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Marten Falls First Nation

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

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SECTIONS: 10 AND 11

Date: November, 2019

Project #: 60593122

10. Consultation During the ToR

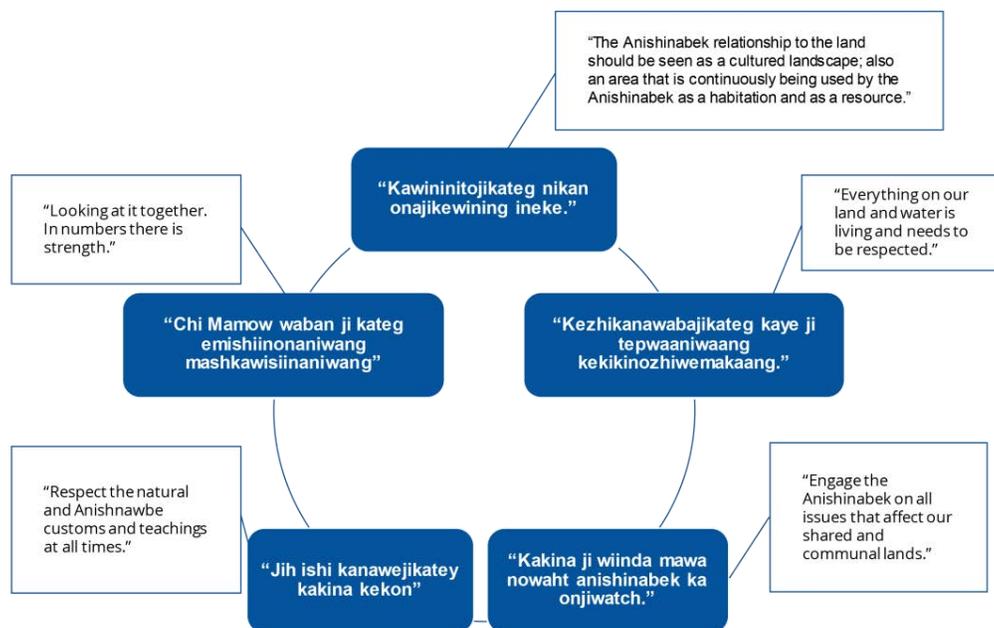
The following describes the results of the public and Indigenous community consultation program that has been undertaken up to October 11, 2019. The ToR consultation activities are continuing through fall 2019 to spring 2020, including the release of this Draft ToR. The results of these ongoing consultation activities will be documented in the Final or “Proposed” ToR that will be submitted to MECP for an approval decision. These ongoing ToR consultation activities and inputs will also feed into the development of the EA Consultation program that is outlined in draft in **Section 11**.

10.1 Principles of Consultation

A primary objective of the EA process, including the ToR development, is to effectively communicate information about the proposed CAR, and to consult with those who may be potentially affected by or have an interest in it. MFFN is committed to creating and sustaining constructive dialogue and relationships with interested persons including MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities, government agencies, the public, industry, non-government organizations, and local and regional stakeholders, to support the environmental, social and economic sustainability of the proposed CAR.

To honour the traditional lands that the CAR is proposed to be developed on and to respect MFFN traditional teachings⁵, the Guiding Principles presented in **Figure 10-1** will be followed throughout all Project-related consultation activities and the full EA process; from preparation of the ToR to preparation of the EA and implementation of the CAR. These principles have been endorsed by the MFFN Chief and Council.

Figure 10-1: Guiding Principles



5. *Guiding Principles of the Marten Falls First Nation Community-Based Land Use Planning Team for Project Planning and Engagement.*

The Guiding Principles will be put into action by providing meaningful opportunities for input throughout the EA process, including ToR development, by:

- Ensuring early and on-going communication and dialogue—throughout the EA process—with interested persons, including MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities and their memberships, and other interested persons;
- Working with Indigenous communities to confirm existence of, align with and respect protocols and policies for Indigenous Knowledge and/ or consultation, and to customize communication plans to meet community needs;
- Delivering Project-related information in a timely and culturally sensitive manner, using plain language translations (i.e., Oji-Cree, as needed) and visual aids to enable understanding;
- Facilitating multiple and ongoing opportunities for dialogue and conversations, and encouraging participation of all age groups, from youth to elders;
- Providing sensitivity to cultural practices, events and activities of Indigenous communities and considering these when planning and scheduling events;
- Facilitating an understanding of both the Indigenous Knowledge and Western science and engineering principles that form the basis of the EA process;
- Providing interested persons, including potentially affected Indigenous communities, the opportunity to record their concerns, questions and opinions on potential effects and mitigation strategies, and their knowledge of the local environment; and
- Demonstrating how feedback was considered and/ or incorporated into decision-making.

In addition to the Guiding Principles, the *Nishnawbe Aski Nation's Consultation Policy*, as outlined in *A Handbook on Consultation in Natural Resource Development* (Nishnawbe Aski Nation 2007), will be used to guide consultation and engagement efforts. This document includes a plan for meaningful consultation between a proponent (MFFN), Indigenous communities and government, particularly on projects or decisions that have a potential to impact Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

The key elements for meaningful consultation referenced in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation's Consultation Policy include:

- A continuous process;
- Exchanging information;
- Building relationships;
- Getting feedback on the understanding and adequacy of information, and exchanging more information if required;
- Identifying issues;
- Accommodation and reconciliation;
- Fairness; and
- Negotiating with the right attitude.

Consultation protocols of individual communities (should they be available) will also be considered.

10.2 Summary of Consultation Activities on the ToR

MFFN has been actively engaging MFFN community members and interested persons on the Project since 2017. These consultation efforts took place prior to commencement of the ToR in March 2019 and are documented in *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Alternatives Development* (AECOM 2019). Engagement with MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities and other interested persons during the ToR was initiated with the Notice of Commencement of a ToR in March 2019.

