



## Existing Conditions Fact Sheet: Economics

Issued: October 2023

The economic component of the assessment will consider potential changes to the local and regional economy, including changes to prices for goods and services in communities, local business operations, job opportunities and market (including training) and opportunities to expand potential road related benefits to key communities. The Regional Study Area has well-developed mining, including 34 of 43 operating mines and 29 of 30 mines under development, forestry, wood products, agri-food, and tourism sectors. The Regional Study Area also has a large land base offering a variety of opportunities for tourism-based activities relying on the remote wilderness setting.

**Mining** - Within the Local Study Area, there are currently no operating mines, and minimal mining activity in the immediate vicinity of the study area. There are four operations in stages of development including, Wyloo Eagle's Nest, Greenstone Gold Mines' Hardrock and Brookbank, and Zenyatta Albany Graphite projects.

**Forestry** - Forestry resources within the Local Study Area include Marten Falls First Nation's Ogoki Forest venture, under the Agoke Development Corporation which includes, Marten Falls First Nation, Eabametoong First Nation, and Aroland First Nation.

**Commercial Tourism and Recreation** - Tourism outfitters in the Local Study Area experienced a significant drop in business and revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic, but following the lifting of restrictions, they have observed a gradual increase in reservations, nearing pre-pandemic levels, although some have yet to reach their pre-pandemic revenue levels.

**Economic Planning and Development** - Marten Falls First Nation's unemployment rate is 30.8% with a labour participation rate of 41.9% according to Statistics Canada. Employment opportunities include teaching, health care, community services, winter road maintenance, post office, construction, and band administration.

### Study Areas

Study areas identify the geographic limit where potential effects of the road may occur. The existing conditions are documented for three study areas:

- Project Development Area (PDA): the area of direct disturbance
- Local Study Area (LSA): the area where direct effects of the road are likely to take place
- Regional Study Area (RSA): the area where indirect effects are likely to occur





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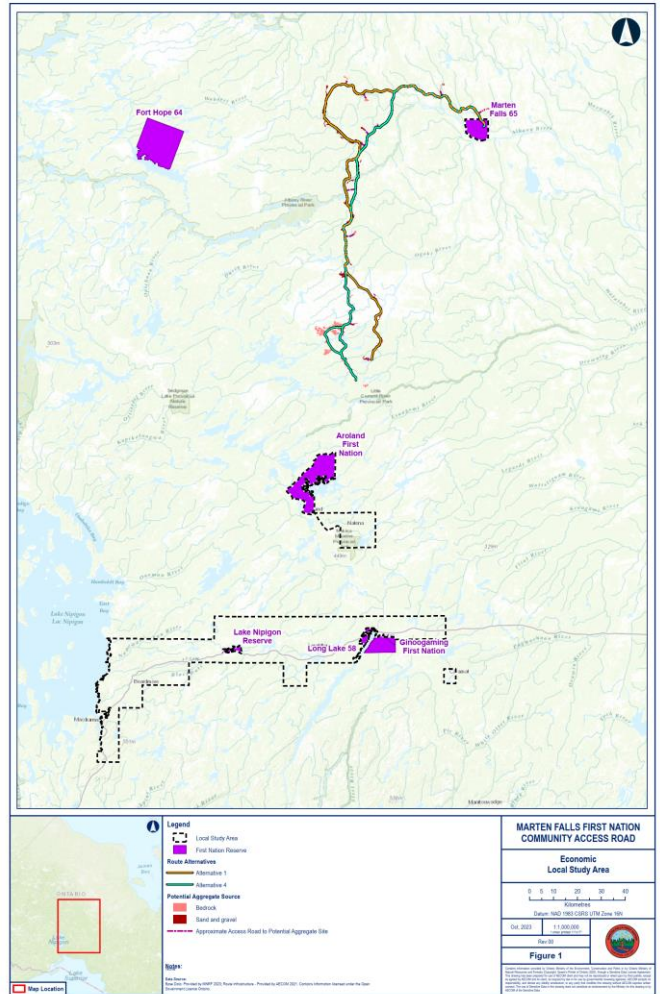
Approximately 80 people are employed in the community, including privately owned convenience / grocery store, fuel supply business, and lodging business.

Aroland First Nation Members currently operate small businesses including a gas bar, convenience store, taxi company, and tourist outfitters. Aroland First Nation's primary employment sectors include primary industries (natural resource extraction), retail, administration, education, health care, recreation, accommodation, food services, and also engage in a variety of small resource harvesting activities for commercial purposes.

A 2018 survey led by Greenstone Economic Development Corporation identified 109 businesses operating within the Greenstone municipality, with the majority employing 10 to 15 people.

In 2021, Marten Falls First Nation had community members employed in various sectors, including educational services, accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, and public administration, with 30 individuals engaged in the latter sector.

Aroland had members involved in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, manufacturing, educational services, health care and social assistance, and public administration. In Greenstone, natural resource extraction, manufacturing, retail, transportation, social services, and public administration were prominent sectors, with 11.2% of the population engaged in the primary industry, notably higher than the provincial average of 2.8%.





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## Contact Information

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

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