



# Rook I Project Update and Community Engagement Activities

- Upcoming Community Information Sessions
- Education, Training, and Employment Updates
- Community Engagement Updates

## June 2023 Community Information Sessions

NexGen is excited to host Community Information Sessions (CISs) about the Rook I Project (the Project) in the Local Priority Area (LPA) from 12-16 June 2023.

<b>JUNE</b> <b>12</b>	<b>Buffalo Narrows Friendship Centre</b> from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
<b>JUNE</b> <b>13</b>	<b>La Loche Friendship Centre</b> from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
<b>JUNE</b> <b>14</b>	<b>Turnor Lake and Birch Narrows Community Food Centre</b> from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
<b>JUNE</b> <b>15</b>	<b>Buffalo River Dene Nation Arena</b> from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
<b>JUNE</b> <b>16</b>	<b>Clearwater River Dene Nation Treaty Grounds</b> from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Similar to previous years, the CISs will be a drop-in format, with a series of poster stations each staffed by one or more of NexGen's subject matter experts who are available to share information and answer questions.



June 2022 CIS



Poster station from 2022 CIS

This year, we look forward to sharing information about:

- Project updates and the results of the Environmental Assessment (EA) conducted for the Project;
- The EIS regulatory review process including when and how members of the public have had and will continue to have opportunities for ongoing involvement in the regulatory process;
- An overview of the licensing and permitting required for the Project; and
- Environmental monitoring programs, employment opportunities, and education and training initiatives.

Dene translators will be present to assist with translations for community members. A summary booklet of the presentation posters will be available at each session for community members to take home.

Representatives from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (ENV) will also be in attendance to explain their roles as regulatory agencies and to answer questions from community members.

Please bring your filled out invitation card with you to enter our draw for a door prize! Extra cards will be available at each session for additional family or community members to enter. Refreshments will be served, and a colouring table will be setup for kids.



For more information on NexGen's previous CISs, or to download the 2022 poster booklets, please visit our website at:

<https://www.saskatchewanuranium.ca/working-with-people/default.aspx#info-sessions>

# Education, Training, and Employment Updates



## NexGen Welcomes Steve Innes to the Team!

Steve Innes is NexGen's Director of Employment and Training. Steve brings over 40 years of expertise in education and training from a variety of industries, with a deep understanding and demonstrated success in Northern Saskatchewan.

Steve obtained his B.A in Physical Education and his B. Ed in Education at the University of Western Ontario. In 2007, he received his Master's in Educational Administration from the University of Saskatchewan. He started his career as a teacher and went on to become Principal of Dene High School in La Loche.

Most recently, Steve was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Northern Career Quest (NCQ). He worked closely with the board to create training plans to meet the employment needs of resource-based companies, with a focus on Northern Saskatchewan. NexGen worked closely with NCQ on developing training and workplace programs for Rook I, including the Driller Training Program in 2018, and the Carpentry Program which was successfully completed in March 2023.

At NexGen, Steve is focused on maximizing employment opportunities within the Local Priority Area (LPA) as NexGen continues to deliver and evolve employment and training initiatives in partnership with local Indigenous Nations and communities to prepare the future workforce for the Project.

NexGen has formed a Training Committee, composed of representatives from the LPA communities, training institutions, and NexGen, to continue to deliver long-term training plans based on NexGen's employment needs at the Project. The Committee establishes training to coincide with the future employment opportunities for each phase of the Project, with a focus on maximizing opportunities for LPA residents. The Committee's meeting was held on 2 May 2023, in La Loche.

## 2023 Summer Student Program

NexGen is proud to announce that the 2023 Summer Student Program will be starting soon with 8 secondary students from the LPA hired to work on a rotational basis at the Rook I exploration camp over the summer. The students will be mentored by our team of subject matter experts and will gain insight into careers available in the exploration and mining industries. The students will also engage in important community stewardship on behalf of NexGen by supporting with community events this summer, such as the Canada Day BBQ in La Loche.



*2022 Summer Student examining drill core*

## 2023-2024 Scholarship Program

NexGen is currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 Scholarship Program. We are pleased to award scholarships supporting post-secondary education for students who are leaders in their schools and communities. Scholarships are based on a combination of academic merit, career aspirations, and commitment to community.

This year, one applicant that displays exceptional commitment to their community will receive the Don Hovdebo Memorial Scholarship.

For more information on NexGen's Scholarship Program, including details on how to apply, please contact Robert St. Pierre by email at [rstpierre@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:rstpierre@nxe-energy.ca), by phone at 306-822-7579, or by visiting the NexGen office in the Dene Empowerment Centre in La Loche. All applications must be submitted to Robert St. Pierre by 30 June 2023.



*Scholarship Certificate  
presented to 2022 recipient*

## Traditional Food Study

NexGen is engaging with Indigenous Nations in the LPA on a community-based, regional Traditional Food Study. The Study involves working with communities to further understand the type, quantity, and location of traditional foods consumed in the region and analyze the key food types. This information will be used to complement the work already completed for NexGen's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Rook I Project (the Project), such as the self-directed Indigenous Knowledge and Traditional Land Use Studies that were fully funded by NexGen through the Study Agreements with the CRDN, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S, on behalf of the Northern Region 2 [NR2]), BNDN, and BRDN.

