



FINAL

Progress Report 3: Identification of the Preferred Alternatives Milestone

November 2024



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Appendix C. Summary Notes

C.1 PIC #5 Summary Report

Acronyms

ATRI.....	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests
AZA.....	Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation
CAR.....	Community Access Road
CBLUP.....	Community Based Land Use Planning
CCC.....	Community Consultation Co-ordinator
CCLO.....	Community Communications Liaison Officer
CEAA.....	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
DFO.....	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
EA.....	Environmental Assessment
EAA.....	Environmental Assessment Act
ECCC.....	Environment and Climate Change Canada
ENDM.....	Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
GANRAC.....	Geraldton Area Natural Resource Advisory Committee
GRT.....	Government Review Team
IA.....	Impact Assessment
IAA.....	Impact Assessment Act
IK.....	Indigenous Knowledge
IKSA.....	Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreement
IS.....	Impact Statement
LSA.....	Local Study Area
MECP.....	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
MFFN.....	Marten Falls First Nation
MHSTCI.....	Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries
MNO.....	Métis Nation of Ontario
MNRF.....	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
MOU.....	Memorandum of Understanding
MTCS.....	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
MTO.....	Ministry of Transportation
NDMNRF.....	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
NoC.....	Notice of Commencement
NRL.....	Northern Road Link
OPP.....	Ontario Provincial Police
PIC.....	Public Information Centre
RoCE.....	Record of Consultation and Engagement
RSA.....	Regional Study Area
RSMIN.....	Red Sky Métis Independent Nation
SAR.....	Species at Risk
The Agency.....	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
TISG.....	Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines
ToR.....	Terms of Reference
WSR.....	Webequie Supply Road

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) Community Access Road (CAR or the Project) was approved with amendments on October 8, 2021 and the Notice of Commencement (NoC) of the provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project was posted on October 29, 2021. As part of the ToR Notice of Approval, Ontario's Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) included an amendment requiring additional consultation reporting at key EA milestones. Visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/marten-falls-community-access-road-project> to read the details on the Notice of Approval.

As required by the Minister of MECP, the development of progress reports on consultation activities associated with each of the following EA milestones are required to support Indigenous communities to provide meaningful input during the development of the EA:

- Notice of Commencement (NoC) of Provincial EA (referred to as NoC of EA);
 - Introduction of the Project.
- Effects Assessment Methods; and
 - Development of Effects Assessment methodology, as well as review by regulators.
 - Presentation of Effects Assessment methodology at Public Information Centres (PICs) .
- Identification of Preferred Alternatives.
 - Development of valued component metrics tables and evaluation of information
 - Development of preliminary preferred alternative
 - Validation of information with Marten Falls First Nation Chief and Council and community members.
 - Confirmation of the preferred alternative through submission of the final route recommendation memo to Chief and Council, along with request for Band Council Resolution for the final route.

Each progress report is required to:

- Be organized by each Indigenous community;
- Contain a consultation log and summary that tracks consultation activities, information shared by the MFFN CAR Project Team with Indigenous communities, any community input and MFFN CAR Project Team's responses to such input for the EA milestone; and
- Contain a discussion of how any input and information provided by the Indigenous communities have informed the development of the EA milestone.

The progress reports are to be shared with MECP, with community-specific sections shared with each individual Indigenous community before MFFN can move to the next milestone of the Environmental Assessment (EA) / Impact Assessment (IA). If questions or concerns are raised by MECP or an Indigenous

community, the MFFN CAR Project Team will make revisions to the progress reports, if necessary, and encourage opportunities to meet in-person or virtually to discuss with the interested community.

This report is the third and final progress report, and pertains to activities related to both the EA and IA processes, in support of the Environmental Assessment and Impact Statement (EA/IS) submission. The time period begins the day after the second progress report concluded on June 1, 2023 and ends July 31, 2024. The Identification of the Preferred Alternatives milestone concluded with the submission of the Final Route Recommendation memorandum and a request for a Band Council Resolution from MFFN Chief and Council, on July 29, 2024.

The final progress reports will be appended, along with any relevant updates, to the Record of Consultation and Engagement submitted with the final EA / IS.

This progress report provides a detailed account of all engagement and communication between the MFFN CAR Project Team and Indigenous communities from June 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024 as part of the Identification of the Preferred Alternatives milestone. Note that government agencies and interested persons¹ are not included in progress reports, however, engagement between the MFFN CAR Project and interested persons will be included in the Record of Consultation and Engagement for the draft and final EA / IS. Engagement between the MFFN CAR Project and government and agencies will also be included in the final EA/IS. **Section 1.5** includes details about the neighbouring Indigenous communities.

The first section of this progress report provides an overview of the approach to consultation and engagement, the second section describes the consultation and engagement activities undertaken during this time period, and the third section summarizes community input and MFFN CAR Project Team's responses to this input for the EA milestone; and contains a discussion of how any input and information provided by the Indigenous communities have informed the development of the EA milestone.

1.2 Approach

As outlined in the Consultation and Engagement Plan to Support the EA / IS (Appendix B of the ToR), the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone was focused on the following activities and request for targeted input:

- **Planned Activities for Indigenous communities²:**
 - Circulate Notice of Public Information Centres (PIC) and Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interest (ATRI) Forum
 - Encourage engagement of Community Consultation Co-ordinators, as appropriate and by expressed community interest
 - Hold Indigenous leadership and community discussions / meetings, considering applicable and relevant subgroups (e.g., women, youth, elders), in-person and virtual

1. *Interested persons is used to describe individuals and groups (e.g., associations, non-government organizations, industry and academia) who could have an interest in the Project, including but not limited to communities in the region, those with commercial interests (e.g., forestry, trappers, outfitters, other mineral tenure holders in the area) and recreational users or those with recreational interest (e.g., campers, hunters and environmental groups).*

2. *For additional information on dates please see table 2-1 below.*

- Host additional PICs and ATRI Forums (in-person / or virtual)
 - Support organization of the Three Roads Project Gathering and Expo
 - Host virtual webinar(s)
 - Develop plain language Project updates (translated, as required)
 - Host Key informant interviews
 - Produce Website update(s)
 - Circulate Newsletter and email update(s)
 - Post Social media update(s)
 - Follow-up communication to confirm information was received and the material(s) provided were understood
 - Inform on Field Studies and associated program
- **Targeted Input (request information to determine and identify):**
- Seek feedback on the technically preferred route recommendation
 - Engage regarding Indigenous community values and topics of interest
 - Engage regarding potential effects and impact management measures to be considered
 - Engage regarding impacts of Project on Aboriginal or Treaty Rights, socio-community and economic impacts and potential impact management measures to avoid, mitigate and off-set the impact(s)
 - Seek feedback on Reports including Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interests Existing Conditions Report and Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report
 - Seek feedback on cumulative effects
 - Seek feedback on GBA+ from relevant subgroups including elders and youths meetings
 - Seek confirmation whether input and feedback provided during the previous milestone was captured appropriately

The following additional activities and request for targeted input took place during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone, including:

■ **PIC #5: Existing Conditions Report and Route Selection Milestone**

A formal notice and invitation to PIC #5 was emailed to the Project contact list and published on the Project website on October 10, 2023, and was also distributed in print, online and on the radio via multiple media outlets. Notices in English, French, Cree, Ojibway and Oji-Cree were available for download on the website. Multiple notices were distributed for the MFFN community members meetings, including a formal invitation and poster, a reminder email, and information posted on the MFFN and Geraldton private Facebook groups. The format of the community member meetings included (in sequence) opening remarks, a presentation with an informal Q&A session, followed by an open house period where MFFN community members could review maps, discuss and provide feedback to MFFN Community Member Advisors and Project Team members.

