

**LAKE MANITOBA AND LAKE ST. MARTIN OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT
RESPONSE TO IAAC TECHNICAL REVIEW INFORMATION REQUESTS ROUND 2**

Attachment 2: Indigenous Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Report (ICSER)
July 24, 2023

**ATTACHMENT 2: INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION AND
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT (ICSER)**

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

MANITOBA TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Indigenous Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Report

July 24, 2023

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ACRONYMS:

AEMP – Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan
AMP – Access Management Plan
CACPFAs - Crown–Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund Agreements
CEAA – Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
CFS – Cubic Feet per Second
EIS – Environmental Impact Statement
EA – Environmental Assessment
EAB – Environmental Approvals Branch
EAC – Environmental Advisory Committee
EAP – Environment Act Proposal
EIS – Environmental Impact Statement
EMP – Environmental Management Program
EMP plans – EMP Management and Monitoring Plans
EOC – Emergency Outlet Channel
GWMP – Groundwater Management Plan
HRIA – Heritage Resource Impact Assessment
HRPP – Heritage Resources Protection Plan
IAAC – Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
ICSER – Indigenous Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Report
IR – IAAC Information Request
IPI – Indigenous Procurement Initiative
LAA – Local Assessment Area
LMOC – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel
LSMOC – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel
MTI – Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
PDA – Project Development Area
PMA – Potentially Most Affected
PR – Provincial Road
PTH – Provincial Trunk Highway
RAA – Regional Assessment Area
RIA – Rights Impact Assessment
SEWB – Socio-Economic and Well Being Studies
SCC – Supreme Court of Canada
SWMP – Surface Water Management Plan
TAG – Technical Advisory Group
TK – Traditional Knowledge
TOR – Terms of Reference (for the EAC)
TLRU – Traditional Land and Resource Use
VCs – Valued Components
WCP – Wetland Compensation Plan
WetMP – Wetland Monitoring Plan
WOP – Wetland Offsetting Program

For the purposes of this report, the terms “Aboriginal” and “Indigenous” are interchangeable. The term “Aboriginal” is in reference to rights recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, which specifically refers to Aboriginal and treaty rights. The terms “Crown-Indigenous consultation” and “consultation” are used interchangeably to refer to consultation between the Crown and Indigenous/Aboriginal groups.

1 OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Indigenous Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Report (ICSER) is to provide information to federal and provincial regulators on the consultation and engagement process undertaken by the proponent, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI), with potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders in relation to the proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the proposed Project), for the purposes of the federal and provincial environmental review processes.

The ICSEER is organized into seven sections: (1) Overview; (2) Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Process; (3) Results and Outcomes from Indigenous Consultation and Engagement; (4) Public and Stakeholder Engagement Process; (5) Next Steps; (6) Conclusions; and (7) References.

Section 1 of the ICSEER contains an overview of the following: the proposed Project; the duty to consult and accommodate; the environmental assessment (EA) process; and the Indigenous consultation and the engagement process more generally.

1.1 The Proposed Project

The proposed Project is a permanent flood control management system for Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin to alleviate flooding in the Lake St. Martin region of Manitoba. Two new channels will be constructed: the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel (LMOC), which will connect Lake Manitoba to Lake St. Martin, and the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel (LSMOC), which will connect Lake St. Martin to Lake Winnipeg.

In 2011, Manitoba experienced a historic flood event. This event led to the emergency construction of the Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel (EOC), Reach 1, which was operated immediately after its construction was completed in 2012. Operation of Reach 1 was required again during a 2014 flood event, further illustrating the need for long-term flood control measures in the region. After the 2011 and 2014 flood events, MTI commissioned several reviews, studies, and public and Indigenous engagement sessions to investigate and assess the issue of flooding in the region. This process identified future flooding vulnerabilities, prioritized opportunities to improve flood protection infrastructure throughout the province, and identified several potential flood protection projects.

1.1.1 Project Purpose

Due to its geographic location and topography, many areas of Manitoba are susceptible to flooding. Water moves from the Rocky Mountains, northern United States, and the boreal forest through Manitoba on the way to Hudson Bay as illustrated in Figure 1.

Manitoba's landscape was largely shaped by glacial processes and as a result, large portions of the province are relatively flat and subject to flooding during high run-off events. While much of Manitoba is vulnerable, Manitobans are generally well protected due to investments in flood protection infrastructure by previous generations.