Figure 10-2 illustrates the ToR consultation activities, which are generally organized around the following:

- **ToR Introduction**

An overall introduction to the Project and the EA process was provided during initial conversations with interested persons. To introduce the ToR phase of the Project, meetings with MFFN Chief and Council and membership and neighbouring Indigenous communities were held, as was the round of Public Information Centres (PICs). During these activities, the Proponent was identified, and objectives, components and potential impacts of the Project were discussed, as was the ToR and EA processes, including schedules and proposed consultation activities. Feedback was sought on each of these elements. As well, efforts were taken to gauge the interest of neighbouring Indigenous communities to participate in the EA process, including discussions to ascertain whether individual communities felt Aboriginal or Treaty Rights might be impacted by development of the CAR.
- **Draft ToR Review**

These discussions will be initiated with release of the Draft ToR, and a plain-language *Guide to the Draft ToR*, for review by the public, MFFN and neighbouring Indigenous communities' membership and other interested persons. A second round of PICs will also be held (planned for December 2019) and discussions with interested Indigenous communities are planned to review the Draft ToR and receive input. Feedback obtained will help inform the approach taken through the EA, including the approach to consultation, and will be considered in developing the Proposed ToR.
- **Proposed ToR Review**

The Proposed ToR will be submitted to the MECP for an approval decision. As part of this process, the availability of the Proposed ToR for review and comment will be publicly advertised through notifications (e.g., newspapers, radio, email, hard copy letters) and distribution of the ToR document to Indigenous communities and public review locations. The Proposed ToR, if approved, will be the roadmap for planning and decision-making. It will outline how the EA will be prepared, including what studies will be conducted, the process to identify and assess effects and how people will be consulted. MFFN and neighbouring Indigenous communities, stakeholders and government agencies are encouraged to review and provide input on both the Draft and Proposed ToR. Consultation throughout the EA phase is also key to decision-making.

Figure 10-2: ToR Consultation Activities



The following sections describe the main consultation activities being undertaken during preparation of the ToR. A list of issues received through consultation activities during preparation of the ToR will also be included in the Proposed ToR.

10.2.1 Project Notifications and Information Releases

The following describes public notices and information that have been or will be released during the course of the ToR preparation. Notices to neighbouring Indigenous communities are described further below.

On March 6, 2019 the Notice of Commencement for the ToR was circulated to interested persons, which includes individuals or groups that are potentially impacted by the Project and/ or have an interest in the Project including but not limited to the following:

- Residents of the Municipalities of Greenstone and Thunder Bay;
- Those with recreational interest (e.g., hikers, campers, hunters and environmental groups);
- Camp operators and outfitters;
- Resource users (e.g., forestry, trappers, outfitters, mining and mineral tenure holders in the area);
- Interested businesses; and
- Community and public interest groups.

While this list is not intended to be an exhaustive list of potentially interested persons, it is intended to provide an initial understanding of groups that are in proximity to the proposed Project, or of people and organizations who may have an interest in the potential effects associated with the Project. The Project Contact List will be continually updated as the EA process continues.

To support the circulation of the Notice of Commencement, notices were distributed via mail, email and fax to people identified on the Project Contact List and advertisements were placed on Wawatay Radio during the week of March 6 to 12, 2019. To note, MFFN worked with MECP to finalize a circulation list that provided geographic coverage in a variety of mediums (i.e., mail, fax, email, newspapers and radio) for potentially interested persons. A copy of the Notice and other Project-related information was posted on the Project website. The notice is available in **Appendix C** and was published in the following newspapers:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Geraldton Times Star; | ▪ TBNewsWatch; |
| ▪ Chronicle Journal; | ▪ Windspeaker; and |
| ▪ Thunder Bay Source; | ▪ Anishinabek News. |
| ▪ Wawatay News; | |

On April 12, 2019, a notice was circulated to interested persons for a PIC held on April 30 and May 1, 2019. The notice was provided via hard and electronic copy circulation (e.g., mail, email) and posted on the Project website. The notice was published in the following newspapers: Thunder Bay Source, Wawatay News, TBNews Watch and Wawatay Radio (30 second radio ads during the week of April 15 to 19, 2019) (**Appendix C**).

A Notice of Publication of the Draft ToR will be advertised in the seven (7) papers listed above and will be circulated to interested persons to advise them of the release of the Draft ToR for review, which is planned for fall 2019. The notice will be provided via hard and electronic copy circulation (e.g., mail, email and fax) and posted on the Project website.

For the second PIC planned for December 2019, notices will be released in the same manner as for PIC 1.

Following the Draft ToR review period, and subsequent updates to the ToR, a notice will be circulated to interested persons advising them of the release of the Proposed ToR for review; currently planned for spring 2020. The notice will be advertised, provided via hard and electronic copy circulation (e.g., mail, email and fax) and posted on the Project website.

A Project website was developed and became active on March 6, 2019 (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca). The website is periodically updated with Project information including all relevant Project Notices (e.g., Notice of Commencement, PIC invitations) and other Project-related materials including maps.

10.2.2 Indigenous Communities Engagement

Prior to commencing the ToR, MFFN held Project-related discussions with several Indigenous communities between 2017 and 2018. A summary of these activities is provided in *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Alternatives Development* (AECOM 2019).

The MECP (in a letter dated December 19, 2018)) identified 22 neighbouring Indigenous communities to be consulted on the basis that they have or may have constitutionally protected Aboriginal or Treaty Rights that may be impacted by the CAR or that they may be interested in the Project. These communities are listed in **Table 10-1**. The IAAC in their 'Preliminary List of Indigenous Communities for Proponent Engagement on the Martin Falls Access Road' also identified neighbouring Indigenous communities the Project should consult with; their list of 15 communities included all of the communities identified by the MECP plus one additional community, Mishkeegogamang First Nation. MFFN is determining how best to engage with Mishkeegogamang First Nation through the ToR process and will provide further details in the Proposed ToR.

The MECP and IAAC letters received by MFFN can be found in **Appendix C**.

Table 10-1: Identified Indigenous Communities, including their Provincial Territorial Organizations and/ or Tribal Council Affiliations

Tribal Council Affiliation	Community or Organization
Matawa First Nation (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marten Falls First Nation (Proponent and potential impacted Indigenous community) ▪ Aroland First Nation ▪ Constance Lake First Nation ▪ Eabametoong First Nation ▪ Ginoogaming First Nation ▪ Long Lake #58 First Nation* ▪ Neskantaga First Nation ▪ Nibinamik First Nation ▪ Webequie First Nation
Mushkegowuk Council (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attawapiskat First Nation ▪ Fort Albany First Nation ▪ Kashechewan First Nation
Shibogama First Nations Council** (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kasabonika Lake First Nation ▪ Kingfisher Lake First Nation ▪ Wapekeka First Nation; ▪ Wawakapewin First Nation ▪ Wunnumin Lake First Nation
Independent First Nations Alliance (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug
Independent Bands (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weenusk First Nation
Nokiiwin Tribal Council and the Union of Ontario Indians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Animiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (AZA)*
Métis Nation of Ontario	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Métis Nation of Ontario; Region 2*
Independent Métis Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Red Sky Independent Métis Nation*

*Note: * Indigenous communities or organizations identified by MECP who should be consulted on the basis that they may be interested in the CAR.*

Those Tribal Councils, Nations and Alliances listed above, as well as the Chiefs of Ontario, have been identified as potentially interested in the Project, and will be provided with information and the opportunity to meet with MFFN throughout the EA process. **Figure 10-3** illustrates the location of the Indigenous communities neighbouring Marten Falls First Nation.

