



Mackenzie Valley Highway

Wrigley Community Meeting – January 2020

Government of
Northwest Territories





Purpose

- To provide an update on Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) activities in the Dehcho Region:
 - MVH Environmental Assessment (Wrigley to Norman Wells)
 - Wrigley to Mount Gaudet Access Road (MGAR)





MVH Benefits



- Improve social opportunities
- Reduce the cost of living and doing business
- Increase resiliency to impacts of climate change
- Support the development of a strong northern workforce and business opportunities
- Promote tourism opportunities
- Provide access to mineral and petroleum resources



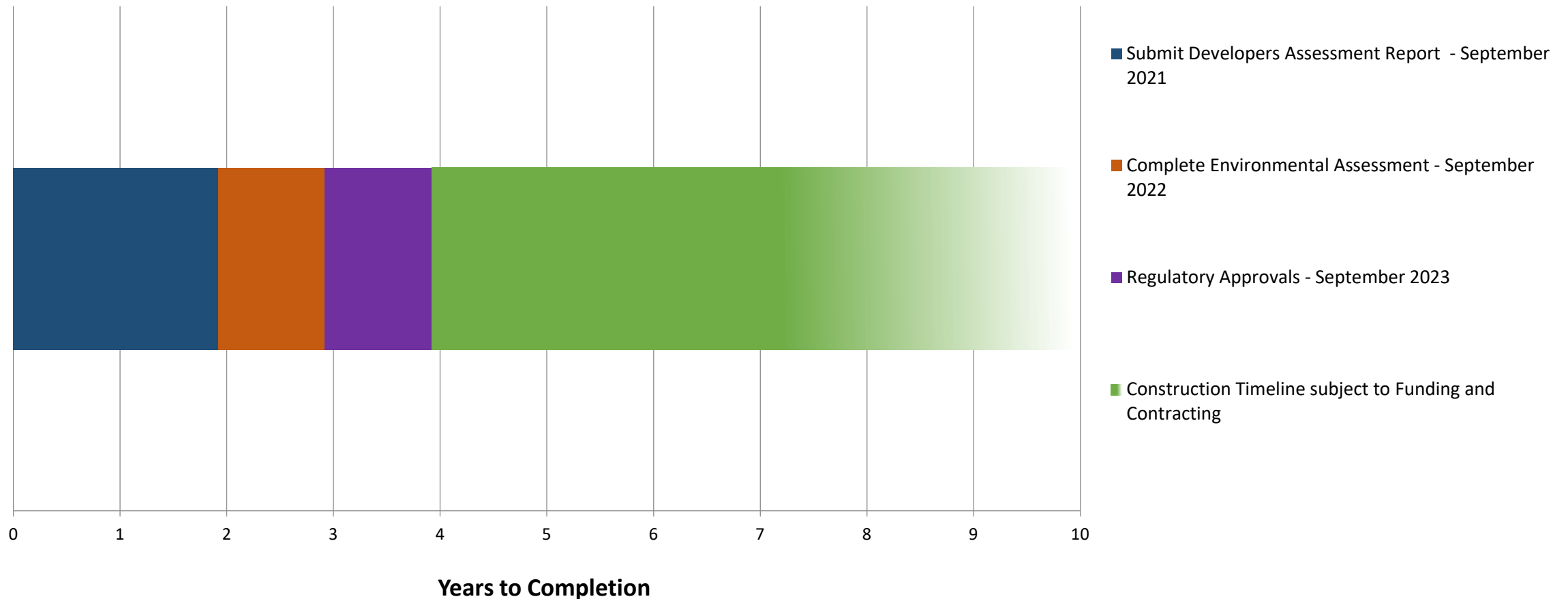
MVH Environmental Assessment

- Completion of the Developer's Assessment Report (DAR) is the next major step in the EA
- Scope and timing of studies required to complete the DAR to be determined
- Preliminary target date to complete the DAR is September 2021





