



# YA'THI NÉNÉ COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

2022 Progress Report



## HISTORY OF THE AGREEMENT

In June 2016, the seven Athabasca Basin communities, Cameco, and Orano signed the Ya'thi Néné Collaboration Agreement. This agreement builds on the Impact Management Agreement signed between Cameco, Orano and the communities in 1999, and is structured on the five pillars of workforce development, business development, community engagement, environmental stewardship, and community investment. The agreement confirms the continued long-standing relationship between the communities, Cameco and Orano in the development of the existing uranium operations in Nuhenéné (traditional territory of the Athabasca Denesų́łíné).

A Joint Implementation Committee was established with representatives from the First Nation and municipal communities along with Ya'thi Néné, Cameco and Orano to ensure the agreement is implemented successfully and the commitments upheld. To strengthen this partnership, representatives and industry continued to review the agreement in 2022 and discuss opportunities for improvement, a process undertaken every five years.





*“Cameco has been partners with northern Saskatchewan communities for 35 years and we look forward to our work together into the future. We share an interest in ensuring that the communities and industry continue to grow, while maintaining strong environmental stewardship.”*

—TIM GITZEL, Cameco President and CEO

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

For the 2022 calendar year, approximately \$16.8 million has been invested by Cameco and Orano into Athabasca Basin workforce development. Cameco and Orano remain committed to their hiring preference for residents of Saskatchewan’s north from the Athabasca communities for the Cigar Lake, Rabbit Lake and McClean Lake operations. Cameco and Orano continued to maintain employment of Basin personnel on the mine sites including 83 employees at Cameco and an average of 52 employees at Orano.

In 2022, Ya’thi Néné was awarded federal funding for workforce development programs in Nuhenéné, which included Orano’s Mill Utility Program at McClean Lake and Cameco’s online work experience placements in 2023.

In 2022, a total of 15 summer students were hired at McClean Lake, Cigar Lake and Rabbit Lake. For the sixth consecutive year, Ya’thi Néné awarded scholarships to post-secondary Basin students. A total of \$65,000 in scholarships were awarded to 27 successful applicants for the 2022-2023 academic year, with funds provided by Ya’thi Néné Lands and Resources, Cameco, Orano, Flyer Electric and Athabasca Basin Development.

The Ya’thi Néné Export Database continued to build momentum and progress. This online resource helps applicants create resumes and connects Athabasca community members to new opportunities in education, training, and employment. The database was launched in 2021. Please visit [www.yathinene.ca/export-gateway](http://www.yathinene.ca/export-gateway) for more information or contact your local Community Relations Liaison.

*“Our Collaboration Agreement with the communities of the Athabasca Basin continues to evolve and the five-year review process allowed for a number of constructive discussions that will result in a renewed focus on what’s important—the people. We strive to work in partnership, offering career and business opportunities, protecting the environment, and investing in communities.”*

—JIM CORMAN, Orano Canada President and CEO





## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement between Cameco, Orano and the Athabasca communities under the agreement occurs primarily through the Athabasca Joint Engagement and Environment Subcommittee (AJES), previously the Athabasca Working Group.

AJES meet on a regular basis to enhance knowledge and understanding of programs and operations to ensure the safety of the environment. AJES members support environmental management initiatives, community engagement matters and act as a point of contact within their respective communities on operational plans and updates.

In 2022, AJES participated in engagement activities for Cameco's Key Lake, McArthur River and Rabbit Lake 2023 licence renewals and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Regulatory Oversight Reports for Uranium Mines and Mills. Also, the licence extension for the decommissioned Beaverlodge properties, for which Cameco received a two-year operating licence.

The Community-Based Environmental Monitoring Program (CBEMP) continued for Uranium City and Camsell Portage. Through this monitoring program, community members are actively involved in identifying locations and gathering samples, which are then analysed by an independent laboratory. The results of this ongoing program indicate that the environment and human health in the vicinity of the operations are prioritized and are protected. Living a traditional lifestyle and consuming country foods from the area, while respecting the water and fish advisories in the Uranium City area, can continue to be done safely. Previous years reports are available to community members through a brochure posted online at [www.cameconorth.ca](http://www.cameconorth.ca).

To end 2022, all seven Basin communities completed a CBEMP report. In addition, a Human Health Risk Assessment on the previous community reports and results are anticipated to be completed and presented to the communities in 2023.

For more information on Cameco and Orano engagement activities under this pillar, please contact the AJES representatives or the Cameco/Orano Community Liaisons.

