

Base Mine Extension Project Update

Winter 2024

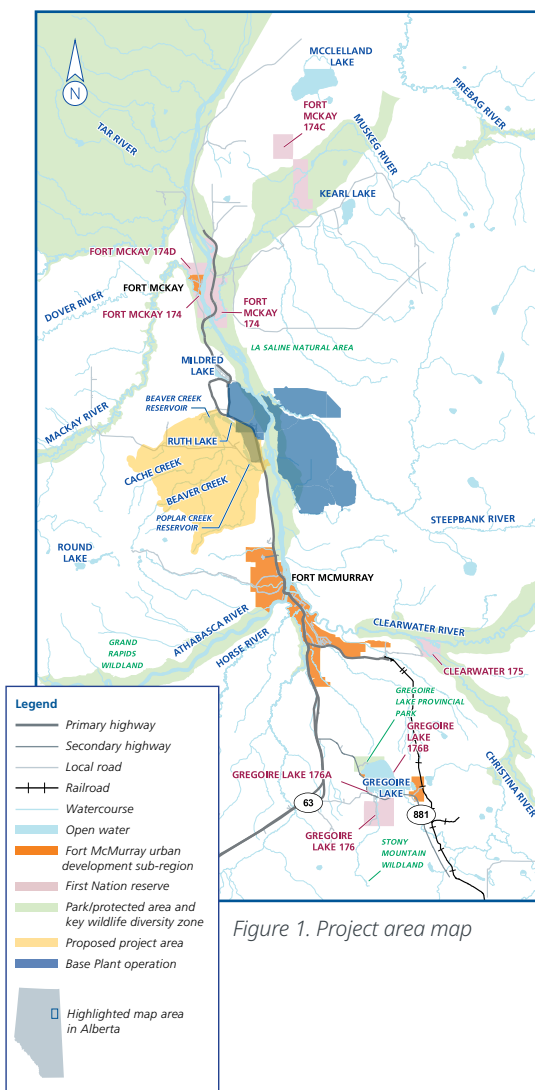


Figure 1. Project area map

Background

The Base Mine Extension Project (the project) is being proposed as an extension to our existing Base Plant operations. The project would consist of a mine and primary extraction facilities on the west side of Highway 63 north of Fort McMurray, Alberta. The project is located adjacent to our existing operations, so that we can use the existing secondary extraction facilities, upgrader(s) and power utilities. The project is expected to produce up to 225,000 barrels per day of bitumen froth over 25 years. Production would start ramping up in the early to mid-2030s once the existing sources of mined bitumen supplying Base Plant are depleted. The project is intended to replace, as opposed to expand, existing production.

How to keep in touch with us

We would like to introduce you to our new Indigenous and Community Relations lead, Adam Pommer.

Adam has been with Suncor for more than 17 years. Adam has prior experience in the Indigenous and Community Relations team at Suncor. More recently, he has also worked in Suncor's Government Relations department. Adam returned to Suncor's Indigenous and Community Relations team earlier this year. He looks forward to reconnecting with community members and staff he has worked with in the past, as well as meeting new folks.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments please reach out to our project team at:

Email: basemineextension@suncor.com

Toll-Free: 1-855-600-5561

Additional information can be found on the project webpage at

www.suncor.com/en-ca/what-we-do/oil-sands/base-mine-extension

Supreme Court of Canada rules Impact Assessment Act unconstitutional: Implications for the Oil & Gas industry and next steps

On October 13, 2023, the Supreme Court of Canada issued an opinion that the Impact Assessment Act (IAA), legislation that regulates major resource development projects in the country, was unconstitutional in part. The IAA, which came into effect in August 2019, replaced the previous environmental assessment process in Canada and significantly expanded the scope of federal impact assessments. The goal of the IAA was to ensure that environmental, social, and economic considerations are taken into account when evaluating major projects, such as pipelines, mines, and energy developments. That intent remains the same as was confirmed in a statement made by the Government of Canada on October 13, 2023:

*“The Government of Canada developed the Impact Assessment Act to create a better set of rules that respect the environment, Indigenous rights and ensure projects get assessed in a timely way. We remain committed to these principles. We are heartened that the Supreme Court of Canada affirmed our role on these core principles. We will now take this back and work quickly to improve the legislation through Parliament”.*¹

The Supreme Court of Canada’s ruling on the IAA was a response to several legal challenges brought forward by environmental groups, Indigenous communities, and

others concerned about the environmental impact of resource development projects.

The ruling represents a significant shift in the way Canada approaches environmental assessments for major resource development projects, and the Government of Canada stated, “their top priority is setting a clear path forward for impact assessments in Canada to provide clarity for businesses, provinces, Indigenous groups and stakeholders involved in the development of major projects.”²

Next steps

The ruling, in addition to the new federal greenhouse gas (GHG) requirements which are anticipated to be released as draft regulations in mid to late 2024, creates a level of uncertainty for the project. We will be proceeding with the application process but will be shifting our focus through 2024 to allow time for us to consider new information that is anticipated to become available from the federal government.

We appreciate your ongoing interest in the project and we will provide an update once we receive further direction from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and more details regarding the federal government’s regulations on GHGs.

