t) gold over 9.00 metres (m) including 30.9 g/t gold over 1.00 m and intersected 12.2 g/t gold over 3.47 m;
- Near surface Road vein zone drillhole SR24-320 12.0 g/t gold over 2.70 m at a vertical depth of 17.5 m; and
- Blueberry vein zone drillhole SR24-317 intersected 6.87 g/t gold over 4.00 m in a wider zone of 2.95 g/t gold over 14.31 m.

“Initial results from this season’s 10,000 metre program continue to expand our Blueberry and D Zone targets,” says Brad Rourke, President and CEO, Scottie Resources Corp. “We look forward to including these and the forthcoming results into our maiden resource, which we expect to be able to release in early Q2 2025.”



ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Construction continues at Artemis Gold’s Blackwater Mine, with completion expected in 2Q25. The large, open-pit mine is located in central B.C., approximately 160 kilometres southwest of Prince George and 446 kilometres northeast of Vancouver.


The Blackwater Project will comprise the construction, operation, and closure of an open pit gold and silver mine and ore processing facilities, commencing with a nominal milling rate of 16,000 t/d (6.0 Mtpa). The ore processing facilities will be expanded to achieve 33,000 tpd (12 Mtpa) starting in year six with a final expansion to achieve

55,000 t/d (20 Mtpa) starting in year 11 of operation. A combined gravity circuit and whole ore leaching (WOL) will be used for recovering gold and silver.

The proposed mine plan involves mining 334 Mt of ore, 584 Mt of waste rock, and 83 Mt of overburden. The material will be sourced via conventional open-pit mining methods, initially targeting high-grade, near-surface ore for processing, with lower-grade material being stockpiled for processing at the end of the mine life.

In addition to the site infrastructure, it is assumed that a 135-kilometre, 230 kV transmission line will be constructed from the BC Hydro Glenannan substation near Endako, B.C. to the site to supply power to the project. ★

www.delcommunications.com



Communications Inc.

Helping your members stay connected is WHAT WE DO.

WE OFFER OUTSTANDING PERSONAL SERVICE AND QUALITY IN THE AREAS OF...

- Creative Design
- Advertising Sales
- Trade Publications
- Digital Magazines
- Online Directories
- And so much more...

TAKE FLIGHT

Start and end your journey with us.



- Fixed wing wheel and float charters
- Exploration support, Crew moves, Tourism
- Smithers Airport and Tyhee Lake



Providing safe and reliable air transportation into the rugged backcountry of northern BC

T: (250) 846-9488

E: info@alpinelakesair.com

W: alpinelakesair.com

CEDAR LNG PROJECT ACHIEVES POSITIVE FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION



In a ground-breaking announcement, the Haisla Nation and Pembina Pipeline Corporation (“Pembina”), through their partnership in Cedar LNG Partners LP, reached a positive Final Investment Decision (FID) for the Cedar LNG Project. This innovative initiative, located in the traditional territory of the Haisla Nation on British Columbia’s West Coast, represents a significant milestone in Indigenous-led energy development.

A PIONEERING LNG FACILITY

The Cedar LNG Project, a floating liquefied natural gas (FLNG) facility, is set to deliver a production capacity of 3.3 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). Strategically positioned to leverage Canada’s vast natural gas reserves, the facility aims to supply cleaner energy to global markets. Notably, the project will operate using renewable electricity sourced from BC Hydro, making it one of the world’s lowest-emitting LNG facilities.

Crystal Smith, Chief Councillor of the Haisla Nation, highlighted

the historical importance of the project. “Because of our Nation’s determination and environmental leadership, Cedar LNG will make the most significant mark on economic reconciliation ever in our country,” she said. “With Cedar LNG, we have proven that Indigenous communities can successfully forge a path to economic independence and generational prosperity. We have created a model for how sustainable energy development should be done, with Indigenous Nations as owners, balancing environmental interests with global demand for cleaner energy.”

YEARS OF COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT

The FID is the culmination of extensive collaboration among various stakeholders, including neighboring Indigenous communities, local governments in Kitimat, and provincial and federal authorities. The District of Kitimat’s Mayor, Phil Germuth, described the decision as historic, underscoring its transformative impact on local communities. “This decision is historic for the Haisla Nation

and significant for all residents in Kitimaat Village and the District of Kitimat who are seeing our community continue to grow as an energy hub for the world.”

PARTNERSHIP AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Pembina President and CEO Scott Burrows emphasized the alignment of the Cedar LNG Project with the company’s strategic goals. “We are proud to be moving forward with a project that will deliver industry-leading, low-carbon, cost-competitive Canadian LNG to overseas markets and contribute to global energy security, while delivering jobs and economic prosperity to the local region,” he said. “The Cedar LNG Project will enhance the resiliency of Pembina’s business, provide much needed new egress and greater access to global markets for our customers, and reflects the Haisla Nation and Pembina’s shared values and commitment to supporting a more sustainable future.”

