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## B.16 – COMMUNITY VITALITY

### B.16.1 INTRODUCTION

The assessment of community vitality presented in Section 16 of the Proposal for the Casino Project (the Project) focused on the communities of Selkirk First Nation (SFN) / Pelly Crossing, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) / Village of Carmacks and City of Whitehorse. The Proposal determined that both beneficial and adverse residual effects could potentially occur as a result of the Project, mainly through contracted employment, mine staffing, and accommodations.

On January 27, 2015, the Executive Committee requested that CMC provide supplementary information to the Casino Project (YESAB Project No. 2014-0002) to enable the Executive Committee to commence Screening. The Executive Committee considered comments from various First Nations, Decision Bodies and regulators on the adequacy of the Project Proposal in the preparation of the Adequacy Review Report (ARR). CMC provided a Supplementary Information Report (SIR-A) on March 16, 2015. Subsequently, the Executive Committee issued a second Adequacy Review Report (ARR No.2) on May 15, 2015 following a second round of review.

Responses to the three requests for supplementary information related to Section 16 and Section A.16 of the Project Proposal and SIR are provided below, as outlined in Table B.16.1-1. CMC is providing this Supplementary Information Report (SIR-B) to comply with the Executive Committee's Adequacy Review Report ARR No.2; CMC anticipates that the information in the two SIRs and in the Proposal, when considered together, is adequate to commence Screening.

**Table B.16.1-1 Requests for Supplementary Information Related to Community Vitality**

Request #	Request for Supplementary Information	Response
R2-195	Identify local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing as informed by communities and First Nations, including communities outside of Carmacks, Pelly Crossing, and Whitehorse where there is potential for significant project effects.	Section B.16.2.1
R2-196	Provide baseline data, and relevant indicators, for identified local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing.	Section B.16.2.2
R2-197	An assessment of potential effects due to project activities to local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing, relying where possible on relevant analogs.	Section B.16.2.3

### B.16.2 COMMUNITY VITALITY AND WELLBEING

#### B.16.2.1 R2-195

**R2-195. Identify local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing as informed by communities and First Nations, including communities outside of Carmacks, Pelly Crossing, and Whitehorse where there is potential for significant project effects.**

Local values were inferred through communication with the public, Aboriginal groups, local communities, and government stakeholders during the engagement process. These discussions resulted in the indicators and

measures outlined in Table B.16.2-1. Assessment of these indicators in both the LSA and RSA is provided in Section 16 of the Proposal, including the following Project-specific effects:

- Effects on community vitality;
- Effects on population and demographics;
- Direct migration;
- Indirect migration;
- Employment effects;
- Income effects;
- Income-related effects on community well-being;
- Population-related effects on community well-being; and
- Work-related effects on community well-being.

**Table B.16.2-1 Community Vitality Indicators and Measures**

Indicators	Rationale	Measures
Population and Demographics	The population and demographics of LSA and RSA communities was considered as part of 'Community Vitality' as the size and composition of a community influences such aspects of community vitality as: community character (i.e. social cohesion, quality of life, etc.), infrastructure and services, and ability to plan for future community objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size of registered Yukon First Nation citizen population (#);</li> <li>• Residency of registered Yukon First Nation citizen population (location);</li> <li>• Population change over time;</li> <li>• Migration patterns</li> <li>• Birth rate</li> <li>• Death rate</li> <li>• Ethnicity of population;</li> <li>• Population, by sex.</li> </ul>
Community well-being	Community well-being describes the intangible, measurable aspects which contribute to the wellness of a community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Well-being Index (CWBI)</li> <li>• Crime rate, (by crime type)</li> <li>• 'Heavy' alcohol consumption rates (Yukon territory-level)</li> <li>• Emergency room visits due to alcohol</li> <li>• Emergency room visits due to illicit drugs</li> </ul>

Community vitality was selected as a valued component (VC) due to the potential for the Project to affect the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in the LSA as a result of:

- Population migration effects: Project employment influencing people to move to the LSA, either permanently or temporarily, and subsequent changes to LSA demographics; and,

- Changes to the LSA community socio-economic conditions: New Project-related income and work schedules may affect social and behavioural conditions in LSA communities.

Key indicators selected to assess the VC “community vitality” were: Population and Demographics, and Community Well-being (Table B.16.2-1). Supplemental information to complement this section is provided in Section 13, A.13 Employment and Income, and related appendices.