The LMOC and LSMOC are proposed components of an integrated flood mitigation network that are intended to work together to move water from higher elevations to lower elevations. The Fairford River Water Control Structure is used to maintain suitable water levels on Lake Manitoba upstream of a dam and on the Fairford River, Lake St. Martin and Dauphin River downstream of a dam. Until 2011, the Fairford River Water Control Structure was effective in managing the Lake Manitoba water levels within the desirable range.

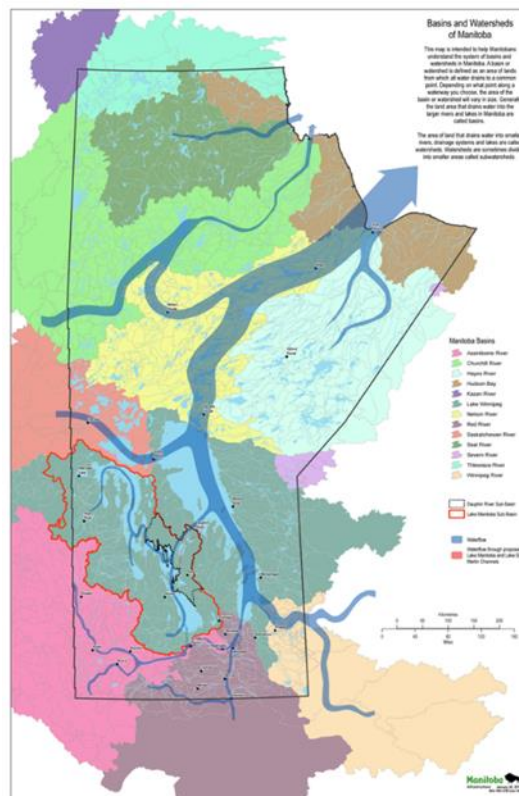


Figure 1: Basins and Watersheds of Manitoba

The LMOC and LSMOC have been designed to provide enhanced flood protection to Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, agricultural producers, and recreational users along Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, and the Dauphin River, without appreciably affecting water levels on Lake Winnipeg. The proposed channels will reduce peak flood levels and provide flood protection to Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin.

Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, and Lake Winnipeg are currently connected through the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers. Water flows from Lake Manitoba through the Fairford River to Lake St. Martin, and then flows from Lake St. Martin through the Dauphin River to Lake Winnipeg (Figure 2: yellow dots). While the LMOC and LSMOC would provide a

new pathway, no additional water volume will be introduced to the system (Figure 2: blue dots).

The proposed Project is not intended to control or remove flows from the Fairford River or Dauphin Rivers, but some changes will be experienced because of adjustments in the overall system. Flow on the Fairford River will still be controlled by the Fairford River Water Control Structure under the current operating guidelines. Key changes to the system will include:

- During flood years when the outlet channels are operating, reduced lake levels will result in reduced peak flows on the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers.
- Following a flood event, flows on the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers would typically remain high as Lake Manitoba slowly returns to its normal range. Since Lake Manitoba now recovers from flood conditions faster, flows on these rivers will be lower, and closer to average water levels, for a period of up to five years following a year in which the LMOC and LSMOC are in operation. This will not have a noticeable effect on water levels in drought years.
- In severe drought years, MTI will stop base flows through the LSMOC to maximize flows through the Dauphin River, and a fish salvage will be done in the channel to keep fish from getting stranded.

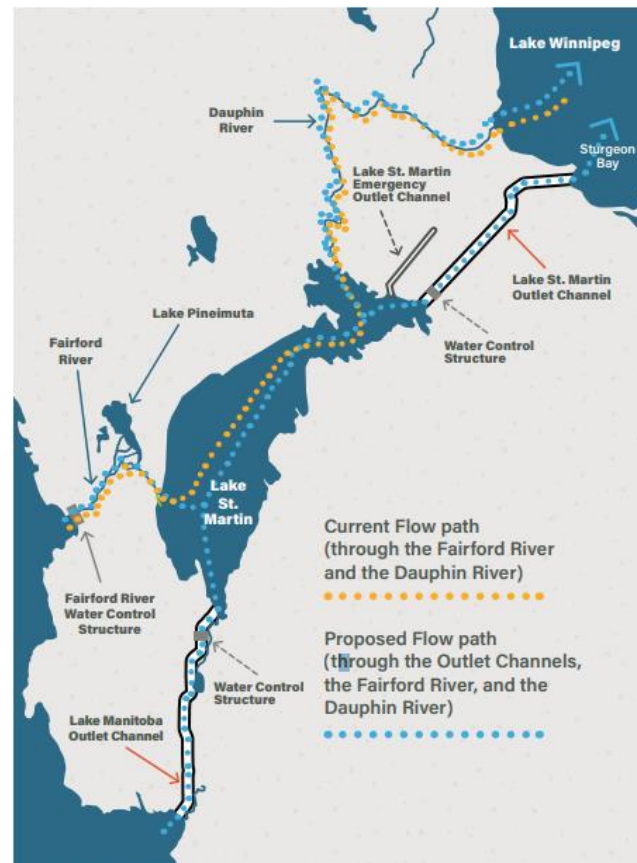


Figure 2: Water Flow with the Outlet Channels Project

1.1.2 Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel (LMOC)

