

# Impact and Benefit Agreements: Are They Working?

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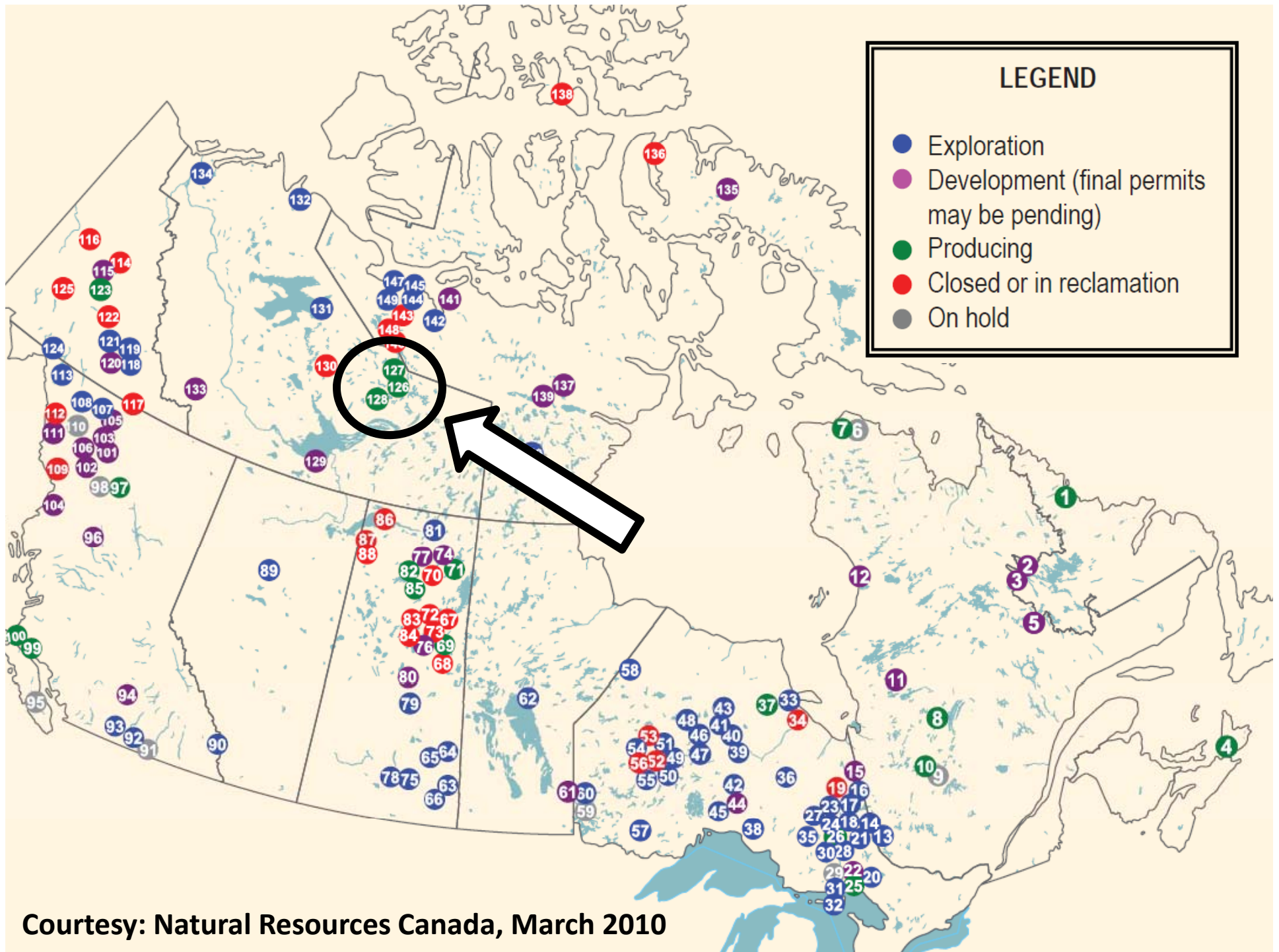
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# Impact and Benefit Agreements (IBAs)