PIC #5 and the MFFN community member meetings were held from October 23rd to October 26th, 2023, and provided information on the following topics:

- what has happened since PIC #4, including what we have heard and how feedback is being considered;
- what we heard at the Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) forum in February 2023 and plans for the forum in November 2023;
- existing conditions results for completed studies;
- how Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is used and how it informs the process;
- achieving the next major milestone, to identify the preferred route;
- how route alternatives have been assessed and recommended, and how a preferred route will be chosen;
- cumulative effects and why it is important; and,
- next steps and future opportunities to get involved.

PIC #5 was held in an open house format and featured a series of display boards and large printed maps. MFFN Community Member Advisors, Project Team members and Consultants were available to guide attendees through the display boards and maps. Attendees were also invited to provide comments and feedback using the feedback forms, or by having one-on-one discussions with the Project Team members and associated Project representatives. These materials are provided in Appendix A. A summary of key feedback is included below.

Approximately 35 individuals attended PIC #5, with 21 attendees in Thunder Bay on October 25, 2023, and 14 attendees in Geraldton on October 26, 2023. Attendees who chose to self-identify from a community or organization on the sign-in sheets included members of: Marten Falls First Nation and Eabametoong First Nation.

Throughout the PIC, attendees were encouraged to share feedback, concerns and pose questions throughout the meeting or provide them in writing using the available feedback form.

PIC #5 was heavily concentrated on obtaining feedback for the final route selection. There were two alternative routes presented at PIC #5 which were divided into three separate segments, allowing MFFN community members and attendees of the public PIC to assess the different options that aligned with both route alternatives. Many comments and questions from the MFFN community member meetings and PIC #5 were related to the route alternatives. This feedback was used to modify the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation and inform the decision making process of the Band Council Resolution to select a final route. In addition, a definition and overview of the Cumulative Effects Assessment process was provided along with the inclusions list for their review and comment in person or through the feedback form.

■ **Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) and Indigenous Knowledge (IK) Program**

An important part of the assessment process is collecting IK and information on Indigenous land and resource use to help understand baseline (existing) conditions, predict the potential effects of the Project, and determine appropriate mitigation and monitoring measures. The IK Program

was developed with the aim to collect IK relevant to the Project and information on Indigenous land and resource use in the vicinity of the Project area. The IK Program strives to collaborate with interested Indigenous communities and to discuss how relevant information will become part of the assessment processes and Project planning and design. During this reporting time period, an update on the Project IK Program with an updated schedule and timeline was distributed to Indigenous communities. Ongoing follow-up regarding the IK Program also took place.

A second ATRI Forum was held in Thunder Bay from November 21 to 23, 2023 with the province offering to fund up to 3 representatives from each Indigenous community to attend the event in person. The forum provided a private and inclusive space for representatives of Indigenous communities to meet with representatives from the province and the Project Teams for the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road, Northern Road Link and Webequie Supply Road. ATRI Forum #2 discussions focused on Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interest, existing conditions, and cumulative effects. The format of day one of the forum included an opening ceremony, an overview of the agenda and projects, participant question and answer period, breakout discussion sessions and a movie screening. Day two consisted of both individual breakout discussions sessions and plenary / group discussion sessions. Day three included a cumulative effects overview presentation, a presentation on assessing potential cumulative effects for federal assessments, a question and answer period and a roundtable discussion on cumulative effects. 37 representatives from 10 indigenous communities and 1 indigenous organization attended the ATRI Forum, including Attawapiskat First Nation, Constance Lake First Nation, Eabametoong First Nation, Ginoogaming First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation, Marten Falls First Nation, Nibinamik First Nation, Webequie First Nation, Weenusk First Nation, Matawa First Nations Management and Red Sky Métis Independent Nation. Attendance is also noted in their community specific sections below.

Throughout the second ATRI Forum, dedicated discussion sessions were held to facilitate conversation and gather feedback on the three road projects. Individual breakout sessions were also held where representatives from each road project, and the Province, with the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada hosted separate meeting spaces for individual community representatives to discuss ATRI, related to each project, in a smaller-group setting. For those participants not in an individual breakout session, plenary / group sessions were hosted with a series of presentations and activities.

Some topics discussed included:

- Indigenous Knowledge work;
- Sites of importance and their inclusion in the ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report;
- Impacts to wildlife, fish and the environment;
- Land utilization; Information sharing for the ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report; and,
- General questions about the ATRI Preliminary Existing Conditions Report and the review process.

To help achieve an appropriate level of consultation and engagement related to the Community Access Road (i.e., frequency and depth), the list of communities being engaged was considered against the following:

- Expressed interest (to-date) in the Community Access Road, including applying to Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and the Agency for capacity funding;
- Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights, including any rights that neighbouring Indigenous communities themselves have identified, may be adversely affected by the Community Access Road;
- Geographical distance or proximity to the study area;
- Situated downstream of the Community Access Road and with a potential to experience effects to water courses as a result of the Community Access Road;
- Traditional and / or current land use within the study area or of lands potentially affected by the Community Access Road;
- Potential for effects on the environmental, health and social and economic conditions of neighbouring Indigenous communities; and,
- Provided comments on the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment processes.

Marten Falls has adjusted the approach to engaging each Indigenous community based on these criteria but understands the list evolves as new information becomes available and more neighbouring Indigenous communities engage in the consultation and engagement opportunities provided.

The criteria noted above were also used to identify which communities would be offered funding to participate in the Indigenous Knowledge Program and in the Community Co-ordinator Program. This list has evolved as new information became available and more communities engage in the consultation and engagement program. **Table 1-1** identifies the status of funding offers for the Indigenous Knowledge Program and for participation in the Community Co-ordinator Program (as of July 31, 2024).

■ **Three Roads Project Gathering & Expo**

A Three Roads Project Gathering and Expo was held in Thunder Bay from June 11 to 13, 2024 with the province offering to fund up to 3 representatives from each Indigenous community to attend the event in person. The forum was hosted by Indigenous Community and Engagement (ICE), with the support of MFFN CAR, Webequie Supply Road and Northern Road Link. The purpose of this forum was to build on the last two forums, which were focused on Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests. The Gathering and Expo provided a space where participants could engage, consult and learn more about the three unique road projects, ask questions and share feedback.

The first day of the Three Roads Project Gathering and Expo invited community Elders to gather and engage with Project Teams for all three road projects and share their perspectives. The

second and third day of the gathering was open to other community members and government representatives to join discussions. Day two began with technical presentations on water, peatlands and building roads on peatlands. The afternoon of day two was reserved for an expo style forum where participants could visit various booths hosted by Project Team members for all three road projects and engage in discussion the various studies conducted by the different projects. The final day of the forum consisted of a half-day workshop to review the anticipated schedules for circulating the draft EA / IS for the MFFN CAR and the Webequie Supply Road. The goal was to inform participants about the proposed approach for the review process and seek clarification of the details in advance of the release of the draft EA / IS.

