

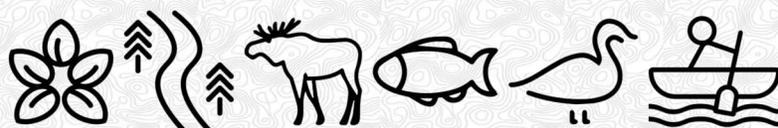
## **B2. Aroland First Nation**

B2.1 Outgoing Community Specific Correspondence

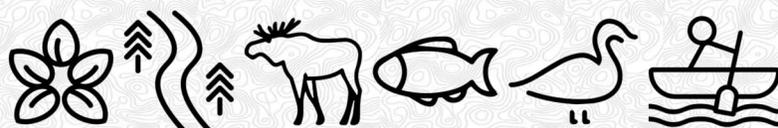
B2.2 Incoming Community Specific Correspondence

B2.3 Draft Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interest Preliminary Existing Conditions Report

B2.4 Community Specific Meeting Materials



## B2.1 Outgoing Community Specific Correspondence





### MFFN CAR Cultural Heritage Information Collection

6 June 2023 at 12:16

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Debbi Stanyer <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, "Jenkins, Tara" <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, "Baker, Nadia" <[redacted]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[redacted]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[redacted]>

Hello Andrew,

Thank you very much for the quick response regarding the cultural heritage information collection.

Although we are in the process of drafting a formal response to Chief Towedo's letter, I wanted to check in with you regarding the helicopter flyover that was scheduled for June 11, 2023. Unfortunately due to the ongoing forest fires and helicopter scheduling issues, we are going to have to cancel the cultural heritage work for now and hope to reschedule for the end of the month. We will re-engage Aroland First Nation for their participation in the flyover once we regroup.

In the meantime, please let me know if there is anything else you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,  
 Kyla  
 On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team  
 [Quoted text hidden]




**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  




*Inclusiveness: Enabling belonging to draw strength from our differences.*



**Follow-up Re: MFFN CAR IK Program Key Dates**

**Nokleby, Andrea** <[redacted]> 19 June 2023 at 09:00  
To: [redacted]  
Cc: Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>

Good Morning Chief Towedo,

I hope this email finds you and your community well. We just wanted to follow up with you on the email below and the **June 30, 2023 milestone** for sharing Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and information on Indigenous land and resource use. Please note, that we will continue to work with you following this date to share information for subsequent phases of the assessment processes.

If you would like to meet to further discuss the IK Program, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Have a wonderful week ahead,

Andrea



**Andrea Nokleby**  
Partner  
Dillon Consulting Limited  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)

*Inclusiveness: Enabling belonging to draw strength from our differences.*

[Quoted text hidden]



**Follow-up Re: MFFN CAR IK Program Key Dates**

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 22 June 2023 at 12:49  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: [redacted]  
 [redacted], Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thanks for continuing to follow up on this.

I wanted to let you know that the team is working on a response to Aroland First Nation's May 26th letter and that it should be coming very soon. In the meantime, if Aroland First Nation requires anything urgently, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
 Kyla  
 On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team  
 [Quoted text hidden]




**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  




[Quoted text hidden]





From: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2023 10:16 AM  
To: undisclosed-recipients:  
Subject: Join the Community Coordinator Program!



# MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION

## ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

### Community Coordinator Program

Since March 2022, the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road Project Team has shared on-going communications about providing funding for a Community Coordinator from your community.

We believe a Community Coordinator will strengthen our collective efforts on the Community Access Road, while keeping your community up-to-date and involved.

#### Responsibilities

- Coordinate between the MFFN Community Access Road Project Team and community members living in / outside of your community as per your local practices and in collaboration with Chief and Council;
- Provide advice and guidance on appropriate ways to engage your community – in-person and virtually;
- Keep informed on Community Access Road Project activities (e.g., timelines, documents, events) and communicate relevant Project information to community members;
- Participate in meetings with the Project Team and other Community Coordinators;
- Provide support for community engagement activities related to the Project including:
  - Coordinate and organize logistics for meetings, workshops, events and / or school visits (e.g., book meeting spaces, order refreshments, help with truck / boat rentals and accommodations)
  - Help identify meeting participants and information providers (e.g., youth and / or elders);
  - Assist with meeting facilitation, note taking and meeting minute preparation, and coordinate translation services, if needed; and
  - Organize distributing Project advertisements and notices in your community; either online (e.g., Facebook) or posting in community;
- Assist in collecting data / information in your community (e.g., Indigenous Knowledge, community information and socio-economic information);
  - Assist in reviewing draft documents, questionnaires or Project updates / information sheets.

#### How much funding is available?

The funding available for a Community Coordinator is \$25/hour for 16 hours per week. Communities can choose to go with milestone-based payments where the First Nation distributes funding directly to the Community Coordinator or direct payments from the Project to the Community Coordinator—the choice is up to your community!

#### How many months will the funding be available for?

Funding is available as soon as you agree to start and the hiring process is completed, until the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement is issued. Our current schedule for issuing this document is July 2025.

## Next Steps

If you would like to learn more, contact Jennifer Bruin or Demetri Poulakas at [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca) or 1-800-764-9114.

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## Aroland First Nation response to Draft Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Reports for MFCAR

---

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

2 August 2023 at 16:38

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Rob M <[REDACTED]>, Samson Meshake <[REDACTED]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Chief Bruce Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Jackmoonias <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, "info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca" <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Good Afternoon Chief Towedo and Andrew,

We appreciate your patience while we prepared this letter (attached) in response to Aroland First Nation's March 31 letter regarding the Draft Stage 1 and Stage 2 Archaeology Assessment Reports.

As mentioned in the letter, we would like to meet with Aroland First Nation to discuss how to represent the community in future reporting. Please let me know if this is agreeable and I will work with Andrew to get that set up.

Thank you,  
Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

---

 **MFFN CAR to Aroland \_ Archaeology Report Feedback Response\_Aug 2, 2023.pdf**

330K



August 2, 2023

Aroland First Nation  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Sent via email*

**Re: Aroland First Nation March 31, 2023 Letter Regarding MFFN CAR Project Draft Stage 1 and Stage 2 Archaeology Assessment Reports**

Dear Chief Dorothy Towedo,

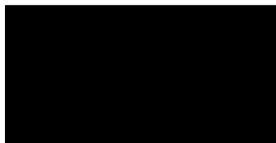
Thank you for your comments on the Draft Stage 1 and Stage 2 Archaeology Assessment Reports for the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR), received on March 31, 2023.

The MFFN CAR Project has mapping that reflects your suggested edits. The MFFN CAR Project Team would like to meet with you to discuss how we represent Aroland First Nation Traditional Territory in future reporting.

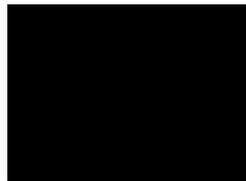
We acknowledge the request from Aroland First Nation regarding participation in future Archaeology / Cultural Heritage fieldwork. We will continue to engage with Aroland First Nation on your participation.

If Aroland First Nation has information they would like to provide about sensitive areas that should be avoided or included in the Archaeology / Cultural Heritage work to be evaluated for impacts, please don't hesitate to reach out by responding to the email in which this letter was attached to or by calling Kyla Zielbauer at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



Qasim Saddique  
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter  
Senior Community Member Advisor





CC:

- Aroland First Nation Council Members
- Jerry Shabogamik, Aroland First Nation Community Consultation Coordinator
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Laura Sayers, Shared Value Solutions
- Rojin Amani, Shared Value Solutions
- Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, MFFN
- Bob Baxter, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Kyla Zielbauer, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Leah Deveaux, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Samantha Markham, MFFN CAR Project Consultant





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Cultural Heritage Information Collection

3 August 2023 at 08:05

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, " <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, "Jenkins, Tara" <[redacted]>, "Baker, Nadia" <[redacted]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[redacted]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Good Morning Andrew,

Please find a letter attached in response to Aroland First Nation's May 26 letter. Supporting documents and information to assist Aroland First Nation in their Socio-Economic, Cultural Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge information collection is contained within the compressed file attached.

Once you have had a chance to review these files, please let me know if you would like to set up any meetings. The MFFN CAR Project Team and/or discipline teams would be happy to meet to discuss any concerns or questions Aroland First Nation might have regarding this work.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

On Fri, 26 May 2023 at 11:40, Andrew Peach <[redacted]> wrote:  
[Quoted text hidden]

### 2 attachments

-  MFFN CAR to Aroland \_ SocioEc\_IK\_Cultural Heritage Response\_Aug 3, 2023.pdf  
350K
-  MFFN CAR Socio-Ec\_IK\_Cultural Heritage Guidance Documents.zip  
8837K



August 3, 2023

Aroland First Nation  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Sent via email*

**Re: Aroland First Nation May 26, 2023 Letter Regarding MFFN CAR Project Cultural Heritage Information Collection**

Dear Chief Dorothy Towedo,

Thank you for your letter on May 26, 2023. We are very pleased to hear that Aroland First Nation would like to provide Cultural Heritage, Socio-Economic and Indigenous Knowledge information related to the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) project. We had hoped to complete data collection by June 30 of this year so that this information can help to inform the evaluation of the alternative routes to select a preferred route, which will begin in September and is expected to be completed by the end of this year (2023). This information will also help inform the preliminary draft existing conditions reporting (e.g., Socio-Economic) which is largely to be completed in 2023. Although the June 30 deadline has passed, we will happily receive and incorporate any information sent by Aroland First Nation throughout the assessment processes.

It is our understanding that Aroland First Nation would like to conduct your own data/information collection of Cultural Heritage, Socio-Economic and Indigenous Knowledge information. The MFFN CAR Project Team is happy to support Aroland First Nation in conducting this data collection through funding, project materials, and guidance as requested. We have communicated to your consultant, Andrew Peach that the MFFN CAR Project can provide supplemental funding in the amount of \$30,000 to support your community level collection of data for the Cultural Heritage program and the Socio-Economic program. There is additional funding available for the Indigenous Knowledge program through the project, which we would like to discuss further with Aroland First Nation as well.





## **Cultural Heritage Information Collection**

The Cultural Heritage Team is focussed on information related to built heritage and landscapes including:

- Burial sites;
- Cultural landscapes;
- Oral histories;
- Cultural values and experiences of being on the land, including harvesting specific resources;
- Indigenous governance systems and laws tied to the landscape;
- Sacred, ceremonial or culturally important places, plants, animals, objects, beings or things;
- History of the language; and,
- Culturally significant plants or wildlife.

Some of this information overlaps with information that may be collected to inform an Indigenous Knowledge Report. In those instances, our Cultural Heritage Team can review the Indigenous Knowledge report directly and would not need to have that information duplicated. An overview of Cultural Heritage Reporting and data collection is attached to this letter, and our Cultural Heritage Team would be happy to discuss how we can support your collection and reporting efforts, as well as our data needs.

## **Socio-Economic Information Collection**

The Socio-Economic Team is focussed on information related to:

- Social;
- Economics;
- Land and resource use;
- Health and safety; and
- Community well-being.

Similar to information we are seeking to collect from MFFN, this information would be informed by Aroland First Nation Members' knowledge and insights about life in the





community, as well as any non-traditional land use activities. A brief description of the nature of the information is outlined below:

- Social – housing demand/supply, community services, road condition and traffic volumes, community issues, challenges and concerns, perspectives from sub-groups including women, youth, two-spirited and Elders;
- Economic – existing businesses, employment and skills, traditional economies, community development plans, community revenue sources;
- Land and Resources Use – non-traditional land use activities (e.g. forestry), land use plans;
- Health and Safety – health challenges of the community, health services and facilities, health and safety concerns related to the construction and use of the MFFN CAR; and
- Community Well-Being – cost of living, community connections/cohesion.

We have prepared a Socio-Economic Data/Information Collection Guide that provides more detail on the type of information we are seeking and will be sending this to you shortly. Our Social Sciences team would also be happy to discuss how we can support your collection and reporting efforts, as well as our data needs.

### **Indigenous Knowledge Information Collection**

We were informed through conversations with Andrew Peach that Aroland First Nation is in the process of completing an Indigenous Knowledge Study specific to the MFFN CAR project. We continue to offer funding to support Aroland First Nation in this important work. We are re-attaching a Draft Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement and the Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreement for your review and comment or signature. The Indigenous Knowledge Guidance Document is also re-attached for your reference. The Indigenous Knowledge Team is available to discuss anything related to this specific information.

### **Moving Forward**

We would be glad to organize a meeting with Aroland First Nation and our Project Leads to discuss the above and/or to answer any questions you may have. Should a meeting or more information be required, please let our consultant Kyla Zielbauer know and she will work with you to schedule any meetings or gather any information needed.





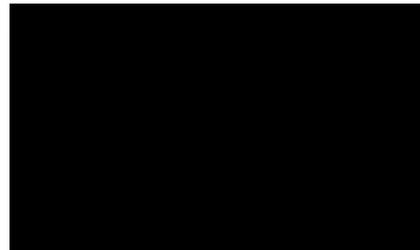
As mentioned above, the MFFN CAR Project is able to provide funding to Aroland First Nation to complete Socio-Economic and Cultural Heritage information collection, as well as funding through the Indigenous Knowledge Program Sharing Agreement for the collection of Indigenous Knowledge. The MFFN CAR Project Team spoke to the Province of Ontario, who informed us that Aroland First Nation is able to use their PFI funding to help with this work and that Aroland First Nation is to connect with Andrew Locke to discuss details related to the use of that funding. Andrew Locke can be contacted at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

We look forward to collaborating with you on these important programs.

Sincerely,



Qasim Saddique  
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter  
Senior Community Member Advisor

CC:

- Aroland First Nation Council Members
- Jerry Shabogamik, Aroland First Nation Community Consultation Coordinator
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Laura Sayers, Shared Value Solutions
- Rojin Amani, Shared Value Solutions
- Kate Kempton, Aroland First Nation Legal Counsel
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Bob Baxter, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Kyla Zielbauer, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Don McKinnon, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Andrea Nokleby, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Leah Deveaux, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Tara Jenkins, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Nadia Baker, MFFN CAR Project Consultant





- Samantha Markham, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Katelyn Price, MFFN CAR Project Consultant

#### Enclosure

- MFFN CAR Cultural Heritage Information Collection Memo
- MFFN CAR Socio-Economic Guidance Document
- MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Program Guidance Document
- Aroland First Nation/MFFN CAR Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Program Sharing Agreement
- Aroland First Nation/MFFN CAR Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Cultural Heritage Information Collection

9 August 2023 at 17:56

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, "Jenkins, Tara" <[redacted]>, "Baker, Nadia" <[redacted]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[redacted]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Chloe Boone <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for your email and the update regarding the protocol. We are looking forward to assisting Aroland First Nation in their Indigenous Knowledge, Socio-Economic and Cultural Heritage information studies once the time arrives!

In the meantime, please let me know if there are any questions or concerns regarding the information/documents I sent on August 3rd and I can connect you with a member of the relevant discipline team if needed.

Have a great rest of your week,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team

--



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Upcoming out of office: September 1 - 4, 2023**

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Upcoming Field Program Studies

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 23 August 2023 at 09:11  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "Contardo, Selena" <[redacted]>, "Crew, Jean-Marc" <[redacted]>, "Radoslav, Jarrid" <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>

Good Morning Andrew.

Please find attached, a letter from the MFFN CAR Project Team in regards to the Groundwater Baseline Program and the associated drilling work, as well as supporting memos.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**3 attachments** — [Download all attachments](#)

-  **Aroland First Nation\_GW Memo\_April and June 2023.pdf**  
146K [View as HTML](#) [Download](#)
-  **Aroland First Nation\_GW Memo\_ Nov and Dec 2022.pdf**  
204K [View as HTML](#) [Download](#)
-  **MFFN to Aroland FN\_ GW Drilling Summary\_ Aug 2023.pdf**  
334K [View as HTML](#) [Download](#)

**To:**  
 Jennifer Bruin, Bob Baxter, Lawrence Baxter, Qasim  
 Saddique

**Project name:**  
 Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road

**Project ref:**  
 60593122

**CC:**  
 Jarrid Radoslav, Elaine Lee-Ho, Leah Deveaux, Jean-  
 Marc Crew, Christine Green, Ingrid Trimble

**Date:**  
 August 1 2023

# Memo

**Subject:** Groundwater Baseline Program at Sites 6,15,16,27

The objective of the Groundwater Baseline Program is to provide baseline conditions field data to support the Impact Assessment (IA) / Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFCAR) Project.

The groundwater baseline study will include installation of hydrogeological stations within the Local Study Area (LSA). The study focuses on areas where the Project has potential to affect groundwater quantity or quality, specifically in areas near sensitive receptors.

As a continuation from the 2022 winter groundwater program, further groundwater drilling and investigation was completed in April of 2023. This memo provides a summary of the April 2023 groundwater effort.

As part of continued commitment to incorporate traditional knowledge concerns, Aroland was invited to participate in the drilling activities proposed at these sites. Unfortunately, Aroland members were unable to join the activities.

**Table 1** provides a daily summary on the progress of the April groundwater sampling program.

**Table 1: Groundwater Sampling Site Summary**

Site	Date	Daily Summary Notes
27 and 16	April 10	Began snow removal at site 27 and site 16.
27	April 11	Set up equipment at site 27.
	April 12	Aroland monitors unable to join the drilling program due to a death in the community.  Began drilling at site 27.  A bear was seen about a 10 minute helicopter ride from the site.
27 and 16 16	April 13	Completed site 27 and began moving equipment to site 16.  No Aroland Monitors (see notes from April 12)

	April 14	<p>Poor weather delayed the program until 10:00 am.</p> <p>Moved remaining equipment from site 27 to 16 and set up drill at site 16.</p> <p>Matt from MFFN joined the program and spotted possible Marten Scat. A bear was spotted 15 minutes out of Nakina on a logging road.</p>
N/A	April 15, 16, 17	No work due to poor weather.
27	April 18	<p>Crew stopped at site 27 on the way to site 16 to install monuments and well tags.</p> <p>A hydraulic fitting broke at 11:00 am which could not be repaired or replaced. As result, the workday was ended early.</p> <p>Matt from MFFN joined the program.</p>
27, 16, 15	April 19	<p>Still unable to fix hydraulic fitting.</p> <p>Monitoring well 15-3 and 15-4 were redrilled and decommissioned.</p> <p>The drill rig was moved to Monitoring well 15-1 for coring,</p> <p>Matt from MFN joined the program.</p>
15 and 16	April 20	<p>Fixed hydraulic fitting.</p> <p>Continued drilling at site 16 (Monitoring well 15-1)</p> <p>Flew to site 15 to see the area and leave snowshoes and shovels for clearing.</p> <p>Matt from MFFN joined the program.</p>
N/A	April 21	No work due to poor weather
15 and 16	April 22	<p>Cleared snow at site 15 and moved remaining equipment from site 16 to 15.</p> <p>The day was ended early due to poor weather</p>
	April 23	Began drilling at site 15.
15	April 24	<p>Continued drilling at site 15 and begin clean-up of site.</p> <p>A crew member spilled methanol on their hands. An Incident report was completed.</p>
15 and 16	April 25	<p>Finalized clean up of site 15</p> <p>Cleared snow at site 6 to prepare for equipment set up.</p>
N/A	April 26	No work completed this day
6	April 27	Set up equipment at site 6. There was a slight delay due to weather.
	April 28	<p>Weather turned bad halfway through flight to site 6 which forced the helicopter to return to Nakina. At 11:00 the weather was good enough to fly again.</p> <p>Finished demobilization of site 6,</p>

All the Groundwater Monitoring Wells planned under this program have been successfully installed. The team continues to conduct seasonal groundwater sampling though to the end of 2024. Notifications of those programs are available through the Marten Falls Project Email.



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250 York Street  
Suite 410, Citi Plaza  
London, ON N6A 6K2  
Canada

T: 519.673.0510  
F: 519.673.5975  
aecom.com

**To:**  
Jennifer Bruin, Bob Baxter, Lawrence Baxter, Qasim  
Saddique

**Project name:**  
Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road

**Project ref:**  
60593122

**CC:**  
Jarrid Radoslav, Elaine Lee-Ho, Leah Deveaux, Jean-  
Marc Crew, Christine Green, Ingrid Trimble

**Date:**  
January 13, 2023

# Memo

**Subject:** Aroland Monitors for the Groundwater Baseline Program at Sites 10, 16, and 27.

The objective of the Groundwater Baseline Program is to provide baseline conditions field data to support the Impact Assessment (IA) / Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFCAR) Project.

The groundwater baseline study will include installation of hydrogeological stations within the Local Study Area (LSA). The study focuses on areas where the Project has potential to affect groundwater quantity or quality, specifically in areas near sensitive receptors.

A helicopter flyover with Marten Falls and Aroland Community members was completed in August 2022 at three potential groundwater sites (10, 16 and 27) to determine if the site locations can be suitably cleared for the purpose of drilling and installing the groundwater wells proposed for the groundwater baseline program. As part of continued commitment to incorporate traditional knowledge concerns, Aroland was invited to participate in the drilling activities proposed at these sites.

From November 25 to December 4, 2023, Aroland First Nation monitors accompanied the drilling team during their work on Sites 10 and 16 which is located within Aroland First Nation territory in November 2022. The site visits were very positive, and no concerns were noted by the monitors during their time on both sites. Due to weather and time constraints, drilling activities at Site 27 could not be completed in 2022, and will be completed in Spring of 2023. We will continue to follow up and engage Aroland First Nation about their participation in this work. **Table 1** describes Aroland's participation in the Groundwater Baseline Program.

**Table 1: Groundwater Sampling Site Summary**

Site	Drilling Date	Daily Summary Notes	Comments from Aroland
10 (Aroland)	Drilled November 25	Started mobilizing for Site 10 set up and started drilling at Site 10.  Bob Baxter and John Towedo attended. Monitors stayed back until mobilization was over and came to site as we began drilling. Bob Baxter and John Towedo were happy with the progress.	Bob Baxter and John Towedo were pleased with the drilling operation and site work. Bob had no issue with us drilling ahead of them getting to site. Bob Baxter found Wolverine tracks near site.  All three monitors were interested in the work we were doing and did not have any issues with the site work.
	November 26	Drilling continued at Site 10.  Bob Baxter, John Towedo and Jack Shabogamik attended.	
	November 27	Drilling completed for Site 10 and began demobilize to Site 16.  Due to the approaching mid-day inclement weather, a decision was made to remain on site and finish with the work for the day, rather than leaving to pick up the monitors. This plan was confirmed with Bob Baxter.	
	November 28	No drilling occurred.  Inclement weather with freezing rain resulted in a no-fly order for the entire day. The monitors remained at the airport with the crew. Bob Baxter departed for Thunder Bay and Jack Shabogamik and John Towedo were brought back to Aroland at the end of the day.	
	November 30	No drilling occurred. Monitors were told to stay home as we couldn't work with weather conditions.  Heavy snow and no power at Nakina.	
16 (Aroland) Detailed Site	Drilled December 1	Drilling commenced at Site 16.  Jack Shabogamik attended, John Towedo did not show up to be picked up. AECOM staff provided transportation to and from Aroland.	Jack Shabogamik was happy with the program and built a large fire to keep us warm and created a walking trail to the drill sites.  Both monitors were pleased with progress and a big help to the staff on site.
	December 2	Drilling continued at Site 16, detailed site and lots of detailed site bedrock was encountered at shallow depths.  Jack Shabogamik and John Towedo attended. AECOM staff provided transportation to and from Aroland.	
	December 3	Drilling completed at Site 16.  John Towedo and Jack Shabogamik attended. AECOM staff provided transportation to and from Aroland.	All work completed and monitors were happy with the demobilize.
	December 4	Mobilization from Site 16 to Site 6 completed.  Jack Shabogamik and John Towedo attended. AECOM staff provided transportation to and from Aroland.	

**Table 2** provides an overview of the Spring 2023 schedule. Aroland will be contacted to participate during the Spring 2023 Groundwater Sampling Program.

**Table 2: Upcoming Groundwater Baseline Program**

Site	Date to be Drilled
27 (Aroland)	Spring 2023

**Conclusion**

The site visits for Site 10 and Site 16 were very positive, and no concerns were noted by the monitors during their time on site. Site 27 will be drilled in Spring of 2023. We will continue to follow up and engage Aroland First Nation about their participation in this work.



August 23, 2023

Aroland First nation



*Sent via email*

**Re: Aroland First Nation Monitoring for the Groundwater 2023 Spring Field Work at Sites 16 and 27**

Greetings Chief Dorothy Towedo and Aroland First Nation Council,

In order to uphold our commitment to engage and consult in all aspects of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) assessment process, we wanted to provide a summary of the drilling activities completed between April 10 and April 20, 2023 at Sites 10, 16 and 27, as part of the groundwater field program. Aroland First Nation monitors were invited to participate in the 2023 spring field work, but unfortunately they were unable to attend.

The groundwater field program objective is to provide existing conditions data to support the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement for the MFFN CAR Project, which includes the installation of groundwater monitoring stations throughout the Local Study Area and the collection of baseline data including water levels and chemical parameters.

Prior to completing field work, MFFN CAR previously shared a map with Aroland First Nation of the proposed sites where monitoring wells would be installed. Aroland First nation indicated that they were interested in Sites 10, 16 and 27. A helicopter flyover with Aroland First Nation monitors and MFFN members was completed in August 2022 to review the suitability of clearing Sites 10, 16 and 27 for the drilling and installation of the groundwater wells. A draft summary of the helicopter flyover (the flyover memo) was provided to Aroland First Nation for review, feedback was incorporated, and a revised flyover memo was sent back on September 28, 2022. To date, no additional feedback has been received on the revised flyover memo.

In addition to the flyover, Aroland First Nation monitors accompanied the team while drilling on Sites 10 and 16 from November 25 to December 4, 2022. To our knowledge, no concerns were raised during this field work. Due to weather and time constraints, drilling activities at Sites 16 and 27 could not be completed in 2022. A summary of this work was sent to Aroland First Nation on March 2, 2022 (the drilling memo). To date, we have not received any feedback on the drilling memo. In the 2022 drilling memo, the MFFN CAR Project Team committed to continue to follow up and engage Aroland First Nation about their participation in the remaining work in Spring 2023.

Outreach to Aroland First Nation began in early March 2023 to follow up on your community's interest in sending monitors to oversee the remaining drilling work at Sites 16 and 27. Despite both parties' continued efforts to coordinate and schedule monitor participation, the Aroland First Nation monitors





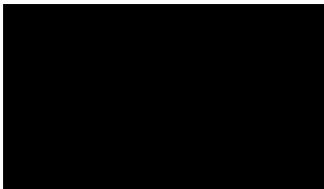
were unable to participate. We received notification of a death in the community on April 13, 2023. Out of respect to your community, we did not want to continue to land the helicopter in Aroland without your expressed consent. We did not receive confirmation that we could continue to come to the community, as such the decision was made to avoid entering Aroland with the helicopter. Due to Species at Risk timing constraints that put the study at risk of being pushed back another year, we continued with the drilling activities.

A MFFN community member was able to participate and assisted in monitoring the sites. No issues or concerns were brought forth from the MFFN monitor. The drilling activities at Sites 16 and 27 were completed on April 20, 2023.

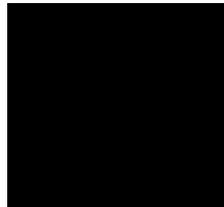
Attached to this letter is the summary memo from the last monitoring event and a memo for the work completed in April and June 2023. The drilling completed in June occurred on sites not previously identified by Aroland First Nation as within your traditional territory. We are happy to discuss the follow up monitoring program for all the groundwater monitoring sites should it be of interest.

We look forward to coordinating Aroland First Nation's participation in the fieldwork associated with our upcoming programming related to groundwater, cultural heritage and socio-economic data collection and in our continued efforts to create a Collaboration Proposal between Aroland First Nation and MFFN.

Best Regards,



Qasim Saddique  
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter  
Senior Community Member Advisor

CC:

- Aroland First Nation Council Members
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Laura Sayers, Shared Value Solutions
- Rojin Amani, Shared Value Solutions
- Bob Baxter, Community Member Advisor, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team
- Selena Contardo, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Jean-Marc Crew, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Leah Deveaux, MFFN CAR Project Consultant
- Ingrid Trimble-Exner, MFFN CAR Project Consultant





## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 27 September 2023 at 13:16  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Good Afternoon Andrew,

I hope you are well and you had a great summer! It's hard to believe fall is here already.

It has been some time since we last spoke and I wondered if you were available for a call sometime this week? I am available on Thursday and Friday this week if you could suggest some times that work for you.

I would like to discuss any updates from both Aroland First Nation and from the MFFN CAR Project, as well as potential meeting dates and upcoming events.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 28 September 2023 at 07:05

To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

Today at 1:30 works for me. I will give you call then.

Thank you,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  

**Out of office: October 2, 6 and 9.**

[Quoted text hidden]

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]> 28 September 2023 at 18:26  
To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Rob M <[REDACTED]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[REDACTED]>, Samson Meshake <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

Thanks very much for speaking with me this afternoon. Below is a summary of the key points of our conversation and please do let me know if anything was misinterpreted.

### Communication Protocol

- The signed agreement was received last week and Aroland First Nation will send over a signed copy soon.

### Upcoming Elections

- Aroland First Nation will be entering their election cycle very soon. Aroland First Nation decision making will be on hold and will impact the ability of Chief and Council to meet with the MFFN CAR Project Team.  
- You will provide the Project with any updates to contact information for Aroland First Nation Chief and Council when available.  
- I will provide any updates to contact information for Marten Falls First Nation Chief and Council when available.

### Upcoming Potential Meeting

- The MFFN CAR Project Team will be in the area the week of October 23 - 27 for PIC #5 and would like to meet with Aroland First Nation.  
- You will advise Aroland First Nation Chief and Council of this request and get back to me. I asked if Aroland First Nation would be agreeable to having the Province and/or IAAC at the meeting and you would mention this to Chief and Council.  
- You mentioned that a general meeting where the Project Team could provide information about the Project to the community and receive questions would be appropriate and would have to occur in the afternoon/evening.

### Data Collection

- We discussed that Aroland First Nation would still like to conduct their own studies (IK/Socio-Ec/Cultural Heritage) and provide that information to the Project.

### Community Coordinator Program

- Aroland First Nation does not have any interest in this program due to the reporting process (to MFFN CAR Project Team).

### Key Dates

- Public Information Centre (PIC) #5 is happening the week of October 23 - 27, 2023  
- ATRI Forum #2 is happening November 21 - 23, 2023 in Thunder Bay  
- A climate change workshop will be held in early 2024  
*\*More information and formal notices will be sent to the community*

### Contacts

- Megan and Chloe are to be added to the contact list and you will provide their contact information.

I will look forward to hearing from you early next week regarding a possible meeting in October.

Thank you,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Out of office: October 2, 6 and 9.**

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 4 October 2023 at 13:55  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

Following up on our conversation last week to see if you have had a chance to speak with Chief and Council about a potential meeting? The MFFN CAR Project Team would like to propose a meeting on October 26th but are open to suggestions from Aroland First Nation.

The Project Team will be in the Thunder Bay and Geraldton area the week of October 23rd and will be hosting PIC #5. More information related to the PICs will be shared shortly.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
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 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  

**Out of office: October 6 and 9.**

[Quoted text hidden]



## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 10 October 2023 at 17:55  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for the update. I will let our team know.

As you may have seen, the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Public Information Centre (PIC) #5 information was distributed from the project email this afternoon. I have attached the invitation to this email.

The MFFN CAR Project Team will be hosting PIC #5 in Geraldton on October 26. Event details are outlined below:

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Geraldton Community Centre (the arena), 200 Wardrope Avenue, Geraldton, Ontario

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Indigenous Members Session

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Public Session

\* The first hour of each meeting is reserved for Indigenous community members only. The public, including Indigenous communities, are invited to join beginning one hour following the reserved time.

Understanding that this is an extremely busy time for the community, we would like to inquire if Aroland First Nation community members would be interested in a shuttlebus pick-up and drop-off to facilitate their attendance at the Geraldton PIC? We would like to propose a pick-up in Aroland at 3:30 p.m. at the band office and leaving the PIC around 5:30 p.m. to head back to Aroland. We would ask that community members please RSVP by noon on Wednesday October 25 to reserve a seat on the bus.

Please let me know if this is agreeable to Chief and Council and if you would like us to provide a flyer that can be used to advertise the event.

Thank you,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Out of Office: October 23 - 27**

[Quoted text hidden]

 **PIC#5 - MFFN Community Access Road.pdf**  
 374K



## Join us for the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) All-Season Community Access Road Public Information Centre #5: Existing Conditions Report and Route Selection Milestone

Join us to learn about and provide feedback on:

- Updates since Public Information Centre #4, including what we've heard and how feedback is being considered;
- Update on what we heard at the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) Forum and plans for the next forum;
- Update on existing conditions results for completed studies;
- How Indigenous Knowledge is used and how it informs the process;
- Achieving the next major milestone: Identifying the preferred route and how route alternatives will be assessed, recommended and a preferred route chosen;
- Cumulative effects assessment and why it is important; and
- Next steps and future opportunities to get involved.

**Join us and share your feedback, ideas and values related to the proposed all-season access road.**

### About the Project

MFFN is a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario, located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 170 km northeast of Nakina, Ontario.

MFFN Community Access Road is a proposed all-season road that will connect MFFN to Ontario's provincial highway network in the south, increasing access and helping foster economic development and improve quality of life for community members. The Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment will assess the potential impacts and benefits related to the proposed Community Access Road.

## When and Where?

### Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Best Western Nor'Wester  
2080 Highway #61  
Thunder Bay, Ontario

#### Indigenous Members Session:

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

#### Public Session:

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, October 26, 2023

Geraldton Community Centre  
200 Wardrobe Avenue  
Geraldton, Ontario

#### Indigenous Members Session:

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### Public Session:

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

\*Light refreshments will be served.

Information panels will be available for review, along with maps, fact sheets and feedback forms. Project Team members will be available to answer questions and receive comments.

If you cannot make the in-person session, you can find the information posted on our website ([www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca](http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca)). Public Information Centres are wheelchair accessible; contact us if you require other accessibility accommodations.



# MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL - SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

## Understanding the Road's Potential Impacts

MFFN is preparing an Individual Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement for the proposed Community Access Road. On October 8, 2021, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) with amendments.

The federal Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines were issued on February 24, 2020 and the federal government granted an extension on January 13, 2023. This will be the fifth Public Information Centre held to support the identification of the preferred route milestone of the Impact Assessment and Environmental Assessment processes.

## Contact

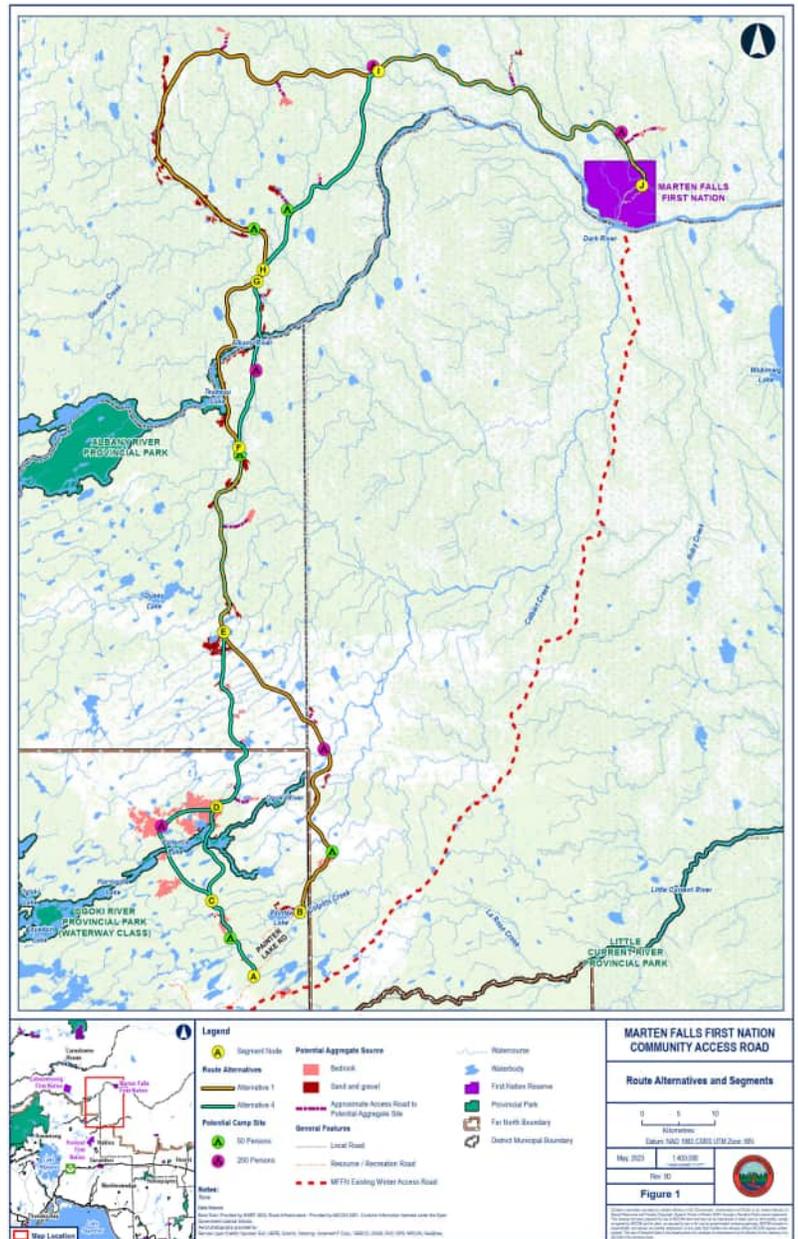
For information on the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment processes and progress related to this Project, please visit

<https://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

If you are unable to attend the event, or have any comments or questions regarding the Project, you are welcome to contact the Project Team at any time during the process at 1-800-764-9114 or [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca)

## Thank you for your participation.

Personal information submitted (e.g., name, address and phone number) is collected, maintained and disclosed under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for transparency and consultation purposes. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public, unless you request your personal information remain confidential.





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Invitation - ATRI Forum Nov 21 - 23, 2023

Nokleby, Andrea <[redacted]> 17 October 2023 at 09:00  
 To: [redacted]  
 Cc: Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>

Good Morning Chief Towedo

On behalf of the Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation Project Teams, please find attached an invitation to attend the Second Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights Forum related to the following projects:

- Webequie Supply Road (WSR)
- Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFCAR)
- Northern Road Link (NRL)

Building on the first Forum held in February 2023, this follow-up Forum provides an opportunity to identify and discuss potential impacts to northern Indigenous communities' Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and interests as they relate to the above Projects.

Day 1 and 2 of the Forum will focus on Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests. On Day 3, we will be hosting a half-day discussion on Cumulative Effects as they relate to the Projects.

If you have any questions regarding the Forum or need additional information to engage your community please do not hesitate to reach out to us using the following contact information:

WSR: Michael Fox: [redacted]  
 MFCAR: Andrea Nokleby: [redacted]  
 NRL: Mishal Naseer: [redacted]

We look forward to seeing you there.

Have a great day,

Andrea



**Andrea Nokleby**  
 Partner  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

 **Invitation ATRI Second Forum - October 2023.pdf**  
 4559K

# ABORIGINAL AND / OR TREATY RIGHTS AND INTERESTS

WEBEQUIE SUPPLY ROAD (WSR) • MARTEN FALLS COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD (MFCAR) • NORTHERN ROAD LINK (NRL)

# YOU ARE INVITED!

## ABORIGINAL AND / OR TREATY RIGHTS AND INTERESTS FORUM

Led by Webequie First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation

Funded by Ontario, our Treaty partner



### Thunder Bay

Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Rd

November 21 - 23, 2023



Building on the momentum of the first Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum in February 2023, Webequie First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation encourage you to participate in a follow-up Forum to discuss potential impacts to northern Indigenous communities' Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests as they relate to the following Projects:

**Webequie Supply Road (WSR) • Northern Road Link (NRL) • Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFCAR)**



### Participant Funding

The Province of Ontario will fund up to 3 representatives from your community to attend the Forum, including travel, accommodation and meals. All questions about funding or the coordination of funding should be directed to the Province of Ontario at [ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca](mailto:ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca).

Additional community representatives are welcome to attend.



### Purpose

The Purpose of this Forum is to create a respectful, culturally-sensitive, and collaborative space to develop and/or confirm our understanding of the Project areas (WSR, MFCAR, and NRL) as your Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests may be impacted by these Projects. *Please note the purpose of this event is to discuss Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests and not to collect Indigenous Knowledge.*



### Who Should Attend from your Community

Representatives who are knowledgeable about and comfortable speaking to the Rights and Interests of your community in any of the Project areas. Representatives who can continue this dialogue with their community to better understand and share Rights and Interests in any of the Project areas are also encouraged to attend.

**On Day 3 of the Forum, we will be hosting a half-day discussion on Cumulative Effects as they relate to the Projects.**

RSVP to [ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca](mailto:ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca) by October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 to reserve your room at the Valhalla Inn. (Later RSVP for Forum attendance is OK!)



MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
**COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**



Ontario



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 17 October 2023 at 11:00  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I wanted to follow up on our offer to provide a shuttle bus to transport Aroland First Nation community members to and from PIC #5 in Geraldton on October 26th.

I understand this is a busy time for the community, so please do let me know if you have any feedback on a better way to address and/or promote this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Out of Office: October 23 - 27**

[Quoted text hidden]



**MFFN CAR - Project Updates**

18 October 2023 at 14:06

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>  
To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, "shabogamijkerry202@gmail.com" <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
Bcc: "Poulakas, Demetri" <[REDACTED]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[REDACTED]>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for the updates. Please let us know as soon as possible if there is interest in the shuttle to/from PIC #5.

As you requested in our phone call in September, please find updated contact information for Marten Falls First Nation Chief and Council below:

Achneepineskum	Bruce	Chief	[REDACTED]
Moonias	Linda	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Baxter	Shane	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Baxter	Maria	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Achneepineskum	Paul	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Moonias	Rob	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Baxter	Bob	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Achneepineskum	Russell	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Baxter	Yvonne	Councillor	[REDACTED]
Baxter	Corinna	Executive Assistant to C&C	[REDACTED]

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team

Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
www.dillon.ca  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Traveling for work and limited availability: October 23 - 27



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

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## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

23 October 2023 at 19:00

To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>

Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani

<[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
<[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

The date for the Geraldton PIC is quickly approaching. I wanted to find out if you have heard of any interest in a shuttle to pick up and drop off Aroland First Nation community members?

If you could please let me know by the end of the day on Wednesday, that would be ideal for our planning.

Thanks very much,

Kyla

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]> 14 November 2023 at 16:32  
To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Andrea Nokleby <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
Bcc: "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>

Good Afternoon Andrew,

Understanding that Aroland First Nation is in elections, please share the information below as needed. I'm emailing today to provide some updates for the MFFN CAR Project and to specifically highlight upcoming events.

### Route Selection Webinar

You are invited to join us for a new webinar series on the Community Access Road. The first webinar will be on Route Selection. Details are as follows:

Date: **Thursday November 16, 2023**

Time: **4:00 pm EST**

Please register [HERE](#) to receive the webinar link.

### ATRI Forum #2

ATRI Forum #2 will be held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay from November 21 - 23, 2023. Building on the first Forum held in February 2023, this follow-up Forum provides an opportunity to identify and discuss potential impacts to northern Indigenous communities' Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and interests as they relate to the MFFN CAR and other local road projects.

Day 1 and 2 of the Forum will focus on Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and interests. On day 3, we will be hosting a half-day discussion on Cumulative Effects as they relate to the projects.

Please see the attached invite for more information.

### Indigenous Knowledge Program

As you may have seen on the November 10th email, the MFFN CAR Project Team is requesting community-specific IK information be submitted by December 11, 2023 in order to be included in the draft EA/IS. Noting that the Project Team has not yet met with Aroland First Nation and the election is underway, we understand that the community will be unable to meet this timeline. We will look forward to meeting with Chief and Council after the election and will continue to support Aroland First Nation in their IK collection study. Funding to help the community with their IK collection is still available.

In the event that Aroland First Nation does share IK information with the Project, please advise if a sharing agreement should be in place. In the meantime, we will update the Project sharing agreement template for consideration and get that sent to the community once Aroland First Nation is ready to discuss the Project.

### Climate Change Workshop

A workshop is to be held in early 2024 with interested Indigenous communities. Dates and more formal notice will be shared soon.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the above information. We look forward to meeting with the community in the near future and wish everyone good luck with the upcoming election.

Thank you,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**

[Redacted contact information]

[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



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 **Invitation ATRI Second Forum - November 2023.pdf**  
4559K

# ABORIGINAL AND / OR TREATY RIGHTS AND INTERESTS

WEBEQUIE SUPPLY ROAD (WSR) • MARTEN FALLS COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD (MFCAR) • NORTHERN ROAD LINK (NRL)

# YOU ARE INVITED!

## ABORIGINAL AND / OR TREATY RIGHTS AND INTERESTS FORUM

Led by Webequie First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation

Funded by Ontario, our Treaty partner



### Thunder Bay

Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Rd

November 21 - 23, 2023



Building on the momentum of the first Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum in February 2023, Webequie First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation encourage you to participate in a follow-up Forum to discuss potential impacts to northern Indigenous communities' Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests as they relate to the following Projects:

**Webequie Supply Road (WSR) • Northern Road Link (NRL) • Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFCAR)**



### Participant Funding

The Province of Ontario will fund up to 3 representatives from your community to attend the Forum, including travel, accommodation and meals. All questions about funding or the coordination of funding should be directed to the Province of Ontario at [ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca](mailto:ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca).

Additional community representatives are welcome to attend.



### Purpose

The Purpose of this Forum is to create a respectful, culturally-sensitive, and collaborative space to develop and/or confirm our understanding of the Project areas (WSR, MFCAR, and NRL) as your Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests may be impacted by these Projects. *Please note the purpose of this event is to discuss Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests and not to collect Indigenous Knowledge.*



### Who Should Attend from your Community

Representatives who are knowledgeable about and comfortable speaking to the Rights and Interests of your community in any of the Project areas. Representatives who can continue this dialogue with their community to better understand and share Rights and Interests in any of the Project areas are also encouraged to attend.

**On Day 3 of the Forum, we will be hosting a half-day discussion on Cumulative Effects as they relate to the Projects.**

RSVP to [ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca](mailto:ea.participant.fund@ontario.ca) by October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 to reserve your room at the Valhalla Inn. (Later RSVP for Forum attendance is OK!)



MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
**COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**



Ontario



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

## Re: Invitation - ATRI Forum Nov 21 - 23, 2023

Nokleby, Andrea <[REDACTED]> 17 November 2023 at 16:53  
 To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>, michaelfox <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "Cafaro, Caitlin (IAAC/AEIC)" <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, "Moszynski, Dorothy (MECP)" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Good Afternoon Chief Towedo and Andrew,

Thank you for your email and letter. We will review in further detail and be sure to respond shortly.

I hope everyone has a nice weekend,

Andrea



**Andrea Nokleby**  
 Partner  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  




[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Milestone 2 Progress Report

MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

27 November 2023 at 12:03

To: [redacted]  
 Cc: [redacted]

Dear Chief Dorothy Towedo,

We hope this email finds you well.

The Milestone #2 Progress Report for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road has been drafted and is ready for review. The following link includes the Report and associated appendices to view or download, for Aroland First Nation: [redacted].

The Milestone #2 Progress Report covers July 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023.

We welcome any edits or comments to your community-specific section by **February 15, 2024**, before the reports are finalized and shared publicly with the Draft Environmental Assessment Report / Impact Statement.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the reports and timeline, please reply to this email. We also kindly ask if you could let us know if you received this email and can view / download the documents successfully.

If you have any questions or comments about the Community Access Road, please reply to this email or give us a call at 1-800-764-9114.

Sincerely,  
Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Team

--  
 MFFN Community Access Road Project Team  
 Visit our website: <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>  
 Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MFFNCommunityAccessRoadProject/>  
 Call us: 1 800-764-9114  
 Email us: [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca)



We hope all is well with you and your community.

Andrea



**Andrea Nokleby**  
*Partner*

**Dillon Consulting Limited**

[Redacted contact information]

[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



---

 **DRAFT - ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report - Aroland First Nation Nov 28, 2023.pdf**  
20711K





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Socio-Economic Interest Check Letter

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 7 December 2023 at 14:21  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Bethany Haalboom <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>

Hello Andrew,

Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is continuing the provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) and Federal Impact Assessment (IA) for the proposed Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Project that is to provide all season access to the community. Attached is a letter requesting if your community has any interests or concerns regarding possible social-community and/or economic impacts as a result of the MFFN CAR project. Please also note that this request is different from other requests sent to your community regarding the collection of Indigenous Knowledge and information pertaining to the assessment of impacts to Indigenous rights.

Should Aroland First Nation have socio-economic interests or concerns related to the MFFN CAR Project, we would like to hear from you by December 30, 2023.

As we do not have contact information for the new Chief and Council, I am hoping that you can provide this letter to Chief Gagnon and others as necessary.

Thanks very much,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team

**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  



**Vacation Alert: December 16 - January 7**

 **L-Aroland First Nation\_Socio-econ IC interest check letter - Dec 7, 2023.pdf**  
353K



December 07, 2023

Aroland First Nation  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Sent via email*

***Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project – Socio-economic Assessment Interest***

Dear Chief Sonny Gagnon,

Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is continuing the provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) and Federal Impact Assessment (IA) for the proposed Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Project that is to provide all season access to the community. As per previous correspondence sent to your community, the Project is currently in the process of assessing alternative routes for the proposed access road. Most recently, Public Information Centres and webinars have been held to present information related to alternative route assessment. A preferred route is to be confirmed in early 2024.

Once the preferred route is selected, an assessment of possible Project impacts is to be undertaken. This impact assessment is to be completed in spring 2024 and a draft EA Report/IA Statement is to be completed and released in summer 2024.

The purpose of this letter is to again request **if your community has any interests or concerns regarding possible social-community and/or economic impacts as a result of the MFFN CAR project?** The construction of the Community Access Road has the potential to result in various social and economic effects, particularly for those communities that would be connected to or have access to the proposed road. This could include both potential positive and negative effects. Attached to this letter are a list of the possible social and economic effects of the Project that are to be assessed.

To meet the requirements of the Federal IA process, we are required to assess potential social and economic effects of the MFFN CAR project on all communities that have been identified for engagement. If your community has interests or concerns regarding possible social and/or economic effects from the MFFN CAR Project then we would like to hear from you. We would like to understand your concerns and explore related information collection that might include interviews with community representatives and/or community surveys.





Please also note that this request is different than other requests sent to your community regarding the collection of Indigenous Knowledge and information pertaining to the assessment of impacts to Indigenous rights.

Please get in touch with Kyla Zielbauer at [REDACTED] should you have interest in or would like to talk about concerns related to potential social and/or economic impacts of the MFFN CAR project.

Yours truly,



Lawrence Baxter

MFFN CAR Project Team Member/MFFN Community Member





## What Are the Possible Social and Economic Effects of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project?

### Social:

- Community populations.
- Supply and demand for housing and community services like education and childcare.
- Change in volume of traffic on existing roads that would connect with the Marten Falls Community Access Road.
- Change in local air quality and noise levels that could result in nuisance effects.
- Changes to community wellbeing.

### Economic:

- New business opportunities.
- Change in regional economic activity.
- Project procurement opportunities (goods and services required for the project).
- Changes to the price of goods in local communities, traditional economies, job opportunities and training opportunities.
- Government expenditures and tax revenue.
- Regional economy, including changes to: prices for goods and services.
- Impact to local business operations, the labour market including employment and training, and public finances.





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Socio-Economic Interest Check Letter

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 8 December 2023 at 09:06  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>, Bethany Haalboom <[redacted]>

Good Morning Andrew,

Apologies as the previous email and attached letter were sent in error - please disregard.

As previously mentioned, we will continue to support Aroland First Nation in collecting your community-specific socio-economic information related to the MFFN CAR Project.

Thanks and have a great day,

Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
Dillon Consulting Limited



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**Vacation Alert: December 16 - January 7**

[Quoted text hidden]

Zielbauer, Kyla &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;



## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]> 14 December 2023 at 16:44  
 To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham  
 <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[REDACTED]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, "Poulakas, Demetri" <[REDACTED]>

Good Afternoon Andrew and Jerry,

I hope you are both well!

I am reaching out to you today to provide some updates on the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Project, as well as highlight some recent key events and information shared with your community.

### Milestone #2 Progress Report

- An updated link to your community-specific Milestone #2 Progress Report was shared with you on November 29, 2023, and covers all consultation with Aroland First Nation from July 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023.
- We welcome any edits or comments on your community-specific sections by **February 15, 2024**, before the reports are finalized and shared publicly with the draft EA Report / Impact Statement.
- If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the reports and timeline, please let me know.

### Indigenous Knowledge, Socio-Economic and Cultural Heritage Information Collection

- The **December 11, 2023**, milestone for the submission of IK has now concluded. IK submitted after this date can be woven into subsequent stages of the assessment processes and road design. We will continue to support Aroland First Nation in their community-specific IK study in order to help inform the MFFN CAR Project and will include that information where possible.
- Please let me know if you have any questions about this or feel free to reach out to Bob Baxter at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or to Andrea Nokleby at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

### ATRI Forum #2

- ATRI Forum #2 was held at the Valhalla Inn, in Thunder Bay on November 21 - 23, 2023. During the Forum, we heard from various Indigenous communities on their ATRI as they relate to the MFFN CAR Project

### Route Selection Webinar and Webinar Series

- The webinar on Route Selection took place on Thursday November 16, 2023. A recording of the webinar can be accessed at this link: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/mffn-webinars>
- Webinars regarding Climate Change and Engineering and Cumulative Effects will be held in early 2024 with Interested Indigenous Communities. Dates and a formal notice will be shared soon.

### Potential Meeting

- The MFFN CAR Project Team is interested in meeting with Aroland First Nation Chief and Council in order to re-engage the community on the Project. Please provide some dates and times with your availability to meet.

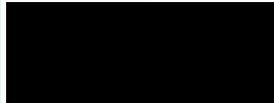
Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the information above or anything else related to the MFFN CAR Project. I will phone you tomorrow to follow up on this information.

Thank you,  
Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited



[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



**Vacation Alert: December 16 - January 7**

Zielbauer, Kyla &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;



## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]> 15 December 2023 at 15:11  
 To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "Poulakas, Demetri" <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>

Good Afternoon,

Thank you again for the phone call this afternoon Andrew. I've provided a summary of our discussion below. Please let me know if I misinterpreted or forgot anything.

### New Aroland First Nation Band Manager

- Andrew mentioned that Richard Herbert is to be included in key correspondence with Aroland First Nation moving forward. It's nice to "meet" you Richard!
- Richard, please let me know if you would like to receive general project update emails from the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Project, and I will add you to our contact list. We typically send out monthly notices regarding project updates, key events, and field work, as well as information regarding reporting. The MFFN CAR Project Website is: <https://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>

### Draft ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report and Milestone #2 Progress Report

- We discussed the upcoming feedback deadlines for each report and noted that you had not received the Draft ATRI Existing Conditions Report. That report will be forwarded to you shortly.
- Please let us know if Aroland First Nation intends to provide feedback on these reports.

### Potential Meetings

- Andrew indicated that Aroland Chief and Council are still getting settled into their roles and will be meeting in January 2024.
- There is potential for meetings to occur the week of January 29, 2024,.
- Meetings between Aroland First Nation and MFFN Chief and Council, as well as between Aroland First Nation and the MFFN CAR Project Team should be scheduled.
- Kyla inquired if there was any information or materials that could be provided to help Aroland First Nation Chief and Council to get familiar with the MFFN CAR Project. We discussed that route selection mapping could be beneficial and that Kyla will send that to your team.

As discussed, I will be on vacation starting Monday December 18, 2023. However, should there be anything urgent, please reach out to me at [REDACTED]

We wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season and we are looking forward to meeting with Aroland First Nation in the new year!