The LMOC will work in tandem with the existing Fairford River Water Control Structure to help regulate water levels and mitigate flooding on Lake Manitoba. The 7,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) capacity channel will result in an enhanced ability to maintain Lake Manitoba water levels below the flood stage. For example, when Lake Manitoba

reaches the top of its operating range at 812.5 feet above sea level, and the LMOC can be activated, the full capacity of the Fairford River Water Control Structure is 8,900 cfs. The LMOC has a capacity of 6,400 cfs at that lake level. Therefore, the total proposed capacity at 812.5 feet ASL is 15,300 cfs, which represents an increase of 72%.

When Lake Manitoba reaches 815.0 feet above sea level, the full capacity of the Fairford River Water Control Structure is 16,400 cfs. The LMOC has a capacity of 8,300 cfs at that lake level. Therefore, the total proposed capacity at 812.5 feet above sea level is 24,700 cfs, which represents an increase of 51%.

LMOC project details are shown in Figure 3 below, including:

- Approximately 24.5 kilometers (km) in length;
- Situated on acquired privately held land and provincial Crown leased land;
- Involves a combined bridge and water control structure at Iverson Road and new bridges at Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) 6 (Township Line Road Bridge), future Provincial Road (PR) 239 (Carne Ridge Road) and Township Line Road;
- PR 239 and municipal roads will be realigned to provide opportunities to space the bridges crossing the channel to meet access spacing standards.

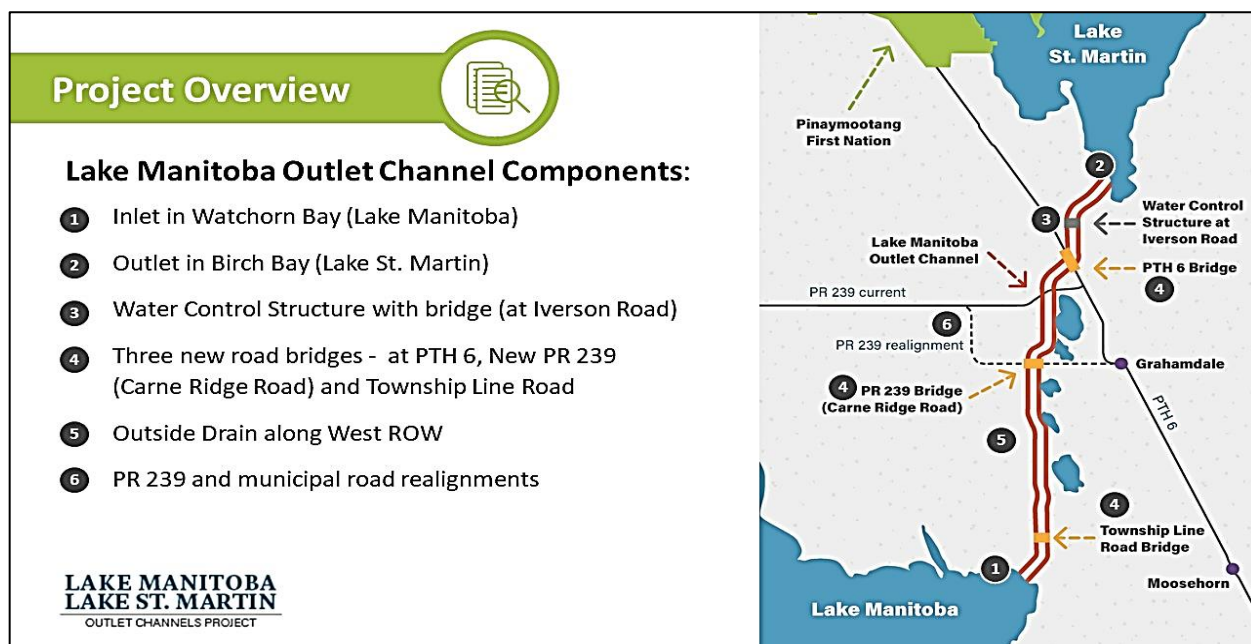


Figure 3: Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Components

1.1.3 Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel (LSMOC)