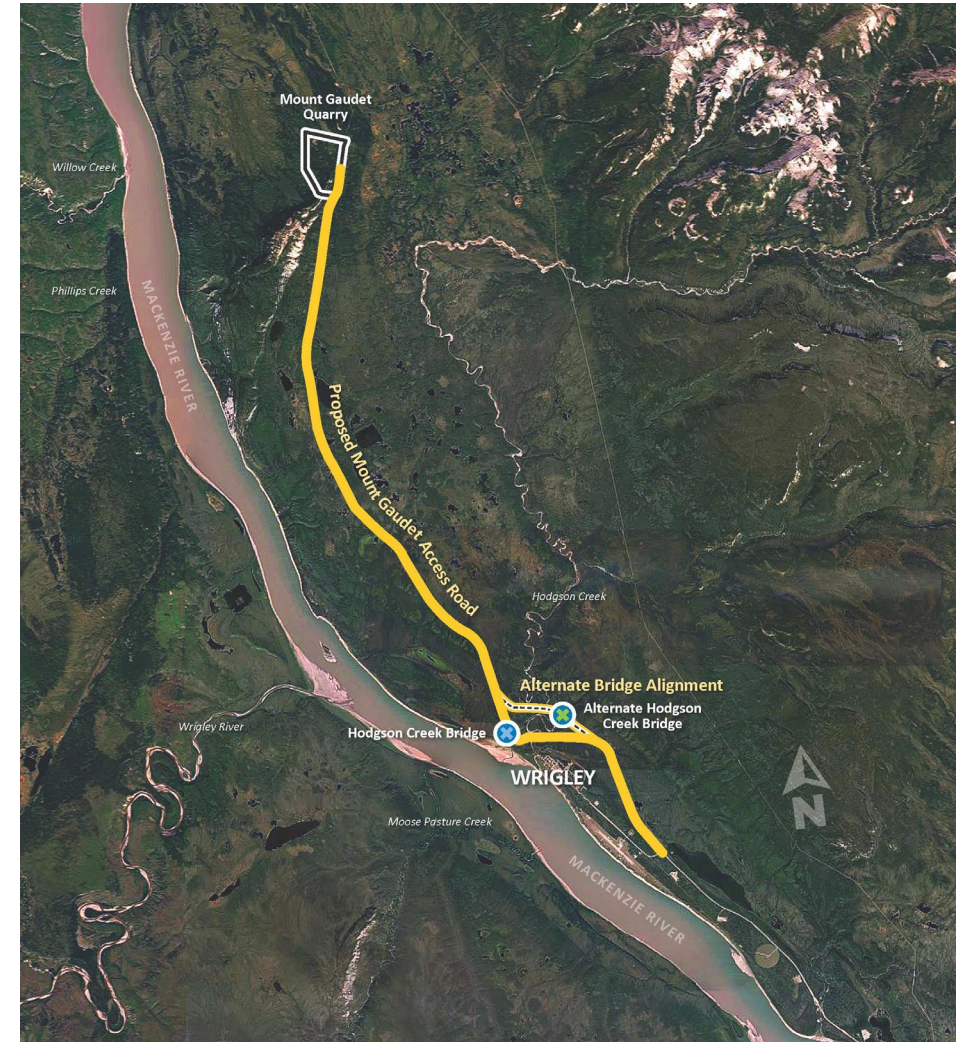
MVH EA — Anticipated Timeline





Mount Gaudet Access Road (MGAR)

- MGAR will be an all-season gravel road and begin at the end of Highway 4 south of Wrigley and stretch 21 kms north to Mount Gaudet
- Construction of the MGAR may proceed in advance of the MVH EA
- Development of MGAR could include:
 - Expansion of quarry at Mount Gaudet
 - Raising or relocation of Hodgson Creek Bridge





