

1991 – Today

nwt history

1996



All that Glitters is Not Gold

- First Diamond Mine in the NWT.

In November 1991 it is announced that diamonds have been found about 300 km northeast of Yellowknife. This find leads to one of the largest mineral staking rushes in Canadian history. Within four years, millions of square kilometres have been claimed in the central barrenlands. In 1996, construction begins on Canada's first diamond mine, the Ekati mine (shown here), near the site of the original discovery. Ten years later, the NWT has become a significant producer of diamonds, with mines such as the Diavik mine set to begin production.

photo provided by: BHP Billiton

1999



NWT/Nunavut Division

- The changing face of the north.

In 1973, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC) began investigating Inuit land use and occupancy of the North which revealed the extent of their Aboriginal title. This study formed the geographical basis of the Nunavut Territory and includes the Beaufort Delta area of the NWT. In 1993, after the NWT voted 56% in favour of division, the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act* and the *Nunavut Act* were adopted by Parliament and received Royal Assent. On April 1, 1999, two new Territories are officially created within Canada: Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

photo provided by: GNWT

Today ...



Tomorrow's history is happening today...

photo provided by: GNWT

Diamond staking rush.

During a bitter strike at Giant Mine in Yellowknife, a deliberate explosion kills nine miners.

Government of Canada apologizes for treatment of Aboriginal children in residential schools.

Gwich'in lobby against drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

National Aboriginal Day officially recognized in the NWT.

1991-94

1992

1996

1998

late 1990s

1999

2002

Today