

# PROJECT 6: ALL-SEASON ROAD

LINKING MANTO SIPI CREE NATION, BUNIBONIBEE CREE  
NATION AND GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION

MANITOBA TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE

## Project 6: Request for Extension under CEAA, 2012

July 19, 2022

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# GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

## Acronyms

Following is a list of acronyms likely to be used:

%	Percent
BCR	Band Council Resolution
CEAA	<i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i>
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESP	Environmental Service Provider
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
FA	Federal Advisor
ha	Hectares
km	Kilometre
MECP	Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, or the Agency
MTI	Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
OEMP	Operation Environmental Management Program
Plan	Project 6 work plan requesting extension under CEAA 2012
Project	Project 6
RAA	Regional Assessment Area
SAR	Species at Risk
SARA	<i>Species at Risk Act</i>
TIA	<i>Transportation Infrastructure Act</i>
VC	Valued Component

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Purpose and Objectives

Project 6 (the Project) is a proposed 141 km two-lane all-season road (ASR) linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and God's Lake First Nation located in northeastern Manitoba (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed Project consists of three road sections that will begin at the Reserve boundaries and generally traverse 71.9 km west and southwest from Manto Sipi Cree Nation, 39.5 km southeast from Bunibonibee Cree Nation and 29.6 km northwest from God's Lake First Nation where the three sections intersect. The Project would provide year-round vehicular access among these communities that currently depend on restricted seasonal winter road access or other modes of travel (e.g. airplane) to access their communities and southern goods and services. The Project is one of several ASRs proposed for the region east of Lake Winnipeg to facilitate year-round travel.

On July 28, 2017, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (now the Impact Assessment Agency, or the Agency) decided that a federal environmental assessment (EA) was required for the proposed Project and commenced an EA pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*, 2012. The Agency, the authority responsible for federal review of the proposed Project, provided Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) with a letter on November 15, 2021 indicating that information required to be complete the review of the Project needs to be submitted by August 28, 2022; this is the three-year time limit established under section 181 (2) of the *Impact Assessment Act (IAA)*; Appendix 1). The same letter noted that the Agency may, at a proponent's request, grant an extension of the three-year legislated time limit for any period necessary for the proponent to provide the required information and studies in accordance with subsection 181(2.1) of the *Impact Assessment Act (IAA)*.

The information contained in this work plan represents MTI's request to extend the period of federal review of the Project under CEAA, 2012. The Agency will consider extensions to the time limit for projects that are well advanced and can reasonably provide required information and studies within or near the legislated timeline established under subsection 181(2) of the IAA. The Agency provided a list of the information that MTI would need to provide to inform the federal determination on whether to grant an extension. The information and studies that would subsequently be required to complete the federal review process would include the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and any additional required information and studies that may be identified as a result of:

- the Agency's conformity review of the EIS;
- the public comment period on the EIS Summary;
- the technical review of the EIS by the Agency and federal authorities; and
- associated consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.

Figure 1: Projects Associated with the Large Area Transportation Network Study

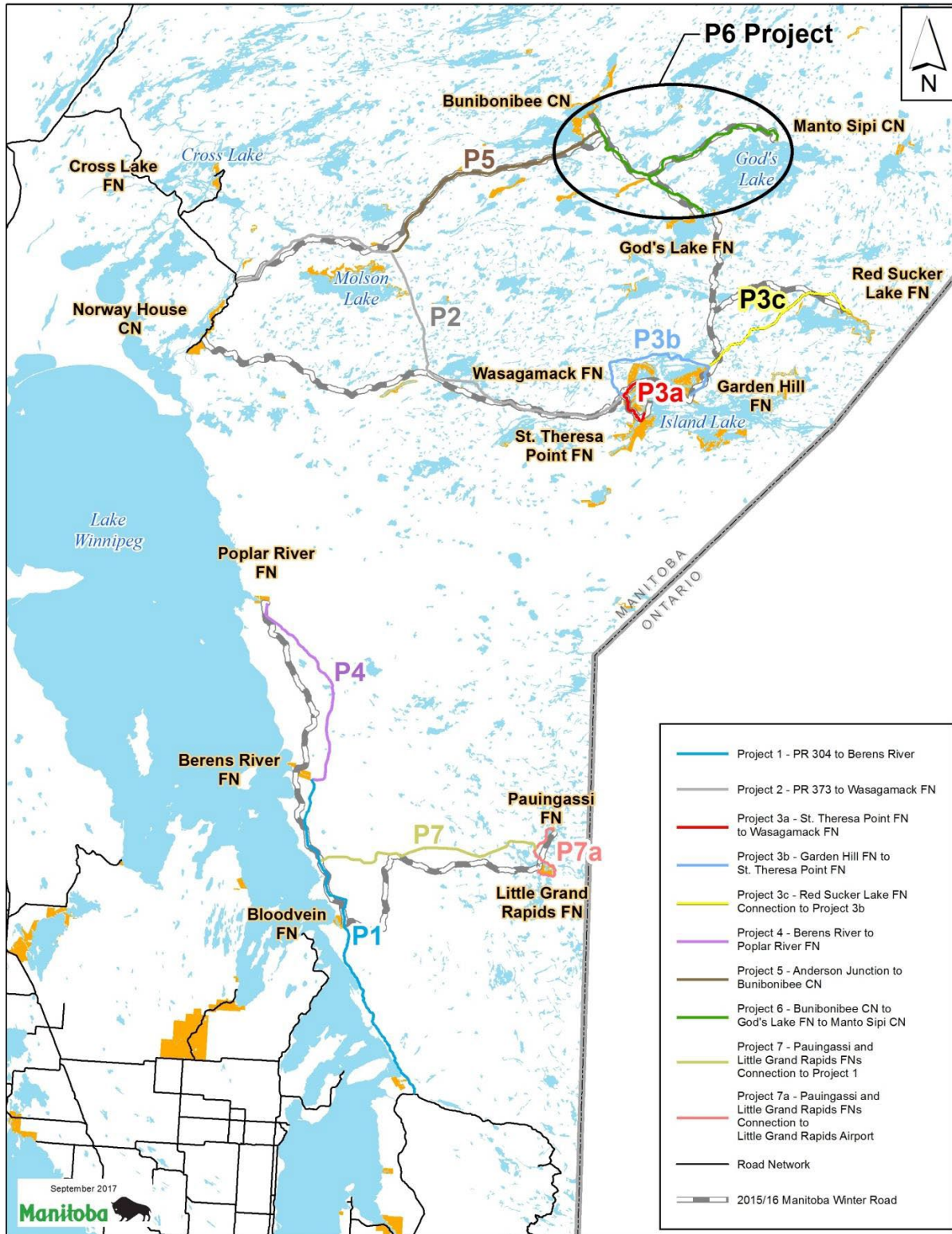
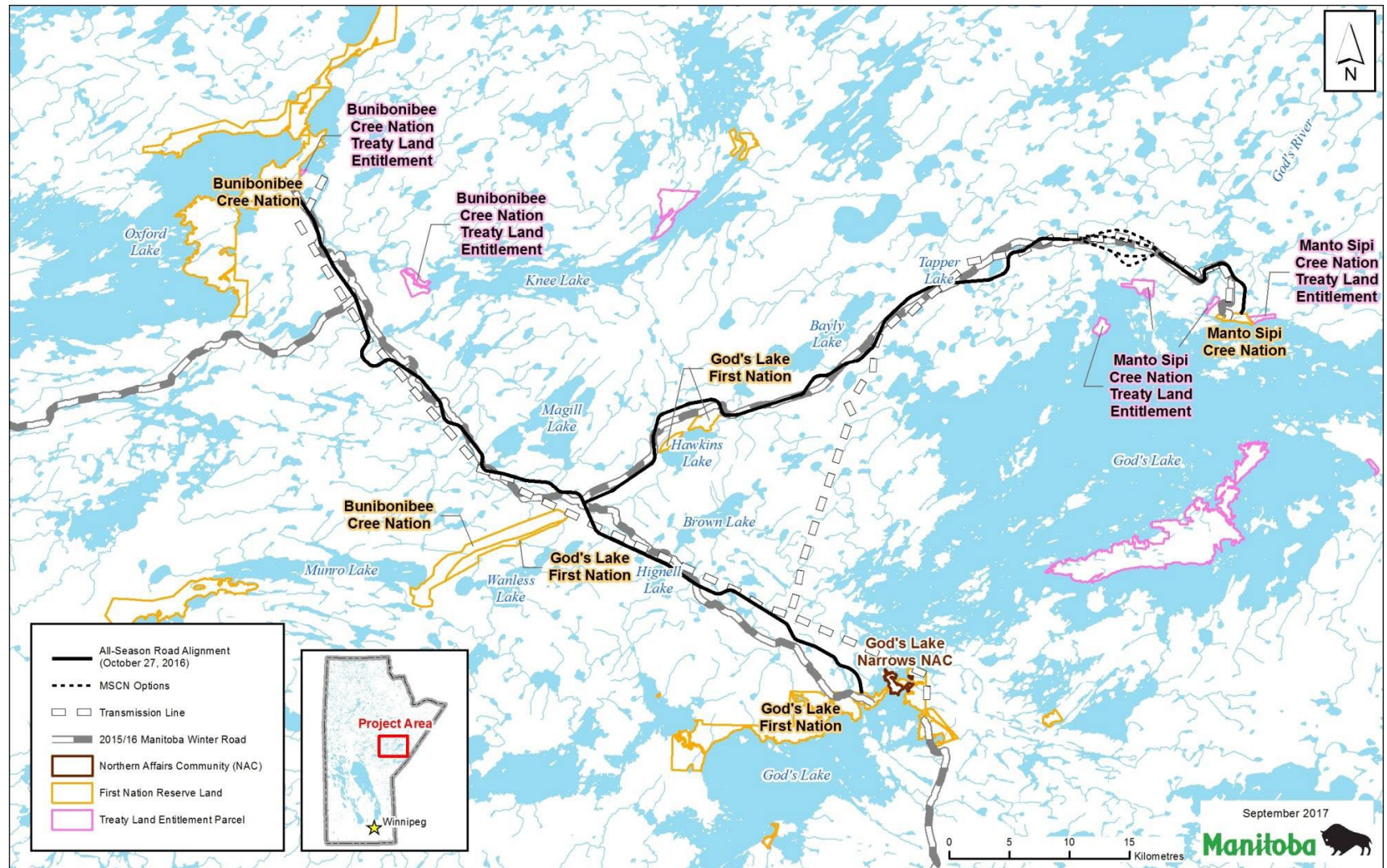


Figure 2: Proposed Project 6 All-Season Road Alignment



MTI is providing this work plan in compliance with the Agency’s letters (dated November 15, 2021 and March 10, 2022; see Appendix 1) and subsection 181 (2.1) of the IAA, which stipulates that: “At the proponent’s request, the Agency may, before the time limit referred to in subsection (2) has expired, extend the time limit by any period that is necessary for the proponent to provide the Agency with the information or studies”. The current submission provides the following information requested by the Agency in the letter of November 15, 2021 in support of MTI’s request for a four-year extension of the federal review of Project 6 under CEAA, 2012:

- reasons, directly related to the environmental assessment process, for requesting an extension of the time limit (e.g. baseline studies that could require multiple field seasons to complete)
- any changes to the environment at the project location, or to the project itself, that have occurred and may affect the environmental assessment;
- a list of engagement activities, linked to the development of required information and studies, undertaken with Indigenous groups and the public;
- any documentation demonstrating the advancement of the environmental assessment that began in July 2017;
- a work plan detailing the progress made to date and how the additional time requested would be utilized to provide the required information and studies, including:
  - any required information and studies resulting from the public comment period on the EIS, and
  - the technical review by the Agency, federal authorities, and consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.
- if the extension is related to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, details of how specifically the COVID-19 pandemic impacted advancement of the assessment. This could be included in a work plan outlining which activities were delayed or cancelled; and
- any additional information that you believe is relevant.

## 1.2 Background

The Project is one of a series of proposed all-season roads being planned to connect Indigenous communities in northeastern Manitoba (Figure 2). The proposed Project is a designated project under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (CEAA, 2012)*, which requires a federal EA under the Act. Under Manitoba law, the proposed Project is considered a ‘Class 2’ development (e.g. a two lane road at a new location with associated facilities and borrow pits) under the Classes of Development Regulation (164/88) of The *Environment Act (Manitoba)* and requires development of an EIS to obtain the required *Environment Act* Licence.

The Agency and Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks (MECP) are the authorities responsible for federal and provincial review of the proposed Project. In addition to addressing the EIS Guidelines, federal approvals and provincial permits will be required under several acts to address various Project activities, such as the: *The Fisheries Act, Canadian Navigable Waters Act, Mines and Minerals Act* (quarry development), *Wildfires Act* (burning) and the *Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act* (petroleum storage tanks). Under



the *Transportation Infrastructure Act (TIA)*, MTI is responsible for the construction and operation of transportation infrastructure.

Broad area planning that became the Project and other transportation initiatives began in August 2000 with the East Side Transportation Initiative. The rationale for moving forward with the all-season road projects on the east side of Lake Winnipeg was provided in the 2011 East Side Lake Winnipeg Large Area Transportation Network Study (LATN; SNC-Lavalin et al. 2011). Table 1 illustrates the key EA-related tasks that have occurred for the Project after the completion of the LATN study. The proposed schedule to deliver the project is outlined in Section 4 (Schedule).

