

B27. Independent First Nations Alliance

B27.1 Outgoing Community Specific Correspondence

B27.1 Outgoing Community Specific Correspondence

From: Ratajczak, Gabbie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 25 September 2024 20:01
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: MFFN Community Access Road – About the Draft EA / IS
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

Please find attached a letter and frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding the circulation of the **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report (Draft EA / IS)** for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road for your community's review and comment.

The Draft EA / IS, and supporting documents, will describe how the preferred route was determined and identify how the proposed Community Access Road may affect the social, cultural, economic and natural environment.

As we prepare to submit the Draft EA / IS, we want to ensure your community has easy access to the documents and has identified a key community contact to help guide the review process.

Please fill out this questionnaire to identify a key contact and preferences related to the review process:

<https://forms.office.com/r/QLXhJdWg6y>

We will be in touch in the Fall to discuss these matters with you but if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada
[REDACTED]

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September 25, 2024



Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report (EA / IS)

Dear Mr. Matthew Hoppe,

This letter is to update you on the proposed Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road and the circulation of the **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report (Draft EA / IS)** to Indigenous communities, the public and regulators for review and comment.

The Draft EA / IS, and supporting documents, will describe how the preferred route was determined and identify how the proposed Community Access Road may affect the social, cultural, economic and natural environment. Your input on the Draft EA / IS (e.g., on specific technical documents, proposed impact management and follow up measures, cumulative effects assessment, EA / IS conclusions, and on confirmation that input was captured appropriately) will help us prepare the Final EA / IS.

As we prepare to submit the Draft EA / IS, we want to ensure your community has easy access to the documents and has identified a key community contact to help guide the review process. We will be in touch in the Fall to discuss these matters with you.

Coming Soon for Your Review

Your input to these important planning documents is invaluable, and we want to ensure you have advance notice of when the Draft EA / IS will be circulated and what will be included in it. Some Indigenous communities have indicated that they would like time to review documents in advance of public release, so we're providing Indigenous communities early access to the Draft EA / IS this winter with a minimum review period of 120 days (additional time will be provided if the review period overlaps with the year-end holidays). **We will be in touch with the exact date of the release of the Draft EA / IS as soon as it is confirmed.**

The Draft EA / IS will be circulated to the public and regulators 60-days following the Indigenous communities review period. Individual members of an Indigenous community are welcome to

Phone: 

Email: info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca

Web: <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca>





provide their own comments in addition to those provided on behalf of their community during the 60-day public review period. The exact review dates will be provided once confirmed.

We're Here to Help

The MFFN Community Access Road Project Team is available to support your community during the Draft EA / IS review process.

In addition to publishing plain language summaries to help guide you through the technical documents, we are planning activities to help prepare you for the review process. We will:

- Release a new webinars series on topics we've heard are of interest to you including: The Final Route for the Community Access Road and How the Road will be Constructed.
- Launch new videos to describe the final route for the Community Access Road and to provide an overview to the Draft EA / IS, including ways you can provide feedback.
- Host Public Information Center #6 to provide an update on the Community Access Road, share the Draft EA / IS report, answer questions and gather your feedback; and
- Three-Road Gathering & Expo #2.

We will also be available for—and encourage—meetings to review chapters and technical reports of interest to your community. If you have questions or if you would like to schedule a meeting to discuss, please contact us. We are happy to meet with you.

Be ready!

The Draft EA / IS will be a large document (approximately 500 - 1000 pages) and include thousands of pages of supporting documents (ranging from the technical documents to the Record of Consultation & Engagement).

We encourage you to book time with us before circulation of the Draft EA / IS to discuss how you would like to receive the Draft EA / IS from us and how best we can support you in your review.

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Web: <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca>

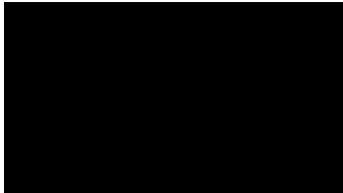




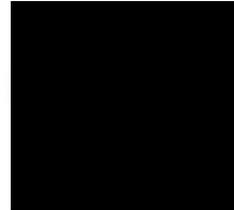
Don't hesitate to be in touch! We're happy to support you through this review.

We thank you for your continued participation and collaboration as we work towards building the Community Access Road.

