



Rook I Project Update and Community Engagement Activities

- **Rook I Project Regulatory Process Updates**
- **Community Engagement Updates**
- **Employee Spotlight**
- **Education, Training and Employment Updates**



NexGen Achieves Major Milestone in the Federal Environmental Assessment (EA)

NexGen is excited to announce a major milestone in the Federal Environmental Assessment (EA) process for the Rook I Project (Project). On 19 November 2024, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) confirmed completion of their final Federal technical review, confirming that NexGen has successfully addressed all information requests received as part of the Federal EA technical review process.

With the completion of the CNSC technical review, NexGen will be submitting a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) package to the CNSC. As part of the Final EIS submission package to the CNSC, NexGen has also provided final responses to any comments received through the Federal EA public comment review process. The CNSC is now in a position to schedule a Commission Hearing date for the Project, which is the next major step in the final approval process for the Project.

Following the Provincial Ministerial approval to proceed with the development of the Project under *The Environmental Assessment Act* of Saskatchewan, which was granted in November 2023, NexGen has continued to advance both Provincial permitting and Federal licensing with the respective regulators, which are also required before the Project is fully approved. An approval decision for the Federal EA and Licence for the construction phase of the Project will be made by the CNSC Commission following a public hearing.

This milestone marks a crucial step forward for the Project. We are proud to share this achievement with our Indigenous Nation partners and Local Priority Area

(LPA) communities as we continue to work together to optimize the advancement of this generational project to deliver social, economic, and environmental benefits to the local communities.



For more information, the CNSC has posted the results of the Federal technical review to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry for the Project, which is located at this link: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80171>.

Community Engagement Updates

NexGen's Youth Mentorship Program – 9 to 11 December, 2024

NexGen hosted its third Youth Mentorship Program in partnership with the Vancouver Canucks at Rogers Arena in Vancouver, B.C. Students from across the LPA were selected by community and school leaders for their positive attitudes and commitment to their communities to participate in the program. We were excited to host this program that provides the opportunity for youth to experience a number of different vocations through impactful interactions with a professional hockey organization and to reflect on the importance of goal setting, resilience, and accountability. We appreciate the support of the chaperones, school staff, community leadership, and the Canucks organization in ensuring this program has a lasting and meaningful impact on the future leaders in the LPA.

NexGen Hosts Canadian Hockey Legends in the LPA

NexGen is returning to the LPA with Canadian hockey legends and youth hockey mentors on 28 and 29 January 2025 for two days of fun and inspiring skills training, mentorship, and community connection. We are excited to welcome community members from across the LPA to join us for each of these events, which will be held at the arenas in Birch Narrows Dene Nation and Buffalo River Dene Nation.

We look forward to sharing more updates as this year's Youth Mentorship Program occurs and as planning for the 2025 LPA Tour is underway.



NexGen's Employee Spotlight: Tyson Lemaigre



NexGen employee and Local Priority Area (LPA) resident Tyson Lemaigre sat down with us to share insights on his career journey.

When did you join NexGen, and what was your role when you started? What is your current role?

I began working with NexGen in November 2018. At that time my role was a Camp Hand with Site Services. My current role is Site Supervisor/Foreman; I advanced to this role in 2019 following continued support and transparent performance reviews.

How did you get started in this field, and what made you decide to pursue it?

I was always a "hands-on" worker with interest in this area and when I became aware of a job opportunity with NexGen's Site Services team I applied and was hired!

What does a typical day look like for you at NexGen?

My day begins with a "toolbox" safety meeting in the morning with my crew where I assign various tasks to each team member. After this meeting, I follow-up on my emails and complete paperwork. Throughout the day, I visit the various departments and check-in on the crew and offer assistance where it's needed and finish my day with a final safety meeting.

What is the next stage of your career at NexGen?

I am always open to learning new things; currently I am completing a number of safety tickets and have completed supervisor training twice. I look forward to coming to work because it feels like a family. I have been working alongside some of my team members for almost 7 years. My team members will thank me for a job well done and show their appreciation for what I do, and receiving recognition for hard work makes you feel good. I would love to work with NexGen for a long time and continue to see where this role will take me.



What is the most rewarding or impactful aspect of your role? What is your favourite part of your role?

The most rewarding aspect of my role are the new things I learn everyday. My favourite part of the role is interacting with the people I work with both in the office and out in the field, and having the opportunity to meet new people.

Can you talk about your involvement in NexGen's community events, and what your favourite event has been so far?

I have been involved in many community events over the years, including the annual High School Career Visits, Canada Day BBQs in La Loche, and the Canucks Alumni community visit last year, which was my favourite event to participate in.

My two boys attended with me; seeing them enjoy their time skating with hockey legends and getting a glimpse of what I do for work was special. I also enjoy being able to connect with youth and their parents at these events and answer questions they have about NexGen in Dene.