**Table 1: Key Steps In-Progress and Completed by Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure Regarding Completing the Environmental Assessment Process for Project 6 under CEAA 2012**

Task	Date(s)	Status
<b>Project Description</b>		
Project Description and Summary Document submitted by MTI to the Agency	May 31, 2017	Complete
Public Comment Period on Summary of Project Description	June 13, 2017 – July 4, 2017	Complete
<b>Notice of Environmental Assessment</b>		
Notice of Environmental Assessment issued by the Agency	July 28, 2017	Complete
<b>EIS Guidelines</b>		
Draft Guidelines issued by the Agency	July 28, 2017	Complete
Public Comment Period on Draft EIS Guidelines	July 28, 2017 – August 28, 2017	Complete
Final EIS Guidelines issued by the Agency	September 18, 2017	Complete
<b>Notice of Federal Funding Available</b>		
Notice of federal funding available issued by the Agency	November 1, 2017	Complete
<b>EIS and Supporting Studies</b>		
Baseline aquatic and terrestrial field studies	2017 and 2018	Complete
Heritage Resources Impact Assessment	November 2016	Complete
EIS submitted by MTI	July 24, 2018	Complete
Non-conformance letter issued by IAAC	August 27, 2018	Complete

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Status</b>
EIS updated and resubmitted to meet conformity requirements	April 8, 2019	Complete
Public Comment Period on EIS Summary	May 6, 2019- June 6, 2019	Complete
<b>Information Requests</b>		
Request received by MTI on ("Round 1, Package 1")	June 26, 2019	Complete
Request received by MTI on ("Round 1, Package 2")	November 15, 2021	Complete
<b>Consultation and Engagement</b>		
Manto Sipi Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation and Bunibonibee Cree Nation Indigenous Engagement Meetings for Environmental Assessment	December 8, 2016- February 22, 2018	Complete
Public Engagement meetings for Environmental Assessment- Public Open House	May 17, 2017- November 22, 2017	Complete
Six rounds of consultation and engagement processes with Indigenous Groups (First Nations, Northern Affairs Communities, Indigenous organizations) have occurred	2009-2018	Complete

Some of the notable milestones associated with EA-related measures that have been taken include:

- Planning and design studies.
- Engagement with Indigenous communities with respect to the Project occurred over six rounds that were initiated in 2009 and is expected to continue if the extension is granted.
- The determination of environmental effects associated with the Project were supported by:
  - aquatic and terrestrial environments field studies in 2017 and 2018,
  - a heritage resources impact assessment in 2016, and
  - Traditional Knowledge (TK) studies conducted with Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation, and God's Lake Northern Affairs Community.
- MTI developed a Project Description that was submitted to the Agency on May 31, 2017.
  - It was subsequently reviewed by the Agency and provided for public review
- On July 28, 2017 federal notice was issued on:
  - 1) Environmental Assessment Determination, and
  - 2) Commencement of an Environmental Assessment
- The Agency developed draft and final Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project that were issued on July 28, 2017 for public comment and September 18, 2017.

- MTI and their consulting firms developed the Environmental Impact Statement and submitted to the Agency and provincial regulators on July 24, 2018.
- The Agency reviewed the EIS and provided comment through the conformity process.
  - The Agency announced federal funding was available on November 1, 2017 and allocated funding to eight recipients to assist their participant in the environmental assessment on June 19, 2018
  - The Agency issued a non-conformance letter to MTI on August 27, 2018
  - MTI submitted the revised EIS and associated summary documentation on April 8, 2019.
- Public comments were invited on the summary of EIS on May 6, 2019.
- The Agency led federal consultation and engagement efforts with Indigenous communities as part of the ongoing CEAA 2012 regulatory process, they also participated in several of MTI's engagement/introductory provincial consultation meetings.
- The Agency compiled requests for additional information from federal departments and the public and issued Round 1 interrogatories to MTI: June 26, 2019 for Package 1 and November 15, 2021 for Package 2
  - This process is ongoing, awaiting responses from MTI as outlined in Section 4 (Schedule).

The Project is currently in the planning phase, which began with the identification of broad road corridors, a possible road alignment within the corridors and selection of the final road alignment. The main components of the proposed Project are:

- new 141 km long, two-lane all-season road gravel surface that has an embankment comprised of blasted/crushed rock;
- potential major water crossings over the God's River and Magill Creek;
- culvert crossings:
  - at fish-bearing watercourse crossings;
  - for conveyance and drainage at non-fish-bearing watercourse crossings; and
  - for drainage equalization outside of watercourse crossings to maintain hydraulic functioning of the local landscape;
- temporary works:
  - water crossings to facilitate permanent crossing construction;
  - construction access routes;
  - construction laydown areas; and
  - construction camps;
- construction quarry sites and borrow areas; and
- explosives storage facilities.

An approximately 8 km section of alignment near Manto Sipi Creek Nation has yet to be finalized. In June 2017, MTI and Manto Sipi Cree Nation participated in a flyover to investigate the four alignment options being considered. MTI provided its recommendation on preferred alignment for Manto Sipi Cree Nation's consideration. Details on the steps that will occur between 2022 and 2024 are outlined in Section 4.

### 1.3 Reasons for Requested Extension under CEAA, 2012

The current initiative to complete the proposed road is largely driven by the communities' desires to have all season road access. Additionally, it is becoming increasingly difficult to operate and maintain winter roads under the evolving climate change conditions that continue to lessen the vehicle travel season. MTI is requesting additional time to complete the EA process due to the size, complexity and nature of this Project and as a result of disruptions and delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This will permit the development of the Project in a manner outlined in the EIS.

Concurrently, long-term MTI planning initiatives, along with associated costs and resourcing challenges, also contributed to the reduction of work that would have otherwise advanced the Project over the past three years. Since 2020, the lack of advancement of the Project was partly due to challenges associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly the inability to meet with communities in-person to complete the engagement- and consultation-related activities. provincial initiatives during the past three years also included a reprioritization of staff and resources to Covid response, to other transportation and infrastructure projects and to address environmental events such as flooding effects.

The Project meets the requirements for being granted an extension in that it is well advanced in terms of its progression through the CEAA, 2012 process; the Project description and EIS were completed, reviewed by the Agency, and met the test associated with the conformity review. The Project description and EIS also underwent a public review. Extensive engagement with local Indigenous communities was conducted for this Project between 2009 and 2018, and is expected to continue over the next several years until and after federal and provincial approvals are granted. If the extension is granted, Crown Consultation efforts will be re-initiated in 2022 and continue for the next few years.

Other key factors that influence the request for extension is the request of MECP that MTI submit a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and any monitoring and follow-up documentation prior to being considered for a *Manitoba Environment Act* licence. To provide drafts of such advanced plans, that will subsequently be updated to reflect conditions of provincial licensing and federal approvals, requires the advancement of the detailed design that was initially intended to occur after the issuance of *Environment Act* License and CEAA 2012 decision statement. The process of sufficiently advancing the design will require an estimated three years. The detailed design and other planning documents would then need to be updated following receipt of provincial and federal approvals. Additional follow-up time will be required to both develop the CEMP and other plans and to conduct the necessary engagement and consultation efforts – thereby requiring an additional year, or four years in total, to complete the regulatory process.

Currently, MTI does not anticipate the Agency will issue another round of questions that require additional data collection, modelling or consultation beyond what is currently planned. The four-year timeframe facilitates a scenario where the Agency issues a round of clarifying questions that do not require field work or additional modelling. However, if the Agency grants the extension and issues another round of Information Requests that requires additional field work and or modelling or if there are any other unforeseen issues that delay the process, MTI would need an additional amount of time beyond the newly proposed August 27, 2026 deadline. If such an instance were to occur, MTI assumes requests for additional time would be

permissible to the Agency. If the key assumptions outlined in Section 3.4 of this work plan are met, MTI currently expects it can provide the information required to meet CEAA 2012 legislation requirements as outlined in the guidelines for the Project within four (4) years (by/before August 2026).

The period requested for an extension also considers recent experience with respect to another ongoing major Project under federal review under CEAA, 2012. The four years that it will take the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel Project to complete the federal regulatory is comparable to the current request for Project 6.

MTI was advised by MECP that the *Manitoba Environment Act* License would stipulate that Project construction would need to be initiated within five years of issuance of an *Environment Act* licence. As such, the four year timeframe needed to complete the process outlined in this extension request would also better align with the 2030 construction start outlined in the EIS and with MTI's long-term large area transportation network planning. Due to these reasons for delayed advancement of the Project MTI is thus requesting the Agency grant a four year extension, consistent with the requirements to complete the Project and with IAA (118 (2.1)).

## 2.0 RECENT PROJECT CHANGES

This section outlines any changes in the assessment since 2017 and addresses the request for information that includes:

- any changes to the environment at the Project location, or to the Project itself, that have occurred and may affect the environmental assessment;
- a list of engagement activities, linked to the development of required information and studies, undertaken with Indigenous groups and the public; and
- any documentation demonstrating the advancement of the environmental assessment that began in July 2017.

### 2.1 Project Description Changes (Engineering/Environment)

This section describes any changes to the Project since 2017, including but not limited to whether and how the Project description has been advanced (i.e., towards final design) since 2017 should be identified. This section describes whether there are any changes in the Project design that were not identified in the EIS.

The Project description for the Project remains unchanged since its submission to the Agency in 2019; The Project is in the planning phase as outlined in the EIS (MTI, 2019). Within the traditional territories of God's Lake First Nation and Bunibonibee First Nation sections of the P6 all-season road alignment have been finalized and are supported by those communities through community agreements (Band Council Resolutions (BCR) attached). BCRs were also previously provided to demonstrate community support for the associated exploratory clearing for the selection of the alignment. The final road alignment within the traditional territory of Manto Sipi Cree Nation was supported by Chief and Council, with the exception of an 8 km section that is being further discussed. A specific consultation with Manto Sipi Cree Nation was previously completed prior to the issuance of a Crown Lands Work Permit and Timber Sale for exploratory clearing needed to support geotechnical and environmental investigations that informed the selection of a final alignment for the all-season road and EA (see letter in Appendix 2).

Baseline environmental studies, a heritage impact assessment, geophysical investigations, quarry location identification, Indigenous and public engagement and Traditional Knowledge studies workshops were completed as part of the planning phase and included development of the EIS. No changes have been made to the Project design since submission of the EIS. MTI still needs to complete functional and detailed construction design and develop the EMPs for construction and operation.

As no changes have been made to the design and no additional planning works have occurred for the Project since filing the EIS, there are no linkages to the environment from the Project that have not been previously addressed in the EIS.

## 2.2 Environmental Setting

This section summarizes the changes to the environment in the Project region that is pertinent to the EA, e.g., whether there have been any new potential cumulative effects associated with a new mine or other developments in the region or a large fire that may occurred in the region since 2017. This process by MTI included a review of publicly available federal and provincial registries to provide an update on the determination of the valued components (VCs) identified in the EIS since MTI's submission in 2019 as they pertain to the physical, biological, and Indigenous and human environments.

A review of the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry and the archived Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry did not identify any projects occurring within the overall study areas as outlined in the draft EIS. A review of Manitoba's Environmental Assessment and Licensing Public Registry for projects undergoing environmental assessment under *The Environment Act* did not identify projects that were open for comment, in process or completed within the Project vicinity.

Archived data from Manitoba's Environment, Climate and Parks, Wildlife Service for the years of 2017 through 2021 was reviewed. The largest fire that occurred within the Regional assessment Area (RAA) was 6,380 hectares (ha) to the southeast of the Project vicinity opposite God's Lake in 2018. Numerous smaller fires (0.1 ha to 380 ha) occurred within the region.

Mining Exploration and Geoscience 2022-2023 report from Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development, identified two exploration sites within the Project area: Manitoba Adia Resources Inc. – Knee Lake (Diamonds) and Vision Lithium Inc. – Gods Lake (Godslith) (Li) (MNRND, 2022).

Adia Resources completed a 2020 drilling program at their Knee Lake Lynx Project, located 30 kilometers east-southeast of BCN (Adia Resources, 2021; Figure 3). This property is located near Knee Lake and consists of >117,000 ha of mineral exploration licences. Adia has shared an Exploration Agreement with BCN for the Project since 2018 and according to Adia Resource documents has community support for exploration activity and seeks out local labor and services when possible.

The Godslith site, which is located less than one kilometre from Gods River, was acquired by Vision Lithium in March 2021 (Vision Lithium, 2022; Figure 3). The property covers a total area of 5,560 ha. An exploration agreement was to be negotiated between Vision Lithium and MSCN.

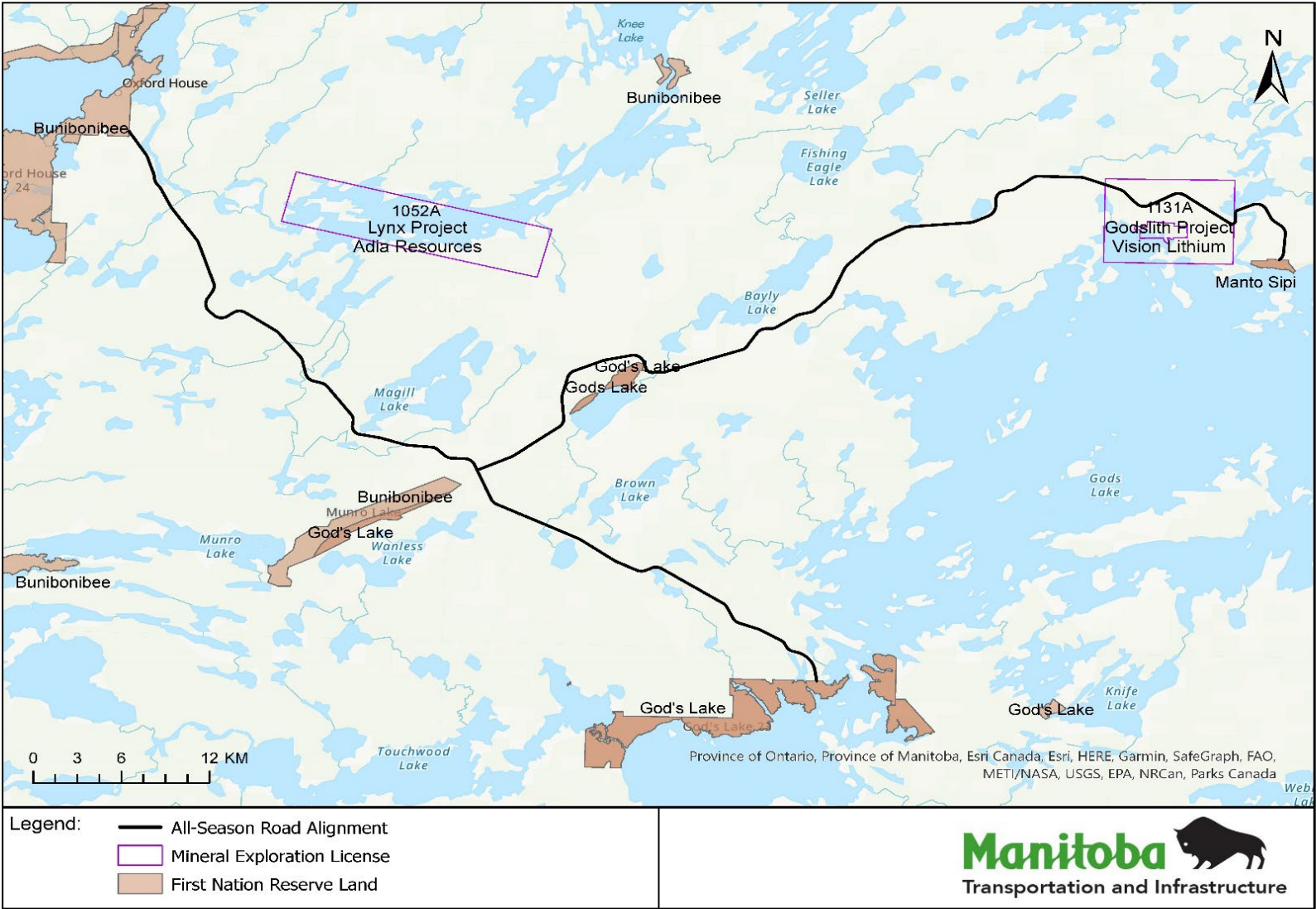
No timelines were identified for the future development of these exploration mine locations at Knee Lake and Gods River.