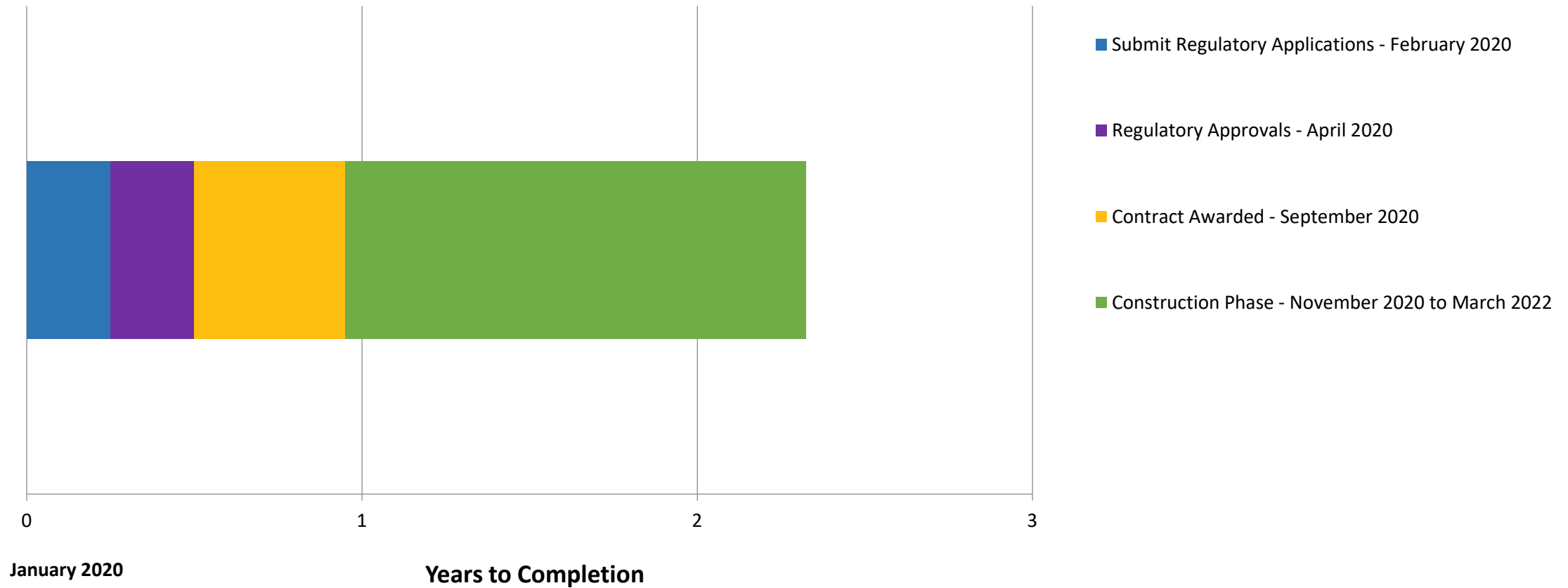
MGAR — Benefits to Wrigley

- Provide training, employment and business opportunities for Wrigley and Dehcho residents
 - Ex: Canyon Creek Access Road project
 - Averaged 84% local and Northern employment on project
 - 81 people employed at peak of construction (March 2018)
- Build capacity and prepares Wrigley to take advantage of opportunities coming from construction of Wrigley to Norman Wells section of MVH
- Provide more social opportunities and access to traditional areas for camping, hunting, fishing, etc.