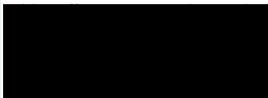
Sincerely,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited



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**Vacation Alert: December 16 - January 7**

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

# For Review - Draft Preliminary Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 15 December 2023 at 15:15

To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
Cc: Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>  
Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

As mentioned in our phone call just now, I am reattaching the Draft ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report for review. If you could pass this on as needed, that would be great.

Please see the wording from Andrea below; notably the January 19, 2024, deadline to provide feedback.

Reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited



www.dillon.ca



**Vacation Alert: December 16 - January 7**

[Quoted text hidden]

**DRAFT - ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report - Aroland First Nation Nov 28, 2023.pdf**  
20711K



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 10 January 2024 at 16:30  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: "Poulakas, Demetri" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I hope you had a great holiday!

I'm sending you a quick email to follow up on two reports sent to Aroland First Nation before the holidays.

### Milestone #2 Progress Report

On November 27, 2023, we sent the Milestone #2 Progress Report for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR Project), with an updated link to Aroland First Nation's community-specific report on November 29, 2023, for your review.

The Milestone #2 Progress Report covers engagement that occurred for the MFFN CAR Project between July 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023.

We welcome any edits or comments to the report by **February 15, 2024**.

### ATRI Existing Conditions Report

On November 28, 2023, Andrea Nokleby sent the draft ATRI Existing Conditions Report to Aroland First Nation. The ATRI Existing Conditions Report describes our current understanding of Aroland First Nation's Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and Interests, as they relate to the proposed Project.

We are asking for communities to provide input on the draft report by **January 19, 2024**, where possible, so it can be woven into the draft Impact Statement / Environmental Assessment Report.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the reports and/or timelines, please let me know.

I would like to discuss the above reports, as well as any updates from the community and from the Project. Please let me know a few times next week that would work for you.

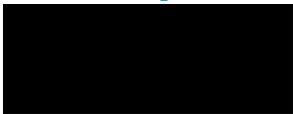
Thank you!

Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited



www.dillon.ca





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 12 January 2024 at 14:05  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nogleby <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "Poulakas, Demetri" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for the quick response and update.

We understand that there have been some conflicts and that Aroland First Nation will/may require more time to review the ATRI Existing Conditions Report and Milestone #2 Progress Report.

Your suggested deadline of February 15th to provide feedback on both reports will work for us. We would like to suggest prioritizing the ATRI Existing Conditions Report for review, as this information is important to continue our work on the EA / IS.

I will call you next week on Wednesday at 3pm and we can discuss any of these details further.

Have a great weekend,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 18 January 2024 at 16:18  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "Poulakas, Demetri" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me yesterday.

I wanted to highlight a couple of key points from our conversation:

- Aroland First Nation Chief and Council have asked that no consultation or engagement occur until after their February 8, 2024, inauguration and you indicated they would like to move forward with their engagement on the Project soon after this date
- You would let us know of a potential meeting date for the Project Team to present to the community once you have met with the new Council
- You mentioned that the new Council has seen the Consultation Protocol Agreement with MFFN and that you will confirm how to proceed with the new Council
- I mentioned that the Route Selection Webinar happened in November and feedback from Aroland First Nation about the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation was of high importance to the Project and would be a priority in our consultation and engagement with the community
- I shared that the Project had been brainstorming ideas and plans for future consultation and engagement with the community and you reiterated that discussion on this topic will have to wait until after the inauguration and that Aroland First Nation had previously noted they would like to conduct their own IK/Socio-ec/Cultural Heritage information collection studies
- Aroland First Nation has not started any IK/Socio-economic/Cultural Heritage information collection, as the previous Council required that a meeting with the Project Team occur prior to commencing the work
- I said that I would send the link to the Route Selection Webinar recording and information for the upcoming Climate Change Adaptation webinar, and that I would also include the previously discussed route selection mapping and a response to the November 17, 2023, ATRI Forum letter from Chief Dorothy Towedo
- We discussed the ATRI Existing Conditions Report and Milestone #2 Progress Report and that

Please let me know if I misinterpreted or left out any details.

### Route Selection Webinar

A recording of the webinar can be found at this link: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/mffn-webinars>

### Climate Change Adaptation Webinar

I have attached a copy of the email sent on January 16, 2024, which provides all of the details for this upcoming webinar on February 8, 2024. Registration for the webinar can be found at this link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ze04DSZmSqSZS8c5k19vRQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ze04DSZmSqSZS8c5k19vRQ)

### ATRI Forum #2 Letter

Please find a letter from the Project Team attached in response.

As we discussed, I will continue to provide project updates as needed and will look forward to hearing from you after the inauguration on February 8th.



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited



[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



---

**4 attachments**

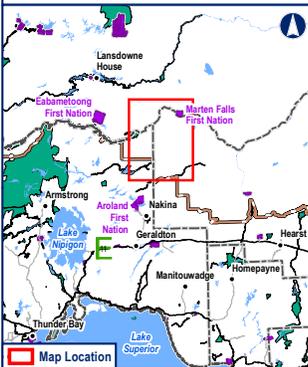
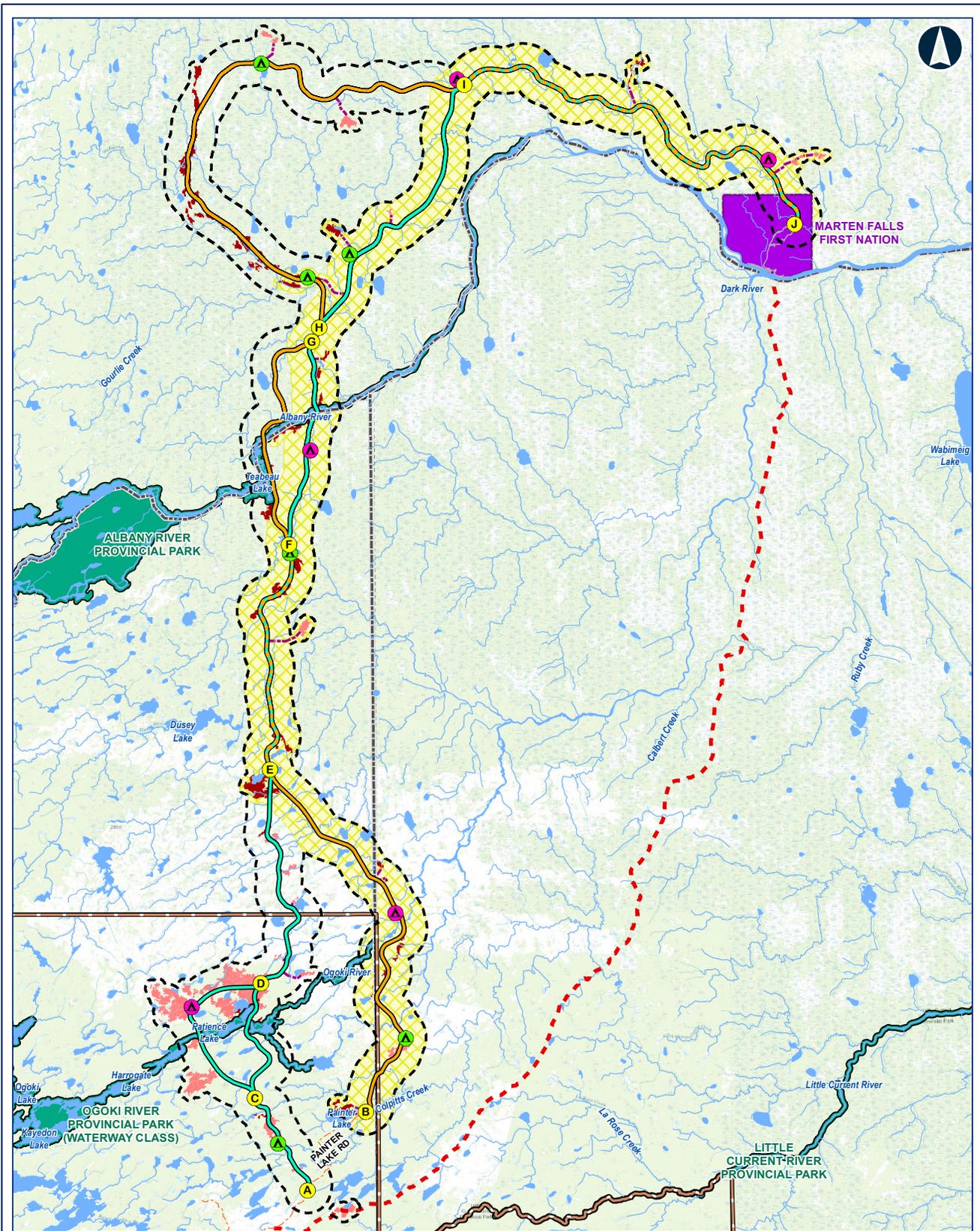


**MAP\_Draft Tech\_PREFERRED\_Route\_Revision 2.jpg**  
104K

 **Climate Change Webinar Email.pdf**  
124K

 **L-Aroland First Nation\_Response to ATRI Forum Letter.pdf**  
351K

 **MAP\_Draft Tech\_PREFERRED\_Route\_Revision 2.pdf**  
2228K



**Legend**

- Segment Node**
  - A: 50 Persons
  - B: 200 Persons
- Study Area** (Dashed black line)
- Route Alternatives**
  - Alternative 1 (Orange line)
  - Alternative 4 (Green line)
- Preliminary Technically Preferred Route** (Yellow hatched area)
- Potential Camp Site**
  - 50 Persons (Green triangle)
  - 200 Persons (Pink triangle)
- Potential Aggregate Source**
  - Bedrock (Red square)
  - Sand and gravel (Dark red square)
  - Approximate Access Road to Potential Aggregate Site (Dashed red line)
- General Features**
  - Local Road (Thin grey line)
  - Resource / Recreation Road (Dashed orange line)
  - MFFN Existing Winter Access Road (Red dashed line)
- Watercourse** (Blue wavy line)
- Waterbody** (Blue area)
- First Nation Reserve** (Purple area)
- Provincial Park** (Green area)
- Far North Boundary** (Dashed brown line)
- District Municipal Boundary** (Dashed grey line)

**Data Source:**  
 Base Data: Provided by MNR 2023; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2021. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.  
 Aerial photography provided by:  
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, NRCAN, Geobase.

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

**Technically Preferred Route  
Recommendation Revision 2**

0 5 10 20  
Kilometres

Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

Dec, 2023	1:400,000 *when printed 11x17"
Rev. 00	

**Figure 1**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## Join us live! New Webinar on Climate Change and the Community Access Road

---

MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

16 January 2024 at 16:21

The Community Access Road webinar series is back. Our next webinar is on **Climate Change Adaptation and the Community Access Road**. The Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency Study looks at the future climate to ensure the Community Access Road is prepared for and can withstand the future climate. We are also eager to hear about changes you have observed or experienced on the land over time.

The webinar will take place **Thursday, February 8, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST**.

You can register for the webinar at the link below and respond to this email with any questions you'd like answered: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ze04DSZmSqSZS8c5kl9vRQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ze04DSZmSqSZS8c5kl9vRQ)

There are more webinars to come! To stay up to date on the Webinar schedule or to view past webinars, visit our [website](#).

Sincerely,  
Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Team

—  
MFFN Community Access Road Project Team  
Visit our website: <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>  
Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MFFNCommunityAccessRoadProject/>  
Call us: 1 800-764-9114  
Email us: [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca)



January 18, 2024

Aroland First Nation



*Sent via email*

***Subject: Response to Aroland First Nation's November 17, 2023, ATRI Forum letter***

Dear Chief Gagnon,

We would like to congratulate the Aroland First Nation Chief and Council on their election and provide best wishes for the years ahead.

Thank you for the letter from former Chief Dorothy Towedo, on November 17, 2023, in response to the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum #2 (Forum) held in Thunder Bay on November 21 – 23, 2023. We appreciate you letting us know that Aroland First Nation's decision to not attend the Forum wasn't because of a lack of willingness to participate in engagement activities. We understand that, unfortunately, the timing of the Forum coincided with Aroland First Nation's election period.

We also appreciate you providing your perspectives and feedback on the Forum. Regarding your concerns on privacy, the Forum was not a public event. It was a closed session with invitations extended to those Indigenous communities, including Aroland First Nation, who are scoped into the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR), Webequie Supply Road (WSR) and Northern Road Link (NRL) project assessments. Similar to the Forum hosted earlier this year (February 8th and 9th), in which Aroland First Nation attended, Participants were provided with private meeting spaces to engage one-on-one with representatives from each of the Projects (MFFN CAR, WSR, and NRL). All meetings were confidential and as is standard practice, any information shared by Participants during those one-on-one breakout sessions will be provided back to those Participants for review and comment.





As a First Nation proponent, Marten Falls First Nation respects and understands the interdependency between Indigenous Knowledge and Aboriginal and / or Treaty rights, and we are respectful of following community-specific protocols for collecting, sharing, and using Indigenous Knowledge. We, therefore, did not want the Forum to be perceived as a place where the Proponents were collecting Indigenous Knowledge from Participants, thereby bypassing community protocols. To address confidentiality, sharing and the use of Indigenous Knowledge in the assessment processes, Marten Falls First Nation launched the MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Program in 2019. Over the past several years, Marten Falls First Nation has prepared and provided an Indigenous Knowledge Guidance Document, proactively shared schedule updates related to sharing information, provided ongoing program updates, distributed a sharing agreement template, and offered additional funding to support Aroland First Nation in collecting and sharing project-specific Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use information. We look forward to continuing to support Aroland First Nation in sharing any information you choose as it relates to the proposed Project, and your Indigenous Knowledge and Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests.

As you are aware, the Forum is just one of many opportunities we have to engage Aroland First Nation on the proposed Project and your rights and interests related to it. Over the last couple of years, in addition to our on-going Project communications and engagement events (e.g., value component webinars), Aroland First Nation has participated in a helicopter fly-over to visually inspect three groundwater sites, attended the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum #1, and met with Marten Falls First Nation for a Nation-to-Nation meeting to discuss relationship building, any concerns/issues, future engagement, and next steps. We are very pleased that we now have a communications protocol in place and are confident that this will further allow the two communities to come together. We look forward to discussing further how best to consult and engage Aroland First Nation, and to gaining a better understanding Aroland First Nation's rights and interests related to the proposed Project.

We are eager to set up a meeting with Aroland First Nation to discuss the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge, the assessment of Aboriginal and / or Treaty rights and interests, and the proposed Project in general. If you could advise of some dates and times that work for you in January and/or February, we can work on setting the meeting up.



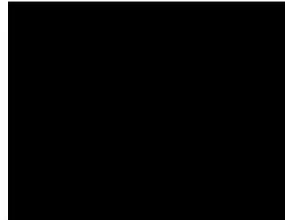


We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Qasim Saddique  
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter  
Senior Community Member Advisor

cc:

- Jerry Shabogamik, Aroland First Nation Community Consultation Coordinator
- Richard Herbert, Aroland First Nation Band Manager
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Laura Sayers, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Rojin Amani, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Meghan Buckham, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 19 January 2024 at 13:48  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

My apologies! - I did not finish my thought on the last bullet point in the key items list:

- We discussed the ATRI Existing Conditions Report and Milestone #2 Progress Report and that Aroland First Nation will strive to provide feedback on both reports by February 15, 2024.

Please reach out if you need anything else from our team.

Have a great weekend,  
 Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 7 February 2024 at 16:03  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I was hoping we could schedule a time to discuss project updates regarding the MFFN CAR, as well as any information you might have to share after the inauguration of Aroland First Nation's Chief and Council.

Please let me know a few times that might work for you. I am free most of the day this Friday or next Monday.

If there is anything I can provide in the meantime, please let me know.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 9 February 2024 at 10:52  
 To: [redacted]  
 Cc: [redacted], Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>  
 <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>

Hi Richard,

Thank you for the update. I will ensure Councillor Baxter is included going forward.

Have a good weekend,  
 Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 15 February 2024 at 15:27  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thanks for the update!

We will look forward to receiving Aroland First Nation's comments once available.

Have a great long weekend,  
Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  

**Out of Office February 16 - 19, 2024**





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

22 February 2024 at 17:37

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: [redacted], Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
 Bcc: Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>

Good Afternoon Andrew,

I am reaching out today with a few Project updates and questions for Aroland First Nation.

Thank you again for providing comments on the ATRI Existing Conditions Report on behalf of Aroland First Nation. I noticed that Aroland First Nation Chief and Council were cc'd. Could you please provide direction on whether or not Chief and Council should be included on future correspondence?

It has come to my attention that some Aroland First Nation contacts potentially did not receive some January correspondence from the Project email. The issue has been corrected on our end. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. If you would like to review the some of the information that may have been missed, please review the Winter 2024 Field Notice and January E-blast on the Project website under News/Events at <https://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>

### MFFN CAR Webinars

The Climate Change Adaptation and the CAR webinar was held virtually on February 8, 2024. For those who were unable to attend or would like to view the webinar again, a recording is available at <https://vimeo.com/showcase/mffn-webinars>

Aroland First Nation's feedback, experience and insights are important to us. To share how Climate Change has/is affecting your community, please see the survey at the following link [redacted]. The survey will take about 5 minutes to complete.

Upcoming webinars include discussions on Engineering and Cumulative Effects and will be coming shortly. Dates and more formal notices will be shared soon.

### Community Coordinator Program

The Community Coordinator Program is still available. Would Aroland First Nation be interested in participating in this program? Are there any questions about the program?

Finally, in our phone call on February 9th, we discussed a potential meeting in Aroland where the MFFN CAR Project Team could present the Project to the community. Do you have any updates to share on when a meeting might be possible?

Please let me know if you'd like to set up a phone call to discuss any of these topics further.

Thank you,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  
  



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Re: MFFN CAR Project Updates**

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 4 March 2024 at 13:41  
To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
Cc: [redacted], Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>  
<[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
Bcc: "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I'm writing to follow up on my previous email. You had mentioned that representatives from Aroland First Nation would be attending PDAC this week, but I am hoping you can provide some insight to the following:

- Could you please confirm whether or not we should go ahead and add the Aroland First Nation Chief and Council emails to our contact list and if you could provide some direction on when they should receive correspondence from the MFFN CAR Project?
- We had previously discussed a potential meeting next week. Since we haven't received any additional details, I wanted to confirm that was no longer the case. Are there any updates you might be able to provide?

Thank you in advance,

Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Vacation Alert: April 1 - 9, 2024 inclusive**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 8 March 2024 at 08:23  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for your quick response.

I have made the updates to our contact list and get back to you as soon as possible with potential meeting dates that work for our team.

I've attached the job description for the Community Coordinator Program here for consideration. We welcome any questions Aroland First Nation may have on the program and are available to meet to discuss any details.

Have a great weekend,

Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Vacation Alert: April 1 - 9, 2024 inclusive**

[Quoted text hidden]

 **2023-03-07-MFFN Community Coordinator Job Posting.pdf**  
 229K



## MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

# WE'RE HIRING!

Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is undertaking a federal Impact Assessment (IA) and provincial environmental assessment (EA) for an all-season access road to our community. To support these studies, we are looking to hire **Community Coordinators**.

**Are you a highly motivated person? Do you have strong organizational and relationship building skills? Would you like to work with a great project team and build experience in environmental management?**

### If so, this could be the role for you!

The Community Coordinator will be a primary point of contact between your community and the MFFN Project Team. We will work closely with you as you help to involve your community in the environmental assessment processes.

### Responsibilities

- Coordinate between the MFFN Project Team and community members living in / outside of your community as per your local practices and in collaboration with Chief and Council;
- Keep informed on Community Access Road Project activities (e.g., timelines, documents, events) and communicate relevant Project information to community members;
- Participate in meetings with the Project Team and other Community Coordinators;
- Provide support for community engagement activities related to the Project including:
  - Coordinate and organize logistics for meetings, workshops, events and / or school visits (e.g., book meeting spaces, order refreshments, help with truck / boat rentals and accommodations);
  - Help identify meeting participants and information providers (e.g., youth and / or elders);
  - Assist with meeting facilitation, note taking and meeting minute preparation, and coordinate translation services, if needed; and
  - Organize distributing Project advertisements and notices in your community; either online or in person (e.g., Facebook or posting in community);
- Assist in collecting data / information in your community (e.g., Indigenous Knowledge, community information and socio-economic information);
- Assist in reviewing draft documents, questionnaires or Project updates / information sheets.

**This position will receive \$25 per hour and is expected to be approximately 16 hours per week for up to 2 years. If you would like to learn more, contact Jennifer Bruin or Niki Angelis at [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca) or 1-800-764-9114.**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 11 March 2024 at 16:52  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>  
 Bcc: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I hope you had a nice weekend.

I wanted to follow up and confirm that the MFFN CAR Project Team's response to Aroland First Nation's November 17, 2023, letter regarding ATRI Forum #2 was received. I have reattached it to this email for reference.

In addition, I wanted to follow up to confirm that the draft preliminary route selection mapping was received.

Please let us know if there are any questions or concerns regarding either item mentioned above.

Sincerely,  
Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Vacation Alert: April 1 - 9, 2024 inclusive**

[Quoted text hidden]

 **L-Aroland First Nation\_Response to ATRI Forum Letter.pdf**  
 351K



January 18, 2024

Aroland First Nation



*Sent via email*

***Subject: Response to Aroland First Nation's November 17, 2023, ATRI Forum letter***

Dear Chief Gagnon,

We would like to congratulate the Aroland First Nation Chief and Council on their election and provide best wishes for the years ahead.

Thank you for the letter from former Chief Dorothy Towedo, on November 17, 2023, in response to the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum #2 (Forum) held in Thunder Bay on November 21 – 23, 2023. We appreciate you letting us know that Aroland First Nation's decision to not attend the Forum wasn't because of a lack of willingness to participate in engagement activities. We understand that, unfortunately, the timing of the Forum coincided with Aroland First Nation's election period.

We also appreciate you providing your perspectives and feedback on the Forum. Regarding your concerns on privacy, the Forum was not a public event. It was a closed session with invitations extended to those Indigenous communities, including Aroland First Nation, who are scoped into the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR), Webequie Supply Road (WSR) and Northern Road Link (NRL) project assessments. Similar to the Forum hosted earlier this year (February 8th and 9th), in which Aroland First Nation attended, Participants were provided with private meeting spaces to engage one-on-one with representatives from each of the Projects (MFFN CAR, WSR, and NRL). All meetings were confidential and as is standard practice, any information shared by Participants during those one-on-one breakout sessions will be provided back to those Participants for review and comment.





As a First Nation proponent, Marten Falls First Nation respects and understands the interdependency between Indigenous Knowledge and Aboriginal and / or Treaty rights, and we are respectful of following community-specific protocols for collecting, sharing, and using Indigenous Knowledge. We, therefore, did not want the Forum to be perceived as a place where the Proponents were collecting Indigenous Knowledge from Participants, thereby bypassing community protocols. To address confidentiality, sharing and the use of Indigenous Knowledge in the assessment processes, Marten Falls First Nation launched the MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Program in 2019. Over the past several years, Marten Falls First Nation has prepared and provided an Indigenous Knowledge Guidance Document, proactively shared schedule updates related to sharing information, provided ongoing program updates, distributed a sharing agreement template, and offered additional funding to support Aroland First Nation in collecting and sharing project-specific Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use information. We look forward to continuing to support Aroland First Nation in sharing any information you choose as it relates to the proposed Project, and your Indigenous Knowledge and Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests.

As you are aware, the Forum is just one of many opportunities we have to engage Aroland First Nation on the proposed Project and your rights and interests related to it. Over the last couple of years, in addition to our on-going Project communications and engagement events (e.g., value component webinars), Aroland First Nation has participated in a helicopter fly-over to visually inspect three groundwater sites, attended the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum #1, and met with Marten Falls First Nation for a Nation-to-Nation meeting to discuss relationship building, any concerns/issues, future engagement, and next steps. We are very pleased that we now have a communications protocol in place and are confident that this will further allow the two communities to come together. We look forward to discussing further how best to consult and engage Aroland First Nation, and to gaining a better understanding Aroland First Nation's rights and interests related to the proposed Project.

We are eager to set up a meeting with Aroland First Nation to discuss the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge, the assessment of Aboriginal and / or Treaty rights and interests, and the proposed Project in general. If you could advise of some dates and times that work for you in January and/or February, we can work on setting the meeting up.





We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Qasim Saddique  
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter  
Senior Community Member Advisor

cc:

- Jerry Shabogamik, Aroland First Nation Community Consultation Coordinator
- Richard Herbert, Aroland First Nation Band Manager
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Laura Sayers, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Rojin Amani, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Meghan Buckham, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 21 March 2024 at 14:52  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>  
 Bcc: Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for the emails following up on Aroland First Nation's comments on the Community Coordinator Program and for confirming receipt of the November 17, 2023, letter sent by the MFFN CAR Project Team. I have a few updates on the MFFN CAR Project to share below:

### Route Selection

A Route Selection Webinar was held on November 16, 2023. A recording of the webinar can be found at this link: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/mffn-webinars>

I had shared some mapping of the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation with you on January 18th but I have reattached it here if you could please share that with Chief Gagnon and Council.

As work on the CAR progresses, we continue to use community feedback to revise the route for the road. An updated technically preferred route recommendation\* has been identified. Please find a video with updated information below:

[Marten Falls First Nation: Community Access Road Update](#)

*\*The technically preferred route recommendation is preliminary. The route will be further informed through consideration of Indigenous Knowledge.*

### New Social Media Platforms

We are now on [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) - You are welcome to follow these platforms to stay up to date on the MFFN CAR Project.

### Community Coordinator Program

You have asked that the MFFN CAR Project Team reach out to Aroland First Nation to discuss alternative uses for the funding that's available through the Community Coordinator Program. I have noted this and will bring this back to the team for discussion.

### ATRI Existing Conditions Report

We have received Aroland First Nation's comments on the Draft ATRI Existing Conditions Report on February 16, 2024. A response will be shared shortly.

### Milestone #2 Progress Report

A link to your community-specific Milestone #2 Progress Report was shared with you on November 29, 2023, and covers all consultation with Aroland First Nation from July 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023. You let me know that Aroland First Nation would require more time to review the report and had previously suggested that February 23rd might work to provide feedback. Do you have any updates on when we might receive feedback on this report?

I am working with the Project Team to find some dates that might work to present the Project to the community and will send those as soon as I have them. Please let us know if you have any suggested dates.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Vacation Alert: March 30, April 2 - 9, 2024 inclusive**

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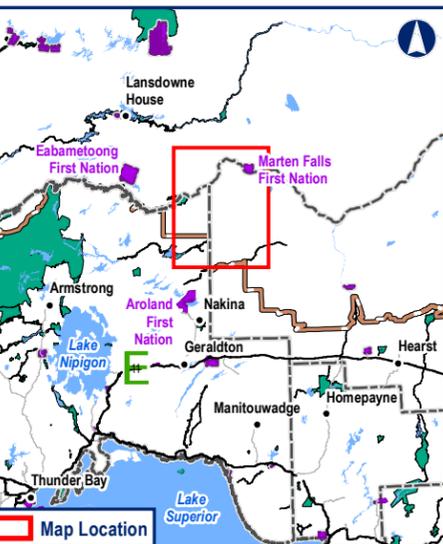
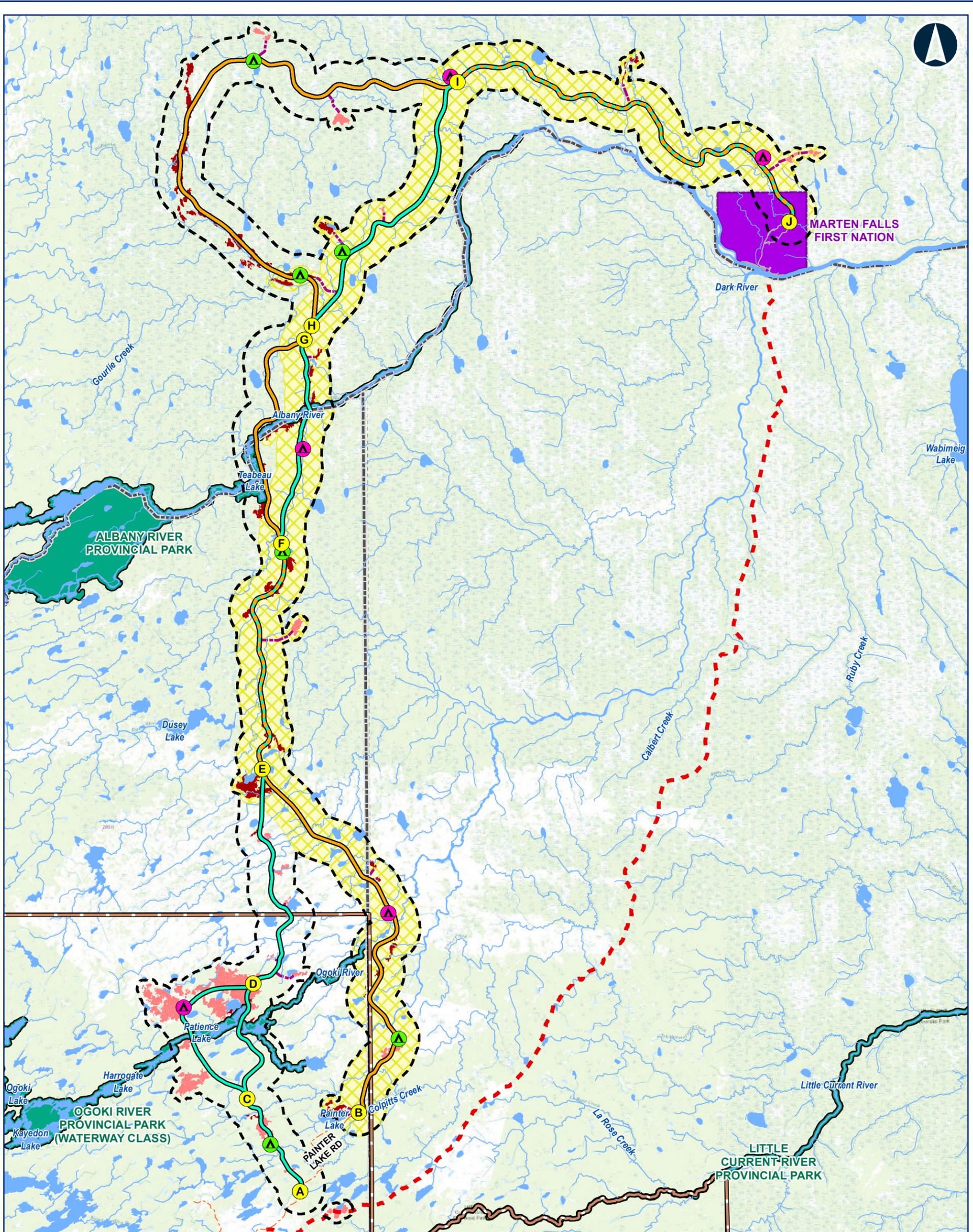
2 attachments



**MAP\_Draft Tech\_Prefered\_Route\_Revision 2.jpg**  
104K



**MAP\_Draft Tech\_Prefered\_Route\_Revision 2.pdf**  
2228K



**Legend**

- Segment Node**: (A) 50 Persons, (B) 200 Persons
- Study Area**: Dashed black line
- Route Alternatives**:
  - Alternative 1: Solid orange line
  - Alternative 4: Solid green line
  - Preliminary Technically Preferred Route: Yellow hatched area
- Potential Camp Site**:
  - 50 Persons: Green triangle
  - 200 Persons: Pink triangle
- Potential Aggregate Source**:
  - Bedrock: Red square
  - Sand and gravel: Dark red square
  - Approximate Access Road to Potential Aggregate Site: Dashed pink line
- General Features**:
  - Local Road: Solid grey line
  - Resource / Recreation Road: Dashed orange line
  - MFFN Existing Winter Access Road: Red dashed line
- Watercourse**: Blue wavy line
- Waterbody**: Blue irregular shape
- First Nation Reserve**: Purple square
- Provincial Park**: Green square
- Far North Boundary**: Dashed brown line
- District Municipal Boundary**: Dashed grey line

**Data Source:**  
 Base Data: Provided by MNR 2023; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2021. Contains Information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.  
 Aerial photography provided by:  
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase,

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

**Technically Preferred Route  
Recommendation Revision 2**

0 5 10 20  
Kilometres

Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

Dec, 2023	1:400,000 *when printed 11"x17"
Rev: 00	

**Figure 1**

Contains information provided by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks or by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (Copyright Queen's Printer of Ontario 2020), through a Sensitive Data License Agreement. This drawing has been prepared for use of AECOM client and may not be reproduced or relied upon by third parties, except as agreed by AECOM and its client, as required by law or for use by governmental reviewing agencies. AECOM accepts no responsibility, and denies any liability whatsoever, to any party that modifies this drawing without AECOM express written consent. The use of Sensitive Data in this drawing does not constitute an endorsement by the Ministry for this drawing or by AECOM of the Sensitive Data.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Aroland First Nation**

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>

26 March 2024 at 15:44

Hi Andrew,

I am looking to send a letter on behalf of Chief Achneepineskum to Chief Gagnon.

Could you please confirm the names of the Aroland First Nation Councillors and provide their emails if possible?

Thank you!  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  




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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 27 March 2024 at 14:17  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Good Afternoon Chief Gagnon and Andrew,

Please find a letter from Chief Achneepineskum attached.

I am out of office from April 2 to April 9. My colleague Lucia (cc'd to this email) can be contacted at [redacted] for any questions or concerns during that time.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 27 March 2024 at 14:30  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

My apologies - the letter is now attached below.

Thank you,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

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 161K



## MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION #65

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Ogoki Post, Ontario P0T 2L0 Tel: (807) 349-2509 Fax: (807) 349-2511

March 27, 2024

Aroland First Nation  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Sent via email*

***Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation***

Dear Chief Sonny Gagnon,

Congratulations on your election as the new Chief of Aroland First Nation, and on the appointment of several new Council members. We regret that we were unable to come together and congratulate you in person at our meeting scheduled for March 6 at Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), however, we are optimistic we will be able to do so in the near future.

On behalf of Marten Falls First Nation, we are reaching out again today to reconnect and re-engage with Aroland First Nation and your new Council on some important items regarding the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) Project that were underway with former Chief Dorothy Towedo, including but not limited to:

- A relationship building meeting between Aroland First Nation Chief and Council and MFFN Chief and Council, and/or the MFFN CAR Project Team;
- A meeting in Aroland First Nation to present the Project to the community;
- The sharing and collection of Indigenous Knowledge, Socio-Economic and Cultural Heritage information in relation to the MFFN CAR Project; and,
- The scheduling of regular update meetings with Aroland First Nation.

We believe it is important to continue to move forward with relationship-building and consulting with Aroland First Nation on the Project. Although the MFFN CAR Project had planned to release the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement (EA / IS) this summer, this release has been delayed considering that we have not yet received Aroland First Nation's input, knowledge and perspectives. We are now planning to release the Draft EA / IS later in the fall and look forward to your input in time for that.

It is our understanding that in order to move forward with Aroland First Nation and to receive your community's insights and perspectives, a Nation-to-Nation meeting as well as an in-community presentation of the MFFN CAR Project are necessary. We would like to suggest April 19, 2024, as a possible date our Council and members from the Project Team would be available to meet with Aroland First Nation Council, and present to your community. We would like to suggest a meeting between both Councils earlier in the day and a Project presentation to your community later in the afternoon / evening of the same day. We are, however, open to suggestions of what might work best for you.

Please have your consultant reach out to our consultant to confirm a meeting date and coordinate logistics for the meetings.

We are very much looking forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,



Chief Bruce Achneepineskum  
Marten Falls First Nation

cc:

- Councillor Joe Baxter, Aroland First Nation
- Councillor Mark Bell, Aroland First Nation
- Councillor Bernard Gagnon, Aroland First Nation
- Councillor Chad Kashkish, Aroland First Nation
- Councillor Eunice Magiskan, Aroland First Nation
- Councillor Tyrell Gagnon, Aroland First Nation
- Richard Herbert, Aroland First Nation Band Administrator
- Andrew Peach, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Rojin Amani, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Meghan Buckham, Aroland First Nation Consultant
- Councillor Linda Moonias, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Shane Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Maria Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Paul Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Rob Moonias, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Bob Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Russell Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
- Councillor Yvonne Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation
- Lawrence Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation, Senior Community Member Advisor
- Jennifer Bruin, MFFN CAR Project Team



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 27 March 2024 at 15:56  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Following up on the letter, reattached here, I wanted to provide some clarification in regards to the meeting proposed on April 19th. We would like to propose a Nation-to-Nation meeting in **Thunder Bay on the morning of April 19th**, as many community representatives will be in Thunder Bay for the Matawa meeting.

Please let us know if there are any comments or questions.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

**Vacation Alert: March 30, April 2 - 9, 2024 inclusive**

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Jara Moreno, Lucia <[REDACTED]>

# Re: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[REDACTED]> Wed, Apr 3, 2024 at 10:08 AM  
 To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, Linda Moonias <[REDACTED]>, Shane Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Maria Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>, Robert Moonias <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>, Yvonne Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, [REDACTED]

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me this morning.

Following up on the new dates suggested by Chief Bruce for the Nation to Nation meeting.

We had originally proposed April 19th, however the community announced cultural days April 19-21st. The Chief is now suggesting a dinner meeting on **April 17th or 18th with AFN Council in Thunder Bay.**

Please let me know if either of these dates would work for AFN.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Thanks

Lucia



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[redacted]> 3 April 2024 at 15:21  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, [redacted] <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Appreciate the quick response.

**I can confirm April 19th 9am EST to 2pm EST in Thunder Bay works for the Nation to Nation meeting.**

We will take care of location arrangements/food - are there any preferences for either of those items?

Thanks,

Lucia



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[redacted]> 5 April 2024 at 11:33  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

We understand and can confirm that consultant and legal counsel will not be participating in the Nation to Nation meeting.

Have a great weekend,

Lucia



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation**

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[redacted]> 5 April 2024 at 11:45  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Apologies for the confusion. We understand consultants and legal counsel will not be participating in the Nation to Nation meeting but we are making sure the Chief and Council agrees. I will keep you posted on a final confirmation.

Lucia



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>

12 April 2024 at 10:09

Hi Andrew,

Would you be available for a quick chat this morning?

I am just getting up to speed after my time off and wanted to make sure we are all on the same page.

Thank you,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>

12 April 2024 at 10:29

Yes, that works for me. I will call you around 11!

Talk to you soon,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 12 April 2024 at 14:37  
 To: [redacted]  
 Cc: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, " [redacted] ", [redacted], Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted]

Hi Richard,

I spoke with Andrew on the phone earlier today to discuss the meeting details.

I can confirm that we are arranging for the venue and food/refreshments for the meeting on Friday April 19, from 9 am - 2 pm. We are working on finalizing the other details and will provide that information, as well as a meeting agenda, as soon as they are confirmed.

Thank you,

Kyla

On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
To: Laura Sayers <[redacted]>  
Cc: Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>

17 April 2024 at 14:32

Hi Laura,

Chief Achneepineskum sent an email on Monday (attached) and confirmed that MFFN will have a recorder/note taker present. It is my understanding that Jerry is welcome to join the meeting.

I have updated our proposed agenda based on the agenda you provided and attached it here for your review.

We are currently working on the zoom meeting details and will share that information plus the agenda to all attendees ASAP.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  

### 2 attachments

-  **Dillon Consulting Limited Mail - Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation.pdf**  
87K
-  **AGN-Aroland-FN-2024-04-19-Proposed-Nations-Meeting-Agenda-60593122-V2.docx**  
1478K



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

**Bruce Achneepineskum** [redacted] 15 April 2024 at 16:12  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" [redacted]  
 Cc: Laura Sayers [redacted], Chief Sonny Gagnon [redacted], Councillor Joe Baxter [redacted],  
 Councillor Mark Bell [redacted], Councillor Bernard Gagnon [redacted],  
 Councillor Chad Kashkish [redacted], Councillor Eunice Magiskan [redacted], Councillor Tyrell Gagnon [redacted],  
 Richard Herbert [redacted], Linda Moonias [redacted], Shane Baxter [redacted],  
 Maria Baxter [redacted], Paul Achneepineskum [redacted], Robert Moonias [redacted],  
 Bob Baxter [redacted], Russell Achneepineskum [redacted], Yvonne Baxter [redacted],  
 Lawrence Baxter [redacted], Qasim Saddique [redacted], Jennifer Bruin [redacted],  
 MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Jeremy Shute [redacted],  
 Andrew Peach [redacted],  
 "Jara Moreno, Lucia" [redacted]

Good afternoon, so the venue is delta hotel by marina and time is 9-2 pm with breakfast and lunch provided . This meeting is for Council to Council only and a recorder- assistant provided by each FN . Other than Council members and recorder - assistant no other staff or consultants will be there. A zoom should be set up also if Council that can't make it can join.



# Agenda

**Subject:** Nation-to-Nation Meeting  
**Date:** April 19, 2024  
**Timing:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Delta Hotels by Marriott  
 2240 Sleeping Giant Pkwy, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 0E7  
**Venue:** Ballroom C  
**Zoom Meeting Link:**  
**Co-Chairs:** Chief Sonny Gagnon and Chief Bruce Achneepineskum  
**Purpose:** To provide an opportunity for Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation Councils to meet to discuss issues and a path forward for working together and engaging on the MFFN Community Access Road in a respectful way.

**Attendees:**

Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation
Chief Sonny Gagnon	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Councillor Bernard Gagnon	Councillor Linda Moonias
Councillor Chad Kashkish	Councillor Shane Baxter
Councillor Eunice Magiskan	Councillor Maria Baxter
Councillor Mark Bell	Councillor Paul Achneepineskum
Councillor Joe Baxter	Councillor Rob Moonias
Councillor Tyrell Gagnon	Councillor Bob Baxter
Recorder/Note Taker – Jerry Shabogamik	Councillor Russell Achneepineskum
	Councillor Yvonne Baxter
	Recorder/Note Taker - TBD

**Agenda Items:**

Agenda Item	Topic of Discussion	Lead/Facilitator	Timing
1.	Breakfast Buffet	-	8:50 a.m.
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Co-chairs	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
3.	Opening Remarks & Purpose of the Meeting	Co-chairs	
4.	Project Background and History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why a community access road?</li> </ul>	Chief Achneepineskum	





# MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MFFN CAR Project</li> <li>• Project Benefits</li> <li>• Anaconda/Painter Lake Road Project update from Aroland</li> <li>• Project Timelines</li> </ul>		
5.	Coffee Break	-	10:30 - 10:45 a.m.
6.	Communication Protocol Agreement between Aroland First Nation and MFFN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any changes needed?</li> <li>• Are both parties satisfied with the protocol?</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	10:45 - 11:50 a.m.
7.	Lunch	-	11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
8.	The Path Forward Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community meeting in Aroland to present the Project</li> <li>• Relationship building</li> <li>• Information sharing</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
9.	Actions and Next Steps	Co-chairs	1:45 - 2:00 p.m.
10.	Closing Remarks	Co-chairs	2:00 p.m.





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

18 April 2024 at 16:47

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
 To: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>  
 Cc: b[redacted], Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>

Good Afternoon,

A proposed agenda for the Nation-to-Nation meeting scheduled for tomorrow is attached.

**Date:** April 19, 2024  
**Time:** 9 am - 2 pm  
**Location:** Delta Hotel, 2240 Sleeping Giant Pkwy, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 0E7  
**Venue:** Ballroom C

**Parking:** Please be advised that the parking lot directly in front of the hotel, between the hotel & splash pad, is managed by the City of Thunder Bay who are enforcing the 3 hour parking limit as posted and are issuing parking tickets. Complimentary parking is located off the Pearl Street entrance.

**Food & Drinks:** Breakfast, lunch and refreshments will be provided.

The Zoom virtual meeting link will be sent out shortly. Anyone who is unable to attend the meeting in person will be able to join the meeting virtually through the link.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Best wishes for your meeting tomorrow,  
 Kyla  
 On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



# Agenda

**Subject:** Nation-to-Nation Meeting  
**Date:** April 19, 2024  
**Timing:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Delta Hotels by Marriott  
 2240 Sleeping Giant Pkwy, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 0E7  
**Venue:** Ballroom C  
**Co-Chairs:** Chief Sonny Gagnon and Chief Bruce Achneepineskum  
**Purpose:** To provide an opportunity for Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation Councils to meet to discuss issues and a path forward for working together and engaging on the MFFN Community Access Road in a respectful way.

**Attendees:**

Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation
Chief Sonny Gagnon	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Councillor Bernard Gagnon	Councillor Linda Moonias
Councillor Chad Kashkish	Councillor Shane Baxter
Councillor Eunice Magiskan	Councillor Maria Baxter
Councillor Mark Bell	Councillor Paul Achneepineskum
Councillor Joe Baxter	Councillor Rob Moonias
Councillor Tyrell Gagnon	Councillor Bob Baxter
Recorder/Note Taker – Jerry Shabogamik	Councillor Russell Achneepineskum
	Councillor Yvonne Baxter
	Recorder/Note Taker - TBD

**Agenda Items:**

Agenda Item	Topic of Discussion	Lead/Facilitator	Timing
1.	Breakfast Buffet	-	8:50 a.m.
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Co-chairs	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
3.	Opening Remarks & Purpose of the Meeting	Co-chairs	
4.	Project Background and History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why a community access road?</li> <li>The MFFN CAR Project</li> <li>Project Benefits</li> </ul>	Chief Achneepineskum	





# MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anaconda/Painter Lake Road Project update from Aroland</li> <li>Project Timelines</li> </ul>		
5.	Coffee Break	-	10:30 - 10:45 a.m.
6.	Communication Protocol Agreement between Aroland First Nation and MFFN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there any changes needed?</li> <li>Are both parties satisfied with the protocol?</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	10:45 - 11:50 a.m.
7.	Lunch	-	11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
8.	The Path Forward Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community meeting in Aroland to present the Project</li> <li>Relationship building</li> <li>Information sharing</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
9.	Actions and Next Steps	Co-chairs	1:45 - 2:00 p.m.
10.	Closing Remarks	Co-chairs	2:00 p.m.





Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Re: Potential May 28th Marten Falls-Aroland meeting in Thunder Bay

Qasim Saddique <[redacted]> 22 May 2024 at 10:11  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, " " <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>

Good morning Andrew,

I hope you had a good long weekend. Things are good on our side, thank you.

I have been asked by Marten Falls to come to the community for community meetings with Chief and Council on the 28th and 29th. Lawrence Baxter is able to come and provide project updates with Don McKinnon, who has worked on the project from the start with our team, if we are able to meet in the morning of the 28th. Lawrence has existing commitments in the afternoon and would appreciate an opportunity to meet in the morning. If you are able to accommodate us early in the morning, I would also likely be able to attend since the charter departs at around noon.

Alternatively, I know we spoke about other dates that week that might be possible for the meeting. If that is possible then we would be able to meet on Thursday, May 30th in the afternoon.

I hope we can make one of those opportunities work and would really appreciate you accommodating our request. If a phone call works better to talk about availability, please call me at my number below. I am available most of the day.

Best wishes,  
Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**  
 Principal Consultant  
 Suslop

---

 [redacted]  
 ([redacted])  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]

 [suslop.com](https://suslop.com)



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[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

## Re: Potential May 28th Marten Falls-Aroland meeting in Thunder Bay

Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]> 22 May 2024 at 12:06  
 To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>, " [REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Jeremy Shute <[REDACTED]>, Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Don McKinnon <[REDACTED]>

Hello Andrew,

Thank you for this quick confirmation.

I have been informed that the departure is just before noon and we will need to be there for around 10:30 am. We would really appreciate being able to meet at 9 am and will likely need to leave around 10:15 am. The hanger is usually a 10-15 minute drive from most places in Thunder Bay.

Thank you for this flexibility, we really appreciate it.

Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**

Principal Consultant

Suslop

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 [REDACTED]  
 ([REDACTED])  
 [REDACTED]  
 [suslop.com](http://suslop.com)

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Phone call

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>  
To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>

22 May 2024 at 13:00

Hi Andrew,

Are you available for a quick phone call today?

We would like to share an opportunity for Aroland First Nation to participate in Groundwater Monitoring but it is fairly time sensitive.

I am free the rest of this afternoon.

Thank you!  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

# MFFN CAR Groundwater and Geochemistry Program - Field Work Participation

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 22 May 2024 at 17:54  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Thanks for taking the time to speak with me this afternoon.

As I mentioned in our call, the MFFN CAR Groundwater and Geochemistry Program Spring sampling event is anticipated to take place from June 2 - 9 and we would like to invite Aroland First Nation to participate in this field work. Key details for are highlighted below:

- This sampling will be happening at the same locations where the groundwater wells were previously installed. However, this work will not be as strenuous and will only require collecting water samples from those wells.
- One Aroland First Nation community member is invited to participate as a field assistant and we anticipate they will help to complete 50% of the sampling during the event.
- The field assistant must be available for onboarding and safety training next week. Once the field assistant is identified, our team will reach out with additional details for the onboarding.
- The field assistant will be required to stay with the field team for the duration of the program (tentatively June 2 - 9).
- The field assistant will be required to meet with the crew in Geraldton and will have to coordinate the travel to Geraldton on their own.
- Payment for the field assistant is \$25/hour up to a maximum of \$300/day.
- The field assistant will be required to fill out a paper time card provided by WSP, but this will also need to be filled out online and therefore will require access to the internet.
- We need to know **by Friday May 24th** if a field assistant has been identified to participate in the monitoring and will require their name and contact information.

We understand that this is a bit of a tight turnaround due to how the scheduling has lined up. We wanted to highlight that there will be two other sampling events happening as part of this program, which are anticipated to happen in the Summer and Fall of this year. More details are provided in the April 17, 2024, Spring Field Notice, which I have attached to this email.

Please reach out with any questions you have after you speak with Jerry tomorrow morning.

I have cc'd some folks on this email who are helping to coordinate this work, just in case they have updates or other information to share.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited



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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

good day

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 23 May 2024 at 11:35  
 To: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>,  
 Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>,  
 Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid"  
 <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Lucia  
 Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Jerry,

Thanks very much for the update! I hope that we are able to find someone who is interested in participating.

Please note that we will require confirmation by the end of the day **tomorrow** if someone is interested. They will need to be available to attend onboarding and safety training next week.

If we are not able to find someone who can participate in this round of groundwater sampling, there will be 2 other opportunities to participate in the sampling later this year.

If there are any questions that come up, please feel free to send me an email or call my cellphone at [redacted].

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

good afternoon .

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 23 May 2024 at 16:14  
 To: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>,  
 Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>,  
 Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid"  
 <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis,  
 Niki" <[redacted]>

Hi Jerry,

Could you please provide me with [redacted] phone number and I will have someone reach out to them with the details?

In the meantime, you can let [redacted] know:

- Must be available for onboarding/safety training next week. Someone will reach out from a company called "Artech" to coordinate those details, including setting up payment for the work.
- The field work is tentatively scheduled for June 2-9. Someone from a company called "WSP" will reach out when the onboarding/training is set up.
- The location in Geraldton will be provided by WSP once the onboarding/training is complete next week.

Please let me know if you want me to include anything else or if any of those details are incorrect.

Thanks,  
Kyla



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)  






Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## re onboard training names

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 24 May 2024 at 10:13  
 To: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>,  
 Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Andrew  
 Dieleman <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>,  
 "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki"  
 <[redacted]>

Hi Jerry,

Thank you for providing that information. I will send it to the team right now and hopefully we will be able to get [redacted] or [redacted] set up to participate in the field work!

If there are any questions, please reach out.

Have a great weekend,  
Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## re onboard training names

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 28 May 2024 at 08:20  
 To: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>,  
 Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Andrew  
 Dieleman <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>,  
 "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki"  
 <[redacted]>

Good Morning Jerry,

We have been notified that the phone number for [redacted] is not in service. Are you able to confirm his phone number or maybe provide another phone number where we could reach him?

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 www.dillon.ca  
  



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## re onboard training names

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 28 May 2024 at 10:59  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor  
 Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman  
 <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin  
 <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>,  
 "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki"  
 <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

I can confirm that the new number for [redacted] is also not working, as it says the new number is not assigned when calling. Any ideas on how else to get in contact with [redacted]

We have reached out to [redacted] as well, but are waiting to hear back from him. I will let you know if/when we hear from him.

Thanks for your help,

Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
Dillon Consulting Limited

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Aroland First Nation - MFFN CAR Project Meetings June 19 & 20

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 13 June 2024 at 15:42  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Good Afternoon Andrew,

We are looking forward to our meetings with Aroland First Nation next week! I have a few questions regarding the meetings below:

For the Wednesday meeting, we have prepared for no more than 30-35 Aroland First Nation community members to attend. Can you please advise if this number will work? We can adjust the catering order if needed.

Could you please advise of the best payment method for the dinner on Thursday evening? If cash is preferred, could you provide an approximate cost so we can plan accordingly?

Please reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss any plans for the meeting.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*




Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited  
[redacted]  
www.dillon.ca

*Inclusiveness: Enabling belonging to draw strength from our differences.*

**Traveling for work & limited availability: June 11 - 14 & June 18 - 21**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Aroland First Nation - MFFN CAR Project Meetings June 19 & 20

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 17 June 2024 at 11:16  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>, "Cugnet, Jaimie" <[redacted]>, "Ratajczak, Gabbie" <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

We have a follow up question regarding the meetings this week. Could you advise if a translator will be needed for either/both of these meetings?

If you could please let us know about the translator, the number of attendees for the meeting on Wednesday and the payment for dinner on Thursday night at your earliest convenience, that would be great.

Thanks very much,

Kyla

*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



Kyla Zielbauer  
Dillon Consulting Limited

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**Traveling for work & limited availability June 17 - 21**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Aroland First Nation - MFFN CAR Project Meetings June 19 & 20

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 18 June 2024 at 16:49  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>, "Cugnet, Jaimie" <[redacted]>, "Ratajczak, Gabbie" <[redacted]>

Good Afternoon,

Andrew, thank you for that information. We will plan accordingly.

Jerry, could you please let us know how Aroland First Nation would like to be paid for the dinner for the meeting on Thursday night? I can call you to discuss if you'd prefer.

Thank you,  
 Kyla  
 On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



Kyla Zielbauer  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)

*Inclusiveness: Enabling belonging to draw strength from our differences.*

**Traveling for work & limited availability June 17 - 21**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 28 June 2024 at 13:53  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>

Hello Andrew,

Thank you for sending this revised version back. We will review it shortly, finalize it, and get this one.

The timeline for July should work but I will update you once I have connected with the team next week.

Have a good long weekend.

Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**

Principal Consultant

Suslop



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[Quoted text hidden]

- <MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement 2024\_CGsigned.pdf>
- <MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement 2024\_CGsigned.pdf>
- <MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement 2023 kk edits.docx>
- <MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement 2023 kk edits.docx>



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Poster for next meeting

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 28 June 2024 at 14:51  
 To: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute  
 <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter  
 <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter  
 <[redacted]>, Ariane Heisey <[redacted]>

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are well.

Please find the poster for the next meeting with Aroland on CAR attached below. Kindly post it internally, as required. We look forward to seeing you later in July. If anything else is needed, please let me know.

Have a good long weekend.

Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**  
 Principal Consultant  
 Suslop



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**MFFN Posters - Aroland.pdf**  
 474K



## **Join us for a meeting with the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR) Project Team!**

The MFFN CAR Project Team will host an Expo style event, with booths covering a range of topics related to the Project and a review of the preliminary technically preferred route.

### **Aroland First Nation Members Only Monday, July 15, 2024**

Superior Inn Hotel & Conference Centre

555 Arthur Street West  
Thunder Bay, On  
P7E 5R5

2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Buffet dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

### **Aroland In-Community Session Tuesday, July 16, 2024**

Johnny Therriault Memorial School,  
Gymnasium

118 Rolland Road  
Aroland First Nation, On  
P0T 1B0

2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

Open to all Aroland First Nation community members.

The meeting will feature:

- Expo with booths including: Environment, Engineering / Construction, Draft EA / IS review process, maps, and more;
- Dinner;
- Kids zone; and
- Prizes including gift cards!



