




↑ Enterprise
← High Level
Yellowknife →


NWT
1

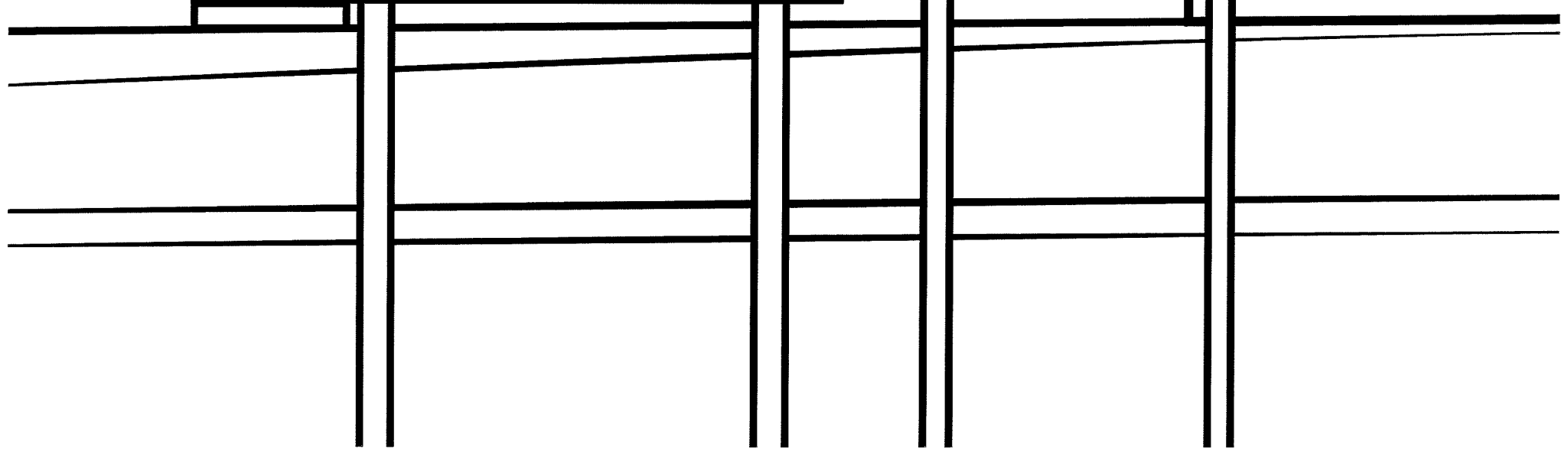
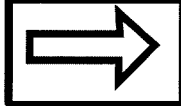
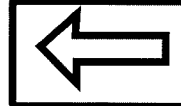

NWT
2


NWT
1

SOUTH

ENDS

NORTH



Enterprise

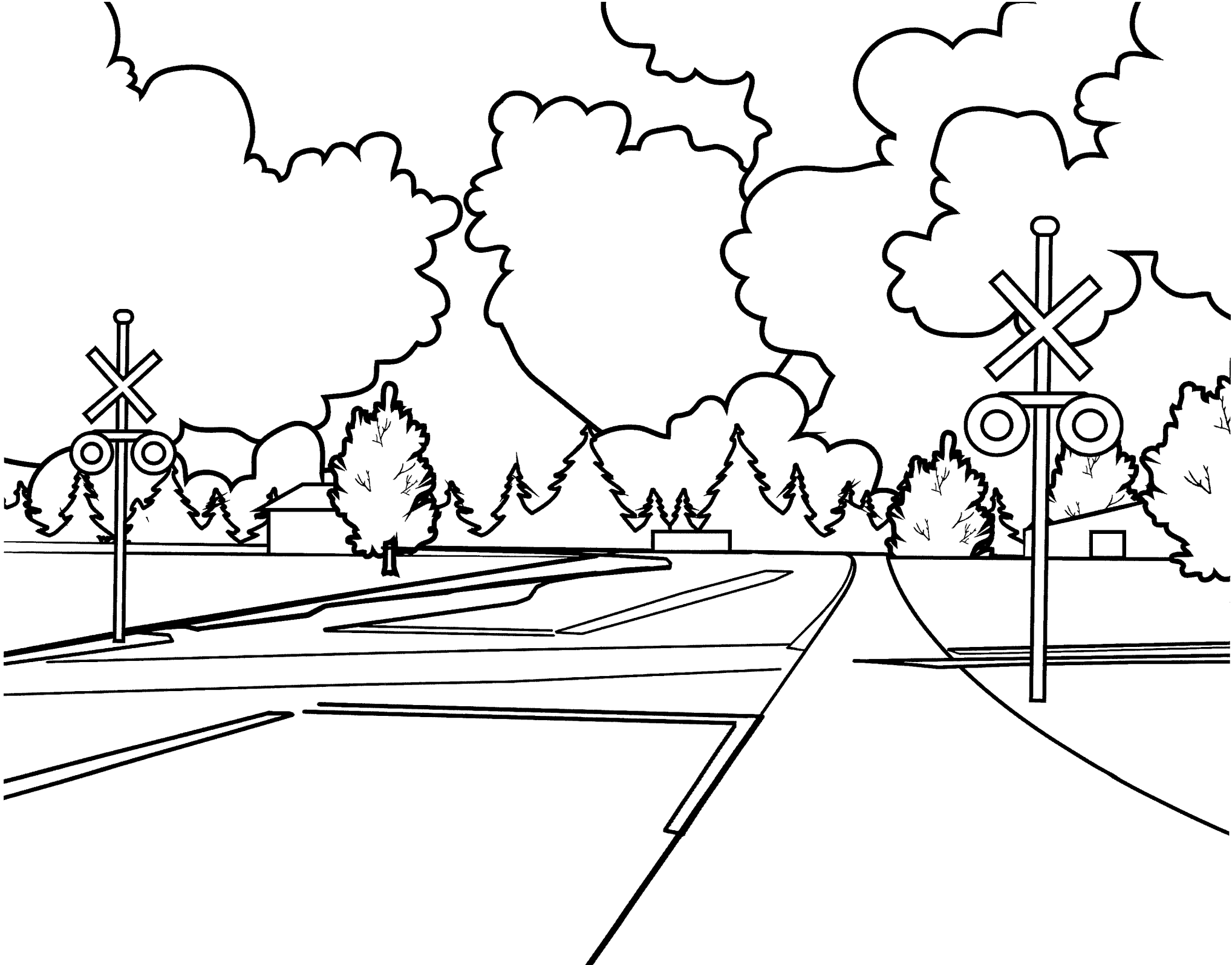
Enterprise is frequently referred to as the “Gateway to the NWT”, as it is the first community that travellers on the Mackenzie Highway encounter when they cross the border from Alberta into the Northwest Territories. Once the Mackenzie Highway construction to Hay River was completed in 1948, two service stations were built at Enterprise for highway travellers to use. Anticipating that this would become a site of cargo transfer and overnight stops, a community started to grow. Although most of the freight is handled in Hay River, Canadian National Railways did construct railway siding and loading facilities close to the Enterprise site.