The Community Vitality VC was identified in consideration of the values, information, and issues communicated by the public, Aboriginal groups, local communities, and government stakeholders during the engagement process conducted in support of this Proposal. Specifically, community well-being was discussed at the consultation events outlined in Table B.16.2-2, as documented in the Project’s Consultation Log (Appendix 2A). This VC and specific indicators were also selected based on professional judgement and experience in conducting socio-economic effects assessments.

Potential population changes are important to consider because demographics contribute to community character and effect demands on infrastructure and services. Socio-economic assessments routinely evaluate potential project-related population changes because of the potential for such changes to directly affect the quality of life in a region; further, such an assessment can assist public and private agencies in planning for future capacity requirements for various services. Population changes and new Project-related income can also affect the well-being of individual, families, and communities in the area. Section 16 of the Proposal assessed the potential effects of the Project on these conditions that could affect the vitality of the local communities.

The Local Study Area (LSA) spatial boundaries for this VC were delineated to include those communities which may have their ‘community vitality’ directly affected by the Project, through potential effects to population demographics and community well-being. These communities are located adjacent to the Project site and the proposed access route, and represent the closest and most accessible potential sources of direct labour, goods, and services needed for/by the Project; therefore, they are expected to experience *direct* Project socio-economic effects. The Local Study Area (LSA) for assessment of the Project on Community Vitality included the following communities:

- Settlement of Pelly Crossing and the Selkirk First Nation;
- Village of Carmacks and the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation; and
- City of Whitehorse.

In addition to LSA communities, consultation with other First Nations (e.g., White River and Carcross Tagish) was also conducted and consideration of potential Project-related effects were considered. Consultation with White River First Nation was initiated in 2013, and included exchanges of letters and emails, phone and in-person discussions, a meeting with Chief and Council and an Open house in Beaver Creek. The details of the consultations with White River are provided in Section 2.3.6 of the Proposal. CMC has continued meeting with White River First Nation to discuss engagement frameworks and funding opportunities for traditional land use studies. The Carcross Tagish First Nation (CTFN) have expressed concern with the trucking of materials through the CTFN community and impacts on the South Klondike Highway. CMC has endeavoured to meet with CTFN to discuss these concerns, and consultation efforts will continue throughout the assessment process.

Consultation with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation and Kluane First Nation was also conducted in preparation for submission of the Project Proposal, and the results of this consultation is provided in Sections 2.3.7 and 2.3.8 of the Proposal, respectively.

The Regional Study Area (RSA) comprised the entire Yukon, in order to provide a broader socio-economic context for understanding potential Project related effects. It is expected that some of the Project employment and economic opportunities will be experienced at the territorial level. Particularly, potential effects associated with this Economic Development and Business Sector VC (Section 15) such as changes to economic growth, business opportunities, government revenues, employment and income will be experienced throughout the Yukon.

CMC appreciates that communities are dynamic, and that over time their values related to 'community vitality' may evolve. As such, CMC will hire a community liaison in each of the LSA communities, in order to provide a local, ongoing opportunity for community members to share their values with the project. Specifics for each community include:

- **Pelly Crossing/SFN:**

A comprehensive community-based survey detailed in the Minto Socio-economic Monitoring Framework was conducted in 2015. This survey includes numerous indicators related to vitality and well-being, including: cultural well-being; community stability and well-being; material well-being, family stability and well-being; and cultural vitality. The results of this survey are expected to be publicly available in late 2015. CMC will review the results of the 2015 Minto Socio-economic Monitoring survey, and will consider incorporating this information into the Socio-economic Management Plan, depending on input from LSA communities. CMC will conduct a gap analysis on the Minto Socio-economic Monitoring report (expected release date, late 2015) and its current 'community vitality and well-being' baseline to identify any gaps. For any gaps identified, CMC will commit to developing a baseline (with relevant indicators) prior to construction commencing.

CMC will continue discussions with SFN Chief and Council in order to gain permission from leadership to engage SFN citizens, and to contribute to the development of the Minto Monitoring Survey, in order to avoid duplication of effort and support ongoing socio-economic monitoring efforts. More specifically, contributing to the development of the Minto Monitoring Survey may involve such tasks as: organizing round table discussions with SFN citizens to have in-depth discussions on issues/gaps not addressed by Minto; and, designing interview questions to inform the Minto Monitoring indicators which currently have no or limited data.

Additional baseline data and relevant indicators related to local SFN values of community vitality and well-being will be gathered through this approach as requested. CMC will consider and/or incorporate this information into the Socio-economic Management Plan.