The Province of Ontario (MECP and ENDM) and MFFN are entering into an agreement through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to share responsibility of the procedural aspects of Ontario's Duty to Consult, in the context of the EA for the Project. This MOU will define the roles and responsibilities of both parties in regard to the engagement of interested Indigenous communities. The roles and responsibilities of Marten Falls agreed to in the MOU will be included in the Proposed ToR, if the MOU is finalized at that time.

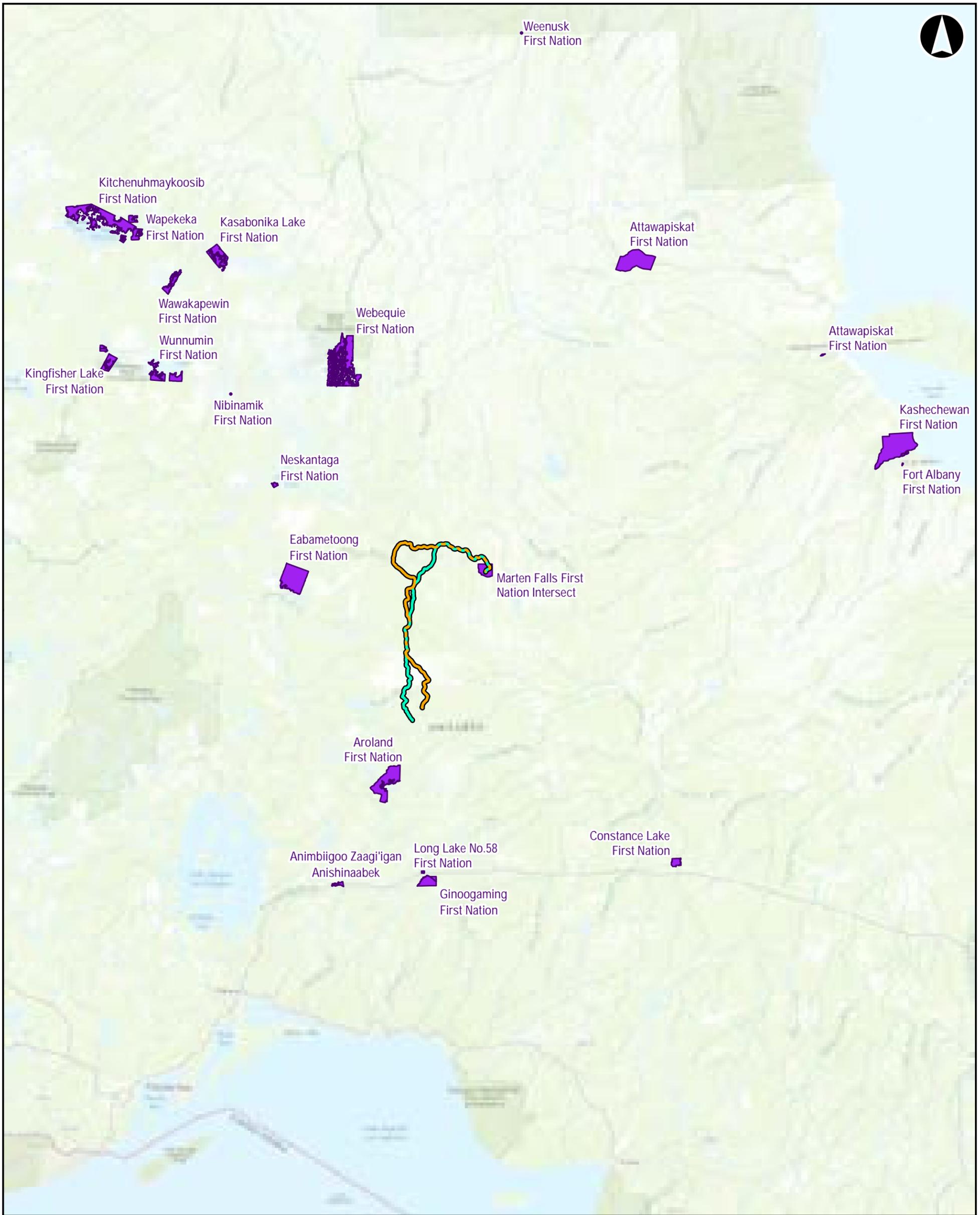
The identified Indigenous communities were provided early notice of the Project through a letter from MFFN on December 13, 2018. They also received the Notice of Commencement of a ToR in early March 2019 and were sent a follow-up letter on April 4, 2019. Copies of the letter and Notice are in **Appendix C**. Attempts were made to contact each community by phone to determine if they may have an interest in the EA. A minimum of four calls were made to the communities from mid-April to early October 2019, and voicemail messages were left in cases where no one answered the phone and a voicemail system was active.

At this time, all identified Indigenous Communities have been contacted by MFFN with conversations ranging from preliminary discussions, and one-way circulation of information, to Chief and Council meetings followed by meetings with the broader community. The *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a), provides a summary of the attempts to engage with Indigenous communities up to October 24, 2019.

The following provides a summary of the engagement results with the communities up to October 24, 2019.

- **Fourteen (14) communities** have to date expressed an interest in meeting to better understand the Project. Those communities MFFN has met with already are indicated with an asterisk (*); conversations are still ongoing with the remaining communities to determine an appropriate meeting time.
 - Marten Falls First Nation*;
 - Aroland First Nation*;
 - Attawapiskat First Nation*;
 - Neskantaga First Nation;
 - Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope)*;
 - Webequie First Nation*;
 - Red Sky Independent Métis Nation
 - Fort Albany First Nation*;
 - Ginoogaming First Nation;
 - Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek;
 - Constance Lake First Nation;
 - Long Lake #58 First Nation;
 - Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug*;
 - Kashechewan First Nation.
- **Eight (8) communities** have expressed interest in receiving Project materials and will contact MFFN if they would like to meet in the future. MFFN will continue outreach on an on-going basis to these communities.
 - Wunnumin Lake First Nation;
 - Wapekeka First Nation;
 - Wawakapewin First Nation;
 - Nibinamik First Nation;
 - Weenusk First Nation;
 - Kingfisher Lake First Nation;
 - Kasabonika Lake First Nation; and
 - Métis Nation of Ontario, Region 2.

MFFN, as the proponent, will continue to attempt to engage and meet with interested Indigenous communities throughout the EA process. Input received during this period will be incorporated into the Proposed ToR to be submitted to MECP. In December 2019, all 22 Indigenous communities (listed in **Table 10-1**) will be sent a plain-language *Guide to the Draft ToR*, along with the Draft ToR, and an offer to meet with communities to 'walk through' the Draft ToR if they are interested.