**Have your say. Share your comments, ideas and community values with the Project Team. We look forward to seeing you!**



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 4 July 2024 at 16:59  
 To: Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

Hi Jeremy,

I am just working around summer schedules to line things up on our side.

I should have the updates on my side by tomorrow, so I will try and connect with you either tomorrow or on Monday.

Best wishes,  
Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**  
Principal Consultant  
Suslop

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 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [suslop.com](https://suslop.com)



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[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 5 July 2024 at 13:00  
 To: Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

Hi Jeremy,

Would you have some time on Tuesday to connect on this? I am available between 11 am and 2 pm or at 4 pm.

Thank you,  
Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**  
Principal Consultant  
Suslop

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 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [suslop.com](https://suslop.com)



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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 5 July 2024 at 14:44  
 To: Mark Bell <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

Hello Mark,

We absolutely can.

We don't have the next one scheduled but we can meet on the 15th or 16th, either before the meeting with the community or on the sidelines of that meeting, since we have the entire afternoon booked.

Hope you have a good weekend.

Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**

Principal Consultant

Suslop

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 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [suslop.com](https://suslop.com)



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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

**Qasim Saddique** <[redacted]> 5 July 2024 at 14:51  
 To: Mark Bell <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

I can send a meeting invite for that time and we can do a virtual meeting. Hopefully it works for the entire team and we can pick up with this matter and get the funds moving.

Thanks!

Qasim

**Qasim Saddique MSc, MBA**  
 Principal Consultant  
 Suslop

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 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [suslop.com](https://suslop.com)



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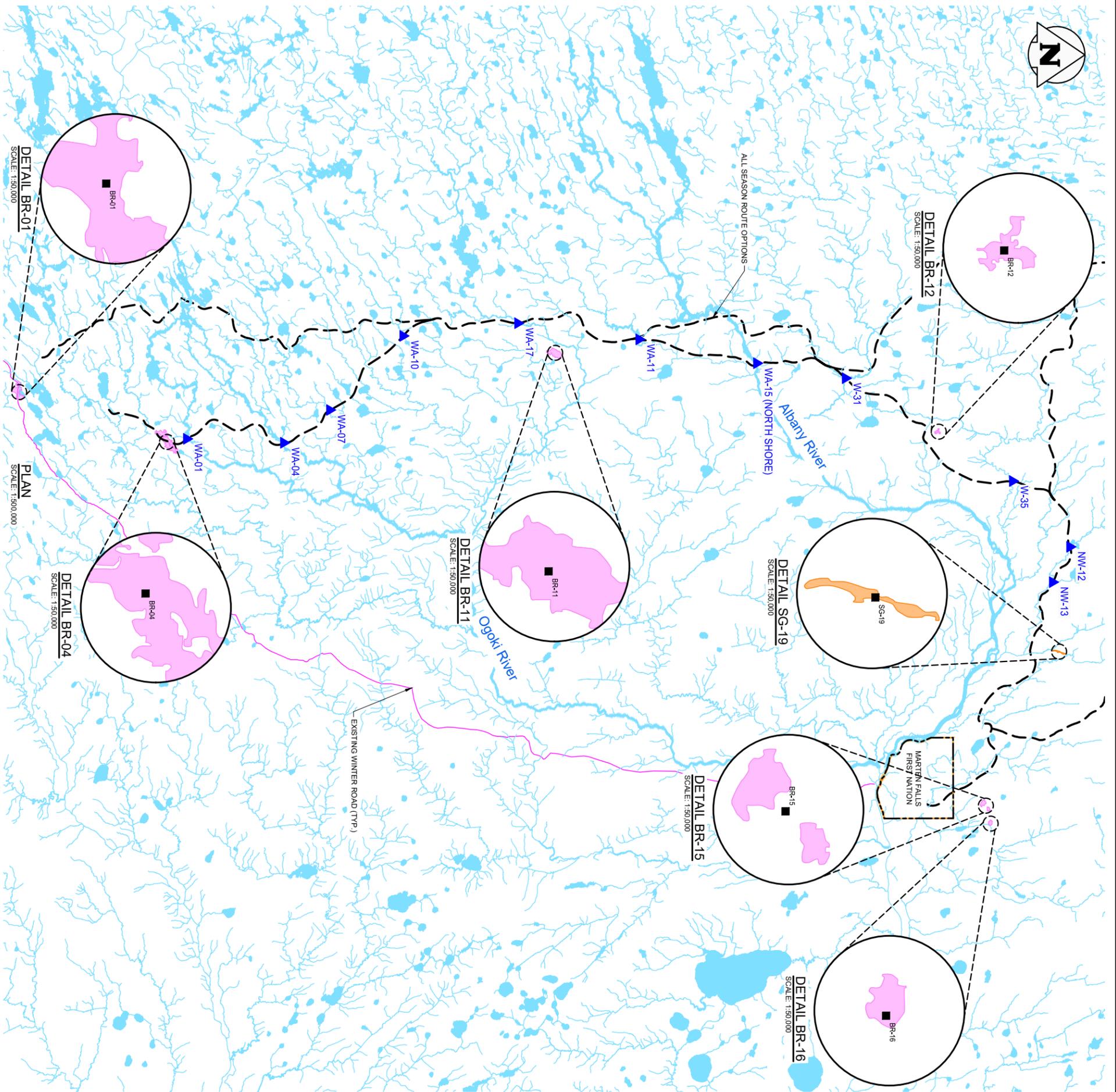
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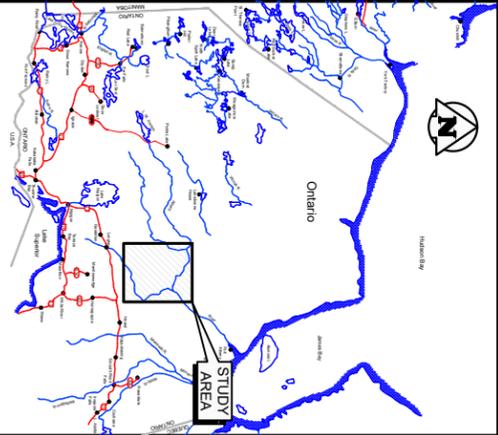
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 **19-0194-001\_RTE\_Fig01\_Rev.B\_V.02.01.pdf**  
2020K



PROPOSED AGGREGATE SITES		
NO.	NORTHING (m)	EASTING (m)
BR-01	5617431	5282899
BR-04	5635040	5341396
BR-11	5681341	5237274
BR-12	5726945	5331055
SC-19	5741504	5593899
BR-15	5732701	577754
BR-16	5733264	579935

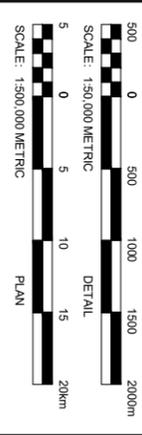
PROPOSED WATER CROSSING		
NO.	NORTHING (m)	EASTING (m)
WA-01	5637506	533935
WA-04	5649073	534405
WA-07	5664547	530489
WA-10	5663282	521642
WA-17	5678960	520124
WA-11	5691413	522057
WA-15 (NORTH SHORE)	5705431	524904
W-31	5718004	526893
W-35	5735924	538973
NW-12	5742745	546827
NW-13	5740884	551043



**LEGEND:**

- BR-12 PROPOSED AGGREGATE SITE
- ▲ WA-31 PROPOSED WATER CROSSING
- EXISTING WINTER ROAD (TYP)
- - - ALL SEASON ROUTE OPTIONS

**ISSUED FOR INFORMATION  
NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION**



NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHECKED
A	24/07/08	ISSUED FOR INFORMATION	CP	RD
B	24/07/11	RE-ISSUED FOR INFORMATION	CP	RD



2024 MFCAR  
 PHASE 1 - SITE INSPECTION AND PERMITTING  
 OGOKI, ONTARIO



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

# MFFN CAR Groundwater Sampling Program - Field Monitor

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[redacted]> 25 July 2024 at 13:43  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, "Anderson, Victoria" <[redacted]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <Leah.Deveaux@aecom.com>, "Trimble, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, "[redacted]", "Price, Katelyn" <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>

Hi Andrew,

Reaching out on behalf of Kyla Zielbauer who is currently off.

We are coordinating efforts for the next groundwater Sampling Program. It has been noted to us that Shawn Megan, who had expressed interest in the Field Monitor position, is no longer available.

Reaching out to you in the hope to identify additional candidates. The preference is for field monitors who have a vehicle and are able to drive themselves to/from Geraldton. The onboarding process is fairly straightforward, we will need:

- name
- phone number
- email address

of the potential candidate, and we'd need them to complete the onboarding/safety training very quickly. A company called Artech would reach out to walk them through that process.

We would need to have a monitor identified and on-boarded by Artech by no later than **noon on Friday, August 2nd** and I would also need to be in contact with them by that time to discuss details on timing, location to meet the crew and PPE needs.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Feel free to give me a call if needed: [redacted]

Thanks

Lucia

--



Lucia Jara Moreno  
 Dillon Consulting Limited  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## MFFN CAR Groundwater Sampling Program - Field Monitor

---

Jara Moreno, Lucia <[REDACTED]> 29 July 2024 at 16:08  
To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>, "Anderson, Victoria" <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, "Trimble, Ingrid" <[REDACTED]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, Don McKinnon <[REDACTED]>

Hi Andres,

Hope you have a great weekend.

Following up on the below. Friendly reminder that we will need to have a monitor identified and on-boarded by no later than noon this **Friday August 2nd, 2024**.

Please let me know if you have any further questions,

Thanks!

Lucia  
[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 31 July 2024 at 15:36  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, Valdine Walker <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Good Afternoon Andrew,

The MFFN CAR Project Team has reviewed and approved the IK Funding Agreement. Please see the attached version for a signed copy of the IK Funding Agreement.

Valdine Walker, cc'd to this email, will help to coordinate and set up payments for the program. Cheque and direct deposit are both options for payment. Please let us know your preference and Valdine will work with you to get that set up.

The IK Sharing Agreement is still under review and will be provided to Aroland First Nation shortly.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if there is anything else you need from us.

Thank you,  
Kyla  
On Behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team



**Kyla Zielbauer** (She/Her)  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)

**Out of office: August 5, 2024**

[Quoted text hidden]

**MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement 2024\_ - Fully Signed.pdf**  
 474K



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]> 31 July 2024 at 16:09  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Andrew,

My sincere apologies for the delayed response. We are excited to hear that Aroland First Nation is interested in the program!

I have some updated information regarding the Community Coordinator Program position to share below, as well as an updated job poster attached to this email:

We are looking for a coordinator to represent your community as the primary point of contact between Aroland First Nation and the MFFN CAR Project Team as we work through the Environmental Assessment processes. The Community Coordinator will provide advice, guidance and support for community engagement activities related to the Community Access Road and, at this stage in the Environmental Assessment /Impact Assessment process, will focus much of their time preparing the community for the release of the Draft Environmental Assessment/Impact Statement in November and for coordinating the review of this and associated documents.

This position will receive \$25 per hour and is expected to be approximately 16 hours per week for up to 1 year (Summer 2025). We are flexible with respect to payment terms (i.e., to an individual or to the band council) and we are open to discussing what works best for your community.

I have received notification that two people, [redacted] are interested in applying for the position. [redacted]'s resume is attached to this email. My understanding is that the next step is for Aroland First Nation Chief and Council to review the potential applicants and to select a person they would like to see in that role. Once that person is identified, we will work to get them onboarded and working on the program. If you would like to continue to advertise the program and receive additional candidates, there is no hard deadline to identify and onboard anyone, however, it would be great to get them set up earlier than later and prior to the draft of the report being released.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns, or would like to discuss this program further. We can set up a meeting to discuss this program if that is helpful.

Thanks very much,  
Kyla  
*On behalf of the MFFN CAR Project Team*



**Kyla Zielbauer** (She/Her)  
**Dillon Consulting Limited**  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 [redacted]  
[www.dillon.ca](http://www.dillon.ca)

**Out of office: August 5, 2024**

[Quoted text hidden]

**2 attachments**

 **2024-07-17\_Community Coordinator.pdf**  
925K

 **[REDACTED] - Resume.pdf**  
148K



## MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

# WE'RE HIRING!



Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is undertaking a federal Impact Assessment (IA) and provincial environmental assessment (EA) for an all-season access road to our community. To support these studies, we are looking to hire **Community Coordinators**.

**Are you a highly motivated person? Do you have strong organizational and relationship building skills? Would you like to work with a great project team and build experience in environmental management?**

### **If so, this could be the role for you!**

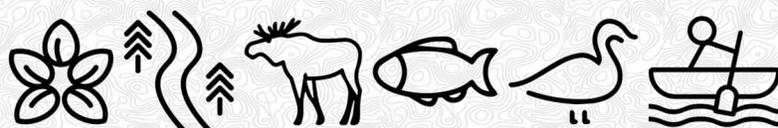
The Community Coordinator will be a primary point of contact between your community and the MFFN Project Team. We will work closely with you as you help to involve your community in the environmental assessment processes.

### **Responsibilities**

- Coordinate between the MFFN Project Team and community members living in / outside of your community as per your local practices and in collaboration with Chief and Council;
- Provide advice, guidance and support for community engagement activities related to the Project including:
  - Coordinate and organize logistics for meetings, workshops, events and / or school visits (e.g., book meeting spaces, order refreshments, help with truck / boat rentals and accommodations);
  - Help identify meeting participants and information providers (e.g., youth and / or elders); Assist with meeting facilitation, note taking and meeting minute preparation, and coordinate translation services, if needed; and
  - Organize distributing Project advertisements and notices in your community; either online (e.g., Facebook or posting in community);
- Assist in collecting data / information in your community (e.g., Indigenous Knowledge Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests, community and socio-economic information);
- Assist in coordination of the review of the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, and / or Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Reports.

**This position will receive \$25 per hour and is expected to be approximately 16 hours per week for up to 1 year (up to Summer 2025). If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the program, contact: Niki Angelis at [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca) or 1-800-764-9114.**

## B2.2 Incoming Community Specific Correspondence



---

**Fwd: Nation-to-Nation discussions and MFCAR project**

---

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 9, 2023 at 12:08:41 PM EDT  
**To:** Chief Bruce Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Rob M <[REDACTED]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, "Jenkins, Tara" <[REDACTED]>, "Baker, Nadia" <[REDACTED]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[REDACTED]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[REDACTED]>, Jeremy Shute <[REDACTED]>, Kate Kempton <[REDACTED]>

**Subject: Re: Nation-to-Nation discussions and MFCAR project**

Hello Chief Achneepineskum,

I hope you are well. Please find the attached letter from Chief Towedo.

Kind regards,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**(He/him – [why is this here?](#))**SHARED VALUE SOLUTIONS**[www.sharedvaluesolutions.com](http://www.sharedvaluesolutions.com)

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 **AFN\_ChiefTowedotoMFFNLetter\_2023.06.09.pdf**  
113K



[REDACTED]

June 9, 2023

Hello Chief Achneepineskum,

We hope that this letter finds you well. On May 23, 2023 Aroland First Nation received an email from the Marten Falls Community Access Road project team requesting permission to conduct a cultural heritage information study with Aroland First Nation band members. We were clear in our response letter dated May 26, 2023 (Appendix A) that we would agree to conduct our own cultural heritage information study if adequate funding and time were provided by the proponent team.

We are waiting for a written response from Marten Falls First Nation with your edits and changes to the communications protocol that we have drafted. Once we have signed and implemented the protocol we will be happy to invite the project team to Aroland for a community meeting with our band members. We are aware that our respective advisors discussed the draft protocol last week and that your Council has suggested some small changes. We are confident that together we can finalize the protocol quickly to ensure that we can begin moving forward on this important work together.

Aroland First Nation is committed to taking part in decision-making for all activities that are proposed in our traditional territory. This is in accordance with our inherent jurisdiction which we never surrendered. As Chief and Council, our mandate comes from our band members and we are committed to following processes that flow from our jurisdiction and that support members to undertake the important and vulnerable work of sharing their knowledge and heritage on the land.

We look forward to receiving an updated version of the draft communications protocol so that we can keep this process moving forward.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Chief Dorothy Towedo  
Aroland First Nation

Cc: Aroland First Nation Council  
Marten Falls First Nation Council  
Qasim Saddique, MFCAR Project Team  
Jennifer Bruin, MFCAR Project Team

Bob Baxter, MFCAR Project Team  
Leah Deveaux, MFCAR Project Team  
Tara Jenkins, MFCAR Project Team  
Nadia Baker, MFCAR Project Team  
Samantha Markham, MFCAR Project Team  
Katelyn Price, MFCAR Project Team  
Jeremy Shute, AFN Consultant  
Andrew Peach, AFN Consultant  
Kate Kempton, AFN Legal Counsel

## APPENDIX A: LETTER FROM CHIEF TOWEDO, MAY 26, 2023

May 26, 2023

Hello Kyla and the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Team,

We have received your request for your project team to conduct cultural heritage information collection with Aroland First Nation band members this June. While we agree that Aroland First Nation's cultural heritage and values must inform any potential Project effects within our Traditional Territory, we are surprised and disappointed that you have proposed that your own project team should collect this information directly from Aroland First Nation band members. We can not agree to your proposal to run and control the collection of our cultural heritage information.

Marten Falls First Nation must know that cultural heritage is a deeply protected set of values that are vulnerable to misunderstanding, misuse and misappropriation. For these reasons it is critical that Aroland First Nation has charge or oversight over the collection of our own cultural heritage information and values, and not allow others to have this level of control. We expect any collection and recording of our cultural heritage and values to adhere to the First Nations Principles of ownership, control, access and possession (OCAP®).

Aroland First Nation will not accept the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Team's proposal for your own consulting team to run this information collection. What we would agree to is to conduct our own information gathering of cultural heritage from our own members, to create a redacted public version of this information so that highly sensitive information is protected, and to provide that public version to the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Team for the Environmental Assessment. We would expect the Project Team to provide adequate funding for Aroland First Nation to undertake this work. We also understand that your proposed timelines for completing this work are tight, but if you are able to confirm the Project Team's agreement with our proposed approach quickly then we will do our best to mobilize as soon as possible to provide the report as expediently as is practical.

Aroland First Nation must be consulted on any proposed activities within our Traditional Territory. Understanding the potential impacts to our cultural heritage is an essential part of that consultation, but we must be supported to undertake that work ourselves. Once you confirm your acceptance of this in principle, we will provide you with a budget for our anticipated costs.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Chief Dorothy Towedo.

Chief Dorothy Towedo  
Aroland First Nation

Cc: Aroland First Nation Council  
Qasim Saddique, MFCAR Project Team  
Jennifer Bruin, MFCAR Project Team  
Bob Baxter, MFCAR Project Team  
Leah Deveaux, MFCAR Project Team  
Tara Jenkins, MFCAR Project Team  
Nadia Baker, MFCAR Project Team  
Samantha Markham, MFCAR Project Team  
Katelyn Price, MFCAR Project Team  
Debbi Stanyer, AFN Consultant  
Jeremy Shute, AFN Consultant  
Andrew Peach, AFN Consultant  
Kate Kempton, AFN Legal Counsel



**Follow-up Re: MFFN CAR IK Program Key Dates**

Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]> 20 June 2023 at 14:18  
To: "Nokleby, Andrea" <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>, Jeremy Shute <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>

Hello Andrea,

In response to your inquiry about the Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use, I am forwarding the latest correspondence from Aroland's Chief and Council to Marten Falls' Chief and Council (See PDF letter in attached email).

Aroland's Chief and Council is currently waiting for a response from Marten Falls' Chief and Council to advance the necessary steps to undertake this work. They understand that this will impact the deadlines the Marten Falls Project Team would like to meet for data collection, but they are hopeful that in working together with Marten Falls' Chief and Council that everything can get underway fairly quickly.

Thanks for reaching out,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**  
(He/him – [why is this here?](#))

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## MFFN CAR Cultural Heritage Information Collection

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Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>

9 August 2023 at 15:24

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Rob M <[REDACTED]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, "Jenkins, Tara" <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[REDACTED]>, "Baker, Nadia" <[REDACTED]>, "Markham, Samantha" <[REDACTED]>, Andrea Nokleby <[REDACTED]>, Don McKinnon <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Chloe Boone <[REDACTED]>

Hello Kyla,

Thank you for your email following up Aroland First Nation's letter from May 26. Aroland and Marten Falls are currently working to finalize a communications protocol between the two First Nations. Aroland's Chief and Council are committed to finalizing and signing that protocol before engaging in the Cultural Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge information collection project. Once the communications protocol is in place Aroland's leadership will then be prepared to begin discussing the details of Indigenous Knowledge collection with the Marten Falls Project team.

Chief Towedo and Aroland's Council are hopeful that the communications protocol will be finalized in the next few weeks. Thank you for your patience.

Kind regards,

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 27 September 2023 at 18:35  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[redacted]>, Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Rob M <[redacted]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[redacted]>, Samson Meshake <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hello Kyla,

Thanks for reaching out. I am available tomorrow anytime between 11am and 2pm for a call. Let me know if there's a timeslot in there that would work for you.

Looking forward to speaking with you.

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

(He/him – [why is this here?](#))

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[Quoted text hidden]



## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>

6 October 2023 at 13:40

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Rob M <[REDACTED]>, Sheldon Atlookan <[REDACTED]>, Samson Meshake <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

<[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hello Kyla,

Thanks for following up about this. I've just spoken with Chief Towedo and she did confirm that Aroland will be entering into their election period next week. Chief Towedo also confirmed that during the election period they will be unable to host any meetings or community events related to these projects, and that all consultation and engagement will have to wait until the election is over and the new Chief and Council are in place. Unfortunately, this means that the timing won't work to have the MFFN CAR Project Team conduct a meeting in Aroland on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Once the election is over at the end of November and the new leadership team is in place we'll reach out to coordinate setting up a time for the meeting.

Thanks very much,

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

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Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>

17 October 2023 at 15:54

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Chief Dorothy Towedo <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "Angelis, Niki" <[REDACTED]>

Hello Kyla,

Aroland's election is currently underway so they do not currently have a Council to approve travel. Chief Towedo is also out of the office at the moment. When she is back in the office I will speak with her about the offer for transportation on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

## Re: Invitation - ATRI Forum Nov 21 - 23, 2023

Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2023 at 16:44

To: Andrea Nokleby <[REDACTED]>

Cc: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>, michaelfox <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "Cafaro, Caitlin (IAAC/AEIC)" <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, "Moszynski, Dorothy (MECP)" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter in response to the invitation to the ATRI Forum on November 21-23, on behalf of Chief Towedo and Aroland First Nation.

Kind regards,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

(He/him – [why is this here?](#))

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[REDACTED]

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November 17, 2023

Andrea Nokleby  
Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Team  
Dillon Consulting Limited

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

To Andrea Nokleby,

Thank you for inviting Aroland First Nation to the upcoming Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and Interests Forum ("the Forum") being held in Thunder Bay from November 21-23, 2023. Unfortunately, we must decline this invitation, since Aroland First Nation is currently in an election period and unable to participate as a result.

Our decision not to attend the Forum must not be construed as a lack of willingness by Aroland First Nation to participate in engagement activities. As you know, Aroland First Nation takes the position that proponents and the Crown must obtain our consent for projects and activities that use and affect or harm our homeland territory and we are one of ten plaintiff First Nations in Treaty Nine pursuing a court case that says that the Treaty Nine Nations have maintained our jurisdiction over our homeland territories. We maintain our decision-making authority and control and our permission or consent is required when others want to use our homeland. Our jurisdiction, or decision-making governance rights, are based on our Anishinaabe laws and run parallel to those of the Crowns jurisdiction based on Canadian laws. Any co-jurisdiction regime developed as a result of this case or otherwise, must respect both sets of laws.

The roads and activities they will generate and facilitate will have significant impacts on our Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights and interests, and as such, these require our consent and engagement designed to garner our consent.

We have several problems with the Forum in being able to meet any reasonable requirements of this kind of engagement:

1. It is more of an open conference forum involving many parties where detailed information and sharing cannot occur.
2. You indicate it does not involve Indigenous Knowledge, but that knowledge forms and underpins our Anishinaabe laws and we cannot engage from our perspective without engaging from our knowledge and legal base; we are not mere stakeholders in Canada's legal system.
3. It is unclear whether the Forum will be used to check boxes in the Crown's duty to consult and accommodate. While this duty under Canadian law has not yet adapted to legal changes such as those required by UNDRIP, it is still being applied and imposed and we must be assured that the Forum is not going to allow the Crown to say that this duty is met or partly met. This duty is weak enough without creating methods for its exercise that enable it to be weaker still.

In the Invitation for the ATRI Second Forum, October 17, 2023 it was shared that the Forum is intended to include discussions about how attendees Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights and interests may be impacted by the projects, but that discussions will not include collection of Indigenous Knowledge. But for Aroland First Nation, how we exercise our Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights and interests within our traditional territory *is* our Indigenous Knowledge. And that knowledge forms the basis of our laws and jurisdiction. We can't propose to understand potential impacts to our Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights without referencing, discussing or sharing our Indigenous Knowledge.

But some of our Indigenous Knowledge is confidential and proprietary and we will only share it when all parties commit to respecting our data sovereignty and upholding the principles of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession). In our view, it is not possible to protect our data sovereignty and adhere to OCAP principles at a forum attended by multiple First Nations and their advisors, as well as consultants for all three projects and Crown representatives. Simply declaring a space as respectful and culturally-sensitive does not make it true.

We also seek transparency from you on whether the Forum is intended to fulfill the Crown's duty to consult. We understand that the Crown has delegated certain procedural aspects of the duty to consult to the proponents of the projects. We are concerned about the appropriateness of the Forum as a venue to meaningfully consult with Aroland First Nation. For consultation to be meaningful, the process must be commensurate to the potential level of impact a First Nation may experience and therefore, must be distinctions based and tailored to the interests of each individual First Nation. A forum attended by multiple First Nations facing varying levels of impacts and with unique concerns does not strike us as an appropriate method for meeting the threshold of meaningful consultation. This is especially true for Aroland First Nation, where the duty to consult falls to the deep end of the spectrum as a community that stands to be

adversely impacted by the proposed road projects. It is our perspective that the Forum must not be counted toward fulfilment of the Crown's duty to consult.

With the communications protocol now in place with Marten Falls First Nation we are looking forward to resuming discussions about these projects following our election. We are confident that we can come to an understanding about how we expect to be consulted and engaged regarding the three proposed projects.

Kind regards,



Chief Dorothy Towedo

CC:

Bob Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation Advisor

Lawrence Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation Advisor

Qasim Saddique, Marten Falls First Nation Advisor

Kyla Zielbauer, Dillon Consulting

Michael Fox, Webequie First Nation Advisor

Mishal Naseer, Dillon Consulting

Dorothy Moszynski, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Sasha McLeod, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Caitlin Cafaro, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Kate Kempton, Woodward and Company LLP

Jerry Shabogamik, Aroland First Nation

Andrew Peach, Shared Value Solutions, Ltd.

Meghan Buckham, Shared Value Solutions, Ltd.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## MFFN CAR Milestone 2 Progress Report

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Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>

4 December 2023 at 09:47

To: MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Thank you for the update.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

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Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

15 December 2023 at 14:24

Hi Kyla,

Here's the email address for AFN's new band administrator Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>

Thanks,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

(He/him – [why is this here?](#))

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Zielbauer, Kyla &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

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**MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report**

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Andrew Peach &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

11 January 2024 at 13:23

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Cc: Jerry Shabogamik &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Richard Herbert &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Laura Sayers

&lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Rojin Amani &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Meghan Buckham

&lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Qasim Saddique &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Jennifer Bruin &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;, Andrea

Nokleby &lt;[REDACTED]&gt;

Hello Kyla,

I had a great holiday, thanks! I hope that you also had an excellent break.

Thanks for reaching out to follow up on these reports. Before I provide an update on the reports I have a brief update from Aroland First Nation. The new Chief and Council have set February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as the date for their inauguration and have asked that we don't schedule any project work, including community engagement and potential project meetings before the inauguration. We are currently working with Aroland First Nation to schedule a time after February 8<sup>th</sup> to continue community engagement and will keep you informed as to potential dates in February for a community meeting.

Aroland First Nation is aware of both the ATRI Existing Conditions and Milestone #2 Reports and the requested deadlines. It won't be possible for Aroland First Nation to review the ATRI Existing Conditions Report by January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This was discussed during our call on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and is still the case. In addition, Aroland acknowledges the February 15, 2024 deadline for the edits and comments on the Milestone #2 report. At this time, Aroland will make best efforts to provide comments on both reports by February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. However, given that this deadline is close to the Chief and Council's inauguration, and in honouring Aroland's internal approval processes, we will reach out to you if Aroland requires more time.

Given that the reports contain critical information related to consultation and interpretations of impacts of the project on the environment and on Aroland First Nation's Aboriginal and/or treaty rights and interests, Aroland's perspective and comments must inform the final report and any information that is woven into the draft Impact Statement/ Environmental Assessment Report. These reports were initially shared while Aroland First Nation was in an election period when leadership was unable to engage in project activities. After the election, there were only a few short weeks before the holiday season and corresponding office closure. Now with inauguration set for February 8<sup>th</sup>, its reasonable and in line with consultation best practice, for the MFFN CAR project team to remain flexible given the context these reports were shared and when responses were initially expected.

I am available to meet to discuss updates on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> anytime between 10:00am and 2pm ET or Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> between 2pm and 5pm ET. Please let me know if there's a time that works best for you.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

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**Andrew Peach** <[REDACTED]> 8 February 2024 at 10:05  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>

Hi Kyla,

I'm available for a call tomorrow anytime after 2pm ET if that works for you.

Thanks,

Andrew Peach

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## MFFN CAR - Project Updates

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J. Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>

9 February 2024 at 10:48

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham

<[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>,

Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>

Please, include Joe Baxter in these streams.

[REDACTED]

Thank you

Richard

Dr. J. Richard G. Herbert B. SC., D.V.M.

Band Administrator

### Aroland First Nation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <https://www.arolandfirstnation.ca>

## Subject: Re: MFFN Community Access Road January E-Blast



**J. Richard Herbert** <[REDACTED]>  
to MFFN Community Access Road Project Team

You are viewing an attached message. Dillon Consulting Limited Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Please, include Joe Baxter in these streams.

[REDACTED]

Thank you

Richard

Dr. J. Richard G. Herbert B. SC., D.V.M.  
Band Administrator

### **Aroland First Nation**

P.O. Box 10

Aroland, Ontario P0T 1B0

Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<https://www.arolandfirstnation.ca>

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On 2024-01-31 12:10, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team wrote:

Welcome to the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road January 2024 E-Blast with updates on current and upcoming ac

- New Year Greeting from Chief Bruce
- Climate Change Adaptation & Upcoming Webinars
- Winter Field Studies
- Connect with the Team

### **Happy New Year!**

Building a sustainable and thriving community is our vision at Marten Falls First Nation.

We've always aspired to connect our remote northern community to the Ontario provincial highway network. This road project is more than

We're taking proactive steps, not just for today but for seven generations ahead, focusing on self-determination and responsible developme

- Chief Bruce Achneepineskum

### **Climate Change Adaptation & Upcoming Webinars**

We are pleased to announce MFFN CAR's upcoming Webinar Series to kick off the New Year, and will include Climate Change Adaptation,

Join us live for the **Climate Change Adaptation and the Community Access Road** webinar that will look at the future climate to ensure th

**Register for the webinar [HERE](#).**

Curious about what we are studying for the community access road? Check out the previous webinar on the route selection process [here](#) a



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 15 February 2024 at 11:51  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, "Dillon Consulting" <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>

Good morning Kyla,

I just wanted to touch base with you to let you know that Aroland is working hard to finalize their review of the ATRI Existing Conditions Report and should be ready to share that with your team very soon. However, it does not look like the review will be finalized by the end of day today and Aroland will require a couple more days before we're able to circulate the review.

As Aroland has prioritized the review of the ATRI Existing Conditions Report at your direction, they will also require a few more days to complete the review of the Milestone #2 Progress Report.

We're hopeful that these reviews will be finalized and circulated prior to the end of next week, Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions for us.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**  
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February 16, 2024

Dear Andrea Nokleby,

The purpose of this letter is to provide initial comments on the Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and Interests: Preliminary Existing Conditions Report (“the Report”) that we received on December 15, 2023, for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project (“the Project”).

### Summary of Review and Comments

#### *Summary review of the Report*

Overall, Aroland First Nation (“AFN”) is deeply disappointed that the substance of the Report does not adequately convey information that AFN has provided to the Marten Falls Community Access Road (“MFCAR”) Project Team and regulators to date, the impact of the project on AFN’s Treaty and Aboriginal Rights, and the backdrop of inadequate consultation that AFN has experienced throughout the environment/impact assessment process. Rather than having the opportunity to participate in a meaningful consultation process, AFN has been compelled to focus our participation on establishing an accurate record of our previously disclosed concerns and recommendations. As a result, we urge the MFCAR Project Team to update the Report to reflect the following:

1. Inclusion of information provided by AFN in the environmental/impact assessment process to date

AFN has made every reasonable effort to participate in each step of the environmental/impact assessment process for the proposed MFCAR Project and has provided numerous comments about the potential impacts the Project may have on our Treaty and Aboriginal Rights. However, we found substantive omissions in the Report. Much of what AFN has shared already in the environmental/impact assessment process has been omitted or given only passing or minimized reference. This severely downplays the effects on AFN’s Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests and constitutes a misrepresentation which could have serious consequences. In Appendix A, we have provided an overview of our submissions to date that describe current exercise of and possible impacts to AFN’s Treaty and Aboriginal Rights, and an assessment of whether the Report reflects that information. The Report must be updated to reflect the gaps AFN points out in Appendix A of this document.

2. Inclusion of AFN’s Indigenous Knowledge from a forthcoming Project-specific Indigenous Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study

AFN recognizes that we have not yet submitted a Project-specific Indigenous Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study (“IKLUOS”) and acknowledges that the MFCAR Project Team has offered additional funding for this specific task. We have been clear with the MFCAR Project Team about the need to follow our community protocols to compile and share this sensitive information with you while adhering to the principles of Indigenous Data Sovereignty, including OCAP® (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession). We require that the MFCAR Project Team come to AFN to present the Project to our members prior to conducting interviews, so that our community understands the details of the Project that they are speaking about. We also require that AFN is in control of the IKLUOS process, including being able to select trusted practitioners to undertake an IKLUOS with the AFN community and not be required to participate in an externally imposed process to receive much needed capacity funding. In Appendix B, we provide more detail to demonstrate why it is critical that decisions about route selection must not be made before we have provided this information. The Report, and any rights impact assessment work that may be undertaken prior to submission of the IKLUOS, will need to be redone once the IKLUOS is completed.

3. Inclusion of AFN’s ongoing requests for a deeper consultation process and for a distinctions-based approach to consultation for the Project

AFN has continuously endeavoured to communicate potential impacts to rights, consultation issues and inadequacies, as well as specifying ways the MFCAR Project Team and/or the province could foster a meaningful and distinctions-based consultation process with us. However, AFN has not seen tangible action around these requests. In Appendix C, we outline the instances where we have requested a deeper consultation process, expressed concerns about the adequacy of consultation, and offered solutions on how the consultation process could be approached to be truly meaningful for AFN. The Report must be updated to reflect this critically important context.

AFN’s expectations of how we are consulted on the Project are grounded in the Crown’s duty to consult meaningfully with potentially impacted First Nations, which is understood through legal precedent established by the Supreme Court of Canada. By not addressing AFN’s requests for a deeper and more meaningful consultation process the Crown and the MFCAR Project Team have not met the following legal precedents:

- a. The Duty to Consult and Accommodate has both procedural and substantive aspects.
  - *Haida Nation v British Columbia (Minister of Forests)*, 2004 SCC 73 at paras 43-47.
  - *Clyde River (Hamlet) v. Petroleum Geo-Services Inc.*, 2017 SCC 40 at para 34.
- b. Procedural requirements include allowing sufficient time for meaningful engagement and providing costs for at least technical support.
  - *Clyde River (Hamlet) v. Petroleum Geo-Services Inc.*, 2017 SCC 40, at paras 47-52.
  - *Chippewas of the Thames First Nation v Enbridge Pipelines Inc.*, 2017 SCC 41 at para 52.
- c. The affected First Nation must be fully informed about potential impacts to their rights, and the decision-maker must ensure it is fully informed about same.
  - *Clyde River (Hamlet) v. Petroleum Geo-Services Inc.*, 2017 SCC 40, at paras 47-52.
  - *Chippewas of the Thames First Nation v Enbridge Pipelines Inc.*, 2017 SCC 41 at para 2.

Furthermore, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the federal Bill C-15 (CANDRIP) require decision-makers to accommodate sufficiently and to seek consent of the

affected First Nation. This requires demonstrating how the First Nation's concerns about effects on rights and interests are being sufficiently addressed to warrant the First Nation to give consent.

#### *Procedural Issues*

##### *Procedural Issues Experienced by AFN with Consultation on the Report*

AFN received the Report on December 15, 2023, and were asked to review and provide comments by January 19, 2024. This tight timeline was inadequate given the scope and importance of what MFCAR Project Team was asking of AFN (a comprehensive review of the MFCAR Project Team's current understanding of AFN's Treaty and Aboriginal Rights), that AFN had just elected a new Chief and Council, and the report was received on the Friday before AFN's holiday office closure. While AFN is grateful that the MFCAR Project Team agreed to extend the timelines to mid-February, we remain frustrated that it was considered appropriate to request those timelines in the first place given the circumstances.

In addition, no additional capacity funding was offered for AFN to conduct this review. Despite AFN receiving participant funding from the province to review the Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment report, the province and the MFCAR Project Team continue to request AFN's participation at workshop and meetings, ongoing engagement through phone calls and emails, and feedback on additional permit, study reviews and documents without providing adequate capacity. AFN's review of the Report is another request for engagement that is not accompanied by acceptable support to nurture a meaningful and deep consultation process.

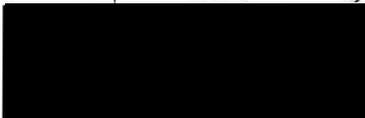
AFN's review and comments on the Report are scoped to Section 3.0 due to both insufficient time and capacity funding to support a thorough assessment. The absence of comments related to Sections 1.0 and 2.0 of the Report are not an indication that AFN agrees with the characterization made by the MFCAR Project Team. Rather, this submission is prioritized to address areas and interests that were most concerning to AFN.

#### *Closing*

AFN has stated repeatedly that no decisions should be made on the Project until the Regional Assessment for the Ring of Fire, which will consider cumulative effects from all development including roads in the region, is completed. It is a violation of AFN's right to be informed in the consultation process to proceed without this critical information. It is certainly a violation of AFN's right to give or withhold free, prior and *informed* consent. AFN is one of many First Nation plaintiffs asserting that right in a court case about Indigenous jurisdiction over the lands in Treaty 9. We hold to that assertion, and in no way are our remarks here to be taken as any derogation from that. We are essentially forced to comply with the Duty to Consult and Accommodate in Canadian law, as it has been imposed on us.

AFN remains committed to working together with the MFCAR Project Team in considering the potential impacts of the Project within our Traditional Territory. We look forward to your response and commitment to engage with AFN in a deep and meaningful way.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Chief Gagnon

CC:

AFN Council

Chief Achneepineskum and MFFN Council

Qasim Saddique, MFCAR Project Team

Bob Baxter, MFCAR Project Team

Lawrence Baxter, MFCAR Project Team

Jennifer Bruin, MFCAR Project Team

Kyla Zeilbauer, MFCAR Project Team

Dorothy Moszynski, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP

Sasha McLeod, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP

Caitlin Cafaro, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Meghan Buckham, AFN Consultant

Andrew Peach, AFN Consultant

Kate Kempton, AFN Legal Counsel

# APPENDIX A

## High-Level Summary of All AFN's Submissions to Date

AFN has consistently voiced our communities' concerns about the Project to the MFCAR Project Team, the province, and the federal government, by providing input at various stages of the environmental/impact assessment process. Notably, we submitted comments and recommendations on the Initial Project Description, Indigenous Engagement Participation Plan (IEPP), Tailored Impact Statement Guideline (TISG), Notice of Commencement, and Draft Terms of Reference.

Upon reviewing the draft Report, we found that many of the concerns that we have raised in these various submissions remain unidentified and unaddressed. In the following paragraphs, we provide a brief summary of each previous submission, followed by a detailed comment table. The table outlines instances where AFN has expressed concerns about our rights and interests and indicates whether it was included in the Report.

AFN submitted comments to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the "Agency") on the Initial Project Description on August 29, 2019. AFN conditionally supported the concept of a MFFN Community Access Road to link the community with the provincial highway network. However, we emphasized that all four of the Project's proposed right-of-ways traverse AFN's Traditional Territory, and that additional road access through our territory and community would be required for traffic to reach the provincial highway system. AFN asserted that the Project will significantly impact our inherent and established Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, affecting our ability to hunt, fish, trap, gather, and engage in ceremony and traditional activities. AFN is the Nation most at risk and impacted by the Project and the accumulation of other road projects in our territory.

On January 27, 2020, AFN submitted feedback to the Agency about the Draft TISG and IEPP. Following the publication of the TISG and IEPP, AFN noticed that several of their comments on the Draft IEPP and TISG were not included. On March 23, 2020, additional comments were submitted on the Notice of Commencement, emphasizing concerns unaddressed in the finalized IEPP and TISG. Some examples of unaddressed comments included AFN participation in baseline studies, free, prior and informed consent, collaborative development of valued components and indicators, joint participation in assessment, co-development of mitigation measures, and analysis of impacts of increased access on Aroland's ability to exercise Treaty and Aboriginal Rights and interests.

AFN further expressed their concerns to the province and the MFCAR Project Team by providing feedback on the Project's Terms of Reference on January 20, 2020. Our concerns centred around direct effects on our community and Traditional Territory, linked to the Project's ties to the provincial highway system, and cumulative impacts from other proposed and prospective roads and mining developments. AFN conditionally supported the concept of a sole-purpose community access road that would connect the community to the provincial highway network. However, as the proposed community access road is now also planned to connect into proposed access to the Ring of Fire, the Project now has the potential to deepen the significance of impacts on affect AFN's Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

AFN has emphasized multiple times that the Project has the potential to significantly, permanently, and irreversibly affect their ability to hunt, fish, trap, gather, and engage in ceremony and traditional activities. We've noted that, among First Nations in the region, AFN is the most at risk and will be the most affected by the Project and its cumulative effects. Therefore, there is a critical need for a deep and meaningful consultation process, coupled with adequate capacity funding.

In the following table, we present a comprehensive overview of instances where AFN provided information to the MFCAR Project Team, the province and/or the federal government about current use and potential impacts of the Project on our rights and interests. The table is structured with three columns to enhance clarity and organization:

- The first column, titled "Comment Reference," categorizes each comment by specifying the document name and submission date for easy reference.
- The second column, labelled "AFN's Comment and Recommendation," includes the content of each comment and recommendation. This column serves as a valuable resource for understanding the nature and scope of AFN's input to date.
- The third column uses a colour-coded system to indicate AFN's assessment of whether the information has been identified in the Report.
  - A green status implies that the comment has been fully understood and incorporated into the Report.
  - A yellow label indicates the comment has been partially understood and included in the Report.
  - A red status indicates that there is no reference to the comment in the Report.

Table 1. Gap Analysis of the Report

COMMENT REFERENCE	SUMMARY OF AFN'S COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION	STATUS IN THE REPORT
<b>Overarching Comments</b>		
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	Given that all four of the Project's proposed right of ways traverse AFN's traditional territory and that in order for traffic to reach the provincial highway system further road access would be required through our territory and community it is our position that the Project will have significant effects on our inherent and established Aboriginal and Treaty rights and affect our ability to hunt, trap, gather and engage in ceremony and traditional activities. AFN is the most at risk and will be the most affected by the Project and the cumulation of other road projects in our territory.	
IEPP and TISG Review Jan 27, 2020	AFN has a unique relationship with the lands and waters throughout our ancestral lands. The proposed road lies within our traditional territory in an ecologically unique area that has not historically been well studied. The region retains archaeological, social, cultural, economic and spiritual significance to our community and serves as a gateway to some of our community's prime harvesting locations. Stewardship and the protection of the environment are a foundational component of AFN's way of life and frame our perspectives on and interactions with the land.	
IEPP and TISG Review Jan 27, 2020	Once operating, all-season roads like this one will enable extensive mineral exploration development activities with widespread cumulative effects on our people, our way of life, our community well-being, and our inherent and established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We anticipate that the Project will significantly, permanently and irreversibly affect our ability to hunt, trap, gather and engage in ceremony and traditional activities. Among First Nations in the region, AFN is the most at risk and will be the most affected by the Project, and its cumulative effects.	
Notice of Commencement	Given the proximity of the proposed Project to the AFN community and that the Project directly overlaps AFN's territory, there will be significant impacts to AFN's inherent Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests. The scope of impacts on AFN's Treaty and Aboriginal rights and our concerns are exacerbated by the Government of Ontario's announcement alongside Webequie First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation to explore the development of the Northern Road Link that would connect the proposed Webequie Supply Road and Marten Falls Community Access Road.	

Terms of Reference, 6.2  
Approach to Considering  
"Alternatives To"

Any discussion of a supply road being constructed from a point along the CAR to the mining claims north of MFFN and the Ring of Fire must note for the record AFN's concern that its rights and interests would be significantly, permanently and irreversibly impacted by such a supply road, and that consideration by any party, including MFFN or the Province, of an undertaking for such a supply road be subject to a Provincial environmental assessment and a federal Impact Assessment that includes AFN as a proponent so that AFN can meaningfully assess impacts and benefits, and determine if it is able to provide its consent for such an undertaking.

Terms of Reference,  
7.2.11 Socio-Economic  
and Built Environment  
8.3 Assess and Evaluate  
Net Effects

AFN submits that many of the effects of the Project, if the if the CAR connects to the Ontario provincial highway network at Painter Lake, driving traffic to and from a road that bisects and runs adjacent to AFN's reserve, will result in direct effects on AFN community members, and AFN rights and interests. This perspective should inform the assessment and evaluation of net effects in the ToR.

AFN submits that potential impacts from the CAR, if the CAR connects to the Ontario provincial highway network at Painter Lake, be subject to specific consultation activities with AFN to include, but not be limited to, potential negative and positive effects on AFN:

- traffic
- access to AFN's traditional territory
- strain on public safety services
- changes to population
- changes to hunting/harvesting
- changes to diet
- effects on human health
- changes to protected area lands
- changes to recreation and commercial land uses
- changes to access and use of traditional teaching sites
- changes to industry and resource extraction activities such as mining, aggregate, forestry, linear infrastructure and energy projects
- changes to the regional economy
- changes to the local economy
- changes to the cost of living in the community
- changes to regional access to education, training, recreation, and health services

Terms of Reference: 8.2  
Proposed Criteria and  
Indicators

Invasive species could provide an indicator of the status of the Wetland Ecosystems, Upland Ecosystems, Designated Areas and Critical landform / Vegetation Associations Size in concert with distribution could provide a more fulsome indicator of the status of the Wetland Ecosystems, Upland Ecosystems, Designated Areas and Critical landform / Vegetation Associations.

Direct (e.g. vehicle collisions) and indirect (e.g. population isolation) impacts of the project on SAR wildlife should be considered an indicator.

Indigenous Knowledge could provide further information on the indicators for moose and caribou.

Indigenous Knowledge could provide further information on the species of fish to be considered.

AFN expects this project will impact its communities' rights and interests; as such, AFN requires a detailed Indigenous Knowledge Land Use and Occupancy Study, Socio-Economic and Built Environment Impact Assessment, and Cultural Heritage Resource assessments to adequately assess how AFN may be affected and determine mitigation/accommodation measures.

Recommendation:

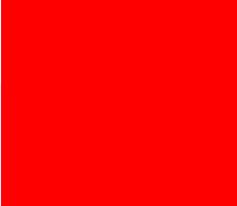
- For groundwater indicators, include spring water sources
- For vegetation, include presence of invasive species in each category
- For vegetation, expand on the "Distribution" indicator to Distribution and Size
- For wildlife include, direct and indirect impacts of the project on wildlife SAR
- For ungulates, include Indigenous Knowledge
- For fish and fish habitat, ensure fish species important to Indigenous communities are included
- For Indigenous Knowledge and Land use - Traditional Use of Land and Resources and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, in addition to what is listed in the Draft ToR, include:
  - Number and value of fish spawning
  - Number and value of mammal habitat
  - Number and value of mammal migration
  - Number and value of bird habitat
  - Number and value of bird migration stopovers
  - Number and value of reptile/amphibian habitat

- o Number and value of plant habitat
- o Number and value of mineral licks
- o Number and value of species at risk
- o Number and value of spring water sources valued by Indigenous people
- o Number and value of boat launches
- Number and value of commercial harvesting locations
- o Number and value of historical village/archaeological locations
- o Number and value of historic trails locations
- o Number and value of changes noticed to the environment
- o Number and value of teaching sites valued by Indigenous people for transferring knowledge between generations
- o Number and value of meeting sites valued by Indigenous people for cultural, recreational and social purposes
  - For Indigenous Knowledge and Land use – Reserve Land and Land Claims, include information available from First Nation governments
  - For all Social criteria include information available from First Nation governments
  - For community well-being, include gender related impacts, including impacts on women and girls
  - For all Economy criteria include information available from First Nation governments
  - For all Human Health criteria include information available from First Nation governments
  - For Human Health – Diet, include a specific country foods study undertaken in collaboration with AFN
  - For Cultural Heritage landscapes, include data from provincial and federal databases
  - For archaeological resources:
    - o Include an investigation of historic shorelines
    - o Include an investigation of pictographs and petroglyphs
    - o Include an investigation of all sites identified as indicating archaeological potential as identified in the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011)
    - o Do not use the alternative standards and guidelines for assessing archaeology in Northern Ontario. Because less is known about the archaeology of the north, additional rigor should be undertaken, not less – the regular Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011) should be employed for this project.

**Hunting, Trapping, Fishing, and Gathering**

Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>The potential environmental impacts include:</p> <p>To Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat fragmentation</li> <li>• Changes to home range and movement patterns of animals sensitive to edge effects</li> <li>• Game that is traditionally hunted by AFN changes movement patterns and has higher mortality (roads, non-member hunting)</li> <li>• Increased mortality of animals due to road collisions</li> <li>• Increased human-wildlife conflicts (harassment)</li> <li>• Degradation of interior habitat from increased human disturbance (recreation)</li> </ul>	
Final TISG, 15.2 Birds, migratory birds and their habitat	Effects to birds, migratory birds and their habitat have direct and indirect impacts on bird hunting by Indigenous peoples. Bird hunting and specific bird hunting locations may be valued components for Indigenous peoples.	
Final TISG, 15.3 Terrestrial wildlife and their habitat	Effects to terrestrial wildlife and their habitat may have direct and indirect impacts on wildlife hunting and trapping by Indigenous peoples. Wildlife hunting and trapping, and specific hunting and trapping locations may be valued components for Indigenous peoples.	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>The potential environmental impacts include:</p> <p>To Fish and fish habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to stream morphology and loss of spawning habitat</li> <li>• Disruption of stream flow as a result of road construction</li> <li>• Increased fish mortality as a result in elevated pressure from management actions, angling, and poaching</li> <li>• Changes in composition of fish species as a result of degraded water quality and changes in water quantity</li> <li>• Reduced access or contamination of traditionally important fish species to the AFN</li> </ul>	
Final TISG, 15.1 Fish and Fish Habitat	Effects to fish and fish habitat have direct and indirect impacts on fishing by Indigenous peoples. Fishing and specific fishing locations may be valued components for Indigenous peoples.	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>To Species at Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in populations of area-sensitive Species at Risk in the vicinity of the road due to the creation of edge habitat (and thus a reduction in interior habitat)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased competition from invasive species that are carried in on transport vehicles, on construction equipment used to build the road and for maintenance</li> <li>• Reptile populations are particularly susceptible to road mortality due to their attraction to roads as basking sites</li> </ul>	
Final TISG, 15.4 Species at risk and their habitat	There may be species noted as “at risk” by Indigenous groups and local communities and their habitat that are not currently listed under the Species at Risk Act or provincial statutes.	
Final TISG, 8.12 Species at Risk	<p>Indigenous groups may consider certain species to be at risk with respect to local and regional contexts, traditional territories, and harvesting practices and uses.</p> <p>Recommendation: Please amend this section to include reference to species that Indigenous groups may consider to be at risk with respect to local and regional contexts, traditional territories and harvesting practices and uses. Furthermore, Indigenous knowledge should be included where available for detecting all species at risk and habitat, migration corridors, spawning areas, etc.</p>	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>To Vegetation and Vegetation Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in wetland plant composition as a result of changes to the hydrology of the wetland, and possible contamination of wetlands and groundwater</li> <li>• Introduction of invasive plant species from road construction and continual use that outcompete native species</li> <li>• Loss of rare or sensitive plant species in the path of the road, and zone of influence (adjacent lands to the road)</li> </ul>	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>To Wetlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permanent disruption to the hydrology of wetlands in the path of the road</li> <li>• Chemical inputs into wetlands resulting in contamination of groundwater, to the detriment of the plants and animals that rely on wetland habitats</li> </ul>	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>To Water Quality and Quantity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to stream flow and increased sedimentation during construction and road maintenance</li> <li>• Degradation of water quality during road use from dust and sediment, contaminated runoff, and accidental spills</li> <li>• Decreased bank stability of streams bisected by roads due to loss of riparian vegetation</li> </ul>	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>To Water Quality and Quantity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to stream flow and increased sedimentation during construction and road maintenance</li> </ul>	

Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degradation of water quality during road use from dust and sediment, contaminated runoff, and accidental spills</li> <li>• Decreased bank stability of streams bisected by roads due to loss of riparian vegetation</li> </ul> <p>To Noise Pollution and Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise pollution from the road will have an impact on animals and AFN users</li> <li>• Decrease in air quality as a result of carbon emissions from vehicles, airborne particulate matter, and a decrease in natural cover</li> </ul>	
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>The ancestors of AFN have occupied the lands of present-day northern Ontario and beyond since time immemorial. AFN community members currently carry out traditional practices (such as hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering) throughout the proposed area of the Community Access Road. These traditional practices are protected under Section 35 of Canada's Constitution.</p>	
<p><b>Socio-economic Conditions</b></p>		
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>Socio-Cultural &amp; Health Impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased access to Traditional Territory for outsiders, which can lead to overharvesting, increases in hunting accidents, and conflict between AFN and non-AFN harvesters.</li> <li>• Increased trafficking of drugs through Aroland</li> <li>• Increased access to, and use of, drugs and alcohol in AFN and surrounding area</li> <li>• Increased noise from increased traffic including industrial vehicles</li> <li>• Safety concerns regarding increased traffic including industrial vehicles, such as vehicle collisions, accidents and malfunctions including spills</li> <li>• Safety concerns regarding driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs</li> <li>• Health and safety concerns regarding the potential for an increase in violence and racism as a result of an increase of outsiders coming through the community and interacting with AFN members</li> <li>• Health and safety concerns regarding the potential for increased sexual violence and gender-based violence as a result of an increase of outsiders coming through the community, in particular as it relates to AFN women and youth.</li> <li>• Potential for increases in pregnancies as a result of an increase of outsiders coming through the community</li> <li>• Potential for increased rates of Sexually Transmitted Infection as a result of an increase of outsiders coming through the community</li> </ul>	

- Potential for increased vandalism to cabins, traplines etc. because of increased access to Traditional Territory.
- For subsistence harvesters, wildlife may be driven further away by noise of the road.

**Cultural Heritage Resources**

Terms of reference, 7.2.12 Cultural Heritage Resources

AFN expects specific and confidential consultation on cultural heritage resources informed by AFN Indigenous Knowledge.  
 Recommendation: AFN submits that identification of AFN cultural heritage resources be informed by AFN Indigenous Knowledge and specific and confidential consultation activities.

