



Date: 2025-01-09

**Written Submission from  
Buffalo Narrows – Métis  
Community Council**

**Mémoire du  
Buffalo Narrows - Métis  
Community Council**

In the matter of

À l'égard de

**NexGen Energy Ltd.**

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License application to prepare a site for  
and construct its Rook I uranium mine and  
mill project

**NexGen Energy Ltd.**

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Demande de permis concernant la  
préparation de l'emplacement et la  
construction de son projet de mine et  
d'usine de concentration d'uranium Rook I

**Commission Public Hearing**

**Audience publique de la Commission**

February 2026

Février 2026



**MN-S BN-Métis Community Council**  
**PO Box 250, Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan; S0M 0J0**  
**306 371 7317    bnmetis@gmail.com**

January 5, 2026

Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St  
PO Box 1046 Stn B Ottawa ON K1P 5S9  
Tel: 343-542-8587 Fax; 613-995-5086  
Email: [interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsc-ccsn.gc.ca)

Re: CNSC Public Hearing  
NexGen Energy Ltd License Application

My name is Raymond Laliberte, President of MN-S Buffalo Narrows - Métis Community Council, (BN-MCC) Local #62 .

This is a request for intervention through both a written and oral presentation to the CNSC.

The attached written presentation will be presented and will require a specific time provided on the CNSC agenda during the Part 2, Public Hearing held on February 9-13, 2026 in Saskatoon to do an oral presentation on NexGen Energy Ltd application to CNSC to prepare a site for and construct its proposed Rook 1 mine and mill project.

The BN-MCC appreciates the work CNSC does as the Federal Regulator in regards to protecting people and the environment along with building strong relationships and inclusive processes to meaningfully accommodate Indigenous Peoples.

Sincerely,

  
Raymond Laliberte, President  
BN – Métis Community Council, Local #62



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**Re: CNSC Public Hearing**  
**Comments to be Presented**

**Introduction:**

I am pleased to introduce myself today. My name is Raymond Laliberte, I am Métis and our family was raised in the Métis Community of Buffalo Narrows. My wife and our family continue to reside in Buffalo Narrows while guiding and helping to raise our two beautiful grandchildren.

In my opinion, I believe my contribution & dialogue today will be useful to the CNSC coming to a decision on this very important matter. I have learned by being totally immersed in our Métis Identity, Culture and Ways of Knowing for my life with guidance & teaching from our Elders. In addition, based on my Métis Knowledge of our Distinct Buffalo Narrows, Community I would be considered a Governance & Administration Knowledge Keeper. Additional, lived experience was gained while working with many jurisdictions and dealing with various community issues through my volunteer work with National, Provincial and Community agencies such as the elected Buffalo Narrows Municipal Mayor and Public NLSD 113 Education Board regional representative.

Currently, I have the pleasure of serving our BN Métis Citizens as the President of MN-S Buffalo Narrows – Métis Community Council (BN-MCC), Local #62.

MN-S BN-MCC, Local #62 is part of CWCL NR 2 Governance and a signature on the NexGen- CWCL NR2 Impact Benefit Agreement signed on June 15, 2023. The NexGen Rook 1 Project activity is geographically and directly connected by Saskatchewan Provincial Highway #155 to Buffalo Narrows which goes over our kiezie channel bridge, down our main street through our business district, pass



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our school, recreation centre and directly adjacent to our community primary water source & supply.

Metis Way of Life: "How it was?"

I will take a few minutes to explain my experience while growing up in Buffalo Narrows.

Early in my generation as a baby boomer, we had extreme inadequate and overcrowded housing, no furnaces, no sewer or water infrastructure, no lawns, no fences, no telephone and no television. Our parents usually worked seasonal and during the summer season, we ran & played all summer with no shoes. In hindsight and in my opinion, we dealt with many issues including Systemic Racism; Denial of Fundamental Human Rights; Colonization; Metis Residential School and Forced Assimilation and the Impact was shown through many social determinants of health indicators such as high incarceration; high school drop out; mental health & addictions issues; family violence, child apprehension; high cost of living and a general loss of hope and sense of belonging.

Generally speaking, we suffered and were negatively impacted but never knew the difference and I thought everyone lived like us. We were unaware of our Metis identity, culture and rights and the public school system never taught us otherwise. As a Metis Community we were invisible to authorities, had no recognized rights, were in dire straits and primarily left to "manage poverty".

