

# Dempster Fibre Project

Monthly Newsletter - August Edition



## Dempster Fibre Project will ensure reliable internet service for the Yukon and the North.

### About the Project

The Dempster Fibre Project is a proposed 800-kilometer fibre optic line along the Dempster Highway from Dawson City, Yukon to Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

The Dempster Fibre Project will connect to the existing Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link in Inuvik. Together, the new line will complete a 4,000-km network that will provide communities along the loop with a backup line in the event of a service disruption, ensuring they have more reliable internet and cell phone service.

There will be local employment and business opportunities for communities along the route during construction. The Government of Yukon is working with First Nations, Indigenous groups, local businesses, and communities to make the most of the opportunities.

### Route

- 70 different communities in the North will directly benefit.
- The line will be owned by the Government of Yukon and operated by Northwestel.



- Existing Northwestel Fibre
- Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link
- Proposed Dempster Fibre Line

## Project Updates

### Regulatory Items

The project team has reviewed and is replying to comments on the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) and Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) (required for the Northwest Territories) submissions received from affected First Nations and Indigenous groups. Once the project team completes these final reviews, the submissions will be delivered to the respective regulatory boards.

Both of these submissions are territorial requirements which ensure proper levels of engagement, planning, and environmental protection are taking place before, during and after project completion. Once approved, land use permits can be issued for construction of the main fibre line.

### Engagement Activities

The Project team is organizing meetings with First Nations and Indigenous groups where they will present the procurement opportunities that will be upcoming with construction. The project team will explain how procurements will be completed to ensure multiple groups have the opportunity to be involved with the project.

### Planning and Design

Last month, the engineering team travelled along the entire Dempster Highway to investigate some of the more challenging areas, and this information will be used to further develop the schematic design in the coming months.

The planning of the geophysics study for the Arctic Red river is nearly complete. Procurement for the work will follow shortly after.

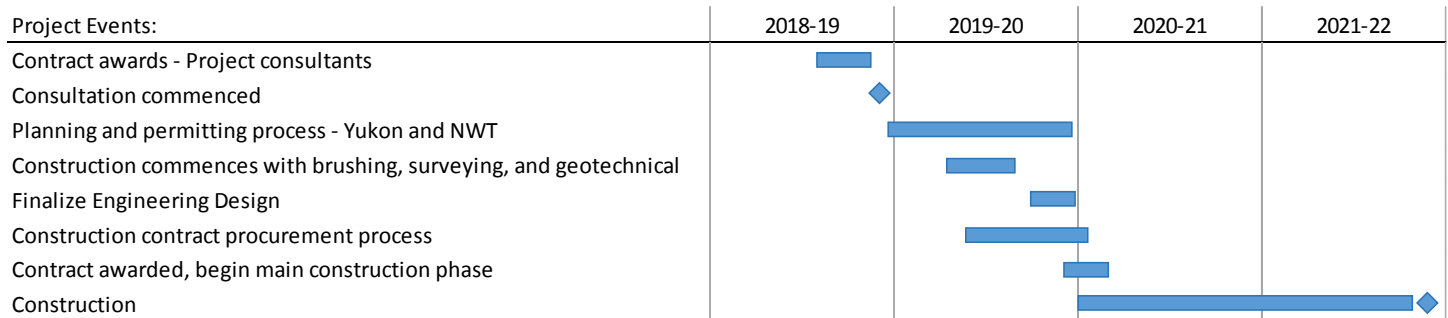


Figure 1 - Timeline of project events by fiscal year.

## Upcoming Activities

1. Submit project proposals to YESAB and MVLWB in the NWT for review and regulatory approvals.
2. Procurement of geophysics study.
3. Community visits to discuss procurement opportunities.
4. Ongoing consultation and engagement.

## CONTACT US:

By Email at [HPW-DempsterFibre@gov.yk.ca](mailto:HPW-DempsterFibre@gov.yk.ca)