Enterprise officially became incorporated as a hamlet in 2007, and is a landmark for visitors because of its prime location at the junction of highways to Hay River and Yellowknife. Nearby Alexandra and Louise Falls are highlights for community members and visitors alike, and Enterprise offers quick and easy access to the vast wilderness of the Northwest Territories.

The Gateway Jamboree – A Yearly Treat

Enterprise is host each year to the Gateway Jamboree, an event that showcases Northern performing artists. Much anticipated every year, the Gateway Jamboree attracts hundreds of visitors who enjoy vendors selling food, traditional crafts, and locally-made trinkets. While music is the main purpose of the event, the Gateway Jamboree also features activities for children, traditional team games, raffles and bingo.





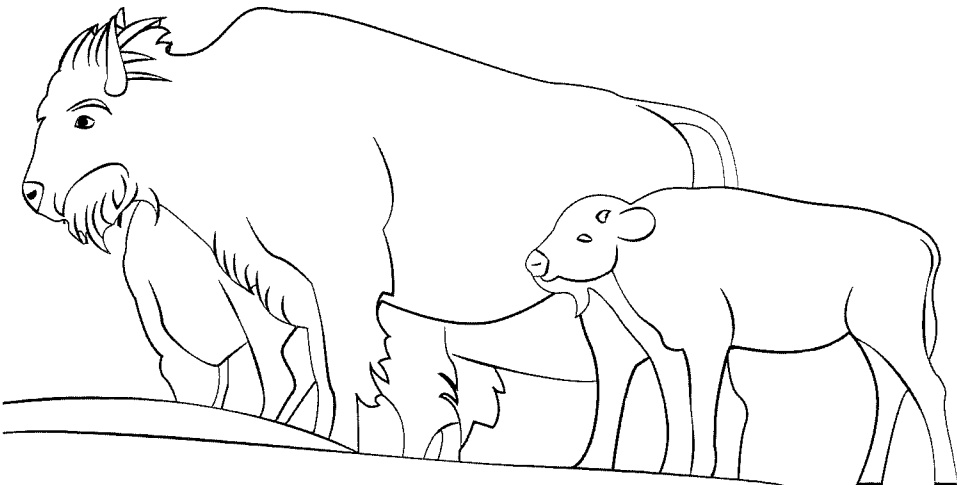
Fort Providence / Zhahti Kúé

mission house place

The community of Fort Providence was originally located near the mouth of Yellowknife Bay, following the visit of Alexander Mackenzie to the region in 1789. However, the post was abandoned around the time of Franklin's Coppermine expedition in about 1820, and the current site of Fort Providence was established in 1861 with a Roman Catholic mission. The current location is on the banks of the Mackenzie River, near the Deh Cho Bridge which was opened in 2012. Fort Providence was incorporated as a hamlet in 1987.

Oblate missionary Monsignor Grandin initially called the site "Notre Dame de la Providence", and once a Hudson's Bay Company trading post was established, more Slavey Dene began to settle in the area. However, unlike many other communities in the Northwest Territories, Fort Providence did not stem from the trading post; rather, the mission was there first and a trading post came later. An all-weather road was built in the 1950s, enabling Fort Providence to be more easily connected to other communities.

While the proximity to the highway has meant many opportunities for businesses in the community, traditional activities like hunting, trapping, moosehair tufting and porcupine quill weaving are still widely practiced. At one time agriculture was a prominent industry in Fort Providence, with roughly 30 hectares of land under cultivation. Cattle were also raised on the mission farm.