### 2.2.1 Physical Environment

This section provides a determination on EIS-related physical environment topics, i.e., air, geology, topography, riparian, wetland and terrestrial environments, groundwater and surface water.

MTI has no changes to the determinations outlined in the draft EIS submitted to the Agency in 2019 (MTI, 2019), that the proposed Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects as it pertains to the VCs identified for the physical environment.

Figure 3: General Overview of Exploratory Mining Locations in the RAA since 2017





### 2.2.2 Fish and Fish Habitat

As there has been no notable changes to the aquatic environment in the study region, there is no changes to the determinations outlined in the draft EIS submitted to the Agency in 2019 (MTI, 2019). As such, the conclusion is that the proposed Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects as it pertains to the VCs identified for fish and fish habitat.

### 2.2.3 Plants and Wildlife

As there has been no notable changes to the terrestrial environment, MTI has no changes to the determinations outlined in the draft EIS submitted to the Agency in 2019 (MTI, 2019), i.e., that the proposed Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects as it pertains to the VCs identified for the terrestrial environment including plants and wildlife.

### 2.2.4 Species at Risk

MTI reviewed both the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) registry for any changes to species listings under Schedule 1 as well as Manitoba's *Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act* (MB ESEA).

Lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*), Southern Hudson Bay - James Bay populations were added to Schedule 1, Special Concern of SARA on August 8, 2019 after their Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) status was re-examined and confirmed in April 2017. The potential presence of lake sturgeon was assessed in the EIS (MTI, 2019) in consideration of this potential future listing under SARA.

Bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) proposed recovery strategy dated 2021 identified critical habitat for this species, however, no critical habitat was located within the RAA.

There have been no changes to the status of boreal woodland caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) or to the eastern migratory caribou. Manitoba's Boreal Woodland Caribou Recovery Management Committee (2015) report assessed the conservation status of Molson Management Unit herd as being low. Management unit assessments were evaluated by identifying cumulative disturbance effects, population viability, habitat composition and structure, and future caribou habitat conditions. A provincial action plan including identification of recovery habitat was to be completed by 2020, but no report is available at this time.

The draft EIS (MTI, 2019) conducted a disturbance assessment for the boreal woodland caribou Molson MU and the Pen Islands Caribou (eastern migratory caribou). At the time of the EIS the eastern migratory caribou was not listed under Schedule 1 of SARA and therefore no sustainable disturbance threshold was identified by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). Due to its potential future listing, it was considered a SARA species for the assessment and the identified sustainable threshold of 65% undisturbed – 35% disturbed was used based on the 2012 threshold established for boreal woodland caribou. This disturbance analysis was completed based on 2015 data and the total disturbance for the Pen Islands Range was 23% while the Molson MU for boreal woodland caribou was 28%.

Other species at risk have seen their COSEWIC status downgraded from threatened to special concern and include Canada warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*), common nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) and olive-sided

flycatcher (*Contopus virens*). Canada warbler and common nighthawk status under Schedule 1 of SARA are under consideration for change to reflect the status under COSEWIC. Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) was downgraded from Special Concern to Not at Risk under COSEWIC only, in 2017.

MTI has no changes to the determinations outlined in the draft EIS submitted to the Agency in 2019 (MTI, 2019), that the proposed Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects as it pertains to the VCs identified for species at risk.

## 2.3 Regulatory Liaison

Meetings with regulatory agencies (e.g., the Agency and Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks) occurred on a monthly basis over the past few years. As there were little to update Federal and provincial regulators on changes to status of the project advancement, the meetings typically focused on when there were changes such as: the issuance of the letters from IAAC (November 15, 2021 and March 3, 2022) advising MTI as the timing and nature of the extension documentation to be provided by MTI if they want to pursue review and approval under CEAA 2012.

## 2.4 Indigenous and Public Engagement and Consultation Programs

This section of this extension request describes the broad history of engagement of Indigenous peoples and the public under taken by MTI [(and former East Side Road Authority (ESRA)] on the east side of Lake Winnipeg since 2000, as well as the specific Indigenous and Public Engagement program (IPEP) undertaken for the Project. As engagement is the responsibility of the proponent (MTI) and consultation is a separate process that is the responsibility of the Crown, they are discussed separately in the following sections.

### 2.4.1 Indigenous and Public Engagement Program (IPEP)

#### 2.4.1.1 Objectives

The Indigenous and public engagement program (IPEP) for all of the all-season road projects and activities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg is considered a fundamental and influential component of the project planning process as it intends to engage multiple parties in all phases of project development for the duration of the project life cycle. This is consistent with section 4(1) of the CEAA, 2012 that states two of the purposes are to promote communication and cooperation with Indigenous peoples with respect to EAs and to ensure that opportunities are provided for meaningful public participation during an EA. These comprehensive engagement activities are considered to be independent of the Crown's Duty to Consult under the *Constitution Act*, 1982, but help to frame and inform consultation between the Crown and Indigenous communities.

The primary objective of the Indigenous and public engagement initiatives and activities is to provide meaningful opportunities to engage in dialogue and exchange information about the all-season road projects with interested and potentially affected parties. Interested and potentially affected parties include east side communities (ex: local First Nations and Northern Affairs Communities), other Indigenous peoples (Metis) and other interested parties such as government agencies, non-government organizations and members of

the general public. The information received during many conversations with interested and affected parties is integrated into the various steps of project development to select, design and construct the all-season road. MTI is committed to working in partnership with local communities, their leadership (Chief and Council) and Elders to forge engagement processes that reflect the priorities of each community.

MTI's approach to Indigenous and public engagement achieves the primary objective by:

- providing meaningful opportunities for the early involvement of interested and affected parties;
- providing opportunities for continued participation throughout all stages of the project;
- using a variety of engagement approaches to provide information, receive feedback and engage with participants in a transparent manner;
- providing flexibility in approach such that engagement activities can be revised in response to comments and feedback received;
- using feedback received through engagement activities to assist with decision-making with respect to Project design and schedule, as well as to help avoid or minimize potential adverse effects and maximize benefits and opportunities; and
- communicating how community, stakeholder or public input and feedback are used'

The IPEP approach used for the proposed Project is centred on:

- providing participation opportunities for interested and affected parties;
- addressing relevant biophysical, social or cultural questions and comments so that they can be considered in relation to Valued Components (VCs) and addressed in the effects assessment of the Environmental Assessment and applied in project design, construction and operation phases;
- respecting and incorporating community knowledge and TK into the Environmental Assessment and Project processes; and
- conducting communications between the proponent and interested and affected parties in a culturally sensitive and understandable manner (ex: translation services when needed).

#### 2.4.1.2 IPEP Approach

The provision of information and the way in which information is communicated and shared is the foundation for an effective engagement program. The broad suite of engagement and coordination methods used by MTI for Indigenous and public engagement is outlined in Table 2. As a project proponent for all-season roads on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, MTI undertakes engagement and coordination methods in partnership with the members and associated leadership of each community respecting community-specific preferences for engagement.

**Table 2: Indigenous and Public Engagement Methods Used by MTI for Projects on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Including the Proposed Project**

Method	Purpose and Description
<b>Invitation and Notification Letters (Sent via mail and email)</b>	Invitation letters are sent to each community and other stakeholders that may have interest in the proposed Project to attend public open houses. Letters provide a summary of what will occur at meetings, the date, time and proposed location, reasons for the meetings and proposed topics for discussion. Follow-up telephone calls to Local Community Coordinators are typically made to confirm arrangements.
<b>Leadership Meetings</b>	Leadership meetings introduce the proposed Project and discuss potential benefits and opportunities for community leadership (Chief and Council). Leadership meetings precede in-community meetings for planning purposes and the primary objectives are to introduce MTI as the Project proponent, introduce the study team, introduce the proposed Project and the anticipated work, provide additional Project-related updates, obtain feedback and review information to be presented at the in-community meetings.
<b>Elders Meetings</b>	The primary objectives of Elders meetings are to introduce MTI as the Project proponent, introduce the study team, introduce the proposed Project and anticipated work, provide additional Project-related updates, obtain feedback and review information to be presented at the in-community meetings/open houses. Translators and/or interpreters are in attendance should they be required. Elders meetings show respect for the community's Elders by preceding the in-community meetings/open houses.
<b>In-Community Meetings/ Open Houses</b>	<p>In-community meetings/open houses are organized in each community within the Regional Assessment Area (RAA; see EIS) at various stages throughout the project planning process. The main purpose is to introduce MTI, provide Project updates and discuss proposed Project components, VCs, mitigation measures and the EA. In-community meetings/open houses are advertised through local media (ex: radio, posters and newspapers).</p> <p>PowerPoint presentations are used as visual aids during the in-community meetings/open houses. Paper copies of materials are provided to the communities for their use and records. Display boards, such as maps and text boards, are utilized to facilitate information exchange with individuals. Handouts are also provided. Copies of the presentation and storyboards are posted on MI's website.</p> <p>Presentations are made by Project Team members (MI and the EA study team) and comments and questions are solicited and responded to.</p>

Method	Purpose and Description
<b>Public Open Houses</b>	<p>Public open houses are held to provide information and feedback opportunities to a wide range of interested and affected parties including community members living off-reserve, organizations, non-government organizations and the general public. The main purpose of public open houses is to provide updates and receive input on the proposed Project, the VCs, mitigation measures and the EA. Public open houses are publicized in local/regional media (ex: radio, newspapers).</p> <p>PowerPoint presentations are used as visual aids during the public open houses. Display boards such as maps and text boards are utilized to facilitate information exchange with individuals. Handouts are also provided. Copies of the presentation and storyboards are posted on MI's website.</p> <p>Presentations are made by Project Team members (MTI and the EA study team) and comments and questions are solicited and addressed.</p>
<b>Other Stakeholder Meetings</b>	Other stakeholder meetings (ex: lodges, outfitters) introduce the proposed Project and discuss the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Transportation Initiative and provide updates and receive input on the proposed Project and EA.
<b>Government Stakeholder Meetings</b>	Government stakeholder meetings are held to discuss updates on the proposed Project and environmental studies, to solicit interest and input into the EA and to determine the interest level of government agencies.
<b>TK Exercises</b>	TK workshops and interviews are used to gather local knowledge on traditional land uses (current and historic), resource use patterns, cultural/spiritual implications, local biophysical aspects and sites of cultural, ecological and archaeological importance for input into the proposed Project and the EA. Respondents can also express their personal views of the proposed Project and identify potential effects that the Project may have on each of the communities and the natural environment.
<b>Other Community Involvement</b>	Community members are invited to participate in environmental baseline data collection in the areas of wildlife (ex. through MI's trapper program), fish and fish habitat, vegetation and heritage resources.
<b>Printed Material</b>	Newsletters, fact sheets, comment sheets, maps and presentation print-outs are distributed during in-community meetings and open houses and are made available in the community (ex: band office, community hall).

Method	Purpose and Description
	MTI developed a document titled “All Season Road Construction Activities: What Can You Expect?” to inform communities about what to expect during construction and maintenance and safety measures.
<b>Established Communication Channels</b>	Communication channels such as the MI website, MI’s contact email address, telephone numbers and fax numbers are provided for interested and affected parties to communicate feedback or solicit Project information.

Since 2017, MTI has taken steps such as meeting with Manto Sipi Cree Nation in February 22, 2018 to go over route options. As of February 22, 2018, the consultation and engagement process has included numerous meetings with all 3 Indigenous groups (First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs Communities, and Indigenous organizations).

## 2.4.2 Consultation Program

### 2.4.2.1 Duty to Consult Overview and Objectives

This section provides an overview of the approach taken and a summary of results associated with Crown-Indigenous consultation required for the provincial and federal environmental approvals for the construction of the Project. The key steps taken by MTI associated with the duty to Consult include:

- Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* protects Aboriginal and Treaty rights. Canadian courts (including the Supreme Court of Canada) have made judgments interpreting and applying Section 35. One element of these judgments is the recognition that the Crown has a legal duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples about any decision or action that might adversely affect the exercise of an Aboriginal or Treaty right, before making the decision or taking the action.
- The duty to consult is generally triggered where a government decision or action has the potential to adversely affect the exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty rights. Commonly, decisions that affect land or resources are likely to trigger the duty because those decisions may affect the exercise of hunting, trapping, fishing, or gathering rights.
- MTI recognizes it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Metis communities and other Indigenous communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of an Aboriginal or Treaty right.
- MTI is responsible for both Crown-Indigenous consultation and the proponent engagement process required for provincial and federal environmental authorization of the Project. As a proponent, the federal government requires MTI to engage with potentially affected Indigenous groups to assist in fulfilling the federal Crown constitutional obligations and the regulatory requirements for developing a complete EIS. As the provincial Crown jurisdiction, MTI also has a responsibility under Section 35 of Canada’s constitution to consult with Indigenous communities whose exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty or rights might be adversely affected by a government decision or action related to the Project.