The LSMOC will restore a more natural water regime to Lake St. Martin and will provide flood protection by mitigating increased inflows from operation of the Fairford River Water Control Structure, as well as additional inflows from the planned LMOOC. This 11,500 cfs capacity channel will allow water to drain from Lake St. Martin to Lake Winnipeg. LSMOC project details are shown in Figure 4 below, including:

- Approximately 23.7 km in length;
- Situated on unoccupied provincial Crown land;
- Due to the elevation difference Lake St. Martin (800 feet above sea level) and Lake Winnipeg (712 feet above sea level), drop structures have been included in the design; and,
- A 24 kilovolt (kV) power distribution line to allow for operation of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel water control structure.

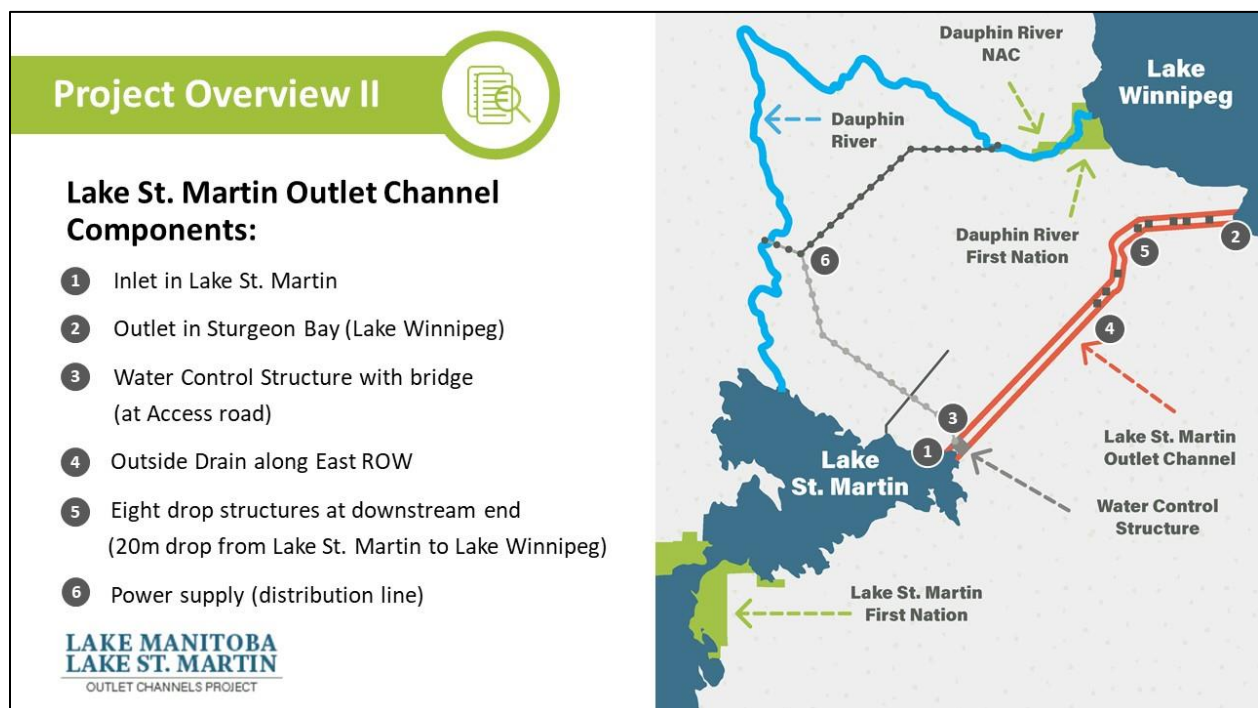


Figure 4: Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel Components

During a normal year, when the lakes are not forecasted to rise above their desired operating ranges (810.5 feet to 812.5 feet on Lake Manitoba and 797 to 800 feet on Lake St. Martin), the LMOOC and LSMOC will remain non-operational (gates closed).

However, during those periods, both channels will allow a small amount of base flow through the control structures to protect fish and fish habitat (see Figure 5).