Approximately 44 individuals attended. Communities who attended the Tri-Road Forum are noted in their community specific sections below.

■ **Targeted In-community Meetings**

Several community meetings occurred during the identification of preferred alternatives milestone. These meetings are captured in Section 2 Consultation Snapshot, and the individual community chapters. The below meetings summarize the Project-related meetings occurred between the MFFN CAR Project Team, Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation prior to the completion of the Identification of the Preferred Alternatives Milestone.

● **Aroland First Nation**

In Fall of 2023, the MFFN CAR Project was targeting to submit a request for Band Council Resolution (BCR) from MFFN on December 4, 2023. The MFFN CAR postponed the BCR to ensure adequate time to engage Aroland First Nation in key conversations; these were delayed due to the election cycle and change in leadership; discussions with Aroland First Nation occurred throughout June and July 2024 in advance of the MFFN CAR Project Team submitting the BCR. In April of 2024, a Task-Force was created between the two communities to discuss several items, including to advance discussions relating to the CAR and other road projects that help connect the CAR to the highway system and to support collaboration between the Nations. The MFFN CAR Project is aware that several Task-Force meetings have occurred between the two communities, at which the Project has been discussed, but these meetings are not exclusive to the Project, and fall outside of the scope of this Report.

Several Project-related meetings occurred between the MFFN CAR Project Team, Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation prior to the completion of the Identification of the Preferred Alternatives Milestone. These meetings occurred in the months of June and July 2024, with Aroland First Nation Chief and Council representatives and community members, in Aroland and Thunder Bay. The purpose of these meetings was to provide updates on the Project and to obtain feedback on the technically preferred route recommendation, cumulative effects and feedback on Segments 1, 2 and 3, and on the area around Dusey Lake.

The first set of meetings occurred with Aroland First Nation on June 19 in Thunder Bay and on June 20, 2024, in Aroland. During these meetings, the MFFN CAR Project Team presented an overview of the Project and latest updates, the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation, cumulative effects approach and inclusions list, the Draft EA / IS schedule, collaboration and engagement and next steps. Approximately 72 individuals attended these meetings. Participants were encouraged to share feedback, concerns and pose questions throughout the meeting or provide them in writing using the available feedback form. Questions were answered by MFFN Community Member Advisors and Project Team members. Questions and comments from Aroland First Nation community members included:

- Inquiries regarding who will be maintaining the road.
- Statements that the road seems to be a good thing for the MFFN community.
- The need to continue to build relationships
- Requests for an Open-House style meeting in-community for Aroland First Nation, in July.

The second round of meetings with Aroland First Nation occurred on July 15 in Thunder Bay and July 16, 2024, in Aroland. During these meetings, the MFFN CAR Project Team and Consultants presented information through an expo style forum. Display boards provided information on the purpose of the road, Segment 1, 2 and 3, the area around Dusey Lake, cumulative effects evaluation approach and inclusions list, engineering considerations, existing conditions and the Draft EA / IS schedule. Approximately 63 individuals attended these meetings. Participants were encouraged to share feedback, concerns and pose questions throughout the meeting or provide them in writing using the available feedback form. Questions were answered by MFFN Community Member Advisors and Project Team members. Questions and comments from Aroland First Nation community members included:

- The road will be beneficial to Marten Falls First Nation community members.
- Inquiries regarding engineering and road building.
- Discussions on safety.

- **Marten Falls First Nation**

Two MFFN community meetings occurred on October 23, 2023 in Thunder Bay and October 24, 2023 in Marten Falls First Nation in advance of PIC #5. Following the in-community meetings, an in-person PIC took place on October 25, 2023 in Thunder Bay and October 26, 2023 in Geraldton, Ontario. The first hour of the event was reserved for Indigenous community members, who were also welcomed to stay for the remainder of the event; the public was invited to join during the last two hours of the event.

A total of approximately³ 30 Marten Falls First Nation community members attended the community member meetings. At these meetings, attendees were encouraged to share their

3. Sign-in at the events was voluntary, therefore numbers have been approximated.

feedback, concerns and pose questions or provide them in writing using the available feedback form. Questions were answered by MFFN Community Member Advisors and Project Team members / Consultants. The MFFN community meetings and PIC focused on the route selection milestone, existing conditions results of completed studies, and cumulative effects. The MFFN community members feedback centred around the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation presented. Community members did not support a portion (Segment 2) of the route that aligned with the Albany River. Community members shared that the area is special to them and would like to keep the road away from the river as much as possible. They also cited concerns related to long-term enjoyment of the river following construction of the route and the potential impact to wildlife.

Meetings with Marten Falls First Nation community members occurred on July 17 in Marten Falls and July 18, 2024, in Thunder Bay. During these meetings, the MFFN CAR Project Team presented information on the final route recommendation, cumulative effects evaluation approach and inclusions list, engineering considerations, existing conditions and the Draft EA / IS schedule. Approximately 55 individuals attended the meetings on July 17 and 18, 2024. Participants were encouraged to share feedback, concerns and pose questions throughout the meeting or provide them in writing using the available feedback form. Questions were answered by MFFN Community Member Advisors and Project Team members. Questions and comments from MFFN community members included:

- Road design, construction details and timelines;
- Post-construction concerns related to traffic, road safety, and access;
- Safety concerns related to the potential of more drugs and alcohol entering the community
- Optimism that the road would benefit the community, offering better access to mental health support, building materials, groceries and fuel, and more job opportunities.

The purpose of the meetings with Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation, in June and July 2024, was to present the final technically preferred route recommendation that had been refined based on feedback received to date and solicit any additional comments, feedback or concerns on the route. The feedback received by attendees of both Aroland First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation demonstrated support for the recommendation that would contribute to the Band Council Resolution on selecting a final route.

■ **Field Studies and Education, Consultation and Engagement on Valued Components**

Several field programs took place during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone. To help Indigenous communities better understand the field studies related to valued components, Field Notices were distributed with plain language information about what the Project is studying, why it is important, when the field studies are taking place, and what to expect when crews are in the field (e.g., an increase in air traffic as crews travel by helicopter). Field crews were accompanied by a MFFN community member Field Assistant or Community Member Advisor, and in several cases, opportunities were extended to Aroland First Nation to participate in

Groundwater and Geochemistry programs due to their interests and proximity to the Study Area. The following notices were published in advance of their respective field studies:

- **Summer 2023 Field Notice** was distributed in July 2023 and provided information about the seasonal Groundwater and Geochemistry program, and Vegetation program.
- **Fall 2023 Field Notice** was distributed in September 2023 and provided information about the seasonal Groundwater and Geochemistry Program, and Atigwag / Caribou Collaring and Mortality Investigation.
- **Winter 2024 Field Notice** was distributed in January 2024 and provided information about the Atigwag / Caribou Collaring and Mortality Investigation.
- **Spring 2024 Field Notice** was distributed in April 2024 and provided information about the seasonal Groundwater and Geochemistry Program.
- **Summer 2024 Field Notice** was distributed in July 2024 and provided information about the seasonal Groundwater and Geochemistry Program, as well as the Geotechnical Investigation Program for aggregate sites and water crossings.