- **Carmacks/LSCFN:**

Following the consultation conducted prior to Project submission, Casino has conducted extensive consultation with LSCFN since filing the Proposal, including the following meetings:

- Socio-economic technical meeting on June 24, 2014.
- Socio-economic Community Meeting #1 on September 25, 2014.
- Socio-economic Community Meeting #2 on October 22, 2015.

One of the outcomes of these meeting was the development of the Socio-economic Management Plan (SEMP – Appendix A.22F) that includes a dedicated section to 'Social and Cultural Well-being' outlining CMC's commitments to ensuring the well-being of local communities.

CMC will continue consultation with LSCFN, and use information gathered to improve understanding of identified comments and issues to inform Project developments. CMC will also work collaboratively with

LSCFN to develop a similar socio-economic monitoring program to the Minto Mine Socio-economic Monitoring Framework.

- **Whitehorse:**

CMC utilized population and demographic information to examine population changes and changes to family structure, as well as the Community Well-being Index (CWBI) for the community of Whitehorse (Section 16). As the largest population center in the Yukon, statistical data was used more predominantly to document current 'community vitality and well-being' conditions in Whitehorse than in smaller LSA communities, where such data may not be available and/or as accurate. The material currently presented in the Project Proposal provides baseline data and relevant indicators for community vitality and well-being in Whitehorse.

Further, CMC will establish a Community Liaison for Whitehorse, who will be responsible for establishing a framework for engagement, communications and reporting over the life of the Project with the City of Whitehorse. CMC anticipates that the City of Whitehorse could be incorporated in a limited fashion into the monitoring plan for socio-economic effects for the Project.

Further, CMC will mitigate the socio-economic effects of the Project on potentially affected communities through monitoring. The monitoring program for community vitality and community well-being will adaptively respond to the predicted adverse residual effects identified as part of the YESAB review and through consultations with YG, communities and First Nations. These processes may determine that it is appropriate and meaningful to monitor socio-economic effects outside of Pelly Crossing and the Village of Carmacks. CMC is also willing to work with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, municipalities, and other First Nation governments to determine the appropriate level of socio-economic monitoring for project-related effects on their respective communities.

This adaptive approach to considering those First Nations and communities with the potential for significant project effects demonstrates CMC's commitment to mitigating the socio-economic effects of the Project on potentially affected communities.

**Table B.16.2-2 Summary of Consultation Events where the Topic of Community Well-Being was discussed**

CMC Record of Contact #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Event Summary	Issues Raised
29	Meeting	March 16, 2010	Selkirk First Nation, CMC Consultant, CMC	A copy of the CMC January newsletter was provided; CMC discussed submitting articles for future newsletters. CMC provided field assistant job posting notices. Selkirk First Nation stated they have potential candidates for the position. Discussed the summary of "Socio-Economic Impacts Contributing to Lacks in Community <b>Wellness</b> " provided by Selkirk First Nation. CMC will look into the Federal / territorial programs identified in the study.	
189	E-mail	October 1, 2012	City of Whitehorse, CMC Socio-economic Consultant	Socio-economic data collection. Discussed housing, employment and <b>community well-being</b> . Concerns: (a) availability and condition of rental housing; (b) potential negative effects on community well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordability and availability of rental units in Whitehorse</li> <li>• Yukoners prefer Casino workers to be housed in Whitehorse</li> <li>• Housing demands and issues (e.g., age, conditions, etc.) in Whitehorse and Yukon communities.</li> <li>• Concerns related to 'boom/bust' cycle and the negative effects that could have on the territory</li> <li>• Concerns related to increased drug and alcohol use, leading to anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>
231	Meeting	October 3, 2012	Yukon Health & Social Services, CMC Socio-Economic Consultant	Socio-economic data collection. Discussed community social services, lack of local transportation, potential effects to community and personal <b>well-being</b> in Carmacks and Pelly. Concerns: (a) potential for drug and alcohol abuse, and need for mitigative strategies; (b) need for onsite skills development and career planning for project employment; (c) lack of public transportation.	
440	Meeting	February 13, 2013	Village of Carmacks, CMC Socio-Economic Consultant	Socio-economic data collection. Discussed infrastructure and services, recreation services, community <b>well-being</b> , economic development, tourism, and recreational fishing and hunting Concerns: (a) need for a local economic development plan to assist with procurement for industry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are many recreational opportunities and programs and capacity is adequate.</li> <li>• There is a need for an Economic Development Plan, particularly to help people understand the supply chain for mining.</li> <li>• Bringing the company and the community together is important so local entrepreneurs can take advantage of service contracts.</li> </ul>
443	Meeting	February 13, 2013	Yukon Energy, Mines & Resources, CMC Socio-Economic Consultant	Socio-economic data collection for the Carmacks area. Discussed services, mining in the area, local roads, local employment, community services and infrastructure, <b>social issues</b> , hunting. Concerns: (a) lack of community service resources; (b) high level of unemployment; (c) lack of resources at the school; (d) high number of foster homes and abandoned children;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's hard for people working at Minto to be away from their families.</li> <li>• Caribou and the impacts to land are important; impact on food security.</li> <li>• Service shortages are a serious issue, including government services; workloads are heavy and staff are overworked and overwhelmed.</li> <li>• There are 3 social workers in town. Social and community services are overburdened and they don't want it impacted by a project like this.</li> <li>• Concern that government officials and the people in Whitehorse don't care about staff being overburdened and overworked.</li> <li>• Concern that RCMP and fire fighters will be impacted by mine development.</li> </ul>

