

# Dempster Fibre Project

Monthly Newsletter – January Edition



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

## About the Project

The Dempster Fibre Project is an 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 Governments, Indigenous groups, local businesses and communities to make the most of these opportunities.

## Route

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



- Existing NorthwesTel Fibre
- Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link
- Dempster Fibre Line

## Project Updates

### Regulatory Items

The project's regulatory submission is currently with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) for review. Public comment period for both have closed. The project is now with the boards for recommendations.

These submissions are YT and NT requirements which ensure proper levels of engagement, planning, and environmental protection are being met before, during and after project completion. Once approved, land use permits can be issued for construction of the main fibre line.

### Planning and Design

The project design is underway and is progressing through the design review phase. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to short list qualified contractors closed on January 29,

2020. The list of eligible contractors is planned to be announced in the month of February.

### Engagement Activities

Through the end of winter and into spring, Yukon Government, through Aurora College, will be delivering environmental and wildlife monitoring courses for Indigenous Citizens from communities impacted by the construction of the fibre line. The course will be teaching skills needed for employment opportunities during the up-coming construction phase. For information on how to register please visit our website.

YG is planning to bring the eligible contractors to various communities to hold facilitation sessions. These sessions will bring contractors together with northern businesses and allow for direct engagement with community members.

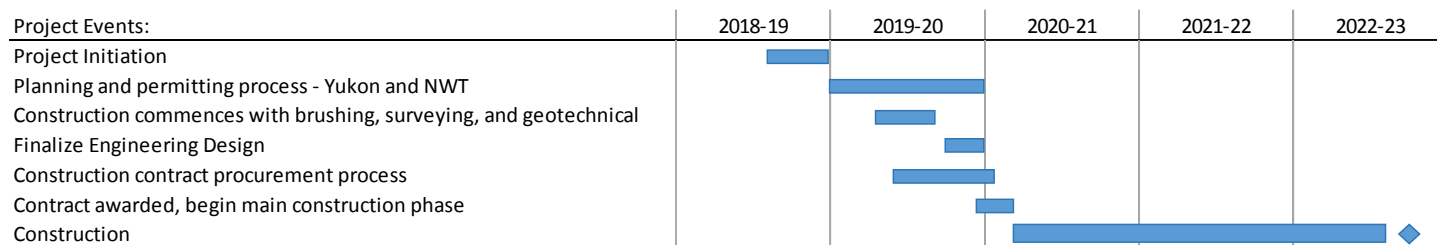


Figure 1 - Timeline of project events by fiscal year

### Upcoming Activities

1. Completion of reviews by YESAB and MVLWB.
2. Continue project design and review process.
3. Community Tour with contractors.

### CONTACT US:

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