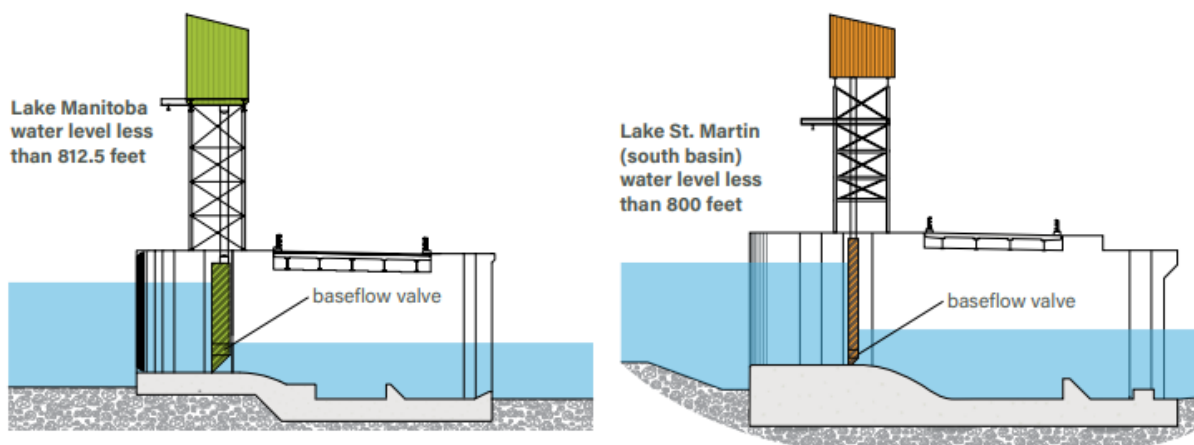


Figure 5: LMOC (left) and LSMOC (right) Water Control Structures when "Closed"

The LSMOC requires a year-round base flow of 50 cfs to sustain pools below the drop structures that may harbour fish. This flow is adequate to ensure oxygenation of the water in the pools. During extreme drought conditions, this base flow will be cut off to maximize the water available to supply the Dauphin River. Because the LSMOC drop structures were not designed to provide upstream fish passage, it is unlikely that large numbers of large-bodied fish would be present in the pools at this time. However, a fish salvage would be conducted prior to shutting down the base flow in the channel.

The LMOC and LSMOC will be constructed so they are able to operate throughout the winter. If operation is required to continue through the winter, the LMOC will close during the initial freeze-up to promote the formation of a stable ice cover and limit frazil ice formation. Following the formation of stable ice cover in the channel, the LMOC will be fully opened and remain that way until channel operation is shut down or ice breakup in the spring. This is to prevent the possibility of mobilized ice damaging the water control structure gates.

In the winter, when operation of the LSMOC is required, the water control structure gates will be operated (gates opened), through the use of partial gate openings. This will limit flows which will promote the formation of a stable ice cover in the channel and reduce the volume of frazil ice produced.

In addition to providing flood protection around Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, the two proposed channels will allow greater flexibility in operating the provincial water

control system, including the Shellmouth Dam and Reservoir, the Portage Diversion, and the Red River Floodway.

Given the relatively remote location of the LSMOC, a new distribution line to power the water control structure is required. Manitoba Hydro will undertake the design, permitting, construction and maintenance of the required distribution line, in accordance with provincial legislation. All activities will be done in accordance with Manitoba Hydro's environmental management practices. Maintenance of the distribution line and associated right-of-way will follow Manitoba Hydro's standard operating procedures.

1.2 Federal and Provincial Regulatory Requirements and Section 35 Duty to Consult and Accommodate

The legal duty to consult and accommodate arises out of judicial interpretation of section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. Section 35 reads:

35.

(1) The existing Aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.

(2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

Section 35 provides a constitutional framework for the protection of the distinctive cultures of Indigenous peoples.¹ The Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) set out the foundational principles for the duty to consult in the 2004 Haida² decision followed by the 2005 Mikisew Cree³ decision, which dealt with consultation in the treaty context.

The duty to consult is grounded in the honour of the Crown. The SCC recognized that the Crown must balance and reconcile competing interests. The duty to consult is a means of ensuring competing interests can be reconciled fairly and honourably. The SCC confirmed the Crown's legal duty to consult with Indigenous peoples regarding any Crown decision or action that might adversely affect the exercise of Aboriginal or treaty rights, before making the decision or taking the action; and, it identified the basic principles applicable to the duty to consult. Decisions that adversely affect land or resources are likely to trigger the duty to consult, because those decisions often affect

¹ R v Sappier, 2006 SCC 544 at para. 22

² Haida Nation v British Columbia (Minister of Forests), 2004 SCC 73 ("Haida")

³ Mikisew Cree First Nation v Canada (Minister of Canadian Heritage), 2005 SCC 69 ("Mikisew Cree")

the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights to hunt, trap, fish, gather, or practice cultural activities.

