



May 18, 2022

Panel Secretariat
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Marathon Palladium Mine Project-Closing Remarks

Please find attached the written Closing Remarks of the Crown Consultation Team (CCT), comprised of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) Crown Consultation Operations Division (CCOD), Ontario's Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNR) for the proposed Marathon Palladium Mine Project (the Project).

The written Closing Remarks provided hereafter aim to clarify and update information provided to the Joint Review Panel (the Panel) during the public hearings. These Closing Remarks were shared with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on May 4, 2022 for validation and comment. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg provided comments on May 16, 2022, which were included, for the most part, in this document.

The CCT's written Closing Remarks include:

- 1) CCT views of Proponent's response to Undertaking 31;
- 2) Updates to tables 6.2, 6.4 and 6.5 included in CCT February 25, 2022 written submission ([CIAR #1083](#)) entitled: *Biigtigong Nishnaabeg List of Proposed Crown Accommodations or Mitigation Measures with Crown Consultation Team Actions Taken Date*; and
- 3) Acknowledgement of the respective Traditional Knowledge (TK) reports provided by Pays Plat First Nation (PPFN) and the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) to the Panel.

The CCT is of the view that the information provided to the JRP during the public hearings has helped further inform, and in some instances, confirm, information included in the CCT's written submission ([CIAR# 1083](#)), including the CCT's preliminary assessments of the Project potential impacts on established or asserted s. 35 rights and suggested recommendations. The CCT appreciates all the work done by the Indigenous groups to provide their concerns regarding the Project to the Panel for their consideration. The CCT also appreciates the Proponent's ongoing work with the Indigenous groups to avoid, reduce, mitigate and where necessary, develop solutions related to potential impacts on established or asserted s. 35 rights.

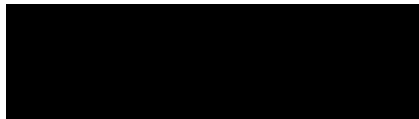




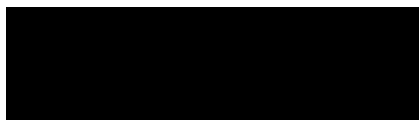
The Crown's final assessment of the severity of potential impacts on established or asserted s. 35 rights from the Project will be included in the forthcoming Crown Consultation and Accommodation Report (CCAR). The CCAR will be informed by the information shared during the hearings, by the findings in the Panel's Report and through continued consultation activities with Indigenous groups up to the time of the respective federal and provincial environmental assessment (EA) Decisions.

The CCT will continue to consult with the Indigenous groups prior release of the Panel report to further its understanding of the concerns raised to date and provide an opportunity to receive and consider additional information. Following the submission of the Panel's report, the CCT will consult with Indigenous groups on the recommendations of the Panel, in order to help inform the collaborative approach to finalize the CCAR. This will be done in a manner consistent with the principles of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples that meets constitutional obligations and upholds the honour of the Crown.

Sincerely,



Ian Ketcheson
Director General, Crown Consultation Division
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada



Trina Rawn
Director, Mineral Development Branch
Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

c.c.: Jason Patchell, Panel Manager, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
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Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada



Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
Ministère de l'Énergie, du Développement du Nord et des Mines

Carolyn Lee, Special Project Officer, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks





Crown Consultation Team - Closing Remarks

1. CCT views of Proponent's response to Undertaking 31

The CCT understands that the Proponent and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg have jointly identified commitments that have been included in the Proponent's response to Undertaking 31 ([CIAR# 1276](#)). This response, which was provided to the Panel, outlines the Proponent's measures to address concerns and impacts relating to following:

- closure planning;
- discharges from the pit;
- the maintenance of the Stream 6/Angler Creek system;
- water quality monitoring plans and programs;
- fish and fish habitat compensation and offsetting;
- accidents and malfunctions;
- land use planning;
- socio-economic factors;
- traplines and access to territory;
- moose, caribou and other species of importance; and
- social services, safety and health impacts.

The CCT understands that some of these commitments involve future regulatory and permitting processes, including closure planning regulated by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF) in accordance with O. Reg 240/00. The CCT understands that the Proponent has committed to obtaining the informed consent of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg with respect to its final Closure Plan and NDMNRF commits to fulfilling its duty to consult prior to the acknowledgment of the Proponent's filed certified closure plan.