Sincerely,



Qasim Saddique
Project Director



Lawrence Baxter
Senior Community Member Advisor

Cc:

- Qasim Sadique, Project Director, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team
- Lawrence Baxter, Senior Community Advisor, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team
- Bob Baxter, Senior Community Member Advisor, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team
- Jennifer Bruin, Technical Advisor, MFFN Community Access Road Project Team
- Paul MacInnis, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Mines
- Sasha McLeod, Special Project Officers, Ministry of the Environment
- Dorothy Moszynski, Special Project Officers, Ministry of the Environment
- Kristin Cawley, Technical Services Advisor, Independent First Nations Alliance
- Andrew Pederson, Environmental Advisor, Independent First Nations Alliance
- Jonathan Gregg, Technical Services Manager, Independent First Nations Alliance

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca

Web: <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca>





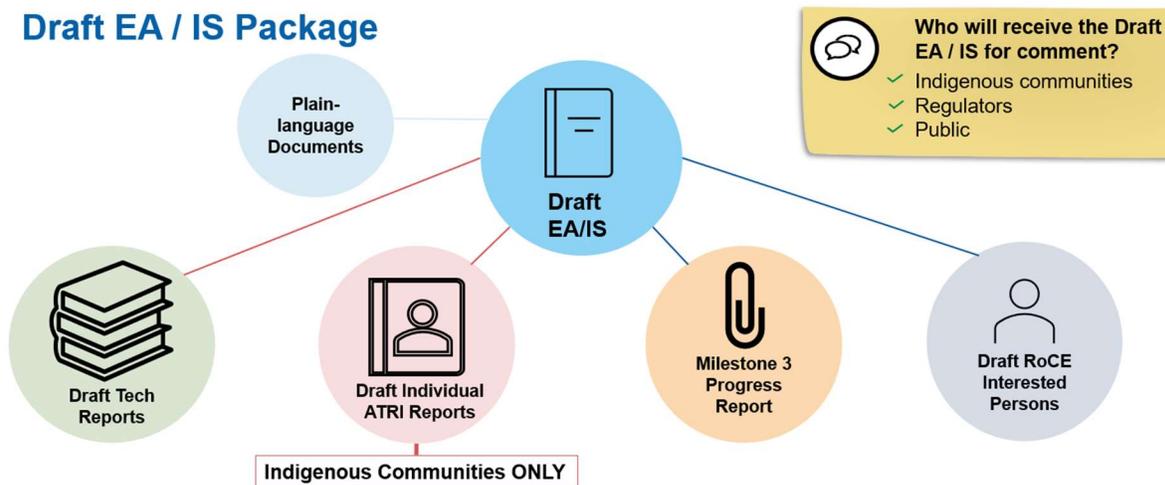
Frequently Asked Questions – Draft EA / IS

Issued September 2024

What is included in the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report (EA / IS)?

The Draft EA / IS will be a large document (approximately 500 - 1000 pages) which includes thousands of pages of supporting documents. These range from technical documents on valued components (like noise, air quality, peatlands—see below question for a full list), individual Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) reports, to the Records of Consultation & Engagement. We are here to help in your review—plain-language versions of select documents will be made available, and we encourage you to book time with us to discuss before we circulate the Draft EA / IS.

Draft EA / IS Package



How have Indigenous communities influenced the Draft EA / IS?

Through consultation activities, the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road Project Team has collected feedback, information and Indigenous Knowledge to inform the final route selection and support the development of the Draft EA / IS. The ATRI / Three-Road Forums and Gatherings and Individual Community ATRI Existing Conditions Reports have facilitated the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge and provided a forum for open discussion around the proposed Community Access Road. The MFFN Community Access Road Project Team has engaged 22 Indigenous communities over the course of the environmental assessment process, working with key contacts and representatives of the communities who have provided their expertise, asked questions, and flagged concerns and issues that should be addressed and included in the Draft EA / IS.





Why is it important to provide your comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report (Draft EA / IS)?

We are providing a Draft EA / IS to Indigenous communities, the public and regulators to allow for an early review of our information, approach and findings. Your input on the Draft EA / IS will inform the preparation of the Final EA / IS and allow us to incorporate your input and consider concerns related to the proposed Community Access Road.

How long do I have to review and provide comments on the Draft EA / IS?