Each notice included links to educational videos and webinars on valued components related to the upcoming field programs. Field notices were distributed by email and posted on the MFFN CAR website. Social media posts with information about upcoming field programs were timed to coincide with the publication of field notices, and information was also shared through the MFFN CAR monthly electronic newsletter.

In addition to published field notices, plain language summaries of existing conditions reports for each of the MFFN CAR disciplines were distributed at PIC #5, the Three Roads Project Gathering and Expo, and in-person meetings with Aroland First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation. The existing conditions plain language summaries were between 2-3 pages in length and included information about project findings relevant to each discipline, and maps of study areas.

■ **Raising Awareness**

Several activities were completed related to raising awareness on the Project and encouraging opportunities to meet with the MFFN CAR Project Team. Monthly electronic newsletters were distributed (referred to as E-Blasts) and always included a section seeking those interested to reach out and schedule a meeting with the MFFN CAR Project Team. The public Marten Falls Community Access Road Facebook account and the private MFFN members only Facebook account was used to share information and promote upcoming events. An MFFN CAR Instagram and LinkedIn accounts were created to reach a wider audience in sharing information and promoting events. The MFFN CAR website was continuously updated to reflect information that had been shared via the electronic newsletters and social media accounts.

1.3 Project Notifications and Information Releases

A formal notice and invitation to PIC #5 was published on the Project website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/documents/#notices) on October 10, 2023 in English, Cree, French, Ojibway and Oji-Cree and distributed in print, online and on the radio via multiple outlets, as outlined below.

Copies of the formal notice, in each language, are provided in **Appendix A**.

■ Print Advertisements:

- The Chronicle Journal: October 23, 2023
- Geraldton Times Star: October 18, 2023
- Thunder Bay Source: October 19, 2023

■ Online Advertisements

- MFFN All Season Community Access Road Project Website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/documents/#notices): October 10, 2023
- MFFN CAR Facebook page: October 11 and 23, 2023
- MFFN Greenstone Facebook Private page: October 26, 2023
- MFFN members only Facebook page: October 20, 2023
- Northern Ontario Business: October 11 – 26, 2023
- NWO NewsWatch: October 13, 2023
- SN NewsWatch: October 13, 2023
- Thunder Bay News Watch: October 11, 2023
- Wawatay News: October 16 – 26, 2023

■ Radio Advertisements

- Wawatay Radio: three times per day on October 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 2023 (in English)
- CFNO Radio: 30 second ad from October 16 – 25, 2023

The electronic Project mailing list (anyone who opts-in to receive Project emails) also received the notice on October 10, 2023, which includes the following groups:

- MFFN Chief, Council members and community members
- MFFN CAR Project Team
- Indigenous community key contacts (as requested by Indigenous communities), e.g., Chief and Council members, consultants and / or band office contacts
- Tribal Councils, Provincial Territorial Organizations and Métis Nation
- Indigenous Peoples (i.e., Indigenous community members who opted in and are not identified as key contacts)
- Businesses
- Tourism operators

- Community and interest groups and non-governmental organizations
- Forest management companies
- Mining claim holders
- Unaffiliated members of the public
- Emergency medical services and law enforcement
- Political parties and their contacts
- Neighbouring projects and their key contacts
- Government Review Team (GRT)
- Non-GRT government representatives

MFFN Chief, Council members and community members also received a reminder email for PIC #5 and the community meetings in preparation for PIC #5 on October 19, 2023.

In addition to PIC #5 notifications, the Project website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca) was periodically updated with Project information including all relevant Project notices (e.g., NoC of EA, Discussion Guides, videos, monthly E-Blasts) and other Project-related materials such as mapping. More details are included in **Section 2** below.

1.4 Summary of Indigenous Community and Organization Consultation

As outlined in Milestone Progress Report #1, 23 Indigenous communities and 8 Tribal Councils were identified for engagement. This list is included in **Table 1-1**.

The following remaining communities continue to receive general information about the Indigenous Knowledge Program, including opportunities to participate in the program, and should their interest change, future discussions will take place regarding funding for the Indigenous Knowledge Program (up to milestone 5). If participation in the Indigenous Knowledge Program changes, their involvement in the Community Co-ordinator Program will also be re-assessed.

- Kingfisher Lake First Nation;
- Wapekeka First Nation;
- Wawakapewin First Nation;
- Wunnumin Lake First Nation;
- Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation;
- Mishkeegogamang First Nation;
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO); and
- Red Sky Métis Independent Nation.

Table 1-1: Status of Neighbouring Indigenous Communities' Participation in the Community Co-ordinator Program and Funding Offer for the Indigenous Knowledge Program

No.	Community	Offered Participation in Community Co-ordinator Program	Status of Uptake in Community Co-ordinator Program	Offered Funding for Indigenous Knowledge Program	Status of Funding Offer for Indigenous Knowledge Program
1.	■ Aroland First Nation	■ Yes	■ Aroland First Nation is reviewing applicants for the position	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Final versions of sharing and funding agreements have been signed by Community Access Road team and are with Aroland First Nation for review ■ Received Indigenous Knowledge Report from the Community
2.	■ Attawapiskat First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Indicated they do not want to participate in the Indigenous Knowledge Program
3.	■ Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated version of sharing agreement is with the community for review ■ The funding agreement is with the Community Access Road team to sign
4.	■ Constance Lake First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Community Co-ordinated funding agreement with the community for review 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The sharing agreement is with the community to sign ■ The updated funding agreement is with the community for review
5.	■ Eabametoong First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated versions of the sharing and funding agreements are with the community for review
6.	■ Fort Albany First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Acknowledged offer 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The final versions of the sharing and funding agreements have been signed by the Community Access Road team and the community ■ Received Indigenous Knowledge Report from the Community
7.	■ Ginoogaming First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Have expressed interest in program; actively recruiting. 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The sharing agreement is with the community for review and sign-off ■ The final version of the funding agreement has been signed by the Community Access Road team and the community
8.	■ Kasabonika Lake First Nation	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer 	■ Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated versions of the sharing and funding agreements are with the community for review

No.	Community	Offered Participation in Community Co-ordinator Program	Status of Uptake in Community Co-ordinator Program	Offered Funding for Indigenous Knowledge Program	Status of Funding Offer for Indigenous Knowledge Program
9.	■ Kashechewan First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Acknowledged offer	■ Yes	■ The final versions of the sharing and funding agreements have been signed by the Community Access Road team and the community
10.	■ Long Lake #58 First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Acknowledged offer	■ Yes	■ The sharing agreement is with the community for review and sign-off ■ The funding agreement is with the community for review
11.	■ Marten Falls First Nation	■ Yes	■ One previous Community Co-ordinator hired; one current Community Co-ordinator	■ Yes	■ The final versions of the sharing and funding agreements have been signed by the Community Access Road team and the community ■ Received Indigenous Knowledge Report from Community
12.	■ Neskantaga First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer	■ Yes	■ The first draft of the sharing and funding agreements are with the community for review
13.	■ Nibinamik First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer	■ Yes	■ Updated versions of the sharing and funding agreements are with the community for review
14.	■ Webequie First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer	■ Yes	■ Updated versions of the sharing and funding agreements are with the community for review
15.	■ Weenusk First Nation	■ Yes	■ Offered ■ Has not responded to offer	■ Yes	■ The final version of the sharing and funding agreements have been signed by the Community Access Road team and the community ■ Received Indigenous Knowledge Report from the Community

