

News of the arts

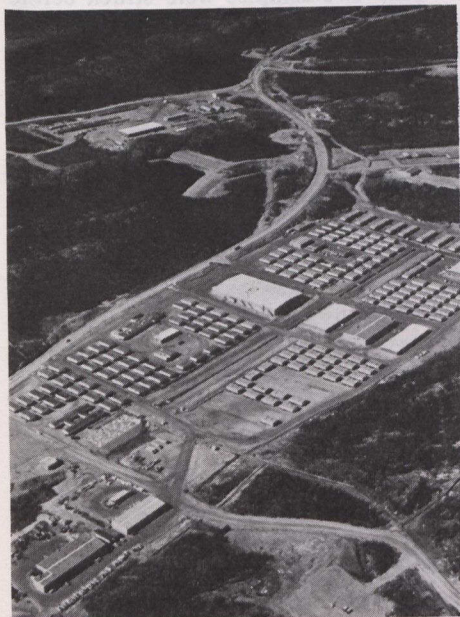


The first airstrip, La Grande Airport, was opened in 1973; it was built by widening an existing dirt road. The airport, the largest of five built to serve the complex, services LG2 and LG1. Two commercial airlines provide daily flights from the airport.

an estimated 500 employees will operate the complex.

Native interests

The La Grande Complex Remedial Works Corporation composed of representatives of the James Bay Cree Indians and the James Bay Energy Corporation, was created with the object of planning and executing remedial work programs to alleviate negative impact of the project on the activities of the Crees. This applies particularly to hunting, fishing and trapping. SEBJ has undertaken to pay a total



Aerial view of LG2 campsite.

of \$30 million to the Remedial Works Corporation for this purpose.

Clauses in contracts require companies to clean up construction and quarry sites when jobs are finished. During construction, environment officials on sites ensure that standards for clearing of vegetation, using machinery, and dumping of waste materials are respected.

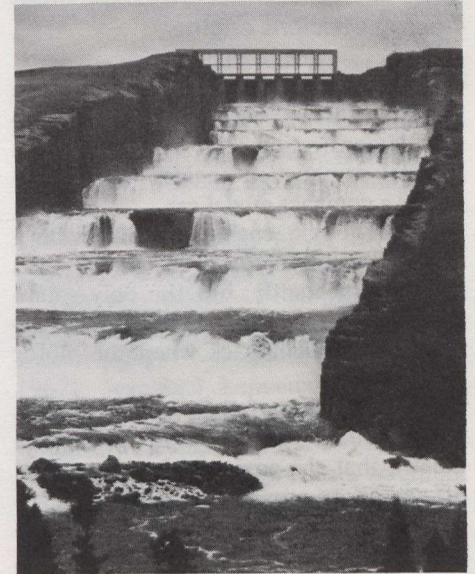
In addition to the annual budget, of about \$5 million, about \$250 million will be spent over ten years by the James Bay Corporation environment department to restore the environment following construction and to compensate the Cree, under various negotiated agreements, for changes created directly by the hydro-electric development.

The reservoirs, when all phases are complete, will cover an area equal to about 8 per cent of the 176,800-square-kilometre drainage basin of the La Grande Complex.

New spawning grounds

To compensate for the destruction of fish spawning areas, the environment department will create new spawning grounds by clearing spots along shores of tributaries and removing debris from stream entrances to allow access for fish.

The environment department has also experimented to discover effective methods of regenerating vegetation in the semi-Artic James Bay region, and about \$20 million will be spent on replanting and landscaping areas in the complex



The Citizen

The spillway at LG2 is designed in steps to slow down the water flow, thus preventing erosion of the dam downstream.

which were cleared or excavated during construction.

Comparison with other projects

The James Bay hydro-electric power development is said to be second in the world to Itaipu in Brazil, which produces 70 billion kilowatt-hours annually. James Bay will churn out 68 billion kilowatt-hours annually, more than any other facility in North America. LG2 will produce two-and-a-half times the power of Grand Coulee in the U.S. and almost double the capacity of Churchill Falls in Labrador.