However, thanks to our Metis parents & elders who were proud of our Metis language and identity and what they learned and were taught how to survive off the land and had values like extended family, caring and sharing that provided us with knowledge, resilience, guidance and hope.

Fast forward to current Metis Engagement, Participation and Outcomes related to Land Based Resource Extraction including having five (5) active uranium mines & mills operating within the 1994 Metis Land Claim geographic area. The Cluff Lake



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Uranium Mine Project occurred between 1979 – 2002 and was fully decommissioned in 2023. The Métis People and Families gained general understanding about uranium licensing processing and operations, industrial skills, jobs and some contracts. So, BN-MCC and our citizens and families have a lot of experience dealing with Uranium Mines.

Metis way of Life: “How it improved?”

Many general factors improved Métis way of life such as : 1982 repatriation of Canada Constitution and addition of Section 35; 1994 NW Sask Métis Land Claim launch; SCC Powley case 2003 Métis right to hunt in Section 35; UNDRIP 2007; 94 calls in TRC in 2015; SCC ruling in Daniels Cases in 2016 and the 2023 NexGen – CWCL NR2 Impact Benefit Agreement (IBA) ...

The largest positive impact, benefits, meaningful engagement and accommodation received BN-MCC & our Citizens to date with the Uranium Industry has been by far the “NexGen Impact Benefit Agreement between CWCL NR2 “signed by BN-MCC and the other NR2 Métis Communities, on June 15, 2023.

The formal relationship with NexGen began with BN-MCC leadership since 2019 and since then, to date this relationship has gained Trust through recognition & acknowledgement of Distinct Métis Identity, Culture and Rights; Taking action on Local Priorities such as youth leadership; scholarships; Community social & food security issues; Ethical engagement, Inclusion and Transparency throughout the process on all matters related to the Environmental Assessment and Rook 1 Project and by creating Transformational Change through strong Partnerships that supports Métis Rights and Distinct equity, employment and training needs; jobs; contracts, economic development alongwith environmental health and safety.

Buffalo Narrows Métis Citizens have raised Rook 1 Project issues related to the highway #155 transportation route corridor and particularly ones regarding trucks within our community boundary and on our Mainstreet. The three main concerns



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raised are the installation of a highway traffic light for the safety of our school children crossing the main highway which is currently being mitigated through discussion with BN Municipal Council, Saskatchewan Highways and NexGen. Additionally, Prevention, Emergency Preparedness and Response has been raised within the IBA process to address the projected increase in traffic flow expected during this proposed project. The third concern is how all partners and stakeholders can work together on supporting a BN Metis Distinct Governance, Administration & Community Service infrastructure plan. BN-MCC has confidence that all these issues will be open for dialogue, fairly advanced and resolved in a timely manner to the satisfaction of all parties.

BN-MCC acknowledges and thanks those responsible, who have set a New Industry Gold Standard and Precedent by initiating & leading the creation of our NexGen-CWCL NR2 IBA and help build a space for Metis Voices, Inherent Rights, Knowledge Systems and Partnerships. This has tremendously improved Metis lives in Buffalo Narrows, supported economic reconciliation and produced pervasive influence and generational benefit.

What BN-MCC sees as success is when our Metis Citizens have achieved: a better overall education, awareness & understanding the uranium industry; a stronger partnerships with mutual benefits; a recognition and acknowledgement for decisions not to be considered as “one & done” but continuously being developed throughout the life of the mine; a team comprised of many and all focused on quality outcomes and a strong sense of Metis Community Engagement, Pride, Identity and Belonging. BN-MCC and our Citizens feel proud that we have transitioned from managing poverty to now being on the right path with support from our partners to help grow our economic system & footprint and begin to manage prosperity.

In conclusion, BN-MCC wholeheartedly supports NexGen Rook 1 Project to receive full approval for their license from CNSC to prepare a site for and to construct their proposed Rook 1, mine and mill project. NexGen has proven to BN-MCC and



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our Citizens that they have the knowledge, the team and experts and they have BN-MCC and our Citizens confidence and trust that they are both qualified and capable of advancing and developing the proposed Rook 1 Project through a culture of safety and environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,

*Raymond Laliberte*  
Raymond Laliberte, President  
BN – Metis Community Council