The CCT also recognizes that several commitments jointly identified by the Proponent and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg in the Proponent's response to Undertaking 31 may require contributions and commitments from the Crown. The CCT acknowledges that Crown actions may be required to address some of the impacts to Biigtigong Nishnaabeg identified in the Proponent's response to Undertaking 31. The CCT commits to continue working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and the Proponent in this regard. The CCT also commits to working with other Indigenous groups, as necessary, to address potential impacts. At this juncture, Ontario Ministries cannot commit to taking the actions contemplated in the Proponent's response to Undertaking 31 in advance of appropriate statutory decision making processes.

2. Updates to tables 6.2, 6.4 and 6.5 included in CCT February 25, 2022 written submission (CIAR #1083) entitled: *Biigtigong Nishnaabeg List of Proposed Crown Accommodations or Mitigation Measures with Crown Consultation Team Actions Taken Date*





All relevant updates to tables 6.2, 6.4 and 6.5 are denoted with underlined text and have been included in Appendix A of this document. In addition to the updated text in the tables, the following subsections provide updates and additional detail related to a number of key items contained in Appendix A.

Update: Measures to Address Cumulative Impacts from the Project on Socio-Economic Conditions

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has shared information throughout the EA process, including the hearings, regarding the potential impacts of the Project on its socio-economic environment, including housing, water, sewage, education, health, safety, family and social services as grounded in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's cultural context ([CIAR# 1240](#), [CIAR# 1234](#), [CIAR# 1233](#), [CIAR# 1232](#)). The CCT reiterated much of this information in section 6.1.8.1 of its written submission ([CIAR# 1083](#)). This included the CCT's preliminary assessment that the Project has the potential for a moderate to high impact on Biigtigong Nishnaabeg socio-economic conditions and values.

The CCT acknowledges the shared responsibility of the Proponent, the Crown and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to address these concerns. The CCT understands and agrees with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's evaluation that it is not the sole responsibility of the Proponent to remedy pre-existing or cumulative socio-economic impacts from the Project on the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg community. The CCT is also working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to obtain outstanding information that may assist in identify solutions to these impacts and concerns.

Indigenous Services Canada is committed to continue working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and GenPGM to identify potential solutions and options regarding their requests related to impacts on the socio-economic environment.

Update: Measures to Address Project Impacts on Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's Community Trapline TR-022

In section 6.1.7.1.2 of the CCT's written submission ([CIAR# 1083](#)), the CCT recognizes the potential impacts of the Project to the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's community trapline, TR 022. NDMNRF recognizes that it plays an administrative role in accommodating these impacts by working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to support the allocation of an alternate community trapline. This alternate trapline is necessary to provide Biigtigong Nishnaabeg harvesters with an alternative to pursue the communal, commercial, cultural, technical, and training activities associated with a community trapline. NDMNRF remains committed to working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg towards the identification and allocation of a suitable community trapline. NDMNRF has identified and confirmed administrative options and pathways through which the allocation of an





alternate community trapline to Biigtigong Nishnaabeg may be pursued and is in active discussions with the community regarding this matter.

The CCT remains of the view that the Proponent's Harvester Training Fund should, at minimum, fully compensate Biigtigong Nishnaabeg for the economic value lost from the community trapline. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has provided the Panel with the economic value of the community trapline. The CCT is also of the view that the Proponent should also provide compensation for cost incurred from the displacement of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg members and costs associated with harvesters re-establishing their practices elsewhere.

Update: Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Request to Fast-track Commitment to Fund and Build New Water Treatment Plant

Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has informed the CCT that funding for the water treatment plant has been successfully awarded by the appropriate Crown entities and that planning and design is currently underway.

3. Acknowledgement of Traditional Knowledge (TK) reports of Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and Pays Plat First Nation (PPFN)

The CCT acknowledges that the Traditional Territory and Traditional Use report ([CIAR# 1264](#)) from Pays Plat First Nation and the Traditional Land Use and Knowledge Study (including Métis Valued Ecosystem Components) ([CIAR# 1252](#)) from Métis Nation of Ontario have been sent to the Panel for their consideration. These reports were received in time to be considered in the CCT's written submission or presented orally as part of it's presentations. The CCT will continue to work with the aforementioned Indigenous groups to review and consider these reports in the assessment of the Projects potential impacts on their rights.



Appendix A

Table 1: Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Proposed Accommodations or Mitigation Measures Updates from CCT submission CIAR# 1083 Table 6.2.