***“As Chair, and on behalf of the Ya’thi Néné Lands and Resources Board of Directors, I thank our partners Cameco and Orano for their ongoing support. I trust they share our confidence in the future direction of Ya’thi Néné Lands and Resources as we continue our journey toward a more sustainable and resilient future for our community members.”***

**—MARY DENECHZHE, Ya’thi Néné Chairperson**

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Cameco and Orano continued to prioritize Athabasca businesses in accordance with the terms of the Collaboration Agreement. For the 2022 calendar year, approximately **\$145 million** has been spent with eligible businesses that have included the following community-owned ventures: Arctic Beverages, Athabasca Basin Security, Athabasca Catering Limited, Double Diamond, Points Athabasca Contracting Limited Partnership (PACLP) Flyer Electric, Points North Group of Companies, Team Drilling, True North, and Rise Air (West Wind Aviation). These partnerships support industry goals to help northern businesses become fully supported and self-sustaining contractors to build capacity for the future.

Cameco has and continues to contract a wide variety of construction, maintenance and specialized project installations from PACLP at all our sites. Their contributions to the development of the Cigar Lake operation through construction and commissioning stages have been significant. At McClean Lake, PACLP completed a variety of construction projects. In 2022, PACLP provided an increase in services supporting the re-start in production at McArthur River and Key Lake.

Numerous other Athabasca-owned businesses such as Athabasca Catering and Athabasca Basin Security provided valuable products and services to Cameco's and Orano's northern operations throughout 2022.



## COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Under the agreement, Cameco and Orano make payments to the Athabasca communities through the Athabasca Community Trust. The funds are earmarked for the long-term benefit of the communities. The Trust funds flow from the terms of the Collaboration Agreement and are governed by the Trust agreement.

The Trust is administered by community members and a corporate Trustee. The Trustees are comprised of four representatives from the First Nation and municipal communities.

The Athabasca Community Trust funds are separated into a short-term and long-term fund. Short-term funds can be accessed for a variety of community-based initiatives in alignment with the permitted purposes and are reviewed by the Trust Committee for compliance. Long-term funds are invested and to be made available for future community needs. The Trust also provides some funding to the Ya'thi Néné Land and Resource Office to support operations and administration.

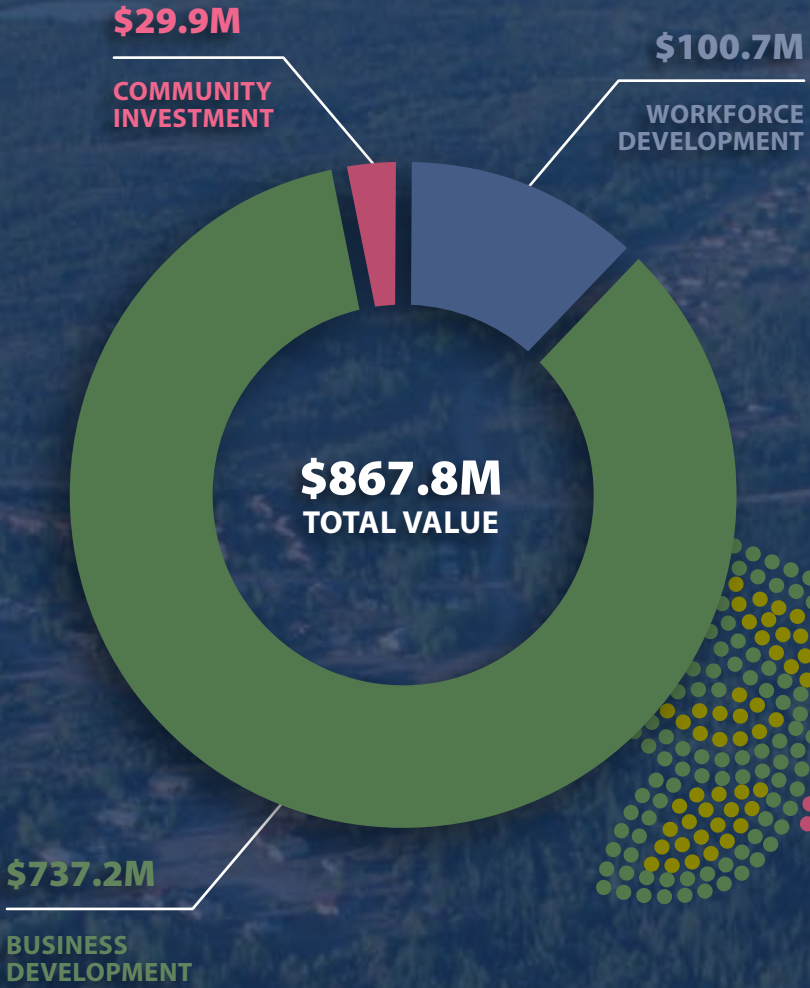
For the 2022 calendar year, \$1.9 million was paid to the Trust. There were a number of initiatives that were implemented through the Athabasca Community Trust proposal driven funding in 2022.

For more information on the Athabasca Community Trust or to apply for funding, visit [www.yathinene.ca/apply-now/](http://www.yathinene.ca/apply-now/)



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Total agreement value 2016-2022



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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