Legend

Route Label

- Alternative 1
- Alternative 4
- First Nation Reserve

**Marten Falls First Nation
All Season Community Access Road**

**Location of Neighboring
Indigenous Communities**

0 10 20 40 60 80 100
Kilometres
Datum: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 16N

Oct, 2019	1:2,500,000 <small>when printed 11"x17"</small>	Data Sources: MNR
P#:60593122	Rev:00	

AECOM **Figure 10-3**

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A summary of the efforts made to engage with each of the 22 Indigenous communities and correspondence received from the communities from March 4 to October 24, 2019 is provided in Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation (AECOM 2019a).

The Province of Ontario has provided notice to each of the 22 Indigenous communities that funding will be made available to support review by each community. Where possible, MFFN has informed Indigenous communities of this potential funding and encouraged them to follow up with the Province of Ontario.

The following describes meetings that were held with Indigenous communities as part of the ToR preparation period up October 24, 2019.

10.2.2.1 Marten Falls First Nation

During preparation of the ToR, meetings were held with the MFFN community, as the proponent and most directly impacted community in relation to the Project, to inform them of the Project and to receive their feedback. **Table 10-2** identifies the four series of meetings that were held with community members up to the preparation of the raft ToR. The meetings were open to members of MFFN and were held on and off-reserve. Notices were provided via hard and electronic copy circulation (e.g., mail, email) posted on the Marten Falls Community News and Mining Facebook Page, the Ogoki Post #65 Facebook page, and the Project website. For the June and October meetings, notices were posted on a Project-specific bulletin board in the community's band office and posted on the community's Facebook page.

The purpose of the meetings was to provide community members an opportunity to learn about the ToR process including the ToR engagement program, to express concerns and issues regarding the Project, to provide feedback on the ToR content including the alternative routes, and to review the proposed engagement plan for the EA.

Table 10-2: MFFN Community Member Meetings

Date	Location	Meeting Information—Summary
March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Thunder Bay – March 20, 2019 ▶ MFFN – March 21, 2019 	Introduce the Project and discuss the provincial EA process.
May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Thunder Bay – May 6, 2019 ▶ MFFN – May 7, 2019 ▶ Geraldton – May 8, 2019 	Provide information on the alternative routes and next steps for consultation.
June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Thunder Bay – June 25, 2019 ▶ MFFN – June 26, 2019 	Present the Draft ToR, including approach to alternatives evaluation and effects assessment, potential effects and impact management measures, EA process and timing, and approach to consultation through the EA.
October 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Thunder Bay – October 17, 2019 ▶ MFFN – October 18, 2019 	<p>The purpose of the community meetings in October was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Describe changes to the Impact Assessment Act and implications to the Project; ▪ Provide an update on the Project and associated activities that have taken place since the last community meeting; ▪ Introduce the Draft ToR; ▪ Provide a status update on the study timelines; and ▪ Discuss next steps for the EA process.

The general format of the meetings was typically a short presentation followed by either small group discussions and / or individual discussions associated with the review of information provided on display panels. A copy of the notifications, presentation materials and display panels used at the meetings as well as a meeting minutes are

available in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a). Input received from the meetings will be incorporated into the Proposed ToR to be submitted to MECP.

The MFFN community, being the community that is most involved in and impacted by the Project given that the CAR is being developed to provide access specifically to their community, has specific feedback related to the Project that is unique to their community. The following is a summary of the main issues of interest regarding the Project received from the MFFN community to date.

- Changes to water quality and flows;
- Waterway navigability;
- Potential effects on wildlife habitat;
- Potential effects on MFFN community and environmental health, particularly related to the possibility of a supply road passing through the community (noise and impacts on sleeping);
- Socio-economic changes to MFFN community (positive and negative);
- Potential effects on culturally significant sites;
- Potential effects of new public access into MFFN territory (e.g., increased hunting pressure);
- Potential for increased drugs in the community; and
- Visual / landscape changes.

Meeting participants also described, through the “Benefits Tree” diagram available at community meetings, the following positive attributes of the Project:

- Increased economic development and business opportunities and increased job creation, including those relating to new resource extraction activities;
- Reduction in costs to education, health services and freight charges; and
- Increased potential for recreation activities and increased participation in cultural activities.

Further, at the May 2019 meetings, Community Members were provided the opportunity to provide comment on potential alternative routes for the CAR. While community members did indicate a preference for a CAR with shorter road lengths, community members were generally supportive of the proposal to focus the EA on the western routes.

Opportunities for youth to participate were available at the March 2019 and May 2019 community meetings in Marten Falls. These included a brief presentation to grade school students at the Henry Coaster Elementary School, followed by group discussion to obtain feedback.

10.2.2.2 Neighbouring Indigenous Communities

Table 10-3 includes a summary of consultation with neighbouring Indigenous communities that has occurred up to October 24, 2019. A summary of key comments made, any issues raised, and follow-up activities is also provided. The issues and comments made will be considered in the EA. As consultation on the ToR continues it is expected that this summary list of issues and comments will be expanded on for the Proposed ToR. A copy of the presentation materials used at the meetings and meeting minutes are available in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a).

Table 10-3: Consultation with Neighbouring Indigenous Communities

Community / Date*	Description	Key Comments and/or Issue Raised
Aroland First Nation May 23, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meeting was held with the Aroland First Nation Chief and Council and the community to introduce the Project and ToR process. The community meeting provided an update on the Project, including a look at alternative routes and outlining items to be presented in the ToR. Preceding the community meeting a meeting was held with Aroland Chief and Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ That Aroland is interested in participating in the MFFN EA. Aroland has traditional territory that extends into the southern limits of the Project. ▪ Attendees expressed support for the MFFN CAR. ▪ The relationship and overlap of the Aroland Painter Lake Road upgrade project and the MFFN CAR was discussed. ▪ That Indigenous communities need to be included and benefit from any development that happens as a result of the road, forestry, tourism etc. ▪ That the environment needs to be protected / managed responsibly (for seven generations). ▪ One attendee expressed concerns with the top down approach and lack of involvement at the community level, also was frustrated at the pace of development. ▪ There is interest in future community meetings regarding the MFFN EA.
Fort Albany First Nation August 2, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meeting was held in Thunder Bay with Chief Metatawabin and a community advisor. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the MFFN CAR, including an outline of the ToR process and content, alternative routes, and to understand the potential interest that Fort Albany First Nation may have in the Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No specific concerns were expressed about the Project. ▪ Interest was expressed on how MFFN might control access and the flow of people and goods into the Community. ▪ MFFN was encouraged to prepare an economic development plan in association with their road project. ▪ Fort Albany First Nation is hoping that a relationship with Marten Falls First Nation continues considering that the two communities are on the same river system. The alignment of the two communities is important.
Eabametoong First Nation August 7, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meeting was held at the Eabametoong First Nation community. A meeting with Chief and Council was first held followed by a presentation to the larger community. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the CAR, including an outline of the ToR process and content, alternative routes, and to understand the potential interest that Eabametoong First Nation may have in the Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ That there may be interest in Eabametoong participating in the MFFN EA. ▪ Interest in the formation of a relationship agreement so that MFFN works together with Eabametoong as the communities share the river, have shared history and a shared family lineage. ▪ It was asked whether a regional strategic EA including the road to the RoF would be considered. ▪ Question about the type of EA being completed was asked.
Webequie First Nation August 9, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meeting was held at the Webequie First Nation with members of Council. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the Project, including an outline of the ToR process and content including alternative routes, and to understand the potential interest that Webequie First Nation may have in the Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Questions were asked about how the CAR would be constructed including sources of aggregate material. ▪ It was asked if capacity funding would be available for participation in the Marten Falls EA. ▪ It was noted that there could be information collection/sharing opportunities in regard to Indigenous Knowledge as the two projects have some common communities to engage with. ▪ Questions about planned baseline water studies for both projects were raised. ▪ Interest was expressed on having regular calls to update each community on the MFFN and Webequie road EA. ▪ The two communities are to explore a future meeting regarding the sharing of Indigenous Knowledge.