Members of the Indigenous communities we are engaging will have access to the Draft EA / IS this winter via their community's key contact (identified by your Chief and Council). Indigenous communities have a minimum of 120 days to review and comment on the Draft EA / IS. If the 120 days overlap with year-end holidays; then additional time will be added to compensate. Access to the Draft EA / IS for Indigenous communities is 60-days in advance of the public and regulators' review period. The exact review dates will be provided once confirmed.

How and when will we get responses to the questions or comments that we provide on the Draft EA / IS?

Comments and questions received during the review process will be recorded and responses tracked and addressed, where possible, in the Final EA / IS. In addition, during the review period, we encourage you to contact us to schedule a meeting so that we can discuss with you directly any questions or concerns you might have. Our intent, where appropriate, is to provide you an opportunity to review or discuss your comments and our proposed response in advance of submitting the Final EA / IS.

What is the difference between the Draft EA / IS and the Final EA / IS version?

The Final EA / IS will incorporate comments, questions and feedback received on the Draft EA / IS from Indigenous communities, the public and regulators. Additional information from studies not completed before the release of the Draft EA / IS may also be included (if applicable). Because the Final EA / IS will be submitted by MFFN to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) for a decision by the Minister and Cabinet, it is important that communities participate in consultation on the Draft EA / IS, so that their input can be considered or addressed in the final version.





Where do we send our comments and feedback on the Draft EA / IS?

Once the key contact has compiled your community’s feedback, the comments / edits / questions can be sent to your MFFN Community Access Road Project Team contact or to the Community Access Road general email address: info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca.

How will my feedback be received if I am not an official representative of my community (e.g., key contact)?

Individual members of an Indigenous community are welcome to provide their own comments in addition to those provided on behalf of their community during the public review period. This input will be addressed along with other comments received from the public and regulators.

What Technical Reports are included in the Draft EA / IS?

The technical documents will include information on valued components existing conditions, effects assessment and cumulative effects.

The following technical reports are included in the Draft EA / IS.

1. Noise and Vibrations	10. Ungulates
2. Groundwater and Geochemistry	11. Air Quality and Green House Gas
3. Surface Water	12. Land Use
4. Fish and Fish Habitat	13. Human Health
5. Physiography, Terrain and Soils	14. Social
6. Peatlands	15. Economics
7. Vegetation	16. Visual
8. Wildlife	17. Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights Interests (ATRI) / Indigenous Knowledge
9. Birds	

What are Cumulative Effects and the Inclusions List?

Cumulative Effects are the potential effects of the Community Access Road combined 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.

As part of the provincial EA and federal Impact Assessment (IA) process for the Community Access Road, an assessment of the potential cumulative effects is being completed. The preliminary project Inclusion List identifies potential projects that will be considered for inclusion in the Cumulative Effects Assessment, which will be part of the Draft EA / IS.

How have Indigenous communities been consulted?

Indigenous Knowledge Program

The purpose of this program was 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. Participation in the program enabled participating communities to either share existing Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and Indigenous Land and Resource Use (ILRU) information (previously collected by communities) or to complete project-specific IK and ILRU Studies.

Community Coordinator Program

The Community Coordinator Program supports the Community Access Road activities, meetings and events, helping to make sure input is collected and shared back with the MFFN Community Access Road Project Team.

Community Coordinators strengthen our collective efforts related to the EA / IA process and allow for a more open and responsive consultation and engagement between Indigenous communities and the MFFN Community Access Road Project Team.

Reports

Through the EA / IA process, the MFFN Community Access Road Project Team has worked with Indigenous communities to produce reports including: ATRI Existing Conditions Report, Milestone #1 and #2 Reports, Cultural Heritage Report, Stage 1 and Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Reports, and the Interim Record of Consultation and Engagement (RoCE).

In-person & virtual consultation activities

To date, our consultation efforts have included:

- Five in-person Public Information Centres (PICs), including dedicated hours for Indigenous Community members;
- 31 in-person or virtual meetings with 11 communities, including 8 in-person or virtual meetings with MFFN;
- Two in-person ATRI forums;





- An in-person Three-road Project Gathering & Expo;
- Attendance at several conferences, including the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) conference and the Matawa First Nations Management gathering.
- Fourteen virtual webinars; and
- Ongoing outreach including phone calls emails, virtual meetings, and in-person meetings with communities and tribal councils.



Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road: Draft EA / IS Submission

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

Privacy Statement

All comments, questions, and responses submitted for this survey will be collected and considered in the development of an Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement that will be a part of public record and will be made available to individuals or organizations with an interest in this project. Under the Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act, personal information such as name and address will not be included in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement but may be released, if requested in accordance with the Act, to any person as part of the review of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

1. Full Name (first & last)

Enter your answer

2. Email

Enter your answer

3. Community or Organization

Enter your answer

4. Please provide the name and contact information of the key contact who will be receiving the full Draft EA / IS including, Plain-language documents, 17 Technical

Reports, Individual ATRI Reports (by Community), Milestone 3 Progress Report, Record of Consultation and Engagement - Public (Approximately 20,000 pages)? *

Enter your answer

5. Please choose the format(s) you would like to receive the Draft EA / IS. *

Printed

Digital (USB)

Both

6. Plain Language Guides will be made available to Indigenous Communities. What traditional languages would you like these documents translated into? *

Cree (Swampy)

Oji-Cree

Ojibwe

7. Which studies is your community most interested in? Please select as many as you like. *

Noise and Vibrations

Groundwater and Geochemistry

Surface Water

Fish and Fish Habitat

- Physiography, Terrain and Soils
- Peatlands
- Vegetation
- Wildlife
- Birds
- Ungulates
- Air Quality and Green House Gas
- Land Use
- Human Health
- Social
- Economics
- Visual
- Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights Interests (ATRI) / Indigenous Knowledge

8. Would you like to organize a meeting(s) with the MFFN CAR Project Team to discuss receiving and reviewing the Draft EA / IS? *

Yes

No

You can print a copy of your answer after you submit

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From: Ratajczak, Gabbie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 27 September 2024 18:15
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls Access Road (MFFN CAR) - September 2024 Update

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

I hope this finds you well.

As Jaimie Cugnet mentioned in her last email, I will now be your main point of contact for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project. I look forward to working with you!

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

IK Program

While the request for submission date has passed, we are still welcoming IK from Independent First Nations Alliance to be included in the draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. Please let me know if you have any questions about this program, or feel welcome to reach out directly to MFFN Councillor and Senior Community Member Advisor, Bob Baxter, at [REDACTED] or Andrea Nokleby at [REDACTED]

Stay up to date with MFFN CAR Socials

We encourage you to stay updated with the latest news on the MFFN CAR. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#)!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada
[REDACTED]

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From: Ratajczak, Gabbie [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 30 October 2024 15:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls Access Road (MFFN CAR) - October 2024 Update

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

Please fill out our survey!

In September, we sent you an email with a letter and FAQ in preparation for the release of the Draft EA / IS. As we prepare to submit the Draft EA / IS, we want to ensure your community has easy access to the documents and has identified a key community contact to help guide the review process.

Please fill out this questionnaire to identify a key contact and preferences related to the review process:

<https://forms.office.com/r/QLXhJdWg6y>

IK Program

While the request for submission date has passed, we are still welcoming IK from Independent First Nations Alliance to be included in the draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. Please let me know if you have any questions about this program, or feel welcome to reach out directly to MFFN Councillor and Senior Community Member Advisor, Bob Baxter, at [REDACTED] or Andrea Nokleby at [REDACTED]

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada
[REDACTED]

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From: Ratajczak, Gabbie
Sent: November 29, 2024 10:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls Community Access Road (MFFN CAR) - Milestone #3 Progress Report

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

We hope this email finds you well.

The Milestone #3 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 Independent First Nations Alliance: [REDACTED]

The Milestone #3 Progress Report covers June 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024.

We welcome any edits or comments to your community-specific section by **February 14, 2025**, before the reports are incorporated into the Draft Record of Consultation.

If you haven't already, please fill out this questionnaire to identify a key contact and preferences related to the review process: <https://forms.office.com/r/QLXhJdWg6y>.

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.

Sincerely,

Gabbie Ratajczak

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - December 2024 Update

Sent: 2024-12-17, 2:16:34 PM

From: Ratajczak, Gabbie [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Bcc: [REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Happy 2024 Year-end!**

As we approach the new year, we'd like to acknowledge the milestones achieved for the MFFN Community Access Road in 2024. In particular, we celebrated the selection of the final route for the Community Access Road. On August 26, 2024, Marten Falls First Nation Chief and Council signed a Band Council Resolution confirming the proposed final route.