CMC Record of Contact #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Event Summary	Issues Raised
				(e) potential effects on hunting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased population could affect the RCMP as they only have two officers but they should have three.</li> <li>• Infiltration of drugs and partying would be a problem, but could be managed with proper planning.</li> <li>• There is 1 conservation officer who is really concerned about this project and how it might affect hunting.</li> <li>• The Road will be a major issue for this area. People are talking about it and blocking the road. People need to get on board and discuss the road in a meaningful way. There are fears associated with this.</li> <li>• There are fears about fracking. People are passionate and afraid but money makes a difference. They don't want mining companies coming in and promising things to the locals with nothing happening. Not just about money but about social responsibility. BE CLEAR ON MITIGATION. This is crucial.</li> <li>• Concerns about whether the gas and food supply will be affected.</li> <li>• Concerns about lack of housing in Carmacks.</li> <li>• Concerns that many positions don't require full time.</li> <li>• Concerns about limitations in educational programming offered locally. Many parents send their children to Whitehorse for school. The expertise local teachers have limits what curriculum can be offered.</li> <li>• Many children don't graduate with classes they need</li> <li>• Concerns about being under-resourced at the schools.</li> <li>• Concerns about lack of physicians.</li> <li>• Concerns about changes in nursing and sending patients to Whitehorse. 3 nurses are on staff but rotating. – Concerns about being turned away from seeing a nurse.</li> <li>• Concerns that Health and Social Services have a lot of foster homes and there are lots of abandoned kids here.</li> <li>• Concerns about judicial system: overcrowding in the prison in Whitehorse; difficulties in staffing the local facility (3 cells); perception that judges turn away criminals to the street.</li> <li>• Highways police are short staffed.</li> <li>• Concerns about housing: Yukon Housing prioritizes staff housing. People are living in 4 bedroom houses for one person. Lots of abandoned housing in Carmacks but no one can rent it because it is on FN land.</li> <li>• Concerns about the local tax base: 300 people are living here and paying the tax base of 80 people. \$80,000 for municipal services but it looks like 500 on paper.</li> <li>• Search and Rescue is disorganized, there is a lack of training and no WCB protection. Lots of concerns over liability.</li> </ul>
165	Open House	May 28, 2012	General Public, Little Salmon-Carmacks First Nation, Selkirk First Nation, Village of Carmacks, Yukon Economic Development, Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic	<p>A community meeting was held in Carmacks, attended by approximately 40 people. Meeting consisted of display boards available for viewing and questions to project staff, as well as a presentation followed by a question-and-answer period.</p> <p>Discussion included the following topics: design, construction, reclamation, access road and traffic, aquatics, terrestrial, <b>human environment</b>, environment and safety, consultation and community meetings, and employment and business opportunities.</p> <p>Concerns:</p> <p>(a) design heavy metals, size of settling pond, elevation of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where is the coin now?</li> <li>• Why isn't it with the First Nations?</li> <li>• What are the social impacts of this project?</li> <li>• How will social impacts be studied?</li> <li>• Concerns raised about the impacts on social issues in communities</li> <li>• What percentage of workers will be fly in and fly out only?</li> <li>• What impacts will there be to health and social services?</li> <li>• How will procurement processes occur?</li> <li>• Has the company team looked at sourcing Yukon suppliers?</li> <li>• Can the company provide Yukon representatives with a list of suppliers the company might require?</li> </ul>