Aquatic Environment: Biigtigong Nishnaabeg List of Proposed Crown Accommodations or Mitigation Measures with Crown Consultation Team Actions Taken to Date		
Issue	Proposed Accommodation	CCT Action
Despite best efforts and high regulatory standards, there will be impacts to water and fish. Water is a cultural resource for the community, not just a biological resource.	Establish new Indigenous Waterways as Indigenous Protected Areas (IUCN Category II Parks).	<u>Parks Canada Agency (PCA) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) have confirmed their availability to support efforts led by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg for the establishment of a new Indigenous led Protected Area.</u>
	Dedicated micro-hatchery learning facility.	<u>NDMNRF has been working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg since 2018 by providing 10 000 brook trout eggs annually from the Dorion Fish Culture Station in support of its outdoor education curriculum, which provides the students with the opportunity to learn about and observe the growth/development. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has indicated interest in expanding their current program to include stocking fish from their hatchery into suitable area waters, and potentially adding walleye to their program. NDMNRF would like to work directly with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to better understand the request and explore potential opportunities as appropriate. Further discussion occurred on May 5th, 2022. Additional meetings are now required between both federal and provincial entities and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to further explore funding and other supports available from the Crowns to support this request. Specifically, DFO and NDMNRF will commit to engaging with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and GenPGM to clarify if aspects of this program may be considered as offsetting under the Fisheries Act, and help to clarify associated roles and responsibilities. MECP will engage with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and GenPGM to explore and provide the required technical assistance to support species and habitat studies that would be required prior to the potential expansion of the hatchery program managed by Biigtigong</u>

		<p><u>Nishnaabeg, as well as potential opportunities for stocking in area waters. The NDMNRF will work with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to navigate the provincial permitting process required to potentially establish a hatchery and stocking program.</u></p>
	<p>Support needed for Biigtigong water quality monitoring program (before mine, construction, operation, closure, post-closure).</p>	<p>ECCC and IAAC identified Biigtigong Nishnaabeg as a candidate for the Swim Drink Fish Great Lakes Communities Recreational Waters Monitoring Initiative in the summer of 2021. In November 2021, Biigtigong Nishnaabeg signed an MOU and received support to set up a new monitoring hub under the program, including lab equipment and materials, salary for a full-time monitoring coordinator, community outreach and communications, and training. Current funding is through March 2022.</p> <p>IAAC worked with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on an application for the Agency’s Indigenous Capacity Support Program - Stream 3. On Dec 23, 2021 Biigtigong Nishnaabeg was informed that their application was successful and the community received \$50,974.00 from the IAAC to assist with collecting community input and recommendations regarding the development of a long-term community led water quality, fish tissue and aquatic monitoring program.</p> <p>IAAC shared a Draft Discussion Paper for Principles Based Monitoring with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on June 4, 2021. IAAC has offered to continue the dialogue with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to identify if this will address Biigtigong Nishnaabeg’s stated desire for long-term monitoring.</p> <p><u>Biigtigong submitted a proposal to ISC under the First Nations Baseline Assessment Program on Health and the Environment. ISC has provided funding in the amount of \$250,000 over 3 years to support the project.</u></p>
<p>Over 60% of the Title area has been licensed, leased or developed by 3rd parties. Cumulative impacts are having</p>	<p>Support discussions of a Lake Superior Anishnaabeg Management Authority for meaningful engagements in Lake</p>	<p>NDMNRF, indicated their Upper Great Lakes Management Unit (UGLMU) is open to having discussions regarding the concept of an Anishbaabeg Management Authority to facilitate meaningful engagement on Lake Superior fisheries management activities and decisions with local First Nation</p>

a real impact on the use and cultural connections to the land. The mine will be additive to these stressors.

Superior conservation, monitoring, quotas, policing, and decision making.

communities. It aligns with early thinking on collaborative approaches to fisheries management on the Great Lakes. NDMNRF is committed to participating in these discussions with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg with a specific focus on Lake Superior areas within the asserted exclusive Aboriginal Title Area of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg.

ECCC has highlighted the opportunity to participate in the Lake Superior Partnership, which consists of multiple groups who participate in Lakewide Action and Management Plans (LAMPs) under the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. ECCC is committed to develop a process together with First Nations that will engage First Nations in decision-making and the application of traditional ecological knowledge, when offered, as it relates to assessing lake status, identifying priorities for science and action, and taking action to address issues on a lakewide basis. ECCC is committed to provide opportunities for First Nations to engage in the implementation of the Canada-Ontario Agreement and contribute to the restoration, protection and conservation of Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health; and to support the capacity building of First Nations organizations and communities to address Great Lakes issues, including through the application of traditional ecological knowledge.