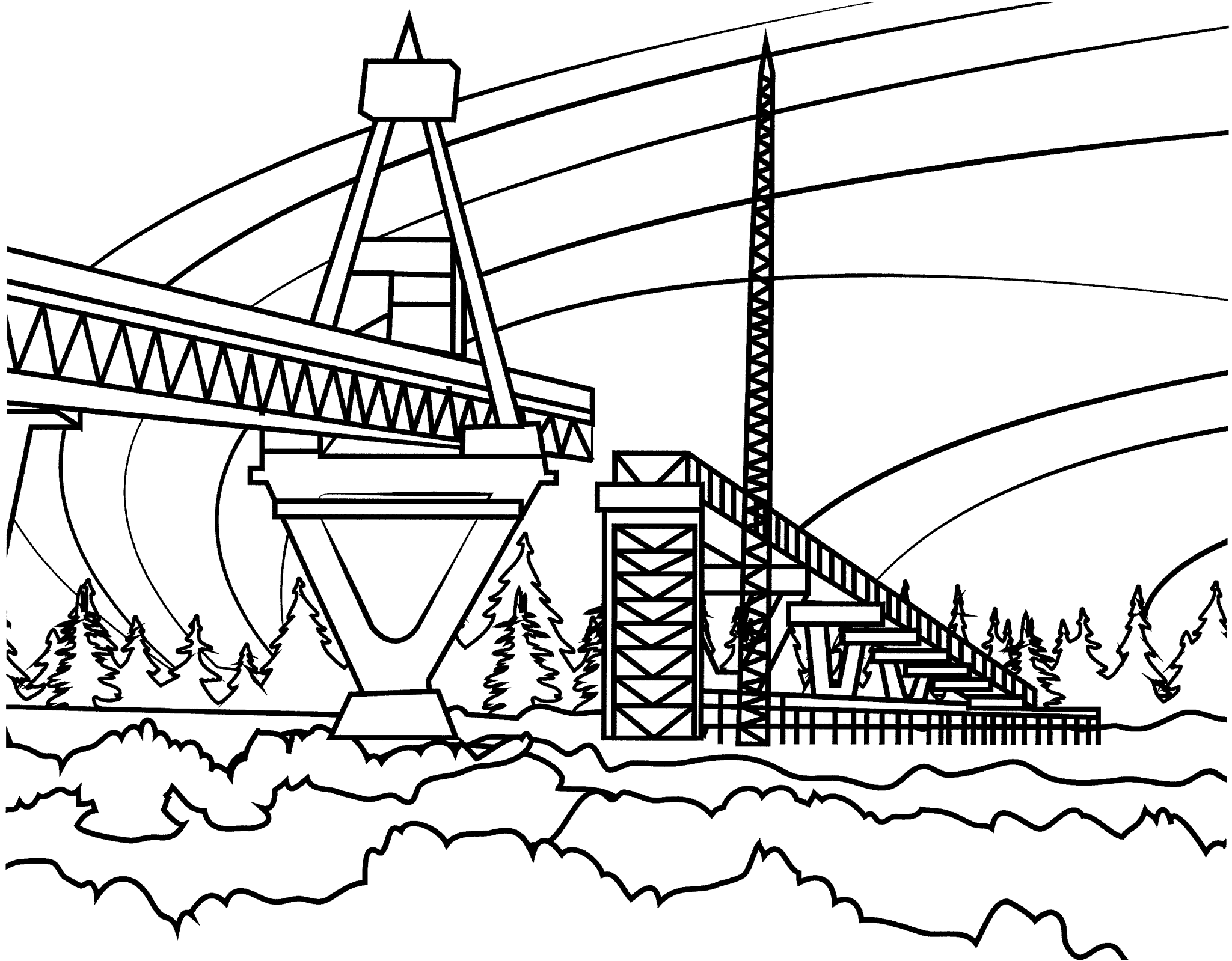


Deh Cho Bridge

The Deh Cho Bridge is 1.1 kilometres long and crosses the Mackenzie River (Deh Cho) near Fort Providence. Initially scheduled to open in 2010, it was delayed because of technical and financial issues and ultimately opened on November 30, 2012.

This bridge is an important piece of infrastructure connecting communities in the territory. Before its construction, the MV Merv Hardie ferry was used to transport people, goods, and vehicles across the river and connect Highway 3 in the summer months. During winter, an ice road was used; however, during periods when neither of these options were viable, supplies had to be taken across the river by helicopter or sent by air.

The bridge is a "Truss bridge" with a cable-stayed main span. Its original design was by JR Spronken and Associates Ltd. Of Calgary, but was later redesigned by Infinity Engineering Group of Vancouver.



Fort Resolution / Denínu Kúé *moose island place*

Recorded as the oldest continuously-occupied place in the Northwest Territories, the hamlet of Fort Resolution originated when a Northwest Company post was built near the mouth of the Slave River in 1786. It was relocated a number of times, and eventually merged with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821 to become the community of Fort Resolution. It became a hub for travellers, with some explorers wintering there, working together with local Yellowknives Dene who helped them survive difficult times.

Fort Resolution also has a strong Métis history, as the Métis voyageur heritage played a key role in the fur trade, exploration, the spread of religion, and brokering peace agreements. An Oblate mission was set up in 1852, and was followed over the course of the next century by medical establishments and schools. However, by 1956 the prominent tuberculosis hospital had been relocated to Edmonton. The Pine Point Mine provided some regional economic activity until it closed 1988.

In 1973, Fort Resolution was designated as a national historic site of Canada. It hosts an annual celebration, "Deninoo Days", which celebrates the start of moose hunting season.



Pine Point – Abandoned NWT Town

Between Hay River and Fort Resolution was once the site of Pine Point, a town created to house workers and their families of the Pine Point Mine. This mine produced lead and zinc ores on the south shore of Great Slave Lake between 1964 and 1988. At its peak in 1976, the town of Pine Point had a population of around 2,000. The town was entirely centred around the mine and service industries related to those employed there.

Pine Point had an elementary school and a middle school for the children of mine employees, a number of churches, and was a friendly community with regular events and celebrations. When the mine became less and less productive and finally closed in 1988, the town lost its primary economic industry. Houses were sold, and any buildings not relocated to Fort Resolution were destroyed. Now, the site is completely abandoned; but if you look closely, you can still spot the layout of streets, trails and evidence of the once-thriving town.



(LUNA)



LAND

(MOUNTAIN)

(MOUNTAIN)

Fort Smith / Tthebacha *beside the rapids*

Fort Smith lies close to the border between the Northwest Territories and Alberta, on a sand plain above the Slave River. It was originally settled because of the link that the Slave River provided for travel between southern Canada and the Mackenzie River valley. In 1874, a Hudson's Bay Company trading post was established, and a Roman Catholic mission was only two years behind.