- 'Supra-regulatory' tools to address impacts and ensure delivery of benefits to Aboriginal communities
- Common provisions include jobs, training and business opportunities, financial payments, environmental and cultural protection measures





# Research Approach

Evaluate IBAs against a baseline and their broad objectives (see Galbraith et al. 2007):

- *Build positive relationships and trust*
- *Secure local benefits*
- *Relieve capacity strains*
- *Ensure adequate EA 'follow-up'*

Using:

- Regional scale secondary socio-economic data
- Key informant interviews
- Focus group meetings with members of three IBA signatory communities

# A 'Top-Down' View of IBA Effectiveness

<b>Average annual change (over the period 1989-2007)</b>	<b>Impacted Aboriginal Communities</b>	<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>Canada</b>
Income	+6.98%	+3.20%	+3.90%
Taxfilers with more than \$50,000 income	+1.37%	+1.17%	+0.93%
Unemployment rate	-1.06%	-0.16%	-0.23%
Percentage with high school education	+0.56%	+0.40%	+0.90%
Number of businesses	+0.62%	+0.005%	-
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>2.12%</b>	<b>0.99%</b>	<b>1.49%</b>

# A 'Top-Down' View of IBA Effectiveness

- *Key informant* impressions of IBAs were generally positive, especially in relation to benefits provision and relationship building
- However, a diversity of opinion was noted:

*"vital instruments of economic change"*

*"trinkets and beads"*

*"a work in progress"*

# A 'Bottom-Up' View of IBA Effectiveness: Community Perspectives

- Focus groups conducted with various demographic groups in the communities of :

***Dettah, NT***

(Yellowknives Dene First Nation)

***Yellowknife, NT***

(North Slave Métis Alliance)

***Kugluktuk, NU***

(Kitikmeot Inuit Association)

- A variety of viewpoints were shared



Youth Focus Group - Dettah, NT

# A 'Bottom-Up' View of IBA

## Effectiveness: Community Perspectives

- *"Those old mines wouldn't listen to us. They wouldn't come and consult with people in our community. Now there's employment, training opportunities and scholarships for our youth. It's getting better all the time."*
  - Kugluktuk Focus Group
- *"All they're really doing is just paying us off."*
  - Yellowknife Focus Group
- *"The benefits have been good, but we could get more. What have we got from the mines but jobs? We could have got a lot more in our IIBA."*
  - Kugluktuk Focus Group

# A 'Bottom-Up' View of IBA

## Effectiveness: Community Perspectives

	Yellowknives Dene First Nation	North Slave Métis Alliance	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Build positive relationships and trust	✓ ✗	✓ ✗	✓
Secure local benefits	✓ ✗	✓ ✗	✓
Relieve capacity strains	?	✗	✓ ✗
Ensure follow-up	?	✓ ✗	✓

# Summarized Findings

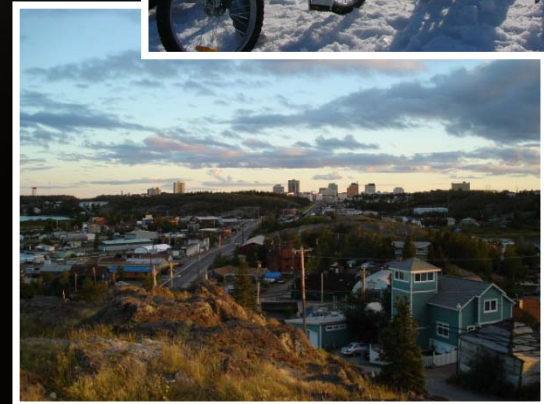
- IBAs found to be meeting many of their objectives
- However, perceptions of effectiveness varied by community, and some deficiencies were apparent
- Community expectations are growing



Courtesy: Diavik Diamond Mine

# Improving Our Research

- Use of a finer lens (e.g. 1 IBA rather than 14!) with more community-level voices
- Use of community selected indicators of well-being and long-term self-monitoring starting with a baseline
- Refinement and replication in multiple locations
- New questions



**Thank You.  
Questions?**

**For more information please see:  
[www.impactandbenefit.com](http://www.impactandbenefit.com)**