Doug Arnell, CEO of Cedar LNG, highlighted the broader implications of the project. “As a

The facility will be constructed as a floating LNG platform, manufactured under controlled conditions by industry leaders Samsung Heavy Industries and Black & Veatch. This approach reduces construction risks and supports Cedar LNG’s goal of operational readiness by late 2028.

result of the Haisla Nation’s vision and determination, today we are demonstrating Canada’s ability to sustainably grow its LNG export sector to support the global clean energy transition,” he said. “The Haisla Nation and Pembina, as true partners, are demonstrating a new model for how industry and Indigenous communities can work together for mutual benefit.”

INNOVATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS DESIGN

Cedar LNG’s design reflects a commitment to environmental responsibility. By harnessing renewable electricity and leveraging existing infrastructure like the Coastal GasLink pipeline, the project minimizes its environmental footprint. Its West Coast location offers efficient shipping routes to Asian markets, further enhancing its global competitiveness.

The facility will be constructed as a floating LNG platform, manufactured under controlled conditions by industry leaders Samsung Heavy Industries and Black & Veatch. This approach reduces construction risks and supports Cedar LNG’s goal of operational readiness by late 2028.

FINANCIAL STRUCTURE AND SUPPORT

Cedar LNG’s estimated cost of approximately \$4 billion USD will be financed through a combination

of debt and equity. About 60% of the cost will come from a construction term loan secured with a syndicate of banks. The Haisla Nation has arranged capital for their equity contribution via the First Nations Finance Authority, while Pembina plans to fund its share through operating cash flow.

The project has also secured 20-year liquefaction tolling service agreements with ARC Resources Ltd. and Pembina, providing financial stability and long-term growth opportunities.

BENEFITS FOR INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A central focus of Cedar LNG is delivering economic benefits to

Indigenous and local communities. The project is expected to generate 500 construction jobs at its peak and create 100 full-time operational positions. Additionally, Cedar LNG has committed to training programs and contracting opportunities, fostering long-term regional prosperity.

British Columbia Premier David Eby praised the project’s approach. “Cedar LNG is a shining example of how natural resource development should work in our province—in full partnership with First Nations and with the lowest emissions possible. By working together, we can build a stronger and cleaner economy that creates opportunities and benefits for all.” ★

We Support BC Forestry Families

 **BOB ZIMMER**

MP | PRINCE GEORGE—PEACE RIVER—NORTHERN ROCKIES

SHADOW MINISTER FOR NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY; CANADIAN NORTHERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

bob.zimmer@parl.gc.ca
bobzimmer.ca • 250-787-1192



INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY: THE ALLURE OF RURAL LIVING IN THE NORTHERN ROCKIES

As businesses and individuals across Canada increasingly seek balance, affordability, and community, rural and remote areas like the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality (NRRM) are emerging as prime destinations. Stretching across 85,000 square kilometers in northeastern British Columbia, the NRRM offers a lifestyle where innovation meets opportunity, all against a backdrop of stunning natural beauty.

A Hub of Innovation in Remote Living

Remote living often demands creative solutions, and the Northern Rockies is proving itself a leader in ingenuity. From ground-breaking green energy projects to clean technology breakthroughs, the region is rich with potential and inspiration.

Fort Nelson, the heart of the municipality, is home to Canada's first northern outdoor vermicompost system. This innovative approach, developed by a local entrepreneur, transforms food, paper, and cardboard waste into high-quality compost using worms—even during harsh winters. The resulting soil

enriches local gardens.

Adding to the region's innovative portfolio is Cheyne Industries, a clean technology company exploring the unique properties of local clay deposits. Through extensive research, the company has developed specialized equipment and processes to utilize the clay as a proprietary adsorbent product. This technology has significant potential for cleaning agricultural water and reclaiming agricultural waste minerals, positioning the Northern Rockies as a hub for cutting-edge solutions to global environmental challenges.



Timberspan
Wood Products Inc.

- Custom Sawmill Specializing in Douglas Fir
- Custom Lumber and Architectural Timbers
- Treated Timbers
- Bridge Timbers, Timber Mats, Bridge Modules
- Decking and Construction Components

Tel: 250-961-0146 — www.timberspan.ca
Email: info@timberspan.ca — 12985 Willow Cale Rd, Prince George BC V2N 7A8





Looking for a place to grow your business or embrace a better work-life balance? The Northern Rockies Regional Municipality (NRRM) in northeastern British Columbia is the answer. Here, breathtaking natural beauty pairs with a forward-thinking community to create unparalleled opportunities for entrepreneurs, remote workers, and innovators.