CMC Record of Contact #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Event Summary	Issues Raised
			Assessment Board, CMC	<p>mine site, water used for operations;</p> <p>(b) construction –transmission line location;</p> <p>(c) reclamation – cost, reclamation plan and cleanup;</p> <p>(d) access road and traffic – amount of traffic, size of trucks, effect on wildlife (habitat, migration, mortality on road), route, access through Little Salmon-Carmacks First Nation territory;</p> <p>(e) aquatics – effect on fish habitat and camps, compensation plan, effects on creeks and watersheds;</p> <p>(f) terrestrial – effect on migration routes, habitat and breeding, effects on harvesting, need for monitoring effects on wildlife;</p> <p>(g) human environment – effects on social services and community <b>well-being</b>, procurement process, need for benefits for future generations, economic development, level of local involvement vs. labour brought in;</p> <p>(h) environment and safety – effects on the environment, safety;</p> <p>(i) consultation and community meetings – IBAs, who is consulted and how often;</p> <p>(j) employment and business opportunities – who will be approached;</p> <p>(k) general – need for translation services, legacy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment that respondent would like to see benefits for future generations</li> <li>• Comment made that the benefits would be mostly related to economic development including employment, capacity and economic boosts</li> <li>• Carmacks needs more jobs and sources of income so this project was noted as being able to help</li> <li>• The company should focus on minimizing the negative social impacts and source Yukon suppliers and community suppliers</li> <li>• It is important to support and help build smaller Yukon communities such as building a community centre or a sports complex.</li> <li>• Most employment and investment benefits will accrue to outsiders</li> <li>• The project might be better for Yukon if it was smaller in scale and employed 300-400 people annually with a longer mine life</li> <li>• Does the company have an Impact and Benefit Agreement in place yet?</li> <li>• Is the company going to consult White River First Nation? It is important to consult with them because the tailings drain into their traditional territory</li> <li>• Comment made that they are glad to see the consultation happening in the community</li> <li>• Would like to see regular consultation with Yukon First Nations</li> <li>• Would like to see more community meetings with regular information sessions</li> <li>• Keep working openly with the community</li> <li>• Meetings were well-organized and provided a good overview of the project</li> <li>• Clear answers were given to questions</li> </ul>
439	Meeting	February 13, 2013	Carmacks School, CMC Socio-Economic Consultant	<p>Socio-economic data collection. Discussed school capacity and services, community <b>well-being</b>, community infrastructure and services, housing.</p> <p>Concerns:</p> <p>(a) low level of enrollment;</p> <p>(b) lack of adequate school equipment;</p> <p>(c) lack of single family dwellings and rentals; high cost of services such as fuel, phones, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern that things in the community are becoming less social; more people are staying home and not attending community events.</li> <li>• Concerns about housing availability and that options are often limited to Yukon Housing and they take 25% of each person's salary.</li> <li>• There are not enough single family dwellings and apartments; not enough housing for seniors.</li> <li>• Concern about cost of utilities: power is very expensive; supplied through Yukon Electric. Internet is \$80 per month and phones are really expensive. Northwestel has a monopoly and so they hike the prices. Fuel is also really expensive and so is heating fuel.</li> <li>• Expressed a need for funding for the food program which supplies breakfast and lunch to most students. The cost is \$5.00/meal for lunch program, which provides 130 meals per day, 5 days a week. (700 meals a week.) They make sure meals are nutritious and natural.</li> <li>• They are working on regular delivery of apples and oranges for the classrooms.</li> <li>• One person makes all the food on his own so they would want to hire some help.</li> <li>• The school needs showers, bigger classrooms, and bigger offices. Money for programs would be helpful. They also need gym equipment. They are short on equipment for the program. Science labs are not properly set up.</li> </ul>

## B.16.2.2 R2-196

### **R2-196. Provide baseline data, and relevant indicators, for identified local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing.**

The key indicators used to assess Project effects on Community Vitality include: Population and Demographics, and Community Well-being – further details are provided above in the response to R2-195. A detailed baseline for these indicators is available in Appendix 13A: Socio-economic Baseline of this Proposal. Some updated information on demographics has also been provided in Section B.14.

## B.16.2.3 R2-197

### **R2-197. An assessment of potential effects due to project activities to local values within the category of community vitality and wellbeing, relying where possible on relevant analogs.**

Assessment of local values, as incorporated into indicators of community vitality, on both the LSA and RSA is provided in Section 16 of the Proposal, and includes assessment of the following Project-specific effects:

- Effects on community vitality;
- Effects on population and demographics;
- Direct migration;
- Indirect migration;
- Employment effects;
- Income effects;
- Income-related effects on community well-being;
- Population-related effects on community well-being; and
- Work-related effects on community well-being.

Further information is provided above, in the response to R2-195.