As of July 31, 2024, the Project has received communication from 19 of the communities or tribal councils listed in Table 1-1. Those communities or tribal councils MFFN CAR has met with during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone are indicated with an asterisk (*) below:

- Marten Falls First Nation*;
- Aroland First Nation*;
- Attawapiskat First Nation*;
- Constance Lake First Nation;
- Chiefs of Ontario;
- Fort Albany First Nation;
- Ginoogaming First Nation*;
- Kashechewan First Nation;
- Long Lake #58 First Nation*;
- Métis Nation of Ontario;
- Mushkegowuk Council;
- Nibinamik First Nation*;
- Nishnawbe Aski Nation;
- Nokiwin Tribal Council;
- Matawa First Nations Management;
- Wapekeka First Nation;
- Weenusk First Nation*;
- Red Sky Métis Independent Nation (RSMIN)*
- Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation (AZA); and
- Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation.

The remaining 12 communities or tribal councils have not communicated with MFFN between June 1, 2023 and July 31, 2024. MFFN remains available to meet with these communities in the future and continues outreach on an ongoing basis; providing the same milestone information (e.g., Discussion Guides, monthly E-Blasts, notifications, field notices) offered to all of the 23 Indigenous communities and 8 Tribal Councils being engaged. These communities include:

- Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope);
- Independent First Nations Alliance;
- Kasabonika Lake First Nation;
- Kingfisher Lake First Nation;
- Mishkeegogamang First Nation;
- Neskantaga First Nation;
- Shibogama First Nations Council;
- Union of Ontario Indians;
- Webequie First Nation;
- Wunnumin Lake First Nation;
- Wawakapewin First Nation.

Those Tribal Councils, Nations and Alliances listed in the table above, as well as Independent First Nations Alliance the Union of Ontario Indians, have been identified as potentially interested in the Project, and have been provided with information and MFFN remains available to meet, throughout the EA / IA process.

MFFN is currently consulting and engaging with Indigenous communities identified by the MECP and the Agency and will continue to do so throughout the EA / IA, as per the level of interest expressed by each community. MFFN, as the Proponent, will also continue to work with communities to collect IK to incorporate into the EA / IS regarding traditional land and resource use and cultural practices.

To help achieve an appropriate level of consultation and engagement related to the Project, (i.e., frequency and depth of consultation and engagement), the list of communities being engaged was considered against the following:

- Expressed interest (to-date) in the proposed MFFN Community Access Road, including applying to Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and the Agency for capacity funding, participation in the Indigenous Knowledge program or participation in the Community Co-ordinator program;
- Aboriginal or Treaty Rights, including any rights that neighbouring Indigenous communities themselves have identified, may be adversely affected by the Project;
- Geographical distance or proximity to the study area;
- Situated downstream of the Project and with a potential to experience effects to water courses as a result of the Project;
- Traditional and / or current land use within the study area or of lands potentially affected by the Project;
- Potential for effects on the environmental, health and social and economic conditions of neighbouring Indigenous communities; and,
- Provided comments on the EA / IA processes.

MFFN has adjusted the approach to engaging each indigenous community based on these criteria, but understands the list may evolve as new information becomes available and more neighbouring Indigenous communities engage in the consultation and engagement opportunities provided.

Indigenous communities have been contacted regularly by the MFFN CAR Project Team with conversations ranging from: field study / valued component (e.g., educational videos and webinars); information and surveys; regular Project email updates, including monthly E-Blasts; in-person outreach (via telephone and email); the IK Program; Community Co-ordinator Program; PIC #5; invitation to the second ATRI Forum, and offers to meet (e.g., Chief and Council meetings followed by meetings with the broader community). Comments, issues and questions received from Indigenous communities that can be shared publicly are included in **Section 3**.

In summary, the MFFN CAR Project Team has provided / offered many opportunities to consult and engage the identified Indigenous communities, including (with specific details in the Consultation Snapshot table in **Section 2**):

- Distributed Milestone #2 Progress Report via email;
- Completed follow-up phone calls and emails to confirm receipt of notifications and other distributed materials;
- Circulated Project updates, including 13 E-Blasts;
- Sent emails and phone calls to confirm interest in being consulted on the Project (for communities that had not yet expressed interest);

- Held conference calls / in-person meetings with community representatives and / or community meetings with Indigenous communities;
- Distributed field notices and updates regarding specific programs;
- Circulated IK Program key milestone reminders and information sheet;
- Completed follow-up via phone calls and emails regarding E-Blast contents, field programs and corresponding Discussion Guides, Community Co-ordinator Program, IK Program and ATRI forum;
- Several offers to meet;
- Distributed Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report;
- Circulated Community Co-ordinator Program letter offering to hire members of specific Indigenous communities as Project-specific Community Co-ordinators. A description of the role was provided and offer to setup a meeting to discuss further;
- Distributed Notice of PIC #5 Existing Conditions Report and Route Selection Milestone;
- Held PIC #5 in Thunder Bay and Geraldton, along with two in-community MFFN meetings, and online version of the PIC #5;
- Distributed 10 plain language videos showcasing different valued components and supporting content in Field Study Discussion Guide and Notices;
- Held meetings with MFFN Chief and Council and broader community;
- Distributed notices for the online Webinar Series, including Route Selection Milestone and Climate Change and Adaptation. Follow-ups included encouragement to provide feedback for the Climate Change Webinar via a survey;
- Hosted an online Webinar Series; and
- Held the second ATRI Forum in person.

Specific Indigenous communities were also offered funding through the Community Co-ordinator Program—these communities have been most engaged and active on the Project or have indicated interest in engaging on the Project and requiring financial support. In addition, MFFN and Aroland First Nation members were also offered employment opportunities as Field Study Support Staff to assist with field programs.

1.5 Summary of Input and Information Received and EA Milestone Development

The following **Table 1-2** describes a high-level summary of input and information received during this reporting time period and how this information has informed the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone development or will inform the EA. While there was some specific feedback received that has directly informed the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone development / EA, the majority of feedback was broad with limited specific details (therefore requiring ongoing follow-up and additional details from source commenters) or were more general interests or concerns. The MFFN CAR Project Team will continue to follow-up and seek additional details.