**Cultural Continuity**

Final TISG, Section 12 Baseline Conditions - Indigenous Peoples

Comment: Understanding historic and current use are important sources of knowledge to inform baseline conditions. However, there should also be consideration of future goals and use and how the project may impact those long-term objectives. There are areas previously impacted by development activities that Aroland First Nation may seek to restore and reclaim. The Project may impact those long-term goals and should be considered alongside historic and current uses.  
 Recommendation: Recommend that the impact of the Project on future goals, objectives and use related to Aboriginal rights and interests be considered as part of the assessment process.

**Territorial travel and access**

Final TISG, 19.1 Effects to Indigenous People

This section provides a list of potential effects to consider, with specific reference to "interferences of the project with the following:  
 • access to culturally important harvesting areas or resources of importance." Interference with access is one potential concern, but increased access for non-Indigenous individuals to areas important for the exercise of Aboriginal rights and interests may also be a potential impact of the Project. These types of impacts must also be considered and added to the list.  
 Recommendation: Recommend that the potential effects to consider also include the impact increased access may have on Indigenous groups ability to exercise Aboriginal rights and interests.

**Cumulative Effects**

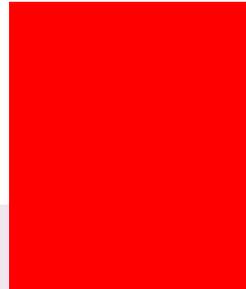
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019

the cumulative effects of this Project and other proposed roads would be to drastically increase the ease of access to our traditional territory to Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, which would directly impact the lands and waters used by AFN members for trapping, hunting, fishing, harvesting and teaching for spiritual purposes. Our cultural

heritage and archaeological resources will also be impacted, as well as burial sites for some of our ancestors that are in the vicinity of the proposed projects. The increase in access will increase the likelihood of radically new activities taking place on our territory. The adverse impacts identified are also predicted to increase extensively in magnitude should the roads connect to the Ring of Fire region in the future. This list of potential environmental impacts is not exhaustive and the potential effects to AFN members can not be adequately understood without the appropriate resources to conduct baseline studies, including careful collection and integration of our Indigenous Knowledge, along with land and resource use.

IEPP and TISG Review Jan  
27, 2020

Once operating, all-season roads like this one will enable extensive mineral exploration development activities with widespread cumulative effects on our people, our way of life, our community well-being, and our inherent and established Aboriginal and Treaty rights.



## APPENDIX B

With a Project-specific IKLUOS forthcoming, we seek a commitment from the MFCAR Project Team to ensure that once completed, the IKLUOS will inform the final draft of the Report, final route selection and draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The following table is a small representation of a few areas within the Project study area that are of high importance to AFN. The purpose of this table is to demonstrate why it is critical that the MFCAR Project Team wait until AFN has completed its Project-specific IKLUOS before making any decisions that could result in significant impacts to our Treaty and Aboriginal rights. The information has been derived both from previous studies conducted by AFN and community engagement with band members for different projects.

This information is not considered a comprehensive report and must not be misconstrued as a complete account of AFN's current use, Indigenous Knowledge and/or cultural values within the Project study area.

Table 2: Preliminary identification of culturally significant areas for the practice of Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests

COMMENT #	PRELIMINARY IMPORTANT SITE	POTENTIAL IMPACT TO RIGHTS	RECOMMENDED ACTION
1	<b>Dusey Lake and Dusey River</b> are critically important areas for AFN from an environmental, cultural, and historic perspective. There is a historic settlement and several grave sites in the area, with Dusey Lake being a significant spiritual site for AFN. AFN members also use the area for trapping, fishing, hunting, and gathering.	Both of the MFCAR Project's proposed routes pass less than 5km from Dusey Lake, and cross the Dusey River less than 10km downstream of Dusey Lake. The proximity of the road to these important sites could result in noise and dust contamination from traffic, including industrial traffic from mine sites. Increased access to the area by non-Indigenous people also poses impacts, both to cultural and historic sites as well as hunting, gathering and fishing activities due to increased competition for resources.	Before the proposed route can be finalized AFN must be able to conduct an IKLUOS in order to identify the specific locations of the cultural and historic sites near Dusey Lake and Dusey River, and to document AFN members current and historic use of the area.
2	<b>Patience Lake</b> is an important area for AFN from an environmental and cultural perspective. AFN band members fish in	The proposed right of way of the Project's Alternative Route #4 crosses the Ogoki River at the downstream end of	Before the proposed route can be finalized AFN must be able to conduct an IKLUOS in order to identify the

COMMENT #	PRELIMINARY IMPORTANT SITE	POTENTIAL IMPACT TO RIGHTS	RECOMMENDED ACTION
3	<p>the lake and hunt, gather, and trap in the area around the lake. There are cabins and overnight campsites on the shores of the lake, as well as along the Ogoki River, as well as burial sites. Patience Lake and the Ogoki River are also important habitats for Lake Sturgeon (<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>), which are a species of spiritual and cultural importance to AFN, as well as being a species of “special concern” in Southern Hudson Bay – James Bay Lowlands region.</p>	<p>Patience Lake, in close proximity to multiple cultural values sites that AFN has identified through previous studies. These values include burial sites, hunting, trapping and fishing locations, as well as overnight camping areas. The proximity of these sites to the proposed right of way would diminish the quality of these sites and potentially render them permanently unusable. Increased access to the area by non-Indigenous land users also poses impacts to these sites, as well as areas of importance throughout all of the Patience Lake area.</p>	<p>specific locations of the cultural and historic sites near Patience Lake and to document AFN members current and historic use of the area.</p>
3	<p>AFN band members hold <b>traplines</b> throughout AFN’s traditional territory, up to and north of the Albany River. Traplines are important areas for AFN to exercise trapping rights and trappers have identified that they also have cabins and overnight areas within their traplines and also use the areas for hunting, fishing and gathering.</p>	<p>AFN band members are #1 trappers on five (5) traplines that intersect with the Project’s RSA, three (3) of which are intersected directly by either one or both of the Project’s proposed right of ways. The construction and operation of the proposed road could impact the trappers’ abilities to trap as well as hunt, fish, gather and stay out on the land.</p>	<p>Before the proposed route can be finalized AFN must be able to engage with our trappers to understand their land use in their traplines and hear if they have concerns about potential impacts to their rights and interests. AFN would also like to invite the trappers to participate in an IKLUOS . We also understand that the trappers should be engaged directly by the proponent and Crown as part of the Consultation and engagement process.</p>

## APPENDIX C

The table below outlines many of the occasions where AFN has formally requested deeper consultation and additional activities or studies to ensure a meaningful consultation process.

Table 3. AFN requests for deeper Consultation

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	In order to ensure that we are able to adequately participate throughout the process, to raise potential impacts, ensure adequate mitigation of effects and ensure that the costs do not outweigh the benefits, it is AFN's position that a proper collaborative planning process and a role for AFN in the co-management of the MFFN Community Access Road is a required condition to obtain AFN's support.
Initial Project Description Review, August 29, 2019	<p>"In correspondence to the Agency on June 19, 2019, Aroland First Nation stated that is would make available Indigenous knowledge. Do you have any instructions on who the Agency can instruct the proponent work with your community to effectively integrate Indigenous knowledge in the preparation of its documents?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Aroland First Nation collects and documents Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use data independently and have expressed the need for capacity funding to MFFN to complete a community led Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use Study. Such a study will be an integral component in ensuring AFN's sacred cultural sites and ecologically significant sites are protected. CEAA and MFFN are instructed to work with Band Councillor Sheldon Atlookan to determine an appropriate arrangement for collecting and integrating AFN Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use data into the EIS. His contact is shawgatlookan@gmail.com.</li></ul>
Final TISG, 19.1 Effects to Indigenous People	<p>The list of considerations that are encouraged as "best practices" must be included to fully understand the effects of the Project on Aroland First Nation and other Indigenous groups. The assessment of potential socio-economic impacts of the project should not be encouraged, but mandatory. This is particularly critical in consideration of the impacts a road to the Ring of Fire may present and the increased industrial activity that will be enabled as a result. Understanding the cumulative socio-economic impacts this Project may lead to will be critical to an effective assessment and decision-making process.</p> <p>Recommendation: Ensure that the factors and considerations outlined as best practices are mandatory to that the socio-economic effects of the Project on Indigenous peoples is fully contemplated.</p>

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
IEPP and TISG Review, Jan 27, 2020	<p>In order to ensure that we are able to adequately participate throughout the process, to raise potential impacts, ensure adequate mitigation of effects and ensure that the costs do not outweigh the benefits, it is AFN's position that a proper collaborative planning process and a role for AFN in the co-management of the MFFN Community Access Road is a required condition to obtain AFN's support. AFN has sent a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to MFFN that sets out a two-way relationship for information sharing throughout the Project to this effect and expects to finalize the MOU with MFFN before the IAAC commences the Impact Assessment process for the Project.</p>
IEPP and TISG Review, Jan 27, 2020	<p>AFN Participation in Baseline Studies: In our review of the draft IEPP, AFN identified the importance of direct involvement in developing and executing baseline studies to support the Impact Assessment process. The final IEPP instructs the proponent to "present baseline studies" to Indigenous groups only. A requirement to share information with AFN is insufficient from our perspective in supporting a meaningful engagement, consultation and impact assessment process.</p>
Notice of Commencement	<p>AFN is looking forward to working with the IAAC to develop a community specific engagement and consultation plan that responds to the unique engagement approaches and needs of our community. We will expect that AFN's comments that have not been addressed in the general IEPP or the TISG, will be specifically addressed in this unique CSECP. Our requests for a community workshop to engage with the IAAC and the proponent on an effects assessment was not addressed in the IEPP or comment summary table. In addition, our requests to have a meeting in community to explain the final decision and how the community's input was considered is also absent. We are seeking confirmation from the IAAC that the workshop approach is something that can and will be considered as part of a community specific consultation and engagement plan.</p>
Terms of Reference, 7.1.4 Description of the Existing Environment 8.4 Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessment	<p>MFFN is aware that AFN is seeking an agreement with MFFN that includes sharing Indigenous Knowledge. Once this agreement is executed, the MFFN and AFN will be able to share Indigenous Knowledge while respecting rights and interests.</p> <p>Recommendation: Given AFN's unique location in relation to the Project, including a substantial area of traditional territory that will be overprinted by the Project, and connections to the Anaconda and Painter Lake roads that are wholly within AFN's traditional territory, AFN submits that the assessment and evaluation of effects of alternative methods should not commence until AFN's Indigenous Knowledge is available following execution of an agreement with MFFN that includes sharing Indigenous Knowledge and sufficient time and resources are available for AFN to meaningfully and effectively collect Indigenous Knowledge specific to those alternative methods [...]</p>

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
Final TISG, Section 12 Baseline Conditions -Indigenous Peoples	<p>The guidelines outline that proponents are required to engage with Indigenous groups but provides no explicit guidance and reference to methods/approaches to engaging Indigenous groups. How the proponent engages with Aroland First Nation is incredibly important and approaches undertaken in one community may not be appropriate for another. Aroland First Nation would like to influence, and jointly develop community specific engagement approaches to support effective development of baseline conditions.</p> <p>Recommendation: Recommend that the guidelines explicitly include direction to the proponent to work with each Indigenous group to determine the methods and approaches to engagement.</p>
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to MFFN Chief Achneepineskum and Council, October 20, 2020	<p>Aroland understands how important all-season road access is to the Marten Falls community and has always offered provisional support for the project. Our support has always been conditional on Marten Falls understanding the significant impacts the proposed project will have on Aroland's Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests, obtaining Aroland's permission for use of our traditional territory and working in partnership with Aroland to ensure the projects impacts could be avoided, mitigated, and accommodated. Any proposed development or activity within our territory must be explored in consultation with Aroland First Nation's membership, based on our protocols and preferred procedures.</p> <p><i>Ontario's Code of Practice: Environmental Assessments</i> sets the expectation that proponents are responsible for working with Indigenous communities to understand how they wish to be consulted. Up to this point we have relied on our joint-MOU negotiations to communicate how we wish to work with Marten Falls on this project, but given that those negotiations have concluded with no agreement in place, we request that Marten Falls work with us to develop a custom consultation process that ensures the proponent adheres, at a minimum, to the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Act in good faith;</li><li>(b) Consult with the intention of fairly and justly addressing all of Aroland's concerns through accommodation measures;</li><li>(c) Ensure transparency during the consultation and negotiation process;</li><li>(d) Provide Aroland with adequate financial support and time to ensure that Aroland has the capacity to fully engage in the process in an effective and informed manner;</li></ul>

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
	<p>(e) Provide any agreed-upon financial support, including funding for experts/consultants, in a timely manner</p> <p>(f) Provide all relevant and necessary information regarding its action or decision to Aroland as soon as such information is available, including any such information that can only be provided under a confidentiality agreement with Aroland;</p> <p>(g) Respect Aroland Rights and Aroland values;</p> <p>(h) Accommodate Aroland's concerns;</p> <p>(i) Not proceed with any action or make any decision potentially affecting Aroland Rights, Aroland Values, and/or Aroland Traditional Territory until an accommodation agreement has been entered into with Aroland providing Aroland's consent;</p> <p>(j) Honour any agreements reached with Aroland.</p> <p>We believe that establishing a custom consultation process will benefit both parties in clarifying our roles and responsibilities and ensuring a certainty of process in advancing consultation and accommodation in relation to this project.</p>
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to MFFN Chief Achneepineskum and Council, July 30, 2021	<p><i>Adequate Time</i></p> <p>AFN requires adequate time to assess and understand the potential impact to our Treaty and Aboriginal Rights and Values. This may include time to host community meetings, engage technical experts, collect and analyze Traditional Knowledge values from Elders and land users, and develop any adequate avoidance, mitigation and other accommodation measures. Currently, the MFFN Project Team has requested responses to their questions within a dictated timeframe of as short as 15 days, which is inadequate for AFN to assess and understand potential impacts and propose accommodation measures. AFN requires that timelines for addressing each study be mutually agreed upon by both parties acting reasonably and flexible enough to address unforeseen challenges.</p> <p><i>Sufficient Information</i></p> <p>In order to adequately assess and understand the potential impacts of each study, AFN requires sufficient information, which may include details of the study activities on the ground and accurate GIS location information of each proposed site. This level of detail will allow AFN to understand both how and where our Traditional Territory may be affected, and to analyze each location in detail against any mapped Value locations we have (which is not complete). The study notices provided by the MFFN</p>

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
	<p>Project Team are insufficient and provide only a general outline of activities and the maps provided suggest activities could occur anywhere within the large study area. AFN requires detailed information for each study, and the ability to request further details from the MFFN Project Team when necessary.</p> <p><i>Capacity Funding</i></p> <p>To adequately review and understand the potential impacts of each study AFN requires capacity funding to conduct community meetings, meet with the MFFN Project Team, consult technical and legal experts, and cover other reasonable review costs. Under the current funding agreement with the Government of Ontario, AFN does not have funding to participate in consultation and engagement related to each study. In each study notice, the MFFN Project Team requests detailed information from AFN but has not offered capacity funding for our participation. Adequate capacity funding must be secured for AFN and in place prior to the initiation of any mutually agreed upon timelines for engaging on each study.</p>
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to MFCAR Project Team, September 3, 2021	Aroland First Nation's consent must be obtained for any aspects of the Environmental Assessment (EA) or the road project that occur in our territory, including these and other field studies. Aroland First Nation does not consent to the conduct of these field studies [Aerial Waterfowl Migration Survey; Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat Study] in our territory because we have not been consulted or accommodated in any meaningful way whatsoever about the EA, including these studies.
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to James Bennitt, October 7, 2021	In order for us to develop a full understanding of the potential impacts of this study we require funding to hire technical advisors to help us understand the technical elements of the proposal and to interview Elders and land users who provide critical insight and context that is necessary to understand potential impacts to our Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. Elders' and land users' participation takes their time away from activities within the community and across our territory, and therefore we adhere to the custom of providing honoraria and covering expenses in acknowledgement of their contributions. This compensation, and the effort required to record, map and transcribe information shared by knowledge holders in the community requires funding and adequate time to complete in a meaningful way
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to Kathleen O'Neill, MECP, October 7, 2021	To date, AFN has not received the capacity support necessary to meaningfully participate in the Environmental Assessments for the WSR and the MFCAR. Capacity funding provided in October 2020 partially supported our review of the Terms of References for the MFCAR, but there are a variety of other engagement opportunities that have remained unsupported. While we appreciate MECP's

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to James Bennitt, October 22, 2021	<p>encouragement to participate in the consultation process, additional support is required so we can adequately assess and respond to proposals and requests from each proponent, seek technical advice and support, attend meetings, and conduct reviews to identify impact avoidance, mitigation and accommodation measures. Unsupported attempts at engagement will not lead to meaningful and informed consent from our community, and will not adequately inform proponents of their projects' impacts to our rights and interests.</p> <p>Whether through a custom consultation process with the MFCAR project team or additional funding from the Government of Ontario, until adequate capacity funding has been provided to AFN, and we have sufficient time to understand potential impacts to our Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and can develop proposals on how to address them, no field programs or studies should be approved to proceed. Your continued failure to adhere to our requests will result in our constitutional rights being violated, and this you should not take lightly.</p>
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to Amelie Nephin (MNRF), February 11, 2022	<p>[The eligible activities in participant funding agreement with the province] speak explicitly to community engagement with our membership on consultation plans relate to review of the ToR and the EA/IA Report, not ongoing permits and studies associated with the MFCAR Project. If we are expected to use this capacity funding for each permit or study notice that's provided by the Ministry or MFCAR Project Team, we will not have the financial support necessary to engage our membership on the EA/IA report and other MECP documents. In addition, this funding does not provide us with the capacity to retain the third party expertise necessary to thoroughly assess the impacts of this decision on our Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests. Third party technical advice is only supported through the existing funding for the review of the ToR, the EA/IA report and other MECP review documents.</p>
Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to Amelie Nephin (MNRF) re: Groundwater and Geotechnical studies, February 11, 2022	<p>The Ministry [MNRF] states that "the MFCAR project team have additionally made efforts to connect with AFN regarding the groundwater and geochemistry work proposed and invited AFN to meet" and "that they continue to be available to provide technical details and answer any questions regarding this proposed work." The Proponent continues to share information with Aroland, but sharing information in the absence of adequate capacity to review and retain the expertise necessary to provide comments and engage in meaningful dialogue around impact to Treaty and Aboriginal rights is not adequate consultation.</p>

COMMENT REFERENCE	COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION
<p>Letter from AFN Chief Towedo to Andrea Nokleby, MFCAR Project Team, November 17, 2023</p>	<p>Aroland First Nation takes the position that proponents and the Crown must obtain our consent for projects and activities that use and affect or harm our homeland territory and we are one of ten plaintiff First Nations in Treaty Nine pursuing a court case that says that the Treaty Nine Nations have maintained our jurisdiction over our homeland territories. We maintain our decision-making authority and control and our permission or consent is required when others want to use our homeland. Our jurisdiction, or decision-making governance rights, are based on our Anishinaabe laws and run parallel to those of the Crowns jurisdiction based on Canadian laws. Any co-jurisdiction regime developed as a result of this case or otherwise, must respect both sets of laws.</p> <p>In the Invitation for the ATRI Second Forum, October 17, 2023 it was shared that the Forum is intended to include discussions about how attendees Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights and interests may be impacted by the projects, but that discussions will not include collection of Indigenous Knowledge. But for Aroland First Nation, how we exercise our Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights and interests within our traditional territory is our Indigenous Knowledge. And that knowledge forms the basis of our laws and jurisdiction. We can't propose to understand potential impacts to our Treaty and/or Aboriginal rights without referencing, discussing or sharing our Indigenous Knowledge. But some of our Indigenous Knowledge is confidential and proprietary and we will only share it when all parties commit to respecting our data sovereignty and upholding the principles of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession). In our view, it is not possible to protect our data sovereignty and adhere to OCAP principles at a forum attended by multiple First Nations and their advisors, as well as consultants for all three projects and Crown representatives. Simply declaring a space as respectful and culturally-sensitive does not make it true.</p>



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 4 March 2024 at 16:10  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>

Hello Kyla,

Thanks for following up on your previous email. I've provided responses to your questions below in blue:

- Could you please confirm whether or not we should go ahead and add the Aroland First Nation Chief and Council emails to our contact list and if you could provide some direction on when they should receive correspondence from the MFFN CAR Project? [Please include Councillor Joe Baxter \(\[redacted\]\) and Chief Gagnon \(\[redacted\]\) on all project correspondence for the time being and I will ask if the other Councillors would also like to be included going forward and get back to you.](#)
- We had previously discussed a potential meeting next week. Since we haven't received any additional details, I wanted to confirm that was no longer the case. Are there any updates you might be able to provide? [Chief Gagnon has confirmed that he would like the MFCAR project team to visit Aroland to host a community meeting and introduce the project to community members. We are waiting on confirmation from AFN staff about potential meetings in Aroland next week but I agree that even if those are to go ahead it would not be enough time to coordinate the logistics for an MFCAR community meeting. Perhaps your team could provide some suggestions for potential dates that would work for you and I can share that with AFN to find a time that works for everyone.](#)
- The Community Coordinator Program is still available. Would Aroland First Nation be interested in participating in this program? Are there any questions about the program? [AFN currently employs a Community Consultation Coordinator to support engagement with band members. However, given that there is still funding available to execute the Community Coordinator Program AFN may be interested in discussing alternative uses for the funding to support AFN's participation and involvement in studies and engagement. For any potential studies AFN requires that they are in charge of coordinating and leading any studies or initiatives that occur in the community and that they have ownership and control over all data that is collected in a manner consistent with OCAP principles and Indigenous data sovereignty best practices.](#)

Please let me know if you have any further questions at this time.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

[\(He/him – why is this here?\)](#)

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## MFFN CAR - Milestone #2 Progress Report and ATRI Existing Conditions Report

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Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]> 19 March 2024 at 18:35  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, Andrea Nokleby <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>

Hello Kyla,

Thanks for resharing the response to the ATRI letter. I can confirm that AFN has received it.

As far as I'm aware AFN has not received any draft preliminary route selection mapping.

Thanks,

[Quoted text hidden]  
[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### MFFN CAR Project Updates

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 19 March 2024 at 18:40  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hello Kyla,

Thanks for your note.

Regarding the Community Coordinator Job Posting that you shared, I'd like to reiterate my response on behalf of AFN from the previous email and ask that the MFFN CAR Project Team reach out to AFN to discuss alternative uses for the funding that's available for the Community Consultation Program to support AFN's own studies and initiatives. From the previous email:

AFN currently employs a Community Consultation Coordinator to support engagement with band members. However, given that there is still funding available to execute the Community Coordinator Program AFN may be interested in discussing alternative uses for the funding to support AFN's participation and involvement in studies and engagement. For any potential studies AFN requires that they are in charge of coordinating and leading any studies or initiatives that occur in the community and that they have ownership and control over all data that is collected in a manner consistent with OCAP principles and Indigenous data sovereignty best practices.

Thanks so much,

[Quoted text hidden]  
[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Aroland First Nation**

Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>

27 March 2024 at 12:35

Hi Kyla,

Contact for Chief and Council is:

- Chief Gagnon [redacted]
- Bernard Gagnon [redacted]
- Chad Kashkeesh [redacted]
- Eunice Magiskan [redacted]
- Joe Baxter [redacted]
- Mark Bell [redacted]
- Tyrell Gagnon [redacted]

And please include Band Administrator Richard Herbert [redacted]

Please let me know if there's any more information you need for this.

Thanks,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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[Quoted text hidden]

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 28 March 2024 at 10:52  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>

Hi Kyla,

Thanks for the clarification. I will follow up with Chief and Council about this and we'll get back to your team as soon as possible.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

J. Richard Herbert <[redacted]>

3 April 2024 at 07:56

Reply-To: [redacted]  
 To: "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Rojin Amani <[redacted]>, Meghan Buckham <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <[redacted]>  
 <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, [redacted]

C&C are scheduled for the 16 and 17th but open, according to my schedule, for the 18th

Richard

Dr. J. Richard G. Herbert B. SC., D.V.M.  
Band Administrator

#### Aroland First Nation

[redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 Phone: [redacted] Fax: [redacted]  
 Cell: [redacted]  
 [redacted]

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

**Bernard Gagnon** <[REDACTED]> 3 April 2024 at 11:10  
 To: Richard Hebert <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[REDACTED]>, Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>,  
 Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Chad Kashkish  
 <[REDACTED]>, Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Tyrell Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Rojin Amani  
 <[REDACTED]>, Meghan Buckham <[REDACTED]>, Linda Moonias <[REDACTED]>,  
 Shane Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Maria Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>,  
 Robert Moonias <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>,  
 Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Yvonne  
 <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "[REDACTED]"  
 <[REDACTED]>

I'll be available for Friday the 19th  
Sent from my iPhone



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 3 April 2024 at 14:09  
 To: "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>

Hello Lucia,

Thanks for your email. I have reached out to Aroland's Chief and Council about the possibility of meeting on the alternative dates that you've suggested. However, Aroland's Chief and Council had just confirmed that the Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> date would work for them and in some cases have made accommodations to their schedules to prioritize the Nation-to-Nation meeting. They would like to keep the meeting on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> as it was originally proposed in Chief Achneepineskum's letter last week.

Please advise if Marten Falls First Nation's Chief and Council are able to make the Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> date work for scheduling the Nation-to-Nation meeting.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]> 4 April 2024 at 12:17  
 To: "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[REDACTED]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>, Linda Moonias <[REDACTED]>, Shane Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Maria Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>, Robert Moonias <[REDACTED]>, Bob Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[REDACTED]>, Yvonne Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Lawrence Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, Jeremy Shute <[REDACTED]>

Hi Lucia,

Thanks very much for confirming the date and time. I have reached out to AFN's Chief and Council about preferences for location and food and will relay their responses to you.

I'd also like to confirm with you that as a Nation-to-Nation meeting only MFFN and AFN's respective leaderships will be attending and consultants and legal counsel will not be participating. Is this also MFFN's understanding?



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 10 April 2024 at 10:57  
 To: "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, " <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>

Hello Lucia,

I just wanted to check in on the logistics and planning for the Nation to Nation meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup> in Thunder Bay. I have not received any requests from Aroland's Chief and Council about location or catering, so I think it's safe to say that we can go ahead and book everything.

I also just wanted to send you a head's up that I will be out of the office next week and unable to assist in any logistics or communications after this Friday. I'm back in the office on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. While I hope that everything will be planned and arranged before the end of this week, my colleague Laura Sayers ([redacted]) will be available to support with any communications between AFN and MFFN next week if necessary.

Thanks very much!



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

J. Richard Herbert <[redacted]> 10 April 2024 at 12:26  
 Reply-To: [redacted]  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <[redacted]>, info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca, " <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>

Andrew,

To clarify, my understanding is that Martin Falls is handling, venue, meals, accommodations and travel. If I am not correct, I need to speak to C&C.

Thanks

Richard

Dr. J. Richard G. Herbert B. SC., D.V.M.  
Band Administrator

#### Aroland First Nation

[redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 Phone: [redacted] Fax: [redacted]  
 Cell: [redacted]  
 [redacted]

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

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## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

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Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

12 April 2024 at 10:24

Hi Kyla,

Welcome back! Yes, a call this morning would be great. Are you available at 11am EST?

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**New SVS contacts for Aroland First Nation**

**Andrew Peach** <[redacted]> 12 April 2024 at 12:26  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>  
Cc: Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>

Hi Kyla,

As we discussed here is the contact information for the new team members. If it's possible to add them to all future communications for the Marten Falls Community Access Road project that would be excellent.

Ashley Childs: [redacted]

Andrew Dieleman: [redacted]

And Laura Sayers will be supporting as well while I'm away: [redacted].

All are Cc'd here as well.

Thanks so much!

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

J. Richard Herbert <[redacted]> 12 April 2024 at 11:19  
 Reply-To: [redacted]  
 To: Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <[redacted]>, info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca, " <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>

Andrew,

AFN needs to ensure there is a place for Jerry, our CCC, to participate in this meeting. Please confirm that accommodations are included for him.

Thank you,

Richard

Dr. J. Richard G. Herbert B. SC., D.V.M.  
Band Administrator

**Aroland First Nation**

[redacted]  
 [redacted]  
 Phone: [redacted] Fax: [redacted]  
 Cell: [redacted]

<https://www.arolandfirstnation.ca>



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

### Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

**Bruce Achneepineskum** <[redacted]> 15 April 2024 at 16:12  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Laura Sayers <[redacted]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Councillor Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Councillor Bernard Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Chad Kashkish <[redacted]>, Councillor Eunice Magiskan <[redacted]>, Councillor Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Councillor Tyrell Gagnon <[redacted]>, Richard Herbert <[redacted]>, Linda Moonias <[redacted]>, Shane Baxter <[redacted]>, Maria Baxter <[redacted]>, Paul Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Robert Moonias <[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Russell Achneepineskum <[redacted]>, Yvonne Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>

Good afternoon, so the venue is delta hotel by marina and time is 9-2 pm with breakfast and lunch provided . This meeting is for Council to Council only and a recorder- assistant provided by each FN . Other than Council members and recorder - assistant no other staff or consultants will be there. A zoom should be set up also if Council that can't make it can join.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Re-Engagement and Consultation

---

Laura Sayers <[REDACTED]>  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Ashley Childs <[REDACTED]>

17 April 2024 at 09:50

Hi Kyla,

I understand that you had been talking to Andrew Peach about whether Jerry could attend the meeting. Were you able to get a response on this? It's still not clear from the email below as he would be attending as an Elder (not staff or consultant).

Andrew has also shared the draft agenda with Aroland Chief and Council and they didn't have anything further to add as of EOD yesterday. See attached. I understand that you can finalize it and add in any MFFN items as necessary and circulate it to everyone.

And finally, I did follow up to reach out about dietary restrictions with Aroland from your earlier email, but no one has come forward with any special requests.

Please reach out if needed.

Thanks!

**Laura Sayers, H.B.Sc, PMP | Senior Consultant | Lands & Planning Team Lead**

(She/her – [why is this here?](#))

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 AFN\_MFCAR\_N2N\_Agenda\_DRAFT\_2024.04.12.docx  
26K

## Draft Agenda for Nation-to-Nation Meeting

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation

Agenda Item	Topic of Discussion	Timing
1	Welcome and Introductions	9:00 am – 9:30 am
2	Opening Remarks and Purpose of the Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunity for each Chief and Council member to provide their perspective</li></ul>	
3	Review <u>Communications Protocol between Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are there any changes that either party would like to see?</li><li>• Are both parties satisfied with the protocol?</li></ul>	9:30 am – 10:00 am
4	Opportunities, Concerns and Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the opportunities and benefits of working together?</li><li>• What challenges do each party face in working together more effectively?</li><li>• What needs to happen?</li></ul>	10:00 am – 11:00 am
5	The Path Forward Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential community meetings in Aroland for Community Access Road project</li><li>• Relationship building</li><li>• Actions and Next Steps</li></ul>	11:00 am – 12:00 pm



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Re: Potential May 28th Marten Falls-Aroland meeting in Thunder Bay**

**Andrew Peach** <[redacted]> 21 May 2024 at 18:33  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>  
Cc: "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>  
<[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>

Hello Kyla and Qasim,

I hope that you're both well and have had a relaxing long weekend.

At the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting Marten Falls and Aroland discussed a few options for potential future meetings. One date that was discussed was next Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Aroland's project team will be in Thunder Bay for meetings and extended an invite to members of the Marten Falls project team to meet in the afternoon to share project updates and continue discussions about working together. I just wanted to follow up to see if the Marten Falls project team is available next Tuesday afternoon to meet? If so we can put together a draft agenda for what we would like to discuss at the time.

We have not finalized the location, but are looking into booking a meeting space at the Delta hotel that we could use for the meeting. If the date works for your team we can share more details about the location as we finalize our plans.

We look forward to hearing from you,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

**Re: Potential May 28th Marten Falls-Aroland meeting in Thunder Bay**

**Andrew Peach** <[redacted]> 22 May 2024 at 11:46  
To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>  
Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, "[redacted]" <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Don McKinnon <[redacted]>

Good Morning Qasim,

Thanks for your quick response. I think that it makes sense to meet in the morning of Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Since your charter departs at noon, would it be feasible to meet from 9:00 AM to 10:00 or perhaps 10:30? Please let us know what time your team would need to depart for the airport and we'll update our schedule to reflect that time.

Thanks very much for your flexibility,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## MFFN CAR - Phone call

---

Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>

22 May 2024 at 16:10

Hi Kyla,

Would you be available at 4:30? Please feel free to give me a call then.

Thanks,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## MFFN CAR Groundwater and Geochemistry Program - Field Work Participation

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[REDACTED]>

23 May 2024 at 09:52

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Richard Herbert <[REDACTED]>, Ashley Childs <[REDACTED]>, Andrew Dieleman <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[REDACTED]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[REDACTED]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>

Thank you for the information.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## good day

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[REDACTED]>  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>

23 May 2024 at 11:10

i asked our ontario works and forward the details of the job .if they have anyone she will give me a name of persons interested .also the job will be posted on our community facebook,i myself will be talking and ask some people if there interested. thanks .



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

**good afternoon .**

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[REDACTED]>  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>

23 May 2024 at 14:03

re,,water sampling .  
we found a person that is willing to do the job ,needs info  
names,phone number,when , where to go in geraldton.etc.  
could you send me this .

[REDACTED]  
has own vehicle



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## re onboard training names

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[REDACTED]>  
To: Kyla Zielbauer <[REDACTED]>

24 May 2024 at 09:46

[REDACTED] phone number [REDACTED]

has power saw certificate

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

alternative .

[REDACTED] phone number [REDACTED]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## re onboard training names

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[REDACTED]>

24 May 2024 at 15:50

To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Andrew Peach <[REDACTED]>, Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>,  
Councillor Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Ashley Childs <[REDACTED]>, Andrew  
Dieleman <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin  
<[REDACTED]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[REDACTED]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[REDACTED]>,  
"Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>, "Angelis, Niki"  
<[REDACTED]>

Sounds good, thank you.



Zielbauer, Kyla <[REDACTED]>

---

## re onboard training names

---

**Andrew Peach** <[REDACTED]> 28 May 2024 at 10:34  
To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[REDACTED]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[REDACTED]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[REDACTED]>, Ashley Childs <[REDACTED]>, Andrew Dieleman <[REDACTED]>, Qasim Saddique <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Bruin <[REDACTED]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[REDACTED]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[REDACTED]>, "Deveaux, Leah" <[REDACTED]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[REDACTED]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[REDACTED]>

Hi Kyla,

I just spoke with Jerry about this and he suggested reaching out to [REDACTED] on his new cell phone: [REDACTED]

Thanks,  
Andrew Peach

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## Aroland First Nation - MFFN CAR Project Meetings June 19 & 20

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 17 June 2024 at 11:32  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, "Trimble Exner, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, "Angelis, Niki" <[redacted]>, "Cugnet, Jaimie" <[redacted]>, "Ratajczak, Gabbie" <[redacted]>

Hi Kyla,

We have not used a translator for meetings in the past so I believe that you should be OK without one this week. Aws for the number of attendees on Wednesday, it is an open invitation to members in Thunder Bay so it's hard to say how many will choose to attend, but we have never had more than 25 attend an extended meeting in Thunder Bay in the past.

Regarding the payment for the dinner on Thursday, I'll defer to Jerry as he can coordinate with the group that are preparing the meal and Aroland's finance department.

I'm back in the office for the whole week so don't hesitate to reach out if you have any more questions.

Thanks,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFFN CAR Project Updates

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 26 June 2024 at 16:18  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Councillor Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Hi Kyla,

Following conversations between AFN and MFFN Chief and Council have decided that they would like to hire a Community Consultation Coordinator as part of the Marten Falls program. We have the job posting that you've provided and will post that shortly. Could you please let us know what your team will need from AFN in order to get everything in place for this position to be hired?

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 28 June 2024 at 12:07  
 To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>

Hello Qasim,

As we discussed at our task force meeting in June, Aroland would like to access the IK funding that the Marten Falls Project Team has made available. Aroland's legal counsel has reviewed the IK Sharing Agreement and the IK Program Funding Agreement and made some minor edits to both documents. I've attached a word version of each document with track changes for your team to review the edits that Aroland is suggesting. If you are OK with these edits, we've also attached clean edited versions that have been approved and signed by Chief Gagnon.

Please review, and if you accept the changes, sign the final versions and return them to us as soon as possible. We are planning to mobilize a study team the week of July 22-26, dependent on this funding being in place.

NOTE: I will be out of office from July 2-9 inclusive so please direct any questions or inquiries to Jeremy Shute (Cc'd).

Thanks very much!

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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**4 attachments**

-  **MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement 2024\_CGsigned.pdf**  
211K
-  **MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement 2024\_CGsigned.pdf**  
358K
-  **MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_ Confidential Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement 2023 kk edits.docx**  
20K
-  **MFFN CAR\_Aroland FN\_Indigenous Knowledge Program Funding Agreement 2023 kk edits.docx**  
41K



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

Jeremy Shute <[redacted]> 4 July 2024 at 16:26  
 To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

Hey Qasim,

Just checking in on these items.

Happy to talk if that would be helpful.

Regards,

Jeremy

**Jeremy Shute, MA, RPP | Senior Planner**

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## Poster for next meeting

---

**Jerry Shabogamik** <[redacted]>

5 July 2024 at 11:11

To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>

Cc: Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach

<[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer

<[redacted]>, Bob Baxter <[redacted]>, Lawrence Baxter <[redacted]>, Ariane Heisey

Will do, thanks!

[Quoted text hidden]



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

---

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

---

**Mark Bell** <[redacted]> 5 July 2024 at 14:38  
To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>  
Cc: Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach  
<[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon  
<[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik  
<[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver  
<[redacted]>

Can't we discuss this on our task force meeting?

Mark Bell  
Implementation Coordinator AFN#242/GGM



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

# AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

Mark Bell <[redacted]> 5 July 2024 at 14:46  
 To: Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Kyla Zielbauer <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Andrew Peach <[redacted]>, Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Jerry Shabogamik <[redacted]>, Joe Baxter <[redacted]>, Leah Culver <[redacted]>

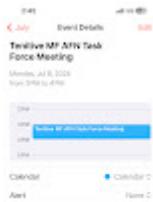
Sorry last one was old

Mark Bell  
Implementation Coordinator AFN#242/GGM

[Redacted text block]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



IMG\_3007.jpeg  
348K



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## MFCAR: Invitation to Join Helicopter Fly-over July 19th

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 16 July 2024 at 14:30  
 To: "Deveaux, Leah" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Andrew Dieleman <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>, "Jara Moreno, Lucia" <[redacted]>, "Trimble, Ingrid" <[redacted]>, Danny Kuenstler <[redacted]>, "McEwen, Kate" <[redacted]>, "Price, Katelyn" <[redacted]>, "Fisken, Avril" <[redacted]>, qsaddique <[redacted]>, jennifer <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>

Hi Leah,

I have reached out to Jerry to see if he is able to find someone. I am also aware that he will be travelling to Thunder Bay for the Marten Falls Community Access Road meeting and may be unable to identify an available monitor, given the short notice.

Aroland have expressed interest in having monitors participate in fieldwork activities where possible, but it can take several days to identify and confirm the availability of monitors in each instance. We hope that we can work together further in advance of phase 2 this fall/winter to identify and confirm an available monitor and ensure Aroland's participation.

Kind regards,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

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# Subject: Fwd: resume

Tue, 16 Ju



[Redacted] <[Redacted]>  
to info

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>  
Date: Tue, Jul 16, 2024, 10:30 a.m.  
Subject: resume  
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>

resume

One attachment • Scanned by Gmail



<p><b>PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY</b></p> <p>Organized and motivated employee eager to apply time management and organizational skills in various environments. Seeking entry-level opportunities to expand skills while facilitating company growth.</p> <p>Dynamic, creative professional with experience teaching in classrooms and online. Expert in using a variety of methods to engage and motivate students to reach their language goals. Proven track record of developing and delivering successful lessons to students of all ages and backgrounds. Passionate about helping students to learn and grow.</p>	<p><b>CONTACT</b></p> <p>☎ 807-285-6269</p> <p>✉ jffregagnon@gmail.com</p> <p>📍 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2L9</p>
<p> <b>Resume_3 (1).pdf</b></p>	



Zielbauer, Kyla <[redacted]>

## AFN-MFFN CAR Indigenous Knowledge Funding Agreements

Andrew Peach <[redacted]> 31 July 2024 at 17:55  
 To: "Zielbauer, Kyla" <[redacted]>  
 Cc: Chief Gagnon <[redacted]>, Sonny Gagnon <[redacted]>, Jeremy Shute <[redacted]>, Ashley Childs <[redacted]>, Mark Bell <[redacted]>, Qasim Saddique <[redacted]>, Jennifer Bruin <[redacted]>, Andrea Nokleby <[redacted]>, Lucia Jara Moreno <[redacted]>, Valdine Walker <[redacted]>, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team <info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

Thanks, Kyla.

I'll touch base with Jerry about the best way to set up payments and will get back about that.

Please let me know if your team has any further questions about the IK sharing agreement.

Thanks very much,

**Andrew Peach, MSc | Planning Consultant**

(He/him – why is this here?)

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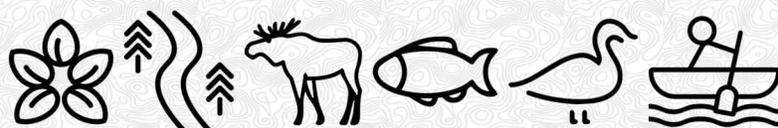
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[Quoted text hidden]

This message is directed in confidence solely to the person(s) named above and may contain privileged, confidential or private information which is not to be disclosed. If you are not the addressee or an authorized representative thereof, please contact the undersigned and then destroy this message.

## B2.3 Draft Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Preliminary Existing Conditions Report





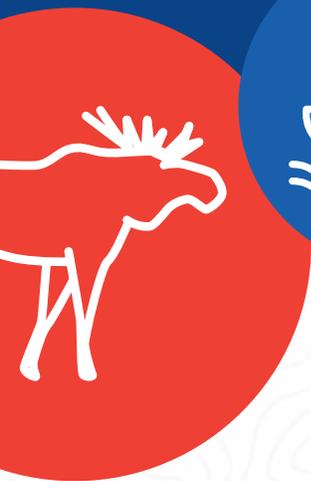
Aroland First Nation

Marten Falls First Nation

# Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests: Preliminary Existing Conditions Report

Marten Falls First Nation Community  
Access Road Project

**WORKING DOCUMENT**



## Contacts

**Bob Baxter, MFFN Community Advisor**

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Website: [martenfallsaccessroad.ca](http://martenfallsaccessroad.ca)

**Andrea Nokleby, Project Consultant**

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

**November 28, 2023**

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# Introduction



Marten Falls First Nation is the Proponent of a proposed all-season Community Access Road (the Project). The Project would connect the community to the Ontario provincial highway network (**Figure 1-1**). The Project is subject to the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* and associated regulatory processes. As part of these regulatory processes, the Proponent is required to assess the potential impacts of the Project on the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples, including on Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights which are recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. The Project Team is currently consulting with 23 Indigenous communities, including Marten Falls First Nation, who may have Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests that have the potential to be adversely impacted by the Project. As a First Nation Proponent, constitutionally protected rights are of the upmost importance and significance to Marten Falls First Nation.

The purpose of this *Preliminary Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Existing Conditions Report* is to:



Share our current understanding of rights and interests within the Project area specific to each Indigenous community;

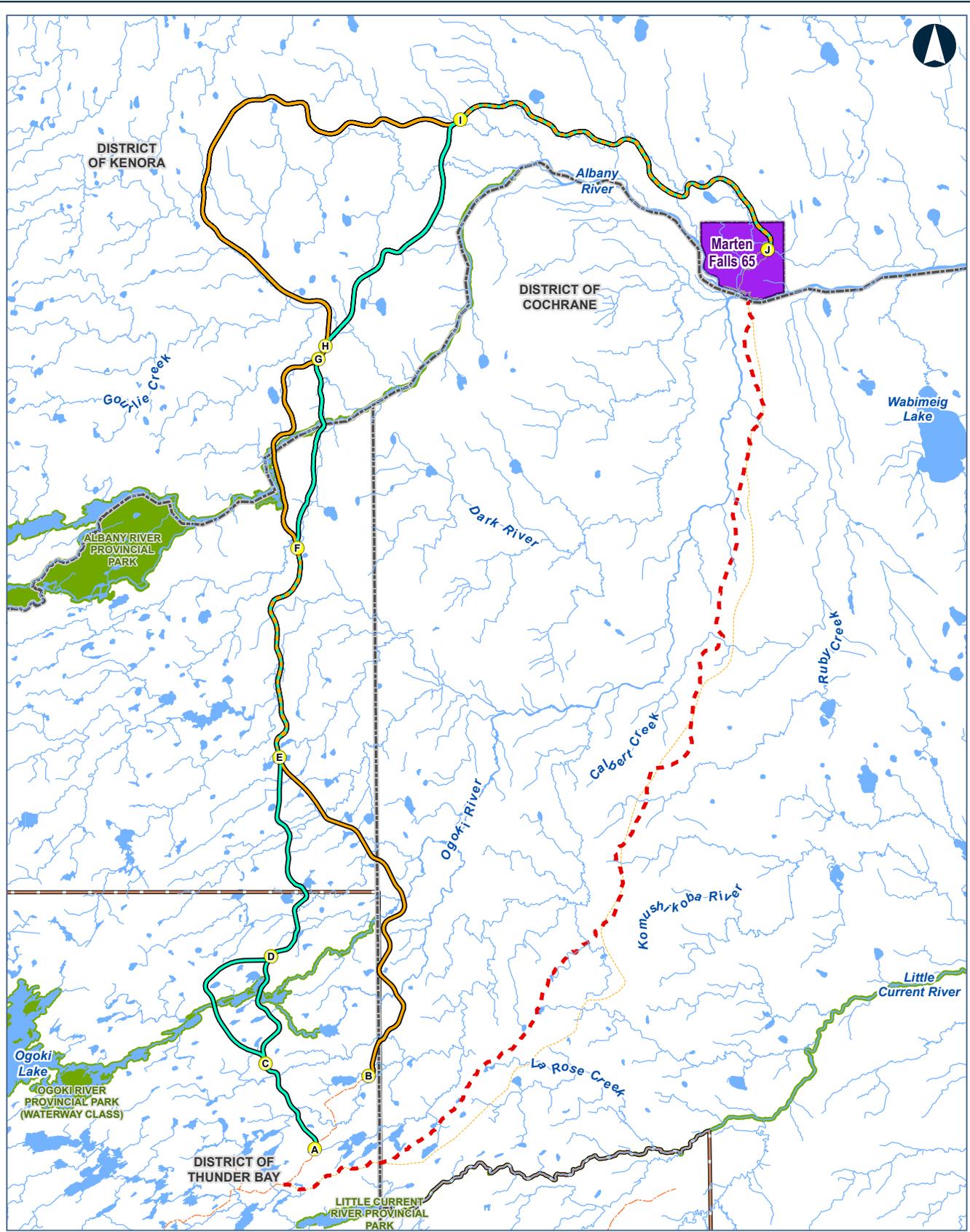


Provide our understanding of how rights are currently being exercised within the Project area; and



Seek your review and feedback on our current understanding.

The report begins with background information about the proposed Project and Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests, and why it is so important to have a strong understanding of rights and interests relevant to the proposed Project (**Section 1**). This is followed by our understanding of the historical and regional context with respect to Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests and how they have been cumulatively impacted to date (**Section 2**). The next section includes our understanding of your community today, including Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests that have the potential to be impacted by the proposed Project (**Section 3**). The report concludes with an overview of the next steps in the regulatory processes and how Marten Falls First Nation will continue to work with Indigenous communities on assessing the potential impacts of the Project on the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests of Indigenous peoples (**Section 4**).



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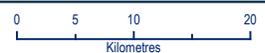
- Route Alternative Node
- - - Existing Winter Access Road
- Provincial Park
- Route Label**
- Alternative 1
- Alternative 4
- Alternative 1 and Alternative 4
- General Features**
- Local Road
- - - Winter Road
- - - Resource / Recreation Road
- - - Railway
- Watercourse
- First Nation Reserve
- Far North Boundary
- District Municipal Boundary
- Waterbody

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**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

Project Overview



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**Figure 1-1**

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## 1.1 Imagining Access – Why the Project?

The Project will offer Marten Falls First Nation the opportunity to grow as a community but also be part of the social and economic fabric of the region and country. The Community Access Road will reduce transportation costs for goods and services, making food, gas, and other supplies cheaper. It will help families be together in the community and increase social interactions with other communities. It will also provide a vital connection to emergency, health, and social services.

The development of the Community Access Road will mean that Marten Falls First Nation can begin to forge partnerships with businesses and governments to grow social and economic development opportunities. Opportunities will mean more training and jobs for youth in the region. In the near future, Marten Falls First Nation members will be able to work from their home community and spend or save their hard-earned money at the nearest urban centres. The road will also allow for the continuation of Marten Falls First Nation people on the land because community members will be able to access the lands and waters at a fraction of the price it is now for transportation.

Presently, many Marten Falls First Nation members, especially the youth, have migrated to the cities and towns in search of a better life. It only makes sense that they get a chance at a better life right in their own territory. The Community Access Road will support Marten Falls First Nation in repatriating their members and youth, and in continuing to honour their role as stewards of the lands, waters, and resources as their ancestors did.

## 1.2 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Overview

For the purpose of this report, Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests are defined as follows.

**Aboriginal Rights** refer to the collective rights to practice traditions and customs that distinguish the unique culture of Indigenous groups and societies, which have been practiced since prior to European contact. These rights are grounded in the recognition of the status of Indigenous groups and societies as the original peoples of Canada, and their continued use and occupation of the land since before European contact; these rights flow to the descendants of Indigenous groups and societies on this basis. Aboriginal rights are not specifically defined under Section 35 as they can vary from group to group depending on the customs, practices and traditions that have formed part of their distinctive cultures, but they may include (CIRNAC, 2023):

- Indigenous title or ownership rights to land;
- Right to occupy and use lands and resources, such as hunting and fishing rights;
- Self-determination and self-government rights; and
- Cultural and social rights.



**Treaty Rights** are rights that are set out in historic and modern treaty agreements, including Treaty 9 and the Robinson-Superior Treaty, where the proposed Project is located. Treaties define specific rights, benefits, and obligations for the signatories of them, and vary depending on the time and circumstances in which they were negotiated (CIRNAC, 2023).

**Aboriginal Interests** refer to all requirements relating to Indigenous peoples required by both the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*. In addition to an assessment on potential impacts to Section 35 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Interests also include impacts under federal jurisdiction with respect to Indigenous peoples, including impacts on (i) physical and cultural heritage, (ii) current use of land and resources for traditional purposes, (iii) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance, and any change occurring in Canada to the health, social or economic conditions of Indigenous peoples in Canada (IAAC & BCEAO, 2022). Therefore, Interests include those identified by Indigenous groups with respect to potential economic, social, health, heritage, or environmental effects of the proposed Project, which may or may not be directly related to specific Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights.

Note: Interests related to Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights only are presented in this **Preliminary Existing Conditions Report**. Interests that are not specifically related to Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights are presented in the existing conditions reports prepared by other disciplines (e.g., Socio-Economic, Land and Resource Use). Relevant information prepared by other disciplines will be used to inform the assessment on Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests.





### 1.2.1 What is the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment Process?

The assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed Project on Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests is intended to be flexible and adaptable. The impact assessment process is generally undertaken as a series of seven steps (IAAC, 2022), as shown in **Figure 1-2**. Steps may need to be revisited and revised based on inputs from, and the specific context of, potentially affected Indigenous communities.

Dialogue (and ideally collaboration) with Indigenous communities throughout the process enables modifications to the process, if and as needed, and promotes a holistic understanding and consideration of Indigenous community needs, protocols, rights, and interests.

It is important to note that the steps of the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests impact assessment are not completed in isolation of each other (i.e., step 1 does not need to be fully completed before moving onto the next step). This is because of the interconnectedness of the steps, the iterative nature of the process, the volume of information that is collected during the process, and the dialogue with Indigenous communities throughout the process.

**Figure 1-2:** Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Impact Assessment Process





The Marten Falls First Nation Project Team is currently working through Steps 1 to 3. This **Preliminary Existing Conditions Report** is a working document that has been developed based on dialogue with and inputs received from Indigenous communities to date and an extensive literature review of publicly available documents. By sharing this Preliminary Existing Conditions Report, we are wanting to work with Indigenous communities to validate, build on and / or revise our understanding of:

- Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests relevant to the proposed Project (Step 1);
- The context in which impacts on these rights and interests have already occurred, and how the proposed Project may further impact rights and interests (Step 2); and
- The guiding values and topics associated with community well-being, cultural expression, and the preferred means of exercising rights (Step 3).

The next steps in the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Impact Assessment process is to collaborate with Indigenous communities to grow the Proponent's understanding of:

- Pathways of potential impacts from the proposed Project (Step 4);
- Anticipated levels of impact that the Project may have (Step 5); and
- Measures and / or actions that can be taken to address potential impacts including the associated pathways (Step 6).
- The final step (Step 7) is to engage with communities to validate the outcomes of the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Impact Assessment.





### **1.2.2 Proposed Study Areas for the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment**

Study areas identify the geographic areas within which potential effects of the Project may occur. These study areas are used to guide the data collection and assessment processes.

The Project has both a general Study Area and a Project Development Area which are defined as follows:

- Project Study Area- includes the area within 2.5 km of each side of the centreline of each alternative route (resulting in a 5 km wide Study Area). The preliminary Study Area generally allows for the documentation of existing conditions and prediction of potential effects for the Project. A 5 km wide Study Area provides flexibility for route refinements that may arise during the Environmental Assessment process through advancement of design (e.g., adjustment of the road alignment to avoid features). The specific location of Project components, including the roadway, quarries, borrow areas, aggregate source areas and temporary infrastructure, are not yet known and will be determined in the Environmental Assessment.
- Project Development Area – encompasses the 100-metre-wide Community Access Road right-of-way, temporary construction access roads, work areas, worker camps, and pits, quarries and associated access roads.