The SCC has held that the duty to consult and accommodate resides with the federal and provincial Crowns and is not delegable to third parties, such as project proponents. However, the procedural aspects of consultation may be delegated by governments to third parties, including project proponents. The two governments are responsible for their respective duty to consult and accommodate and ensuring it is adequate and meaningful.

As set out in further detail in subsection 1.4 below, MTI is seeking federal and provincial regulatory approvals for the proposed Project, and in that capacity has consulted and engaged Indigenous groups, obtained relevant Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU) information, commissioned community led Socio-Economic and Well-Being Studies (SEWB) and Rights Impact Assessments (RIA), developed appropriate mitigation measures and accommodations, and responded to issues and concerns raised by Indigenous groups. MTI's Indigenous consultation and engagement activities aim to fulfil the following federal regulatory requirements (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2018):

- The statutory obligations of the Canadian Environment Assessment Act, 2012 (CEAA 2012) for assessing the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project on Aboriginal peoples; and,
- Assisting the Government of Canada in understanding and assessing anticipated impacts from the proposed Project on potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights.

In addition to Crown-Indigenous consultation requirements, under the federal environmental review process, MTI as the proponent, is required to engage with potentially affected Indigenous groups to fulfill the regulatory requirements for developing a complete Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under CEAA 2012. Engagement requirements are outlined in CEAA 2012 and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) EIS Guidelines.⁴

In addition, EIS guidelines for the proposed Project were issued by the Manitoba department of Environment and Climate, Environmental Approvals Branch (EAB). EAB reviewed MTI's Environment Act Proposal (EAP) submitted pursuant to The

⁴ EIS Guidelines: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/132330>

Environment Act (Manitoba) and circulated it for comment among other provincial departments during May and June 2018. Public and other provincial department comments were posted on the EAB online public registry for the proposed Project.⁵

Within the EAP for the proposed Project, MTI indicated its intention to produce one EIS for review by both EAB and the IAAC under their respective EA processes. EAB accepted the “one project – one assessment” objective of a coordinated federal-provincial EA process.

EAB stated IAAC’s EIS guidelines included almost all content proposed in the EAB Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Document, and addressed almost all comments obtained during the review of the EAP. However, EAB requested that the following items be addressed specifically in the EIS so that the document addresses specific provincial requirements:

- An overview of provincial regulatory requirements, including under The Environment Act;
- A summary of rules of operation for the two proposed channels, as well as for the existing Fairford River Water Control Structure; and
- A discussion of the effects of the present and potential future Assiniboine River Diversion on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin.

The regulatory processes helped MTI frame the EIS and guide the involvement of Indigenous groups in the environmental review processes.

1.3 Environmental Assessment Process

Federal and provincial EA processes were triggered for the proposed Project and the proposed Project requires environmental authorizations under the federal CEAA 2012 and The Environment Act (Manitoba).

1.3.1 Federal Licensing Decisions

Pursuant to section 15(d) of the CEAA 2012, the IAAC is the authority responsible for federal review of the proposed Project. IAAC issued their guidelines for the preparation of an EIS for the proposed Project to MTI on May 15, 2018, with additions on August 16, 2018, December 21, 2018, and June 27, 2019. Other relevant federal legislation involved includes the Fisheries Act, Navigation Protection Act, Migratory Birds

⁵ Provincial registry: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/5966lstmartin/index.html>.

Convention Act, 1994 and Species at Risk Act. The following federal decisions are required:

- Decision statement under CEAA 2012;
- Authorization under the Fisheries Act from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) Canada; and
- Approval under the Navigation Protection Act.

1.3.2 Provincial Licensing Decisions

The proposed Project is a 'Class 3' development under the Classes of Development Regulation (164/88) under The Environment Act (Manitoba) and therefore requires an Environment Act Licence. Manitoba's EAB provided EIS Guidelines for the proposed Project on March 7, 2019. In addition to addressing the EIS Guidelines, provincial permits will be required under several Acts to address various project activities, such as:

- The Crown Lands Act (general permit for construction camp);
- The Mines and Minerals Act (quarry development);
- The Wildfires Act (burning);
- The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act (petroleum storage tanks);
- The Water Resources Administration Act (authorization);
- Work permits, timber salvage permits, and Wildlife Management Area Use Permit (Natural Resources and Northern Development).

