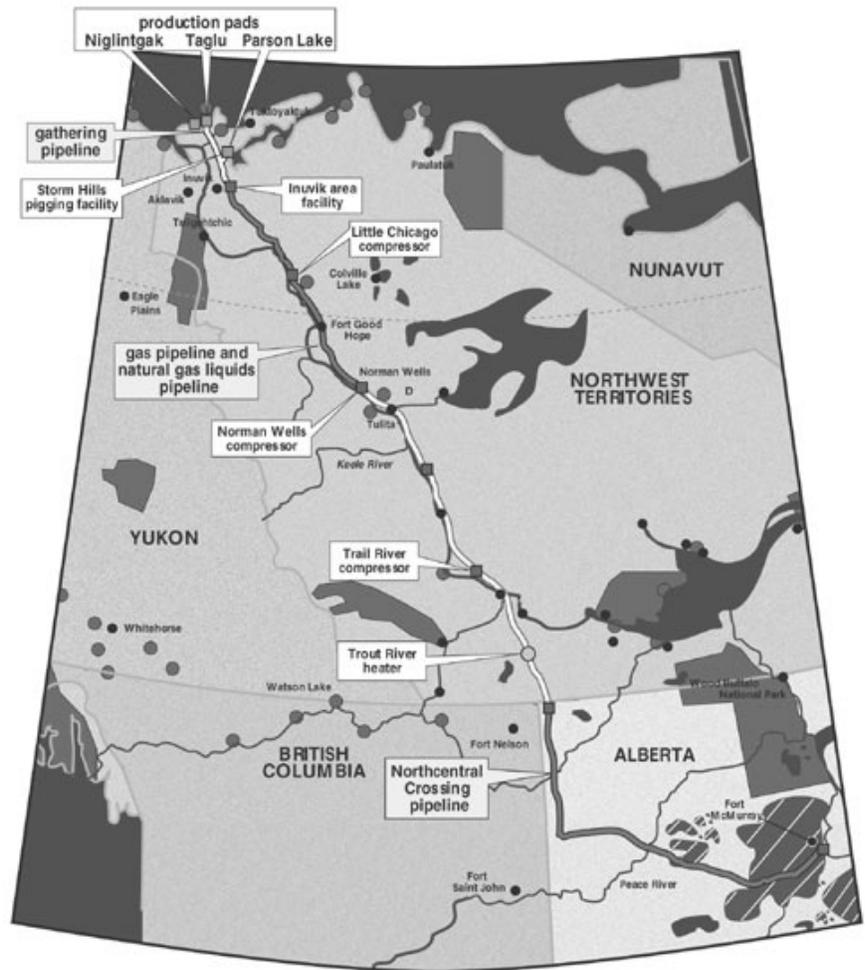


# Training and Jobs

Will the NWT get long-term benefits from the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP)?



Some ideas from an independent study

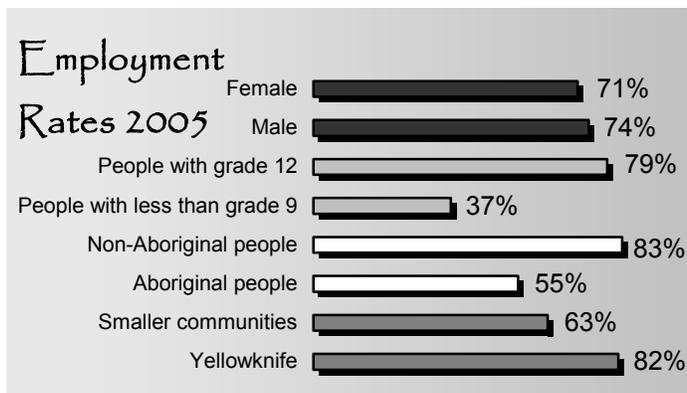


## The Alternatives North study looked at how the MGP can best meet NWT employment needs.

- 1) What NWT residents along the Mackenzie Valley most need jobs?
  - 2) How is the mixed economy in smaller communities different from the wage economy in larger communities?
  - 3) How can we make sure that the people who most need training and jobs get them?
  - 4) What skills do people need so they can choose from different stable, long-term jobs?
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### Who needs training and jobs?

- People with less than grade 9 have the lowest employment rate.
- Aboriginal people and smaller communities have low employment rates.
- Women face barriers to training and employment in areas that men usually dominate, such as pipeline work.



### MGP employment picture

- 9000 temporary full and part-time jobs during two peak years of pipeline construction.
- 1400 people in the NWT labour force looking for work in June 2006.
- Imperial Oil makes no specific commitments to hire NWT residents.
- High school students may decide to quit school to work on the pipeline.
- People may decide to quit current jobs to work on the pipeline.



## Will the NWT get long-term benefits from MGP training and jobs?

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### Mixed Economy

- Found in smaller communities, usually with majority Aboriginal people.
- Sustained by cash income and land activities that households share.
- Depends on harvesting, culture, language, and a web of relationships for economic wellbeing.

### Wage Economy

- Found in larger communities such as Yellowknife, Hay River, Norman Wells, and Inuvik.
- Sustained by cash income paid to each individual.
- Depends on wages for economic wellbeing.

Training and employment needs to support the long-term health and wellbeing of NWT people and communities.

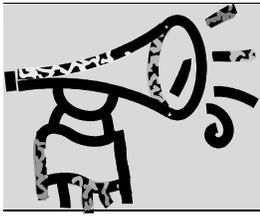
#### **Imperial Oil needs to make specific commitments:**

- 1) Provide jobs and training that sustain the mixed economy in smaller communities.
- 2) Train and hire NWT residents who most need jobs.
- 3) Train and hire NWT women.
- 4) Offer on-the-job literacy programs.
- 5) Provide scholarships, mentoring and co-op work placements.
- 6) Work with unions and contractors to ensure they train and hire northerners.
- 7) Support northern businesses.
- 8) Leave high school students in school.

#### **The Government of the NWT needs to take action:**

- 1) Help people develop skills for long-term employment choices.
- 2) Link unemployed people with training and jobs.
- 3) Remove barriers that women face.
- 4) Coordinate programs and use best practices to sustain the economy in all communities. Learn from models such as the 'Saskatchewan Multi-Party Training Plan'.
- 5) Use community-based research to monitor things, and improve them along the way.





## Talk to your government leaders Speak up at Joint Review Panel hearings

- ? What training and employment programs best help people who really need jobs?
  - ? How can training and employment programs overcome barriers that women face?
  - ? How much time do we need to provide training people really need?
  - ? Who should create and pay for training programs? Government? Industry? Somebody else?
  - ? What commitments should Imperial Oil make to train and hire NWT residents?
  - ? How can we make sure students don't quit high school to work on the pipeline and the gas fields?
  - ? How can NWT employers best deal with losing current employees to the pipeline and the gas fields?
  - ? What employment programs give people skills for different, long-term employment choices?
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Alternatives North is a northern social justice coalition based in Yellowknife. The information in this summary comes from an independent study we did about training and jobs related to the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP).

The study looks at how the MGP can best meet NWT employment needs. We gave the study findings to the Joint Review Panel.

Thanks to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency for funding this important work. Thanks to Dr. Frances Abele, Carleton University for doing the study and to Mary McCreadie, NWT Literacy Council for doing this summary.

Please contact us if you have comments or questions. Look on our website for the full report and other info we have about the MGP. Join our email list. Send **subscribe altnorth-nt** to [sympa@povnet.org](mailto:sympa@povnet.org). We will never trade, share, or sell your email address.