We took part in multiple events this year, including hosting in-community meetings with Marten Falls First Nation in July and October and in-community meetings with Aroland First Nation in June and July. We also attended the Three-Road Projects Gathering and Expo in June. We extend a great thank you to everyone who attended and took part in these gatherings. Your collaboration has helped shape the future of the road.

Coming up in 2025, we are preparing for the release of the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment. We look forward to receiving your insights on this document and are enthusiastic about what 2025 will hold for the Community Access Road.

The Community Access Road is more than infrastructure; it's about securing a better future for our people... It is not just a path to progress; it is a testament to our resilience, our vision for the future and our commitment to the well-being of our people. – Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation

- **Please fill out our survey!**

- In September, we sent you an email with a letter and FAQ in preparation for the release of the Draft EA / IS. As we prepare to submit the Draft EA / IS, we want to ensure your community has easy access to the documents and has identified a key community contact to help guide the review process.
- **Please fill out this questionnaire to identify a key contact and preferences related to the review process:**
<https://forms.office.com/r/QLXhJdWg6y>

- **Milestone #3 Progress Report Feedback**

- On November 29, 2024, we distributed your community specific Milestone #3 Progress Report.
- We welcome any edits or comments to your community-specific section which you may provide through email, telephone or by scheduling a meeting. **Please provide your community's feedback by February 14, 2025.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak

she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada

[REDACTED]

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From: Ratajczak, Gabbie
Sent: January 23, 2025 3:30 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - January 2025 Update

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

Prepare for the release of the Draft EA / IS

- As we approach the release of the Draft EA / IS, we would like to provide you with a few reminders and updates:
 - **MFFN CAR Draft EA / IS Email**
 - All information pertaining to the Draft EA / IS will come from a separate email account [REDACTED]. **Please ensure you send your questions and comments on the Draft EA / IS to this email address.**
 - **Please fill out our survey!**
 - I noticed you have not filled out our survey regarding receiving the Draft EA / IS. We want to ensure Independent First Nations Alliance has easy access to the documents and has identified a key community contact to help guide the review process.
 - **Please fill out this questionnaire to identify a key contact and preferences related to the review process:**
<https://forms.office.com/r/QLXhJdWg6y>
 - If you do not fill out the survey and identify a preferred method of receiving the document, we will send you a link to a website that hosts the Draft EA / IS document. Please note, the Draft EA/IS is expected to be ~20,000 pages.
 - **Book a meeting!**
 - We are here to assist you in the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please reach out if you would like to book an in-person or virtual meeting to discuss the Draft EA / IS. We understand the size of the document (~20,000 pages) can be overwhelming and are here to support you with review.

Milestone #3 Progress Report Feedback

- On November 29, 2024, we distributed your community specific Milestone #3 Progress Report.
- We welcome any edits or comments to your community-specific section which you may provide through email, telephone or by scheduling a meeting. **Please provide your community's feedback by February 14, 2025.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - February 2025 Update

Sent: 2025/02/21, 17:35:06

From: Ratajczak, Gabbie<[REDACTED]>

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement (EA / IS) available for Indigenous Community review**
 - **MFFN CAR Draft EA / IS Email**
 - As you may already be aware, the Draft EA / IS is now available for Indigenous community review. All information pertaining to the Draft EA / IS will come from a separate email account [REDACTED]. **Please ensure you send your questions and comments on the Draft EA / IS to this email address.**
 - **Book a meeting!**
 - We are here to assist you in the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please reach out if you would like to book an in-person or virtual meeting to discuss the Draft EA / IS. We understand the size of the document (~20,000 pages) can be overwhelming and are here to support you with review.
- **Milestone #3 Progress Report**
 - The deadline to provide feedback on the Milestone #3 Progress Report was February 14, 2025. Feedback was requested by this date in order to make updates to the Report before it is made available to the public on the project website. We will still accept feedback after this date. Any feedback received after February 14, 2025, will be incorporated into the Draft RoCE.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak

she/her/hers

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Central Canada

[REDACTED]