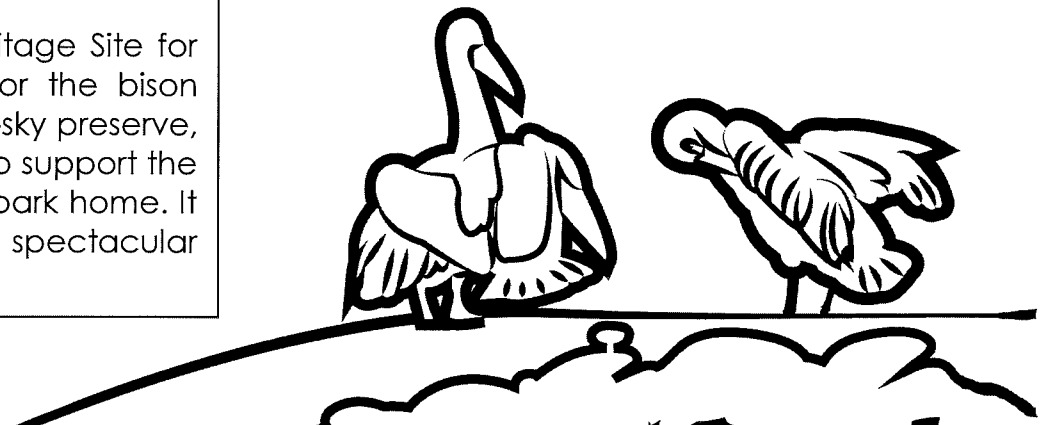
A sawmill began producing lumber for the building of a hospital in 1914, a North-West Mounted Police post was made in 1915, and a federal government administration building was established in 1921. Fort Smith also became home to a Court of Justice in 1921, and the gateway to Wood Buffalo National Park in 1922. Many years of diverse development followed, and Fort Smith proved an adaptable, resilient community with an important role in the history of the territory.

Fort Smith was incorporated as a village in 1964, and later became a town in 1966. This was reflective of the growing population, and supported the completion of an all-weather road to Hay River which represented a permanent link to southern Canada. Today, Fort Smith is an important educational hub, a centre of regional and Aboriginal government administration, and a popular tourist destination.

Wood Buffalo National Park

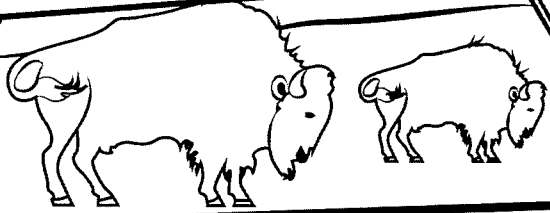
Spanning part of Alberta as well as the Northwest Territories, Wood Buffalo National Park is the largest national park in Canada and among the largest in the world. Established in 1922, it was initially created to protect the last remaining bison that roamed the area. It is home to thousands of wood bison, and is also one of only two known nesting sites for whooping cranes.

In 1983, the park was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site for the biodiversity of the Peace-Athabasca Delta and for the bison population. It is also the home of the world's largest dark-sky preserve, which is an area kept free of artificial light. This is known to support the large populations of bats, hawks, and owls that call the park home. It also provides visitors an ideal vantage point for the spectacular northern lights!

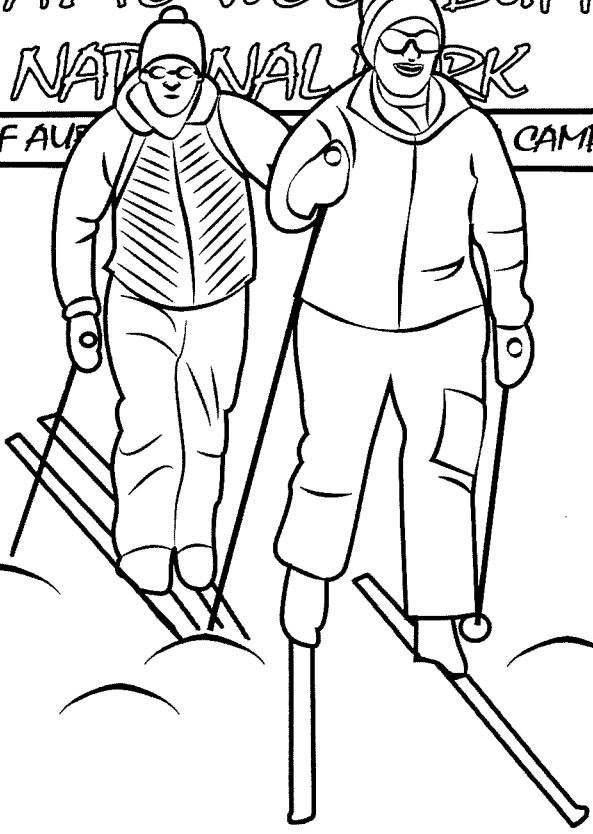




WELCOME TO
FORT SMITH



GATEWAY TO WOOD BUFFALO
NATIONAL PARK
HOME OF AUF CAMPUS



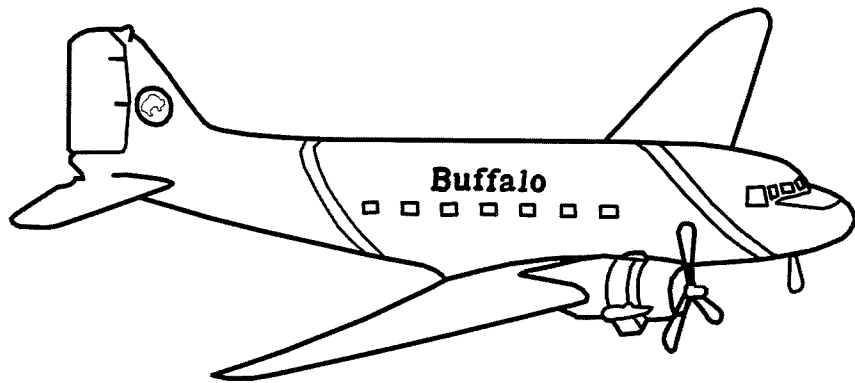
Hay River / Xátł'odehchee

hay river

The “Hub of the North”, Hay River, rests at the mouth of the Hay River along the shores of Great Slave Lake. Evidence suggests that this area was inhabited seasonally as much as 7,000 years ago, and in 1892 Chief Shatla made the site a permanent settlement for a number of his people. By that time, a Hudson's Bay Company trading post and a Roman Catholic mission had been built in the area, and eventually an Anglican mission was added to the small community.

Following the establishment of an RCMP detachment in 1925, the community expanded to include a hospital and a church. In the 1930s, a seasonal road was cleared through the bush from Hay River to Grimshaw, Alberta. This became an all-weather highway in 1948, and the community became an important transportation centre.