Table 10-3: Consultation with Neighbouring Indigenous Communities

Community / Date*	Description	Key Comments and/or Issue Raised
Attawapiskat First Nation August 13, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meeting was held with a representative of the Attawapiskat First Nation to provide an update on the MFFN CAR EA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A request was made for a MOU to guide Attawapiskat First Nation involvement during the MFFN EA. ▪ It was also asked if participant funding would be available. ▪ There is interest in receiving future Project documents and the potential for future meetings will be determined as the EA progresses.
Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig First Nation September 6, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the Project, gather input on the Project and present next steps and future engagement activities. The presentation content included an outline of the ToR and EA processes, including alternative routes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Questions were asked about Marten Falls and where the community and proposed CAR are located. ▪ It was noted that some Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig community members hunt caribou and there is interest in learning how the EA will assess the potential for impacts on Caribou including migration paths. MFFN will keep the community informed on EA assessment work related to caribou movement.
Aroland First Nation October 22, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A conference call was held with representatives of MFFN and the Aroland First Nation. The purpose of the call was to update Aroland on the status of the CAR and for Aroland to update MFFN on the Painter Lake Road upgrade project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aroland continues to have interest in the CAR. ▪ Monthly update calls will be scheduled. ▪ MFFN will present an update to the Aroland Community in late November 2019 after the Aroland elections. ▪ MFFN will provide an outline of the Community Consultation Coordinator position. ▪ The two communities will hold future discussions on how Anishinabek Knowledge collection can be coordinated for the two road projects.

10.2.3 Public and Other Interested Stakeholders

Consultation with the public and other interested stakeholders undertaken during the ToR included the release of Project notices, the development and update of the Project website a PIC, and meetings with interest groups. An initial list of contact information of public and other stakeholders was developed based on discussions prior to the initiation of the provincial EA and during preparation of the ToR. Public stakeholders are individuals and groups that could have an interest in the Project, including but not limited to communities in the region (e.g., Geraldton, Longlac), recreational users or those with recreational interest (e.g., hikers, campers, hunters, and environmental groups), and those with commercial interests (e.g., forestry, trappers, outfitters, other mineral tenure holders in the area).

The first round of PICs were held April 30 and May 1, 2019 in Thunder Bay and the Municipality of Greenstone (Geraldton), respectively. Notices for the PICs were placed in local newspapers and on radio during the week of April 15 to 19, 2019 (i.e., Thunder Bay Source, Wawatay News, TBNewsWatch, Wawatay Radio). The PICs were also advertised on the Project website and notices were sent to those on the Project Contact List.

The PICs provided an update on the Project, including a look at alternative routes and outlined information that would be presented in the ToR. The meetings were held as an open house format and featured a series of 25 display boards. Participants were encouraged to review all of the display boards and provide comments using the materials and comment forms provided or by having one-on-one discussions with members of the Project Team. Subject matter experts from the Project Team were stationed alongside corresponding display board groups to help ensure all questions and comments were answered and captured accordingly.

Approximately 39 individuals signed into the PICs (30 people on April 30 and 9 people on May 1, 2019). Attendees included Indigenous community members, provincial agencies, members of the public and industry representatives (including small business owners and union representatives). A full description of the event is provided in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a), including presentation material used and key issues raised.

A second round of PICs is planned for December 2019 in Thunder Bay and the Municipality of Greenstone. Notices for the PIC will be placed in local newspapers in advance of the meeting and mailed/emailed to those on the Project Contact List. The PIC will also be advertised on the Project website. This PIC will provide information about the Draft ToR including the alternative routes and consultation plan for the EA. Input received during the second round of PICs will be incorporated into the proposed ToR to be submitted to MECF.

On May 22, 2019, a meeting was held with Geraldton Area Natural Resource Advisory Committee to introduce the Project, discuss the EA process and answer questions of the attendees. A copy of the presentation materials used at the meeting, as well as a summary of issues raised, is available in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a).

In addition, MFFN hosted a booth at the trade show of the Northern Ontario First Nations Environment Conference on October 9, 2019 to raise awareness about the proposed CAR. As a result, 19 new email addresses were added to the electronic mailing list. MFFN also submitted an advertisement in September 2019 to be published in the November 2019 issue of the Assembly of First Nations' official semi-annual publication, *The Circle*. *The Circle* has a circulation list of 3,500 and is distributed at assemblies, trade shows, meetings and other events across Canada. The advertisement provided a snapshot of the Project, along with the community benefits tree design, and directed readers to the website and Project contacts for more information.

10.2.4 Government Agencies

Throughout the course of the ToR development, MFFN has discussed the Project with provincial and federal government agencies during regular conference calls and meetings on various aspects of the EA including timing for reviews of the ToR, data availability, alternative routes identification process and consultation activities, particularly as they relate to Indigenous communities. The government agencies that are members of the interagency EA Coordination Team include (but are not limited to):

- ENDM;
- MECP;
- MNRF; and
- IAAC; formerly the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

In addition to regularly scheduled EA Coordination Team meetings, MFFN has met with MECP, ENDM and MNRF during the ToR development to seek input and guidance on specific aspects of the ToR (**Table 10-4**).