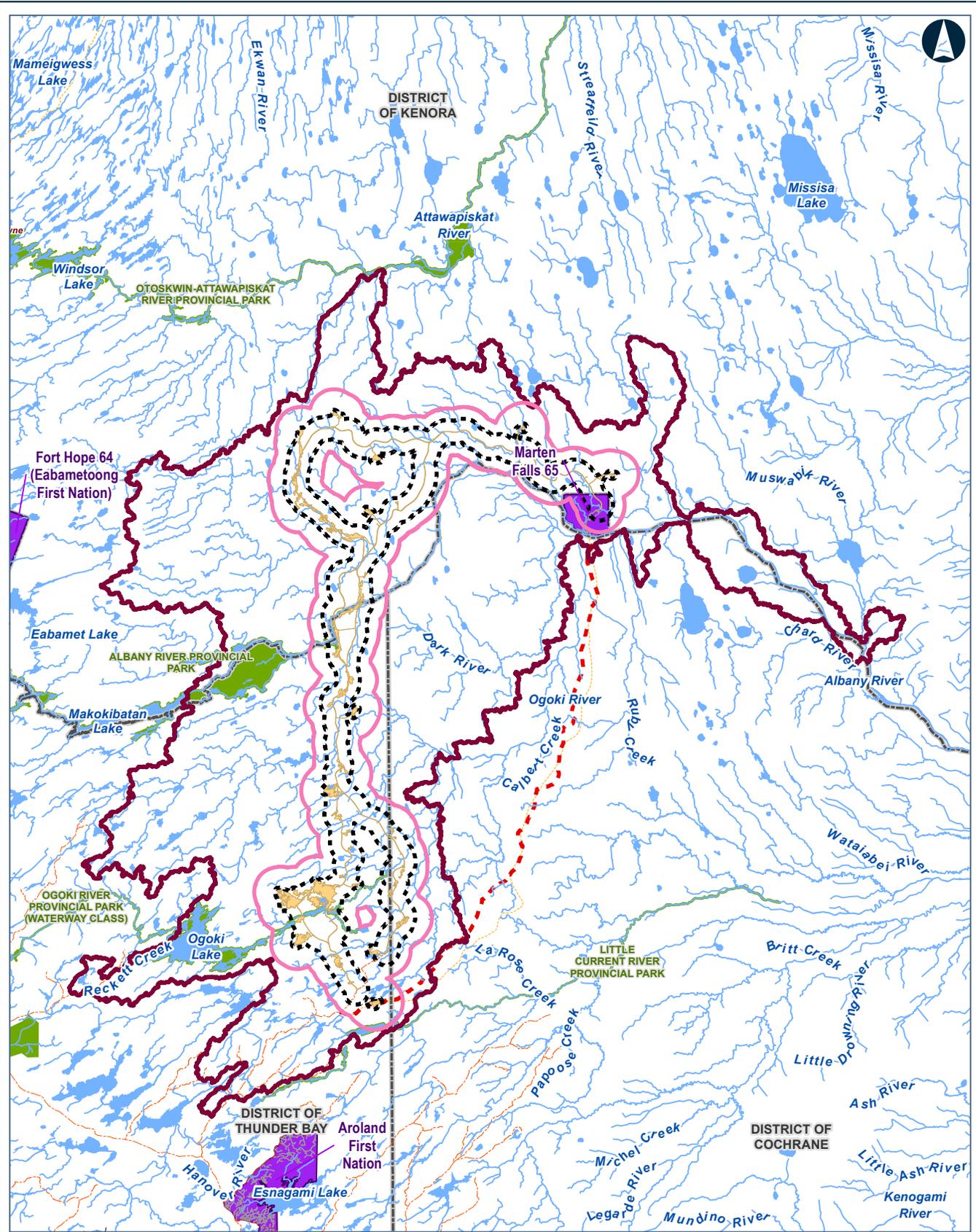


In addition to the Project Study Area and the Project Development Area, study areas have been identified for the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests assessment. Information on the proposed study areas for the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests impact assessment and associated requests for input have been previously shared with all potentially affected Indigenous communities, as follows:

- **August 2020:** The Project Team shared the Preliminary Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Study Areas Memo with Indigenous communities for review and comment.
- **September 2020:** The Project Team received valuable feedback from Indigenous communities on the preliminary study areas.
- **January 2021:** The Project Team revised the proposed study areas for the assessment based on feedback received and distributed an Update on the Proposed Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Study Areas Memo outlining the changes and requesting any feedback.
- **August 2022:** The Project Team revised the proposed study areas based on changes to the proposed Project Development Area for the Project. Changes to the Project Development Area resulted to changes in the proposed Local Study Area for the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests assessment only; there were no changes to the proposed Regional Study Area for the assessment. An Update on the Proposed Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Study Areas Memo, outlining the changes and requesting any feedback, was distributed to Indigenous communities.

The current study areas for the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and / or Interests assessment (as of September 2023) are shown in **Figure 1-3**.





**Legend**

Project Study Area	Local Road	First Nation Reserve
ATRI Local Study Area	Winter Road	District Municipal Boundary
ATRI Regional Study Area	Resource / Recreation Road	Waterbody
Project Development Area	Existing Winter Access Road	Provincial Park
	Railway	
	Watercourse	

**Notes:**  
1. Local and Regional Study Areas are Preliminary.

**Data Source:**  
Base Data: Provided by MNR 2019; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2019. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

Study Areas for the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Impact Assessment

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Kilometres

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**Figure 1-3**

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## 1.3 A Shared Understanding – Working Together

Marten Falls First Nation is committed to developing a shared understanding of Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests within the assessment study areas. The Project Team recognizes that there are things that may have been missed or misunderstood with respect to community Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests, and the intent in preparing and sharing this **preliminary report** is to encourage the community to validate, build-on, and /or correct any misunderstandings.

This report sets the stage for the Project Team’s understanding of community Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests and will be foundational to the impact assessment that will be completed in the future. By understanding the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests of communities in relation to the proposed Project, the Project Team will be better positioned to have informed conversations with potentially impacted Indigenous communities and their members.

It is the objective of the Project Team to avoid, mitigate or reduce potential negative impacts associated with the proposed Project while enhancing potential positive impacts related to Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests.





# Historical and Regional Context



The culture, knowledge, and history of Indigenous peoples is passed down through oral stories and accounts from generation to generation. The following chapter presents an historical and regional overview of the Indigenous peoples in the region. The information presented below was collected from written academic articles, journals, and other publicly available documents, many of which were informed by oral history. Indigenous authors and publishers were sought where possible to capture a more authentic understanding of the history, culture, rights, and interests of Indigenous peoples, both pre- and post-contact, and how Indigenous peoples and their rights and interests have been cumulatively impacted to date.

Note: the term “Indian”, which is the historical term used by the Crown for First Nations peoples in Canada, is used throughout **Section 2** when referencing historical documents and associated content.

## 2.1 Pre-Contact Context

**Section 2.1.1** to **2.1.6** describe aspects of the societies of Indigenous peoples of the region prior to more consistent contact with Europeans (pre-contact), which occurred in the mid- to late-17<sup>th</sup> century.

The Indigenous peoples of what is now known as northern Ontario primarily consisted of the Anishinaabeg (which translates to ‘Original People’) and the Cree peoples (The Canadian Encyclopedia, 2023).

The Anishinaabeg in this region of Ontario have been referred to as the Northern Ojibwa. The Cree people of this region are known as the Omushkegowuk (‘People of the Muskeg’). Throughout **Section 2.1.1** to **2.1.6**, ‘Indigenous peoples’ refers to the Anishinaabeg and the Omushkegowuk peoples of the region specifically, unless otherwise stated. Information on the community as it is today – is provided in **Section 3**.



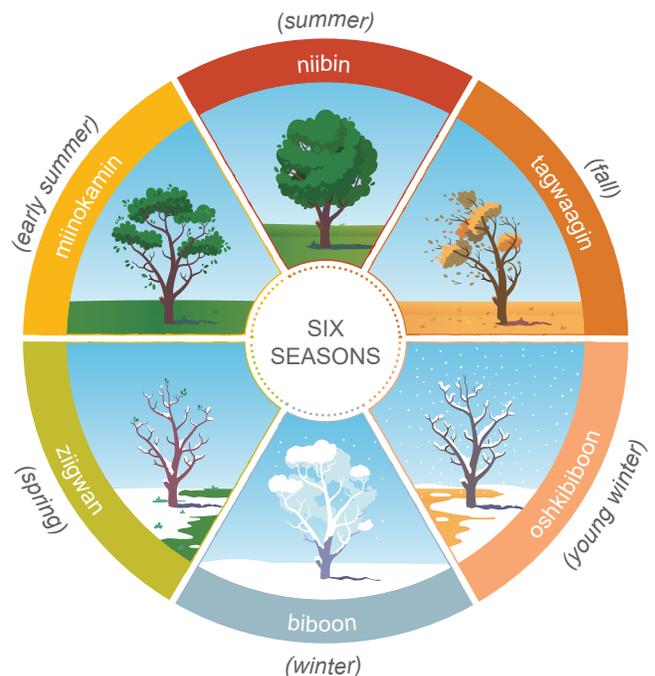


### 2.1.1 Seasonal Lifeways

Indigenous lifeways are typically shared and nurtured through culture, language, stories, and ceremony, and rooted in place and sacred relationship with the Earth, sky, sun, plants, animals, and water (Robertson, 2023). Prior to contact, Indigenous peoples lived their lives following the animals they hunted and according to the seasons. As noted by Davidson-Hunt and Berkes (2003), the Anishinaabeg have six seasons:

- *Ziigwan* (spring);
- *Miinokamin* (early summer);
- *Niibin* (summer);
- *Tagwaagin* (fall);
- *Oshkibiboon* (young winter); and
- *Biboon* (winter).

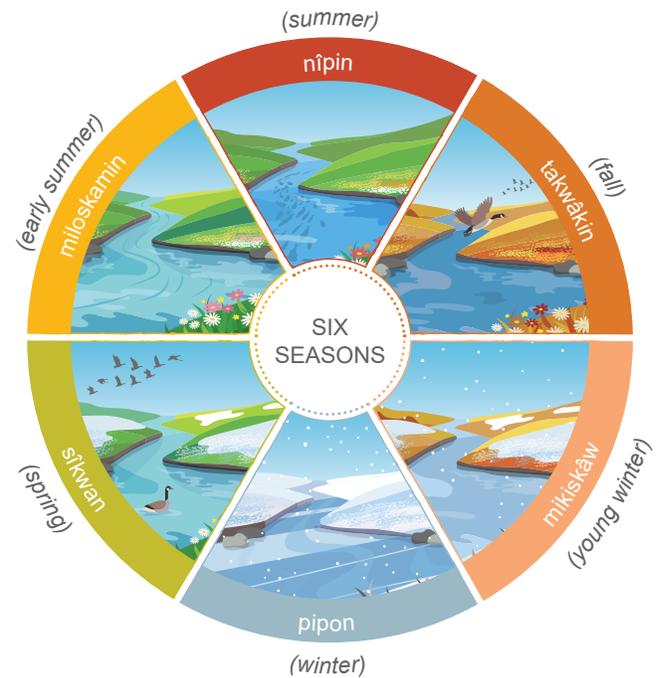
The seasons were denoted according to changes in the landscape. For example, *tagwaagin* begins when the leaves start to change colour and fall from the trees and turns into *oshkibiboon* when all the leaves have fallen off the trees and the first snows have fallen, while *biboon* turns to *ziigwan* when the ice on the lakes begin to melt and break up (Davidson-Hunt and Berkes, 2003).





The Omushkegowuk have described six seasons with several seasons reflecting the yearly melting and freezing of the waterways given their reliance on lakes and rivers for their livelihoods (Honigmann, 1948; Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Īthiniwak, n.d.):

- *Sīkwan* (breakup, translates to “rattling feathers” because the geese fly in and it sounds like rattling);
- *Miloskamin* (spring, translates to “good moving water”);
- *Nīpin* (summer, translates to “gifts from the water” because of the fish that are offered);
- *Takwākin* (fall, translates to “gathering up” because e this is the season in which birds and people prepare for the coming winter);
- *Mikiskāw* (freeze-up, translates to “plenty of beads” because of the forming frost); and
- *Pipon* (winter).



Both the Anishinaabeg and the Omushkegowuk used the moon cycles to mark temporal dynamics of seasonal change, and to provide a more standardized way to note the passage of time during the year (Davidson-Hunt and Berkes, 2003; Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Īthiniwak, n.d.).

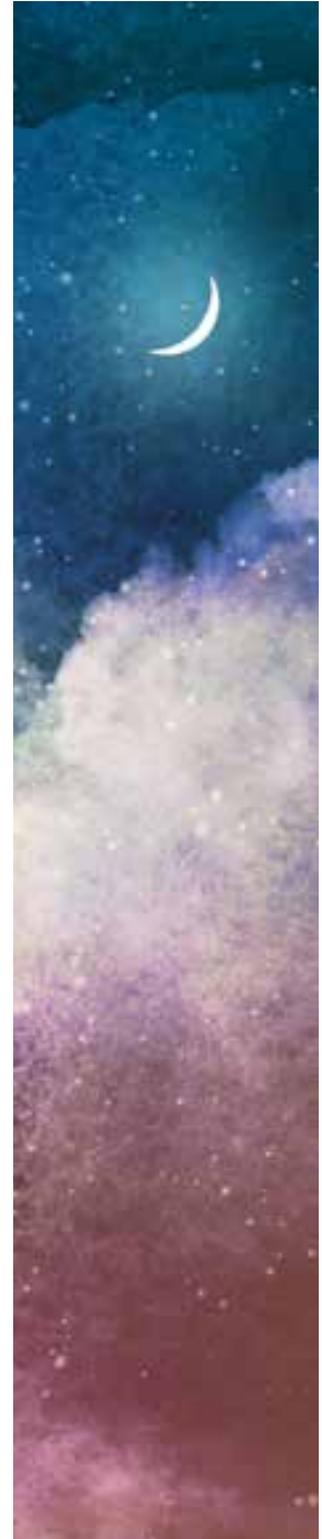




Indigenous peoples of the region were hunters and gatherers who travelled seasonally, following the important resources that sustained them in each season. They used birch bark canoes, rafts, snowshoes, and toboggans for easier travel depending on the season (Long, 2010). A rich variety of foods were available, including birds (e.g., duck, goose, and partridge), big game (e.g., bear, deer, moose, and caribou), furbearers (e.g., beaver, muskrat, marten, and wolverine), and fish (e.g., whitefish, pickerel, pike, trout and sturgeon) (Dawson, 1976; Long, 2011; Long et al., 2017). Indigenous peoples also gathered berries, plants, medicines, and fuels (Long, 2011). *Manoomin* (wild rice) was an important staple food among the Anishinaabeg in the Great Lakes region (Desmarais, 2019). Kuhnlein and Turner (1991) noted that plants used in the Hudson Bay Lowlands, further north, included: the roots and sweet sap of large tamarack trees; rock tripe lichen; angelica (wild celery); wapato (arrowhead); the shoots, roots, and stems of fireweed; cattails; wild onions; and, the buds of juniper and spruce trees. Early accounts indicate that the Omushkegowuk spent much of the year pursuing game over large areas in the north, while areas to the south provided food the Anishinaabeg were able to harvest in large quantities including fish, deer, moose, and caribou, requiring less travel (Bishop & Smith, 1975).

The division of labour was based on gender. The men were hunters and trappers (and butchers prior to returning to the group), and makers of toboggans, sleds and snowshoe and wigwam frames. The women fished and hunted and trapped small game, gathered plant foods and medicines, collected firewood, prepared meals, and created material goods for family and trade, in addition to their child caregiver duties (McMillan and Yellowhorn, 2004, as cited in Soloway, 2015). The role of women in preparing geese for future use by drying and smoking, and in preparing feathers and quills for sale, was especially important among the Omushkegowuk, (Lytwyn, 2002).

Indigenous lifeways were intimately tied to the family (Long, 2010). The social organization consisted of community groups composed of immediate and extended families, which may have inhabited single or several drainage basins. Settlements consisted of small habitation sites and associated hunting camps (Dawson, 1987). Up to ten families lived and shared together, typically a group of brothers and their wives and children (Bohaker, 2020), depending on the season and circumstances (Long, 2011). Families resided in cone-shaped wigwams made of wood and moss, covered in moose or caribou hides (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020).





When studying traditional Omushkegowuk (Attawapiskat) land tenure, Cummins (1992) reported that two to five Omushkegowuk families lived and travelled together as a ‘microband’, and up to 15 families connected as a ‘macroband’. The macrobands in the region were aware of each other as they completed their seasonal rounds (Cummins, 1992).

Communities would come together in the summer, usually at a lake or shore within the territory where food was abundant; these areas were occupied annually for extended periods by clustered groups (Dawson, 1987). Summer gatherings were the largest, and hundreds of people (sometimes over a thousand) from several ‘bands’ would assemble for visiting, trade, marriage negotiations and to discuss issues of common concern (Leacock, 1981; Bohaker, 2020).

Small camps used on a temporary basis by community members to harvest resources in both summer and winter were also present around the larger summer gathering sites. Groups would disperse in the winter to their hunting areas (Dawson, 1987), and each family had a hunting territory (Oldmixon, 1931, as cited in Long *et al.*, 2017). According to anthropologist Edward Rogers (1963), hunting ranges (territories) were loosely managed and hunting groups returned to the same general area each year. Trapping was done mostly for subsistence as the hunter-gatherer lifestyle required seasonal movement to avoid resource depletion (Rogers, 1963).

Indigenous land use, cultural practices, and settlement systems were shaped primarily by the seasonal cycles of the region. During the summer, time was spent fish harvesting and drying, berry picking and drying, and collecting materials for building homes and utility items including wigwams, snowshoes and fish baskets (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020). Furbearer snaring and small bird hunting was also common (Long *et al.*, 2017). Summer was also a time for traditional gatherings for ceremonies including marriages, feasts, new friendships, naming ceremonies, and celebrations for community members who passed away (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020).

Fall was spent preparing for the winter hunting camps and season. This involved preserving food and preparing hides, making any utility items needed (e.g., moccasins and snowshoes), and making sure the dogs were fattened up for the coming winter sledding when it was time to move to the winter





areas (O mushkego Education & OCCC, 2006; MFFN & OMNRF, 2020). Fish were an important source of food during this time (O mushkego Education & OCCC, 2006), as were a variety of birds including waterfowl, grouse, and ptarmigan (O mushkego Education & OCCC, 2006; Long *et al.*, 2017). Caribou and moose provided additional sources of food during this time (O mushkego Education & OCCC, 2006).

During the early winter or freeze up, travel was limited until the rivers and streams were frozen and fishing and trapping were important for sustenance (O mushkego Education and OCCC, 2006). Winter was a prime time for hunting caribou and trapping furbearers (Long *et al.*, 2017). Winter gave people freedom as they could travel all over the land, and not worry about food spoiling (MFFN and OMNRF, 2020).

Breakup and spring (early summer) brought warmth. Areas for new shelters away from winter homes were scouted to prepare for the spring hunt (MFFN and OMNRF, 2020). Among the lowland O mushkegowuk, the spring harvesting of goose and duck was significant and was seen as a celebration for the survival of the family through the harsh winter conditions (Cummins, 1992). Canoes were used as a mode of travel as the waters of the rivers and streams started to flow again (O mushkego Education & OCCC, 2006). After the ice breakup was a time for fish harvesting and drying, and muskrat hunting and trapping (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020).





### 2.1.2 Culture and Worldview

Indigenous peoples of the region practiced a cultural way of living. The culture was, and continues to be, grounded in relationships with and knowledge of the environment, and shared through oral stories and practices (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020). When Europeans started to travel into the region, many viewed the land as something to be explored, owned, developed, and used for profit – this view was in contrast to the Indigenous’ world view that the land and its resources is something to be shared, cared for, and honoured (Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). From an Indigenous way of life, Indigenous peoples did not own the land; they were connected to it and depended on its generation and empowerment of all life, including the intangible aspects like culture, language, and dream (Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). Indigenous worldview and identity were, and continue to be, grounded in intimate relationships with the land and the natural world, and the principles of kinship, respect, reciprocity, and responsibility (Bell, 2013; Guido, 2021).

The perspectives of many Indigenous peoples were, and continue to be, rooted in a recognition of the inter-relation of all of creation – everything is considered to be connected, like the strands of a spider’s web (Bell, 2013). Moreover, many Indigenous peoples’ beliefs on the origin of humankind framed their perspectives on relationships between humans and other beings: plants and animals inhabited the land before humankind and assisted humans when they arrived on earth (Johnston, 2005; Luby *et al.*, 2021); and, all things in the natural world are valuable and equal (Simpson, 2000a).





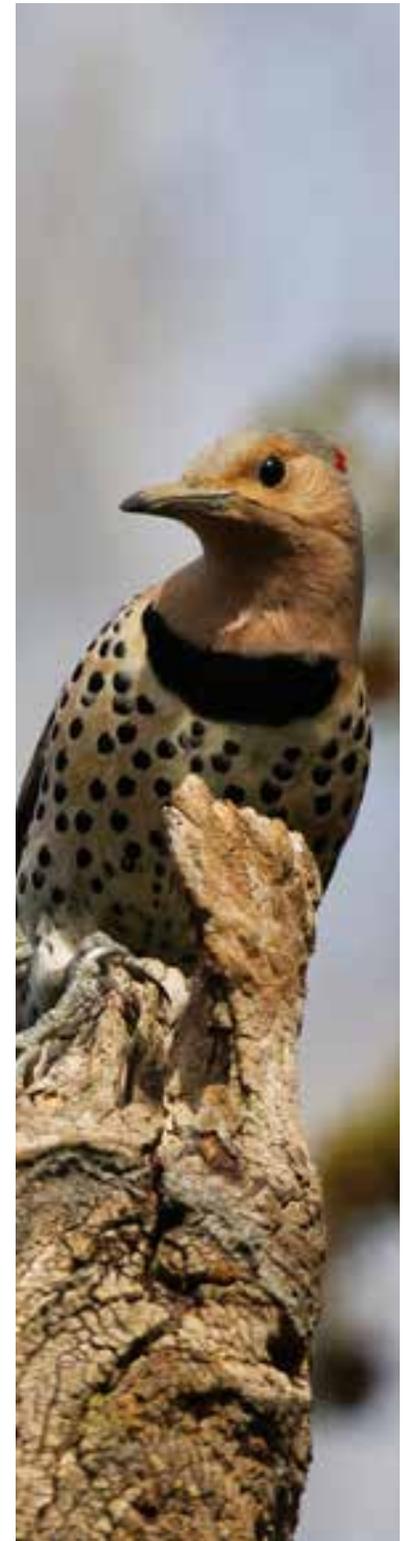


was taken or received, something had to be given back to give thanks. Gifts were offered for successful hunts and harvests; these included specific offerings that were often very private to the individual or group but they also entailed actions to sustain the life of a moose or caribou population from which they hunted (Tapestry Institute, n.d.).

- Indigenous stories also indicate important responsibilities to ensure healthy and balanced relationships with Creation. Anishinaabe teachings describe the gifts that each person is born with and responsibility of each person to “use their gifts to the best of their ability for the good of the community, and for the good of creation” (Bell, 2013, p. 103).

The perception of environments as social-ecological systems is an underpinning of an Indigenous worldview, and the spatial and temporal dynamics of the land were included in both memory and language (Davidson-Hunt & Berkes, 2003). As noted by Davidson-Hunt and Berkes (2003), Anishinaabe ways of remembering can be described as an experience of journeying within the land that is situated in both space and time: the journey is structured temporally according to the practices, seasons, moons, and ceremonies that mark of the passing of time and life stages, and spatially based on what is encountered and observed. This is evident in Indigenous place names, which provide a mental image of how a particular place in the landscape looks, how it relates to other places, and what occurred or might be found at the place (e.g., *Aagimakobawatig* describes a place where black ash grows beside a rapid). As noted by Berkes et al. (1998), the Anishinaabe notion of “land” is more akin to the concept of “ecosystem” but with the added dimensions of peoples, their culture and their history.

In addition to providing sustenance, the lands, waters, and their resources provided, and continue to provide, spiritual connection and well-being. Everything could be considered alive – both animate and inanimate objects were believed to have a spirit life (Simpson, 2000a). Many Anishinaabeg understood the world to be inhabited by spiritual beings known as *manidoos*, and these were known to be associated with places and seasons (Johnston, 2005). Moreover, the spiritual world was believed to exist as parallel world or plane of existence that could be accessed through prayer





or ceremony or that could manifest when it decided to do so (Honour the Earth, 2017). These beliefs remain an important part of Anishinaabe culture today.

In Anishinaabe culture, Johnston (2005, p. 17) describes that “there is an ongoing relationship between the Dead and the Living; between Ancestors and Descendent.” It was considered the obligation of the living to bury their relatives in a proper manner (in marked graves with commemorative and symbolic items placed on them) and in a proper place (in their place of origin and/or near their ancestors), and to protect them from disturbance or desecration; failure to do so was thought to harm both the dead and the living (Johnston, 2005). Many Anishinaabe believed that bodies have several souls: one of them remains in the bones after death and only leaves when it is “recycled” into a descendant; the other leaves the body after death and travels to rejoin other relatives who have died (Johnston, 2003, as cited in Bohaker, 2020). Feasting to celebrate the dead (Feast of the Dead) was important for the care and protection of deceased souls (Johnston, 2005). The feasts also had a function of perpetuating alliances among kin and initiating alliances with outsiders (Bishop, 1976). Based on available records, the Jesuit missionaries were “mystified by the care and attention that Aboriginal people showed toward their dead” (Johnston, 2005, p. 8).

Prior to contact, Indigenous lifeways were based on a deep connection with the lands and all its inhabitants. As noted by Cajete (2000), “Native people expressed a relationship with the natural world that could only be called ensoulment” (p. 186). They spent so much time on the land, interacting with the natural world, that “their landscapes became reflections of their very souls” (Cajete, 2000, p. 187). The mutual relationships between, and the value of, all things in the natural world (including celestial bodies, spirits, and natural forces), as well as the need for balance among them, were recognized and honoured (Honor the Earth, 2017).





### 2.1.3 Language

Indigenous culture is rooted in language (Wastesicoot, 2015). Both the Anishinaabeg and Omushkegowuk are Algonquian in terms of their language group, one of the most populous and widespread Indigenous linguistic and cultural groups in North America.

*Anishinaabemowin* (Ojibwe) was the language of the Anishinaabeg, while the Omushkegowuk spoke *Inilîmowin* (Swampy Cree).

Both languages are considered polysynthetic, which means that they have long, compound words to express complex meanings that would require many words, or even an entire sentence, in other languages (Oxford, 2019). A typical word is made up of several, or many small parts, with a variety of combinations that mean different things. For example:

- *Boozhoo* (“hello”) in *Anishinaabemowin* acknowledges the original spirit of *Nanaboozhoo*, and also conveys the process of using the breath of life (“*boo*”) to express the feeling of life (“*zhoo*”) (Horton, 2021); and,
- The *Inilîmowin* word *niwanahikân* means “I am setting my traps” (Omushkego Education, 2016).

Both *Anishinaabemowin* and *Inilîmowin* also organize their nouns according to animacy: whether the noun is referring to a living thing like a human or animal (animate) or an object (inanimate); this is analogous to the use of masculine and feminine nouns in French, just on a different axis. However, some non-living objects, like drum and tobacco, are treated as animate, and this may have to do with the spiritual significance of these objects (Oxford, 2019).

There was no written form for the Ojibway and Cree languages prior to contact, though European missionaries later created a system of writing (OCCC, 1986). By the early 1800s, European traders noted that a mixed Cree-Ojibway dialect was spoken by Indigenous people who lived in territories shared by the Lowland Cree and Northern Ojibway, where mixing and intermarriage was common (Lytwyn, 2002); this became what is today referred to as *Anishininiimowin* (Oji-Cree).

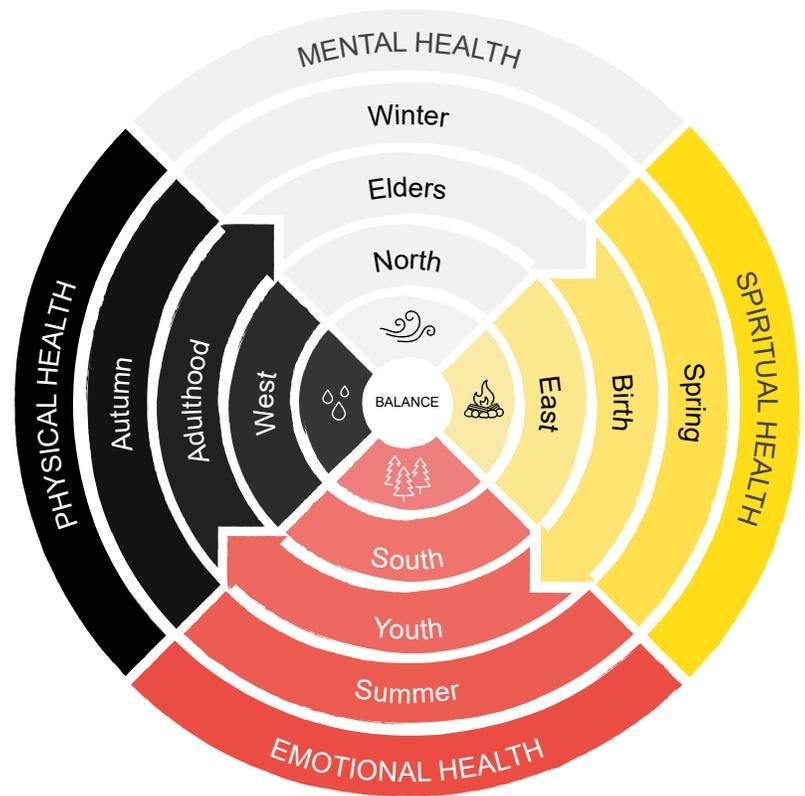




### 2.1.4 Learning and Knowledge Building

Indigenous educational traditions have been described as holistic whereby the learning process had to address the whole person, including the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and physical dimensions (RCAP, 1996a). The process of learning and knowledge building among Indigenous people was considered a life-long process rooted in personal experience, ceremony, reflection and sharing (Simpson, 2000b), and recognition and honouring of the relationships with and within the natural world (McGregor, 2013).

Rituals, storytelling, and harvesting and gathering practices out on the land were foundational for conveying worldviews and handing down instructions for maintaining balance in the natural and spiritual worlds through the generations (Honor the Earth, 2017). As described by Johnston et al. (2018), Indigenous knowledge “originates in oral sources (conversations, stories, traditional teachings) in the day-to-day practices of Indigenous peoples according to Indigenous worldviews and including insights from the spirit world” (p. 4). The knowledge-transfer activities of rituals, ceremonies, storytelling and practices on the land were often directly tied to the place the knowledge relates to (Honor the Earth, 2017); that is, Indigenous knowledge sharing was not only relational in nature but also place-based.





Leanne Simpson (2000b) explored Anishinaabe ways of learning and identified a variety of important learning modalities, including dreaming, ceremonies, learning by doing (experiential learning), and storytelling. Dreaming, visioning, and ceremonies were considered important paths for knowledge transmission from the spiritual world to humans (Simpson, 2000b). Being on the land was considered critical for experiential learning, and young people learned how to participate by practicing the tasks and skills they would need to perform as adults (Antoine *et al.*, 2018). Learning by observation was an important component of experiential learning. The Anishinaabeg often relied on plants, animals, and spiritual entities as teachers, each offering gifts and lessons of caring and sharing that were accessed through careful observation (Simpson, 2000b). For example, plants and animals could offer lessons based on where and when they grow, how they multiply, how they provide food for others, and who they prefer the company of, and who they avoid (Raven *et al.*, 1998, as cited in Simpson, 2000b).



Storytelling was an important way to teach principles and values. There were various forms of stories, including stories of origin, sacred stories, stories of personal experience, and stories that convey laws, responsibilities, morals, values and life lessons, all of which were grounded in one's intimate relationship with the land (Fontaine, 2020). In oral tradition, storytellers may impart their own life and experience when telling stories, and the listeners filtered stories through their own experiences and reflective thinking to make them relevant to their own lives (Peltier, 2021). The meaning that was drawn from a story may depend on who was telling it, and the circumstances in which it was told in terms of time, place, and situation of the telling. Storytelling tradition is non-linear and cyclical in perspective. Time can be represented in different ways; while stories find their origins in the past, they can also speak to the present (RCAP, 1996b).

As described by Anishinaabe educator David Anderson (2002), traditionally children were often raised by their immediate and extended families, and taught the “big story” and the abstract messages of Anishinaabe being from infancy. Generally, children learned to listen and observe, and they watched as the community worked together to ensure the survival of all; role modelling was an important aspect of teaching (Bell, 2013). Children were expected to take the abstract concepts, morals, and values they were exposed to through storytelling, and develop them into their own meaningful relationships with all elements of the natural and spiritual world (Anderson, 200 2; Bell, 2013).





### 2.1.5 Governance and Legal Principles

Both the Anishinaabeg and the Omushkegowuk had their own forms of governance in place prior to contact with Europeans. As noted by Anishinaabe legal scholar John Borrows (2002), Indigenous peoples developed spiritual, political, and social conventions to guide relationships with each other and the natural environment, and “these customs and conventions became the foundations of many complex systems of government and law” (p. 47). Leadership among the Indigenous peoples in the region was observed to be markedly different from European societies, and European observers were “impressed by the lack of rigid, hierarchical political order among the Indians” (Lytwyn, 2002, p. 20).

The Anishinaabeg were traditionally governed by a hereditary clan system, the *Doodemaag*. Early accounts from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century indicate that the Anishinaabeg constituted their governments as *doodem* (clan) beings who met in council, and specific *doodem* beings took on responsibility for roles and places (Bohaker, 2020). *Doodems* were most often animals, but they could also be a tree or a *Manitou* (e.g., thunderbirds, mermen, underwater *manidoos*), and they tied people to specific places those *doodems* inhabited (Corbiere, 2019). Anishinaabe historian William Warren noted that Northern Ojibway *doodems* included Sucker, Goose, Beaver, Sturgeon, Gull, hawk, Cormorant, and Whitefish (Lytwyn, 2002). Each animal symbolized an ideal to be sought (Johnston, 1987). For example, “the leadership role in councils that was undertaken by members of the Loon *doodem* was visually reinforced by the fact that the common markings of loons has markings around its neck, resembling the wampum shell collars that leaders wore to indicate their status and political role” (Warren & Neill, 1885, as cited in Bohaker, 2020, p. 61).

The *doodem* was the foundation of Anishinaabe identity, exemplified by the fact that Anishinaabe leaders meeting in council signed colonial documents with imaged representing their *doodem* identities (Bohaker, 2020). Individuals were born into their *doodem*, which came from the father’s side of the family (Bohaker, 2020). However, people could be adopted into a willing clan when seasonal cycles led to movements inland or upriver that led to a summer identity and a winter identity (Witgen, 2013, as cited in Corbiere, 2019). Marriages often functioned as micro-alliances that brought different *doodemag* together, sometimes from considerable distances away, for important social and political connections.





Given the role marriage had as an alliance-making institution, it was reinforced by a taboo against marrying someone from within the same *doodem* (Bohaker, 2020).

Each *doodem* had its own leadership system (common council), which may have involved an *ogimaa* (chief), an *aanikeogimaa* (second chief, deputy), and *gichi-Anishinabek* (elders, councillors), all of whom were leaders of their own *indinaakonigewin* (those whom one overwintered with, a group of usually 20-40 people) (Miller, 2010). In addition to these leaders, women's councils and warrior councils served to advise and significantly influence decisions. Each of these councils also had leaders (Bohaker, 2020). According to Miller (2010), women's councils were a central component of Anishinaabe governance, and women had defined political roles. One woman, an *ogimaakwe* or chief woman, would present the results of the women's council findings to the men during gatherings (Miller, 2010). Women could also hold the role of the *ogimaa* (Bohaker, 2020). Warrior councils had a responsibility to protect their people (Bohaker, 2020).

Historically, common councils met regularly and were responsible for local affairs, including where and what to hunt, where family groups reside through the seasons, settling conflicts and disputes in the community, and family alliances (Bohaker, 2020). Both women's and warrior councils provided common councils with advice on these matters (Bohaker, 2020). General councils between common councils occurred at least annually if not semi-annually, as part of the seasonal round. General councils were places at which alliances between common councils were established and renewed (Bohaker, 2020).

As noted by Bohaker (2020), leaders were expected to be generous with their wealth and "good leaders accumulated wealth in order to give it away" (p. 139). Their intended role was as "stewards" who took care of the people and the land. Leadership was not absolutely hierarchical and individuals could hold several leadership roles, with their status depending on their own personal gifts, expertise, and their *doodem* (Bohaker, 2020). Governance practices were primarily consensus-based through councils and alliances (Bohaker, 2020); this is reflected in Anishinaabe oral histories that demonstrate consultative and consensus-based leadership models through story (Borrows, 2010). Common practice was for leaders to exercise their authority *with* their community, not *over* them (Mills, 2019). *Doodem* kin ties could create and sustain lateral connections between different councils, and reinforce the political principle of interdependence through alliance (Bohaker, 2020).



Anishinaabe *aadizookaanag* (sacred stories) explain the origins of the *doodem* tradition: human beings are descended from, and therefore kin to, the other-than-human beings who are their *doodem*. To share a *doodem* was to be immediate kin. Indigenous worldview on kinship may be reflective of the idea of shared souls rather than shared blood, and “understanding this distinction is critical for understanding the concept of personhood in Anishinaabe law” (Bohaker, 2020, p. 53).

The governance structure of the Anishinaabe people was formalized through the *Niswi-mishkodewinan* (Three Fires Confederacy) of the Ojibway (Chippewas), Odaawa and Potawatomi Nations. The three groups shared similar languages and territories, and met for military and political purposes. Each group had a distinct role in the confederacy: the Ojibway were the providers and knowledge keepers of medicine and faith, the Odaawa were the warriors and keepers of trade, and the Potawatomi were the firekeepers who took care of the three fires (nations) and made sure they were strong. The fire was central to the governance structure, and continues to be so to this day (Anishinabek Nation, 2023a; Anishinabek Nation, 2023b).

While the Omushkegowuk did not have a clan system like that of the Anishinaabeg, they did have a kinship system where the family was the major self-governing unit, and extended family were involved to support each member in living up to their responsibilities (RCAP, 1996c; Wastesicoot, 2015). Elders served various functions based on their skills, including as storytelling historians, advisors, and counsellors to young people and others (Wastesicoot, 2015).





The Omuškegowuk had a leadership structure with *okimâw* (leaders) who were respected for their ability to make good decisions with respect to hunting practices and rules (Lytwyn, 2002). The *okimâw* were not intended to rule with force or dictate the lives of those who followed them, but rather, they were expected to display leadership based on their life skills, experience, and wisdom (Lytwyn, 2002), and their exemplary connection with the land, knowledge of the animals (Preston, 1990, as cited in Brekes *et al.*, 1991). They did not have the right to impose decisions on others – leadership was meant to be consultative (Lytwyn, 2002), and decisions were accepted by consensus (Preston, 1990, as cited in Brekes *et al.*, 1991). Similarly to the *ogimaa* of the Anishinaabeg, generosity, compassion, and a strong capacity to care for others were important attributes of *okimâw* (Wastesicoot, 2015). Heredity was noted to be an important factor, with leadership observed to be passed down from fathers to sons (Lytwyn, 2002). However, leadership roles were not necessarily inherited, and the *okimâw* remained as leader as long as they were able to maintain the respect of community members; if they lost this, the next person with high standing could assume the leadership role (Mandelbaum, 1979, as cited in Wastesicoot, 2015).

Women played an important role in the kinship system and decision-making processes of the Omuškegowuk (Walker, 2021). Historically, women in Cree society were the keepers of all stories and laws. McAdams (2015) notes that within Cree culture existed the clan mothers or warrior women whose role was to provide the legal “system” of the Cree people, and they were respected for their ability to show compassion and care for the people. Women were highly respected for their sacred role as bearers and teachers of future generations, and they were not only in charge of the ‘household’, but also the well-being of the community (Hookimaw-Witt, 2006). The knowledge of men and women was often considered complementary, and both were important for leadership. As noted by Hookimaw-Witt (2006), in Cree society, while the men had more knowledge about resources in the hunting territory, women had more knowledge about the resources they harvested and managed (small mammals, fish, and plants). Thus, in the realm of Cree politics, both genders had decision-making powers in their own domains, and through interactions with the other gender’s decisions (Hookimaw-Witt, 2006). In addition, in both Anishinaabe and Mushkegowuk cultures it was women who were historically the voice for water, as both hold the important role of giver of life (Chief of Ontario, 2008; Chiblow, 2020).





Borrows (2002) suggests that “Indigenous laws originated in the political, economic, spiritual and social values expressed through the teachings and behaviour of knowledgeable and respected individuals and elders” (p. 13), and their principles are expressed through the stories, ceremonies, and traditions of Indigenous peoples across the country (Borrows, 2002). The instructions, laws, and ethics conveyed in Indigenous stories guided people on how to conduct themselves (McGregor, 2013). As noted by Borrows (2002), oral histories may inherently express Indigenous laws as they represent the accumulated wisdom and experiences of Indigenous peoples’ conflict resolution. They record patterns of past disputes and their solutions while allowing for re-creation to meet emerging needs more easily, and do not depend on finding the first telling of the event, as common law does (Borrows, 2002).

The requirements for maintaining harmonious relationships among all beings have been referred to as Indigenous ‘natural law’ (McGregor, 2013). Among the Anishinaabeg, understanding the natural world as kin, as brothers and sisters, was a critical piece to Anishinaabe law (Fontaine, 2020). This is reflected in the sacred law of *Nda-Nwendaaganag* (all my relations), which acknowledges that all things in the universe are gifts from the Creator and have meaning and purpose. Further, all things are interconnected and important to one another, and respect is afforded to all of Creation (Anishinabek Nation Legal Department, 2018).





According to oral history, it is said that sacred or natural law was given to the Anishinaabeg by the Creator through their *Mino-Bimaadiziwin* (way of living the good life), language, philosophies, and ceremonies (Watts, 2010). *Mino-Bimaadiziwin* is representative of the relationship that the Anishinaabeg have with everything around them, and the understanding that everything is alive, and everything is related (Bell, 2013). It is a traditional legal principle rooted in all Anishinaabeg (Anishinabek Nation Legal Department, 2018). *Mino-Bimaadiziwin* was expected to be lived according seven original (ancestral) teachings that provide guiding principles for the way in which individuals are to treat each other and the natural environment (Bell, 2013; Seven Generations Education Institute, 2021):



***Debwewin*** (truth) – To speak only to the extent we have lived or experienced. Represented by the turtle as the turtle was here during the creation of Earth and carries the teachings of life on his back.



***Gwayakwaadiziwin*** (honesty) – To live correctly and with virtue. Represented by either the raven or the sabel (sasquatch) as they both understand who they are and how to walk in their life.



***Dabasendiziwin*** (humility) – To think lower of oneself in relation to all that sustains us. Represented by the wolf, who lives for his pack and the ultimate shame is to be an outcast.



***Zoongide'ewin*** (courage) – To live with a solid, strong heart. Represented by the bear. The mother bear has the courage and strength to face her fears and challenges while protecting her young. To face life with courage is bravery.



***Manaaji'idiwin*** (respect) – To go easy on one another and all of Creation. Represented by the buffalo as the buffalo gives every part of his being to sustain the human way of living, and respects the balance and needs of others.



***Nibwaakaawin*** (wisdom) – To live with vision. The beaver represents wisdom because he uses his natural gift by altering the environment for his family's survival.



***Zaagi'idiwin*** (love) – Unconditional love between one another including all of Creation, humans and non-humans. The eagle represents love because he has the strength to carry all of the teachings.



The Omushkegowuk shared similar natural law and legal principles. *Wahkotowin* (having relations to all) was a central aspect of Cree natural law, and speaks to the interconnectedness of all things (Cardinal, 2007). According to the late Cree scholar and lawyer Harold Cardinal (2007), *Wahkotowin* is one of the most comprehensive doctrines of law among Cree people, and it contains a subset of laws (values) that establish principles that govern the conduct and behaviour of individuals within the family environment, within their communities, and with others outside the community. These principles are enshrined in the seven sacred teachings, or the seven sacred laws (Wastesicoot, 2015):



*Pakwaynamatowin*  
(sharing);



*Sahkiwewin*  
(love);



*Kistenchikewin*  
(respect;



*Kiskentamowin*  
(wisdom);



*Tapatenimowin*  
(humility);



*Tapwewin*  
(honesty); and,



*Sokenimowin*  
(courage).

Similar to the Anishinaabe concept of *Mino-Bimaadiziwin*, the Cree concept of *Mino-Pimatisiwin* represents the cyclical nature of life and provides guidance on how to live in a good way with oneself, their community, and the natural world (Gaudet & Chilton, 2018). Connection to the land is central to the concept of *Mino-Pimatisiwin* (Gaudet & Chilton, 2018), as is respecting natural law.

### 2.1.6 Resource Management and Stewardship

Communal management of resources was a common feature of many Indigenous resource-use systems (Berkes, 1989, as cited in Berkes *et al.*, 1991). Resources were considered the property and responsibility of all, and those that utilized them in an area were considered “stewards” who oversaw community norms and rules about their use, which were often comprehensive (Berkes *et al.*, 1991). Collective, consensus-based decision making and enforcement of agreed-upon rules among group members was often the norm (Feit, 1986, as cited in Berkes *et al.*, 1991).



Feit (2004) suggests that some form of hunting territories likely existed among Algonquian hunters in the northern Boreal areas. This would have enabled them to respond to disruptions caused by larger-scale forest fires, and / or resource depletions where groups displaced by these disturbances would have sought to resettle on lands used by adjacent groups of hunters and their families. In his study of hunting territories among the Northern Ojibwa, Bishop (1970) suggests that prior to settlement of interior northern Ontario by traders in the 1770s, hunting groups remained large throughout the year and moved *en masse* within a roughly defined region. Available records indicate a gradual stabilization of hunting groups in certain regions around major lakes and waterways following settlement in the region. By the late 1850s, there were fully developed hunting territories in the upper Albany River drainage area (Bishop, 1970). Leacock (1954, as cited in Bishop, 1970) suggests that the emergence of defined hunting areas held by family units after contact was driven by:

- Increasing scarcity in resources due to overharvesting, forcing bands to split into family units;
- Increasing access to store foods, enabling family units to be more self-sufficient;
- Weakened cooperative bonds among band members as economic ties were transferred from within the group to the trader;
- Non-migratory furbearers could be efficiently exploited by small family units;
- Preference among traders for dealing with individuals rather than groups; and,
- Hindered mobility with increasing dependence on single trading posts.



Within the literature, most available information on pre-contact land and resource management among the Indigenous peoples of northern Ontario pertains to the James Bay Cree, as these were among the first Indigenous peoples in northwestern North America to come in contact with Europeans. Comparatively, there is little information available on the social and economic life among the Ojibway north of Lake Superior in the early stages of contact because there were few literate traders in the area to describe it (Bishop, 1976) and few Europeans ventured inland from the coast until long after the trading posts had been settled (Lytwyn, 2002).

Lytwyn (2002) studied archived fur trade records of the Hudson Bay Company and reported that prior to contact, specific groups the Lowland Cree (O mushkegowuk) were usually named after prominent physiographic features, especially river basins. These basins were often used by winter hunting groups comprised of several related families (as described in [Section 2.1.1](#)), and led by a hunter or elder who was respected for their ability to make good decisions regarding hunting practices and rules (Preston, 1990, as cited in Berkes *et al.*, 1991). Within the hunting ranges, a smaller (core) area could be used



more intensively as a base camp from which hunters ventured over larger areas in search of big game (Preston, n.d., as cited in Tsuji *et al.*, 2011). The transmission of family-based hunting ranges was typically from father to son, but exceptions were documented (Cummins, 1992).

Based on the research of Lytwyn (2002), hunting groups did not have exclusive rights to their basins (hunting ranges), and there was considerable movement between the river-basin hunting groups. Early traders reported many examples of people moving back and forth between river basins, and commented on the freedom of Lowland Cree people (Omushkegowuk) to hunt and travel without restriction; this pattern of land use was also observed inland among the Upland Cree and Northern Ojibway (Lytwyn, 2002). As recorded by a trader named George Holdsworth in 1815:

“the tribes generally live in peace and friendship with each other, and altho the necessity of migration has caused them to encroach on each others territories the circumstances does not appear to have given rise to jealousies, and several tribes may be seen occupying the track of country in the utmost peace and harmony” (HBCA, B.135/e/1, fo. 4d, as cited in Lytwyn, 2002).

As cited in Tsuji *et al.* (2011), Honigmann (1956) contends that “the notion of territorial [i.e., circumscribed, rigid boundaries] ownership by families did not appear until after the arrival of the Hudson’s Bay Company” (p. 64); prior to this, boundaries were fluid.

The recognition of the inter-relation of all of creation, the dependence of humankind on other beings for survival, and the principles of respect, reciprocity, and responsibility (as described in [Section 2.1.2](#)) serve as underpinnings of Indigenous land stewardship –





something that was considered a sacred responsibility bestowed upon them by the Creator (Davidson-Hunt *et al.*, 2005; Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). There was an understanding that without balanced relationships with the environment, their own generation as well as those in the future were at risk. As noted by Luby *et al.* (2021), “Anishinaabe Elders teach youth to live with humility and recognize that nonhuman lifeforms can survive without human intervention, but humankind depends on plants and animals for subsistence” (p. 5). According to the Anishinaabeg worldview, in return for the gifts provided to humankind, the Creator placed a moral, custodial responsibility on them referred to as the principle of *gimiinigoowizimin gaaganawendang*, which means ‘keeper of the gifts’ (Davidson-Hunt *et al.*, 2005). Among the Anishinaabeg, feasts were held to respect the beings who made life possible during the past season, and for the beings that were to sustain people in the coming season (Davidson-Hunt & Berkes, 2003).

The responsibility to be stewards of the lands was also prominent among the Omushkegowuk. Berkes *et al.* (1991) contend that “the core of Cree culture is traditionally based on land stewardship activities, skills, and ethics” (p. 15). As told by Fort Albany First Nation elders (see Tsuji & Nieboer, 1999), each season corresponded to a period of time when one or a group of species were abundant and accessible, and just enough animals of a particular species would be harvested for subsistence and sharing. As other species became more plentiful or accessible, harvesting of the next species would begin. This switching of harvesting pressures was intended to prevent overharvesting in one season, which could have negative consequences on that species and thus the community.

Stewardship responsibilities were often conveyed through stories. For example, as told by Geniusz (2015), the Anishinaabe story “The Year the Roses Died” teaches that the gift of Creation requires careful stewardship. Rabbit was blamed by a council of animals for eating all the roses. A *Manitou* (spirit) appears and tells the council (p. 14): “Killing the *Waabooz* [rabbit] will not bring back the roses. You all noticed that the roses were in trouble, and you all decided to take your own shares even if it meant killing the roses forever. There is no honor in this. This is not keeping creation in balance as you were told to do in the Beginning Time.” The story describes how the animals failed in the responsibility to consider the needs of others, and highlights the importance of relationality for stewardship (Campeau, 2019).





## 2.2 Post-Contact Context

Indigenous peoples interacted with European explorers as early as 1000 AD, but it was not until permanent settlements were established in the 17th and 18th centuries when prolonged contact occurred (CIRNAC, 2017). Soon after the establishment of British and French colonies in what is now eastern Canada, alliances with Indigenous peoples were established to support various interests, including the commercial interests of the newcomers. Utilizing existing Indigenous trade routes, a vast trade network focused on beaver pelts was established between the English and the French and their Indigenous allies. Trade spurred new exploration through the Great Lakes basin, and further east and south (CIRNAC, 2017). Explorers and trappers also became interested in the rich trapping grounds north of Lake Superior and beyond, but the overland journeys from the Great Lakes were challenging. As a result, French explorers sailed through the Hudson Bay in 1668 to establish trade relations and access the heart of fur country (McIntosh & Smith, 2022). This expedition led to the establishment of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1670 (Finch, 2013).

The profitability of the fur trade led to significant competition, and various European and Indigenous interests often clashed violently, with various Indigenous groups displaced from their territories as a result. In 1701, France and the 40 Indigenous groups around the Great Lakes basin entered the Great Peace Treaty to end the violence. Indigenous groups formed both military and commercial (trade) alliances with groups from England and France as power struggles between the two countries intensified (CIRNAC, 2017).

The fall of Montreal in 1760 put an end to French colonial efforts in what would become Canada. To establish peaceful relations with the Indigenous allies of France, the British undertook a series of "Peace and Friendship" treaties. In 1763, France officially ceded its colonial territories with the Treaty of Paris and ended over 150 years of European competition and conflict. That same year, King George III issued a Royal Proclamation, which specified how the British colonies were to be administered and established a framework for the British Crown to acquire Indigenous interests in land through treaties. The Proclamation also established strict protocols for dealing with Indians, including that only the Crown could purchase land from them. Thus, the Proclamation was the first public recognition of First Nations' rights to lands and title (CIRNAC, 2017).





For the next 120 years, the relationship between First Nations and the British Crown transformed from one of allyship to wardship, driven by the influx of newcomers following the American war of Independence (1775-1783) and the War of 1812 (1812-1815), greater demand for land by settlers as a result, increasing costs of supplying gifts to First Nations groups to ensure their loyalty, and declines in the fur trade (Pettit, 2016; CIRNAC, 2017). With a need for more land and military threats fading, the relationship between Indigenous peoples and settlers shifted from one where Indigenous peoples could be considered necessary allies, to one where they could be considered obstacles to growth. What followed was a series of treaties and legislative developments that increased Crown authority over First Nations and lands reserved for them (CIRNAC, 2017).

**Section 2.1.1 to 2.2.10** describe the post-contact context, including: the fur trade; early legislation and policy and associated impacts on Indigenous peoples; the numbered treaties established in the region; perspectives on Aboriginal and Métis Rights; and legislative developments that have governed natural resource and land use.





### 2.2.1 Fur Trade and the Hudson's Bay Company

The Hudson's Bay Company was established by the King of England with a royal charter in 1670, recognizing the economic importance of the fur trade. The charter granted special powers to a corporation of established and wealthy gentlemen, who formed the Hudson's Bay Company. These special powers included exclusive rights to trade, mineral claims, and governance over the entire Hudson Bay drainage area (OCCC, 1986), which makes up a third of what is known today as Canada. However, the charter created no political or legal rights over Indigenous peoples living in the vast territory (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). The Charter named the vast area "Rupert's Land" after the King's cousin and the Hudson's Bay Company's first governor, Prince Rupert.

French fur trappers had already visited the region, but the Hudson's Bay Company was the first to establish permanent trading posts and presence in the region in 1679, with a trading post at Fort Albany on James Bay. The French-British competition for furs eventually led the Hudson's Bay Company to move inland to establish trading posts nearer to the Indigenous hunters who were supplying it furs, and settlements sprang up around the posts (CIRNAC, 2017). In 1743, the Hudson's Bay Company established the first inland trading post, the Henley House, on the north shore of the Albany River. It was moved further south in 1796 and remained operation until 1857. A trading post was first established at Martin's (Marten) Falls on the Albany River in 1794, although it was closed five years later in 1799. In 1818, the Hudson's Bay Company founded a new post at Marten Falls to take the place of Gloucester House, another nearby trading post which was established in 1774. This new post remained operational until 1924. Following the closure of the post, the Marten Falls First Nation community was relocated to the present-day community location of Ogoki Post, approximately 64 km downriver and east (Handfield, 2020). By 1870, the Hudson's Bay Company had 97 trading posts in Rupert's Land (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). A post was established at Fort Hope (present day Eabametoong First Nation) in 1894, and a post at Lansdowne House (present day Neskantaga First Nation) was established in 1900.





The trading posts became a centre for trade relationships and social gatherings during summertime. Pacts between Indigenous peoples living in the region and the Hudson's Bay Company made commerce possible (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). The early trading posts, including Fort Albany, became the base for an extensive trade alliance with the Cree, who became a sort of intermediary between the company and interior Indigenous groups (CIRNAC, 2017). The Albany River became a major east-west trading route as it linked James Bay with the Winnipeg River (Morse, 1968). The Hudson's Bay Company relied on Indigenous knowledge of the area, the animals, and the tools needed for travel and survival, as well as Indigenous trappers to supply valuable furs (OCCC, 1986).

For over 200 years, furs, meat, feathers and handmade objects were bartered at trading posts or factories set up at strategic locations, where dozens of families could gather for a few weeks in the summer to socialize and make collective decisions, including with respect to land use (Long, 2011). During this time, Indigenous peoples became increasingly more dependent on the fur trade, and supplies and items that were previously considered luxuries were now considered necessities; many aspects of Indigenous lifeways were changed by European products (OCCC, 1986). As a result, the traditional economies of Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg and the Omushkegowuk, began to change. With the introduction of money and European goods, Indigenous men began finding seasonal employment on the York boats (boats used by the Hudson's Bay Company for trade and the transport of goods) and steamboats on the Albany and Attawapiskat Rivers, or building Hudson's Bay Company forts. Some Indigenous people were taught how to keep stores (MFFN & OMNRF, 2020).

As the fur trade became more profitable, some free traders organized themselves to form the Northwest Company, which grew rapidly and became the Hudson's Bay Company's major rival, with open conflicts arising. The fur trade war intensified until 1821, when the Hudson's Bay Company merged with the Northwest Company (OCCC, 1986), extending the Hudson's Bay Company's fur trade monopoly to the Pacific Ocean (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). Without the competition that made them necessary, some trading posts were closed, and trading options for Indigenous peoples became fewer (Finch, 2013). The





Hudson’s Bay Company monopoly lasted until 1869, when the company transferred its deed for the area to the English Crown (Canada) for \$1.5 million to enable westward expansion and settlement. In the transfer, Canada had agreed to a “Protection Pledge” that ensured it would protect the interests of Indigenous peoples living in the territory. The transfer took place without consultation with the Anishinaabeg or Omushkegowuk, who didn’t believe that the Hudson’s Bay Company or the Crown had sovereignty over the land in the first place (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).