- For the purposes of this document, the terms “Aboriginal” and “Indigenous” are interchangeable. The term Aboriginal is in reference to rights under Section 35, which specifically refers to “Aboriginal and Treaty rights.” The terms “Crown-Indigenous consultation”, “consultation” and the “duty to consult” are also used interchangeably.

MTI has endeavored to undertake a consistent, transparent and fair approach when consulting and engaging First Nations, the Metis community and other Indigenous communities potentially impacted by the Project. MTI has developed and undertaken a consultation approach in accordance with the Manitoba government’s Interim Provincial Policy for Crown Consultations with First Nations, Metis Communities and Other Aboriginal Communities (the “Interim Policy”). The Interim Policy was appended to the Project EIS. The overall objectives of the Interim Policy are:

- To ensure the Manitoba government informs itself and gains a proper understanding of the interests of First Nations, the Metis community and other Indigenous communities, with respect to a proposed government decision or action;
- To seek ways to address and/or accommodate those interests where appropriate through a process of consultation while continuing to work towards the best interests of the citizens of Manitoba;
- To advance the process of reconciliation between the Crown and First Nations, Metis communities and other Indigenous communities.
- The Interim Policy is also supported by Guidelines for Crown Consultations with First Nations, Metis Communities and Other Aboriginal Communities that were adopted at the same time as the Policy. The Guidelines were appended to the Project EIS. The Guidelines provided Manitoba Infrastructure with the principles for developing the consultation processes with individual First Nations, Metis communities and other Aboriginal communities for the Project.
- The Manitoba Government’s experience to date with Crown-Indigenous consultation has resulted in established practices and processes that MTI has been able to draw upon to develop the consultation process for the Project. The Supreme Court of Canada in its decisions has outlined a spectrum for consultation, which gives a basic guide for the level of consultation required. Generally, the more serious the potential impact on the exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty rights or the greater the likelihood or frequency of impact, the more important the role of consultation and more extensive the process may need to be. Also, the greater the strength of a community’s claim for a Treaty or Aboriginal right, the more important the role of consultation and more extensive the process may need to be.
- At the lower end of the spectrum, consultation requirements may include giving notice and discussing any issue related in response to the notice. At the higher end of the spectrum a more extensive consultation process will likely be required. The level of consultation effort for each community potentially impacted by the Project is described in Section 2 of this report.
- Outline engagement efforts and information received to date by BCN, Manto Sipi, and God’s Lake.
- To meet these overall objectives and to fulfill Manitoba’s duty to consult, MTI designed and is following a four-phased consultation process that provides for productive and respectful dialogue between the Manitoba government and Indigenous communities. These four phases are generally described in Figure 4.

Figure 4: The Four Phases of Consultation



The following objectives for this approach help to achieve the Manitoba government’s overall consultation objectives:

1. Provide a reasonable process or forum to facilitate the exchange of information;
2. Listen to, discuss and understand the concerns of First Nations, Metis and other Indigenous communities regarding the Project and how it might affect the exercise of asserted or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights of those communities and their members;
3. Review and consider the specific concerns or information provided by those communities; and
4. Address those concerns to a reasonable extent and if not, provide responses or reasons as to why they were not addressed.

To ensure oversight of consultation, a Steering Committee with representation from the Manitoba departments of Conservation and Climate, Agriculture and Resource Development (formerly Sustainable Development), Justice, Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations and Manitoba Infrastructure oversees the process and its implementation. The Steering Committee endeavors to guide MTI through the consultation process while being respectful to the unique processes of potentially affected communities.

MTI recognizes that assistance may be required for a community to be able to meaningfully participate in the consultation or engagement process. Manitoba has a Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund available to assist communities with the cost of participating in the consultation and engagement process for the Project. Funding has been made available to Indigenous communities through various mechanisms, including funding agreements, joint work plan development and on a reimbursement/expense claim basis. The level of funding offered for communities is determined by their potential impact from the Project.



### 2.4.3 Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Results to Date

As described earlier (Sections 2.4.1 and 2.4.2), MTI is responsible for both the Crown-Indigenous consultation and the proponent engagement process required for provincial and federal environmental authorization of the Project. While these processes have separate objectives, the activities carried out by MTI for the Project help to support requirements for both processes.

To date, MTI has led 10 Indigenous consultation and engagement meetings, which include communities such as Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation, God's Lake Narrows Northern Affairs Community and Manto Sipi Cree Nation (Table 3). Throughout 2017, MTI has also held Public Open houses for community consultation and engagement purposes in respect to the Project (Table 3). These meetings consisted of a suite of methods for communicating information about the Project including presentations, story boards and handouts.

**Table 3: Indigenous and Public Engagement Meetings for Project 6**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Presentation</b>
<b>Bunibonibee Cree Nation</b>	December 8, 2016	Presentation Storyboards
	March 15, 2017	Presentation Storyboards
	November 6, 2017	Presentation Storyboards Handouts
<b>God's Lake First Nation</b>	November 9, 2016	Presentation Storyboards
	March 24, 2017	Presentation Storyboards
	November 7, 2017	Presentation Storyboards Handouts
<b>God's Lake Narrows Northern Affairs Community</b>	December 9, 2016	Presentation Storyboards
	March 24, 2017	Presentation Storyboards

Community	Date	Presentation
	November 7, 2017	Presentation Storyboards Handouts
<b>Manto Sipi Cree Nation</b>	February 22, 2018	Presentation Storyboards Handouts
<b>Public Open House</b>	May 17, 2017	Presentation Storyboards
	November 22, 2017	Presentation Storyboards Handouts

## 2.5 Recent Environmental Assessment Documentation

This section describes any documentation that demonstrates the advancement of the EA that began in July 2017. The EIS for the Project was submitted to the Agency in July 2018 and was revised and re-submitted in April 2019 to address conformity questions (Table 1). MTI has since received two packages of Round 1 information requests dated June 26, 2019 and November 15, 2021, that must be responded to before the Agency can complete its next steps to issuing an approval under CEAA 2012. No additional EA documents have since been produced for the Project.

MTI submitted the EIS to Manitoba’s Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch (File 5897.00) where it was posted for public comment in 2019. MTI will need to address information requests from the Branch (2020), public comments from MSCN (2019) and comments from the TAC (2019).

In 2018, Manitoba was in Phase 1 of the Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Process and an Initial Assessment document was developed. Additional engineering is required to advance the Project to functional and then detailed design. The Project has not made any advancements since 2019 and no design changes have been implemented.

## 2.6 Effects Assessment

MTI has no changes to the determinations outlined in the draft EIS submitted to the Agency in 2019 (MTI, 2019), that the proposed Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects as it pertains to the VCs identified for physical, biological, and Indigenous and human environments.

During the review and response to the IRs received from the Agency, any changes to the monitoring and follow-up planning will be addressed and subsequently updated to reflect conditions contained within provincial and federal approvals for implementation during construction and operation.

## 3.0 APPROACH TO COMPLETE THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

### 3.1 Progress To Date

Table 1 illustrates all of the key milestones that have occurred to date towards completing the EA process for the Project. It is understood that at the time of the Package 1, Round 1 of the information requests provided to MTI in 2019, the Agency paused the timeline at 107 days, which leaves 258 days remaining for the Agency to review the Project. The EA for Project 6 has not substantially progressed since 2019. However, Manitoba has committed to advancing this Project to benefit communities in the spirit of reconciliation. The steps that are to be taken to complete the outstanding tasks are described in Section 3.2.

### 3.2 Approach to Complete the Environmental Assessment Process

MTI is committed to completing the regulatory process for CEAA 2012. This section outlines how MTI will deliver/complete the EA process, including the IPEP and s35 Consultation programs.

MTI will respond to the first round of information requests (IRs, Package 1 and 2). The Agency has identified that MTI should be prepared in the event that there would be a second round of IRs; the schedule described in Section 4 can accommodate a second round of information requests. Upon completion of the information request responses, the Agency will provide a Draft Environmental Assessment document with conditions that is publicly available for comment prior to finalizing the EA and reaching a determination.

The schedule for completing the EA process is provided in Section 4 and will require that MTI:

- retain qualified independent environmental firms and engineering service providers (ESPs) to assist in responding to the interrogatories and completing detailed design for the Project;
- retain environmental firms to complete any supplemental baseline environmental studies for which any data gaps or requests were made from the information requests;
- develop environmental management and monitoring plans; and
- ongoing consultation and engagement for the affected communities.

MTI previously hired Independent consultants to conduct an EIS and assist in the development of responses to information requests. Based on package 2 requests, expanding the MTI team and hiring additional consultants will be required to provide expertise to further assist in developing responses to information requests. These processes will occur immediately following the receipt of approval from the Agency for an extension on the basis of the adequacy of this work plan (in the event that an extension is granted), in an effort to optimize the time available to respond to information requests. MTI is committed to the process of ongoing engagement with Indigenous groups and other stakeholders that are potentially affected by the Project. Detailed EMP review discussions that include this Plan will, through such measures as virtual open

house events feedback mechanisms, provide ongoing engagement opportunities that facilitate EMP finalization.

MTI will continue to work with IAAC and the federal agencies with respect to completing the EA process for the Project. MTI currently anticipates that monthly meetings on the Project with IAAC and MECP will continue. If and when approval is granted by IAAC to proceed with the Project, MTI will provide a detailed sc, e.g., remotely and at what stage(s) will we be sharing the information (such as draft IRs for their initial assessment of completeness before formally submitting a package).

Consultation activities needed as part of the overall EA process should be substantively completed before the August 2026 deadline. Engagement activities is likely to extend past August 2026 as part of ongoing dialogue between MTI and the Project communities.

### 3.3 Additional Studies and Works

This section outlines any required information and studies resulting from the information requests associated with government and public comment on the EIS. For example, some of the time delays may be tied to the need to conduct additional engagement and/or fieldwork as a result of the comments associated with information requests received to date. If the request for extension for the Project is granted, the request for an extension of time for this Project will allow for:

- Indigenous and Public Engagement Program are currently anticipated to occur at five (5) locations for a minimum of one (1) round of community-based meetings/open houses.
- Completion of an updated socio-economic study to describe any changes within the affected communities.
- Additional post approval fieldwork may include monitoring during construction for wildlife, vegetation, Species at Risk (SAR), heritage, and aquatics as requested.
  - There could be a need for a one year program of water quality sampling to satisfy requirements of the interrogatories.
- Updates on SAR data status such as boreal woodland caribou will be provided.
  - Provision of updates to Species at Risk affects, which could include revising the disturbance analysis for caribou to account for recent developments within the RAA such as mining exploration cut lines, revising cumulative effects and developing offsetting plans for caribou
- Provision of updates to other wildlife species of interest such as furbearers and moose.
- Development of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and monitoring plan.
- Sampling for baseline water quality, if requested, as outlined in information requests.
- Collection of information for the application of permits under the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* (CNWA) and *Fisheries Act* authorization and offset planning as needed.
- Any additional studies identified through the interrogatory process or meetings with communities.

### 3.4 Key Assumptions

MTI plans to proceed with this Project should the request for extension be approved by the Agency in order to fulfill the commitment to the Indigenous communities that would like to see the Project proceed. The key assumptions factored into MTI's plan to achieve the August 27, 2026 target to complete the EA process include:

- The Agency will conclude their review and approval of MTI's submission for extension by August 28, 2022 or shortly thereafter.
- Responses that MTI provides to the first round of information requests will substantively address most outstanding questions, with some follow-up required in a second round of information requests (if required).
  - The Agency would review the first round of information requests prior to completion of the final design.
    - The timing of completion of both rounds will be influenced in part by information requests for which responses are dependant on the final design of the Project.
- There is no requirement to redesign the Project.
- That engagement and consultation processes do not reveal the need to extend the schedule due to unanticipated requirements for additional pre-construction work.
- It is currently anticipated that the Federal EA report containing the decision would be completed within a few months of the closure of the interrogatory process.

## 4.0 SCHEDULE

Figure 5 (see Appendix 3) provides an overview of the proposed schedule of key milestones for Project 6, clearly illustrating the key steps required between September 2022 and September 2026 to complete the steps needed to receive a *Manitoba Environment Act* Licence and approval through the Federal EA report. It is currently anticipated that all work on the Project will commence and pre-construction work will occur if and once the Agency provides approval for MTI to complete the Project under CEAA, 2012.

Figure 5 illustrates that meetings with the Agency are expected to occur throughout the EA regulatory review period. This extension work plan will undergo a 30 day review period by communities prior to a determination from the Agency respecting the sufficiency of this plan. As such, it is currently anticipated that decision of the Agency will be relayed to MTI within or before September 2022.

Table 4 provides a description of the key milestones identified in Figure 5 that will occur if MTI is granted an extension. Final design on this Project is currently anticipated to require about three years to complete. Several components of the Project are reliant on the completion or near completion of the final design: EMPs, monitoring plans, responses to information requests, and engagement and consultation efforts.