Completion of a rigorous and thorough EA process (including Indigenous engagement and Crown-Indigenous consultation activities) provides federal and provincial decision makers with sufficient relevant information and an objective basis for granting or denying approval for a proposed development. As a planning tool for the proposed Project, completion of the EIS helps to achieve the following objectives:

- Identification and evaluation of potential environmental effects of a proposed project as early in the planning process as possible and before irrevocable project decisions are taken;
- Protection of natural systems and ecological processes, where possible; and,
- Avoidance, minimization, or offsetting the adverse significant biophysical, social and other relevant effects of a project.

MTI has worked towards developing productive and constructive relationships with Indigenous groups based on on-going dialogue and a commitment to respect and transparency. This has facilitated two way information sharing to effectively and appropriately inform the assessment of potential effects. MTI has endeavoured to undertake a consistent, fair, and reasonable approach, which incorporates Indigenous involvement throughout the entire process, to the extent feasible and depending on the level of consultation and engagement required for each Indigenous group.

Valued components (VCs) refer to environmental, biophysical or human features that may be impacted by a project. Criteria used in identifying and defining VCs includes legislative importance (e.g., species at risk), scientific value and role in the ecosystem, and the value people place on it. The EIS and supporting documents (IAAC Information Request (IR) responses; Sections 2.6 and 3.3 below; and, Appendix 1: Summaries of Concerns) identify those VCs, processes, and concerns related to the proposed Project. The EIS indicates to whom concerns are important (i.e., the public or Indigenous groups) and the reasons why, including environmental, cultural, historical, social, economic, recreational, and aesthetic considerations, and TLRU.

The EIS describes the environment before any disturbance occurs due to the proposed Project; and, identifies, assesses, and determines the significance of the potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed Project. The assessment of environmental effects on Indigenous groups, pursuant to paragraph 5(1)(c) of CEEA 2012, involved the same rigor and type of assessment as other VCs (including setting of spatial and temporal boundaries, identification and analysis of effects, identification of mitigation measures, determination of residual effects, identification and a clear explanation of the methodology used for assessing the significance of residual effects, and assessment of cumulative effects). Furthermore, each VC assessment contains a section titled “Consideration of Indigenous Information and Traditional Knowledge” that summarizes relevant information shared by Indigenous groups and outlines how this was considered in each assessment.

MTI used both primary and secondary sources regarding baseline information, changes to the environment and the corresponding effects on health, socio-economics, physical and cultural heritage and the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes. Primary sources of information used included TLRU studies, SEWB studies, rights impact assessments, community feedback on IAAC Information Requests, and other relevant studies conducted specifically for the proposed Project and the EIS (e.g., baseline field studies supporting the EIS and additional field studies such as rare plant, wildlife, and wetland investigations that have occurred since submitting the EIS). MTI

has consistently consulted, engaged, involved and supported potentially affected Indigenous groups as a key source of this information.

Baseline data on Indigenous health and socio-economic conditions was obtained through review of TLRU studies and Indigenous engagement activities for the Project. Other primary and secondary data sources are identified in the EIS Chapter 9, Section 9.2 (land and resource use), Chapter 9, Section 9.3 (infrastructure and services), Chapter 9, Section 9.4 (economy), Chapter 9, Section 9.5 (health), and Section 10.2 (TLRU).

In addition, information was gathered through a review of publicly available literature containing information for Indigenous groups engaged on the proposed Project. Confidential studies or those stipulating one-time use were excluded from the literature review. The following types of information sources were considered:

- Traditional Knowledge or other TLRU studies conducted by Indigenous groups (e.g., Poplar River First Nation and Bloodvein First Nation community land use plans);
- Government reports and databases (i.e. Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Canadian Census);
- Historical literature (e.g., Manitoba Hydro projects);
- Internet sources (e.g., Indigenous group websites, business websites, news articles, etc.); and
- Geospatial analysis of land and resource use.

The review of primary and secondary sources considered the baseline information, issues and concerns, potential effects, and residual effects.

The EIS addressed both Project-related and cumulative environmental effects, using 14 VCs as the basis of the assessment of environmental effects of the proposed Project. The feedback from Indigenous groups that was factored into this evaluation is summarized in Section 3.3 below, and detailed in the proposed Project EIS – Volume 1, Chapter 5: Public and Indigenous Engagement and Volume 4, Chapter 10: Indigenous Peoples.

Indigenous knowledge regarding traditional land and resource use received through MTI's consultation and engagement process has identified, verified, and informed the EIS regarding any effects of environmental changes that may be caused on:

- Health and socio-economic conditions;
- Physical and cultural heritage;
- The current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes; and
- Any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance.

