

Western James Bay Winter Road

Operated by Kimesskanemenow
Corporation

WINTER ROAD UPDATE DECEMBER, 2008



A NOTE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

It's my pleasure to be the new General Manager for Kimesskanemenow Corporation, and I am looking forward to the challenge of constructing a Winter Road that stretches from Moosonee to Attawapiskat. I have used the road a lot in the past and am excited to be involved. I hope that things will go well and it will be completed as early in the new year as possible.

I also encourage everyone to keep in mind that the Winter Road must be used safely. It is important to observe the speed limits and take caution when driving. The road is only safe if you drive safe. Our staff will be posting safety signs and night reflectors in curve areas to help you be safe in your travels. Please show respect, and do not vandalize or remove these signs; they are for everyone's safety.

Kimesskanemenow Corporation will be doing community consultations and public meetings around the last week of January 2009. I am looking forward to visiting the communities during that time. Have a nice and safe winter road season. Wacheeya

The first Road Users Meeting is being planned for the week of January 12. Please contact ttookate@jamesbaywinterroad.com for more information.

ROAD BUILDERS

This season, the Winter Road will be constructed and maintained by two contractors. One will be responsible for the Southern Portion of the road, extending from Moosonee north to Halfway Creek, and another contractor will build the road from Halfway Creek north to Attawapiskat.

The Southern Portion of the road will be constructed by CS Enterprises, based in Moose Factory. The Northern Portion of the road will be constructed by Cree-Aski Services, based in Moose Factory. Cree Aski was the general contractor on the entire road last year.

Although there are two general contractors this year, the quality of the road will not be affected, and you should not be affected. Equipment and supplies will continue to be purchased from local suppliers in each of the communities, and sub-contractors in the communities will be part of the construction and maintenance process.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

It takes more than a few people to make sure that the Winter Road gets built and maintained throughout the cold winter months. This year, in addition to Thomas Tookate, the General Manager, four more people have been hired to work on the road.

Gilbert Etherington will be working with Thomas as the Operations Manager. He will be in charge of supervising the overall road construction and maintenance throughout the season. Gilbert has worked on the Winter Road as Road Manager for the past several years.

Supporting Gilbert and Thomas are two Road Supervisors, Edmond Edwards and Bernard Sutherland. Edmond and Bernard will be on the road ensuring that it is built to the required specifications and is maintained well throughout the season. Both Edmond and Bernard are from Fort Albany and have both worked on the road in previous seasons.

This year, there is a new position and a new staff member on the road. Wally Turner is the Road Safety Coordinator for the Winter Road. He will assist with quality control and will also implement an Emergency Response/First Response Plan to deal with any spills or emergencies on the road, both during construction and once the road is open. Wally is from Moose Cree First Nation and previously worked with the Mushkegowuk Council as a Life Safety Officer.



ROAD UPDATE

Construction was started in all four sections of the Winter Road by December 11, 2008. Construction will continue for several weeks, and the road remains closed until further notice. Even if sections look like they are completed, it is not safe to use the road until it is officially opened. Be careful around any road construction site as the heavy equipment can be dangerous.

The road is expected to open in mid-January to light traffic if the weather remains cold and conditions for construction remain good. The road is expected to be opened to heavy traffic in early February. If you are unsure whether the road is open or not, please call 1-866-943-6616 or visit www.jamesbaywinterroad.com.

Remember to visit www.jamesbaywinterroad.com for the latest news about the winter road. Once the road opens, the road status will be available on the website as well as on the toll-free line, 1-866-943-6616. Kimesskanemenow Corporation looks forward to working with all users of the road to make this another safe and successful Winter Road season!

Kimesskanamenow Corporation
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