Table 10-4: Government Agency Meetings

Agency	Date	Location	Notes
MECP	May 30, 2019	Teleconference	Overview of Draft ToR and anticipated schedule
MECP	June 6, 2019	Teleconference	Meeting to discuss alternatives assessment for Draft ToR
MECP	June 20, 2019	Teleconference	Meeting to discuss consultation materials
MECP	July 31, 2019	Teleconference	Meeting to discuss caribou baseline and effects assessment
MECP and ENDM	August 22, 2019	Toronto and Teleconference	Meeting to discuss comments on Draft ToR
MECP and ENDM	August 28, 2019	Toronto and Teleconference	Meeting to discuss comments on Draft ToR
MECP and ENDM	September 19, 2019	Toronto and Teleconference	Meeting to discuss comments on Draft ToR related to consultation
MECP and ENDM	October 22, 2019	Toronto and Teleconference	Meeting to discuss comments on the MOU and comments on Record of Consultation

MFFN met with MECP and ENDM on May 30, 2019 and June 6, 2019 to seek input on the proposed alternatives and method of evaluation. MECP, ENDM and MNRF provided written comments on the Draft Alternatives Methods and Initial Screening Report (AECOM 2019b) on May 29, 2019. Responses to these written comments have been included in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a) and, where applicable, include references to sections of the Draft ToR that have been edited in response to the comments.

MFFN met with MECP and ENDM on August 22 and 28, 2019 and September 19, 2019 to discuss written comments provided by MECP on their review of the Draft ToR (which was submitted to MECP by MFFN on July 2, 2019). The August 22, 2019 meeting largely focused on a discussion of the historical development of the alternative methods. The August 28, 2019 meeting involved a detailed review of the Draft ToR comments and a review of the May 29, 2019 comments on the Draft Alternatives Methods and Initial Screening Report. The September 19th, 2019 meeting was focused on the comments related to consultation. Responses to the written comments have been included in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a) and, where applicable, include references to sections of the Draft ToR that have been edited in response to the comments.

MFFN has engaged MECP and MNRF specifically with respect to baseline effects assessments including field work plans, permit applications, data requests, and the methodology and scope to be used for the caribou baseline and effects assessment. MFFN provided MECP and MNRF work plans associated with field work planned during 2019

for review, however the agencies have indicated they will not be commenting on work plans until the ToR is finalized. A meeting was held with MECP and MNRF on July 31, 2019 to review the information shared in the May 29, 2019 comments and to discuss the effects assessment on caribou, following which MFFN provided the necessary information for MECP to run the Caribou Screening Tool for the Project. The Project is still awaiting the output from the Caribou Screening Tool as the agencies have indicated the Tool is currently not functioning properly.

Based on their proximity to the proposed CAR, The City of Thunder Bay and the Municipality of Greenstone are included in the EA Consultation program. On May 23, 2019, a meeting was held with the Mayor of Greenstone (Mayor Renald Beaulieu) to inform him of the Project and to advise him of future consultation meetings. A copy of the presentation materials used at the meeting, as well as a summary of issues raised, is available in the *Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Supporting Document – Draft Terms of Reference Record of Consultation* (AECOM 2019a).

10.2.5 Release of Draft ToR

The Draft ToR is planned for release in fall 2019 for review by interested persons and Indigenous communities. Notices regarding the availability of the Draft ToR will be placed in local newspapers and sent to those on the Project Contact List and to neighbouring Indigenous communities. The Draft ToR will also be made available through the Project website and hard copies made available at public locations in Thunder Bay, Geraldton, Timmins, Marten Falls Band Office, Matawa First Nations Management and two MECP offices. The Draft ToR will be provided to the 22 Indigenous communities with an offer to meet to discuss the documents with them. MFFN in consultation with the neighbouring Indigenous communities will give consideration to providing a copy of the Draft ToR at Band offices.

Further to the above, the Draft ToR will also be submitted to the Government Review Team which includes the following provincial agencies that may have an interest or comments on the Draft ToR:

- ENDM;
- MECP;
- MNRF;
- IAAC;
- MTO; and
- MHSTCI.

10.3 Release of Proposed ToR

Following the Draft ToR review period, the ToR will be revised and then finalized. As per the MECP ToR review and approval decision process, the Proposed ToR that will be submitted to MECP for review and an approval decision will be publicly released for review by interested members of the public and Indigenous communities. The availability of the Proposed ToR will be advertised through newspaper notices, on the Project website and through email/ mail to those on the Project Contact List. All 22 Indigenous communities that have been identified by the MECP will be sent a copy of the Proposed ToR for their review. The Proposed ToR will also be sent to the Government Review Team. A request for comments on the Proposed ToR will be made as part of the notifications for submission to the MECP.

11. Consultation Plan for the Environmental Assessment

This section provides an overview of MFFN’s planned approach to consultation and engagement during the EA, with details related to the key stakeholders, planned approach, activities, milestones and scheduling provided in the *Draft Environmental Assessment Consultation Plan (Appendix B)*. Input received to date from MFFN community members and interested persons, neighbouring Indigenous communities, government agencies, the public, industry, non-government organizations, and local and regional stakeholders has helped shape the planned approach to consultation proposed in the *Draft Environmental Assessment Consultation Plan (Appendix B)*.

Consultation planned for the EA has been designed to meet consultation requirements outlined in section 5.1 of the EAA, the *Code of Practice for Consultation in Ontario’s Environmental Assessment Process* (MECP 2014a) and *Code of Practice on Preparing and Reviewing Environmental Assessments in Ontario* (MECP 2014b). The *Draft Guidelines for Consultation with Indigenous Peoples related to Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights (Government of Ontario 2019c)* and the *Nishnawbe Aski Nation Handbook on Consultation in Natural Resource Development* (Nishnawbe Aski Nation 2007) were also used for guidance where appropriate.

MFFN’s proposed approach to consultation is preliminary and subject to revision based on input received during preparation of the ToR, including any feedback received during public review of the Draft ToR document, and through future engagement during preparation of the EA. As such, it is expected that the EA Consultation Plan may evolve to include the possible development of tailored consultation plans for select interested Indigenous communities.

11.1 Importance of Consultation

MFFN’s primary consultation objectives during the EA is to: effectively communicate information about the proposed CAR; to consult with those who may be potentially affected by, or have an interest in the Project or the lands potentially affected by the Project; and to receive the input of interested persons and communities so that any issues or concerns can be addressed in the EA or future Project design process.

MFFN is committed to creating and sustaining constructive dialogue and relationships with interested persons, including MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities and their memberships, government agencies, the public, industry, non-governmental organizations and local and regional stakeholders, to support the environmental, social and economic sustainability of the proposed CAR. The purpose of MFFN’s EA Consultation Plan is to:

Neighbouring Indigenous Communities:
The MECP and IAAC identified First Nations, Métis and Traditional Land-Based Rights Holders who may be interested in the MFFN Community Access Road and should be consulted with as part of the EA. The term ‘neighbouring’ is used to identify any Indigenous community being engaged with respect to the Project.

