

LGA STUDY BRIEF 1



- The LGA Study Briefs are periodical publications that highlight key findings and present key questions that can provide Eeyou perspective to the pre-feasibility study for the LGA.

WHAT IS THE GRANDE ALLIANCE (LGA) PROGRAM AND THE STUDY THAT GOES WITH IT?

La Grande Alliance (LGA) is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to plan and execute a 30-year infrastructure program aimed to facilitate the transportation of people and good in Eeyou Istchee and northern Quebec. LGA is put together by Cree Nation Government (CNG) through the Cree Development Corporation (CDC) and is funded by the government of Quebec. The project presents 3 phases of development.

PHASE 1 - FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Railway along Billy-Diamond Highway (BDH) between km 0 to km 257.
- Return of railway line Grevet (Quévillon to Chapais, approximately 147 km).
- Trans-shipment areas along BDH km 0 to km 257 and Grevet-Chapais lines
- Upgrading and paving of access roads connecting Waskaganish, Eastmain, and Wemindji to BDH and Nemaska to Route-du-Nord

PHASE 2 - PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Railway along the Billy-Diamond Highway (BDH) between km 257 to km 544.
- Road connecting Radisson and Whapmagoostui. (approximately 175 km).
- Extension of Route 167 to connect with the Trans-Taiga road (approximately 125 km).

PHASE 3 - PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Railway connecting Radisson and Whapmagoostui (approximately 225 km).
- Deep-water port at Whapmagoostui/ Kuujjuarapik.
- Extension of Trans-Taiga road to Schefferville (approximate 200 km).



STUDIES FRAMEWORK

PHASE 1 AND PHASES 2 & 3

According to the MOU, a framework for examining the infrastructure works that allows for the planning of future economic development in the territory over the next thirty years (or more) in which the Cree Nation plays will take meaningful role in its planning and execution.

The study for the LGA will not be following the standard model used for feasibility and pre-feasibility studies, but will go up and beyond the standard model. The approach adopted by the CDC utilizes a network of Community Information Officers (CIOs) in each of the ten Cree communities. These Officers will be key to ensuring maximum participation by community members throughout the planned studies.

As part of the CDC model there will also a Community Engagement Committee who will oversee the different studies. The Committee will be composed of representatives from the CDC, the CIOs and non-Cree communities located in the study area. The mandate of the Committee will be to review the work by the Consultant firms, to recommend additional work to the CDC and to coordinate communications and engagement work among the participating communities.

Two firms have been hired by CDC to conduct the studies for the LGA, each firms has a Eeyou Liaison Officer:

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PHASE 1 - FEASIBILITY STUDY

Vision Eeyou Istchee Consortium
(Stantec, Desfor, Systra)

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PHASE 2 & 3 – PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY

WSP, Maamuu Consultants,
Mishtuk Corporation & EnviroCree

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