Table 1-2: Summary of Input and Information Received and EA / Milestone Development

Input and Information Provided by Indigenous Communities	How the Development of the EA Milestone or EA has been or may be Informed
<p>Specific Feedback Provided on Environmental Existing Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Specific feedback was provided on the bird field program, including birds observed and comments on their habitats. ■ Specific feedback was provided on the wolverine field program. ■ Confidential information regarding the Albany River was provided and is considered as IK. ■ Caribou were identified in the District of Kenora. ■ Request to participate in field studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Birds and comments on their habitats were noted for the bird field program. ■ One site of the wolverine hair snag was changed based on feedback provided. ■ The EA has been informed by confidential information regarding the Albany River and details are being kept confidential. ■ The general identification of caribou location(s) has been noted. ■ Members of Aroland First Nation were invited to participate in the Groundwater and Geochemistry field program, including a flyover and planning for subsequent drilling program (outside of this reporting time period); any feedback provided during the flyover will be considered as part of the EA.
<p>Concerns Related to Environmental Existing Conditions; Additional Details Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ It was noted that a spawning area could be relocated if it would be disrupted by the Project ■ Concern was expressed for watersheds ■ Concern was expressed regarding caribou migration and impacts to gathering rights ■ Concern was expressed related to salting on the road and impacts to nearby rivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Relocating spawning areas has not yet been determined due to insufficient details provided. Ongoing follow-up is taking place to receive additional information to help identify the spawning area. ■ More specific details are required related to concerns for watersheds. As part of the alternative selection, effects to Natural Environment will be taken into consideration. ■ More specific details are required related to concerns for caribou migration and impacts to gathering rights. ■ The concern regarding salting and nearby rivers has been noted and maintenance of the Community Access Road, including usage of salt, will be one of the indicators for the evaluation.
<p>Interests Related to Environmental Existing Conditions; Additional Details Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Several communities indicated interest in different topics related to existing conditions without providing specific feedback or comments. Some examples include receiving field study results when they become available for caribou 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interest in topics has been noted for each community. The MFFN CAR Project Team continues to distribute Discussion Guides related to field studies, educational videos and webinars on valued components. Information on field studies is shared in the monthly Project updates and in seasonal Field Notices (sent via email and posted on the project website). Early observations and methods for field studies completed to-date have been provided at PIC #3, PIC #4 and PIC #5 as information has become available. Meetings will continue to be offered based on specific topics of interest to solicit additional feedback and issues.

Input and Information Provided by Indigenous Communities	How the Development of the EA Milestone or EA has been or may be Informed
<p>Route Alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A variety of comments were provided on the route alignment near MFFN, including: river and ice levels can be high near MFFN and there are locations where the bank is eroding and could affect the road; intense rain could damage the road and impact streams due to erosion; safety concerns were raised regarding truck activities (including dust, noise, low visibility and speeding) north of the airport and children who play in the same area; and concerns regarding how the Community Access Road may interfere with MFFN community activities (e.g., gathering firewood, social events) ■ Feedback was obtained through community meetings and PIC #5 contributing to the final route selection. During October 2023, two in-community meetings and PIC #5 were held to receive feedback on the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation. Many comments were received regarding the proposed route for Segment 2 (Alternative 1: Albany Crossing). Community input did not align with the technically preferred segment proposed by the Project Team. Community members indicated that they did not want the route running along the Albany River and cited a range of concerns including short term and longer-term impacts on the river, wildlife and vegetation and enjoyment of the river. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Concerns related to the route alignment closer to MFFN have been noted and will continue to be considered as part of the EA. As part of the EA, the evaluation will identify the preferred route for the Community Access Road, temporary infrastructure and aggregate sources with the least potential for negative effects, greatest opportunity for mitigating negative effects and greatest benefits to the community. Safety is a crucial consideration when evaluating the route and is featured in every study within the EA and starts with the road design. Design of the CAR includes consideration for drainage, visibility, speeding, ice and riverbank stability. The Air and noise reports consider and include mitigations where impacts from noise and dust may be a concern. The water reports consider potential effects due to erosion, and the climate change report considers concerns related to extreme weather events such as intense rainfall. ■ Based on community members' feedback, the preliminary technically preferred route recommendation was refined to reflect the feedback heard during the October 2023 meetings. The final route recommendation was altered to reflect the community's preference to have Alternative 4 be the preferred alternative for Segment 2 (Albany Crossing). Receiving Indigenous Knowledge for the area between late 2023 and mid 2024 further confirmed that Alternative 4 for Segment 2 was the decision supported by Marten Falls First Nation Chief and Council and community members. The Band Council Resolution for the final route recommendation was sent to MFFN Chief and Council on July 31, 2024,
<p>Cumulative Effects, Road Projects and Regional Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Some communities expressed concerns regarding cumulative effects / impacts in the Project area, including the scope of the EA, impacts from all three road projects (the Community Access Road, Webequie Supply Road and Northern Road Link), the Regional Assessment and a moratorium on the Ring of Fire activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Some of the comments received were directed to government agencies (e.g., NDMNRF, MECP, the Agency) to respond to as they were outside of the scope of the Community Access Road Project. In terms of cumulative effects, if specific details from other projects are provided they will be considered as part of the EA; the EA will predict cumulative effects of the preferred alternative with the effects of past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects. Cumulative effects assessment methods were shared during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone at PIC #4 at the ATRI Forum #2 and again during community meetings in July 2024.
<p>Impacts from COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Some communities expressed inability to effectively engage with their community members due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The MFFN CAR Project Team worked with each Indigenous community's preference in how they would like to be consulted and engaged, whether virtually or in-person and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic or other crises. Custom consultation plans and protocols were also offered and will be followed up on with communities who expressed interest.

Input and Information Provided by Indigenous Communities	How the Development of the EA Milestone or EA has been or may be Informed
<p>Timeline Extensions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some communities requested extended Project timelines, for both the provincial and federal processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MFFN CAR Project Team will work with communities to understand their individual needs regarding timeline extensions. The request for an IS extension was granted. Communities will continue to be kept informed on timelines.
<p>Request for Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some communities expressed need for provincial participant funding to participate in consultation and engagement activities. There has also been ongoing co-ordination to onboard communities to the IK Program and Community Co-ordinator Program, with funding provided by the MFFN CAR Project Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While participant funding is issued by the Province and not the MFFN CAR Project Team, requests were shared with the province to respond to. Additional funding for Indigenous communities include participation in the IK Program and Community Co-ordinator Program. Additionally there is funding associated with participation in field monitoring program(s) for Marten Falls First Nation and in some instances, Aroland First Nation. The MFFN CAR Project Team has followed up with Indigenous communities via phone and email throughout this milestone regarding funding opportunities.
<p>Revision to ATRI Study Areas for the Impact Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on feedback from Indigenous communities and the information collected to select a technically preferred Route Alternative, concerns were expressed to revise the ATRI study areas for the Impact Assessment to focus on the technically preferred Route Alternative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ATRI environmental discipline made changes to the ATRI study area for the Impact Assessment which included an increase to the local study area from a 5 km buffer to a 10 km buffer and changed the Regional Study Area to increase in size of more than double the area.

A detailed record of the efforts made to consult and engage with each of the 31 Indigenous communities and indigenous organizations communication received from the communities from June 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024 is provided in **Section 3**. The following sections summarize key consultation activities and issues received through consultation and engagement activities during this time period. The report for each community also includes discussion of how any input and information provided by the Indigenous communities have informed the development of the Identification of Preferred Alternatives milestone.

