



West Kitikmeot Resources Corp. Supports Premiers' Advocacy for Arctic Security Through Infrastructure, Announces Key Regulatory Milestone

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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West Kitikmeot Resources Corp. ("WKR" or the "Company"), the Inuit-owned and led developer of the Grays Bay Road and Port Project ("Grays Bay" or the "Project"), within the Arctic Security Corridor, expresses its support and appreciation for the work of Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeegok, the NWT Premier R.J. Simpson, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith, and the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines for their strong advocacy and support of the Project.

In particular, WKR applauds:

- Premier Akeegok's comments in Washington this week, noting that "The Arctic Security Corridor, and within it the Grays Bay Road and Port Project, can tap into so many critical minerals ... led by Indigenous groups, in this case, the Inuit are leading that project which is so important when you talk about economic reconciliation." This builds on his February 10 statement that "The Arctic Security Corridor, or the Grays Bay Road and Port, is one of the Inuit-led initiatives supported by the Government of Nunavut. This nation-building initiative will bolster the terrestrial connection to the Arctic Ocean, opening opportunities for the mining of critical minerals needed for both Canada's economic and military needs. It will also be the only deepwater port in the western archipelago on or near the Northwest Passage, which will become more significant in coming years as the Arctic Ocean sees a longer ice-free season and associated increased shipping traffic."
- Premier Simpson's remarks at the Wilson Centre that "There is definitely a desire in our territory to see more military infrastructure ... we've heard from indigenous governments who have seen investments in the past, who want to see investments in the future." This follows his February 1 comments on advancing strategic infrastructure projects like the "Slave Geological Province Corridor to strengthen Canadian supply chains and improve access to [the Northwest Territories'] rich deposits of critical minerals."
- Premier Smith's discussion with Congressman Adrian Smith, Chairman of the Trade Subcommittee, regarding the importance of Arctic security, following her January 30 advocacy for a joint Canada-U.S. base above the Arctic circle.
- Kenny Ruptash, President of the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines, who released a statement today noting that "The Grays Bay corridor is more than just a transportation route—it's a strategic economic and security asset," said "This project aligns directly with

Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy and the U.S. National Strategy to Secure Critical Minerals Supply Chains. Investing in this corridor would strengthen North America's access to the essential materials needed for defence, energy, and technology."

Federal Minister of Northern Affairs Confirms Nunavut-Led Review

In addition to this advocacy, WKR is pleased to announce that Minister of Northern Affairs Gary Anandasangaree has accepted the Nunavut Impact Review Board ("NIRB") recommendation that the Project complete a NIRB-led Review under Article 12, Part 5 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and Part 3 of the *Nunavut Project Planning and Assessment Act*. This decision confirms that the Project will undergo a thorough, Inuit-led, made-in-Nunavut assessment of its socioeconomic and environmental impacts.

Quotes

- WKR Co-Chairman Mr. David Omilgoitok comments, "I am proud to see this project moving forward with Inuit leading its development and its regulatory review," said Mr. Omilgoitok, "Grays Bay represents a future where Inuit take the lead in developing sustainable industries that create jobs, strengthen our communities, and secure a better future for generations to come."
- WKR CEO Mr. Brendan Bell said, "Our vision for Grays Bay has always been about more than just infrastructure—with Inuit leadership, we aim to create a legacy of economic opportunity and environmental stewardship," said Mr. Bell. "With the strong advocacy of Premiers Akeeagok, Simpson, and Smith, as well as the NWT/Nunavut Chamber of Mines, Inuit and Nunavut are at the centre of the conversation on strengthening Canada's security and Canada's economy."

About the Arctic Security Corridor

The Arctic Security Corridor is Nation-building infrastructure, comprised of an all-season road extending from Alberta, through Yellowknife and the NWT's Slave Geological Province, to Grays Bay on the Arctic Ocean. The Port of Grays Bay sits halfway between the ports of Nome, Alaska and Nuuk, Greenland on the Northwest Passage.

Learn more at www.arcticsecuritycorridor.ca

About the Grays Bay Road and Port Project

Situated at the northern terminus of the Arctic Security Corridor, the Grays Bay Road and Port Project is comprised of a new port on the Arctic Ocean and a 230 km road connection to the NWT's winter road network. This strategic infrastructure will strengthen Arctic sovereignty, strengthen national supply chains, and unlock access to vast, untapped mineral resources.

Arctic Security Corridor Map