What is one piece of advice you would offer to students who would like to pursue a career in your field? If you put your mind to it, you can achieve anything in due time. If I can do it, you can too.



What is your favourite thing to do both on-site and off-site when you are not working?

My favourite thing to do is spend time at the cabin, hunting and fishing, road trips and quad rides with my family, and teaching my children about our traditional way of life. On-site, I love to fish and enjoy evening boat rides with my team members as it is an opportunity to get to know people.

What does a successful Rook I Project look like to you in the LPA?

I would like to continue to see opportunities for local companies to be involved in the Project and see people from the LPA communities join the workforce at the Rook I site. I have been impressed with how NexGen supports communities in the LPA, through its programs like the Breakfast Club.

Education, Training, and Employment Updates

Completed and Upcoming Training Programs

NexGen is pleased to support the delivery of programs for skills training and career development for community members in the LPA. Three impactful courses have wrapped up this December, with a total of 14 graduates. Congratulations to all of these accomplished participants who are investing in their future careers!

Radiation and Environmental Technician Program

Held from April to December 2024 in Buffalo Narrows and delivered by Northlands College, NexGen funded the five seats in the course and worked with the LPA Indigenous Nations and communities on student selection for this program.

- Colin Alloway
- William Pederson
- Bruce Fontaine
- Shae Shatilla
- Melanie Lemaigre



Students from the Radiation and Environmental Technician Program learning in the lab

Carpentry Applied Certificate Program

Held from 15 October to December 2024 in Buffalo River Dene Nation (BRDN), this program was initiated and facilitated by NexGen, delivered by Lotus Learning, and funded by both the BRDN and Métis Nation — Saskatchewan Northern Region 2 (MN-S NR2).

- Vince Herman
- Jorden Montgrand
- Brayden Belle
- Landon Catarat

Pathways to Your Future: Career Development in Uranium Mining

Held from 8 October to December 2024 in Buffalo Narrows, the pilot uranium industry-specific career development course for underground mining offered students a holistic look into what to expect working on a uranium mine and mill site.

- Samuel Cummings
- Raemon Potvin
- Dave Chartier
- Lorne Petit
- Mervin Petit



Students of the Pathways to Your Future Program with NexGen



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- **Pathways to Your Future** (offered in January 2025 in Clearwater River Dene Nation)
- **Radiation and Environmental Technician Program** (offered in January 2025 in Buffalo Narrows)



Stay tuned for more information and updates on these course offerings. If you are interested in attending any upcoming or future training programs, please contact your local Implementation Coordinator, Band Office, or Training Working Group representative, or drop by the NexGen office at the Dene Empowerment Centre in La Loche, and we can assist you.

Meadow Lake Tribal Council's (MLTC) Education, Career and Try-a-Trade Fair

NexGen was pleased to attend the MLTC's 8th Annual Education, Career and Try-a-Trade Fair which took place on 26 September 2024 in Meadow Lake.

NexGen staff were excited to connect with high school students from the LPA and beyond to share more information about upcoming and future career opportunities, as well as the education and training programs we have facilitated in the LPA. Thank you to the MLTC for hosting us. We look forward to attending the event again in the future.



NexGen at the MLTC's Education, Career and Try-a-Trade Fair



Rook I Project Update and Community Engagement Activities

Local Priority Area (LPA) High School Career Day Visits

From 22 to 24 October 2024, NexGen visited high schools in the LPA to exclusively deliver an interactive 'Career Day' to students at Twin Lakes Community School (Buffalo Narrows), Birch Narrows Dene Community School (BNDCS), Clearwater River Dene School (CRDS), Dene High School (La Loche), and Buffalo River Dene School (BRDS).

NexGen was joined by representatives from local and regional training institutions, including Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) and Northlands College to offer students more information about current and upcoming education and training programs and courses being offered in the LPA. Local contractors from each community were also invited to attend to speak to students

about potential opportunities with their companies, including activities carried out at the Rook I site.

NexGen is thankful for the insightful questions and enthusiastic engagement from both the students and teaching staff at each school. This annual event plays a vital role in inspiring students to reflect on their interests and passions and to help them explore and consider continuing their education and select meaningful career paths.

Thank you to all of the training institutions and local contractors who joined us for these events, and to all of the students and staff for participating and welcoming us into your schools!



High School Career Day Visits: BNDCS, Twin Lakes Community School, BRDS, CRDS, and Dene High School

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays

As 2024 comes to an end, we would like to thank each of our valued community partners for their ongoing collaboration and support throughout 2024 as we work together to create positive lasting benefits for current and future generations. Our achievements this year would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our incredible employees, contractors, suppliers, and community members.

Thank you all for the essential role you continue to play in our journey and for making 2024 another successful year. As we look forward to 2025 and the opportunities it will bring, we are excited to continue building on our partnerships and are excited for a wonderful year ahead. From all of us at NexGen, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May it be safe, joyful, and restful!