Today, Hay River has a very diverse economy, providing government administration services to the region together with Fort Smith, as well as supplying a number of transportation options, service industry establishments, and communications outlets.



Buffalo Airways – A Hay River Icon

One of the most notable businesses in Hay River is family-run Buffalo Airways. Started in 1970 by Bob Gauchie, it was later bought by pilot “Buffalo” Joe McBryan. The airline interestingly uses a number of World War II-era planes, and was the subject of the reality series “Ice Pilots NWT” on the History Channel.

Buffalo Airways provides critical services to remote areas in Canada's north; with scheduled passenger flights, charter passenger and cargo flights, firefighting and fuel services, many communities rely on the airline for services and supplies.



RADIUM CHARLES

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(SUN)

Inspired by photo submitted by Shannon Crawley

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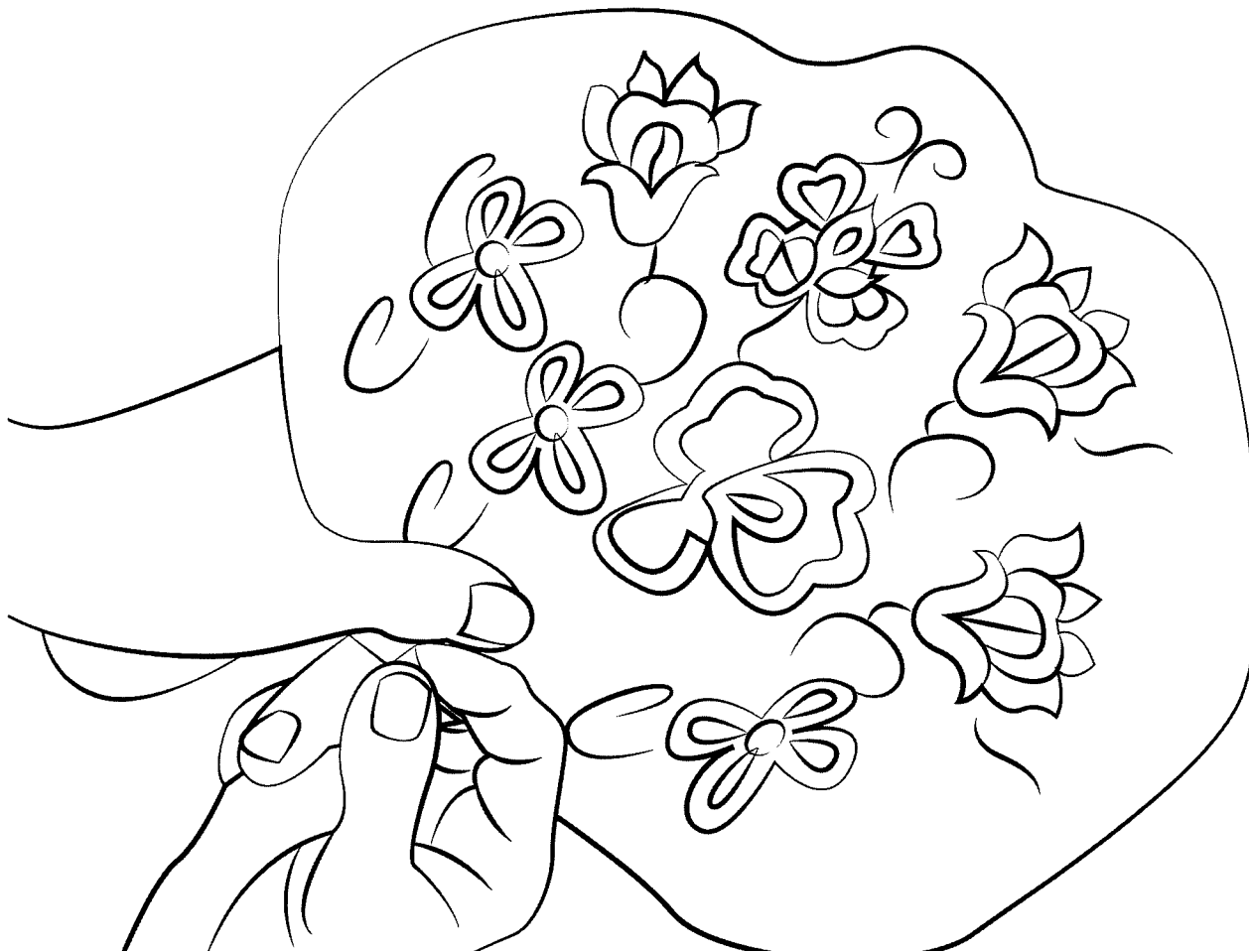
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Kakisa / K'ágee

between the willows

Southeast of Fort Providence lies Kakisa, a Designated Authority community on the shores of Kakisa Lake. This community moved from its original location in 1962; previously, it had been located at Tathlina Lake. The reason for this move was to achieve easier access to the Mackenzie Highway.