As part of the Study, each Indigenous Nation has been asked to appoint a community liaison. The role of the community liaison is to work with community members to complete interviews and mapping, coordinate donations of harvested foods for testing, provide information from the community, and aid in sharing information about the Study back to the community.

If you have any questions about the Study or wish to discuss ways to be involved, please contact your community liaison, Local President, or Band Office.

The community liaison contacts for the LPA communities are:

**CRDN** – Please contact the CRDN Band Office

**MN-S** – Jena Nicholls

**BNDN** – Terrie Campbell

**BRDN** – Brian Benjamin



*December 2022 MN-S JWG meeting to discuss the Traditional Food Study*

## Working with Communities

To date, NexGen has signed Benefit Agreements with the CRDN, BNDN, and BRDN, and continues to advance discussions for a Benefit Agreement with the MN-S. The Benefit Agreements define the environmental, cultural, economic, employment, and other benefits to be provided to the communities with respect to the Project for the entire Project lifecycle, including decommissioning and reclamation. NexGen and each Indigenous Nation with signed Benefit Agreements have an Implementation Coordinator who is responsible for being the primary point of contact for the Agreement and overseeing its activities. Under the Study Agreement (signed in 2019), the MN-S also has a Community Coordinator position that is funded by NexGen to help facilitate engagement activities and opportunities between NexGen and the MN-S NR2.

NexGen is proud to be working alongside the Indigenous Nations and communities in the LPA to responsibly develop the Project and maximize positive outcomes. If you have questions about your Nation's Benefit Agreement or community initiatives, please contact your Implementation Coordinator, Community Coordinator (MN-S), Band Office, or Local President.



**CRDN Band Office**  
306-822-2021



**BNDN Implementation Coordinator**  
Anthony Clark  
anthony.clark@bnddi.ca  
306-222-0780



**MN-S NR2 Community Coordinator**  
Jena Nicholls  
jnicholls\_94@hotmail.com  
306-930-9205



**BRDN Implementation Coordinator**  
Elmer Campbell  
elmercampbell35@gmail.com  
306-235-7673

If you have questions for NexGen, please contact Robert St. Pierre at (306) 822-7579, by email at [rstpierre@nxe-energy.ca](mailto:rstpierre@nxe-energy.ca), or by visiting Robert at the NexGen office in La Loche.



# Rook I Project Update and Community Engagement Activities

## Community Engagement Updates

### Saskatchewan Rush Visit Local Priority Area (LPA) Schools

NexGen was pleased to partner with the Saskatchewan Rush to bring two lacrosse players – Robert Church and Mark Matthews – to visit students in grades 4 to 6 at Buffalo River Dene Community School and Twin Lakes Community School on 31 March 2023. The Rush shared their experiences in becoming involved in the sport, followed by a demonstration of key lacrosse skills. Students had fun participating in the lacrosse drills and meeting the Rush Team’s mascot, Bruiser. Thank you to both schools and communities for welcoming NexGen and the Rush!



Rush visit at BRDCS

### Education Outreach Program Robotics Workshop

NexGen was proud to support the in-person student robotics workshop hosted at the Rossignol High School in Île-à-la-Crosse on 4-5 May, 2023 as part of our Superhero sponsorship of the Saskatchewan Mining Association’s (SMA) Education Outreach Program.



Members of NexGen’s team attended the event and met students from La Loche, Buffalo Narrows, Dillon, Turnor Lake, Île-à-la-Crosse, Beauval, Pinehouse, Jans Bay, and Canoe Lake as they participated in the workshop. We enjoyed speaking to how these skills are directly applicable to a future career in the mining industry.

### Saskatchewan Roughriders Visit LPA Schools

The Saskatchewan Roughriders visited Twin Lakes Community School and Birch Narrows Dene Community School on 10 May 2023.

Three Roughrider football players – Jake Wieneke, Brett Lauther, and Shawn Bane Jr. – and their mascot, Gainer, were in attendance to meet the students in grades 6 to 9 at both schools.

After being introduced by NexGen, the Roughriders answered questions from both staff and students and spoke about their journeys and motivation to becoming professional football players, as well as the importance of being positive teammates and community members. The players then participated in football drills with the students. Thank you to both schools and communities for welcoming NexGen and the Roughriders.



Roughrider visit at BNDCS

### NexGen and the LPA Recognized at Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly

NexGen was honoured to be recognized by the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Athabasca, Jim Lemaigre, at the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly for the Youth Mentorship VIP Program hosted in partnership with the Vancouver Canucks in Vancouver, B.C., on 1-2 March 2023.

We thank MLA Lemaigre for recognizing this positive mentorship experience and we look forward to hosting more students from the LPA that contribute positively to their schools and communities at the next Youth Mentorship VIP Program.