The presence of the Hudson’s Bay Company had profound effects on Indigenous peoples across Canada, including the Anishinaabeg and Omushkegowuk. In addition to the lifestyle changes associated with the economic transition, many Indigenous peoples of the region faced starvation in the 19th century, especially between 1820 and 1880. Animals important for both food and the fur trade became scarce because of natural population cycles, over-harvesting, and overhunting. The Hudson’s Bay Company reduced trapping operations in areas where beaver populations were exhausted. Moose almost entirely disappeared from what is now northern Ontario in the period from 1780 to 1930, shifting pressures to smaller game and fish and increasing reliance on foods purchased from trading posts (OCCC, 1986). Caribou also became increasingly rare. The disappearance of these animals meant leather and cloth had to be purchased to avoid cutting up pelts. The transition to small game and fish also led to more time spent settled in areas where these resources are found rather than out in the hunting territory (Bishop, 1970).

The influx of traders and settlers also brought new diseases such as measles, smallpox, whooping cough, influenza, and tuberculosis, all previously unknown to Indigenous peoples. This led to many deaths, especially among elders (OCCC, 1986). Alcohol was also introduced, with devastating effects on Indigenous populations (CIRNAC, 2017).

With the rapid spread of trade came missionaries dedicated to spreading and promoting their faith. Two religions were introduced to the Anishinaabeg and Omushkegowuk: Anglican by the English and Catholicism by the French. Much like how the English and French had competed in the fur trade, the two religions competed for the conversion of Indigenous peoples into their respective churches. This led to severe restrictions on Indigenous beliefs, ceremonies, and practices, such as drumming and dancing, as they were considered pagan and devil worship. Christian ceremonies replaced Indigenous ones, and missionaries encouraged the use of biblical or European names (OCCC, 1986).



## 2.2.2 Métis Peoples

Decades of intermarriage between English and French traders and explorers with First Nation women created new and distinct communities along waterways and trade posts and routes around the Great Lakes in what is present day Ontario (MNO, 2023a). These communities were historically referred to as “half-breed” or “Métis”, a word used to describe individuals with mixed Indigenous and European ancestry. The term half-breed was more commonly applied to English-speaking descendants of English or Scottish traders and explorers, who were often of the Anglican denomination, while the term Métis was more commonly applied to French-speaking descendants of French traders and explorers, who were often of the Catholic denomination (Foster, 1978). However, the term half-breed fell out of use as it became derogatory (racist) in nature and Métis is now used for people of both French- and English-speaking heritage (Gaudry, 2009).

The Cree had two names for the Métis: *âpihtawikosisân* meaning ‘half people’ and *otipêyimisowak* meaning the ‘independent ones’. The Ojibway referred to the Métis as *wisahkotewan niniwak* meaning ‘men partially burned’ (Teillet, 2013).

The origins of Métis peoples and communities are closely tied to the emergence of the fur trade in North America. The arrival of European explorers in eastern Canada in the 1600s led to unions with Indigenous communities through marriage (Dumont, 2017). As the fur trade and competition among the French, English, and Indigenous groups intensified through the 17th century, French traders were encouraged to seek marriage alliances with Indigenous peoples to establish the kinship basis for trade and military activities (Foster, 1978). These strategic alliances continued until French colonial efforts officially ended in 1763 with the ceding of New France to Britain (see [Section 2.2](#)), upon which time Indigenous peoples in the Great Lakes region rebelled against British rule. With increased hostility between Indigenous peoples and the British in the last few decades of the 18th century, the French practice of establishing alliances with Indigenous peoples through marriage and peace and friendship treaties was adopted (Surtees, 1975, as cited in Foster, 1978).



Initially, children of mixed European and Indigenous ancestry were classified as either Indian or European based on their way of life rather than race. The socio-cultural identity of children was primarily associated with that of their mother: if she remained with her Indian band, then the child was considered an Indian, but if she resided in a trading post for an extended period, the child was considered European (Brown, 1978, as cited in Foster, 1978). However, distinct Métis settlements began to emerge as the Métis population increased, and Métis people began to identify as a separate group rather than simply extensions of their maternal (First Nations) or paternal (European) relations (MNO, 2023a).

As the fur trade expanded north and westward, new trade routes were established, leading to new Métis communities along them (Dumont, 2017). Métis settlements emerged along waterways and watersheds in Ontario as an outgrowth of the fur trade. These settlements were part of larger regional communities, interconnected by (MNO, 2023b):

- The highly mobile lifestyle of the Métis;
- The fur trade network;
- Seasonal rounds;
- Extensive kinship connections; and,
- A shared collective history and identity.

Peterson (1985) described the Great Lakes Métis during the 18th century as “people in the process of becoming” given that although they may not have been self-consciously Métis before 1815, “their distinctiveness was fully apparent to outsiders, if not to themselves” (p. 39). By the early 19th century, there was a historically significant population of Métis descendants in the Great Lakes region of Ontario who had developed a network of trading villages and towns long the shorelines of rivers and lakes (Peterson, 1978, 1985). The Métis settlement at Fort Williams (in present-day Thunder Bay, historically known as Port Arthur) is recognized as one of the two first Métis settlements in Canada (Tronrud & Epps, 1995, as cited in Gale, 1998). According to Peterson (1978), this network of marital and fur-trade alliances among the Great Lakes Métis communities suggested that a larger regional Métis identity had developed.





The Red River Métis Settlement has been regarded as the site of the culmination of Métis political consciousness. Canada's purchase of Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company in 1869 was undertaken without consultation of the Métis residing there. In response, and given concerns about Métis rights, a National Committee of Métis (effectively a provisional government) was established, with Louis Riel as the leader, to stop the land transfer until Métis rights and title were recognized. This action and events that followed became known as the Red River Rebellion and led to the establishment of the Province of Manitoba (Ouellet & Hanson, 2009). Further discussion of Métis rights is provided in **Section 2.2.10.1**.



Dickason (1985) contends that the Métis ethnic consciousness was crystallized in the new Far Northwest (present-day prairies region of Canada) where the pressures of settlement were much lower, Métis communities were far more isolated, and the fur-trade continued to flourish. Many French speaking Métis from the Upper Great Lakes region migrated north and west to the Red River Settlement (in present-day Manitoba) through the early- to mid-19th century. This migration was a result of increasing settlement in the Upper Great Lakes region, significant depletions in fur-bearing animals (Peterson, 1978), and a preference to continue fur-trade practices rather than adopt agricultural ones (Ens, 1996). The Métis of Red River and the Great Lakes Métis were often connected through marriage and kinship practices (Gaudry, 2009). By the mid-19th century, descendants with mixed ancestry were no longer being persuaded to make a choice between Indigenous and European identities, and a distinct and unified sense of Métis identity had emerged (Brown, 1985).

The early ethnic identity among Métis was based on a strong association with and reliance on the fur trade, an independent lifestyle, a lack of agricultural development, subsistence practices to provide clothing and tools, and a lack of established land rights (Peterson, 1978). Both Indigenous and European cultural traditions were adapted and merged into the clothing, food, medical practices, languages, beliefs, and customs of Métis communities (Peterson, 1978). Many First Nations women who were part of





Métis families maintained close ties with their ancestral communities, and many of their traditional lifeways and cultural practices were preserved in Métis communities. For example, Ojibway and/or Cree languages were spoken in many Métis communities in the Great Lakes (Foster, 1985). In addition, many Indigenous groups (including the Anishinaabe and Cree ) had close relations with the Métis and shared the land and ways of life on it, as well as aspects of culture and language. Prior to the establishment of First Nation reserves (see [Section 2.2.6](#)), First Nations and Métis shared territory, usually peacefully (Teillet, 2013). It was also common for First Nations and Métis families to travel on hunting expeditions together (Chartrand, 2007).

According to Chartrand (2017), while the identity boundaries between First Nations and Métis were porous and there was a lot of transfer between them, the core identity distinctions were present. An important distinction with respect to legal traditions related to land was that the Métis did recognize individual title and ownership (unlike the collective ownership perspectives of First Nations), which was part of their European heritage understanding (Chartrand, 2017).



Many Métis families flourished and spread further west and north with the expansion of the fur trade. The genetic diversity of Métis peoples enabled them to be more resilient to European diseases, and the Métis also had many allied First Nations families. In addition, the Métis were able to serve as intermediaries between European and First Nations cultures, enabling them to work as guides, interpreters, fur traders, and suppliers of goods to new forts and trading companies. As a result, the Métis became the largest Indigenous merchant family in North America, and strong competition against less acclimatized Europeans (Carrière, 2017). The transportation of goods and the development of many settlements could be attributed to the hard work of the Métis (Redbird, 1980, as cited in Peressini, 2000).

Prior to the 1800s, the British government was largely unaware of the existence of the Métis (Hayter, 2017). In 1810, the Royal Society reported the successes of the Métis to the British Crown, which set the stage for the primary policy of the British to remove the Métis as a threat to settlement (Carrière, 2017).



By the mid-19th century, British authorities had developed a policy of Métis collective non-recognition. In addition to the perceived threat that the Métis posed to colonial expansion, the Métis also posed a potential threat to colonial aspirations for civilization. To acknowledge the Métis as a distinct group could have been likened to acknowledging the failures of colonial policy to assimilate and “civilize” First Nation peoples, which would be inconsistent with colonial objectives of progress (Chartrand, 2017).

In 1884, in the face of increasing settlement in the west following Canada’s purchase of Rupert’s Land, and in defense of Métis ancestral rights, the leader of the National Commission of Métis (Louis Riel) organized a petition to the Government of Canada. The petition requested (Ouellet and Hanson, 2009):

- Title to the lands already occupied by Métis families;
- Provincial status for Saskatchewan, Alberta and Red River; and,
- Better treatment of all Indigenous peoples.

An unsatisfactory response from the government led to the Northwest Rebellion or Riel Rebellion of 1885, leading to hundreds of deaths and defeat by federal troops. For their roles, Riel and other Métis and First Nations leaders were arrested, and Riel was subsequently hung as a message to the Métis who challenged Canada’s western expansion goals (MNO, 2023a). Following the rebellion, the first Prime Minister of Canada, Sir John A. McDonald, in effect denied the existence of the Métis as a distinct group when he stated that they must consider themselves either Indian or white (Sealey, 1980, as cited in Peressini, 2000). In response to the public backlash from these events, many Métis in Ontario were disinclined to self-identify and covertly continued to practice their culture and lifeways (MNO, 2023a).

Today, the Historic Métis Nation refers to itself and is referred to by others as the Métis Nation. According to the Métis Nation of Ontario Registry Policy (June 2023 Version) (2023c), “Métis means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples and is accepted by the Métis Nation” (p. 2). To apply for citizenship within the Métis Nation of Ontario, individuals must meet and follow the requirements of the Métis Nation of Ontario Registry Policy which includes key measures related to self-identification, proving historic Métis Nation history, community acceptance, and provides provisions for appeals and the Harvesters Registry (MNO, 2023c).





### 2.2.3 Early Legislation and Policy

As the British need for the military allyship of Indigenous peoples waned, an emerging perspective from the British reflected a belief that British society and culture were superior. As a result, the Indian Department of the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada was tasked with a plan of “civilization”, and Indian agents began encouraging Indigenous peoples to abandon their traditional lifeways and beliefs and adopt more agricultural and settled ways of life. Legislation was also introduced in support of the “civilization” program, starting with the *Crown Lands Protection Act* of 1839. The Act made the British government the guardian of all Crown lands, including Indian Reserve lands; this statute was the first to classify Indian lands as Crown lands to be protected by the Crown (CIRNAC, 2017).

As noted by Parrott (2022), the 1850 *Act for the better protection of the Lands and Property of the Indians in Lower Canada* was one of the first pieces of legislation that included a set of requirements, based on blood, for a person to be considered a legal Indian — a precursor to the concept of “status.” These requirements essentially said that people were considered Indian if they were of “Indian blood” and were members of a “Body or Tribe of Indians.” Descendants of such people were Indian, as were non-Indians who “intermarried with such Indians,” people whose parents (one or both) would have been considered Indians, and “all persons adopted in infancy by any such Indians” (Parrott, 2022). Thus, early definitions of “Indian” were inclusive of Métis people.

Enfranchisement refers to the process that resulted in a person becoming of “citizen” of the country and no longer being considered an “Indian” under legislation, thus losing all benefits associated with that status. Enfranchisement was not abolished until the Indian Act was amended in 1985 through Bill C-31.



The British government introduced the *Gradual Civilization Act* in 1857, which offered 50 acres of land and monetary incentives to literate and debt-free Indians provided they abandoned their traditional way of life and adopted a civilized life as a “citizen”. The Act had as its premise “that by eventually removing all legal distinctions between Indians and non-Indians through the process of enfranchisement, it would be possible in time to absorb Indian people fully into colonial society” (RCAP, 1996b, p. 249). This was followed by the *Management of Indian Lands and Property Act (Indian Land Act)* in 1860, which transferred exclusive authority for Indians, lands reserved for Indians, and Indian affairs from the Crown to the colonies, and then the new Dominion of Canada under the 1867 *Constitution Act (British North America Act)*.

Assimilation became the fundamental principle of federal policy through the *Gradual Enfranchisement Act* in 1869, which aimed to remove any special distinction or rights of First Nations people to assimilate them into settler society. This marked the beginning of federal government efforts to legislate and regulate First Nations’ identity (APPA, 2019). Between 1869 and 1985, an Indian woman marrying a non-Indian man would be enfranchised (AFN, 2020a).



### 2.2.4 The *Indian Act*

The *Indian Act* was introduced in 1876 to consolidate all previous regulations pertaining to Indians and provide greater authority to the Department of Indian Affairs. The Act enabled the Department to (CIRNAC, 2017):

- Intervene in a wide variety of band issues including governance structure;
- Make sweeping policy decisions, including who was considered to be a “Status Indian”;
- Manage Indian lands (see [Section 2.2.6](#)), resources, and moneys;
- Control access to intoxicants, including alcohol; and,
- Take measures to promote “civilization”, including mandating Indigenous children into government-sanctioned schools (see [Section 2.2.7](#)).

The *Indian Act* was based on the premise that it was the Crown’s responsibility to protect Indian interests and thus the Crown would act as a “guardian” until such time that Indians could fully integrate into society (CIRNAC, 2017).

The Act has largely excluded Métis individuals since its enactment. The 1876 *Indian Act* simplified and further restricted the definition of “Indian” compared to definitions in earlier legislation (see [Section 2.2.3](#)). It excluded Métis who had received “half breed scrip” (individual land grants to Métis on the prairies beginning in the 1870s). It also excluded the children of Indian women who married non-Indian men (including Métis men). These exclusions effectively served to reduce the size of the category of Indian while increasing the size of the non-Indian category, which, in turn, reduced the amount of land necessary for Indians and enabled increasing settlement by Euro-Canadians (Hayter, 2017). Amendments to the Act beginning in 1879 increasingly excluded Métis people, with far reaching exclusions added through amendments up to and including 1951 (Teillet, 2013). While the result has been that Métis people have been largely excluded from the Act, many individuals who self-identify as Métis are today registered as Indians under the *Indian Act*.





According to Hanson (2009a) and CIRNAC (2017), throughout its history, the *Indian Act* has been highly invasive and paternalistic, and increasingly restrictive, imposing ever-greater controls on First Nations peoples. Between 1876 and 1920, individuals were automatically enfranchised and removed from their band lists if they (AFN, 2020a):

- Got a university degree and joined the medical or legal professions;
- Got any university degree and met the “fit” or “civilized” enfranchisement requirements; or,
- Became a priest or minister.

An amendment to the Act in 1880 marked the beginning of gender-based restrictions to First Nations status – women lost their Indian status if they married and non-Indian man (Hanson, 2009a). In the 1880s, a new system of band councils and governance was imposed, with the final authority resting with Indian agents. Outright bans on spiritual and cultural ceremonies were also imposed.

An amendment in 1927 forbid fundraising by First Nations for the purpose of pursuing a land claim without the permission of the Department of Indian Affairs, preventing First Nations from pursuing land claims of any kind (CIRNAC, 2017). It was not until significant amendments in 1951, as Canadian society became more aware of the concept of human rights following World War II, that (Hanson, 2009a):

- It was no longer illegal to practice Indigenous customs and culture;
- First Nations people were allowed to enter pool halls, gamble, appear off-reserve in ceremonial dress, and organize and hire legal counsel; and,
- First Nations women were allowed to vote in band councils.





Gender-based restrictions in the Act were in place until amendments were undertaken in 1985 to align with the equality rights guaranteed by Section 15 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (Bill C-31). The amendments enabled women who had previously lost their Indian status as a result of marriage to a non-Indian to regain it, as well as their children’s status, and prevented a person’s marriage from affecting their receipt or loss of status. However, the amendments created new forms of discrimination with the introduction of a “second-generation cut-off”. Several cases were brought to court and as a result, Bill C-3 was passed in 2011 to address these issues and enable Indian status to grandchildren of women who regained status in 1985 (AFN, 2020b). Enfranchisement was also not abolished until the 1985 amendments.

## 2.2.5 Treaties

Canada undertook a series of treaties with First Nations with the aim of extinguishing title to large swaths of Indigenous land to enable settlement and resource development in western and northern Canada (Archives of Ontario, n.d.), and to reduce possible conflicts between First Nations and settlers (CIRNAC, 2017). When the Dominion of Canada was created in 1867, the Province of Ontario was a fraction of the size of the present-day province, and both legislation and the signing of treaties with Indigenous groups served to incrementally increase the landmass of Ontario (CIRNAC, 2021, as cited in Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021).

The Anishinaabeg and Omushkegowuk of the region are signatories to the Robinson-Superior Treaty (1850) and James Bay Treaty Number 9 (1905).

Although the Project is wholly contained in James Bay Treaty 9 boundaries, information on the Robinson-Superior Treaty is included in **Section 2.2.5.1** as some of the Indigenous communities that are part of the Project Consultation and Engagement Program are signatories to the Robinson-Superior Treaty. While most Indigenous communities and groups in the area of the proposed Project are signatories to James Bay Treaty Number 9, an overview of the Robinson-Superior Treaty is presented first, in line with the chronological order of the treaties.

### 2.2.5.1 Robinson-Superior Treaty

Anishinaabeg requests for a treaty began in the 1840s when copper and iron deposits were discovered on the south and north shores of Lake Superior and the government started to issue mining leases; by 1846, 64 mineral licenses had been issued on the south shore of the lake, and surveying of the north shore had begun. In response, the Anishinaabeg and Métis seized the Montreal Mining Company site at Mica Bay, Lake Superior in 1849, forcing the government to negotiate treaties (Hele, 2020).

As of May 2023, there is an ongoing Ontario Superior Court trial related to the Robinson-Superior Treaty and the escalator clause for annuities. Communities associated with the treaty are seeking compensation for nearly 150 years of annuities without any increase in payments (Hopkins, 2023).



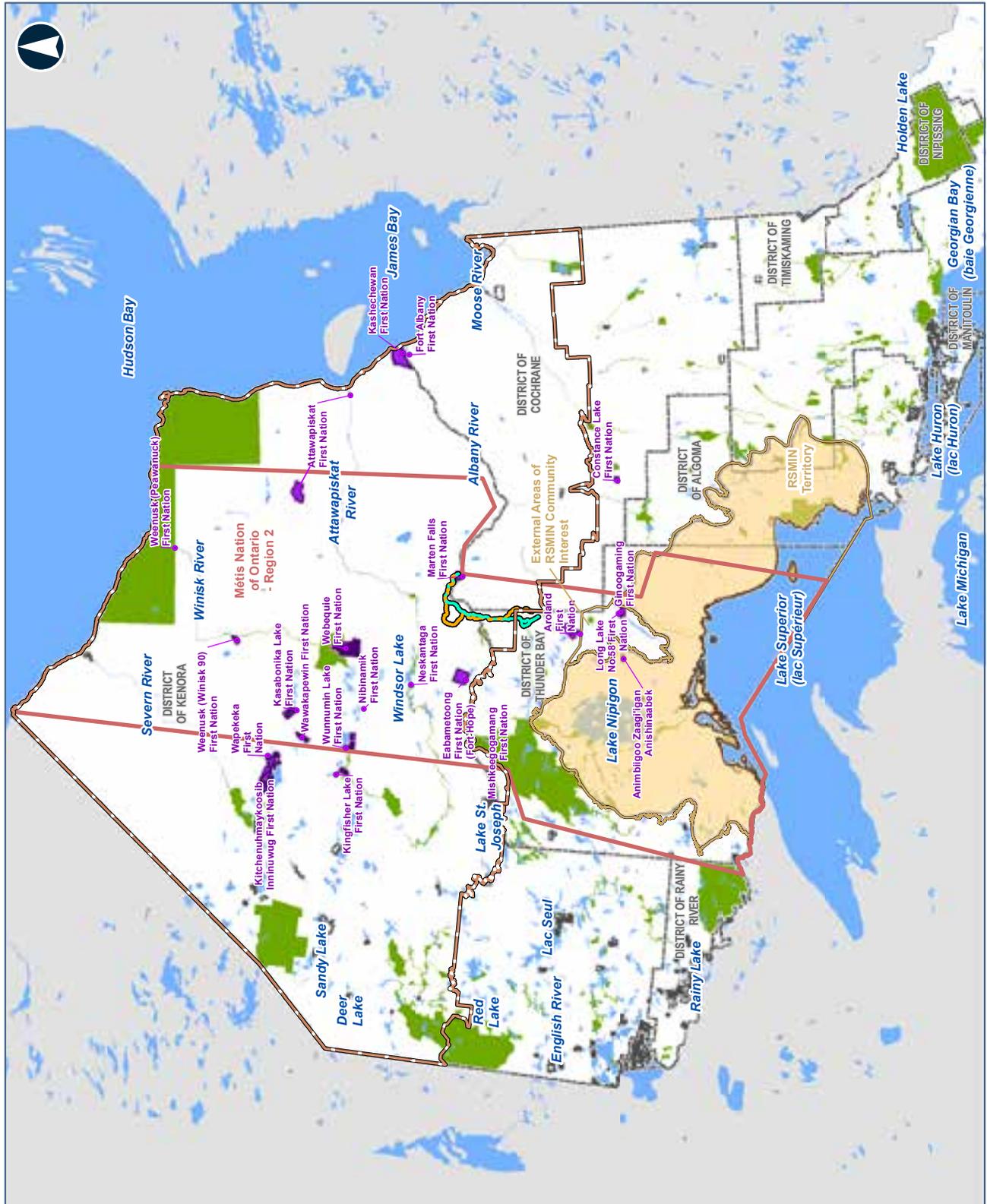


In September 1850, the Anishinaabeg of the Upper Great Lakes signed two separate but interconnected treaties: the Robinson-Superior Treaty, and the Robinson-Huron Treaty. These treaties provided Canada East and Canada West (the future Quebec and Ontario, respectively) with access to the north shores of Lake Huron and Lake Superior for settlement and mineral extraction. In exchange, the Anishinaabeg gained recognition of hunting and fishing rights, a one-time payment of £2000, an annual payment or annuity of £500 and £600 (respectively), and large reserves set aside specifically for First Nations from the surrender of specific lands for each signatory community. The treaties also contained an “escalator clause” for the annuity, which meant that the Crown would increase the annuity as revenues from lands increased (Hele, 2020).

While the recognition of the Métis in the Robinson-Superior Treaty was urged by the Indians (Gale, 1998), they were omitted as the treaty commissioner had no mandate to deal with the Métis (MNO, 2023a). The treaty commissioners informed the Métis that they were not empowered to deal with them as collective, and they could only choose to identify as either Indian or white for the purposes of the treaty (Teillet, 2013). The Hudson’s Bay Company did pay some “half breeds” annuities under the treaty between 1851 and 1875, as recorded in treaty annuity lists for the Lake Superior region (MNO, 2023a). However, all Métis were later excluded from the annuity lists when the Government of Ontario argued an error had been made when some Métis were included as beneficiaries in the treaty (McNab, 1985, cited in Peressini, 2000). As noted by Peressini (2000), this action established a precedent for the exclusion of the Métis from Aboriginal rights in Ontario.

The Robinson-Superior Treaty covers the north shore of Lake Superior from Batchewana Bay to Pigeon River at the western end of the lake, and the lands to the north up to the Hudson Bay watershed (**Figure 2-1**). Indigenous peoples residing in the area covered by the treaty at the time of signing include ancestors of the Animibiigoo Zaagi Igan Anishinaabek First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation, and the Red Sky Métis Independent Nation.

The Robinson treaties were the first to lead to the surrender of huge tracts of land with different and disparate Indigenous groups; previous treaties in Upper Canada negotiated for relatively small and compact parcels of land. They also established payments to individual band members instead of yearly lump sums paid to the band, formalized the setting aside of reserve lands for each individual signing group, and acknowledged ongoing rights to hunt and fish throughout traditional territories including a provision that lands could be “taken up” by the Crown for settlement, mining, lumbering, trading, or other purposes (referred to as the Taken Up Clause). These treaties became the model for subsequent treaties (CIRNAC, 2013), including the James Bay Treaty Number 9.



- Legend**
- Robinson-Superior Treaty Boundary
  - Approximate Métis Nation of Ontario - Region 2 Boundary
  - Red Sky, Métis Independent Nation
  - Route Label
  - Alternative 1
  - Alternative 4
  - Alternative 1 and Alternative 4
  - First Nation Reserve
  - Far North Boundary
  - District Municipal Boundary
  - Provincial Park
  - Waterbody

**DRAFT**

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

**Robinson-Superior Treaty Boundaries**



**Data Sources:**  
 Provided by MNR 2019; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2019  
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**Figure 2-1**

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### 2.2.5.2 James Bay Treaty Number 9

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By the late 1800s, many Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg and Omushkegowuk of the region, were facing significant challenges including:

- Declining animal resources;
- Starvation;
- Illnesses brought by Europeans; and
- Unwelcome poachers and mining prospectors with the newly established railroads.

With problems worsening, some Indigenous peoples of the region began to press Canada to enter a treaty, with an aim of ensuring protection and economic security as settlement and development intensified. While initial requests for a treaty were not supported by Canada, the discovery of minerals in the region, combined with interests in further expansion of the railway network, timber development, and hydro-electric production, led to negotiations of the James Bay Treaty Number 9 (Treaty 9) (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).

Similar to the Robinson-Superior Treaty, Treaty 9 set aside reserve lands for First Nations and granted them annuities and the continued right to hunt and fish on unoccupied Crown lands in exchange for Aboriginal title (CIRNAC, 2017), and the surrender of over 230,000 km<sup>2</sup> of territory (OCCC, 1986). In addition, the treaty included: schools and teachers to educate First Nations children on reserve; and ceremonial and symbolic items such as medals, flags, and clothing. During negotiations, First Nations were encouraged to settle on reserve lands, take up agriculture, and receive an education (CIRNAC, 2017).

Treaty 9 was unique among the numbered treaties in that there was a requirement for the concurrence of the Province of Ontario given extended boundaries of the province west and north to the Albany River. However, based on oral history and available written records, the Indigenous signatories were not informed of the negotiations between Canada and Ontario with respect to the treaty (Armstrong, 2008, as cited in Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). The terms of the treaty were finalized in advance by the Dominion of Canada and the Province of Ontario, and presented to Indigenous leaders; government representatives were not permitted to change the terms during the treaty expedition. The Ontario government had a series of demands, including that one of the three commissioners would represent the province, and that no Indigenous reserves in the treaty territory would be located in areas with hydro-electricity development potential greater than 500 horsepower (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).

Treaty 9 was the first major treaty in Ontario in which treaty signing took place in many locations rather than one (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). During the treaty expedition in 1905 and 1906, treaty commissioners travelled to trading posts along the rivers in what is now northern Ontario and met with Cree and Ojibway peoples. While the Indigenous people encountered at the trading posts at the time of the expedition were not necessarily part of a “band”, they were designated as such for administrative convenience. Each trading post was to give advance warning as to when the treaty party would arrive, but as it turned out, many Indigenous people were not present upon their arrival (OCCC, 1986).



The intent of the commissioners was to describe the contents of the treaty, establish reserves and associated boundaries, and obtain the signatures of Indigenous leaders. At each stop, the commissioners requested the community to select representatives who heard the treaty explained to them by interpreters (generally Hudson’s Bay Company employees or clergy), as the document was provided in English only. Most community members received an \$8 gift and the promise of a \$4 annuity in perpetuity. It was noted in the Treaty 9 Commissioners’ official report that the reserves were generally selected by the commissioners after conference with Indigenous people (Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021), but very little was actually described within the report (Morrison, 1986). Commissioners neither provided a full version of the treaty translated into the languages of the local Indigenous peoples, nor did they leave the document or a copy for review (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).

Treaty 9 covers most of present-day Ontario north of the height of land dividing the Great Lakes watershed from the Hudson and James Bay drainage basins (**Figure 2-2**). Signatories to Treaty 9 between 1905 and 1930 included the following:

- Marten Falls Band of Oji-Cree (Marten Falls First Nation);
- Osnaburgh Band of Ojibway (Mishkeegogamang First Nation);
- Fort Hope Band of Oji-Cree (Eabametoong First Nation, Neskantaga First Nation, Nibinamik First Nation, and Webequie First Nation);
- English River Band of Oji-Cree (Constance Lake First Nation);
- Fort Albany Band of Cree (Fort Albany First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Aroland First Nation);
- Long Lake Band of Ojibway (Ginoogaming First Nation);
- Big Trout Lake Band of Oji-Cree (Kasabonika Lake First Nation, Kingfisher First Nation, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation, Wapekeka First Nation, Wawakapewin First Nation, and Wunnumin Lake First Nation);
- Winisk Band of Cree (Weenusk First Nation); and,
- Attawapiskat Band of Cree (Attawapiskat First Nation).

Ontario’s northern border was extended from the Albany River to its present day location in 1912, leading Indigenous peoples in the newly acquired areas to petition the government for a treaty. Formal adhesions to Treaty 9 were made in 1929-1930 as a result (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).



Treaty 9 was considered to be one of the least generous of the numbered treaties: the monetary gifts and annuities were much lower than Treaty 8 or Treaty 10, and there was to be no distribution



of ammunition or net twine, no farm implements or cattle, no carpentry tools, and no salaries of clothing for the chiefs and councillors (Ry, Miller, & Touch, 2000, as cited in Long, 2011). In addition, as noted by Long (2010), Treaty 9 historians contend that the treaty was flawed due to the lack of oversight by the people who drafted it, and it may have been the first of the numbered treaties that lacked the oversight of the Colonial Office in Great Britain. The conditions and factors present when the treaty was signed were also problematic (Archives of Ontario, n.d.; OCCC, 1986):

- The treaty commissioners could not speak any of the local Indigenous languages;
- Many Indigenous signatories didn't speak, read or write English so interpreters selected by the commissioners were used;
- Indigenous peoples lacked an understanding of the Canadian legal system and were not provided with lawyers to advise them; and,
- The worldviews, culture, history, and ways of knowing land ownership of Indigenous signatories and the commissioners were very different.



Long (2006) contends that there were two treaties: the official written version, and the one that was orally described to Indigenous peoples. This has been substantiated by Indigenous oral history and the Treaty 9 commissioners' own writings, which indicate that the commissioners told the Elders two key things:

- The treaty would last as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the winds blow; and,
- Traditional and cultural activities of Anishinaabe and Mushkegowuk signatory communities would be protected.

The Indigenous signatories understood, through oral promises, that the treaty would help them achieve *Mino-Bimaadiziwin* and *Mino-Pimatisiwin* (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).

Archival records also suggest that the commissioners did not explain the "Taken Up Clause" (see [Section 2.2.5.1](#)) – if they had, it is possible that Indigenous representatives would never have signed the document (Archives of Ontario, n.d.).





### 2.2.6 Damming and Diversion

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Today, not all of the water that would normally flow to Hudson’s Bay remains within the watershed. The damming and diverting of waterways in the area has occurred at various scales over time. Demand for water in the Great Lakes region for shipping and hydropower has led to diversion from the Albany River watershed to the Great Lakes in the form of three key projects: one from the Kengami River; one from Lake St. Joseph; and one from the Ogoki River (Garrick, 2020). The Long Lake Diversion Project included the construction of the Kenogami Lake Dam and the Long Lake Diversion Dam, undertaken in 1937. The Ogoki Diversion Project, in the early 1940s included the construction of the Waboose and Summit Dams to divert water to Lake Superior through Lake Nipigon. The Lake St. Joseph Diversion Project was built to divert water from Lake St. Joseph to Lac Seul in the late 1950s (Garrick 2020; Creger, 2018). In discussion about the potential development of more waterway diversion projects in the 1960s, Marten Falls First Nation Councillor Sam Achneepineskum commented “Our community would have been a lake where it is now... I think that is part of the reason why Nishnawbe Aski Nation came to be, all the chiefs got together and they started to push back on trying to kill the project. It was called Damn the Dams” (Garrick, 2020, p. 15).

### 2.2.7 The Reserve System

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The reserve system concept evolved from the early settlements created by missionaries. As more newcomers were arriving, they began occupying the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples in increasing numbers, and reserves were initially considered a pragmatic solution to land disputes and conflicts between Indigenous peoples and settlers. As treaties began to be reached with Indigenous peoples, provisions were included for the creation of reserves. The reserve system was formalized under the *Indian Act*, which permitted the government to determine the land base of First Nations in the forms of reserves set aside for their exclusive use (Hanson, 2009b).

While Treaty 9 specified that First Nations would choose the location of their reserves, the Ontario Order-in-Council later changed the terms – the commissioners would now decide, and one of the three treaty commissioners would be appointed by the Government of Ontario (Matheson, 1905a, as cited in Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). The size of the reserves was based on the number of people in the band; however, the population data at the time for these communities could not be considered accurate and many people were not at the trading post during treaty deliberations because of the late start to the treaty expedition (Tsuji & Tsuji, 2021). This led to many reserve locations and sizes being determined based on local settler demand. Even in areas covered by the numbered treaties, reserve size was calculated differentially, ranging between 160 and 640 acres per family of five (Smith, 2009, as cited in Smith, 2016).

As noted by Smith (2016), even as the land base of First Nations was reduced through the reserve system, reserves were still vulnerable to surrounding land uses. Demands for mineral, forest, and agricultural lands; the construction of transportation routes or military sites; and other purposes that arose, often led to the alienation of reserve lands under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Government.

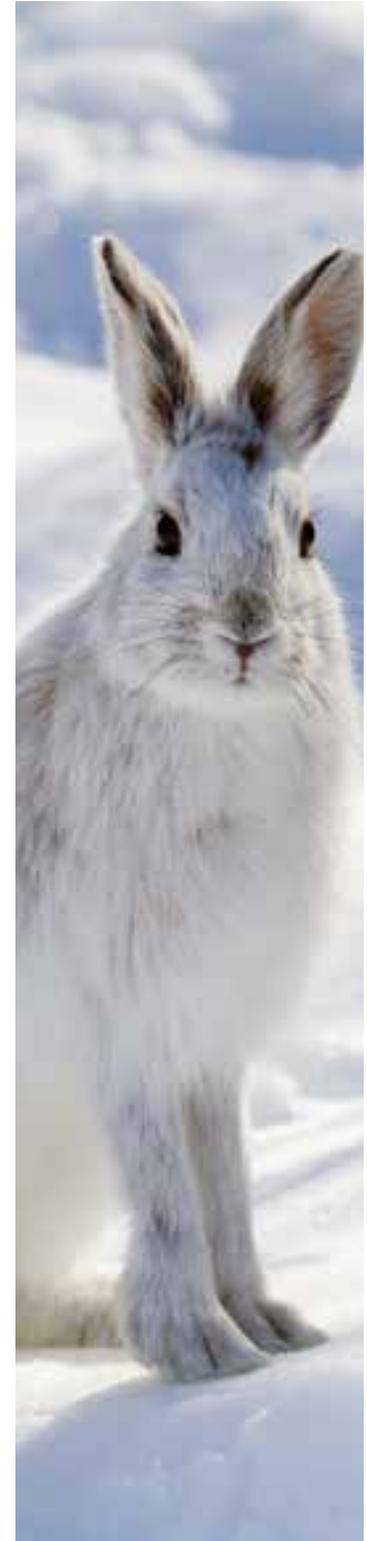


While consent from First Nations was often sought, this consent was regularly acquired under what could be considered questionable circumstances. The sale of reserve lands was consistently presented as being in the long-term interest of the First Nation community, yet railway and corporate executives, and other members of the settler elite (including Indian Affairs Department staff and other public officials), often gained possession of alienated reserve lands (Smith, 2016).

The creation of the reserve system had far-reaching implications for Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg and the Omushkegowuk. As noted previously, the land base of First Nations was significantly reduced: the reserve system dispossessed the Anishinaabeg of all but one percent of their traditional territory (Pitawanikwat, 2009). Under the reserve system, which provided First Nations with fragments of their ancestral territory, Indigenous residents held the right to occupancy only, which ownership and title remained in the hands of the Crown (Smith, 2016).

As noted by Hanson (2009b), the reserve system was essentially a government-sanctioned displacement of First Nations people, with reserves dividing up not only lands but also peoples and communities that had existed for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. Many families and clans that had hunted, gathered, and celebrated together for generations were abruptly and arbitrarily joined with other families and clans, disrupting long-established social networks and kinship systems that determined who could hunt, fish, and gather in particular areas (Hanson, 2009b).

Amendments to the *Indian Act* led to a requirement for First Nation reserve residents to secure a permit before selling or giving away any goods located or produced on reserves or by reserve residents (Smith, 2016), further restricting the lives of Indigenous peoples. This disruption of traditional networks and the significant changes to Indigenous traditional lifeways contributed to disproportionate levels poverty on many reserves; however, leaving reserves often meant facing discrimination, relinquishing one's First Nations status, and / or losing or jeopardizing connections to family and territory (Hanson, 2009b).





## 2.2.8 Residential School System

One of the most infamous consequences of the *Indian Act* was the promotion of the residential school system for Indigenous children. This was an extensive school system set up by the Canadian government and administered by churches, with intent to: indoctrinate Indigenous children into Euro-Canadian and Christian ways of living; and assimilate them into mainstream Canadian society (Hanson *et al.*, 2020). Duncan Campbell Scott, Head of Indian Affairs from 1913 to 1932, famously said in 1920 that “the goal of the Indian Residential School is to kill the Indian in the child” (Wilson & Hodgson, 2018).

The system originated from the mission system in the 1600s, when missionaries made plans to establish schools and farming settlements to try to educate, change, and settle Indigenous peoples. However, managing the schools and associated supplies proved challenging for the missionaries to carry out alone (OCCC, 1986). Following confederation, Canada’s first Prime Minister, John A. Macdonald, commissioned a study of industrial schools established for Indigenous children in the United States, and a recommendation to follow their approach to “aggressive civilization” led to the creation and funding of the residential school system (Hanson *et al.*, 2020), although some schools were funded by provincial governments or by the various religious orders (Union of Ontario Indians, 2013). An amendment to the *Indian Act* in 1894 made it mandatory for Indigenous children to attend school (TRC, 2015a). Further amendments to the *Indian Act* in 1920 and 1933 reinforced the requirement for every Indian child between the ages of 7-16 to attend a residential school, and led to the legal guardianship of Indian children attending a school being assumed by their principals upon the often forcible surrender of legal custody by their parents (Union of Ontario Indians, 2013).





The residential school system was primarily located off-reserve (and often far from Indigenous communities), and children generally attended for 10 months of year, although some children lived at the school year round (Union of Ontario Indians, 2013). A primary purpose of the schools was to systematically dissolve all aspects of Indigenous cultures and languages. English, and in some cases French, were the only languages allowed. Indigenous languages and practices were forbidden, with punishments – often severe ones – for children who broke these rules (TRC, 2015a). Students had their long hair cut short as a way to strip away their personal and cultural identities, and they were stripped of their clothing and dressed in uniforms (Hanson *et al.*, 2020). Their days were long and strictly regimented between academic learning, religious prayer, and manual labour and tasks (Union of Ontario Indians, 2013). Boys and girls were kept separate, and as a result, siblings rarely interacted, further weakening family ties (Hanson *et al.*, 2020).

It is estimated that over 150,000 Indigenous children attended one of the almost 140 residential schools established by Canada and the Catholic, United, Anglican, and Presbyterian churches across the country between 1857 and 1996 (CIRNAC, 2017); 16 of these schools operated in Ontario (Auger, 2005). Some Métis children also attended residential schools (APPA, 2019). Children living in the Treaty 9 area attended residential schools at Moose Factory, Chapleau, Pelican Lake, and Fort Albany (Archives of Ontario, n.d.). The St. Anne's Residential School in Fort Albany ran from 1910 to 1963, and was attended by children from the Fort Albany, Weenisk, Attawapiskat, Fort Hope, and Ogoki (Marten Falls First Nation) communities. It is estimated that by 1945, approximately 170 children attended the school, with half of their days spent doing schoolwork and the other half spent on manual labour and domestic tasks (Auger, 2005).

The residential school system struggled with funding, often resulting in poor and unsuitable nutrition, unsanitary conditions, and inadequate medical care. With crowded dormitories, infectious diseases like tuberculosis were rampant, often leading to death. The education received was generally insufficient as many teachers assumed that Indigenous children were unfit for anything more than a basic education which focused on practical skills and religious training.

Messages of the inferiority of Indigenous peoples, their culture, and lifeways were commonplace (TRC, 2015a). Emotional and psychological abuse was commonplace, physical abuse was considered standard punishment, and sexual abuse was common (Hanson *et al.*, 2020). Survivors of the school at St. Anne's in Fort Albany have described serious physical and sexual abuse at the hands of school staff (Roman, 2013), leading to criminal charges of former school staff in the 1990s. The abuses combined with the poor living conditions resulted in an extremely high death toll. In 1907, government medical inspector P.H. Bryce reported that 24 percent of previously healthy Indigenous children across Canada were dying in residential schools, and this figure did not include children who died at home where they were frequently sent when critically ill (Hanson *et al.*, 2020).





### 2.2.9 The Sixties Scoop

The Sixties Scoop refers to the mass removal of Indigenous children, including Métis children, from their families into the child welfare system, without the consent of families or communities in most cases. As the government began phasing out compulsory residential school education in the 1950s and 1960s, residential schools persisted as a boarding school, primarily for children whose families were deemed unsuitable to care for them. An amendment to the *Indian Act* in 1951 enabled the province to provide services to Indigenous peoples that were not available federally, including child protection (Hanson, 2009c).

Provincial social workers assigned to reserves often assessed child safety and welfare by mainstream cultural standards, without adequate education and training to recognize the problems rooted in generations of trauma related to residential schools. As a result, thousands of Indigenous children were removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system starting in the 1960s and continuing up to 1990 (TRC, 2015a). By the 1970s, roughly one third of all children in care were Indigenous (Johnston, 1983, as cited in Hanson, 2009c). Many children lived in institutionalized care, or floated between foster homes, where incidences of physical and sexual abuse were not uncommon but often covered up (Fournier & Crey, 1997, as cited in Hanson, 2009c). Similar to the impacts of residential school, the ensuing cultural suppression (denial of their Indigenous identity) and abuse among Indigenous children in the welfare system led to significant impacts on psychological and emotional health (Hanson, 2009c).

### 2.2.10 The *Constitution Act, 1982* and Aboriginal Rights

Between 1977 and 1981, the federal government entered into discussions with the provinces to reform and take authority of the Constitution from the British government. Aboriginal political organizations were unsuccessful in getting a seat at the negotiations table, and the first proposal for the Constitution put forward in 1981 excluded Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. However, several months of lobbying by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis organizations led to the inclusion of two clauses in Section 35 of the Constitution: recognition of “existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights”; and, definition of Aboriginal peoples that included all three groups (CIRNAC, 2017). The presence of the word “existing” means that section 35 only applies to Aboriginal and Treaty Rights that were not extinguished when the *Constitution Act, 1982* came into effect. Therefore, if a right was previously extinguished (e.g., through surrender to the Crown), it is not revived by Section 35 (Centre for Constitutional Studies, 2021).





While attempts were made to define existing Aboriginal Rights between 1983 and 1987, they remained undefined because of disagreements between Canada, Indigenous groups, and the provinces. As a result, responsibility to define the extent and scope of Aboriginal Rights, and to direct government policies and programs so that they respect these rights and prevent infringement on them, has fallen to the courts (CIRNAC, 2017).

Several Supreme Court cases have reaffirmed Indigenous rights to harvesting activities. The *R. v. Sparrow* (1990) was a precedent-setting case and the first decision by the Supreme Court to interpret Section 35. In 1984, Ronald Sparrow from the Musqueam Indian Band was arrested for fishing with a net longer than was permitted by his food fishing license. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Musqueam's Aboriginal Right to fish had not been extinguished and was an existing right. The court also ruled that the government cannot override or infringe on these rights without justification. This ruling led to what is now known as the "*Sparrow Test*", which sets out a list of criteria that determines whether a right is existing, and if so, how a government may be justified to infringe on it (Salomons & Hanson, 2009).

The *R. v. Van der Peet* (1996) case was pivotal in further defining Aboriginal Rights under Section 35. Dorothy Van der Peet, a member of the Stó:lō Nation, was charged with selling salmon that had been caught under a food-fishing license. The court ruled that fishing constitutes an Aboriginal Right, but the sale of the fish does not. The ruling led to what is now known as the "*Van der Peet Test*" or the "Integral to a Distinctive Culture Test", which establishes ten criteria that must be met for a practice to be affirmed and protected as an Aboriginal Right (Hanson & Salomon, 2009):

1. The perspective of Aboriginal peoples themselves.
2. The precise nature of the claim (what is being claimed as a right).
3. The practice, custom, or tradition must be of central significance to the society in question.
4. The Aboriginal Right must have continuity with the practices, customs and traditions that existed prior to contact.
5. Courts must take challenges with evidence into account (e.g., oral history of Indigenous peoples rather than written records).
6. Claims must be specific and not general.
7. The practice, custom, or tradition must be of independent significance to the group (i.e. central to the group's identity).
8. The practice, custom, or tradition be distinctive (i.e., characteristic part of the culture).
9. European influence is only relevant if the practice, custom, or tradition is integral to the Indigenous society because of that influence.
10. Courts must take into account both the relationship of Aboriginal peoples to the land and their cultures.



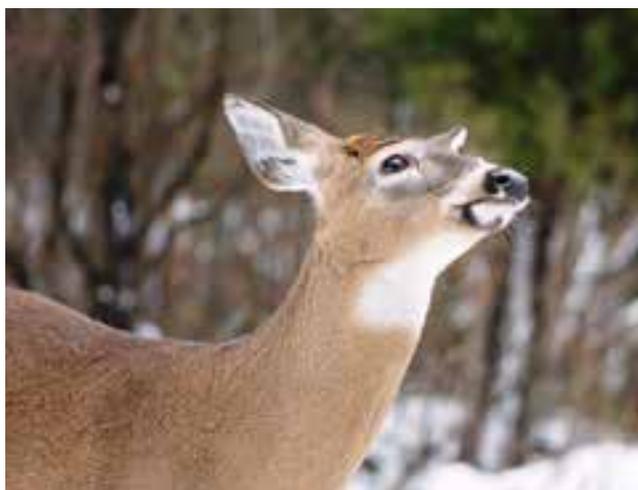


Critics of the *Van der Peet* Test point out that the test situates Aboriginal cultural practices in the past and ignores the dynamic, adaptive nature of culture by treating Aboriginal cultures and traditions as static and unchanging (Hanson & Salomon, 2009).

### 2.2.10.1 Métis Rights

The rights of Métis communities and individuals were historically excluded or simply ignored by the government, contributing to vulnerabilities and marginalization (Teillet, 2013). Miner (2022) notes that Métis providing for their families and communities were often charged with poaching and illegal fishing throughout the 20th century. The rights of the Métis were not formally recognized until Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Since the early 2000s, two major Supreme Court of Canada decisions have initiated the long process of defining Métis rights, as well as highlighted the complexities associated with defining Métis identity in



the context of these rights. The first was *R. v. Powley* (2003), which forever transformed Métis harvesting rights. Two Métis hunters, Steve Powley and his son were charged with hunting a moose near Sault Ste. Marie without a license under the Ontario *Game and Fish Act*. They pleaded not guilty and asserted their Aboriginal Right to hunt. After a decade of court proceedings and a series of appeals by the Crown, the Supreme Court confirmed that as Métis people and members of a Métis community, the Powleys' right to hunt in the area was protected by Section 35 (Teillet, 2013). The evidence in the *Powley* case also showed that after the economic migration of Métis from the Great Lakes to the prairies in the early 19th century, a significant Métis population remained in the Great Lakes-Boundary Waters regions of Ontario (Teillet, 2013).



During the *Powley* case, the Supreme Court determined that the appropriate way to define Section 35 Métis rights is to modify the test used to define the Aboriginal Rights of First Nations, as determined *R. v. Van der Peet* (1996). The test to define Métis rights is now called the Powley Test and it includes ten components (Teillet, 2013):

1. The characterization of the right, including reason for harvesting (e.g., for food, for ceremonial purposes, etc.), the location of harvesting and other contextual information.
2. Verification of membership in the contemporary Métis community.
3. Identification of the historic rights-bearing Métis community with a distinctive collective identity that existed prior to when Euro-Canadians effectively established political and legal control in that area.
4. Identification of the contemporary rights-bearing community that is a continuation of the historic community.
5. The historical timeframe for the practice, which must have been undertaken post-contact but before Euro-Canadian political and legal control.
6. Whether the practice was integral to the claimant's distinctive culture.
7. Whether the practice is continue by the Métis community.
8. Whether the right was extinguished by the Crown by constitutional enactments, federal legislation, or by agreement with the Aboriginal people.
9. Whether the right was infringed upon for any reasons.
10. If the right was infringed upon, whether the infringement was justified.





In 2016, following a 17-year court battle, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in the *Daniels v. Canada* case that Métis and Non-Status Indian are considered “Indians” under Section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867* (Gaudry, 2009). This interpretation means that the federal government holds the legal responsibility to legislate on issues related to Métis and Non-Status Indians rather than provincial governments. The case ended a long standing situation of legal uncertainty where neither levels of government took responsibility for the Métis and Non-Status Indians (Roy, 2021). The Supreme Court commented that Métis and Non-Status peoples had been essentially in a “jurisdictional wasteland with significant and obvious disadvantaging consequences” (*Daniels v. Canada*, 2016, para. 14). While the ruling does not grant Indian Status, as defined by the *Indian Act*, to Métis and Non-Status peoples, the ruling has resulted in new discussions and negotiations with the federal government over land claims, rights, self-governance, and access to education, health programs, and other government services (Roy, 2021).

Canadian legal definitions of Métis have further complicated the situation with respect to Métis Rights. The *Powley* case established who can legally qualify for Métis Rights and specific criteria to be considered Métis: the individual must self-identify as Métis, have an ancestral connection to a Métis community, and be accepted by that community as a member. However, in the *Daniels* case the Federal Court defined Métis as “a group of native people who maintained a strong affinity for their Indian heritage without possessing Indian status” (cited in Teillet, 2013). As noted by Teillet (2013), this definition separated individuals from Aboriginal collectives and held that there is no need for any ancestral connection to a Métis group and no need for community acceptance, and ultimately eliminated the Métis as a separate Aboriginal people. Regardless, the criteria of the *Powley* decision still define which Métis communities have Aboriginal Rights.

The *Powley* Test has been identified as problematic in that the criteria for being Métis is exclusionary to urban Métis families who may have lived in the city for generations, as well as people who have mixed Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal ancestry yet are not connected to a contemporary Métis society. This has contributed to tensions between different Métis groups (Ouellet & Hanson, 2009), and heated debate among many Métis people in Canada (Gaudry, 2009). As noted by Ouellet and Hanson (2009), it is expected that “the issue of Métis identity will continue to be the topic of much debate and discussion since Métis Rights depend on identifying the people who are entitled to such rights, and then specifying what those rights are” (para. 6).





## 2.2.11 Legislative Developments

In the period following the signing of Treaty 9, further British and later Canadian Governments laws, regulations, and policies on northern Ontario, contributed to growing intervention and regulation of Indigenous peoples by both the federal and provincial governments. This section reflects on some of the key legislative developments that have governed natural resource and land use, and the associated effects on the rights of Indigenous peoples in the region. It is important to note that this section is not exhaustive nor reflective of all legislation that may have impacted Indigenous peoples in the region.

### 2.2.11.1 Fish & Game Regulations

At the time of the Robinson treaties (1850), there was very little, if any, competition for fish resources from European fisherman, particularly in Lake Superior and areas to the north. There was also no comprehensive legislation pertaining to fish in place at the time. For varying periods of time, and depending on the location, the government generally did not restrict the full and free privilege to fish provided for by the Robinson treaties. However, changes occurred with the passage of comprehensive fisheries legislation and the drafting of subsequent treaties, including Treaty 9 (Hansen, 1991).

The first passage of comprehensive fisheries legislation came in 1857 with the *Fisheries Act*, under which the Department of Crown Lands became responsible for fisheries in Upper and Lower Canada. The Act did not contain any specific references to Indigenous people. An amendment in 1859 provided for the first time for special fishing

Treaty 9 was negotiated between Canada and Ontario at a time when federal-provincial jurisdiction over fisheries was well established. One of the treaty's provisions full reflected the state of fisheries legislation, in that the right to hunt, trap and fish is subject to regulations that may be made by "the government of the country".





licenses and leases on lands belonging to the Crown, with no specific reference to Indigenous people. Shortly after this, an agreement between the Department of Crown Lands and the Indian Department “for the protection of the interest of native tribes” was reached (as cited in Hansen, 1991, pg. 6). The agreement suggested that Indigenous people were considered subject to the regulations of the Act since they were exempt from paying fees for fishery leases anyways. However, they were exempt in cases of fishing for domestic consumption only, and they were subject to the regulations otherwise (i.e., when fishing commercially or for trade). Thus, fishing rights were being interpreted as domestic consumption fishing rights only (Hansen, 1991).

Amendments to the *Fisheries Act* in 1865 provided a regulation with respect to Indigenous fisheries for the first time. The regulation specifically referred to the allowance of ‘certain Indians’ to fish for their own use as food, reinforcing the interpretation of Indigenous fishing rights as rights related to domestic fishing purposes only. It also added a new component – an open season – which reflected developing conservation principles (Hansen, 1991). After confederation, Canada implemented the first federal *Fisheries Act* in 1868. The Act maintained the provisions of the preceding acts, including the licensing of Indians to fish for their own use. In addition, Indian fishermen were considered to be subject to all regulations (Hansen, 1991).

The government of Ontario was not involved in the legislative aspects of resource management until 1885 with the passage of the *Ontario Fisheries Act*. It contained several provisions from the federal act, and like his federal counterpart, the Ontario Commissioner of Crown Lands was authorized to establish licensing (Hansen, 1991). In 1890, a royal commission on game and fish was appointed to make recommendations with respect to these resources in the province.

The overlapping jurisdictional issues with respect to federal and provincial fisheries legislation were eventually resolved through the courts, where it was ruled that Canada had the authority to enact legislation for inland fisheries and Ontario had proprietary interests in fisheries and the authority to issue licenses for fisheries in the province (Hansen, 1991).





The expansion of the railway network led to new settlement in the region, which in turn led to an increase in the number of sportsman and tourists visiting the region and increased pressures on fish and wildlife. Upon recommendation by the commission, Ontario created the *Game and Fisheries Act* in 1892, replacing the previous fisheries legislation. In turn, the Act intensified enforcement for First Nations in Ontario (Calverley, 2009).

Under the new legislation, a series of law changes were enacted to address declining game populations, including: a new range of closed seasons for some of the most desirable species, such as deer, moose, and elk; new seasons for game birds; and complete hunting bans on certain species. In addition, new license requirements were introduced for non-residents and system of game overseers were established to enforce game laws and penalties (Calverley, 1999). Regardless of these efforts, wildlife populations continue to decline (Bate, 2023).