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Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - March 2025 Update
Sent: 3/28/2025, 8:17:53 AM
From: Ratajczak, Gabbie <[REDACTED]>
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Hoppe,
I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement (EA / IS) available for Indigenous Community review**
 - **MFFN CAR Draft EA / IS Email**
 - The Draft EA / IS is now available for Indigenous community review. All information pertaining to the Draft EA / IS will come from a separate email account [REDACTED]. **Please ensure you send your questions and comments on the Draft EA / IS to this email address.**
 - **Book a meeting!**
 - We are here to assist you in the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please reach out if you would like to book an in-person or virtual meeting to discuss the Draft EA / IS. We understand the size of the document (~20,000 pages) can be overwhelming and are here to support you with review.
- **Upcoming Webinars**
 - In April and May, we will host webinars on identified project effects and proposed mitigation measures for Land, Water and People. Keep an eye out for a registration email from info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her

Community Engagement and Communication Coordinator, Environment Business Line
[REDACTED]

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From: Ratajczak, Gabbie
Sent: April 29, 2025 9:34 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - April 2025 Update

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement (EA / IS) Updates**
 - **Public Review Period Now Starting**
 - The Draft EA / IS is now available for public review. Comments and feedback can be provided via the Project website, email or by letter mail.
 - **Book a Meeting**
 - We are here to assist you in the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please reach out if you would like to book an in-person or virtual meeting to discuss the Draft EA / IS. We understand the size of the document (~20,000 pages) can be overwhelming and are here to support you with review.
 - **Community Well-Being Report**
 - On April 16, 2025, the Community Well-Being Report was released for review by Indigenous communities and groups.
 - We are halfway through the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please keep in mind that the review process **concludes on June 23, 2025**.
- **Public Information Centre #6**
 - We will be hosting our Public Information Centre (PIC) #6 on Monday, May 26, 2025, and Thursday, May 29, 2025, in Thunder Bay and Geraldton, respectively. The first hour of each PIC is dedicated to Indigenous community members. For more information, visit [REDACTED] and keep an eye out for an email from info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca.
- **Upcoming Webinars**
 - Our Draft EA / IS webinar series will start in May. The first in this series is Community Well-Being, held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. EST. Register now by following this link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vpqexWmeRpalobu3qIkAsA
 - Keep an eye out for more information on the remaining webinars in the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Series:
 - **Land: Ungulates** - Thursday, May 8
 - **Water: Fish and Fish Habitat** - Thursday, May 22
 - **People: Land and Resource Use** - Thursday, June 5

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her

Communications and Community Engagement Specialist, Environment Business Line
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - May 2025 Update
From: Ratajczak, Gabbie
Sent: May 26, 2025 2:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - May 2025 Update

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement (EA / IS) - Reminder for Final Review

- We are nearing the end of the review process of the Draft EA / IS. Please submit your comments and feedback via the Project website, [REDACTED] email or by letter mail **by June 23, 2025.**

Public Information Centre

#6

- We will be hosting our Public Information Centre (PIC) #6 on Monday, May 26, 2025, and Thursday, May 29, 2025, in Thunder Bay and Geraldton, respectively. The first hour of each PIC is dedicated to Indigenous community members. For more information, visit [REDACTED]

Upcoming Webinars

- Our next webinar in the Draft EA / IS webinar series is Water: Fish and Fish Habitat, to be held on Thursday May 22, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. EST. Register now by following this link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NSkGYLThRLO_BdSeAqjXuw#/registration
- Keep an eye out for more information on the remaining webinars in the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Series:
 - **People: Land and Resource Use** - Thursday, June 5

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her

Communications and Community Engagement Specialist, Environment Business Line
[REDACTED]

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MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION ALL-SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #6: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT / IMPACT STATEMENT

Join the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Team to discuss updates on the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Review.

Thunder Bay Monday, May 26, 2025

Location:

Superior Inn and Conference Centre
555 Arthur St. W, Thunder Bay, Ontario

Time:

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Public Session.

*Light refreshments will be served.

Geraldton Thursday, May 29, 2025

Location:

Geraldton Community Centre
200 Wardrope Avenue, Geraldton, Ontario

Time:

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Public Session

*Light refreshments will be served.

Learn about:

- What is the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement?;
- Understanding identified project effects and proposed impact management measures;
- Update on socio-economic studies and the Community Well-Being Report;
- Cumulative effects; and
- Next steps and future opportunities to get involved.

* The first hour is dedicated to Indigenous Community members only.