PCA is supportive of discussions related to a management authority for Biigtigong's meaningful engagement in the conservation activities of Lake Superior.

Table 2: :Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Proposed Accommodations or Mitigation Measures Updates from CCT submission CIAR# 1083 Table 6.4.

Terrestrial Environment: Biigtigong Nishnaabeg List of Proposed Crown Accommodations or Mitigation Measures and Crown Consultation Team Actions Taken to Date		
Issue	Proposed Accommodation or Mitigation Measures	CCT Actions
<p>The community trapline (TRO22) will become off-limits for harvesting with access restrictions.</p>	<p>Funding and support for community Trapline replacement.</p>	<p>The NDMNRF met with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on December 3, 2021, to discuss the allocation of an alternate community trapline. The NDMNRF proposed several potential candidate traplines, which have been identified by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg as not suitable candidates for a community trapline at this time. The NDMNRF has considered the information shared by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg during this discussion and is continuing to work internally and with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to identify how the impact associated with the Project may be addressed. <u>The CCT notes that Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has already begun to reach out to other licensed trappers to discuss its interests in the acquisition of an alternate trapline. The NDMNRF will continue to work directly with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg towards the identification and allocation of a suitable alternate line, having regard to its policies and legal obligations. NDMNRF has identified and confirmed administrative options and pathways through which the allocation of an alternate community trapline to Biigtigong Nishnaabeg may be pursued and is in active discussions with the community regarding this matter. A meeting was held May 5, 2022 for follow up discussions between the NDMNRF and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg.</u></p>
<p>Camp 19 Road will essentially be closed for community cultural use. Additional pressure will be placed on the already-stressed Deadhorse road and watershed.</p>	<p>Create a bypass road (Gaffhook Lake Access), with access controlled by Biigtigong.</p>	<p>The NDMNRF has engaged in preliminary internal discussions related to this request. The NDMNRF is interested in discussing this in more detail and working directly with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to explore potential available options. <u>Follow up discussions between the NDMNRF and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg are planned. The CCT acknowledges the commitment included in the Proponent’s response to Undertaking 31 that states “GenPGM commits to engage with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to support the proposed Crown accommodation measure and Crown funding to “Create a bypass road (Gaffhook Lake Access), with access controlled by Biigtigong” (CIAR# 1083, PDF 57)”. The NDMNRF remains committed to working</u></p>

<p>Despite best efforts and high regulatory standards, the Project will have direct impacts on both caribou and moose habitat. Both species are important cultural resources for the community. Moose are an important food source as well.</p>	<p>Support the peer reviewed, detailed mapping of caribou habitat suitability in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's traditional Territory. Evaluate existing recovery zones and options for new configurations to link caribou within the discontinuous range.</p>	<p><u>with BN and GenPGM to identify administrative solutions as appropriate, but has not committed to funding for road construction. NDMNRF is of the view that any funds required to create a bypass road should come from the Proponent.</u></p> <p>Ontario is committed to receiving input related to Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) regarding caribou recovery and meeting any constitutional duty to consult obligations that may exist with respect to potential adverse impacts to established or asserted s. 35 rights.</p> <p><u>MECP and ECCC will continue to engage in dialogue with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and explore collaborative partnerships for caribou recovery within the Lake Superior Coast Range.</u></p> <p>Continue discussions IAAC initiated with ECCC regarding potential programs that may align with the concerns expressed by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and solution inquires, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship Program for Species at Risk • Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk • Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund - Canada.ca • Canada Nature Fund - Canada.ca
<p>Transfer full control of wildlife management programs to Biigtigong within Biigtigong's Title area (e.g., setting of moose tags and quotas for Wildlife Management Area 21A (Deadhorse Area) and the management of caribou recovery strategies).</p>	<p>Initial requests submitted by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg identified a need for meaningful engagement in the setting of moose tag quotas for WMU 21A as well as on caribou recovery strategies. These requests have been shared with the appropriate government groups for further discussion. The updated request for the transfer of full control over such wildlife management programs will require additional time for the Ministry to consider. <u>The CCT and NDMNRF note that in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's presentation to the panel dated April 6th, 2022 (CIAR# 1235), the community requested to be meaningfully engaged in wildlife management issues in general, and decision making for WMU 21A more specifically. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg have requested to split WMU 21A into two - an eastern and a western portion. The NDMNRF will continue to discuss the request with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on WMU 21A moose management, specifically in the Deadhorse Road area, and look for ways to address Biigtigong Nishnaabeg's interests and concerns. Preliminary discussions occurred between the NDMNRF</u></p>	

and BN on May 5, 2022, with a commitment by NDMNRF to provide Biigtigong Nishnaabeg with additional information related to moose management and for follow up discussions to occur in the near future.