Whether you dream of running a small business, working remotely surrounded by wilderness, or diving into industries like tourism, forestry, or distributed LNG, the NRRM offers affordable living, a supportive community, and the chance to thrive.

Contact us today and discover a place not just to live, but a community that inspires you to grow.



ecdev@northernrockies.ca

Invest
**NORTHERN
ROCKIES**

INVESTNORTHERNROCKIES.CA





Similarly, Tu Deh-Kah Geothermal is championing geothermal energy. By repurposing existing oil and gas infrastructure, their pilot projects aim to generate sustainable power while exploring complementary industries like greenhouses and wellness spas inspired by Japanese onsen traditions.

Agriculture in the region is equally forward-thinking. Local agricultural producers enjoy exploring the opportunities within the region including farming bison, cattle, bees, and a variety of produce. The long daylight hours during the summer

months make up for the otherwise short growing season, allowing one creative farmer to even grow bananas in his greenhouse.

This adaptability highlights the NRRM's resourcefulness and its commitment to fostering innovative, sustainable practices.

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR ENTREPRENEURS AND REMOTE WORKERS

The Northern Rockies is not just a place to live; it's a place to thrive. Whether you're running a business, telecommuting, or looking to build

a new venture, the region is ready to welcome you.

For entrepreneurs, the NRRM provides a supportive environment for a diverse range of industries, from tourism and hospitality to forestry and distributed natural gas. The Fort Nelson Timber Supply Area, for example, offers unparalleled opportunities in forestry, with a focus on sustainable practices and partnerships with local Indigenous communities.

Remote workers, too, are discovering the perks of rural living here. Affordable housing, a tight-knit community, and access to unspoiled wilderness create an unbeatable quality of life. Imagine finishing a workday with a five-minute walk to your favourite coffee shop or a quick escape into nature. With modern



connectivity and increasing flexibility in remote work, the Northern Rockies is an ideal home base.

OPPORTUNITIES AND LIFESTYLE

Sectors such as tourism, forestry and oil & gas are brimming with potential in the Northern Rockies. The Alaska Highway runs through the region, offering endless possibilities for adventure tourism, eco-retreats, and cultural exploration. There's ample room for new businesses to establish themselves and cater to both residents and visitors seeking unique, off-the-beaten-path experiences. The natural abundance surrounding the region lends to the second largest timber supply area in British Columbia and a community forest with over 217,000 cubic metres in allowable annual cut. Three large basins of unconventional shale gas patiently wait under ground for global market prices to improve or new technology such as hydrogen to expand.

For those drawn to the outdoors, the Northern Rockies is nothing



short of paradise. The area's natural resources offer not only business opportunities but also boasts year-round recreation for the child in all of us, from snowmobiling and cross-country skiing in the winter to fishing and hiking in the summer. Its breathtaking landscapes and abundant wildlife make it a haven for nature enthusiasts.

BUILDING A FUTURE TOGETHER

The Northern Rockies community is as resilient as it is welcoming. Rooted in a rich cultural history, the region celebrates its Indigenous heritage and pioneers forward-thinking collaborations. These partnerships

ensure that local traditions inform future growth, creating a sustainable and inclusive vision for the years ahead.

Whether you're looking to relocate your business, work remotely, or build a life filled with adventure and connection, the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality invites you to explore its many opportunities. Here, you'll find not just a place to live, but a community that inspires you to grow.

For more information on relocating, business opportunities, or tax incentive programs in the NRRM, visit www.investnorthernrockies.ca.★

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|-------|
| <i>AIRPLUS Industrial Corp.</i> | 21 | <i>Four Rivers Co-operative</i> | 11 |
| <i>Alpine Lakes Air</i> | 31 | <i>McElhanney Ltd.</i> | 10 |
| <i>AME Roundup 2025</i> | IBC | <i>Northern Rockies Regional Municipality</i> | 35 |
| <i>BK Two-Way Radio Ltd.</i> | OBC | <i>Northwest Regional Airport</i> | 15 |
| <i>Bob Zimmer, MP Prince George/Peace River/Northern Rockies</i> | 33 | <i>Omineca Diamond Drilling Ltd.</i> | 29 |
| <i>City of Dawson Creek</i> | 9 | <i>Sinkut Radiator Service Inc.</i> | 8 |
| <i>Clear Blue Water Systems Ltd.</i> | 8 | <i>Sullivan Motor Products</i> | 9, 23 |
| <i>District of Kitimat</i> | 26 | <i>Timberspan Wood Products Inc.</i> | 34 |
| <i>Export Navigator</i> | IFC | <i>Triton Environmental Consultants</i> | 27 |
| <i>Fireweed Helicopters Ltd.</i> | 7 | <i>White Cap Supply</i> | 3 |