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

Contact Information

Website: [Redacted]

Email: info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca

Phone: [Redacted]



Scan the QR to learn more, and for other ways to Get Involved.

Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - June 2025 Update

Sent: 6/26/2025, 3:08:36 PM

From: Ratajczak, Gabbie [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige,

I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Review Period Complete!**
 - The review period for the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact statement officially closed on June 23, 2025. We sincerely value all the feedback provided. Input on the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement is important to us and will help inform the preparation of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement that will be submitted to the federal and provincial governments for review in mid to late 2026.
 - If you have questions or if you would like to schedule a meeting to discuss, please contact us.
- **Public Information Centre #6**
 - Public Information Centre #6 was held on May 26 and 29, 2025, in Thunder Bay and Geraldton, respectively. Thank you to all those who were able to attend the meetings in person. You may review the materials on our website: [REDACTED]
- **Coming Up...**
 - The Draft Record of Consultation and Engagement for Indigenous Communities will be released in Fall 2025. Keep an eye out for the report to be sent to your community! Ways to provide feedback will be included.

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak

she/her

Communications and Community Engagement Specialist, Environment Business Line
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - July 2025 Update
Sent: 7/29/2025, 1:43:12 PM
From: Ratajczak, Gabbie<[REDACTED]>
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Dear Matthew Hoppe,

I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **Draft Record of Consultation and Engagement for Indigenous Communities**
 - The Draft Record of Consultation and Engagement for Indigenous Communities will be released in Fall 2025. Keep an eye out for the report to be sent to your community! Ways to provide feedback will be included.
- **Ongoing Field Studies**
 - Field programs will be continuing into the 2025 summer and fall seasons to support the Preliminary Design and future permitting for the MFFN CAR. The following three field programs are included in the Summer 2025 Field Notice: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, Groundwater Well Decommissioning and Geotechnical Investigation.
 - For more information, read the full field notice here: [REDACTED]

Warm regards,

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her

Communications and Community Engagement Specialist, Environment Business Line

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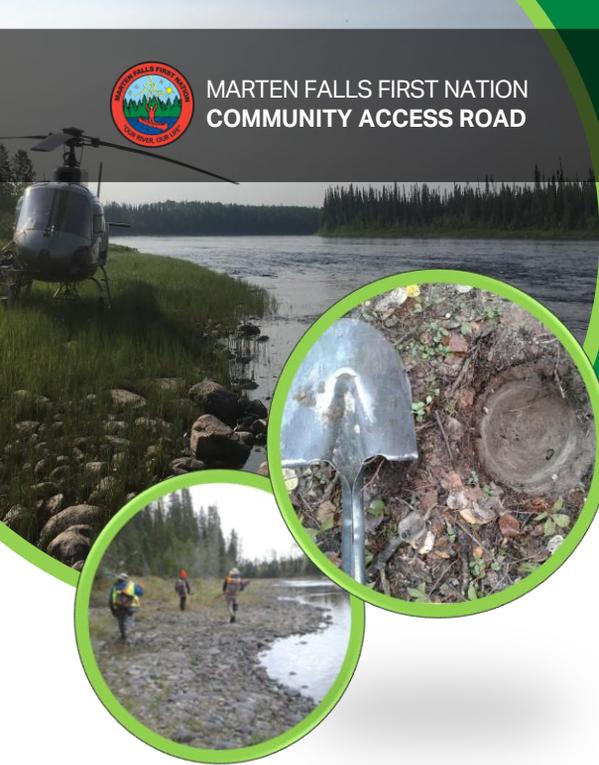


MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

Field Notice

Summer / Fall 2025 Field Notice

Issued: July 2025



What's Happening?

Field programs will be continuing into the 2025 summer and fall seasons to support the Preliminary Design and future permitting for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road.

The following three field programs are outlined in this notice:

- Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment
- Groundwater Well Decommissioning
- Geotechnical Investigation

Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment

Archaeological assessments are crucial for determining the potential presence of archaeological sites and artifacts and are mandated through the Ontario Heritage Act. For the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road, background archaeological research (Stage 1) began in 2019 to look into archaeological potential for possible unknown sites, and some initial field surveys were conducted in 2019.





