



Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Public Information Centre #7 Summary Report February 4, 2026

This summary report has been prepared to provide an overview of the feedback captured at Public Information Centre (PIC) #7 held virtually on February 4, 2026.

Timing and Location

Virtual via Microsoft Teams
February 4, 2026
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Introduction / Purpose

This was the fifth PIC held during the provincial Environmental Assessment and federal Impact Assessment phase of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road and the seventh PIC since the beginning of the Project. It focused on the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. The purpose of PIC #7 was to provide updates on:

- How the Community Access Road will impact Marten Falls First Nation;
- An overview of the Environmental Assessment Process;
- Information on the Preferred Route;
- What we have heard on the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement;
- The release of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement; and
- The review process for the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Notices and Promotion

A formal notice and invitation to PIC #7 was emailed to the project contact list and published on the website ([Marten Falls First Nation - Get Involved](#)) on January 27, 2026. Copies of the notice are provided in **Appendix A**.

Social Media Advertisements (see Appendix B)

- Facebook: January 24, 2026
- Instagram: January 24, 2026
- LinkedIn: January 24, 2026





Format and Attendance

PIC #7 was held virtually, the meeting included a presentation followed by a question and answer session. The Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road Project Team was available to answer questions.

The presentation slide deck shared at PIC #7 is included in **Appendix C**.

The pre-recorded presentation was made available on the Community Access Road website, included in **Appendix D**.

Attendance

A total of 31 individuals registered for the PIC #7, and approximately 22 participants attended. Attendees represented a broad cross-section of audiences, including community members and / or representatives from six different Indigenous communities, federal and provincial government agencies, interested persons, environmental organizations, and industry representatives.

Highlights of Participant Feedback

Attendees were encouraged to share their feedback, concerns and pose questions throughout the meeting using the Q&A function on Teams. Key items of interest raised by the public are included below. Note that all questions are labeled with a 'Q', comments with a 'C' and answers with an 'A'. Questions were answered by Project Team members and Consultants (Project Team). Questions with an asterisk (Q*) indicate that they were not answered during the meeting.

Community Access Road Timeline

Q: When is a decision expected on the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement?

A: The Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement will be submitted on February 20, 2026, and the review process will run until April 10, 2026. Following the review period, the government will consider the comments submitted to support a decision on whether the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement meets regulatory requirements, and if the Community Access Road can proceed (including terms or conditions of approval). The Ministry decision is expected in August 2026.

Q: Do you have an approximate idea of when road construction will begin?

A: Early construction activities are expected to begin after August 2026, after a decision is reached on the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. Full construction will follow afterwards, with the timeline dependent on agreements and contracts.

Q: Is the seven-week period ending April 10, 2026, the time in which First Nations review and provide comments? Will extensions be available to this review period?

A: The Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement was a voluntary process led by the Project Team, meaning the Project Team was able to manage timelines and offer extensions when requested. The Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement is administered by the regulators; the Marten





Falls First Nation Project Team does not have control of this timeline. This question will be shared with the regulators.

Q: Will the Marten Falls First Nation Project Team agree to postpone submission of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement to delay the seven-week review period beginning, to allow First Nations more time to discuss their comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement with Marten Falls First Nation? If not, is this because Marten Falls First Nation is bound by the February 20, 2026, date through an agreement with Ontario?

A: Through the 120-day Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement review process, Indigenous communities were encouraged to meet with the Project Team to discuss any questions or comments on the Draft. Multiple opportunities were also provided to learn more (e.g., meetings, webinars and videos). The Project Team has been working towards a February 20, 2026, release of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement date in consideration of the agreement reached between Marten Falls First Nation and Ontario on November 27, 2025.

Q*: Since April 10, 2026, is the end of the provincial review period, is there a different date for the end of the federal review period and an expected date of decision for the federal assessment?

A: The details of the federal assessment review period were not made available at the time of the meeting. The Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement has been posted on the IAAC website and they will host virtual information sessions in March.

Q*: Why did Marten Falls First Nation agree to the February 20, 2026, submission date without having consulted with affected First Nations about how this would impact their ability to engage in the review period? Marten Falls First Nation committed earlier to consulting with affected First Nations on major decisions / points in this process.