**Table 4: Overview Description of Key Project Milestones and the Anticipated Timeline for Completion**

Key Milestones	Description	Timeline
Finalized Project Design	The project phase where structural engineering design principles and applicable design codes are utilized to produce a structural design complete with drawings and tender documents in sufficient detail to construct the specific structure/rehabilitation identified as the preferred alternative from the preliminary design phase.	October 2022- June 2026
Interrogatory Process	A technical review of the Project's EIS is undergone by Federal Authorities and Indigenous Groups, where information gaps are identified and further information is requested to fill these gaps. The proponent may undergo research and field studies to collect further information where it can then be presented in the form of draft response to information requests. The interested parties will review the draft response and provide feedback, this feedback is then incorporated into the draft response and finalized for review.	September 2022- February 2026
Environmental Management Plans	A process for developing environmental management plans that include measures for managing environmental effects during the construction and operation phases of the Project. Draft EMP's will be produced first for regulatory review and comment, this is then followed by revisions of the EMP's and finalization of documents.	January 2025- September 2026

Key Milestones	Description	Timeline
Monitoring Plans	A process for developing environmental monitoring plans that will be used to verify the accuracy of the effects assessment and to determine the effectiveness of recommended mitigation measures used for potential adverse effects of the project.	August 2025- August 2026
Indigenous and Public Engagement	Planning and development of a series of community meetings, workshops, open houses and discussions with regulators and stakeholders.	October 2022- Ongoing
Crown Consultation	Undergoing meaningful consultation with Indigenous Groups pertinent to section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> . This includes community meetings and initiatives for involvement throughout the project.	October 2022-July 2026
Manitoba Environment Act	An Environment Act Proposal is part of the environmental assessment and licensing process required to receive an Environment Act Licence for construction and operation of projects which are defined as developments under the Classes of Development Regulation (Manitoba Regulation 164/88). The process exists to ensure environmental and human health protection, encourage early consultation, allow for full public participation and ensure economic development occurs in an environmentally responsible manner.	March 2026- July 2026
Federal Decision Statement	The Agency develops an EA report that summarizes the federal environmental assessment and includes details of the potential effects of the project considered by the Agency and conclusions for whether significant effects are likely to be caused by the Project after mitigation measures are taken into consideration.	December 2025- July 2026

The interrogatory process includes all regulatory activities associated with the review of the environmental assessment and associated responses to information requests provided by the Agency and other interested parties. This stage is currently anticipated to be completed by March 2026. While the interrogatory and design processes are ongoing, MTI will be working with the Agency in providing and finalizing environmental management and monitoring plans that will substantively be completed by July 2026. Documentation associated with those plan would be considered to be draft until an Environmental Act Licence and Federal Decision Statement is provided in or before August 2026 – at which time the plans will be reviewed and revised in accordance with conditions in those regulatory approval documents and completed in full in advance of construction activities. A more detailed description of activities associated with each stage and the status of activities is provided in Table 5.



**Table 5: Detailed Breakdown of Tasks associated with Milestones Associated with Completing Environmental Assessment Tasks for Project 6**

Task	Date(s) <sup>1</sup>	Status
<b>P6 Extension under CEAA 2012</b>		
MTI to draft work plan for Project 6 extension under CEAA 2012	April 2022- July 2022	In Progress
Agency to review and approve extension of Project 6 under CEAA 2012	July 2022 – August 28, 2022	In Progress
<b>Finalized Project Design</b>		
Hiring engineering and service provider (ESP) to support development of Project 6 detailed design	October 2022- January 2023	Yet to Occur
Development of Project 6 detailed design that includes sufficient design to construct the Project	February 2023- December 2025	Yet to Occur
MTI to develop construction tender (to be awarded after final Environment Act Licence and federal decision)	September 2025 - June 2026	Yet to Occur
<b>Information Requests</b>		
MTI to plan and hire consultants in anticipation of the Interrogatory response process	September 2022- December 2022	Yet to Occur
<i>Round 1</i> response filed by MTI to the Agency in batches	June 2024	Yet to Occur
Agency to conduct conformity and technical review of Round 1 IR responses	July 2024- September 2024	Yet to Occur
Multiple workshops and meetings between the Agency and MTI to discuss MTI's responses and additional questions of the Agency	October 2022- July 2026	Yet to Occur
Agency issues IR Round 2 (Dependent on responses provided).	September 2024	Yet to Occur
<i>Round 2</i> response filed by MTI to the Agency in batches	October 2024- November 2025	Yet to Occur
Agency to conduct conformity and technical review of Round 2 IR responses	December 2025- February 2026	Yet to Occur
<b>Environmental Management Program (EMP) Plans</b>		
First drafts of EMPs to be filed by MTI to Agency	December 2025	Yet to Occur

SCHEDULE

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Status</b>
The Agency, FA and TAC begin review of MTI Environmental Management Plan(s)	January 2026- April 2026	Yet to Occur
MTI to address comments in response to MTI request for review and comment. The comments received to be considered in updates to EMP Plans	May 2026- September 2026	Yet to Occur
Follow-up meetings with the Agency and Federal Advisor (FA) on Environmental Management Plan(s)	February 2025- August 2025	Yet to occur
<b>Monitoring Plans</b>		
First drafts of Monitoring Plans to be filed by MTI to Agency	November 2025	Yet to occur
The Agency, FA and TAC begin review Monitoring Plans.	December 2025- March 2026	Yet to occur
MTI to address comments in response to MTI request for review and comment. The comments received to be considered in updates to Monitoring Plans	April 2026-August 2026	Yet to occur
<b>Indigenous and Public Engagement</b>		
Continued engagement processes with Indigenous Groups (First Nations, Northern Affairs Communities, Indigenous organizations) and other stakeholders	October 2022 to at least August 2026	Yet to Occur
<b>Crown Consultation</b>		
Planning and development for Crown Consultation processes including meetings and continues communication	October 2022- July 2026	Yet to Occur
<b>Manitoba Environment Act</b>		
MTI to draft Manitoba Environmental Act Proposal	March 2026- July 2026	Yet to Occur
MTI to finalize and submit Manitoba Environment Act Proposal	July 2026	Yet to Occur
The Agency to grant MTI Environment Act Licence	August 2026	Yet to Occur

Task	Date(s) <sup>1</sup>	Status
<b>The Agency's Remaining Key Steps of CEAA 2012 Environmental Assessment Process</b>		
Currently IAAC clock is stopped at day 107 of 365; but begins counting when the MTI submits the Information response package and EMP Plans	To be initiated as early as August 29, 2022	Yet to Occur
Agency ends technical review (Dependent on responses provided and Agency's ability to consult during the COVID-19 pandemic).	March 2026	Yet to Occur
Draft EA Report preparation, including collaboration with FA, TAG, and Indigenous Groups.	December 2025 - April 2026	Yet to Occur
Public Comment Period on Draft EA Report and Potential Conditions includes: Consultation, Public comment Period, Open Houses, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting	May 2026- July 2026	Yet to Occur
Finalization of EA Report, including consultation with Indigenous Groups includes: Consultation and integration of input and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting	July 2026- August 2026	Yet to Occur
Agency approvals and submission of EA Report to Minister.	August 2026	Yet to Occur
CEAA 2012 Decision Statement and Conditions issued to MTI	September 2026	Yet to Occur

Following the four years that would be afforded by the proposed extension (September 2026), additional work on the Project will be required to obtain authorizations under the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* and the *Fisheries Act* before construction can proceed.

The EIS currently outlines the steps that will occur once all regulatory approvals have been obtained. The initial planning in 2017/2018 was that construction of the proposed Project is estimated to start in 2030 (Year 11) following detailed design and be completed approximately 8 years thereafter (Year 18). The exact timing of construction start dates will be dependent on first receiving approvals to proceed with the regulatory submission under CEAA 2012. Scheduling of Project components and activities will be determined upon tendering of individual construction contracts. The conditions associated with the Federal decision and *Manitoba Environment Act* licence would guide the allowance for construction start date; for example, MECP indicated that they need the CEMP and other plans before issuing a *Manitoba Environment Act* license that will stipulate that construction has to begin within 5 years of issuance. The

exact timing of the onset of construction would also consider MTI planning associated with the timing of Project development.

## 5.0 SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

### 5.1 Summary of Rationale for Extension

There will be positive socio-economic effects associated with providing all season access, such as employment and business opportunities including, but not be limited, to Indigenous involvement in the workforce, that is currently estimated to be a maximum of 120 people during construction. The Project meets the requirements for being granted an extension in that it is well advanced in terms of its progression through the CEAA, 2012 process: the project description and EIS were completed, reviewed by the Agency, and met the test associated with the conformity review. Extensive engagement with local Indigenous communities and other stakeholders was conducted and is expected to continue over the next several years until and after federal approvals and *Manitoba Environment Act* licence are granted. The Province of Manitoba has a firm plan to complete required steps and is seeking a four year extension to permit the conclusion of Crown Consultation efforts, detailed design, completing the information request process, and development of other plans and documents needed in support of federal and provincial approval requirements.

### 5.2 Proposed Next Steps

Following are the key next steps that are required to provide information to federal and provincial regulators in a manner that facilitates their decision as to whether grant approval under their respective Acts:

- If the Agency grants an extension, MTI will take immediate action to proceed on the basis of planning and tasks listed in Sections 3 and 4 of the current work plan.
- Ongoing meetings with the Agency and MECP, as required, will continue for the Project.
- Complete the IPEP and Consultation programs.
- MTI will work with environmental firms and ESPs to provide fulsome responses to Round 1 and, if required, Round 2 information requests.
- ESP(s) will be hired and commence with detailed design of Project 6.
- MTI will work with environmental and ESPs to develop the CEMP, monitoring and follow-up plans and other documentation identified through the interrogatory process.
- Any of the above products may require revision and resubmission, depending on the nature of feedback received.
- If the federal and provincial governments issue the approvals and licence required to commence with construction, MTI will work with environmental and engineering service to complete pre-construction works that may, at minimum, include the finalization of detailed design, CEMP(s), monitoring and follow-up and other associated documentation that are required.

## 6.0 REFERENCES

### 6.1 Literature Citation

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# APPENDIX 1

## Impact Assessment Agency of Canada: Letters to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure





Prairie and Northern Region  
Canada Place  
Suite 1145, 9700 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4C3

Région des Prairies et du Nord  
Place Canada  
Pièce 1145, 9700 rue Jasper  
Edmonton (Alberta) T5J 4C3

March 10, 2022

Blair McMahon  
Director – Environmental Services & Consultation  
Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure  
1520 - 215 Garry Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P3

Sent via email: [blair.mcmahon@gov.mb.ca](mailto:blair.mcmahon@gov.mb.ca)

**SUBJECT: Reminder of the three-year time limit to submit required information and studies under CEAA 2012 and the requested timeline for submission of a time limit extension request for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking God's Lake First Nation, Manto Sipi Cree Nation, and Bunibonibee Cree Nation**

Dear Blair McMahon:

In follow-up to previous correspondence sent to you on November 15, 2021, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is writing to remind you of the three-year legislated time limit for Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure to provide the required information and studies for the environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking God's Lake First Nation, Manto Sipi Cree Nation, and Bunibonibee Cree Nation (the Project) pursuant to subsection 181(2) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

The deadline to submit the required information or studies described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines issued for the Project is **August 28, 2022**. The required information and studies to be provided include the EIS and any additional required information or studies that may be identified as a result of:

- the Agency's conformity review of the EIS;
- the public comment period on the EIS Summary;
- the technical review of the EIS by the Agency and federal authorities; and
- associated consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.



In accordance with subsection 181(2.1) of the IAA, the Agency may, at the proponent's request, grant an extension to the three-year legislated time limit by any period necessary for the proponent to provide the required information or studies.

To support the Agency's review of any request for an extension to the legislated time limit, proponents are required to provide the following information to inform the Agency's determination on whether to grant any extension request:

- the reasons, directly related to the environmental assessment process, for requesting an extension of the time limit (e.g. baseline studies that could require multiple field seasons to complete);
- a list of all planned engagement activities, linked to the development of required information and studies, undertaken with Indigenous nations and the public;
- a work plan detailing the progress made to date and how the additional time requested would be utilized to provide all the required information and studies, and time for the technical review by the Agency, federal authorities, and consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities;
- if the extension is related to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, details of how specifically the COVID-19 pandemic impacted advancement of the assessment. This could be included in a work plan outlining which activities were delayed or cancelled; and
- any additional information that you believe is relevant.

The Agency would consider extensions to the legislated time limits of transitional environmental assessments continuing under CEAA 2012 under exceptional circumstances. Given that a new federal impact assessment process has come into force under the IAA, the transitional provisions are intended for projects that are well advanced and can reasonably provide the required information or studies within or near the legislated time limit established under subsection 181(2) of the IAA. In the event that the environmental assessment for the Project has not advanced substantially, the IAA may provide a more appropriate review process.

If the proponent fails to provide the information or studies within the three-year time limit, or within any extension of that time limit that may be granted by the Agency before the time limit has expired, the environmental assessment for the Project under CEAA 2012 would be terminated in accordance with section 181(3) of the IAA.

If the environmental assessment is terminated, and the Project is a designated project as described under the *Physical Activities Regulations*, the prohibitions under section 7 of the IAA will apply to the Project. If the proponent wishes to continue with the Project, it must submit an Initial Project Description to the Agency in accordance with section 10 of the IAA. The information that must be provided in an Initial Project Description is detailed in the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* under the IAA. Further information on the IAA is available on the Agency's website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency.html>.

**Important:** If you anticipate submitting a request for an extension, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Agency asks that complete requests be received by **June 28, 2022**, to allow the Agency to process the requests in time to issue an extension, if applicable, prior to the expiration of the legislated time limit on August 28, 2022. The Agency will post all extension request documents submitted by the proponent and the Agency's response on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry.

If you anticipate submitting a request for an extension, we encourage you to contact the Agency as soon as possible to ensure that your request contains all the required information prior to a formal submission. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Project Manager for the environmental assessment, Chelsea Fedrau, by phone at 780-246-7126 or by email at [chelsea.fedrau@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:chelsea.fedrau@iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

*<transmitted electronically>*

Barbara Pullishy  
Regional Director  
Prairie and Northern Region



Prairie and Northern Region  
Canada Place  
Suite 1145, 9700 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4C3

Région des Prairies et du Nord  
Place Canada  
Pièce 1145, 9700 rue Jasper  
Edmonton (Alberta) T5J 4C3

November 15, 2021

Blair McMahon  
Director – Environmental Services & Consultation  
Manitoba Infrastructure  
1520 - 215 Garry Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P3

Sent via email: [blair.mcmahon@gov.mb.ca](mailto:blair.mcmahon@gov.mb.ca)

**SUBJECT: Reminder of the three-year time limit to submit required information and studies under CEAA 2012 for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and God's Lake First Nation Project and information on requesting a time limit extension**

Dear Blair McMahon:

In follow-up to previous correspondence of August 2019 and discussions on January 18, 2021 and March 18, 2021, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is reiterating the three-year legislated time limit for you to provide the required information and studies for the ongoing environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012) for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and God's Lake First Nation Project (the Project) pursuant to subsection 181(2.1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA).

The deadline to submit the required information and studies described in the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines issued for the Project is August 28, 2022. The required information and studies to be provided would include the EIS and any additional required information and studies that may be identified as a result of:

- the Agency's conformity review of the EIS;
- the public comment period on the EIS Summary;
- the technical review of the EIS by the Agency and federal authorities; and
- associated consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities.