Initially, the *Game and Fisheries Act* contained a clause exempting treaty Indian hunters from the legislation based on their Treaty Rights. However, the clause referencing Treaty Rights was eventually removed from the Act in 1914 and by 1927, all hunting exemptions for First Nation hunters had been removed from the Act – all “persons” affected by the Act were now defined to include “Indians”. By this time, game laws in Ontario included complete hunting bans on moose and deer, bag limits, quotas, required licensing, and hunting seasons (Bate, 2023). As a result of the hunting regulations, Indigenous hunters’ control over resources, secured through treaty, was restricted, impacting their cultural lifeways.

A jurisdictional challenge arose with the application of the provincial Act to Indigenous peoples with Treaty Rights, which were under federal jurisdiction. Indian Affairs began to take increased interest in securing Indigenous peoples harvesting rights, as Indian Agents increasingly became allies to communities in the north.





As noted by Calverley (1999), after almost three decades of complaints, letters and petitions from the Anishinaabeg, some Indian Agents came to understand Indigenous perspectives on the application of provincial legislation; in part, the Act was taking food out of the mouths of Indigenous people. In terms of game depletion, the agents generally believed the increase in settler hunter and sportsman were the main conservation threat. Indian Affairs generally adopted a more proactive approach in relation to Indigenous hunting and trapping rights for a period. However, Indian Affairs was not completely opposed to regulating Indigenous hunting, and they would not openly challenge the Ontario government over treaty rights (Calverley, 1999).

In response to the *Sparrow* ruling (see [Section 2.2.9](#)), the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources issued an *Interim Enforcement Policy on Aboriginal Hunting and Fishing* in 1991 that states Aboriginal people harvesting game or fish for personal consumption or social or ceremonial purposes in their treaty areas or traditional lands will generally not be prosecuted. However, this policy was meant to be an interim measure and when the province enacted a new *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* in 1997, neither it, nor the detailed regulations under it, make any reference to Treaty or Aboriginal Rights to harvest.

#### **2.2.11.2 The Registered Trapline System**

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In response to declining populations of fur-bearing species, and complaints from Indigenous trappers about other trappers encroaching into their territories, the government of Ontario issued new game regulations under the *Game and Fisheries Act* of 1946 that included the creation of the Registered Trapline System (Finch, 2020; Sutherland, 2020). While it was first implemented in southern Ontario, by 1948 the regulations applied to the north. Traplines established in the north were based on watersheds rather than the township system used in the south, as directed by the Department of Indian Affairs (Finch, 2020).

In the years following the introduction of the system, Indigenous trapping was impacted by several key factors such as new wildlife laws, changing lifeways, increased wage labour opportunities, increasing government aid, and multiple outbreaks of tularaemia, an infectious disease that affects beaver and muskrat (Finch, 2020). Input from Indigenous communities, including concerns that the established



trapping seasons did not work in the north because of the different climate in the James Bay region, were not reflected in trapping regulations (Sutherland, 2020). In addition, the Registered Trapline System involved licenses, registration, and quotas, all of which was foreign to Indigenous trappers (AMEC, 2004b, as cited in Tsuji *et al.*, 2011).

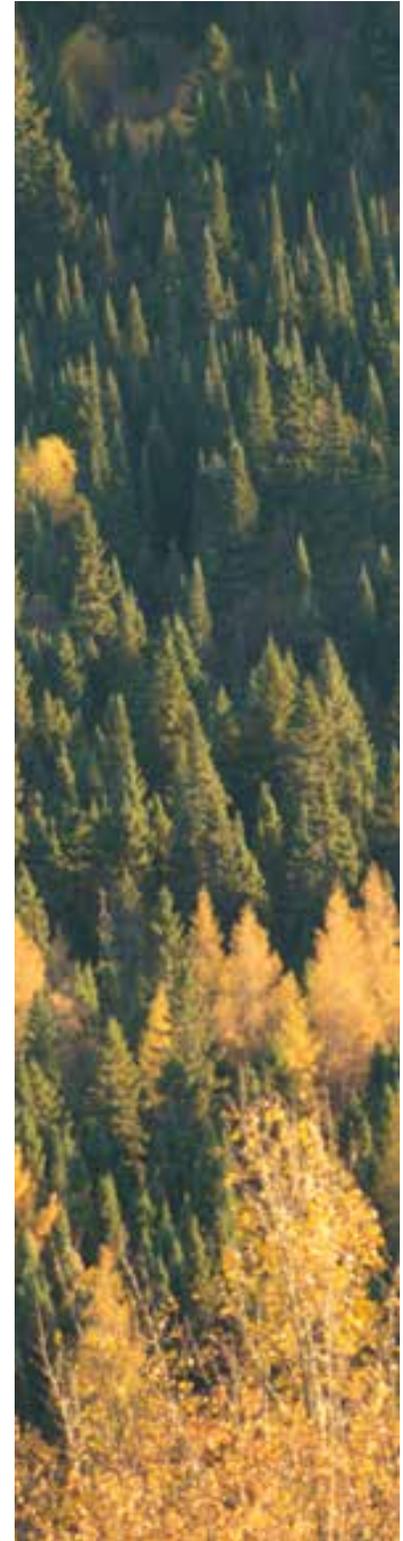
### **2.2.11.3 Ontario *Far North Act***

In response to the need to balance development potential with conservation in the north, the provincial government launched the *Far North Planning Initiative* in 2008 (Bowie, 2017). The purpose of the initiative was to direct economic development, support conservation, and address Aboriginal and Treaty Rights through the development of community-based land use plans for the Far North region – an area that represents over forty percent of the province (MNR, 2011, as cited in Bowie, 2017).

The purpose of the 2010 *Far North Act* is to provide community-based land use planning in the Far North region that (*Far North Act*, 2010, s.1):

- Sets out a joint planning process between First Nations and Ontario;
- Supports the environmental, social and economic objectives for land use planning for the peoples of Ontario; and,
- Is done in a manner that is consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and treaty rights.

The land use planning process established under the Act entails the development of a terms of reference by a First Nations community interested in participating, which must then be approved by the Minister of Natural Resources, who then designates a planning area for the Community Based Land Use Plans (*Far North Act*, 2010, s. 9). The plans are intended to include maps that show historical and contemporary Indigenous use in the area. Communities can designate areas of significant cultural value such as burial sites, waterways and travel routes to be protected, caribou migration routes and areas to be considered open for or closed to mineral exploration. At least one protected area must be identified through the planning process (*Far North Act*, s. 9(9)(c)(d)). However, the plans must be jointly approved by the First Nation and the Ministry,





and once the final plan is approved, all decisions to authorize land use activities must be consistent with the land-use designations in the plan. For First Nations communities in the Far North, community-based land use plans signify inherent jurisdiction over lands and the authority to make decisions on contested land uses (Scott *et al.*, 2018).

The legislation has been contested by First Nations and their regional organizations based on the level of and approach to consultation undertaken by the province, and concerns about how the recommendations provided by First Nations were incorporated. While amendments were made, including the addition of “joint bodies” that could be established with interested First Nations, the province retains ultimate decision-making powers related to amendments, policy documents, and exemption orders related to land use strategies (Gardner *et al.*, 2012).

The Act was recently amended in December 2021, following the recommendations identified in a joint process with Nishnawbe Aski Nation and the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, and in consultation with First Nations and stakeholders in the region. Amendments were made to “encourage collaboration between Ontario and First Nations on land use planning and foster economic growth in the region while maintaining critical cultural and environmental protections” (Environmental Registry of Ontario, 2021).





## 2.3 Cumulative Effects to Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests

For roughly seven generations nearly every Indigenous child in Canada was sent to a residential school. They were taken from their families, tribes and communities, and forced to live in those institutions of assimilation. The results while unintended have been devastating. We witness it first in the loss of Indigenous languages and traditional beliefs. We see it more tragically in the loss of parenting skills, and, ironically, in unacceptably poor education results. We see the despair that results in runaway rates of suicide, family violence, substance abuse, high rates of incarceration, street gang influence, child welfare apprehensions, homelessness, poverty, and family breakdowns. Yet while the government achieved such unintended devastation, it failed in its intended result. Indians never assimilated.

– Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair speech to the United Nations, 2010

The long history of colonialism in Canada and associated actions, legislation, and policy has involved both recognition of, and infringement on, the Aboriginal and / or treaty rights of Indigenous peoples in the region and across the country. This history has also been described as constituting cultural genocide (TRC, 2015b). The traditional lifeways, culture, and language of Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg, Omushkegowuk, and Métis of the region, have been forever transformed, in part because of centuries of displacement from their traditional land bases and use of resources. When combined with ongoing colonial structures and approaches that continue to overlap with the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests of Indigenous peoples, these changes impact cultural continuity and well-being as the ability of Indigenous peoples to transmit Indigenous knowledge, culture, and lifeways out on the land is increasingly challenged.



Colonial systems of governance and justice that have superseded and / or failed to respect the inherent jurisdiction of Indigenous peoples, and the spirit and intent of the treaties with the Crown, have been imposed on Indigenous peoples in the region for centuries (Anishinabek Nation Legal Department, 2018). Moreover, attention to Indigenous men rather than women and the application of patriarchal assumptions and approaches by European traders, missionaries, and political leaders have exacerbated violations to Indigenous governance by overlooking a segment of the population (i.e., women) that prior to contact, held important roles in leadership.

The impacts go well beyond Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests. While Canada has become a member of the world's leading nations, Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg and Ojibwe, continue to experience disproportionate inequities to the general Canadian population (OCCC, 1986). As noted by Matheson *et al.* (2022), the ongoing implications of various systemic structures experienced by Indigenous peoples has resulted in poor housing conditions, food insecurity, and the absence of potable water on some reserves. Many Indigenous people continue to experience the long term and often debilitating impacts of residential schools, and those that survived were often unprepared to succeed in the market economy or to pursue traditional activities such as hunting and fishing. In many cases, family connections were permanently broken. The overall suicide rate among First Nations communities is about twice that of the total Canadian population (TRC, 2015a). Indigenous peoples face higher rates of infant mortality, a greater burden of disease, and reduced life expectancy (Smylie & Firestone, 2016). In addition, Indigenous peoples are significantly overrepresented in the Canadian criminal justice system (RCAP, 1996, as cited in Government of Canada, 2023). Despite all of these atrocities and outcomes, Indigenous peoples are reclaiming their rights and reconnecting to their cultural roots.





## 2.4 Reconciliation and Looking to the Future

In more recent decades, there is increased awareness about colonization and its ongoing effects on Indigenous peoples. These efforts began with the establishment of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples in 1990, whose mandate was to study the evolution of the relationship between Indigenous peoples, the government of Canada, and Canadian society as a whole (Doerr, 2006). The Commission released a five-volume report in 1996 that ultimately noted that a complete restructuring of the relationship between Indigenous peoples and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada is needed (Doerr, 2006); the findings of the Commission’s report have informed this one.

In 2008, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established as part of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement. The Commission was established to guide Canadians through the difficult facts of the residential school system, and to “lay the foundation for lasting reconciliation across Canada” (Moran, 2015, para. 1). The Commission conducted community hearings across the country to hear from Indigenous peoples directly. A six-volume final report documents the experiences of Indigenous peoples and identifies 94 Calls to Action to advance the process of reconciliation was released in 2015; the findings of the Commission’s report have also informed this one. .

While there has been a recent focus, including efforts and actions on reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, many Indigenous communities, including Marten Falls First Nation, continue to experience day-to-day challenges with access to basic human rights including health services, education, personal and community safety, food security, and more. For Marten Falls First Nation, the development of the Community Access Road is an act of reconciliation – it helps to address access to basic rights while providing an opportunity to support Marten Falls First Nation’s self-determination and their ability to pursue economic prosperity, social and community well-being and cultural continuity.



# Aroland First Nation



The information presented in this section of the report is based on the Proponent's current understanding of Aroland First Nation's rights and interests in relation to the study areas for the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Impact Assessment / Environmental Assessment.

The information in this section of the report is primarily from secondary sources given that at the time of writing, limited information on Aroland First Nation's rights and interests had been provided to the Proponent. Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation are currently working on a Nation-to-Nation agreement which will provide direction on how the two First Nations will consult and engage on the proposed Project.

### Imagining Access – Why the Project?

The Project will offer Marten Falls First Nation the opportunity to grow as a community but also be part of the social and economic fabric of the region and country. The Community Access Road will reduce transportation costs for goods and services, making food, gas, and other supplies cheaper. It will help families be together in the community and increase social interactions with other communities. It will also provide a vital connection to emergency, health, and social services.



Aroland First Nation was invited to participate in the Project's Indigenous Knowledge Program; however, at the time of producing this report, the community had not yet provided a Project-specific Indigenous Knowledge and/or Indigenous Land and Resource Use report or information. Representatives from Aroland First Nation have participated in field programs for the Project. Any information provided by a member of Aroland First Nation during these field programs that is presented in this report has been marked as "confidential".

It is the objective of the Proponent to share this information with Aroland First Nation early in the Impact Assessment / Environmental Assessment to enable collaboration and discussion. The overarching goal is to enhance the Project Team's understanding of Aroland First Nation Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests in relation to the proposed Project.





## 3.1 Community Profile

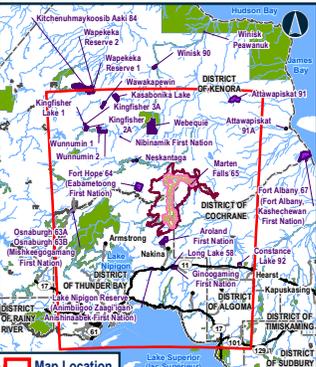
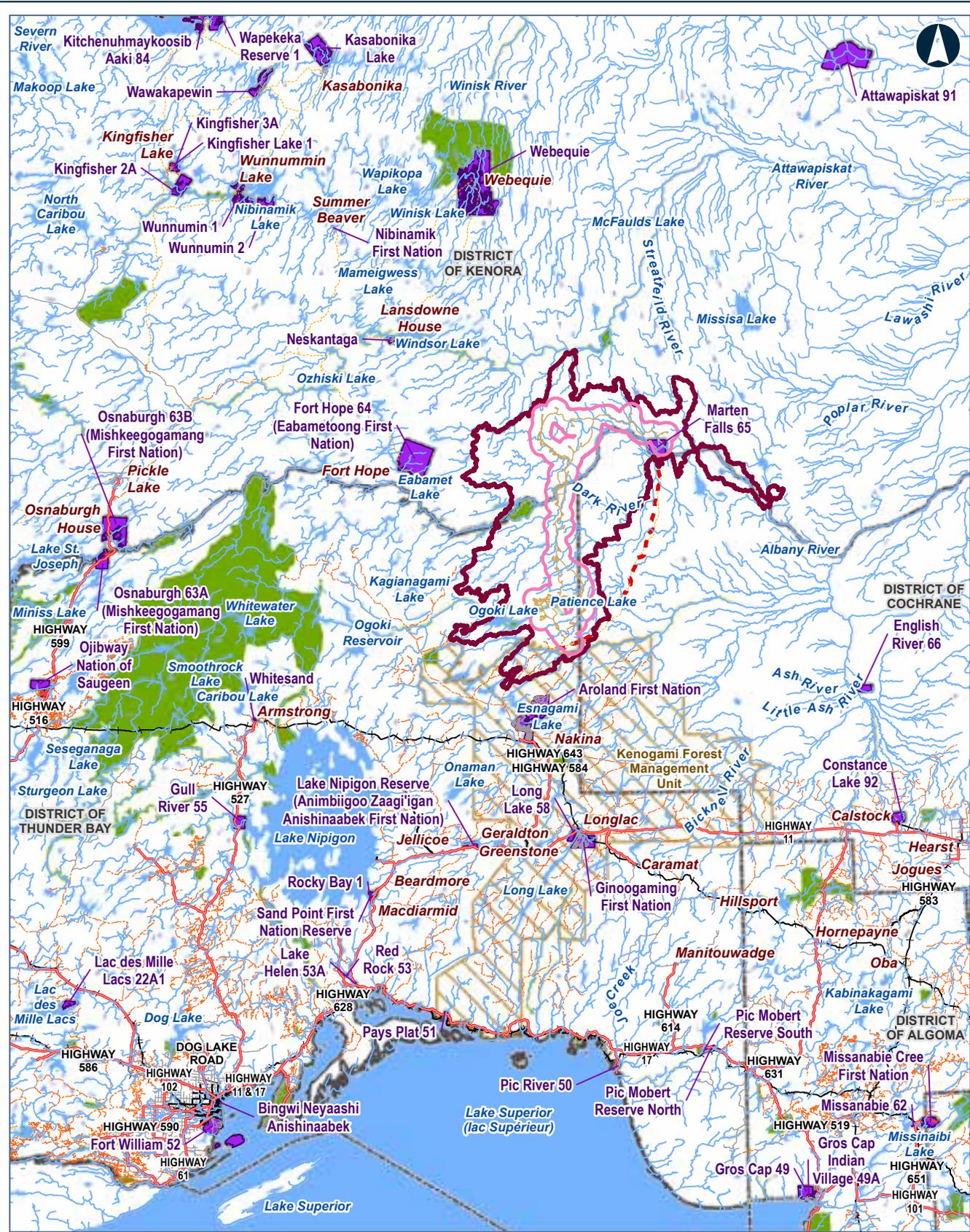
Aroland First Nation is an Anishinaabe community located 60 km north of Geraldton and 20 km west of Nakina on Highway 643, in the Thunder Bay District (**Figure 3-1**). Aroland First Nation did not gain band status under the *Indian Act* until April 15, 1985 (Aroland First Nation, 2022a).

Aroland First Nation community members have ties to nearby Oji-Cree and Ojibway communities including Marten Falls First Nation, Eabametoong First Nation, Ginoogaming First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation, and Fort William First Nation (Aroland First Nation, 2022a). Over the years, members from Marten Falls First Nation and other communities have moved to Aroland First Nation. It is understood that when members moved to Aroland First Nation, some may have transferred their membership to Aroland First Nation (Marten Falls First Nation Member, personal communication, November 7, 2023).

As of September 2023, Aroland First Nation has 756 registered members (Government of Canada, 2023a). Of these, an estimated 400 members live in the community, while the remaining members live in Thunder Bay, Geraldton, Longlac, Timmins, Toronto, Ottawa, Guelph, Nakina, and Alberta (Aroland First Nation, 2022b).

**Section 3.1.1** to **3.1.5** provide information about Aroland First Nation's pre- and post-contact history, reserve lands, language, and governance.





**Legend**

First Nation Reserve/Settlement	Highway	Kenogami Forest Management Unit
ATRI Local Study Area	Major Road	District Municipal Boundary
ATRI Regional Study Area	Local Road	Waterbody
Project Development Area	Winter Road	Provincial Park
	Resource / Recreation Road	
	Service Road	
	Alleyway	
	Existing Winter Access Road	
	Railway	
	Watercourse	

Data Source: Base Data Provided by MNRF 2019; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2018. Contains Information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

General Location of Aroland First Nation

0 10 20 40 60 80  
Kilometres

Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

Nov, 2023	1:2,000,000 <small>when printed 11"x17"</small>	
Rev:00		

**Figure 3-1**

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### 3.1.1 Pre-Contact History

Prior to contact with Europeans, the ancestor of Aroland First Nation hunted, fished, and cultivated and harvested plants from the land (Aroland First Nation, 2022b). Elders in the Aroland First Nation community have indicated that they are the descendants of the Esnagami Indians (Driben, 1986). The traditional territory of Aroland First Nation is located around Esnagmai Lake (see [Figure 3-1](#)) (Jacasum, 2006).

The local environment was used for day-to-day living, and resources used for trade, sale, and local consumption were harvested from within the territory (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Family groups would hunt in specified territories and would hunt in a manner that supported a sustainable stock of game for future years (Driben et al., 1997, as cited in LeBlanc et al., 2011). Sharing among extended families and the wider community was commonplace (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Knowledge of the land and its resources were passed down through the generations (Leblanc et al., 2011).

A more comprehensive overview of the pre-contact context of Anishinaabe people in the region, including seasonal lifeways, culture and worldview, learning and knowledge building, governance and legal principles, and resource management and stewardship, is provided in [Section 2.1](#).





### 3.1.2 Post-Contact History

As the big game that Northern Ojibway communities (including Aroland First Nation ancestors) relied on became scarce during the 1820s, people came to rely more on the fur trade and spend more time near trading posts (Driben, 1986). The area near the present-day settlement was previously used as a camp area between 1820 and 1900, and trading was done at the Long Lake post (Driben, 1986). During the winters, Aroland First Nation ancestors hunted and trapped. After spring breakup, they used canoes to transport their furs to the trading post at Long Lake, where they spent most of their summer near there fishing and gathering (Driben, 1985). As the summer came to an end and just before freeze-up, they travelled back to the Esnagami Lake area to prepare for the upcoming hunting and trapping season (Driben, 1986).

The permanent settlement of Aroland First Nation took place around 1900 (Aroland First Nation, 2022a), when the Hudson's Bay Company Cavell trading post was established on the northwest shore of Kawashkagama Lake (Driben, 1986). The Cavell trading post was in operation from 1900 to 1946 (Driben, 1986). During this time, the post was moved three times to make the best use of the Kawashkagama River and later the Transcontinental Railway for transportation. The ancestors of Aroland First Nation kept pace with the movement of the post, moving their tipis and tents but always staying near their traditional home (Driben, 1986). The original settlement was located between the Kawashkagama River and the Transcontinental Railway line, south of the highway (Jacasum, 2006).

The construction of the Trans-Canada railway led to an inflow of settlers in the Aroland area, and extraction of mineral and wood resources increased (LeBlanc et al., 2011). This increasing pressure on the land and resources, along with the influx of settlers, influenced the Indigenous communities of northern Ontario to push for a treaty (LeBlanc et al., 2011). The ancestors of Aroland First Nation were signatories to Treaty 9; however, due to treaty boundary issues and the fact that the Esnagami Indians traded at the Long Lake post, some of them were listed as members of the Long Lake 58 band in the Robinson-Superior Treaty (Driben, 1986).





In the early 1900s, Aroland First Nation people lived off the land and joined together at the Cavell trading post (Driben, 1986). The men did most of the trapping and women stayed at home to care for the children. Women also skinned and stretched the pelts that the trappers brought home (Driben, 1986). While some people did work for the railway and hauled freight for the Hudson's Bay Company, most chose hunting, trapping, fishing, and gathering (Driben, 1986).

The traditional lifestyle was common until about the 1930s, when the Great Depression happened and the demand for furs declined (Driben, 1986). In 1933, the Arrow Land and Logging Company established a sawmill near the Aroland First Nation settlement. By the mid-1930s, up to 30 Aroland First Nation men were employed by the mill (Driben, 1986). When the sawmill relocated in the mid-1940's, Aroland residents were left with expertise in the logging industry (Driben, 1986).

Between the 1940s and 1970s, there was little permanent work, most community members acquired their income and resources through a combination of hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering, guiding, temporary wage work, and social assistance (Driben, 1986). Hunting and trapping were the main sources of support in the fall and winter (Driben, 1986). Fishing, guiding, picking cones and berries, firefighting, and tree planting were the primary sources in the spring and summer (Driben, 1986).

The infrastructure of the community expanded in the mid-1900s, first with the establishment of a federal school in 1947 and then with the addition of a new school and additional classrooms in 1966 and 1970, respectively (Driben, 1986). A road linking Aroland to the highways to Nakina and Geraldton were roughed out in 1952, and later replaced with Highway 643 in 1963 (Driben, 1986). Prefabricated homes were built on the north side of the highway in 1974 through a government program to provide low-income families in northern Ontario with assisted rental housing (Driben, 1986). It is unclear if these homes were for Aroland First Nation members only or if housing was provided to others.

Aroland First Nation's challenges in achieving band status under the *Indian Act* until 1986 were partly due to its history as a mixed-status community. Until legislative changes to the *Indian Act* in 1985 under Bill C-31, the community was comprised of many non-status





Indian members, as many community members lost their Indian status through enfranchisement (see [Sections 2.2.3](#) and [2.2.4](#)). Throughout these challenges, community solidarity remained strong among Aroland First Nation people, regardless of their status (Driben, 1986).

In more recent years, Aroland First Nation has been involved in various economic development endeavours, including:

- In 2012, Aroland First Nation and six other First Nations established Ne-Daa-Kii-Me-Naan Inc. (Nedaak) to manage the Kenogami Forest and provide economic development opportunities to local First Nations communities (Ne-Da-Kii-Me-Naan, 2023);
- In 2013, Aroland and Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nations signed an exploration agreement with the Tashota Group in the Beardmore-Geraldton Gold Camp (Tashota Group, 2013);
- In 2019, Aroland First Nation signed a memorandum of understanding with Noront Resources in relation to the Ring of Fire, creating a working and communications protocol, with Aroland First Nation receiving company stock (CBC News, 2019);
- In 2019, Aroland First Nation (along with Ginoogaming and Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nations) signed a Long-Term Relationship Agreement with Greenstone Gold Mines for environmental monitoring employment, training, business and contracting opportunities (TBnewswatch, 2020);
- In 2020, Aroland, Ginoogaming and Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nations created the Minodahmun Development Inc. to capitalize on economic opportunities associated with Greenstone Gold Mines Hardrock Project (TBnewswatch, 2020); and,
- In 2022, through Minodahmun Development Inc., Aroland First Nation entered into an agreement with Tombill Mines related to gold exploration around Geraldton (Northern Ontario Business Staff, 2022).

A more comprehensive overview of the post-contact context, including the fur trade, early legislation and policy and associated impacts on Indigenous peoples, the numbered treaties established in the region, perspectives on Aboriginal Rights, and legislative developments that have governed natural resource and land use, is provided in [Section 2.2](#).

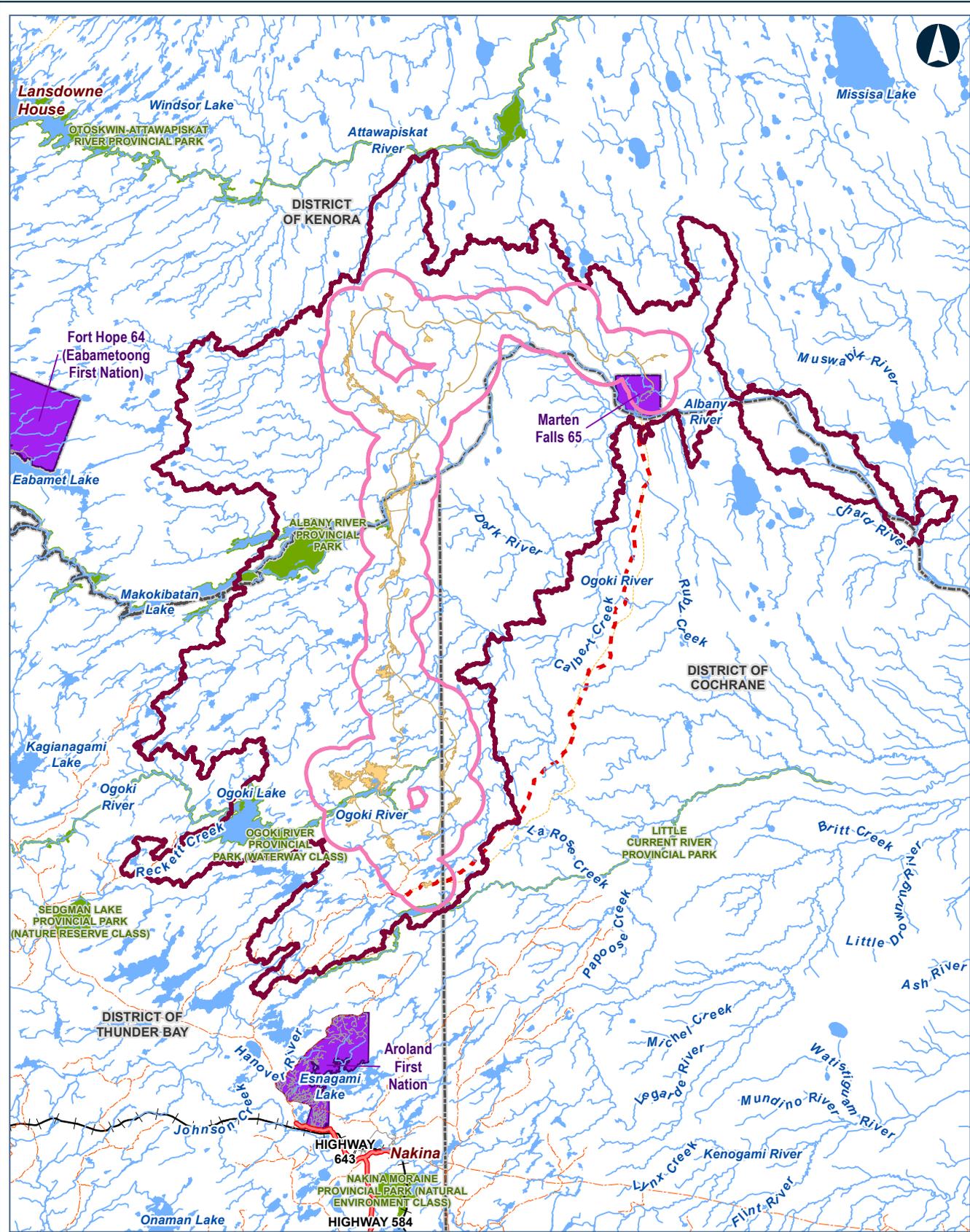




### 3.1.3 Reserve Lands

Most of the community lives in the Aroland Indian Settlement area in Aroland, north of Highway 634 (**Figure 3-2**). The settlement is not formally a reserve (Aroland First Nation, 2022a). While reserve lands have been recently dedicated to Aroland First Nation by both the federal and provincial governments, these lands have not been formally designated, however, they are expected to be in the near future. These lands are 19,599 ha in size and extend north from Highway 643 and encompass lands along the western and northern shores of Esnagami Lake, as shown in **Figure 3-2** (Aroland First Nation, 2022a).





**Legend**

First Nation Reserve/Settlement	Highway	District Municipal Boundary
ATRI Local Study Area	Local Road	Waterbody
ATRI Regional Study Area	Winter Road	Provincial Park
Project Development Area	Resource / Recreation Road	
	Existing Winter Access Road	
	Railway	
	Watercourse	

Data Source: Base Data Provided by MNR 2019; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2019. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

Aroland First Nation Reserve Lands

0 5 10 20 30  
Kilometres

Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

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**Figure 3-2**

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### 3.1.4 Language

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Aroland First Nation community members traditionally spoke Ojibwe. While English is the most widely spoken language currently, some community members continue to speak Ojibwe (Government of Canada, 2023b). According to the 2016 Census (Government of Canada, 2023b):

- Approximately 36% of the population has knowledge of the Ojibwe language;
- Approximately 26% of the population reported Ojibwe as their mother tongue (the first language they learned and still know); and
- Approximately 19% of the population speak Ojibwe at home.

### 3.1.5 Governance

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As noted in [Section 3.1.2](#), Aroland First Nation ancestors were signatories to Treaty 9. See [Section 2.2.5.2](#) for more information on Treaty 9.

Aroland First Nation has a Custom Electoral System with a two-year election cycle. Leadership includes a Chief and seven Councillors (Government of Canada, 2023c).

Aroland First Nation is affiliated with tribal organizations in the Treaty 9 area that provide advocacy, support, and other services, including Matawa First Nations and Nishnawbe Aski Nation (Aroland First Nation, 2022b).





## 3.2 Understanding of Rights and Interests in Relation to the Project

**Section 3.2.1** and **3.2.2** describe the current understanding of Aroland First Nation's Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests in relation to the proposed Project. As noted in **Section 3.0**, this understanding was developed based on a comprehensive literature review of publicly available sources of information given that at the time of writing, no information on Aroland First Nation's Rights and Interests had been provided to the Proponent.

### 3.2.1 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Relevant to the Project

It is anticipated that Aroland First Nation asserts its Treaty 9 and Section 35 rights. According to the Declaration of the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, the rights of Nishnawbe-Aski Nation people include (NAN, 1977):

- The right to receive compensation for exploited natural resources;
- The right to receive compensation for the destruction and abrogation of hunting, fishing, and gathering rights;
- The right to renegotiate the Treaty as understood by Nishnawbe-Aki Nation people; and,
- The right to approach other world nations to further the aims of the Cree and Ojibway Nations of Treaty 9.

The *Mamow-Wecheekapawetahteewiin* (Unity Declaration) of the Matawa Chiefs Council notes the inherent right to self-determination as an important right recognized and affirmed under Section 35 (Matawa First Nations, 2011). As a member of Nishnawbe-Aski Nation and Matawa First Nations, it is assumed that these rights may also be declared by Aroland First Nation.

At a minimum, it is assumed that Aroland First Nation Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights include the right to hunt, trap, fish, and gather materials that are of importance to Aroland First Nation cultural traditions and lifeways, as well as the right to cultural continuity and wellbeing (ability to practice and transmit cultural traditions). These rights are considered Valued Components, which means that they are important elements of Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights that have the potential to be affected by the



proposed Project. The potential impacts of the proposed Project on these Valued Components / rights will be assessed in the future.

General information on Aroland First Nation's use of lands, waters, and resource for traditional purposes is presented in **Section 3.4**. Information on the Proponent's understanding of Aroland First Nation's use the lands, waters, and resources for traditional purposes in relation to the proposed Project is presented in **Section 3.5**.

General perspectives on the cultural continuity and wellbeing of Aroland First Nation are presented in **Section 3.6**. Information on the Proponent's understanding of what is important for Aroland First Nation cultural continuity and wellbeing in relation to the Project is presented in **Section 3.7**.

### **3.2.2 Interests Related to the Project**

The information presented is largely based on the Project's Consultation Program and the following secondary sources of information (although other supporting sources have been used and referenced throughout).

- The Aroland First Nation website, which discusses their long stewardship of their lands;
- The Proposed Terms of Reference Marten Falls Community Access Road – Environmental Assessment, Appendix B of Appendix C (2020), prepared by AECOM, which discusses potential effects on springs and wildlife;
- *Chapter 18.0: Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Traditional Land and Resource Use in the Hardrock Project: Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Assessment (2017)*, prepared by Stantec, which describes traditional resources used by Aroland First Nation; and,
- *The Environmental and Regulatory Reviews – Discussion Paper (2017)*, which discusses access to fish, wildlife health, water quality, and the Environmental Assessment process.





It is anticipated that Aroland First Nation's interests in the proposed Project may include:

Potential effects on archaeological and cultural heritage sites (Stantec, 2017; Consultation Program for the Project);

- Potential effects on continued ability to source food locally and from the land (e.g., fishing, hunting, and gathering and cultivating vegetation) and the subsistence economy (Aroland, 2022a);
- Potential for adverse effects to wildlife due to increased predation and increased ease of hunting due to better sight-lines along the corridor (AECOM, 2020);
- Potential increase in litter and the effects on wildlife (AECOM, 2020);
- Potential effects on resource access and harvest use for cultural, spiritual practices, and traditional practices, specifically:
  - Wildlife health affecting hunting ungulates like moose (Aroland, 2017);
  - Access to fish for future generations (Aroland, 2017);
  - Availability of traditional resources for harvesting including blueberries, cedar, red willow, bear root, bulrush, sweetgrass, juniper, cranberries, and balsam poplar, due to construction activities such as dewatering (Stantec, 2017);
- Potential negative effects of spraying for highway maintenance and spraying of the forest to retard deciduous growth in favor of coniferous (Stantec, 2017);
- Potential spread of invasive species (AECOM, 2020);
- Potential effects on springs which may have spiritual value (Atlookan, 2020);
- Potential effects on management of the health of ecosystems and ecosystem function (Aroland, 2017);
- Potential effects on their continued stewardship of traditional lands (Aroland, 2022b);
- Potential effects on long-term sustainability of the area, and whether the Environmental Assessment Process is focused on conservation, long-term sustainability and the "Seven Generation Principle" (Aroland, 2017);



- Potential effects on reconciliation through the Environmental Assessment Process (Aroland, 2017);
- Potential effects on individual and community health, specifically:
  - Clean water for future generations (Aroland, 2017);
  - Economic and social wellbeing of Aroland First Nation members (Aroland, 2022a).

These interests will inform the overall impacts assessment, including the assessment on Aroland First Nation Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests.

### 3.3 Area of Interest

A preliminary Area of Interest has been identified for Aroland First Nation, as shown in **Figure 3-3**. The preliminary Area of Interest is intended to identify where Aroland First Nation may exercise / hold Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests that are relevant to the proposed Project.

The preliminary Area of Interest is based on a map provided by Aroland First Nation to the Proponent in September 2020, depicting their asserted Traditional Territory. The asserted Traditional Territory extends north from Lake Superior (near Marathon and Nipigon) to the Albany River. The asserted Traditional Territory extends east to near Calstock, northwest to the northern tip of Wabakimi Provincial Park and southwest across the entirety of Lake Nipigon to Lac des Mille Lacs.

The Aroland First Nation preliminary Area of Interest overlaps with the majority of Project Development Area, and the Local and Regional Study Areas for the assessment, including all areas south of the Albany River, as shown in **Figure 3-3**.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (2023), notes that an Indigenous community's "long-standing connection to, use of, or occupation of an area is indicative of a community's rights". It is the Proponent's understanding that an Indigenous community can assert an area of interest or traditional territory and that these assertions may consider many factors including, but not limited to, hunting and trapping areas, wildlife migration patterns, travel routes, watersheds, etc. However, these assertions "may not be well understood by all parties, they may raise uncertainty as they lack information, or there may be differing interpretations" (IAAC, 2023). Therefore, it is important to note that for the purposes of identifying a preliminary Area of Interest for the proposed Project, Marten Falls First Nation is strictly presenting information that has provided by an Indigenous community or has been identified in publicly available data sources. By presenting this information, Marten Falls First Nation is neither validating or confirming information regarding the assertion of areas of interest or traditional territories.





**Legend**

- Preliminary Area of Interest for the Proposed Project
- First Nation Reserve/Settlement
- ATRI Local Study Area
- ATRI Regional Study Area
- Project Development Area
- Aroland First Nation Traditional Territory (Shared Values Solutions, September 2020)
- Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Winter Road
- Resource / Recreation
- Service Road
- Alleyway
- Existing Winter Access Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Kenogami Forest Management Unit
- District Municipal Boundary
- Waterbody
- Provincial Park

**Data Source:** Base Data Provided by MNR 2019; Route Infrastructure - Provided by AECOM 2016; Traditional Territory Provided by Shared Value Solutions September 2020. Contains Information licensed under the Open Government Licence Ontario.

**MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

Aroland First Nation  
Area of Interest

0 10 20 40 60 80  
Kilometres

Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

Nov, 2023	1:2,000,000 <small>when printed 11"x17"</small>
Rev:00	

**Figure 3-3**

Contains information provided by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks or by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (Ontario's Crown's Property of Ontario 2020, through a Baseline Data License Agreement. This drawing has been prepared for use of AECOM client and may not be reproduced or relied upon by third parties, except as approved by AECOM and its clients, as required by law or the use of government reporting agencies. AECOM accepts no responsibility, and denies any liability whatsoever, to any party that modifies this drawing without AECOM express written consent. The use of Baseline Data in this drawing does not constitute an endorsement by the Ministry for this drawing by AECOM of the Baseline Data.

**DRAFT  
PRELIMINARY  
DOCUMENT**

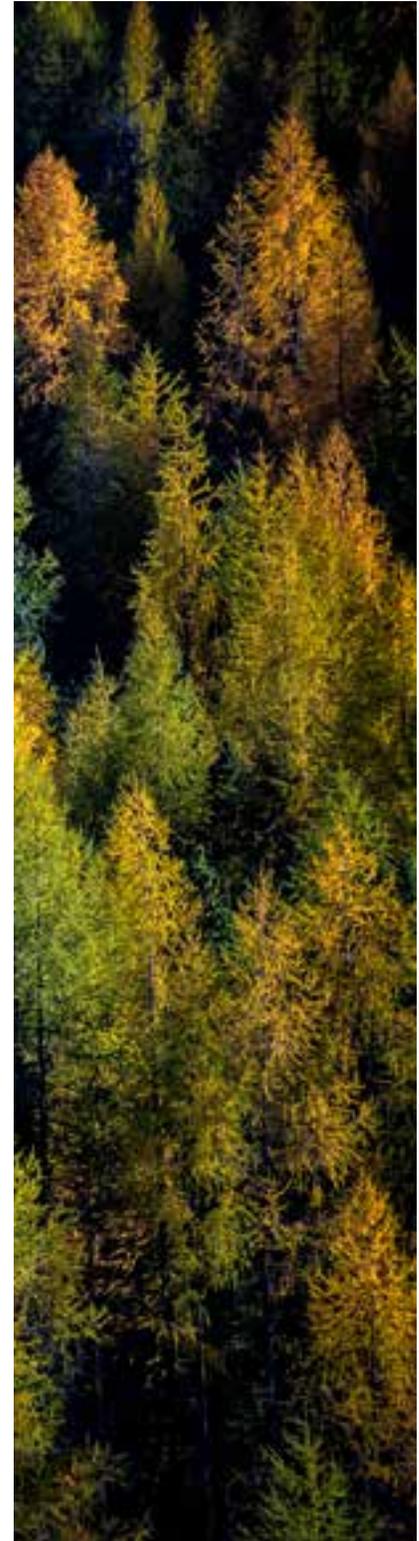


## 3.4 Use of Lands, Waters, and Resources for Traditional Purposes

Available information on Aroland First Nation land, water, and resource use is presented in **Sections 3.4.1 to 3.4.4**. The information presented in this upfront section is general to Aroland First Nation. Information on Aroland First Nation land, water, and resource use for traditional purposes in relation to the proposed Project is provided in **Section 3.5**.

The information presented is largely based on the following sources of information (although several other supporting sources have been used and referenced throughout):

- LeBlanc et al.'s article *First Nations Moose Hunt in Ontario: A Community's Perspective and Reflections* (2011), which explores the annual moose harvest at Aroland and Ginoogaming First Nations and associated community traditions, barriers to hunting, and the connection between traditional food consumption and wellbeing;
- Joseph William LeBlanc's Doctoral dissertation *Natural Resource Management and Indigenous Food Systems in Northern Ontario* (2014), which describes when traditional foods are eaten throughout the year and examines the connection of traditional diet to wellbeing among Aroland First Nation community members;
- Stolz et al.'s research paper *Blueberry Foraging as a Social Economy in Northern Ontario – A Case Study of First Nation, Arthur Shupe Wild Foods, Nipigon Blueberry Blast Festival, and the Algoma Highlands Wild Blueberry Farm and Winery* (2017), which examines four blueberry foraging initiatives in northern Ontario to demonstrate how foraging is a part of the social economy; and,
- Information collected through the Consultation Program for the Project.





It is important to note the following about the information available on Aroland First Nation land, water, and resource use for traditional purposes:

- Information on the role of members within the community (e.g., women, men, Elders, youth, people with disabilities) is limited or absent altogether;
- While some information on traditional resources harvested is provided, there is little to no information on quantities harvested, where these resources are harvested, and how they are harvested; and
- For the purposes of the future Impact Assessment / Environmental Assessment, it is assumed that the general practices, preferences, and harvesting rates of Aroland First Nation community members described in this report are still relevant to the community today; and
- Information on resource thresholds that the community requires to exercise their rights is limited or absent.

The ability of Aroland First Nation people to exercise traditional practices and implement the knowledge of their ancestors has been greatly restricted over time due to the colonial past and the Crown's attempts to assimilate Aroland First Nation people (LeBlanc et al., 2011). The permanent relocation of the community to a settlement area was a government solution to provide services, but led to changes in land use in that traditional activities became more concentrated near the community (LeBlanc et al., 2011). The time community members are taking for traditional activities has also been greatly reduced due to the demands of the new economy. Traditional activities are often more pursued for recreational purposes rather than for the traditional economy (LeBlanc et al., 2011). At the same time, community members must travel further to find resources for harvesting (LeBlanc et al., 2011).

Additional information on the cumulative effects that may have already interfered with the ability of Aroland people to use their lands and resources for traditional purposes is provided in [Sections 2.2](#) and [2.3](#).

Despite these challenges, Aroland First Nation community members continue to have a strong reliance on traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering (Aroland First Nation, 2022a). Hunted and harvested foods continue to contribute a significant portion to the diet of community members (LeBlanc, 2014). They also continue to provide important economic benefits, as well as cultural, spiritual, and recreational opportunities to the community (LeBlanc, 2014).





### 3.4.1 Hunting and Trapping

Aroland First Nation community members hunt and / or trap a variety of mammals and birds for food and other uses including moose, caribou, bear, marten, lynx, snowshoe hare, beaver, mink, and ruffed grouse (Jacasum, 2006; LeBlanc et al., 2011; LeBlanc, 2015; Indigenous Food Circle, 2020). Based on information collected via the Project's Consultation Program, moose and grouse are considered culturally significant to Aroland First Nation.

Moose is a particularly important food and cultural resource, and the crest of Aroland First Nation is anchored by the image of moose antlers (LeBlanc, 2014). Based on the findings of a detailed questionnaire provided to Aroland First Nation moose hunters who lived in the community in 2010, 73% of respondents indicated that they consume moose meat (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Moose is hunted and consumed generally in the fall and winter. Aroland First Nation hunters reported in 2010 that moose meat was part of 'most' meals in the fall, while it was part of 'some' meals in the winter (LeBlanc, 2014). Moose was traditionally used to make moccasins and snowshoes (Jacasum, 2006).

Aroland First Nation hunters also reported that the use of herbicides to remove forage plants near roads led to them having to travel further away from roads to hunt moose, which makes moose hunting more time consuming; 68% of questionnaire respondents noted they increasingly must travel more than two hours to hunt moose (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Much of the land around the Aroland First Nation community has been disturbed by logging and artificially regenerating forests, which has influenced moose and, in turn, impacted Aroland First Nation hunting. Logging operations can render an area free of moose for up to 15 years, as moose do not return as readily to artificially regenerating forests as they do to naturally regenerating forests (LeBlanc et al., 2011).

When budgets are tight, moose and other meats can be crucial to the survival of Aroland First Nation members (LeBlanc et al., 2011). In periods when moose has been





scarce, the community has turned to other food sources to supplement their diet, including caribou, snowshoe hare, beaver, and ruffed grouse (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Marten, lynx, and muskrat are also trapped by community members (Indigenous Food Circle, 2020 and Jacasum, 2006). Muskrat was used as a food and trapped in the springtime (Jacasum, 2006). The area around the Ogoki River has been used for trapping (Shared Value Solutions, 2020).

Members reported eating a small number of geese and hunting ducks (Jacasum, 2006).

A summary of wildlife of potential importance to Aroland First Nation is provided in **Table 3-1**.



**Table 3-1:** Wildlife of potential importance to Aroland First Nation

Common Name	Oji-Cree Translation	Ojibwe Translation
<b>BIG GAME AND FURBEARERS</b>		
Moose	<i>mooz</i>	
Caribou	<i>atik</i>	
Bear		
Beaver	<i>amik</i>	
Lynx	<i>mizhih'bizhiw</i>	
Mink		
Marten	<i>wabizheshih, wabashtan</i>	
Rabbit (snowshoe hare)	<i>wabooze</i>	
Muskrat		
<b>BIRDS</b>		
Grouse (ruffed)		
Goose		
Ducks		



### 3.4.2 Fishing

Fishing is an important traditional activity among Aroland First Nation community members. Pickerel is the most frequently caught fish, followed by whitefish (LeBlanc, 2014). Community members also fish for pike and sturgeon (Shared Value Solutions, 2020) and suckers (Jacasum, 2006). Sturgeon have been used for feasts in the spring and early summer and shared throughout the community (Shared Value Solutions, 2020). Based on information provided through the Consultation Program for the Project, sturgeon, pickerel, and whitefish are considered culturally significant to Aroland First Nation.

Fish is most often harvested and consumed in the spring and summer, but fishing also occurs in fall and winter (LeBlanc, 2014). Aroland First Nation fishers reported in 2010 that fish was part of ‘most’ or ‘some’ meals in the spring and summer (LeBlanc, 2014). In periods when moose has been scarce, the community has relied in fish resources, including whitefish and walleye (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Nets have been commonly used to harvest fish, and fish was often smoked in the past (Jacasum, 2006).



Community members have fished sturgeon using nets from the Ogoki River (Jacasum, 2006). Community members have expressed concerns about declining sturgeon populations in the Ogoki River, which is used for fishing (Shared Value Solutions, 2020). Community members have also expressed concerns about the contamination of fish in their local geography (Stroink & Nelson, 2012). Fishing was also conducted in O’Sullivan Lake, particularly for trout.

A summary of fisheries of potential importance to Aroland First Nation is provided in **Table 3-2**.

**Table 3-2:** Fisheries of potential importance to Aroland First Nation

Common Name	Oji-Cree Translation	Ojibwe Translation
Whitefish	<i>atikameg</i>	<i>adikameg</i>
Pike (northern)	<i>ginozhe</i>	<i>ginoozhe</i>
Pickerel (walleye)	<i>okaas</i>	<i>ogaa</i>
Sturgeon	<i>nameh</i>	<i>name</i>
Sucker	<i>namebin</i>	<i>ginoozhe</i>



### 3.4.3 Berry and Plant Gathering

Berry picking is a way of life that can be traced back many generations (Stolz et al., 2017). Gathering blueberries was an important part of the traditional lifestyle, when community members lived nomadically following available resources (LeBlanc, 2014). Berries were gathered on fishing or hunting trips and provided nutrition through the winter. Elders from the community have noted that berries have been sold to rail workers, train passengers, neighbouring Ojibway and Cree communities, and even to Minnesota as a dye for blue jeans in recent history (LeBlanc, 2014).

Blueberry gathering continues to be an important part of both the subsistence and economic profiles of Aroland First Nation (LeBlanc, 2014). Blueberries are an important part of the summer diet, and to some extent the fall diet. They may also be stored and used throughout the year (LeBlanc, 2014).

The community also established the Aroland Youth Blueberry Initiative in 2008, a program where community members pick and sell blueberries to raise money to support youth activities (Stolz et al., 2017). The program only uses hand-picked berries to avoid damage to plants and to increase propagation of berries as they fall to the ground. Pickers also leave berries for the non-human community members (LeBlanc, 2014). Some harvesters pick both for the Aroland Youth Blueberry Initiative and themselves. Harvesters are paid below market rates which allows them to recoup travel costs, but leaves profit for the youth programs (Stolz et al., 2017). The harvesters pick solely wild, lowbush blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*, *nigrum* var., and *myrtillus*) (Stolz et al., 2017). As of 2019, the Aroland Youth Blueberry Initiative was still active.

Community members have expressed concerns about contamination because of the use of herbicides used in the forestry industry, which is widely used throughout the traditional territory (LeBlanc, 2014). Spraying can affect blueberry and raspberry availability (LeBlanc, 2014).



Based on information provided through the Consultation Program for the Project, as well as information found in the regulatory application for the Hardrock Gold Mine Project (Stantec, 2017), Aroland First Nation recognizes the following species as culturally significant:

- Cedar;
- Red willow;
- Wild rice;
- Blueberry;
- Weekah or sweet flag;
- Bulrush;
- Bear root;
- Juniper;
- Sweet grass; and,
- Cranberry.

Birch bark is used for tepees (The Robertson Program, 2019) and art, such as birch bark biting (The Robertson Program, 2018). Cedar branches are used as cold medicine (Jacasum, 2006). However, no specific locations or further information about this activity is available or has been provided.

A summary of berries and plants of potential importance to Aroland First Nation is provided in **Table 3-3**.

**Table 3-3:** Berries and plants of potential importance to Aroland First Nation

Common Name	Oji-Cree Translation	Ojibwe Translation
<b>BERRIES</b>		
Blueberry		
Raspberry		
Cranberry		
<b>OTHER PLANTS</b>		
Cedar		
Juniper		
Red willow (red osier dogwood)		
Wild rice		
Weekah (sweet flag)		
Bulrush		
Bear root		
Sweet grass		



### 3.4.4 Travel

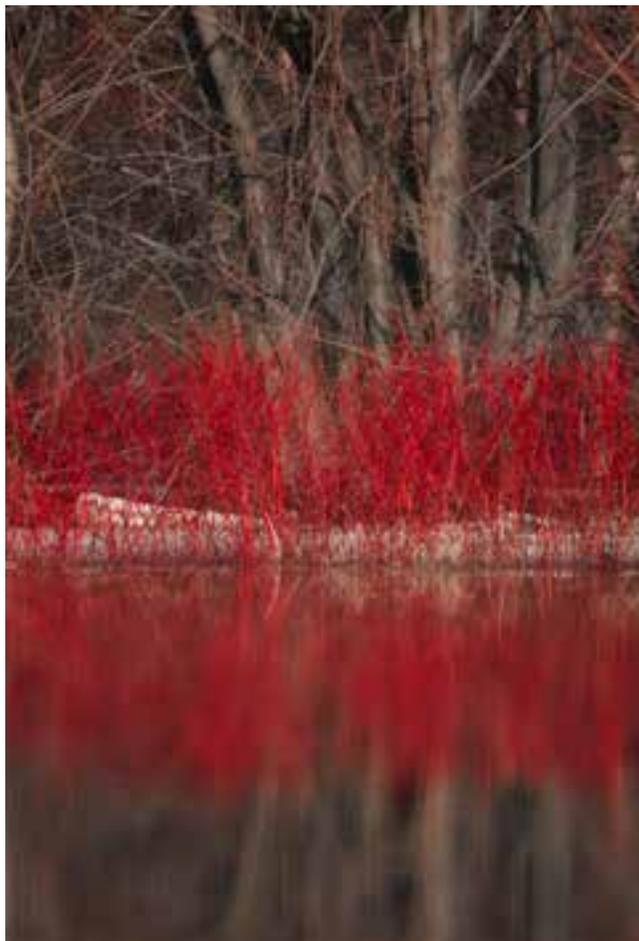
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It is well established that First Nations in northern Ontario often traveled via the rivers and still do. However, at the time of writing, no information on travel routes or methods used by Aroland First Nation was available or provided.

### 3.4.5 Habitation – Village Sites, Camps, and Cabins

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Habitation refers to sites and areas where Aroland First Nation community members and / or their ancestors have lived, and may include village sites, camp sites and areas, and cabins. At the time of writing, there is no information on habitation sites and areas.





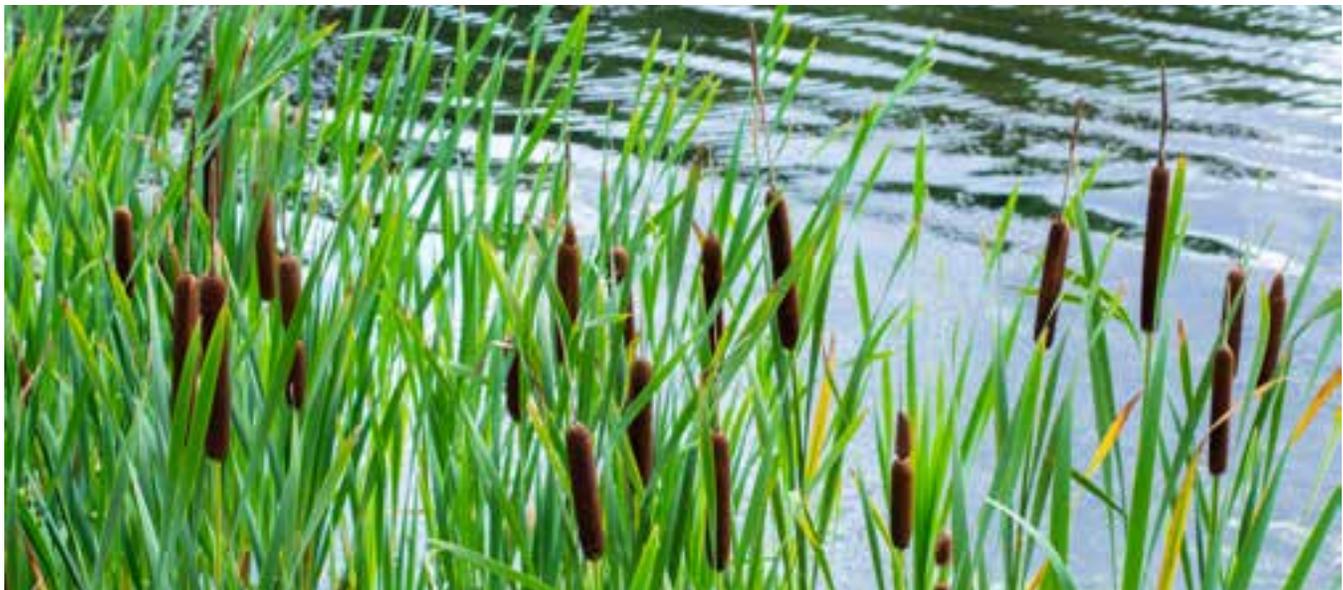
## 3.5 Understanding of Lands, Water, and Resource Use for Traditional Purposes in Relation to the Project

**Sections 3.5.1 to 3.5.4** describe the current understanding of Aroland First Nation's lands, water, and resource use for traditional purposes in relation to the proposed Project, and specifically within the Project Development Area, Local Study Area, and the Regional Study.

