



NEWS RELEASE

City of Yellowknife
February 11, 2011
2:00 p.m.

City Administrator and Energy Expert, Professor Richard Dixon, To Present the Con Mine Community Energy Project at Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce Luncheon February 15

Energy expert Professor Richard Dixon, of the Alberta School of Business and Robert Long, Senior Administrative Officer for the City of Yellowknife are honoured to be invited to present next week at the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce Business luncheon on February 15.

The presentation will include a project overview of the proposed Con Mine Community Energy System project, a look at related strategic scenarios for Yellowknife and a question and answer session related to the project.

Business Luncheon Schedule

- 11:30am Buffet Lunch
- 12:10pm Project Overview (15 min) Presented by Bob Long, City Administrator
- 12:25pm Strategic Scenarios (15 min) - Presented by Professor Richard Dixon
- Question & Answer Session (10 min)

Members of the business public are invited to attend. The location is the Yellowknife Inn (Copper Room) and the cost is \$25. Please register and pre-pay by noon on February 11, 2011 by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 867-920-4944.

“We’re pleased to have this opportunity to address some of the top business-related questions about the Con Mine Community Energy System project,” said Long. “We know the business community is interested in the financial details and also in looking at how they can take part.”

“I believe the business community will be interested in examining the scenarios we’re looking at for this project,” said Dixon. “In the undertaking of any large, long-term energy project the private and public sectors will go through a scenario planning exercise. This usually involves a careful examination of the key drivers that will impact the project and what those key impacts will plausibly look like. The next step is to develop strategic scenarios that describe over time—in this case over a 25 year period—how these drivers are likely to play out and what the implications are for Yellowknife.”

As part of his work as Executive Director of the Centre for Applied Business Research in Energy and the Environment (CABREE) at the Alberta School of Business at the University of Alberta, Richard Dixon provides applied economic analysis to inform public policy debates on issues of importance

related to energy and the environment. He has been hired as an independent advisor to Council and has held workshops with them to look at key policy and governance issues related to the Con Mine Community Energy System project.

Background on the Con Mine Community Energy Project

The City of Yellowknife is evaluating the potential for a community energy system to provide heating services to buildings in the downtown core using heat from Con Mine. The basic concept involves recovering heat from the abandoned Con Mine approximately 1 km outside of downtown Yellowknife to heat buildings via distributed piping. Ownership of the system will be determined after the City receives proposals from private sector investors, however, in any scenario the system would be revenue-financed (rather than tax financed) through user fees over time. Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has made available grant funding between \$10 and \$20 million on this \$60 million project.

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