On June 26, 2019 and November 15, 2021, the Agency issued Information Request Round 1, Package 1 and Information Request Round 1, Package 2, respectively, to Manitoba Infrastructure.

The Agency may, at a proponent's request, grant an extension of the three-year legislated time limit for any period necessary for the proponent to provide the required information and studies in accordance with subsection 181(2.1) of the IAA. The Agency would consider extensions to the legislated time limits of transitional environmental assessments under exceptional circumstances. Given that a new federal impact assessment process has come into force under the IAA, the transitional provisions are intended for those projects that are well advanced and can reasonably provide all the required information and studies within or near the legislated time limit established under subsection 181(2) of the IAA.

The IAA provides for a modernized federal impact assessment process for designated projects that will ensure timely and effective impact assessments and decisions for proponents and Canadians. In the event that the environmental assessment for the Project has not advanced substantially, the IAA may provide a more appropriate review process.

In order to ensure that any request for an extension to the legislated time limit is reviewed in an effective manner, proponents are required to provide the following information to inform the Agency's determination on whether to grant any extension request:

- your reasons, directly related to the environmental assessment process, for requesting an extension of the time limit (e.g. baseline studies that could require multiple field seasons to complete);
- any changes to the environment at the project location, or to the project itself, that have occurred and may affect the environmental assessment;
- a list of all engagement activities, linked to the development of required information and studies, undertaken with Indigenous groups and the public;
- any documentation demonstrating the advancement of the environmental assessment that began in July 2017;
- a work plan detailing the progress made to date and how the additional time requested would be utilized to provide all the required information and studies, including:
  - any required information and studies resulting from the public comment period on the EIS; and

- the technical review by the Agency, federal authorities, and consultation and engagement by the Agency with Indigenous communities;
- if the extension is related to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, details of how specifically the COVID-19 pandemic impacted advancement of the assessment. This could be included in a work plan outlining which activities were delayed or cancelled; and
- any additional information that you believe is relevant.

As per section 62 of CEAA 2012, the Agency may terminate the federal environmental assessment of the Project if the proponent advises the Agency in writing that they do not intend to carry out the designated project. As stated in our August 12, 2019 correspondence, the proponent of any project defined in the *Physical Activities Regulations* under the IAA, and for which the environmental assessment was terminated in accordance with subsection 181(3) of the IAA, would be required to submit an Initial Project Description in accordance with the IAA should it wish to proceed with the proposed project. The information that must be provided in an Initial Project Description is detailed in the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* under the IAA. Further information on the IAA is available on the Agency's website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency.html>.

If a proponent fails to provide the information or studies within the three-year time limit, or within any extension of that time limit that may be granted by the Agency, the environmental assessment under the CEAA 2012 process would be terminated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Chelsea Fedrau, Project Manager, at [chelsea.fedrau@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:chelsea.fedrau@iaac-aeic.gc.ca) or 780-246-7126.

Sincerely,

Barbara Pullishy  
Regional Director, Prairie and Northern Region  
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Cc: Chelsea Fedrau, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
Tara Fulton, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
Kristen Mozel, Manitoba Infrastructure

# APPENDIX 2

## Community Agreements

Chronological No.
File Reference 20170109

**BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

The Council of the <b>BUNIBONIBEE CREE NATION</b>	Cash free balance
Agency <b>MANITOBA REGION</b>	Capital Account \$ _____
Province <b>MANITOBA</b>	Revenue \$ _____
Place <b>BUNIBONIBEE CREE NATION</b>	
Date of duly convened meeting 09 01 2017 Day Month Year	

**WHEREAS**, Bunibonibee Cree Nation is aware of the current proposal to connect the communities of Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation by an all-season road.

**WHEREAS**, Manitoba Infrastructure: Remote Road Operations, on behalf of the Province of Manitoba have conducted road routing assessments for an all-season road linking the communities of Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation, and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.

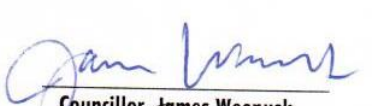
**WHEREAS**, the road alignment within the proposed corridor needs to be finalized in order to proceed with the design and construction of the all-season road linking the communities of Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation, and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.


**WHEREAS**, the proposed all-season road linking the communities of Bunibonibee Cree Nation, God's Lake Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation is shown on attached image.

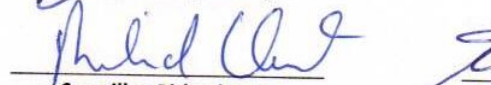
**WHEREAS** we, the council of Bunibonibee Cree Nation understand the work to entail construction work, environmental monitoring and community engagement activities including;

- Construction activities such as surveying, geotechnical investigation, right of way clearing and harvesting;
- Drilling, blasting of rock bridges on the road alignment, excavation of clay borrow material within 500 m of the centre line, development of quarry sites and associated access trails, road construction and operation and maintenance for the road traffic;
- Culvert and bridge installations at water bodies;
- Relocation of existing Manitoba Hydro and MTS infrastructure to accommodate construction of the all-season road;
- Temporary works to support the construction and maintenance of the all-season road including work camps, laydown areas, concrete batch plants and access trails; and
- Environmental monitoring such as archeological, wildlife, vegetation and aquatic surveys and field investigations; and
- Community engagement activities.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** we, the council of Bunibonibee Cree Nation have identified no significant adverse effects on the exercise of treaty or Aboriginal Rights by members of Bunibonibee Cree Nation in relation to these specific activities and therefore do not require any additional consultation in relation to government decisions for these activities.

  
Councillor, James Weenusk

  
Chief, Timothy Muskego

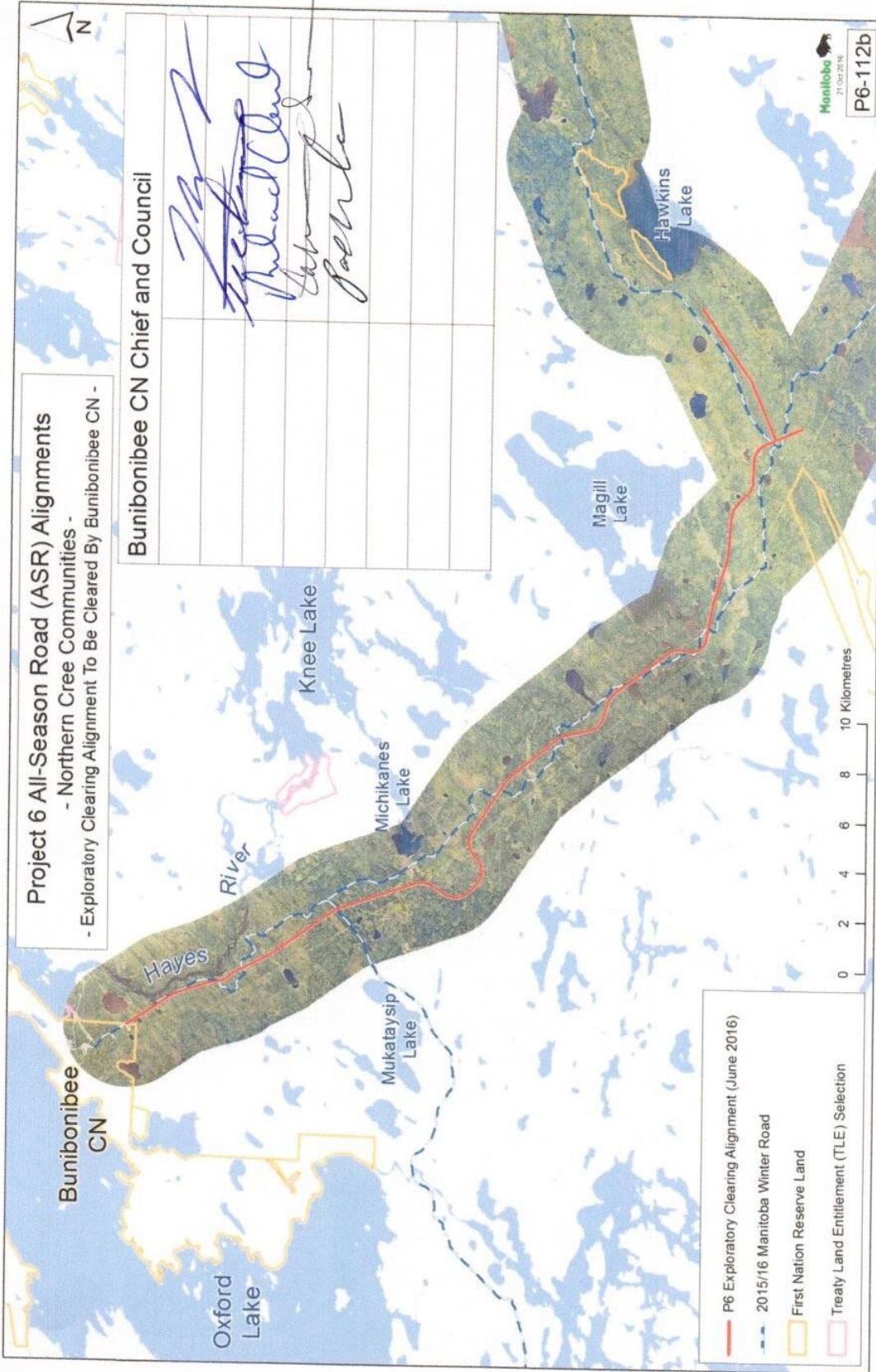
  
Councillor, Richard Hart

  
Councillor, Tommy Weenusk



**BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION**

**Project 6 All-Season Road (ASR) Alignments**  
 - Northern Cree Communities -  
 - Exploratory Clearing Alignment To Be Cleared By Bunibonibee CN -



Bunibonibee CN Chief and Council


- P6 Exploratory Clearing Alignment (June 2016)
- 2015/16 Manitoba Winter Road
- First Nation Reserve Land
- Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Selection



Chronological no. - N° consécutif
File reference no. - N° de référence du dossier

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
RÉSOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BANDE

NOTE: The words "from our Band Funds" "capital" or "revenue", whichever is the case, must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditures from Band Funds.  
NOTA: Les mots "des fonds de notre bande" "capital" ou "revenu" selon le cas doivent paraître dans toutes les résolutions portant sur des dépenses à même les fonds des bandes.

The council of the Le conseil de		GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION		Cash free balance - Solde disponible	
Date of duly convened meeting Date de l'assemblée dûment convoquée		D-J	M	Y-A	Province
		2   4	0   9	1   4	Manitoba
		Capital account Compte capital		\$ _____	
		Revenue account Compte revenu		\$ _____	

DO HEREBY RESOLVE:  
DÉCIDE, PAR LES PRÉSENTES:

**WHEREAS; God's Lake Narrows First Nation is aware of a current proposal for exploratory clearing and associated works and environmental field studies in our traditional territory to support construction of an all season road that will connect God's Lake Narrows First Nation to Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.**

**WHEREAS; God's Lake Narrows First Nation is aware that the activities include, but are not limited to, timber clearing and harvesting, surveying, geotechnical and other investigations.**

**WHEREAS; God's Lake First Nation is aware that the applications may be pursuant, but not limited to: the Crown Lands Act.**

**BE IT RESOLVED; God's Lake Narrows First Nation has identified no significant adverse effects on the exercise of treaty or Aboriginal Rights by members of God's Lake Narrows First Nation in relation to these specific activities and therefore does not require any additional consultation in relation to government decisions for these activities.**

Quorum (4)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Chief - Chef)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

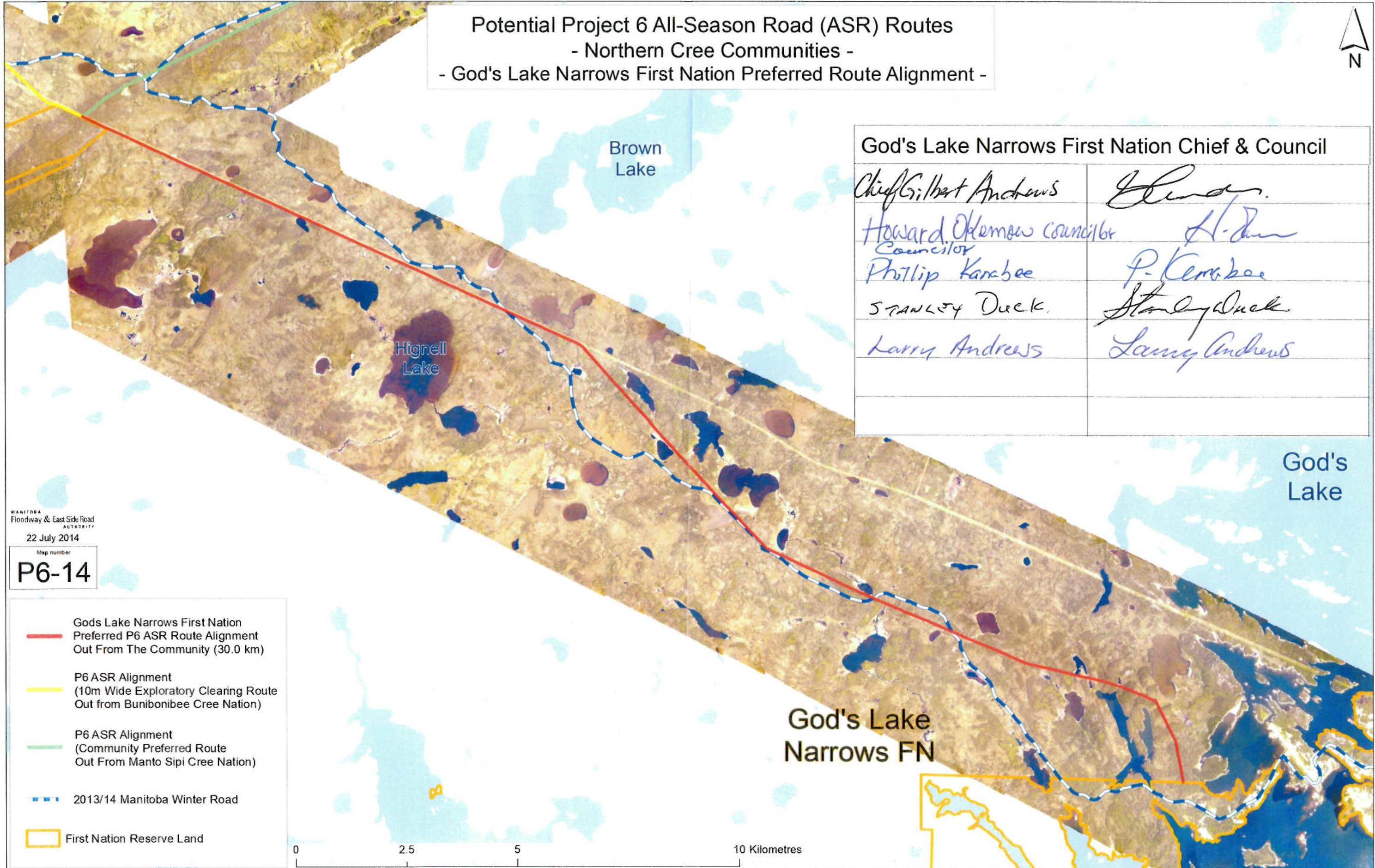
(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY - RÉSERVÉ AU MINISTÈRE