Now that the preferred route has now been chosen for the Community Access Road, archaeologists will conduct Stage 2 field surveys in the following locations in advance of geotechnical investigations:

- where the road is planned to cross waterbodies;
- at sites where bridges may be built; and
- at one potential aggregate location.

The investigations will focus on the area where geotechnical drilling will be required, and where helicopter landing sites may be created.

The archaeology team will complete the work **during the summer or fall season**. Dates have yet to be determined, though the work is expected to take approximately two weeks to complete. An update will be provided once dates are confirmed.

The stages of an Archaeological Assessment in Ontario

- 1** **Stage 1 – Background Study:** A background study is first conducted to determine archaeological potential, which means areas where people liked to live.
- 2** **Stage 2 – Field Survey:** Archaeologists go out and look for sites that may be impacted by construction. In Northern Ontario, this is typically completed using a test pit survey. This means a team of archaeologists dig small holes in areas of high archaeological potential and sift the soil to search for artifacts.

If the team finds artifacts, we have a site!

- 3** **Stage 3 – Find Site Limits:** The next step is finding the site limits. When looking for site limits the team of archaeologists digs larger 1 m by 1 m excavation units and collect the artifacts. These units are dug every 5 m until we find the site edge.
- 4** **Stage 4 – Excavation or Avoidance:** In the final step, the site is either excavated or the development is moved to avoid and protect the site. Depending on the size and nature of the site, it might be easy to move the purposed impacts than remove the site. Some projects are easier to move around archaeological sites than others.



Geotechnical Investigation

Field crews are proposing to conduct geotechnical investigations to support preliminary exploration of potential aggregate sites and water crossing locations along the route for the Community Access Road. Geotechnical investigations will focus on aggregate sites and water crossings to assess material quantity, quality, soil suitability and groundwater monitoring.

Advance notice was initially provided for the Geotechnical Investigation in the [Fall 2024 Field Notice](#), however, work was unable to commence at that time. Instead, it is expected that this work will be conducted **during the fall 2025 season**. An update will be provided once dates are confirmed.

Groundwater Well Decommissioning

Field crews will be decommissioning selected monitoring wells this fall as part of the Groundwater and Geochemistry program. This program has been essential for checking the health of groundwater along the proposed route for the Community Access Road. The program has tested for things like minerals, dissolved metals (such as mercury), and volatile organic compounds. By understanding current groundwater conditions, we can better predict how the road might affect the natural environment.

The wells are being decommissioned are in a location that will not support future long term monitoring of the proposed roadway. Future wells within the final right of way may be installed in accordance with the mitigations outlined in Section 9.3.4 of the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. The report is available here:

Since 2022, field crews have collected samples from the same monitoring wells each spring, summer, and fall to track seasonal changes. With the sampling now complete, field crews will proceed with decommissioning selected wells **during the fall season**. An update will be provided once dates are confirmed.



What to expect

Field crews will be accessing sites across the study area by helicopter—you may see helicopters in the area. An update will be provided if the above schedule changes due to weather or other conditions.

To learn more about our studies, view our past [webinar recordings](#), [valued component videos](#), [Groundwater and Geochemistry Discussion Guide](#), and the [Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement](#) on our website.

Where?

See the next page for a map of the study area.

Contact Information

You are welcome to contact the MFFN Community Access Road Project Team at any time with questions or comments.

Lawrence Baxter

Senior Community Member Advisor

Marten Falls First Nation

 | info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca

www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca



Subject: Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road - August 2025 Update
Sent: 8/27/2025, 9:58:20 AM
From: Ratajczak, Gabbie [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Matthew Hoppe,
I hope this finds you well.

Please find an update of the upcoming activities occurring regarding the Community Access Road below:

- **New Video: Understanding Cumulative Effects**
 - As part of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment for the Community Access Road, we are looking closely at how different activities—past, present and future—may combine to affect the land, water, animals and people. This includes considering how the Community Access Road might interact with other projects happening in the same area or at the same time. By looking at the bigger picture, we aim to better understand the full impact of the Project on the environment and the Community.
 - To watch our latest video, click here: [redacted]

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, and I would be happy to schedule a time to connect with you to discuss the Community Access Road.

Warm regards,
Gabbie

Gabbie Ratajczak
she/her
Communications and Community Engagement Specialist, Environment Business Line
D 5483980314
[redacted]

Upcoming Vacation Alert: September 8th – 12th inclusive

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