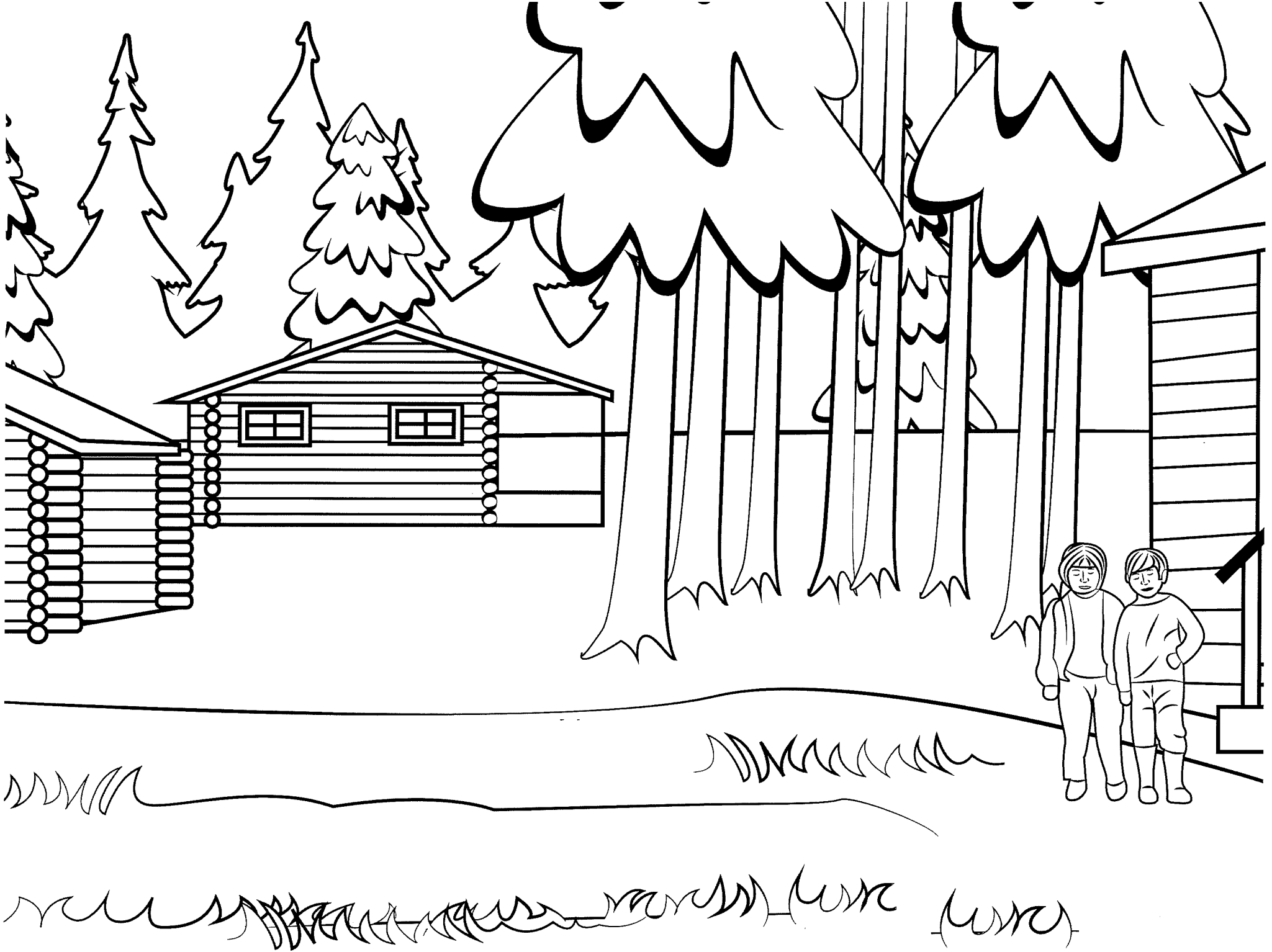
Kakisa is something of a hot spot for fly fishing in the Northwest Territories in the spring Kakisa River Arctic grayling run. Because this river is one of the first to thaw in the territory, and because of the high quantities of insects in the area that attract grayling, even amateur fly fishers can usually catch a fish or two.



Lady Evelyn Falls

Lady Evelyn Falls Territorial Park is a popular attraction among residents of the Northwest Territories and tourists alike. The Kakisa River originates in northern Alberta, flowing westward into the Northwest Territories for only a short distance before turning back into Alberta.

The impressive Lady Evelyn Falls form a curtain of water from the Kakisa River over a limestone escarpment. The warm river is also a popular spot for swimming, and offers plentiful fish for the avid fisherman!



Kátł'odeeche First Nation

K'atl'odeeche First Nation (Hay River Reserve) is adjacent to the community of Hay River. It has been a gathering place for the region's original Dene inhabitants for many generations. People used this area as a fishing camp, moving seasonally throughout the area to take advantage of plentiful fish and wildlife. These people achieved a balance with the land, making use of the resources and practicing sustainable harvesting activities.

Dene started to establish a settlement with Chief Chiatlo in the 1890s, and soon both an Anglican and a Roman Catholic mission were set up in the community. Trading posts and the RCMP soon followed, and the community is now home to a number of organizations and businesses, all while maintaining a strong focus on culture and tradition.

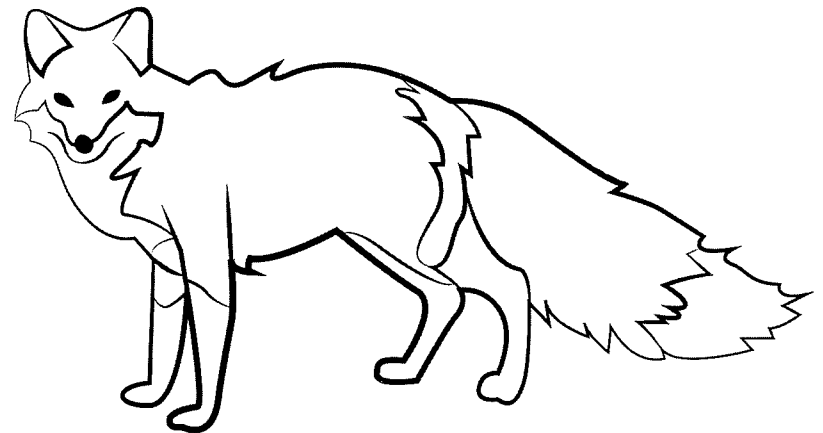
K'atlo'deeche is one of only two reserves in the Northwest Territories; it covers 130 square kilometres, and represents members living both in and away from the community.

