

NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD PROJECT

Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) has prepared a Terms of Reference (ToR) for an Individual Environmental Assessment for the proposed Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project (the Project). The ToR has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for review as required under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. If approved, the ToR will serve as a framework for the preparation and review of the environmental assessment for the Project. As part of the submission process, Indigenous communities, government agencies and interested persons are encouraged to review the ToR and submit comments to the MECP.

The Project: MFFN is a remote First Nation community in the Far North of Ontario, located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 170 km northeast of Nakina, Ontario. The proposed Project will be a multi-purpose all-season community access road approximately 190 km to 230 km in length that will connect the MFFN community to the Ontario provincial highway network. The alternative routes being carried forward to the environmental assessment are shown on the accompanying map.

MFFN has entered into a voluntary agreement with the MECP to subject the Project to the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The ToR submitted for review considered comments received by MFFN on the Draft ToR. If approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, MFFN will begin the EA in accordance with the Minister-approved ToR and *Environmental Assessment Act* to assess and evaluate the potential effects of the alternatives and recommend impact management measures to avoid and / or minimize the predicted effects.

Project Purpose: MFFN community is currently accessible by air transportation and a winter road constructed on an annual basis. The winter road has been determined to be insufficient for the community and other transportation needs primarily due to the limited reliability of open winter road access. The purpose of the Project is to improve the well-being of MFFN by providing reliable year-round access to the community. The road is intended to provide increased travel safety, reduced price of food, fuel and supplies, improved community social, health, education and wellness services, in addition to providing the MFFN community with future economic development opportunities. The road will be multi-purpose; it will be used by both community and others which may include industry.

Review of the Terms of Reference: The ToR will be available for review beginning **October 23, 2020 for a period of 60 days**. The ToR and supporting documents can be accessed digitally on the Project website at <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca>. Hard copies can be inspected in-person at local Indigenous community band offices and the following viewing locations:

- **Greenstone Public Library – Geraldton Branch:** 405 2nd St. W., Geraldton
- **Greenstone Public Library – Longlac Branch:** 110 Kenogami Drive, Longlac
- **Sioux Lookout Public Library:** 21 Fifth Avenue, Sioux Lookout
- **Matawa First Nations Management:** 233 S. Court Street, 2nd Floor, Thunder Bay
- **Timmins Public Library:** 320 2nd Avenue, Timmins, ON P4N 8A4

The ToR can be inspected in-person only at those viewing locations that are open to the public at the time the Notice of Submission is issued.

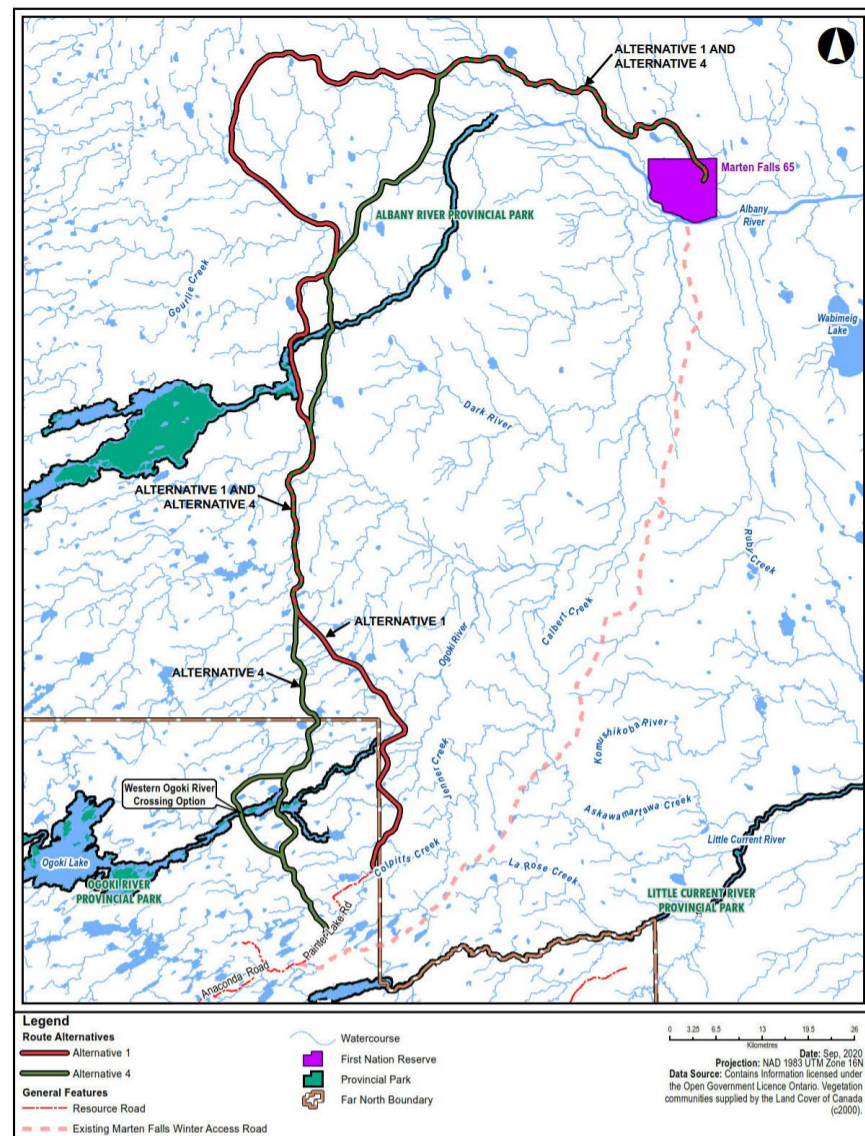
Comments about the ToR must be made in writing to the MECP by **5:00 p.m. on December 21, 2020**. All comments must be submitted to:

Sasha McLeod and Shannon Gauthier
Special Project Officer and Project Officer
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Environmental Assessment Branch
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
Tel: 416-268-5984 / 416-258-8215
Email: sasha.mcleod@ontario.ca and shannon.gauthier@ontario.ca

A copy of all comments submitted to the MECP will be forwarded to the Proponent for consideration. For further information on the Project, contact:

Lawrence Baxter
Senior Community Member Advisor, MFFN
James McCutcheon
Project Manager, AECOM

1-800-764-9114
info@martenfallsaccessroad.ca
www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca



Si vous souhaitez une copie de cette notification en français, veuillez visiter le site Internet du projet ou envoyer un email au projet pour en demander une copie.

All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, maintained and disclosed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the purpose of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in s.37 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Project Officer or the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Park's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-314-4075.

Date Published: October 23, 2020