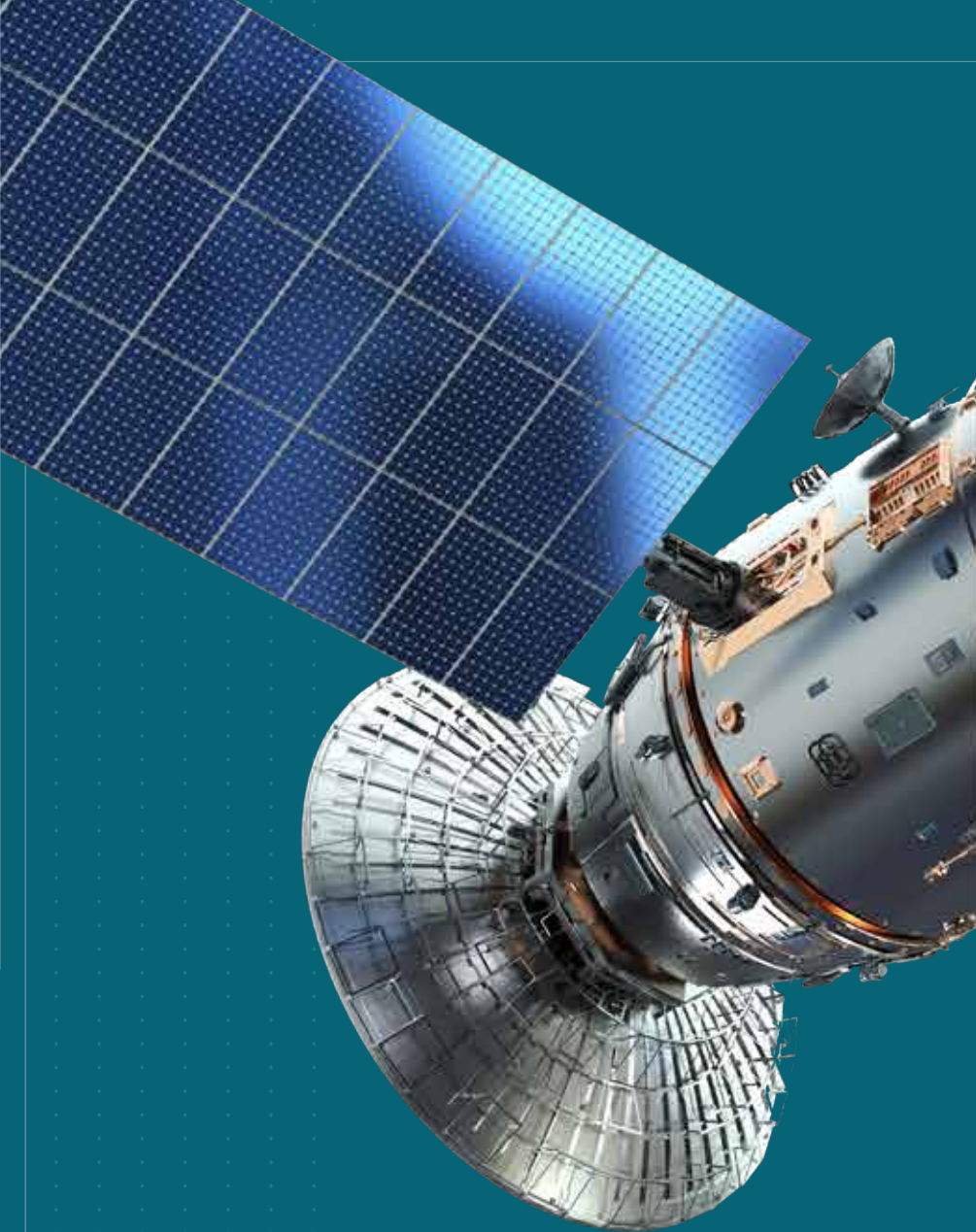
DE
Communications Inc.

THE KEY TO PUBLISHING SUCCESS.

SUITE 300, 6 ROSLYN ROAD, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA
www.delcommunications.com

WE OFFER OUTSTANDING PERSONAL SERVICE AND QUALITY IN THE AREAS OF:

- Trade Publications (Magazines & Directories)
- Qualified Sales & Editorial Team
- E-Newsletters • Websites
- Online Directories
- Creative Design • Advertising Sales



AME Roundup 2025

Register Now

January 20-23, 2025

Vancouver Convention Centre East

roundup.amebc.ca

AME
ROUNDUP.



BK
TWO-WAY RADIO LTD.

*Leaders
in Wireless*



- SALES • SERVICE
- RENTALS • INSTALLATIONS

QUESNEL

1195 Highway 97 N.
250-992-9907

PRINCE GEORGE

101-3963 15th Avenue
250-562-4856
1-877-898-4856

www.bktwoway.ca

KENWOOD

- TWO-WAY RADIOS • SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS
- CELLULAR SIGNAL BOOSTERS • INDUSTRIAL CCTV