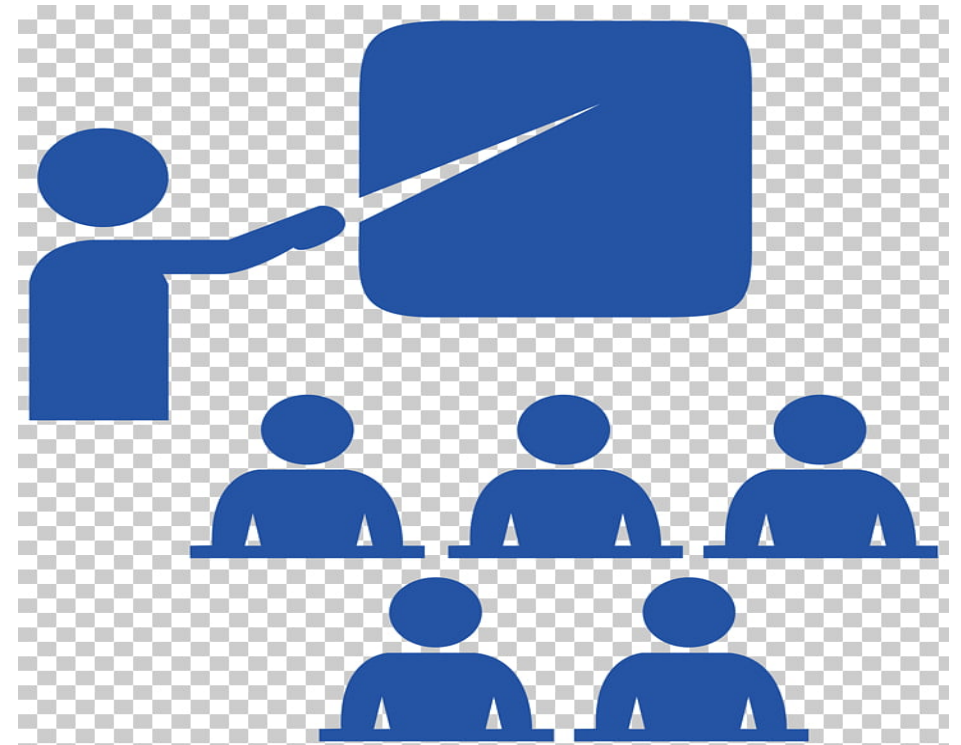
MGAR — Anticipated Timeline





MGAR — Wrigley Training Committee

- Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (PKFN) requested a training committee be formed for MGAR
- Committee includes membership from PKFN, Departments of Infrastructure, Education, Culture and Employment and Aurora College
- Committee working to identify and deliver training opportunities for Wrigley residents in association with MGAR





MGAR — Next Steps



- Awaiting decision on location of Hodgson Creek Bridge – leave it where it is but raise it or move it further upstream – to avoid ice back-up issues.
- If the bridge is moved upstream then new connections to the current road alignment will need to be developed on both sides of the bridge.
- If the bridge is moved additional LiDAR may be required next summer (after snow melt) to measure ground elevations and determine the best locations for the bridge and the new road alignment.



MGAR — Next Steps (continued)

- A site visit was made to the existing Mount Gaudet quarry in the fall. INF is awaiting a report with conclusions and recommendations on developing a larger quarry at that site.
- If that site is determined to be unfeasible, then another quarry location will need to be identified.
- INF will require a Quarry Permit for whatever site is selected for the construction quarry.
- A geotechnical program will be conducted this winter and next summer. Drilling will be required along the alignment, at the current/new bridge location and at the quarry.
- Using information previously gathered by PKFN and provided to INF, a Traditional Knowledge summary was prepared and submitted to PKFN for review and comment in December 2019.



MGAR — Next Steps (continued)

- ENR will be conducting additional caribou collaring this winter to gather data for both the MGAR and the MVH.
- An Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA) was completed. It recommended that Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA) be completed to assess previously undisturbed locations prior to any development. That work will be completed next summer.
- A Project Description Report and regulatory applications for MGAR road construction will be filed later this winter with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB).
- Drafts of these documents will be provided to PKFN for review and comment prior to submission to the MVLWB.
- Anticipate receipt of permits in spring 2020.
- Construction to start by the end of 2020 and expected to take 12-18 months to complete.

Questions and Comments?

Thank you/Mahsi

MVH@gov.nt.ca

<https://www.inf.gov.nt.ca/mackenzie-valley-highway-project>