Expenditure - Dépenses	Authority (Indian Act Section) Autorité (Article de la Loi sur les Indiens)	Source of funds Source des fonds <input type="checkbox"/> Capital <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue Revenu	Expenditure - Dépenses	Authority (Indian Act Section) Autorité (Article de la Loi sur les Indiens)	Source of funds Source des fonds <input type="checkbox"/> Capital <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue Revenu
Recommending officer - Recommandé par			Recommending officer - Recommandé par		
Signature _____			Signature _____		
Date _____			Date _____		
Approving officer - Approuvé par			Approving officer - Approuvé par		
Signature _____			Signature _____		
Date _____			Date _____		

Potential Project 6 All-Season Road (ASR) Routes  
 - Northern Cree Communities -  
 - God's Lake Narrows First Nation Preferred Route Alignment -



God's Lake Narrows First Nation Chief & Council

Chief Gilbert Andrews	<i>Gilbert Andrews</i>
Howard Okemow Councilor	<i>H. Okemow</i>
Phillip Karabee	<i>P. Karabee</i>
STANLEY DUCK	<i>Stanley Duck</i>
Larry Andrews	<i>Larry Andrews</i>

MANITOBA  
 Floodway & East Side Road  
 AUTHORITY  
 22 July 2014

Map number  
**P6-14**

- Gods Lake Narrows First Nation Preferred P6 ASR Route Alignment Out From The Community (30.0 km)
- P6 ASR Alignment (10m Wide Exploratory Clearing Route Out from Bunibonibee Cree Nation)
- P6 ASR Alignment (Community Preferred Route Out From Manto Sipi Cree Nation)
- 2013/14 Manitoba Winter Road
- First Nation Reserve Land

God's Lake  
 Narrows FN

**BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION**

**WHEREAS** God's Lake First Nation is aware of the current proposal to connect the communities of God's Lake First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation by an all-season road.

**WHEREAS** Manitoba Infrastructure: Remote Road Operations, on behalf of the Province of Manitoba, have conducted road routing assessments for an all-season road linking the communities of God's Lake First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.

**WHEREAS** the road alignment within the proposed corridor needs to be finalized in order to proceed with the design and construction of the all-season road linking the communities of God's Lake First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation.

**WHEREAS** the proposed all-season road linking the communities of God's Lake First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Manto Sipi Cree Nation is shown on attached image.

**WHEREAS** we, the council of God's Lake First Nation understand the work to entail construction work, environmental monitoring and community engagement activities including:

- Construction activities such as surveying, geotechnical investigation, right of way clearing and harvesting;
- Drilling, blasting of rock ridges on the road alignment, excavation of clay borrow materials within 500 m of the centre line, development of quarry sites and associated access trails, road construction and operation and maintenance for the road traffic;
- Culvert and bridge installations at water bodies;
- Relocation of existing Manitoba Hydro and MTS infrastructure to accommodate construction of the all-season road;
- Temporary works to support the construction and maintenance of the all-season road including work camps, laydown areas, concrete batch plants and access trails; and
- Environmental monitoring such as archeological, wildlife, vegetation and aquatic surveys and field investigations; and
- Community engagement activities.


**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we, the council of God's Lake First Nation have identified no significant adverse effects on the exercise of treaty or Aboriginal Rights by members of God's Lake First Nation in relation to these specific activities and therefore do not require any additional consultation in relation to government decisions for these activities.

Signed on 12 December 2016 by a quorum of 5 Chief and Council


Chief / Vice Chief

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Councillor

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Councillor

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Councillor

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Councillor

  
\_\_\_\_\_







# Manto Sipi Cree Nation

God's River, Manitoba • R0B 0N0 • Canada

**RECEIVED**

SEP 15 2014

MANITOBA CONSERVATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE, THOMPSON

Bus. Phone: (204) 366-2011

Fax: (204) 366-2282

September 15, 2014

Ernie Gilroy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Room 200, 155 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 3H8

Dear Mr. Gilroy;


Manto Sipi Cree Nation acknowledges that Consultation occurred on August 28, 2014 and included a description of the exploratory clearing to support geotechnical and environmental investigations and timber sale. The consultation included an opportunity for discussion and questions by the community of Manto Sipi Cree Nation.

Manto Sipi Cree Nation has no outstanding comments or items to discuss at this time related to the issuance of a Crown Lands Work permit and Timber Sale.

Respectfully,  
**MANTO SIPI CREE NATION**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Michael Yellowback

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Daniel Ross

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor John Ross

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Brian McKay

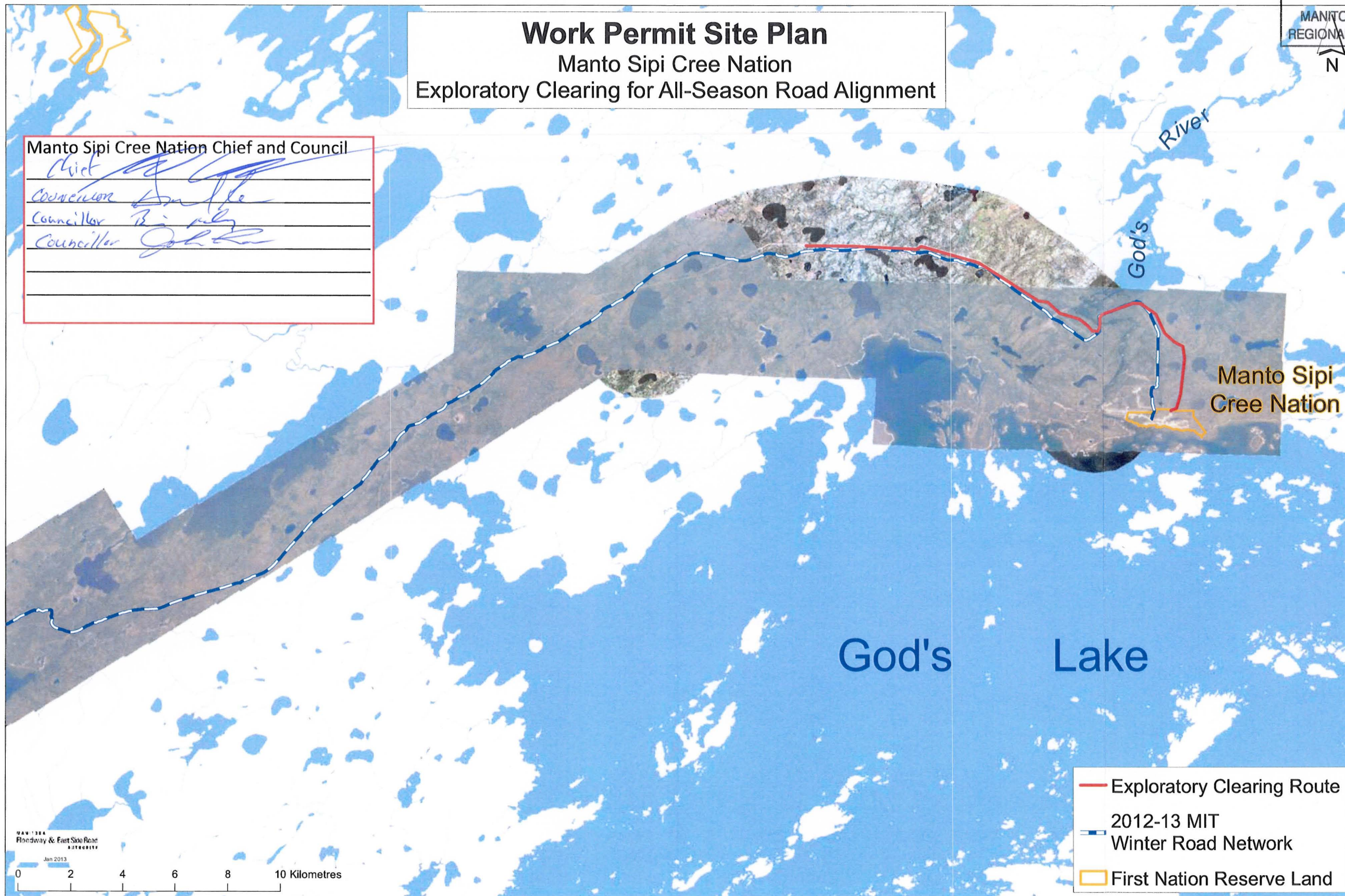
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Roger Ross



**Work Permit Site Plan**  
Manto Sipi Cree Nation  
Exploratory Clearing for All-Season Road Alignment

Manto Sipi Cree Nation Chief and Council

<i>Chief [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>



- Exploratory Clearing Route
- - - 2012-13 MIT
- - - Winter Road Network
- First Nation Reserve Land

MANITOA  
Highway & East Side Road  
AUTHORITY

Jan 2013  
0 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

Manto Sipi  
Cree Nation

God's Lake

God's  
River



RECEIVED

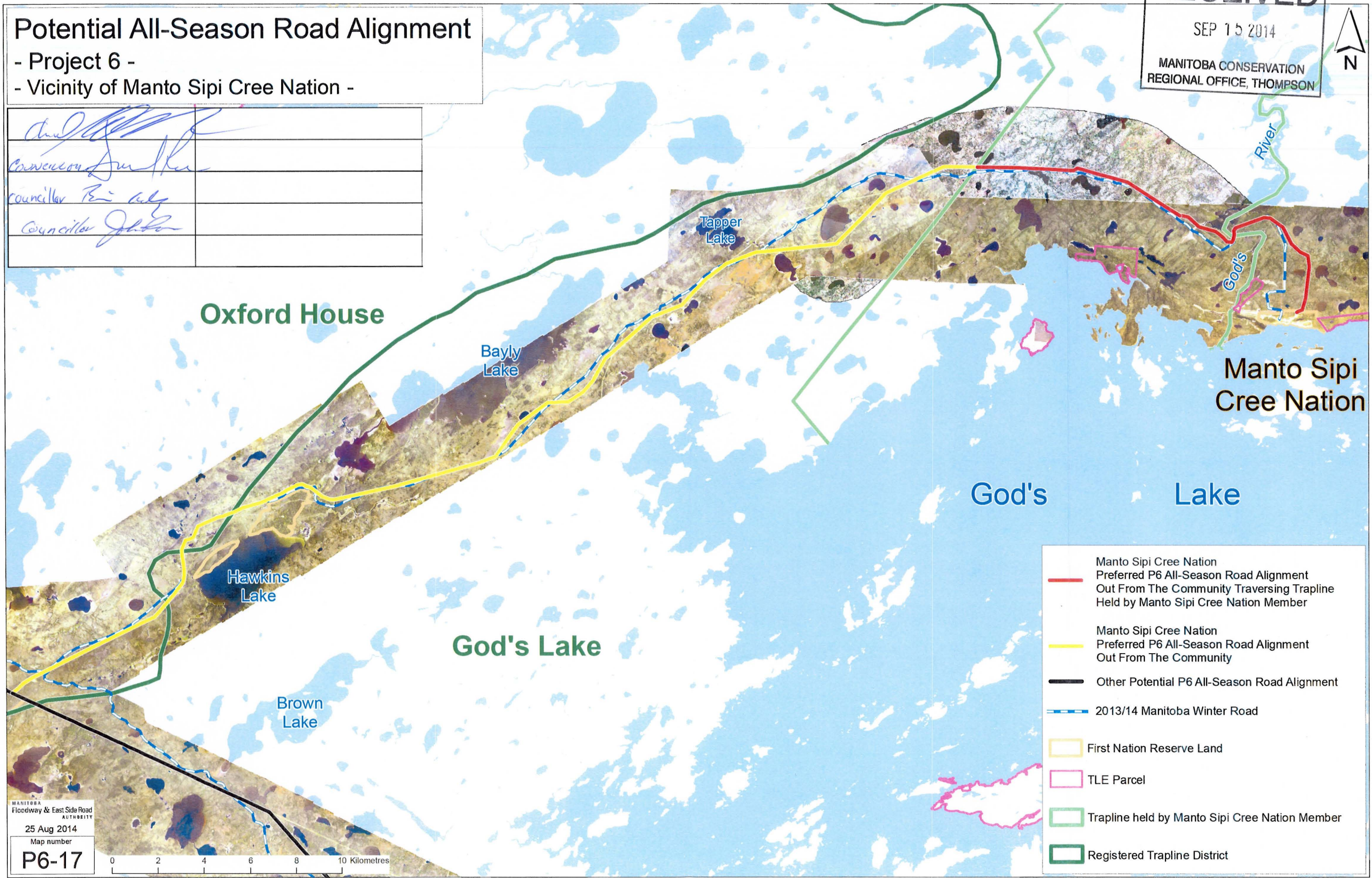
SEP 15 2014

MANITOBA CONSERVATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE, THOMPSON