MECP will continue to engage in dialogue with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and explore collaborative partnerships for caribou recovery within the Lake Superior Coast Range.

Endowment for training
and hiring of a Biigtigong
Nishnaabeg
Conservation/Wildlife
Safety Officer.

No updates to provide as of February 2022.

Table 3: :Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Proposed Accommodations or Mitigation Measures Updates from CCT submission CIAR# 1083 Table 6.5.

Socio-Economic Conditions: Biigtigong Nishnaabeg List of Proposed Crown Accommodations or Mitigation Measures with Crown Consultation Team Actions Taken to Date

Accommodation or Mitigation Measures	CCT Actions
Support and funding of a social service plan and targeted health services plan. This would be dovetailed with the existing community wellness plan	Continue discussions IAAC initiated with ISC regarding potential FNIHB programs that may align with the concerns and the Health Services Integration Fund: Health Services Integration Fund (sac-isc.gc.ca) . Community Wellness Program will work with other ISC programs, communities and partner organizations to support community health and wellness. <u>The CCT acknowledges the commitment included in the Proponent’s response to Undertaking 31 that states “GenPGM commits to engage with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to support the following proposed Crown accommodation measure “Support and funding of a social service plan and targeted health services plan” (CIAR# 1083, PDF 80) for Biigtigong Nishnaabeg members who are employed through the Project.”</u>
Support and funding of a women and children wellness and safety plan.	CMHC and IAAC provided Biigtigong Nishnaabeg with information related to: Indigenous Shelter and Transitional Housing initiative support construction of shelters. Submission window for proposals will remain open on a continual basis until December 2023. Please see the Health Services Integration Fund (sac-isc.gc.ca) as resources may be available for application. Follow up with FNIHB for details.
Mandatory, advanced cultural sensitivity training for all mine workers (understanding of Residential Schools, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, etc.)	Please see CCT recommendation to the JRP regarding the Proponent’s need to develop mandatory training in consultation with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg.
Support and funding for annual monitoring and evaluation of programs and services to align resources with changing needs such as: additional community health nurses, mental	Continue discussions IAAC initiated with ISC regarding potential FNIHB programs that may align with the concerns and the Health Services Integration Fund: Health Services Integration Fund (sac-isc.gc.ca) . Community Wellness Program will work with other ISC programs, communities and partner organizations to support community health and wellness.

<p>health and addiction services programs, home and community care programs and nurses, medical transportation programs, Indigenous traditional healing programs and Elder support programs.</p>	
<p>Additional staff and support for the North East Mental Wellness and Crisis Response Team.</p>	<p>Continue discussions IAAC initiated with ISC regarding potential FNIHB programs that may align with the concerns and the Health Services Integration Fund: Health Services Integration Fund (sac-isc.gc.ca). Community Wellness Program will work with other ISC programs, communities and partner organizations to support community health and wellness.</p>
<p>Commitment to design, fund and build new Emergency Response Centre - consolidated fire, police, medical transport program, helicopter airlift landing station, new fire trucks, funding for new police staff and equipment.</p>	<p>Please see the Emergency Management Assistance Program (sac-isc.gc.ca) as resources may be available.</p> <p><u>The CCT acknowledges that additional Crown supports and funding may be required to address this concern, including provision of funding and supports for facilities and related infrastructure, equipment, staffing, training and maintenance supports and commits to continuing dialogue with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to address these needs and concerns.</u></p>
<p>Emergency Response Plan relating to the mine.</p>	<p>Please see CCT recommendation to the JRP regarding the Proponent need to consult Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on the Emergency Response Plan. <u>The CCT acknowledges the commitment included in the Proponent’s response to Undertaking 31 that states “GenPGM commits to engage with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and the Town of Marathon to jointly create a coordinated Emergency Response Plan relating to the Project.”</u></p>
<p>Funding commitment for land suitability study and comprehensive community needs assessment and geotech studies.</p>	<p>ISC has provided \$194,000 (in total) to Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to complete a Land Use Plan. A document is currently being reviewed by Chief and Council and <u>Biigtigong Nishnaabeg is currently determining if additional financial supports are required to complete the necessary needs assessments and geotechnical studies. Should additional supports be required, Biigtigong Nishnaabeg will inform the appropriate Crown entities and initiate further discussion.</u></p>
<p>Funding commitment to prepare subdivision lots for 50 houses.</p>	<p>IAAC initiated discussions with CMHC to explore potential solutions. <u>Additional discussions are required between Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, CMHC and other Crown entities, as appropriate, to identify funding and other supports to address this issue. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg will provide</u></p>