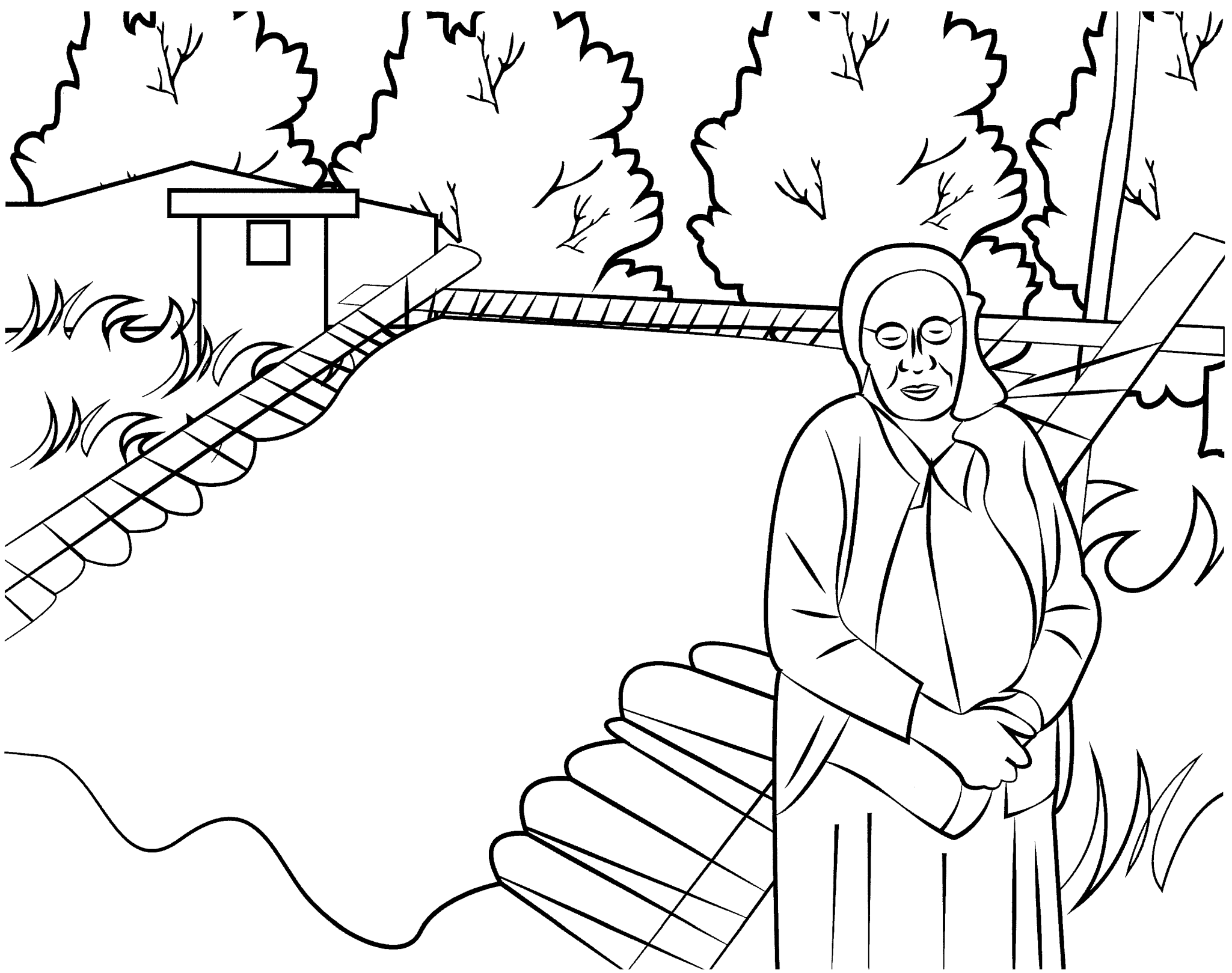
K'atl'odeeche First Nation – Jim Lamalice Wilderness Lodge

In the spring of 2015, K'atl'odeeche First Nation opened a much anticipated Wilderness Lodge on the banks of Sandy Creek. The facility boasts community areas, council chambers, and a meeting space. It works well for hosting conferences and educational events, and is located in an idyllic setting amongst trees and moving water. The site is important to members of K'atl'odeeche First Nation, as it is a traditional fishing and harvesting place.

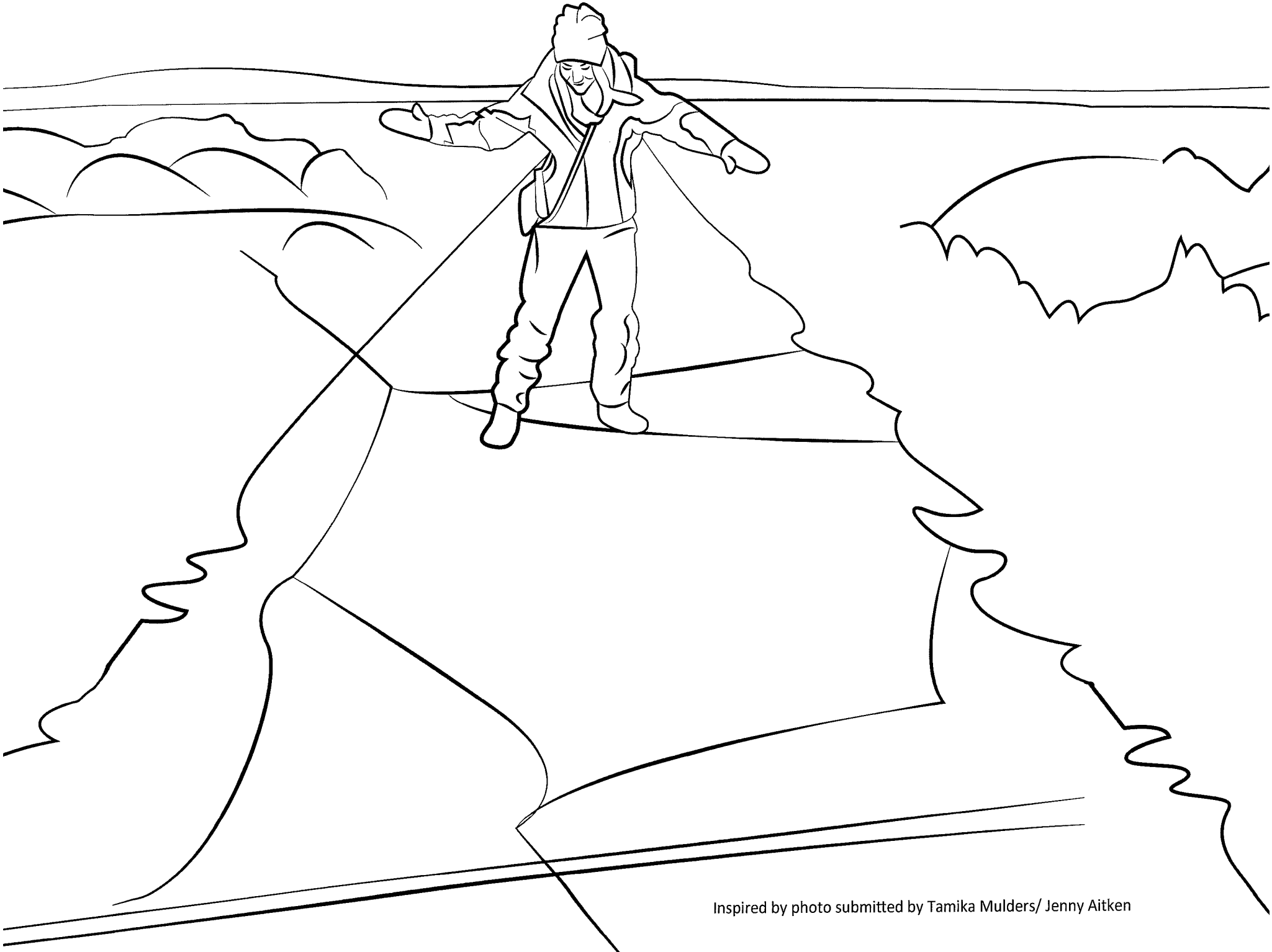
This project was funded jointly by the Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories, with construction starting in the fall of 2013. Many local residents were employed to build the project, and the First Nation took the opportunity to also build five cabins, to undertake road improvements, and install an underground power line.