As noted in **Section 3.4**, it is assumed that the practices and preferences of Aroland First Nation community members described in this report are still relevant to the community today.

The assessment of potential impacts on the use of lands, waters, and resources for traditional purposes will also be informed by the results of other relevant Valued Component assessments (e.g., wildlife, vegetation, fish and fish habitat, etc.). It will also be informed by additional inputs from the Indigenous Knowledge and / or Consultation Programs.

The Proponent recognizes that the proposed Project has the potential to influence the exercise of Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights outside of the Regional Study Area. This is particularly relevant in the case of wildlife and water valued components given the movement of these important resources. This lens will be applied in the future stages of the Impact Assessment / Environmental Assessment.





### 3.5.1 Hunting and Trapping

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#### 3.5.1.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where resources that are hunted and trapped is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps with a large portion of the Project Development Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Project Development Area.

#### 3.5.1.2 Local Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where resources that are hunted and trapped is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Local Study Area.

#### 3.5.1.3 Regional Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where resources that are hunted and trapped is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Regional Study Area.





## 3.5.2 Fishing

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### 3.5.2.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where fishing occurs is lacking, although it is understood that the Ogoki River has been used for sturgeon fishing (see [Section 3.4.2](#)). Given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Project Development Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Project Development Area.

### 3.5.2.2 Local Study Area

---

As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where fishing occurs is lacking, although it is understood that the Ogoki River has been used for sturgeon fishing (see [Section 3.4.2](#)). Given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Local Study Area.

### 3.5.2.3 Regional Study Area

---

As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where fishing occurs is lacking, although it is understood that the Ogoki River has been used for sturgeon fishing (see [Section 3.4.2](#)). Given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Regional Study Area.





### 3.5.3 Berry and Plant Gathering

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#### 3.5.3.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where berry and plants are gathered is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Project Development Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Project Development Area.

#### 3.5.3.2 Local Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where berry and plants are gathered is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Local Study Area.

#### 3.5.3.3 Regional Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4](#), information on where berry and plants are gathered is lacking. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Regional Study Area.





### 3.5.4 Travel

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#### 3.5.4.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4.4](#), no information on travel routes or methods used by Aroland First Nation is available or has been provided. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Project Development Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Project Development Area.

#### 3.5.4.2 Local Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4.4](#), no information on travel routes or methods used by Aroland First Nation is available or has been provided. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Local Study Area.

#### 3.5.4.3 Regional Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4.4](#), no information on travel routes or methods used by Aroland First Nation is available or has been provided. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for these rights-based activities to occur within the Regional Study Area.





### 3.5.5 Habitation – Village Sites, Camps, and Cabins

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#### 3.5.5.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4.5](#), there is no information on habitation sites. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Project Development Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for village sites, camps, and cabins to exist in the Project Development Area.

#### 3.5.5.2 Local Study Area

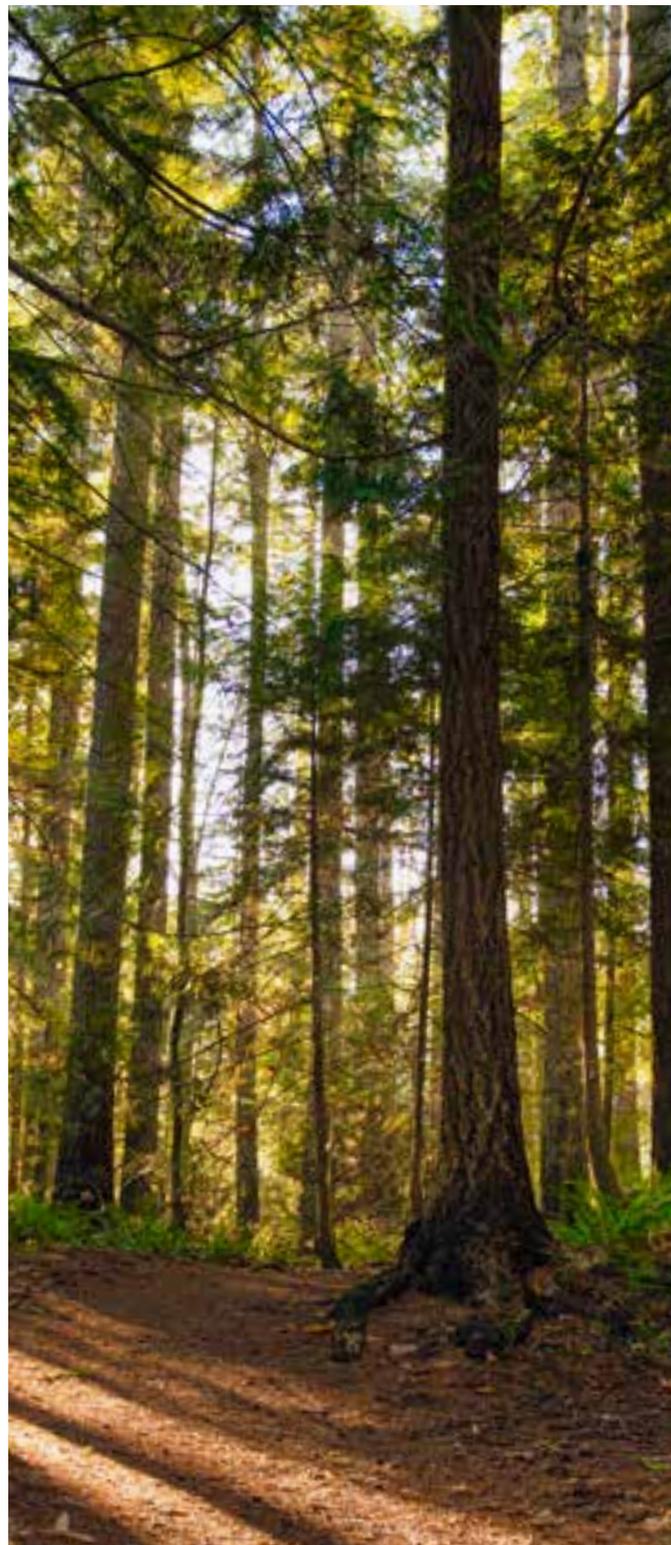
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As noted in [Section 3.4.5](#), there is no information on habitation sites. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for village sites, camps, and cabins to exist in the Local Study Area.

#### 3.5.5.3 Regional Study Area

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As noted in [Section 3.4.5](#), there is no information on habitation sites. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area ([Figure 3-3](#)), there is a potential for village sites, camps, and cabins to exist in the Regional Study Area.





## 3.6 Understanding of Perspectives on Cultural Continuity and Wellbeing

Sections 3.6.1 to 3.6.4 includes the available information on Aroland First Nation and / or Anishinaabe perspectives on cultural continuity and wellbeing. The information is general to Aroland First Nation and / or the Anishinaabeg. Information on Aroland First Nation and / or Anishinaabe perspectives on cultural continuity and wellbeing in relation to the proposed Project is provided in **Section 3.7**.

The information presented is largely based on the following sources of information (although several other supporting sources have been used and referenced throughout):

- LeBlanc et al.'s article *First Nations Moose Hunt in Ontario: A Community's Perspective and Reflections* (2011), which explores the annual moose harvest at Aroland and Ginoogaming First Nations and associated community traditions, barriers to hunting, and the connection between traditional food consumption and wellbeing;
- Stroink et al.'s article *Understanding Local Food Behaviour and Food Security in Rural First Nation Communities: Implications for Food Policy* (2012), which describes the findings of a research project undertaken with Aroland First Nation to understand local and market-based food behaviour from the perspective of community members;
- Joseph William LeBlanc's Doctoral dissertation *Natural Resource Management and Indigenous Food Systems in Northern Ontario* (2014), which describes when traditional foods are eaten throughout the year and examines the connection of traditional diet to wellbeing among Aroland First Nation community members; and,
- Information collected through the Consultation Program for the Project.





It is assumed that cultural continuity and wellbeing is dependent on several factors that are interrelated:

- **The protection of cultural sites and areas of importance:** Loss of or changes to cultural sites and areas of importance to Aroland First Nation have the potential to impact the ability to Aroland people to continue their culture and traditions, and their cultural wellbeing as a result;
- **The ability for continued experiences on the land:** Changes to the ability of Aroland people to continue their experiences on the land, and the many benefits these experiences provide, have the potential to impact cultural continuity and wellbeing;
- **A sufficient level of lands and resources for traditional use:** The continuation and wellbeing of Aroland First Nation culture requires a sufficient level of and access to lands, water, and resources; and
- **The ability to practice and pass on language and cultural traditions:** Cultural continuity and wellbeing requires that Aroland people not only practice their language and cultural traditions, but that they are able to and pass them on to the next generation.

These important factors set the stage for the structure of this section of the report. Specific information on these factors has been provide where available. In many cases this information is limited or missing at the time of writing this report.





### 3.6.1 Protection of Cultural, Spiritual, and / or Sites and Areas

Cultural sites and areas may include, but are not necessarily limited to, ceremonial sites, traditional gathering sites, teaching sites, burial sites, sacred and / or spiritual sites and areas, place names, and historical sites. Areas of cultural significance to Aroland First Nation have been noted to include (Aroland, 2014):

- Pow-wow grounds located on the south shore of Wawong Lake, west of the community;
- Traditional burial grounds on the shores of Kawashkagama Lake, southeast of the community;
- A historic portage route between Wawong Lake and Kawashkagama River; and,
- A historical campsite located at the southern end of the portage route noted above.
- As part of consultation on the Archaeology field program, a community member (September 26, 2019) commented that there is a burial along the north side of the Ogoki River near one of the proposed river crossings (CONFIDENTIAL, W-05). However, at the time of writing, no other information on cultural, spiritual, and / or sacred sites and areas of significance to Aroland First Nation is available or has been provided.

It is understood that the various rivers, streams, and lakes have served as important cultural areas for the subsistence and travel values they have provided. It is also recognized that Aroland First Nation community members, as Anishinaabeg, have their own intimate relationships with the water, and women are the keepers of the water (Chiefs of Ontario, 2008).

It is our understanding that Aroland First Nation has a deep connection to the waters and lands in their Traditional Territory and a strong reliance on traditional land use activities including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering (Aroland, 2017). Sites used for traditional activities include the following:

- O'Sullivan Lake (Jacasum, 2006); and,
- Ogoki River (Shared Value Solutions, 2020.)





### 3.6.2 Continued Experiences on the Land

Aroland First Nation members have always used the local environment to support their livelihoods (LeBlanc et al., 2011; Aroland First Nation, 2022a). Some of the benefits of participating in local food practices out on the land (e.g., hunting, fishing, and blueberry harvesting) include, but are not necessarily limited to (Stroink & Nelson, 2012):

- Exercise, diet, and physical health;
- Collective wellbeing;
- Sense of inner peace; and,
- Connection to nature and traditional lands.

LeBlanc et al. (2011) and LeBlanc (2014) reported a strong connection between moose consumption and feelings of wellbeing and connection to nature among Aroland First Nation members. Connection to nature and to traditional lands is important to overall feelings of wellbeing (Trull, 2008, as cited in LeBlanc, 2014), and it is likely that this includes cultural wellbeing.

Engaging in traditional conservation activities related to food harvesting is an important part of community members' relationship with their ancestors, and with each other (LeBlanc et al., 2011). Sharing of resources among extended families and the community at large was commonplace among Aroland First Nation ancestors (LeBlanc, 2014); however, as community members must increasingly travel further to harvest resources, with increasing costs as a result, some in the community are less willing to share their harvests (LeBlanc et al., 2011).

Participating in local food practices and being on the land also provides for mental wellbeing. In the video *Trapping 101 Aroland First Nation* (Indigenous Food Circle, 2020), a community member describes how being out on the land can provide healing.





### 3.6.3 Sufficiency of Lands, Waters, and Resources

The ancestors of Aroland First Nation community members passed down the authority to manage the resources that sustain the community (LeBlanc et al., 2011), and to be stewards of the lands (Aroland First Nation, 2022b). Aroland First Nation ancestors understood the importance of using different resources for continued sustenance while easing the demand on resources that were being pressured and allowing time for their populations to replenish (LeBlanc et al., 2011). This ancestral knowledge continues to guide relationships with the many important resources, who are considered community members (LeBlanc et al., 2011); however, these traditional means of governing relationships have been increasingly displaced by “new laws with foreign ideas and language” (LeBlanc et al., 2011, p. 167).

As settlement and interest in the north has continued, external knowledge and management systems have been imposed on Aroland First Nation people, disrupting their own systems of authority and knowledge (Leblanc et al., 2011).

At the time of writing, there is no information available specific to Aroland First Nation in terms of any thresholds that, if exceeded, impair the ability of community members to exercise their rights, including maintaining their culture and cultural wellbeing. However, as noted in [Sections 3.4.2](#) and [3.4.3](#), community members are concerned about the potential contamination of important fisheries and berry resources.





### 3.6.4 Ability to Practice and Transmit Cultural Traditions

Among the Anishinaabeg, continuing and transmitting cultural traditions to the next generation is important for cultural wellbeing and healing (Gonzalez, 2023). Being able to go out on the land allows for cultural traditions, stories, and language to be transmitted across and between generations (Tsuji et al., 2023). Elders play an important role in transferring knowledge and sharing oral history and stories that provide teachings on how to live a good life, and how to live in a good way (Gonzalez, 2023).

- It is recognized that cultural continuity and wellbeing requires that Aroland First Nation people not only practice their language and cultural traditions, including being out on the land and harvesting and gathering resources, but that they are able to pass them on to the next generation. It is likely that this requires:
- Intergenerational experiences out on the land to practice language and cultural traditions, as well as continued practice of language and cultural traditions in general;
- Being able to practice cultural traditions in the preferred way (i.e., preferred resources and methods in the preferred times of year); and,
- Continued access to and use of important teaching sites and areas, including place names and sites and areas of importance based on oral history.

At the time of writing, there is no information on efforts to revitalize the language, the preferred methods of harvesting, or important sites and / or areas used to teach important cultural practices.

General information on the cumulative effects that have already interfered with the ability of Aroland people to practice and transmit their culture is provided in [Sections 2.2](#) and [2.3](#).





## 3.7 Understanding of Cultural Continuity and Wellbeing in Relation to the Project Area

**Sections 3.7.1 to 3.7.4** describe the current understanding of Aroland First Nation cultural continuity and wellbeing factors in relation to the proposed Project. It is expected that these factors will form the foundation for the assessment on Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing.

It is recognized that Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing is closely related to land, water, and resource use for traditional purposes. As noted in **Section 3.5**, there is a potential for Aroland First Nation's land, water, and resource use for traditional purposes to occur within the Project Development Area, the Local Study Area, and / or the Regional Study Area. However, at the time of writing, there is limited to no information on the sites and / or areas used for these rights-based activities.

It is important to note that the purpose of this preliminary existing conditions report, is to develop an understanding of what is important for Aroland First Nation cultural continuity and wellbeing. This is not an assessment of potential impacts to Aboriginal and /or Treaty Rights. The assessment on potential impacts will be completed in future stages of the Impact Assessment / Environmental Assessment.

The assessment of potential impacts on Cultural Continuity and Wellbeing will also be informed by the results of other relevant Valued Component assessments (e.g., visual, noise, air etc.). It will also be informed by additional inputs from the Indigenous Knowledge and / or Consultation Programs.

### 3.7.1 Protection of Cultural, Spiritual, and / or Sacred Sites and Areas

**Section 3.6.1**, provide an overview of cultural, spiritual, and / or sacred sites and areas in relation to the Project Development Area and the Local and Regional Study Areas.

It is likely that the protection of waterways is important to Aroland First Nation for the protection of cultural areas, and for cultural continuity and wellbeing. This lens will be applied to the assessment on Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing.





### 3.7.1.1 Project Development Area

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As noted in **Section 3.6.1**, there is no information on cultural, spiritual, and / or sacred sites and areas in the Project Development Area. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Project Development Area (**Figure 3-3**), there is the potential for these sites and areas to be located within the Project Development Area.

### 3.7.1.2 Local Study Area

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As noted in **Section 3.6.1**, there is no information on cultural, spiritual, and / or sacred sites and areas in the Local Study Area. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Local Study Area (**Figure 3-3**), there is the potential for these sites and areas to be located within the Local Study Area.

### 3.7.1.3 Regional Study Area

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As noted in **Section 3.6.1**, there is no information on cultural, spiritual, and / or sacred sites and areas in the Regional Study Area. However, given that the preliminary Area of Interest for Aroland First Nation overlaps a large portion of the Regional Study Area (**Figure 3-3**), there is the potential for these sites and areas to be located within the Regional Study Area.

## 3.7.2 Continued Experiences on the Land

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Based on the information available and presented in **Section 3.6.2**, it is likely that the following is important to Aroland First Nation for the continued experiences on the land, and for cultural continuity and wellbeing:

- Access to quiet and undisturbed areas of solitude for a sense of inner peace;
- Connection to the landscape, ancestors, and community members by being able to access preferred and ancestral sites and areas for cultural practices, including traditional gathering sites and areas and meeting places, and historical family or village sites and areas;
- Being able to maintain community and kinship ties and values through community social traditions like sharing harvested resources.

This lens will be applied to the assessment on Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing.





### 3.7.3 Sufficiency of Lands, Waters, and Resources

Based on the information available and presented in [Section 3.6.3](#), it is likely that the following is important to Aroland First Nation and for cultural continuity and wellbeing, and for the ability of Aroland people to honour their role as stewards of their lands:

- A sufficient level and quality of lands, waters, and resources, as well as access to these resources; and
- Being able to practice traditional land governance.

This lens will be applied to the assessment on Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing.

### 3.7.4 Ability to Practice and Transmit Cultural Traditions

Based on the information available and presented in [Section 3.6.4](#), it is likely that the following is important to Aroland First Nation for the continued practice and transmission of cultural traditions:

- Being able to have intergenerational experiences on the land to practice language and traditions;
- Being able to practice cultural traditions in the preferred way (preferred methods in the preferred times of year); and,
- Being able to have continued access to and use of important teaching sites and areas, including placenames and sites and areas of importance based on oral history.
- This lens will be applied to the assessment on Aroland First Nation's cultural continuity and wellbeing.





# Next Steps



The Marten Falls First Nation Project Team invites you to share your feedback and comments on the information contained in this preliminary draft report. We welcome any additional information you would like to share with us. If there are additional sources of information you would like us to include for this report, we welcome you sending us this information. We are available to meet at your earliest convenience to further discuss the information found in this report. To arrange a time to meet and/or to provide comments or share additional information, please contact:

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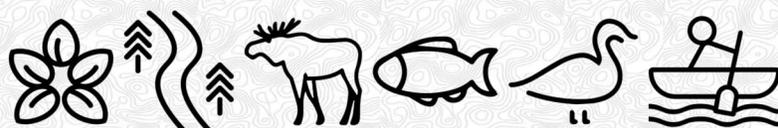
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## B2.4 Community Specific Meeting Materials





# Agenda

**Subject:** Nation-to-Nation Meeting  
**Date:** April 19, 2024  
**Timing:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Delta Hotels by Marriott  
 2240 Sleeping Giant Pkwy, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 0E7  
**Venue:** Ballroom C  
**Zoom Meeting Link:**  
**Co-Chairs:** Chief Sonny Gagnon and Chief Bruce Achneepineskum  
**Purpose:** To provide an opportunity for Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation Councils to meet to discuss issues and a path forward for working together and engaging on the MFFN Community Access Road in a respectful way.

**Attendees:**

Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation
Chief Sonny Gagnon	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Councillor Bernard Gagnon	Councillor Linda Moonias
Councillor Chad Kashkish	Councillor Shane Baxter
Councillor Eunice Magiskan	Councillor Maria Baxter
Councillor Mark Bell	Councillor Paul Achneepineskum
Councillor Joe Baxter	Councillor Rob Moonias
Councillor Tyrell Gagnon	Councillor Bob Baxter
Recorder/Note Taker – Jerry Shabogamik	Councillor Russell Achneepineskum
	Councillor Yvonne Baxter
	Recorder/Note Taker - TBD

**Agenda Items:**

Agenda Item	Topic of Discussion	Lead/Facilitator	Timing
1.	Breakfast Buffet	-	8:50 a.m.
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Co-chairs	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
3.	Opening Remarks & Purpose of the Meeting	Co-chairs	
4.	Project Background and History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why a community access road?</li> </ul>	Chief Achneepineskum	





MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
**ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MFFN CAR Project</li> <li>• Project Benefits</li> <li>• Anaconda/Painter Lake Road Project update from Aroland</li> <li>• Project Timelines</li> </ul>		
5.	Coffee Break	-	10:30 - 10:45 a.m.
6.	Communication Protocol Agreement between Aroland First Nation and MFFN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any changes needed?</li> <li>• Are both parties satisfied with the protocol?</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	10:45 - 11:50 a.m.
7.	Lunch	-	11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
8.	The Path Forward Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community meeting in Aroland to present the Project</li> <li>• Relationship building</li> <li>• Information sharing</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
9.	Actions and Next Steps	Co-chairs	1:45 - 2:00 p.m.
10.	Closing Remarks	Co-chairs	2:00 p.m.





# Agenda

**Subject:** Nation-to-Nation Meeting  
**Date:** April 19, 2024  
**Timing:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Delta Hotels by Marriott  
 2240 Sleeping Giant Pkwy, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 0E7  
**Venue:** Ballroom C  
**Co-Chairs:** Chief Sonny Gagnon and Chief Bruce Achneepineskum  
**Purpose:** To provide an opportunity for Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation Councils to meet to discuss issues and a path forward for working together and engaging on the MFFN Community Access Road in a respectful way.

**Attendees:**

Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation
Chief Sonny Gagnon	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Councillor Bernard Gagnon	Councillor Linda Moonias
Councillor Chad Kashkish	Councillor Shane Baxter
Councillor Eunice Magiskan	Councillor Maria Baxter
Councillor Mark Bell	Councillor Paul Achneepineskum
Councillor Joe Baxter	Councillor Rob Moonias
Councillor Tyrell Gagnon	Councillor Bob Baxter
Recorder/Note Taker – Jerry Shabogamik	Councillor Russell Achneepineskum
	Councillor Yvonne Baxter
	Recorder/Note Taker - TBD

**Agenda Items:**

Agenda Item	Topic of Discussion	Lead/Facilitator	Timing
1.	Breakfast Buffet	-	8:50 a.m.
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Co-chairs	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
3.	Opening Remarks & Purpose of the Meeting	Co-chairs	
4.	Project Background and History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why a community access road?</li> <li>• The MFFN CAR Project</li> <li>• Project Benefits</li> </ul>	Chief Achneepineskum	





# MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anaconda/Painter Lake Road Project update from Aroland</li> <li>Project Timelines</li> </ul>		
5.	Coffee Break	-	10:30 - 10:45 a.m.
6.	Communication Protocol Agreement between Aroland First Nation and MFFN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there any changes needed?</li> <li>Are both parties satisfied with the protocol?</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	10:45 - 11:50 a.m.
7.	Lunch	-	11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
8.	The Path Forward Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community meeting in Aroland to present the Project</li> <li>Relationship building</li> <li>Information sharing</li> </ul>	Co-chairs	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
9.	Actions and Next Steps	Co-chairs	1:45 - 2:00 p.m.
10.	Closing Remarks	Co-chairs	2:00 p.m.





## **Join us for a meeting with the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR) Project Team!**

**The MFFN CAR Project Team will present updates on the Project and review the preliminary technically preferred routes and mapping.**

**Aroland First Nation Members Only**

**Wednesday June 19, 2024**

Superior Inn Hotel and Conference Centre  
(formerly the Victoria Inn)

555 Arthur Street West  
Thunder Bay, ON  
P7E 5R5

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Buffet dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

Open to all Aroland First  
Nation community members.

The meeting will feature:

- Project presentation, Q&A and maps
- Buffet dinner
- Door prizes including a TV and gift cards!



**Have your say. Share  
your comments, ideas  
and community values  
with the Project Team.  
We look forward to  
seeing you!**





## **Join us for a meeting with the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR) Project Team!**

The MFFN CAR Project Team will present updates on the Project and review the preliminary technically preferred routes and mapping.

**Aroland First Nation Members Only**

**Thursday June 20, 2024**

Johnny Therriault Memorial School - Gym  
Aroland First Nation

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Buffet dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

Open to all Aroland First Nation community members.

The meeting will feature:

- Project presentation, Q&A and maps
- Dinner
- Door prizes including a TV and gift cards!



Have your say. Share your comments, ideas and community values with the Project Team. We look forward to seeing you!





MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION

COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

# Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road

## Update for Aroland First Nation

June 19 & 20, 2024





## For Discussion Today

- Introduction to the Community Access Road
- Latest Updates
- The Preliminary Technically Preferred Route Recommendation
- Cumulative Effects Inclusions List
- Draft EA / IS Schedule
- Collaboration and Engagement
- Next steps





## Project Team



**Qasim Saddique**  
*Project Director*



**Bob Baxter**  
*MFFN Councillor and  
Senior Community Member  
Advisor*



**Lawrence Baxter**  
*Senior Community Member  
Advisor*



**Rowena Moonias**  
*MFFN Community  
Coordinator*





## Project Team



**Ariane Heisey**  
*Senior Project Consultant*



**Ingrid Trimble**  
*Environmental Assessment*



**Luke Owens**  
*Natural Sciences*



**Kyla Zielbauer**  
*Consultation*

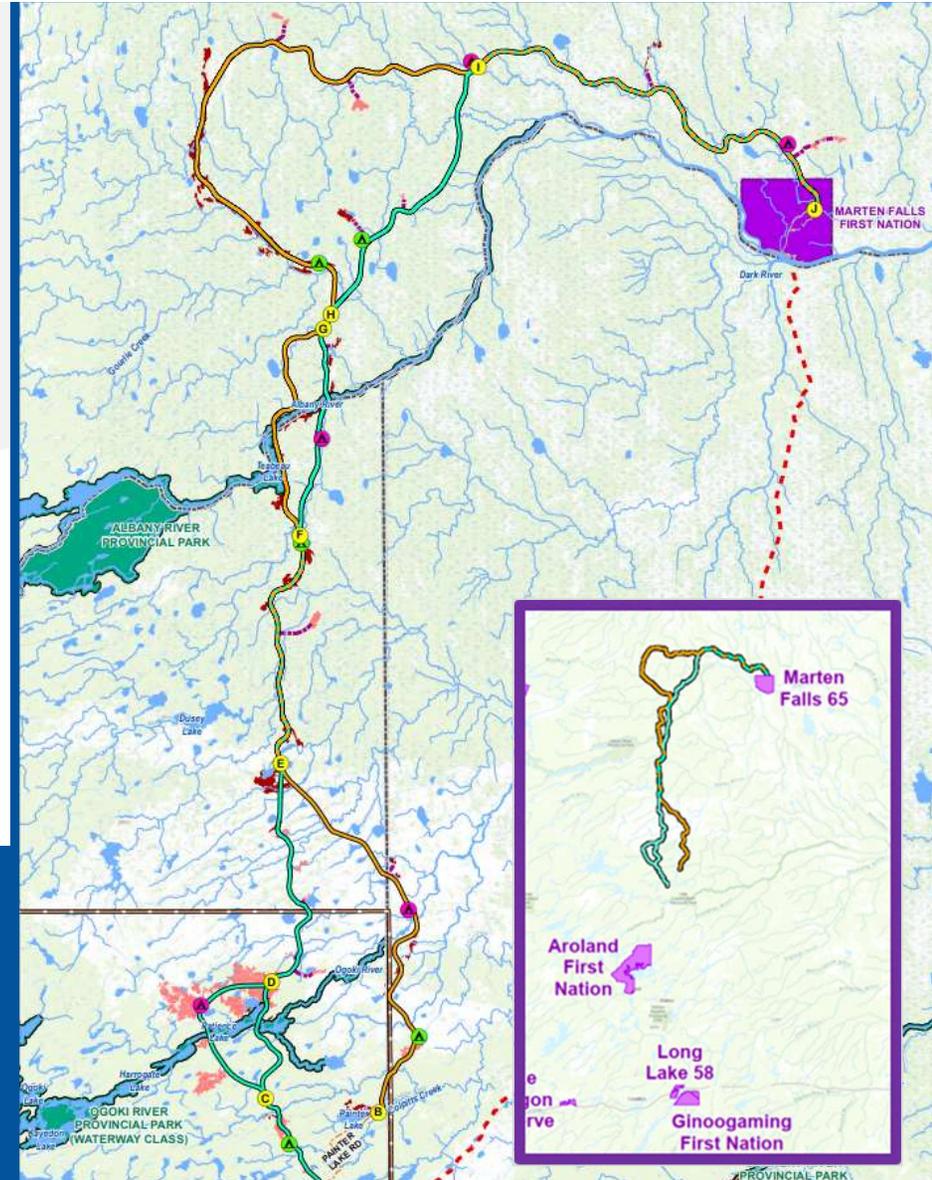


# Building the Community Access Road

The Marten Falls Community Access Road is needed to improve the well-being of the community by reducing transportation costs for goods and services, increasing access, helping foster economic development and improve quality of life for community members.

*“For as long as I can remember, Marten Falls First Nation has had a strong desire to develop a road that would connect our remote northern community to the Ontario provincial highway network and advance our vision of building a sustainable and thriving community in the North.”*

*-Chief Bruce Achneepineskum*





## Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment Process

We are in the process of a coordinated provincial Environmental Assessment and federal Impact Assessment

**The next major milestone for this process is the selection of the preferred route.**





# Where are we in the EA / IA Process





## Key updates and activities

- Completion of most field studies
- In-person and virtual outreach activities (recently: PIC #5, ATRI Forum #2, Webinars, videos, Three Road Projects Expo)
- Preliminary technically preferred route recommendation was presented at PIC #5 in October 2023
- Indigenous Knowledge Program is ongoing



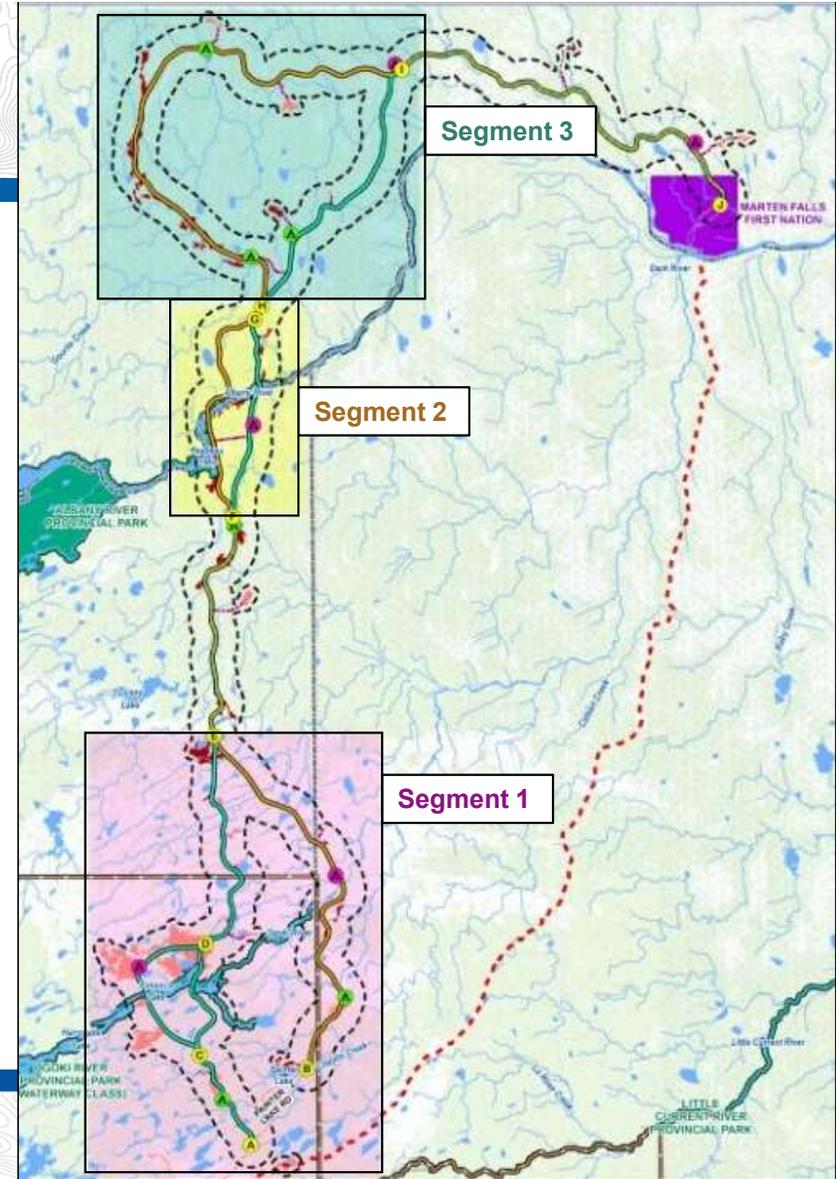


## Evaluating the Route Alternatives

Where there are options an evaluation criteria will be used to determine the best option.

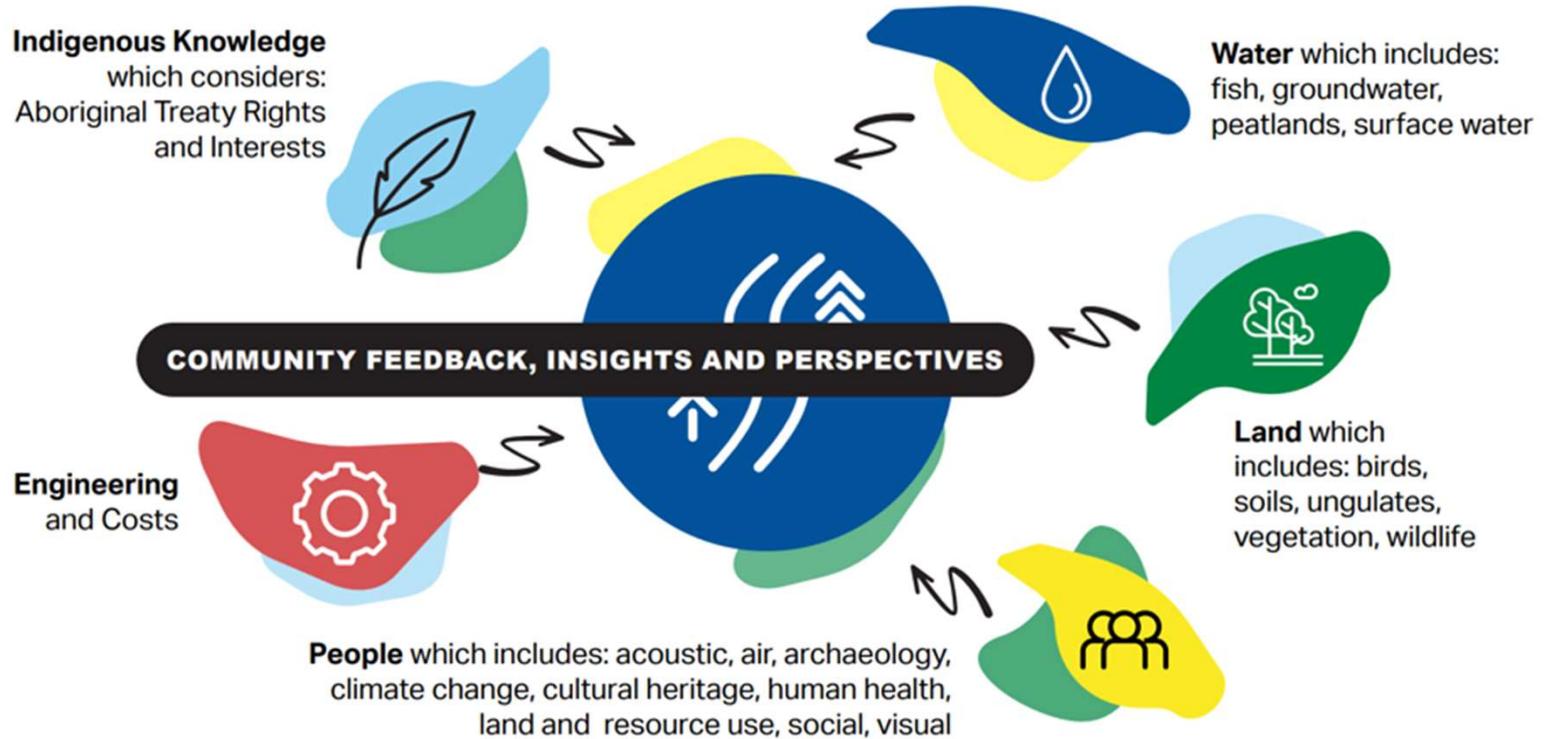
These segments are:

- Segment 1 – Ogoki Crossing
- Segment 2 – Albany Crossing
- Segment 3 – North of Albany





# What we considered when evaluating the route options:



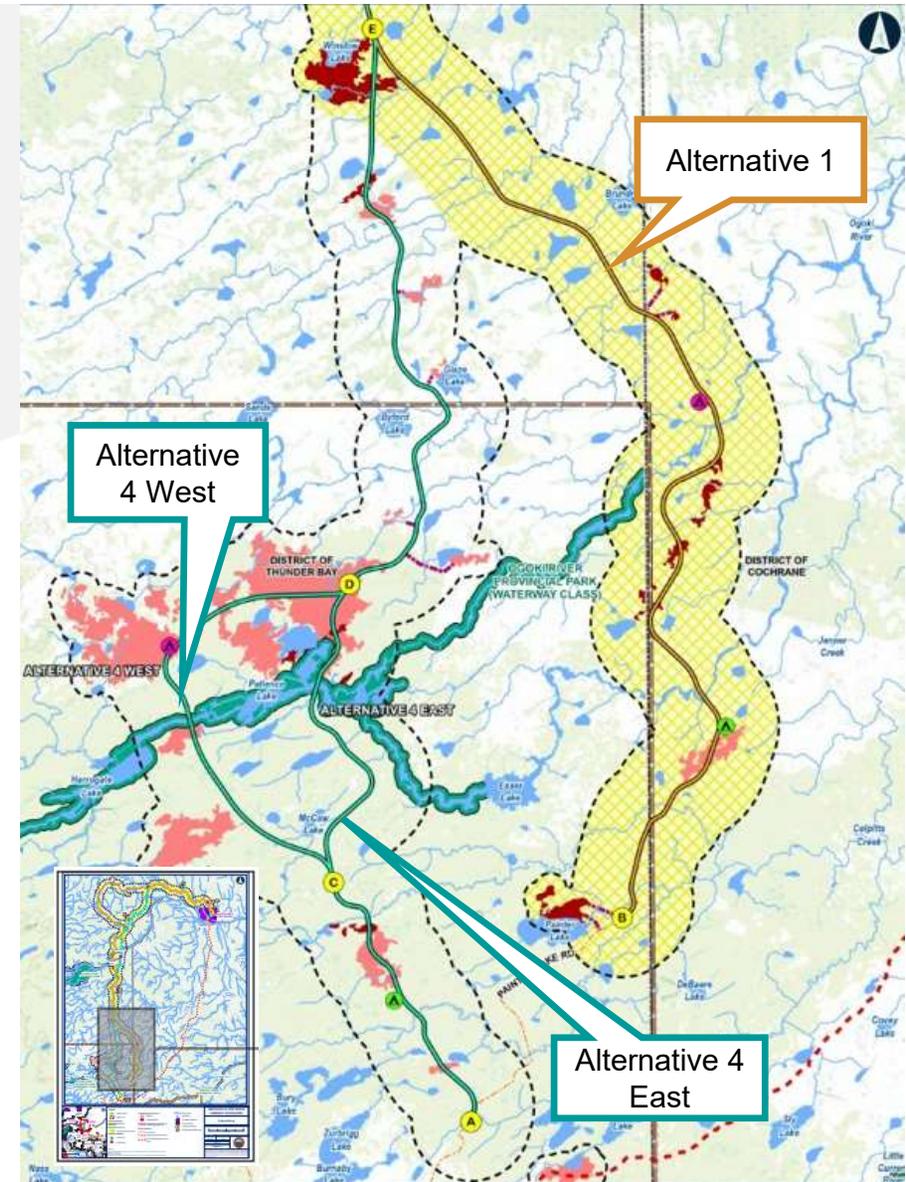
# Preliminary Preferred Route Segment 1 – Ogoki Crossing

Category		Alternative 1	Alternative 4 East	Alternative 4 West
MFFN Community Feedback				
Indigenous Knowledge				
Water				
Land				
People				
Engineering				

## Legend

-  = Most Preferred
-  = Moderately Preferred
-  = Least Preferred

The preliminary preferred route recommendation is preliminary. The route will be further informed through consideration of Indigenous Knowledge.



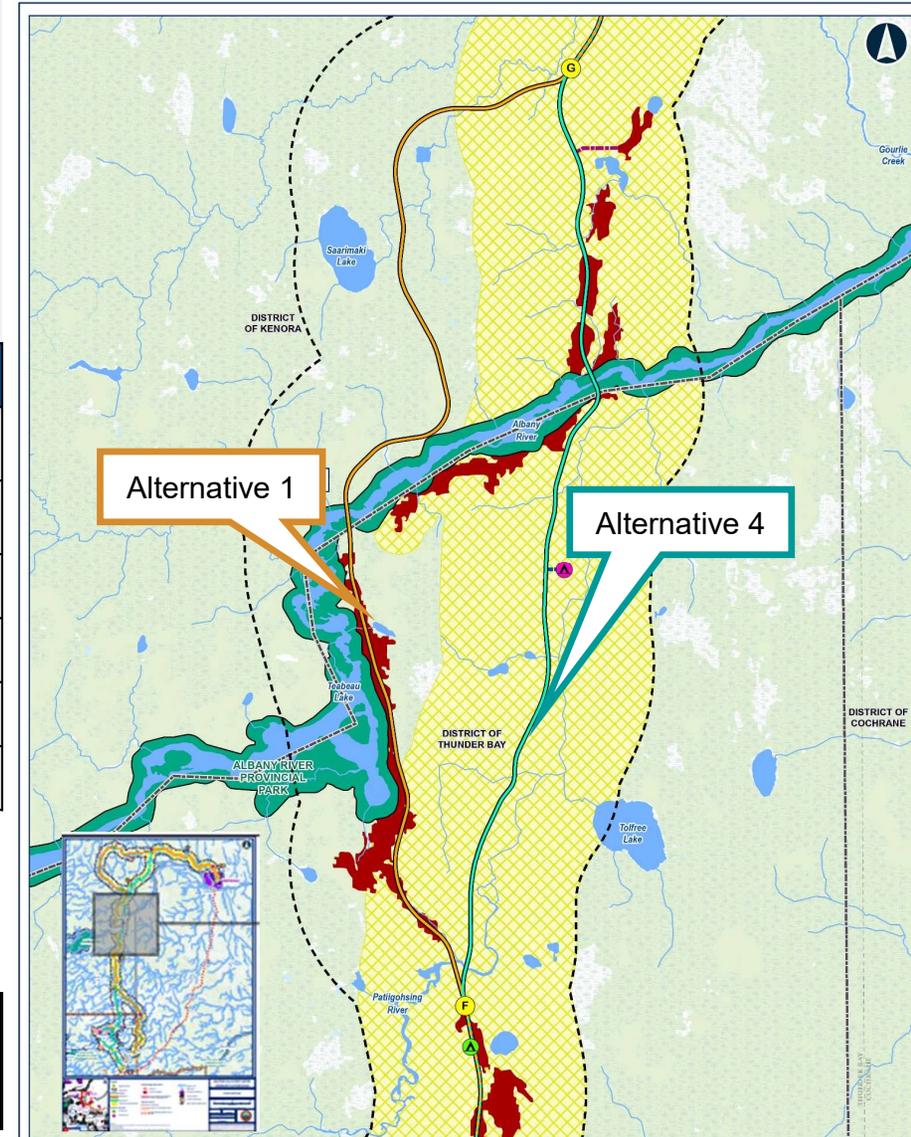
# Preliminary Preferred Route Segment 2 – Albany Crossing

Category		Alternative 1	Alternative 4
MFFN Community Feedback			
Indigenous Knowledge			
Water			
Land			
People			
Engineering			

## Legend

-  = Most Preferred
-  = Moderately Preferred
-  = Least Preferred

The preliminary preferred route recommendation is preliminary. The route will be further informed through consideration of Indigenous Knowledge.







## Cumulative Effects

The combined effects of the Community Access Road with the effects of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects and activities.

On their own, individual project effects may be minor, but when considered together with other project effects they may become significant.



Powerlines



Mining Activities & Mineral Exploration



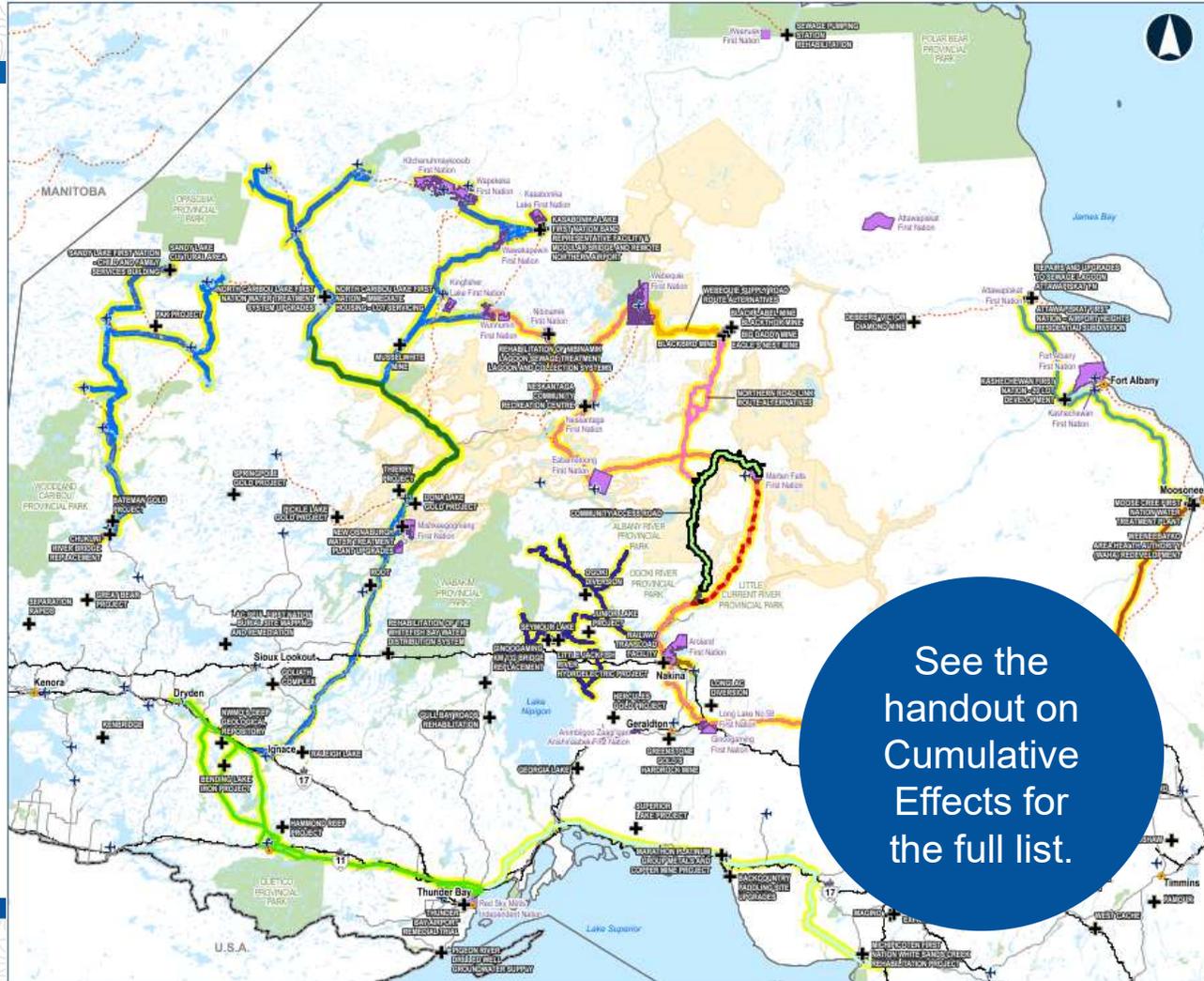
Airports





# Cumulative Effects Inclusions List considers:

- Mineral developments and mineral exploration activity in the area;
- Infrastructure projects, including other all-season road projects and any future road construction or upgrades;
- Power and internet projects;
- Hydro / water projects;
- Environment and cultural projects;
- Forest management units; and
- Mining activities.

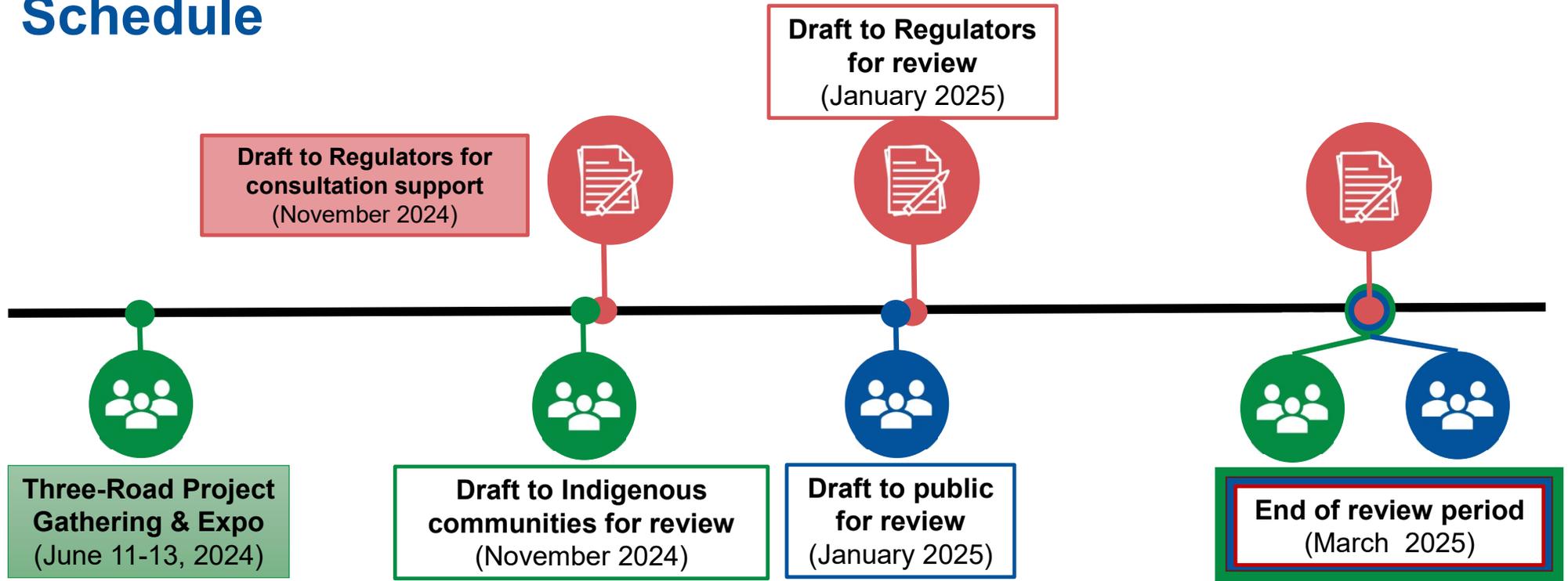


See the handout on Cumulative Effects for the full list.



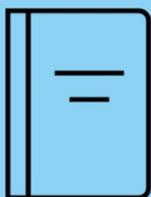


# Schedule





## What will you receive in the Draft EA / IS?



**Draft  
EA/IS**



**Draft Tech  
Reports**



**Draft Individual  
ATRI Report**



**Attachments  
RoCE**



### Who can review the Draft Submission?

- ✓ Indigenous communities
- ✓ Regulators
- ✓ Public

- ✓ Indigenous Community
- ✓ Regulators
- ✓ Public

- ✓ Indigenous Community
- ✓ Regulators
- ✗ Public

- ✓ Indigenous Community
- ✓ Regulators
- ✓ Public





## Indigenous Knowledge Program

- Purpose: to empower Indigenous Communities to share information on their land and resource use, cultural practices and values, and rights and interests in the study area.
- Two key ways to gather and share information:
  - 1) Sharing existing IK and Indigenous Land and Resource Use (ILRU) information (previously collected by communities)
  - 2) Completing Project-specific IK and ILRU Studies

The IK Program is an important component of the information base upon which the assessment of the Community Access Road will be conducted.

Funding of \$30,000 is available for participation





## Community Coordinator Program Overview

There is a Funding opportunity for a **Community Coordinator** from Aroland First Nation to help the Community Access Road progress.

We believe a Community Coordinator will strengthen our collective efforts on the Community Access Road, while keeping your community up-to-date and involved.

### The positions involves:

- Engaging and consulting Aroland First Nation on a consistent basis and in a way that works best for your community
- Planning and rollout of engagement and data collection activities
- Help gather information for the environmental assessment processes.
- Encouraging and supporting the community in meeting important milestones and deadlines
- Support responses to letters and inquiries
- **\$25 / hour and approximately 16 hours of work a week** until the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement is issued (July 2025).





## Working towards collaboration

- MFFN CAR has been engaging and consulting with Aroland First Nation since the development of the Terms of Reference (2019)
- Consultation Protocol Agreement between Aroland First Nation and MFFN signed in September 2023
- Nation-to-Nation Meeting held April 19, 2024
- Aroland First Nation requested in-community meetings to present the details of the CAR





## Opportunities for engagement and input

- Feedback on the technically preferred route recommendation
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Cultural Heritage
- Socio-Community
- Archaeology Stage 1 Report – Aggregate sites
- Community Profile





## Current Engagement Activities

- ATRI Existing Condition Report – feedback welcomed
- Indigenous Knowledge Program is ongoing
- **Current Milestone: Identification of Preferred Alternative**





## What's Coming Up

- More meetings with Aroland - mid-July
- Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement – November 2024
- PIC #6 – Fall 2024
- Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement





# Questions





## Contact Us

Email us at [info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca](mailto:info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca) or call us at 1-800-764-9114

Visit our website:

<https://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MFFNCommunityAccessRoadProject/>

Follow us on Instagram [instagram.com/martenfallsaccessroad/](https://www.instagram.com/martenfallsaccessroad/)





## **Join us for a meeting with the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR) Project Team!**

The MFFN CAR Project Team will host an Expo style event, with booths covering a range of topics related to the Project and a review of the preliminary technically preferred route.

### **Aroland First Nation Members Only Monday, July 15, 2024**

Superior Inn Hotel & Conference Centre

555 Arthur Street West  
Thunder Bay, On  
P7E 5R5

2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Buffet dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

### **Aroland In-Community Session Tuesday, July 16, 2024**

Johnny Therriault Memorial School,  
Gymnasium

118 Rolland Road  
Aroland First Nation, On  
P0T 1B0

2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

Open to all Aroland First Nation community members.

The meeting will feature:

- Expo with booths including: Environment, Engineering / Construction, Draft EA / IS review process, maps, and more;
- Dinner;
- Kids zone; and
- Prizes including gift cards!



**Have your say. Share your comments, ideas and community values with the Project Team. We look forward to seeing you!**