- Outline how MFFN (as the Proponent) will consult with MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities, members of the public, government agencies and other stakeholders;
- Describe how key information will be shared and how input will be obtained, addressed and considered;
- Identify key milestones, timing, targeted input and key consultation questions;

- Provide an issues resolution strategy; and
- Provide a strategy for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of communication and consultation efforts throughout the EA process.

More information regarding the Principles and Key Elements that will guide consultation during EA is provided in Chapter 10 and the *Draft Environmental Assessment Consultation Plan* (**Appendix B**).

11.2 Duty to Consult

Aboriginal and Treaty Rights are guaranteed under section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, which includes recognition of existing Indigenous and Treaty Rights to hunt, trap, fish, gather and manage the lands for all First Nation, Inuit and Metis people of Canada. As part of these rights, the Government of Canada has the Duty to Consult Indigenous communities for this Project.

The MECP (in a letter dated December 19, 2018) identified 22 neighbouring Indigenous communities to be consulted on the basis that they have or may have constitutionally protected Aboriginal or Treaty Rights that may be impacted by the CAR, or that they may be interested in the Project. The IAAC in their 'Preliminary List of Indigenous Communities for Proponent Engagement on the Martin Falls Access Road' also identified neighbouring Indigenous communities the Project should consult with; their list of 15 communities included all of the communities identified by the MECP plus one additional community, Mishkeegogamang First Nation. MFFN is determining how best to engage with Mishkeegogamang First Nation through the ToR process and will provide further details in the Proposed ToR.

The Province of Ontario (MECP and ENDM) and MFFN are entering into an agreement through a MOU to share responsibility of the procedural aspects of Ontario's Duty to Consult, in the context of the EA for the Project. This MOU will define the roles and responsibilities of both parties in regard to the engagement of interested Indigenous communities. The roles and responsibilities of Marten Falls agreed to in the MOU will be included in the Proposed ToR, if the MOU is finalized at that time.

11.3 Indigenous Communities and Key Stakeholder Identification

An initial list of stakeholders was developed based on discussions and Project development prior to the initiation of the provincial EA and during preparation of the ToR. Key stakeholders are individuals and groups who could have an interest in the Project including but not limited to Indigenous communities, including MFFN members, government agencies, and the public and other stakeholders.

The Project Contact List developed during the ToR will be expanded on throughout the EA and will be used to inform key stakeholders about the EA and planned engagement activities.

11.3.1 Identification of Indigenous Communities

MFFN is currently engaging the Indigenous communities identified to-date by the MECP and IAAC and will continue to do so throughout the EA, as per the level of interest expressed by each community. MFFN will also work with communities to collect Indigenous Knowledge to incorporate into the EA regarding traditional land and resource use and cultural practices. **Section 10** provides the list of identified Indigenous communities.

Participation of Indigenous communities, including MFFN community membership, during the EA is intended to allow MFFN to identify, consider and respond to potential concerns and issues of interested Indigenous communities and to provide those communities with an opportunity to receive information and provide meaningful

input into the EA process. It is MFFN's intent throughout the EA to engage interested Indigenous communities and organizations at an appropriate depth and frequency based on a community's interest and the potential for any effects related to the proposed all season CAR. Recognizing that the appropriate level of engagement will vary by community and may evolve through ongoing discussions, the approach to consultation for each community will be flexible and open to change as the EA progresses.

It is not MFFN's intent to dictate the form of engagement to be offered to each community, although effort has been made to predict an appropriate level of consultation. The proposed consultation activities and schedule outlined in the Draft EA Consultation Plan will be used as the foundation for consultation with Indigenous communities. As discussions progress with interested communities, more focused consultation efforts will be developed and uniquely applied as needed. If an Indigenous community has a Community-Based Land Use Plan or other plans (e.g., Consultation or Indigenous Knowledge Protocols) that might be useful to reference and work with, they will, with permission, be used to help shape community-specific engagement and consultation efforts.

All identified communities will receive all statutory notices related to the EA (e.g., Notice of Commencement of the Environmental Assessment) and comprehensive, plain-language Project updates through email, mail and the Project website. Each will also be provided the full opportunity to review and comment on key EA documents including the Draft and Proposed ToR as well as the Draft and Final Environmental Assessment Report. In addition, Indigenous communities, depending on their level of interest in and the potential for impacts related to development of the CAR, will be encouraged or offered the opportunity to meet in-person to discuss the Project and gather feedback at appropriate milestones throughout the EA.

More information regarding the manner in which MFFN intends to consult with Indigenous Communities and the proposed activities and milestones to obtain their feedback throughout the EA is provided in the *Draft Environmental Assessment Consultation Plan (Appendix B)*.

11.4 Government Agencies

11.4.1 Government Review Team

Throughout the course of the ToR development, the MFFN Project Team has discussed the Project with provincial and federal government agencies during regular conference calls and meetings on various aspects of the EA, including timing for reviews of the ToR, data availability, route selection process and consultation activities (particularly as they relate to Indigenous communities). The government agencies that are members of the Government Review Team were outlined in Section 10.2.4., and include:

- ENDM;
- MNRF;
- MTO; and
- MECP;
- IAAC
- MHSTCI.

Throughout the EA process, it is anticipated that the Government Review Team will provide information and guidance for MFFN to consider in preparation of the EA and will contribute to the review of EA documentation by providing comments from their mandated areas of responsibility. Considering the Project components and the potential environmental effects, provincial and federal agencies are expected to participate in the EA to varying levels.

In addition, through the establishment of an EA Coordination Team, MFFN has and will continue to receive guidance from a select group of agencies including ENDM, MECP, MNRF and IAAC. This team will meet regularly throughout the EA process to provide updates, exchange information, consider opportunities and concerns, and to discuss opportunities to progress and improve the EA process.

11.4.2 Municipalities

Based on their proximity to the proposed CAR, The City of Thunder Bay and the Municipality of Greenstone will be included in the EA Consultation program.

11.4.3 Public and Stakeholders

An initial list of public and other stakeholders was developed based on discussions and Project development prior to the initiation of the provincial EA and during preparation of the ToR. Public stakeholders are individuals and groups 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). Many of the public and other stakeholder representatives within the area meet frequently (monthly) as part of the Geraldton Area Natural Resource Advisory Committee (GANRAC); this group has been and will continued to be engaged throughout the EA process.

11.5 Consultation Activities During the EA

Communication and engagement will be planned and executed to align with the Guiding Principles and consultation key elements introduced previously (**Section 10** and **Appendix B**), to provide interested persons, including MFFN community membership, neighbouring Indigenous communities and their membership, government organizations, and local and regional stakeholders, with opportunities to learn about and understand the Project, and to provide input to help identify potential effects and impact management measures.

Consultation and engagement efforts undertaken in the ToR phase will continue into the EA. Any feedback received during the ToR phase related to the consultation approach, activities, milestones and scheduling will also be taken into consideration during the EA.