A: Marten Falls First Nation has led consultation and engagement throughout the Assessment Process and offered many opportunities to engage on each major milestone over these past 6 years. Additionally, Marten Falls First Nation chose to release the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement even though it was not a regulatory requirement. This was done to provide Indigenous communities early access to the Community Access Road information and findings and created meaningful opportunities for feedback prior to the submission of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement to the regulators. The review period was 120 days long and extensions were granted for those who requested it.

Without the release of the Draft Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, the first and only opportunity to review and comment would have occurred after submission of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. We believe that the decision to share information earlier reflects a good-faith effort to keep neighbouring Indigenous communities informed and meaningfully involved in the review process.

Indigenous communities were notified almost immediately after the agreement was announced, and multiple times leading up to submission of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, to provide as much advance notice as possible of the upcoming review period. While we recognize that the submission date occurred earlier than anticipated, it is important to note that members of Marten Falls





First Nation have been waiting nearly 20 years for this decision and have agreed to proceed with the next steps toward achieving their long-standing goals.

Employment Opportunities

Q: What job opportunities are expected to be available to Marten Falls First Nation community members related to the Community Access Road?

A: The Community Access Road will connect members to training and job opportunities, especially for young people in the region. Various jobs will become available to support planning and management, servicing construction camps, construction, and ongoing operations and maintenance of the road. The Project Team is committed to providing Marten Falls First Nation community members priority access to these jobs and expect many opportunities for neighbouring and local communities. Training programs are being planned to support future jobs.

Q: How will you ensure job information is accessible and that job seekers have access to this information?

A: Once the Project enters the construction phase, there will be efforts to advertise to Marten Falls First Nation and neighbouring Indigenous communities. The Project Team will employ multiple communication methods including but not limited to mailing lists, social media accounts, bulletin board postings, newspaper advertisements, and radio advertisements.

Q: How will individuals in the Aroland and Nakina area be able to apply for construction or other jobs coming later this year?

A: At this stage, more work is needed to plan job requirements and define the scope of and skillset required for each job. During the initial construction of the Community Access Road, there will be a limited number of jobs, which will be prioritized for Marten Falls First Nation. After that, jobs will be available to individuals in the Aroland and Nakina area and neighbouring Indigenous communities.

Q: Who creates connections with the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program, a First Nation work force development and Employment Ontario?

A: This is out of our scope. If interested in further information, please email the Marten Falls First Nation Project Team and we will provide the proper connection.

Environment

Q: How are you going to deal with forest fires?

SA: The Project Team prepared the Climate Change Report as part of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. This Report provided mitigation measures concerning fire prevention which include but are not limited to warming systems, keeping construction sites clean of flammable items, and procedures to follow for proper operations of the Community Access Road.

Engineering and Design

Q: Will the Albany Crossing be a ferry or bridge?

A: The Albany Crossing will be a bridge. The type of bridge will be confirmed in the detail design stage of the Project.





Operations and Ownership

Q: What's the plan for ongoing land monitoring and land management?

A: The province currently funds environmental advisory committees. The Project Team intends to take advantage of existing local advisory committees and utilize resources that already exist in the area.

Q: How will governance of the road be managed?

A: There are ongoing conversations with the provincial government regarding the role of Marten Falls First Nation in the administration of the road.

Q: Are there any mechanisms being developed to have First Nations control hunting, licensing, and land use permits?

A: Governance mechanisms are being negotiated to control access and minimize pressure on the land from non-Indigenous individuals. There will be controls in place for non-Indigenous people using the Community Access Road, and once an agreement is reached with the provincial government, it will be shared publicly by the proponent.

Other

Q: What is an Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests (ATRI) Impact Assessment Report?

A: The Project Team prepared community-specific ATRI Impact Assessment reports for Indigenous communities; these contain confidential information such as Indigenous Knowledge shared from communities. These ATRI Impact Assessment reports were shared with each community in June and July 2025 for feedback and are being updated based on the feedback received. The final community-specific ATRI Impact Assessment reports are expected to be released to communities in Spring 2026. There is also an ATRI Summary Report included in the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, which provides information on ATRI, our approach and what we heard, without including any confidential information.

Next Steps

The Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement is available online. The consultation and engagement on the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement will be undertaken by the regulators and feedback is welcomed from February 20, 2026, to April 10, 2026.