# Potential All-Season Road Alignment

- Project 6 -  
- Vicinity of Manto Sipi Cree Nation -

- Manto Sipi Cree Nation Preferred P6 All-Season Road Alignment Out From The Community Traversing Trapline Held by Manto Sipi Cree Nation Member
- Manto Sipi Cree Nation Preferred P6 All-Season Road Alignment Out From The Community
- Other Potential P6 All-Season Road Alignment
- 2013/14 Manitoba Winter Road
- First Nation Reserve Land
- TLE Parcel
- Trapline held by Manto Sipi Cree Nation Member
- Registered Trapline District

MANITOBA  
Floodway & East Side Road  
AUTHORITY  
25 Aug 2014  
Map number  
**P6-17**



RECEIVED

SEP 15 2014

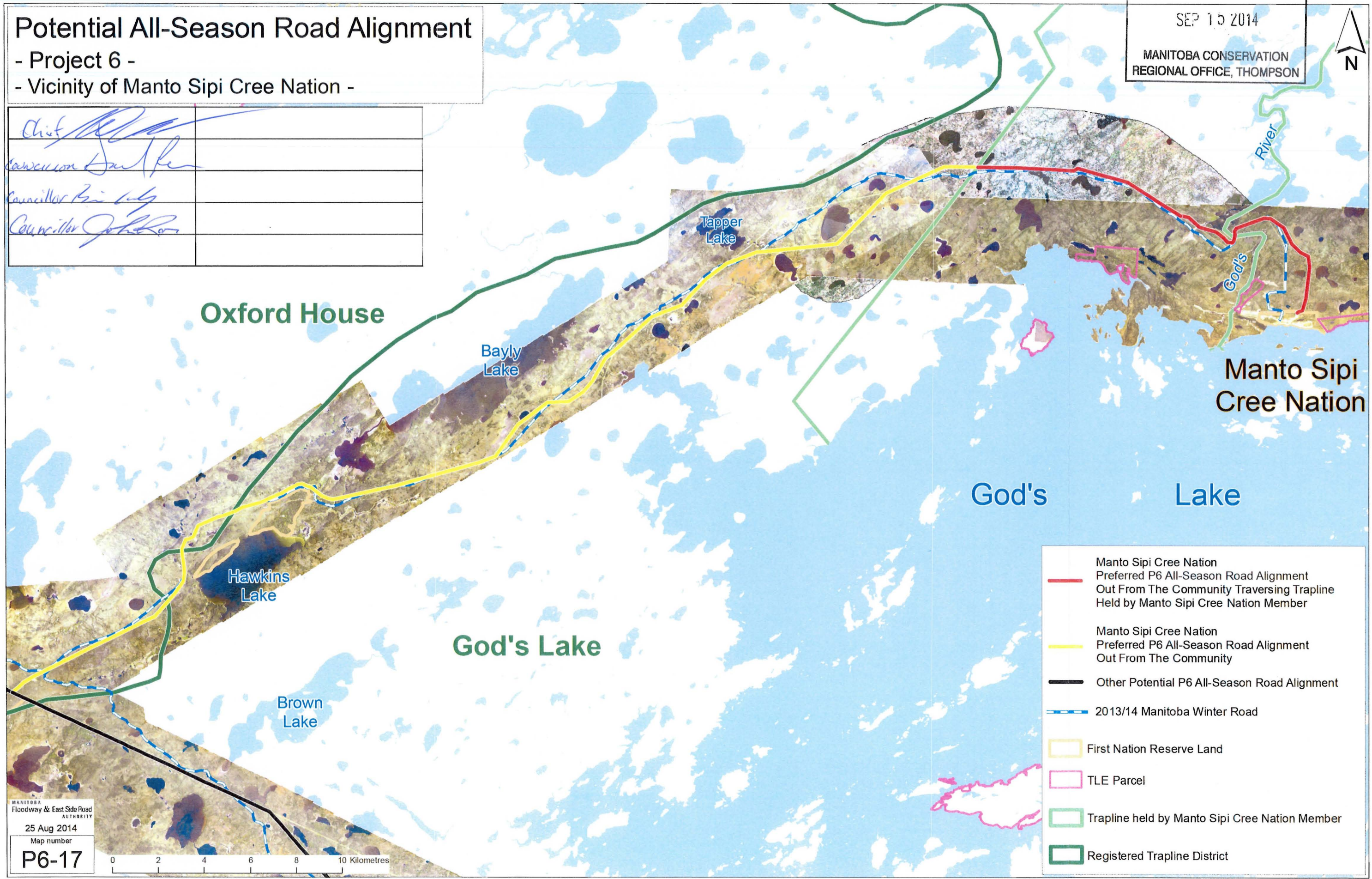
MANITOBA CONSERVATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE, THOMPSON



# Potential All-Season Road Alignment

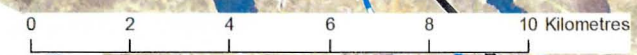
- Project 6 -  
- Vicinity of Manto Sipi Cree Nation -

<i>Chief [Signature]</i>	
<i>Commissioner [Signature]</i>	
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>	
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>	



- Manto Sipi Cree Nation Preferred P6 All-Season Road Alignment Out From The Community Traversing Trapline Held by Manto Sipi Cree Nation Member
- Manto Sipi Cree Nation Preferred P6 All-Season Road Alignment Out From The Community
- Other Potential P6 All-Season Road Alignment
- 2013/14 Manitoba Winter Road
- First Nation Reserve Land
- TLE Parcel
- Trapline held by Manto Sipi Cree Nation Member
- Registered Trapline District

MANITOBA  
Floodway & East Side Road  
AUTHORITY  
25 Aug 2014  
Map number  
**P6-17**

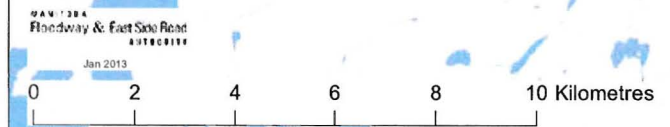
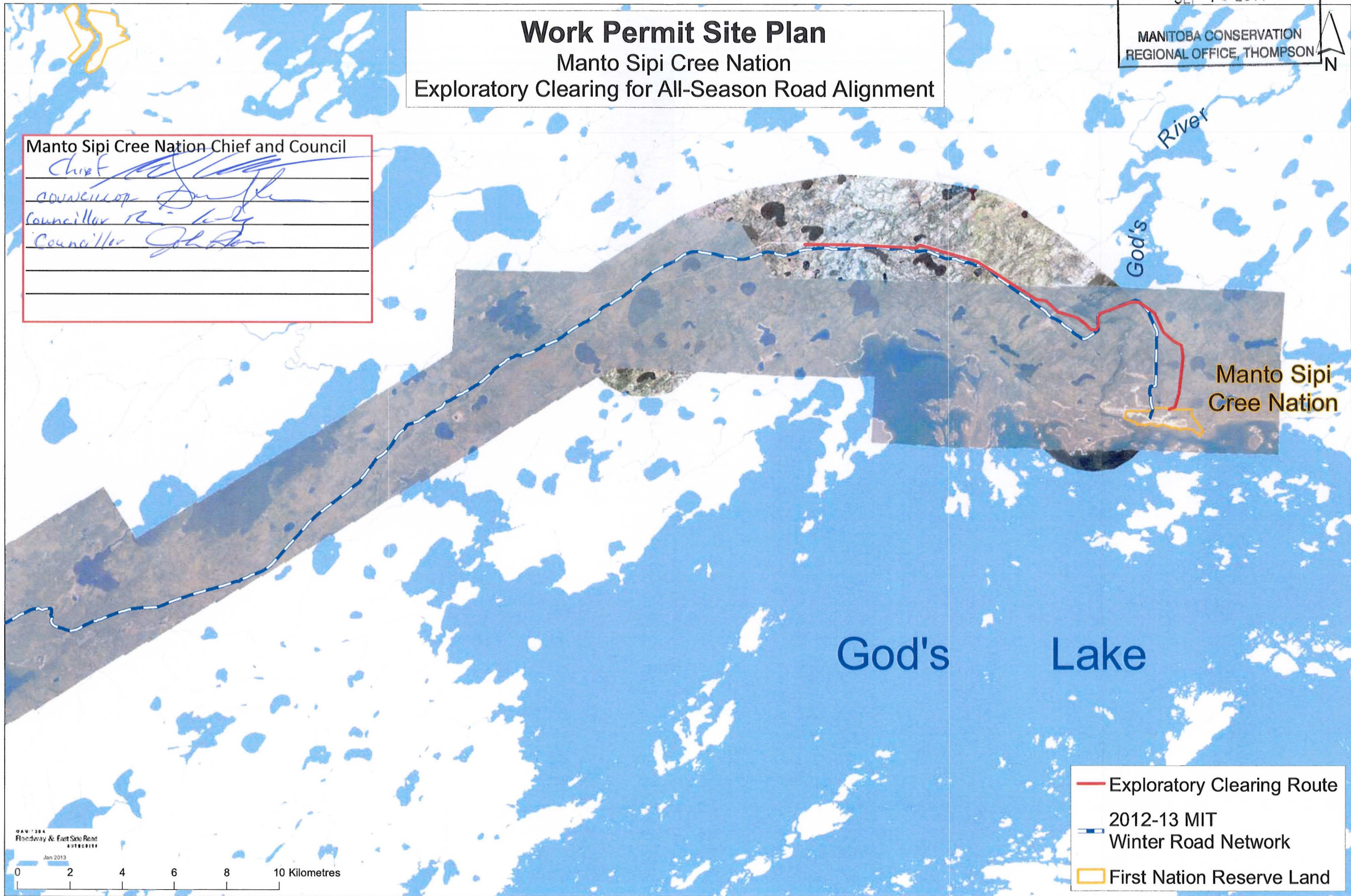


**RECEIVED**  
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MANITOBA CONSERVATION  
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**Work Permit Site Plan**  
Manto Sipi Cree Nation  
Exploratory Clearing for All-Season Road Alignment

Manto Sipi Cree Nation Chief and Council

<i>Chief [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>
<i>Councillor [Signature]</i>

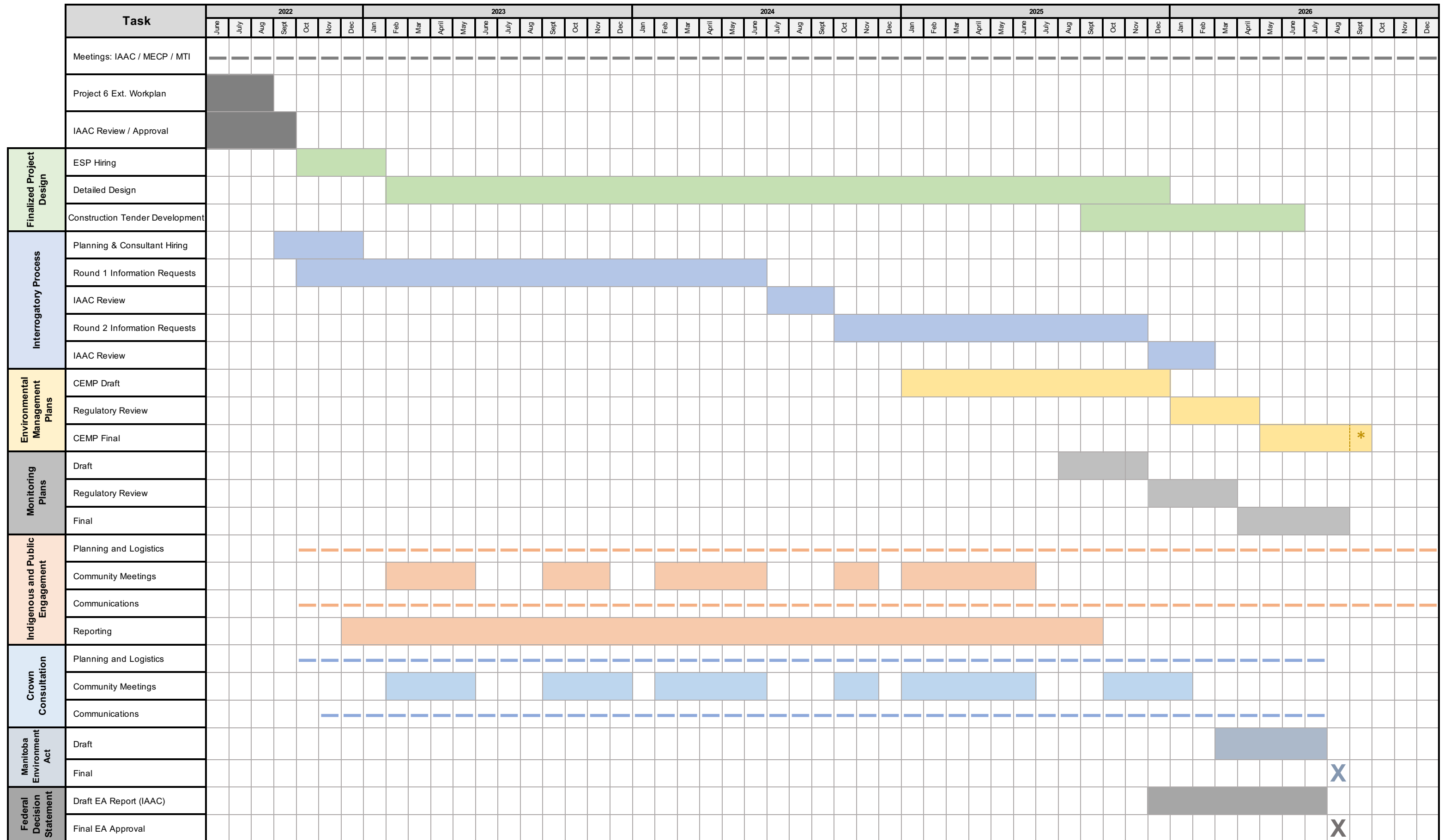


- Exploratory Clearing Route
- - - 2012-13 MIT
- - - Winter Road Network
- First Nation Reserve Land

## **APPENDIX 3**

### The Proposed Schedule of Key Milestones for Project 6

**Figure 5. Proposed Schedule for Proposed Key Environmental Assessment Milestones Regarding Project 6 From June 2022 to Receipt of Regulatory Approvals Prior to Construction.**



\* Final CEMP will be updated to reflect conditions in the Environment Act Licence and Federal Decision Statement.