Appendix A of this report includes copies of Project distributions sent to Indigenous communities and others including monthly E-Blasts, Field Notices and Field Study Discussion Guides. **Appendix B** of this report includes copies of distributions to Indigenous communities including, presentations, meeting summaries, if applicable. This overview and appendix materials are provided to Indigenous communities for their review.

2. Consultation Snapshot

The table below provides an overview of consultation and engagement activities during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives Milestone. Issues received through consultation and engagement activities during this milestone are included in **Section 3**.

Items in black occurred during the NoC of EA Milestone between October 29, 2021 to June 30, 2022 and the Effects Assessment Milestone from July 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023. Items in blue occurred during the Identification of Preferred Alternatives Milestone from June 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024.

Table 2-1: Consultation Snapshot – From June 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	<i>Indigenous Communities</i>	<i>Interested Persons</i>	<i>Agencies & Government Bodies</i>
NoC			
■ Distribution of EA NoC (October 29, 2021).	✓	✓	✓
■ NoC Advertisement (October 29 to November 12, 2021).	✓	✓	✓
Interim Record of Consultation and Engagement (RoCE)			
■ Draft Interim RoCE distributed to Indigenous communities for review (December 6, 2022).	✓		
■ Email follow-up distributed in January 2023.	✓		
Milestone Progress Report #1			
■ Draft Progress Report distributed to Indigenous communities for review (December 6, 2022)	✓		
■ Email follow-up distributed in January 2023.	✓		
Milestone Progress Report #2			
■ Draft Progress Report distributed to Indigenous communities for review (November 27, 2023)	✓		
■ Email follow-up to request re-download of Draft Progress Report (November 29, 2023)	✓		
■ Archaeology Assessment Reports for Stage 1 and Stage 2 distributed (February 3, 2023)	✓		
Public Information Centres (PIC)			
■ PIC #3 Notice distributed (June 13, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #3 in Thunder Bay (June 27, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #3 in Geraldton (June 29, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #4 Notice distributed (November 22, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #4 in Thunder Bay (December 7, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #4 in Geraldton (December 8, 2022)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #5 Notice distributed (October 10, 2023)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #5 in Thunder Bay (October 25, 2023)	✓	✓	✓
■ PIC #5 in Geraldton (October 26, 2023)	✓	✓	✓
■ Follow-up letters, emails, and phone calls to Indigenous communities regarding the Project.	✓		

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	Indigenous Communities	Interested Persons	Agencies & Government Bodies
Individual Project Meetings			
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation to provide an update on the Project and the approval of the Terms of Reference (November 16-17, 2021)	✓		
■ Presented to the Mushkegowuk Council AGM (in-person, November 24, 2021)	✓		
■ A teleconference meeting with Marten Falls First Nation to discuss the Environmental Assessment and Impact Assessment (February 2, 2022)	✓		
■ Teleconference with Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) to discuss the IK Program (February 4, 2022). Note: Also captured under the IK Program section below	✓		
■ Teleconference with Constance Lake First Nation (April 21, 2022). Note: Also captured under the IK Program and Community Co-ordinator section below	✓		
■ Teleconference presentation to Mushkegowuk Tribal Council's Terrestrial Working Group (May 18, 2022)	✓	✓	
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation community members in advance of PIC #3 (June 28, 2022)	✓	✓	
■ In-person meeting regarding Community Co-ordinator and IK Programs with Long Lake # 58 (August 9, 2022).	✓		
■ Helicopter flyover to visually inspect three potential groundwater sites with Aroland First Nation (August 17 and 18, 2022).	✓		
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation community members in advance of PIC #4 (November 2, 2022)	✓	✓	
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation community members in advance of PIC #4 (December 6, 2022)	✓	✓	
■ Well drilling activities monitored by Aroland First Nation representatives (November 25 – December 3, 2022).	✓		
■ A teleconference meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation to discuss the Community Co-ordinator Program and IK Program (February 13, 2023).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation, Constance Lake First Nation and Ginoogaming First Nation to discuss the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage reports (April 21, 2023).	✓		
■ Teleconference with Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) to discuss Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Program (April 27, 2023)	✓		
■ In-person Nation-to-Nation meeting with Eabametoong First Nation to provide an overview of the MFFN CAR (May 10, 2023)	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Marten Falls First Nation was held regarding the engineering, construction and the route selection process for the Project (May 15, 2023).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation's legal counsel to discuss the IK Sharing Agreement (May 17, 2023).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation was held to provide a Project overview (August 29, 2023).	✓		
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation community members in advance of PIC #5 (October 23, 2023)	✓	✓	

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	Indigenous Communities	Interested Persons	Agencies & Government Bodies
■ In-person meeting with Marten Falls First Nation community members in advance of PIC #5 (October 24, 2023)	✓	✓	
■ A virtual meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation was held as a follow-up to discuss the Community Co-ordinator and IK Program meeting (November 10, 2023).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting held with Attawapiskat First Nation representatives to discuss the MFFN CAR Project and Caribou Study Plan (December 4, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person meeting with Nibinamik First Nation to provide a Project update (January 16, 2024).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to review the Draft preliminary ATRI Existing Conditions Report (March 19, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person Nation-to-Nation meeting with Aroland First Nation to build on and improve the relationship between the two nations and to provide both Nations the opportunity to discuss any concerns or issues, including the previously drafted Communication Protocol Agreement (April 19, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person taskforce meeting between Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation (May 7, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person taskforce meeting between Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation (May 28, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person Chief and Council meeting with Marten Falls First Nation to provide a Project update (May 29, 2024).	✓		
■ Virtual meeting with Attawapiskat First Nation to discuss the Spring Groundwater Program (May 31, 2024).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting with Weenusk First Nation to provide a Project update and discuss the IK Program and socio-economic programs (June 5, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person meetings with Aroland First Nation community members to obtain feedback on the final route recommendation, existing conditions and cumulative effects, including inclusions list (June 19-20, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person meeting with Long Lake #58 First Nation Elders and community members to present the preliminary technically preferred routes (June 20, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person meetings with Aroland First Nation community members to obtain feedback on the final route recommendation including Segment 1, Dusey Lake, Segment 2, Segment 3, cumulative effects, evaluation approach and inclusions list, engineering considerations and existing conditions (valued component studies) (July 15-16, 2024).	✓		
■ In-person meetings with Marten Falls First Nation community members to confirm selection of the final route selection, cumulative effects, evaluation approach and inclusions list, engineering considerations and existing conditions (valued component studies) (July 17-18, 2024).	✓		
■ A virtual meeting held with Attawapiskat First Nation to discuss the draft ATRI Existing Conditions Report (July 23, 2024).	✓		