The following EA milestones will help guide the timing and focus of consultation and engagement efforts:

- Notice of Commencement;
- Development of impact assessment/ routing evaluation criteria;
- Evaluation of routing alternatives;
- Identification of preferred alternative;
- Submission of Draft Environmental Assessment Report/ Impact Statement⁶; and
- Submission of Final Environmental Assessment Report/ Impact Statement.

The Draft EA Consultation Plan is provided in **Appendix B** and summarized in **Table 11-1**. A variety of communication and engagement tools will be used throughout the EA process to build positive, respectful relationships, share information with interested persons and obtain input on the Project. Input received through these activities, including how that input was considered in the EA, will be documented in the EA Record of Consultation.

6. *The Impact Statement is pending federal EA requirement decision.*

Table 11-1: Proposed Consultation Activities for the Environmental Assessment

Consultation Activity/ Tool	Indigenous Communities (including Marten Falls First Nation)	Public and Other Interested Persons	Government Agencies
Indigenous Communities			
<p>Chief and Council and/ or Community Meetings, are expected with the most potentially interested / impacted communities, including MFFN. Three visits for each of these communities are anticipated, to introduce the Project and gather feedback throughout the EA. Communication materials will be developed to support these meetings including: presentation decks; display boards; and fact sheets. These will be plain-language and visually inviting.</p> <p>Community visits to other neighbouring Indigenous communities will be planned on request.</p>	X		
<p>Community Member Discussions, with select members of Indigenous communities (e.g., Leadership, land users hunters and trappers, youth, Elders) may be held to discuss the Project and obtain input. These discussions will be co-ordinated with data gathering needs for the EA.</p>	X		
<p>Topic-Specific Community Member Discussions, as an additional follow-up engagement activity for Indigenous community that would like to attend a focused conversation around a specific topic, for example Caribou. The meeting would be held in a central location that is easy for all interested groups to attend.</p>	X		
<p>MFFN Youth and Elder Meetings, will be timed with community visits to provide audience-specific information and gather input on the Project from these respected community members</p>	X		
<p>Social Media / Facebook will be leveraged to communicate more broadly with the MFFN community. Information related to Project notices and MFFN Community meetings will be posted to the community site(s).</p>	X		
<p>Community Consultation Co-ordinators, may be engaged to assist those communities with the highest potential for effects and Project interest (and therefore the highest level of engagement) coordinate in-community events, assist with Indigenous Knowledge programs and inform the MFFN Project Team of engagement requirements and cultural protocols.</p>	X		
All Stakeholders			
<p>Project Statutory Notices will be provided throughout the EA process at key milestones, via registered mail and email, and published in local newspapers and on the radio. Additional notices (e.g., Field Study notices) will be directed to appropriate audiences via email/ mail and posted on social media. All Project Statutory notices will also be mailed and emailed to individuals on the Contact List.</p> <p>Key milestones include: Notice of Commencement; invitations to PICs, Submission of the Draft EA Report and review period; Posting of the Final EA Report and review period.</p>	X	X	X
<p>Project Website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca), will provide ongoing access to information, employment opportunities and planned engagement activities, and will serve as a method to receive feedback and comments. The website will be updated through the EA to include all published information about the Project and be populated with Project updates at key Project milestones.</p> <p>Electronic versions of any newsletters / Project updates will also be available through the blog function of the website.</p> <p>The website will continue to be maintained and updated in a way that allows for users with low bandwidth and slow internet connection to access information.</p>	X	X	X

Table 11-1: Proposed Consultation Activities for the Environmental Assessment

Consultation Activity/ Tool	Indigenous Communities (including Marten Falls First Nation)	Public and Other Interested Persons	Government Agencies
Project Hotline / Email Address , contact information (e.g., telephone number and email address) will be included on Project communication materials so that people know who to contact to solicit information or discuss Project activities and provide feedback.	X	X	X
Newsletters and Email Updates will be provided throughout the EA to keep people informed and up-to-date on Project progress; distribution will be scheduled around the timing of planned PICs / Off-Reserve Community Meetings. Each update will be distributed to MFFN community members, neighbouring Indigenous communities and persons who have expressed an interest in the Project. Newsletters will also be made available at the MFFN Band Office, on the website and through the electronic mailing list. Paper copies of newsletters can also be provided to interested communities or stakeholders, if requested.	X	X	X
Comment Forms / Questionnaires will be developed and used to gather feedback at PICs and community meetings.	X	X	X
Key Informant Interviews will be scheduled with select interested persons/ organizations (e.g., Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee, business operators and resource users) to gather information regarding key issues and possible concerns. Presentations to key groups will be an important component of soliciting feedback for decision-making.	X	X	
Public Information Centres will be held at key Project milestones in Thunder Bay and in the Municipality of Greenstone on three (3) occasions. These events will serve to discuss the Project and obtain input from members of the public and other interested persons. PICs will be advertised in local newspapers, and through the Project Contact List and website.	X	X	X
Environmental Assessment Report / Impact Statement may be reviewed by the public and interested persons during public review periods. These documents will be made available on the Project website (www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca), will be posted at select locations and provided to Indigenous communities by mail, electronic copy and USB. Plain language and translated copies of the documents can be provided. Note: Impact Statement is pending federal EA requirement decision.	X	X	X

The approach to engagement through the EA will be designed to provide flexibility and adaptability to evolving Project needs. As with any project, it is anticipated that there will be individuals, groups or other interested persons that may require additional consultation not reflected in this approach. In addition, communication and engagement tools will be regularly evaluated to ensure effectiveness and adjustments will be made as necessary to allow for the implementation of a robust and effective consultation program.

Details related to the proposed EA consultation activities, milestones and scheduling is provided in the *Draft Environmental Assessment Consultation Plan (Appendix B)*.

11.6 Issue Resolution Strategy

Consultation is expected to bring to light issues that must be carefully addressed and considered in the EA process. Comments and input received throughout the EA will be documented and included in a Record of Consultation for the EA. Each issue or comment received will be considered and responded to by MFFN, and documented in the EA. If an issue persists, continued discussions, including face-to-face meetings, are proposed to explore potential

solutions. If resolution cannot be reached, mediation by a neutral, mutually acceptable third party will be considered. Issues that cannot be resolved will be noted along with documentation of attempts to resolve the issue.

11.7 EA Record of Consultation

For successful completion of the EA, it is essential that the consultation process be documented to appropriately categorize, and address feedback received. For reporting purposes, and to support the EA, a Record of Consultation will be developed to track all incoming and outgoing discussions, correspondence and public and stakeholder meetings along with notes on how questions and concerns were addressed. This Record, which will be provided as an appendix to the Individual EA, will provide an accurate account of all communication exchanged with neighbouring Indigenous communities and other interested persons during the EA.