	<u>preliminary cost estimates and assessments, as needed, to support further discussions and to identify potential solutions.</u>
Funding commitment for 40 houses (10 can be community-member owned).	IAAC initiated discussions with CMHC to explore potential solutions. <u>Additional discussions are required between Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, CMHC and other Crown entities, as appropriate, to identify funding and other supports to address this issue. Biigtigong Nishnaabeg will provide preliminary cost estimates and assessments, as needed, to support further discussions and to identify potential solutions.</u>
Fast-track commitment to fund and build new water treatment plant.	<u>Biigtigong Nishnaabeg has informed the CCT that funding for the water treatment plant has been successfully awarded by the appropriate Crown entities and that planning and design is currently underway.</u> <u>ISC, IAAC, MECP and NDMNRF have actively worked with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on the approval process associated with the water treatment facility, which was accomplished within Biigtigong Nishnaabeg mid-May 2022 deadline.</u>
Commitment for design and construction of new sewage treatment plan.	No updates to provide as of February 2022.
Commitment for funding and construction of a new school;	ISC published a joint announcement on December 9 th , 2021 with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg regarding the construction of a new school. See: https://ofntsc.org/news/construction-begin-new-school-biigtigong-nishnaabeg-first-nation GoC has committed an investment of \$25.8 million to support the new school and is working in close partnership with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg leadership to ensure the project is successful. Construction is set to begin in winter/spring of 2022 and is expected to be completed by summer 2023.
Funding commitment for special education teachers / occupational therapists.	ESDC indicated early learning and child care (ELCC) program provides funding to provincial and territorial governments for programs and services through bilateral agreements. ELCC programs and services would be available through the province of Ontario: https://www.ontario.ca/page/provide-child-care-and-early-years-programs .

Funding for new school busses and transportation services.	No updates to provide as of February 2022.
Commitment for funding and construction of land-based education infrastructure based on difference in costs between the old and new school building standards.	No updates to provide as of February 2022.
Protection of core areas as our outdoor classroom Permitting and support for outdoor classrooms on the land (long house, cabins, cooking station, etc.).	<p><u>The CCT understands that Biigtigong Nishnaabeg would like to address this issue in concert with the issue noted above, regarding land-based education infrastructure, as the two issues are elements of a broader concern regarding socio-cultural impacts from the Project. The CCT commits to continue to explore existing government funding that could align with this request, including but not limited to Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA) program.</u></p> <p><u>The NDMNRF would like to discuss this matter in more detail directly with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and work collaboratively regarding this proposal to better understand Biigtigong Nishnaabeg’s interests and to explore potential opportunities. A meeting between the NDMNRF and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to discuss the request in more detail occurred on May 5, 2022. Additional meetings are now required between both federal and provincial entities and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to refine understandings and explore funding and other supports available from the Crowns to support this request.</u></p>
Dedicated micro-hatchery learning facility.	<p>NDMNRF has been working with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg since 2018 for the provision of 10 000 brook trout eggs annually from a hatchery in Dorion, ON in support of its outdoor education curriculum, which provides the students with the opportunity to learn about and observe the growth/development. NDMNRF would like to work directly with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to better understand the request and explore potential opportunities as appropriate. <u>Further discussions about a dedicated micro-hatchery learning facility occurred on May 5th, 2022. Additional meetings are now required between both federal and provincial entities and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to explore funding and other supports available from the Crowns to support this request. Specifically, DFO will work with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and GenPGM to clarify if aspects of this program may be considered as offsetting under the Fisheries Act, and help to clarify associated roles and responsibilities. NDMNRF commit to engaging with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to explore and provide</u></p>

some technical advice such as recommended assessment tools and methodologies to support species and habitat studies that will be required prior to the establishment of a potential hatchery program managed by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg. The NDMNRF will work with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to navigate the provincial permitting process required to potentially establish a hatchery.