Multiple generations attend the Base Mine Extension site visit

Suncor hosted a site visit at the proposed project footprint in September 2023 to provide the opportunity for Indigenous communities who were unable to join in 2022.

The site visit was an opportunity for participating Indigenous communities to see the proposed project area in-person, share their knowledge, ask questions, and raise concerns with the BMX team. Two of the participants this year included Melina Power, the President and CEO of Lakeland Métis and her daughter Chloe, who both live in Fort McMurray.

Melina emphasized the importance of having multiple generations attend site visits, “It is vital for our youth to witness these sites firsthand, to fully grasp the rich tapestry of history, culture, and traditions that have shaped the land in the past and present.”

When asked if Melina could share why including the perspectives of youth is crucial, she said, “The heart of humanity’s future beats in our youth; our children embody the essence of all that is truly significant. As Indigenous People, we hold a profound responsibility

¹ Statement by Ministers Guilbeault and Virani on the Supreme Court of Canada’s opinion on the constitutionality of the Impact Assessment Act - Canada.ca

² Government of Canada Releases Interim Guidance on the Impact Assessment Act - Canada.ca



Melina and Chloe of Lakeland Métis.



Site visit group sharing circle

to impart every fragment of our heritage and history to our young ones, ensuring the vibrancy and longevity of our stories.”

Melina shared that the area where the project is being proposed is historically significant to her family and was a place where her father and his ancestors engaged in traditional activities. Melina recalled that, “Growing up, my father shared these spaces with us, teaching us where to hunt, fish, and trap. He recounted stories of his mother and grandmother, who spent weeks at a time camping there, tanning hides for crafting moccasins, mittens, and jackets. These items were then sold in Fort McMurray stores, providing essential support for my dad and his siblings.” When asked for her perspective on the tour Melina shared that, “Visiting this site was more than just a physical journey; it was an immersion into the profound history of the land that is connected to my ancestors.” Melina also remarked that the experience was further enriched by the opportunity to share it with her daughter.

As part of the site visit, Indigenous participants were invited to share their personal stories and experiences related to harvesting and cultural activities that were

historically conducted in the project area. Melina mentioned that in addition to the tour helping attendees grasp the scale of the project site, “The exchange of narratives and memories was enriching and fostered a deeper sense of connection among us as Indigenous People.”

When asked if Melina had anything else to share regarding the value of the site visit, she mentioned that her hope for the future is continued collaboration and consultation between industry and Indigenous communities and that, “Opportunities like site visits serve a dual purpose: they showcase our traditional ways to our children as well as open avenues to industrial employment and potential prosperity for the Lakeland Métis Community. This blend of preserving our past and embracing new opportunities is key to securing a vibrant and sustainable future for our people.”

Suncor would like to thank Melina and Chloe for their contribution to the newsletter as well as all those who participated in the site visits. The intergenerational dialogue cultivated during events, like site visits, foster a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to resource development.

Happy New Year

The Base Mine Extension project team would like to wish you all a happy and safe new year.

Try your hand at Bannock this winter

Bannock is a cross-cultural food that is incredibly versatile. You can bake it, fry it, put cheese in it, grill it, put jam in it, smother it in syrup, or cook it over the fire. Bannock is perfect for any meal. You can make a Bannock 'loaf', Bannock biscuits, Bannock chunks, or thin the dough and fry or bake over a bowl to make Bannock bowls.

Recipe

- 3 Cups Flour
- 1 Teaspoon Salt
- 1 Tablespoon Baking Powder
- ½ Cup of Oil (or Lard or Melted Butter)
- 1+ Cup Water or Milk

**Adjust per preferences – if the dough is too sticky, add more flour; if the dough is too dry, add more water or lard. Baking powder can be increased if desired.*

Extras!

- Add a cup of raisins and some cinnamon.
- Add a cup of blueberries and a few tablespoons of sugar.
- Add grated cheese.
- Add garlic powder or other seasonings and diced up meat bits.
- After biscuits are formed, cut them in half (like a dinner roll) and put some jam in the middle then close it back up to cook in the oven or frier.

Directions

Mix your dry ingredients first and then add your liquid ingredients (including any extras). The consistency should be similar to bread dough (not sticky). Roll the dough for a couple of minutes and shape into a thick loaf or large ball.

For a single Bannock 'loaf', press out the dough until it is round like a pie but still a half-inch to an inch thick. For biscuits, scoop circles with an ice cream scoop or just grab chunks and make half-inch to inch thick biscuits. For stick cooking fry bread chunks, cut square chunks off the loaf.

Put the Bannock onto a cooking sheet and bake it for 20-25 minutes until it is golden brown, stick your cooking stick through the middle of the chunks and bake over a fire, or put the Bannock into a greased frying pan over medium heat (or try deep frying by putting oil in a deep frying pan). You could even put it on heated rocks and cook it next to a fire. Cooking times will vary depending on the thickness of your Bannock.

Enjoy

Eat the Bannock buttered or plain with moose stew, chili, or any other soup. Eat it as dessert with maple syrup or honey poured over top. Cook it in a waffle or pancake grill. Toss fresh hot Bannock in lard (or butter) and then cover in powdered sugar.

Written by Kelsey (syamyim) Norton, Nlaka'pamux of Spuzzum First Nation and a member of the BMX project team.