The Wilderness Lodge is named after Jim Lamalice, who hunted and trapped in the area for many years. Lamalice was a spiritual leader, a Band Councillor, and a community builder of K'atl'odeeche First Nation.

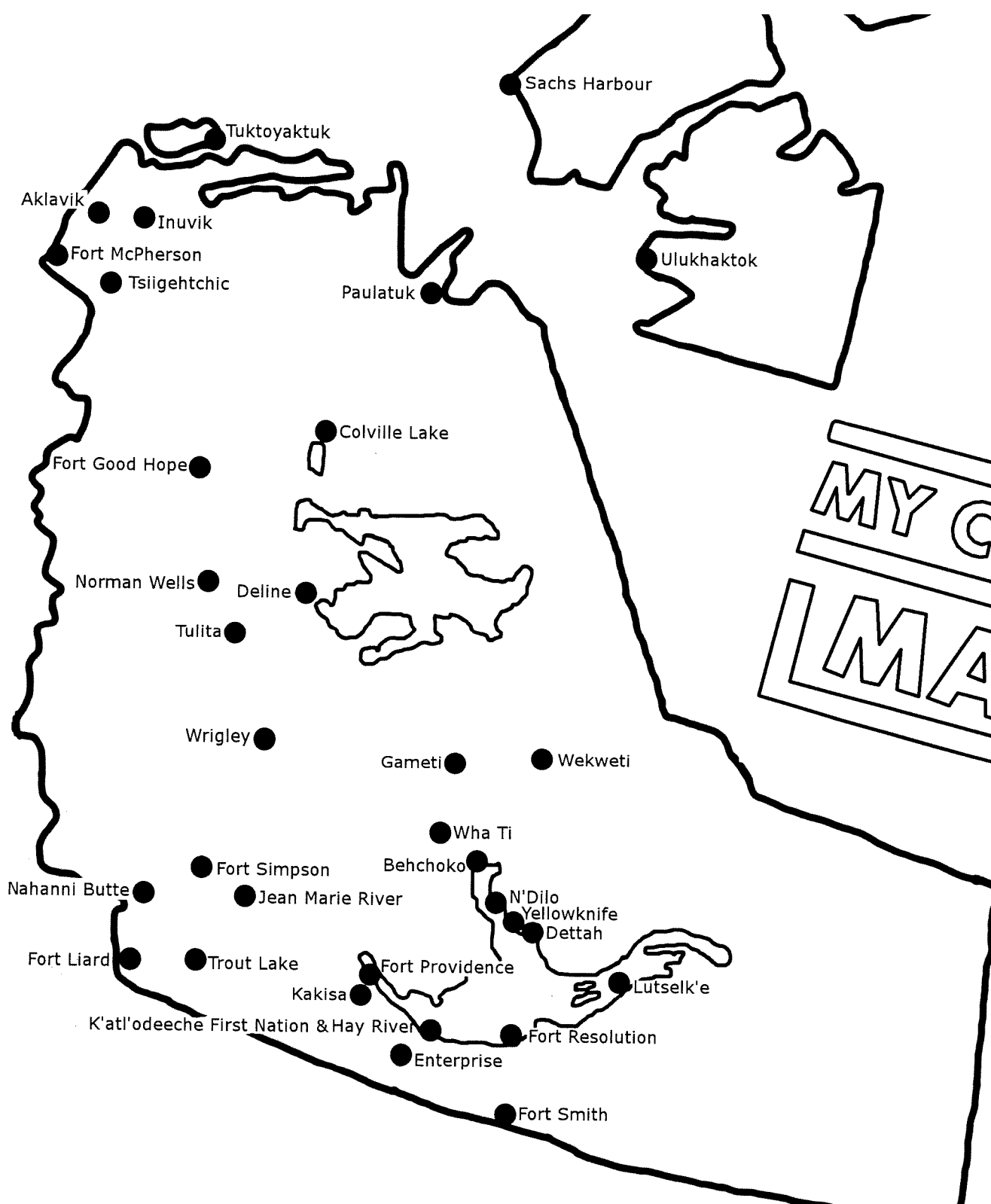








Inspired by photo submitted by Tamika Mulders/ Jenny Aitken



MY COMMUNITY
MATTERS!