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	<i>Indigenous Communities</i>	<i>Interested Persons</i>	<i>Agencies & Government Bodies</i>
Other Notices / Newsletters			
■ 2021 Highlights Letter distributed to Indigenous communities via email (December 15, 2021)	✓		
■ Phone calls to Indigenous communities to follow-up on the December E-Blast, Winter Discussion Guide and field notice (December 16 to 17, 2021).	✓		
■ Circulated Monthly Project Update Email Blast (referred to as E-Blast) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – October 2021 (November 3, 2021) – November 2021 (November 30 2021) – December 2021 (December 15, 2021) – January 2022 (January 31, 2022) – February / March 2022 (March 15, 2022) – April 2022 (April 29, 2022) – May 2022 (May 27, 2022) – June 2022 (June 24, 2022) – July 2022 (July 26, 2022) – August 2022 (August 19, 2022) – September 2022 (September 29, 2022) – October 2022 (November 2, 2022) – November 2022 (November 25, 2022) – December 2022 (December 20, 2022) – January 2023 (January 30, 2023) – February 2023 (February 28, 2023) – March 2023 (April 4, 2023) – April 2023 (April 28, 2023) – May 2023 (June 7, 2023) – June 2023 (June 28, 2023) – July 2023 (August 2, 2023) – August 2023 (September 1, 2023) – September 2023 (September 28, 2023) – October 2023 (November 2, 2023) – 2023 Year In Review (December 12, 2023) – January 2024 (January 31, 2024) – February 2024 (March 1, 2024) – March 2024 (April 3, 2024) – April 2024 (April 30, 2024) – May 2024 (May 30, 2024) – June 2024 (July 9, 2024) 	✓	✓	✓
■ Circulated Field Study Notices & Discussion Guides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Winter Field Program Notice and Discussion Guide (December 10, 2021) – Furbearer Ground Track Survey Update (January 19, 2022) – Bird Aerial Surveys Update (February 4, 2022) – Wolverine Den Surveys Notice (February 14, 2022) – Wolverine Hair Snag Program and Bird Autonomous Recording Unit Update (March 3, 2022) – Wolverine Den Survey Update (March 9, 2022) – Early Spring Notice (March 29, 2022) – Terrain and Soils Notice (May 11, 2022) – Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat Notice (May 30, 2022) – Vegetation Field Notice (June 10, 2022) 	✓	✓	✓

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	Indigenous Communities	Interested Persons	Agencies & Government Bodies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Groundwater and Geochemistry (July 29, 2022) – Fall Field Programs Update (September 16, 2022) – Winter / Spring 2023 Field Notice (December 1, 2022) – Field Programs updates (March 9, 2023) – Spring 2023 Field Notice (April 21, 2023) – Summer 2023 Field Notice (July 12, 2023) – Fall 2023 Field Notice (September 15, 2023) – Winter 2024 Field Notice (January 18, 2024) – Spring 2024 Field Notice (April 17, 2024) – Spring Groundwater Program Update (May 23, 2024) – Summer 2024 Field Notice (July 16, 2024) 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Matawa Messenger newsletter feature (June 2022) ■ Follow-up to furbearer winter tracking field program notice (January 27, 2023) ■ Follow-up on ungulate aerial survey notice (February 15, 2023) 	✓	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Webinar Series: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Animals and Wildlife (Ungulates and Furbearers) (November 15, 2022) – Surface Water, Fish & Fish Habitat (November 29, 2022) – Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (January 10, 2023) – Vegetation and Physiography (January 17, 2023) – Peatlands (January 31, 2023) – Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change (February 14, 2023) – Socio-Economic Studies Part I (February 21, 2023) – Socio-Economic Studies Part II (February 28, 2023) – Groundwater and Geochemistry (March 14, 2023) – Birds (March 21, 2023) – Reptiles, Amphibians, Insects and Bats (March 28, 2023) – ATRI (April 4, 2023) – Route Selection Milestone (November 16, 2023) – Climate Change Webinar (February 8, 2024) 	✓	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report (June 3, 2024) 	✓		
Indigenous Knowledge (IK) Program			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Circulated an update on the MFFN CAR IK Program which included an updated schedule and timeline for Indigenous communities to share IK (January 21 to 24, 2022) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Teleconference with Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) to discuss the IK Program (February 4, 2022) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Teleconference with Constance Lake First Nation to discuss the IK Program (and Community Co-ordinator Program) (April 21, 2022) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ IK Program Update on the Proposed ATRI Study Areas Memo and ATRI Shapefiles were distributed via email. (August 2022) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Distributed a Save the Date for the upcoming ATRI Forum and Cultural Heritage Workshop via email (December 20, 2022) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Invitation to ATRI Forum distributed (January 13, 2023, and February 1, 2023) 	✓		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ATRI Forum and Cultural Heritage Workshop in Thunder Bay (February 8 – 9, 2023) 	✓		

Project Phases: NoC of EA, Effects Assessment and Identification of Preferred Alternatives			
Activity	Audience		
	<i>Indigenous Communities</i>	<i>Interested Persons</i>	<i>Agencies & Government Bodies</i>
■ IK Program timeline and update letter (March 22, 2023)	✓		
■ IK Program timeline and update letter (June 22, 2023)	✓		
■ IK Program timeline and update letter (October 5, 2023)	✓		
■ IK Program timeline and update letter (November 10, 2023)	✓		
Community Co-ordinator Program			
■ Distribution of letter introducing the Community Co-ordinator Program to 13 neighbouring Indigenous communities including job posting (March 17, 2022)	✓		
■ Teleconference with Constance Lake First Nation to discuss the Community Co-ordinator Program (and the IK Program) (April 21, 2022)	✓		

3. Consultation and Engagement with Indigenous Communities, Provincial and Territorial Organizations and Tribal Councils

3.1 Consultation and Engagement with Indigenous Communities

To summarize overall engagement with each Indigenous community, the following analytics were performed:

The **Level of Engagement Effort and Response** bar graph reflects the efforts taken by the MFFN CAR Project Team to engage Indigenous communities and the level of response received. Communications channels considered include **email correspondence** (outgoing & incoming), **phone correspondence** (outgoing & incoming), and **meetings offered in comparison to meetings scheduled**, by any means of communication.

- **Email Correspondence** reflects all personalized emails sent between the MFFN CAR Project Team and Indigenous communities.
 - **Outgoing Email Correspondence** reflects all personalized emails sent from the MFFN CAR Project Team to a specific Indigenous community; mass communications sent to all communities by the MFFN CAR Project Team are not considered in this calculation.
 - **Incoming Email Correspondence** includes emails received from an Indigenous community directly to MFFN CAR Project Team; emails that only confirm receipt of an outgoing email or emails where the MFFN CAR Project Team are copied but not directly mentioned are not included.
- **Phone Correspondence** reflects all call attempts between the MFFN CAR Project Team and an Indigenous community.
 - **Outgoing Phone Calls** reflect all phone calls made by the MFFN CAR Project Team to an Indigenous community. **Answered Phone Calls** includes those calls that were answered immediately by the intended recipient or were returned at a later time when the contact was available.
 - **Incoming Phone Calls** reflect instances where Indigenous communities contacted MFFN CAR Project Team without a previous outgoing phone call.
- **Meetings Offered vs. Held** reflects the efforts taken by the MFFN CAR Project Team to schedule a meeting in comparison to the number of meetings achieved between the Indigenous community and the MFFN CAR Project Team

4. References

AECOM, 2019:

Draft Terms of Reference Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road – Environmental Assessment.

AECOM, 2020:

Proposed Terms of Reference Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road – Environmental Assessment.

Hatch, 2016:

Technical Review of Industrial Transportation Infrastructure Proposals.



MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

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