Information on Project design, planning, construction and operation has been shared with Indigenous groups through the EIS, supporting documentation from engineering service providers, design documents, and environmental management plans. Informal inputs and comments during early project dialogue raised concerns about groundwater and drinking water, which were among the key issues that led to the selection of the final alignment of the proposed Project. The current alignment also considered other concerns, such as access and fish spawning.

As discussed in detail in Section 3.2, feedback and input obtained from Indigenous groups in the consultation and engagement process has resulted in the following specific Project modifications: alignment modifications, reassessing effects of the Lake St. Martin Narrows, channel armouring, wildlife movement mitigation measures, changes to monitoring, mitigation and fisheries offsetting, and establishing an Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC).

Due to the size, complexity and nature of the proposed Project and because of disruptions and delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, on August 26, 2022, IAAC granted MTI an 18-month extension to the CEAA 2012 August 28, 2022 time limit for providing information required for the proposed Project's EA. This extension was granted to facilitate the provision of required information and studies, in accordance with subsection 181(2.1) of the Impact Assessment Act. The extended time limit expires on February 27, 2024.

On May 8, 2023, MTI submitted an updated Project Description⁶, in response to IAAC's request for an updated Section 3 of the Environmental Impact Statement (Volume 1) originally submitted on March 5, 2020. The updated document was posted on IAAC's public registry on May 18, 2023, and discussed in detail with the Potentially Most Affected (PMA) Indigenous communities at a Project Update Meeting held on May 15, 2023.

⁶ IAAC Public Registry Updated Project Description: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/80148/contributions/id/59795>

On May 31, 2023, MTI submitted its preliminary responses to IAAC's Round 2 Information Requests received by MTI on August 25, 2022. The ICSEER is accompanied by MTI's formal responses to IAAC's Round 2 Information Requests, which incorporates information from SEWB and RIA studies recently received from Indigenous groups.

1.4 Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Process

MTI has developed and undertaken a consultation and engagement approach for the proposed Project, in accordance with the Manitoba government's Interim Provincial Policy for Crown Consultations with First Nations, Métis Communities and Other Aboriginal Communities (the Interim Policy). The Interim Policy was appended to the proposed Project's 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 Métis community and other Indigenous groups, with respect to a proposed government decision or action;
- To provide a completed record of Indigenous groups' interests in a proposed project;
- 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; and
- To advance the process of reconciliation between the Crown and First Nations, Métis communities and Indigenous groups.

MTI has also drawn upon established practices and processes developed through the Manitoba government's experience to date with impact assessment and Indigenous consultation and engagement, and adapted the provincial process to suit the specific project features and anticipated effects. The Manitoba government's Interim Policy is supported by and includes *Guidelines for Crown consultations with First Nations, Métis communities and other Aboriginal communities*, which were adopted concurrently with the Interim Policy (Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations, 2009). These guidelines were also appended to the proposed Project's EIS and provided MTI with principles and a framework to be followed for the consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project.

To better support Indigenous consultation and engagement, in 2022, MTI established a new Indigenous Consultation Branch. The branch was formerly part of the previous Environmental Services and Consultation Branch. The branch is now fully staffed with

eight (8) full-time employees dedicated to completing the required work on the proposed Project, in coordination with the Environmental Services Branch. The Indigenous Consultation Branch is a cross-divisional corporate resource to help enable consistent department-wide reconciliation, relationship building, and mutual understanding with Indigenous groups.

To guide the overall consultation and engagement efforts for the proposed Project and fulfill the Manitoba government’s duty to consult, MTI is following the Manitoba government’s four-phased consultation process, informed by the Manitoba government’s *Framework and Guide for Crown-Aboriginal Consultations (2010)*, which provides for productive and respectful dialogue. These four (4) phases of consultation are identified and described in Figure 6.



Figure 6: Provincial Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Phases

1.4.1 Phase 1: Initial Assessment & Planning

The first phase is to undertake the assessment and planning necessary to conduct consultation. With large scale projects, such as the proposed Project, phase 1 often includes establishment of a multi-departmental steering committee. The goal of the

steering committee is to bring together the appropriate staff to assess, plan, and provide guidance to the consultation team implementing the Crown's duty to consult.

When the Crown is proposing an action or decision that may adversely affect the exercise of Aboriginal or treaty rights, an initial assessment is conducted to determine whether consultation is required, which Indigenous groups must be consulted, and the nature and scope of consultation required. The level and content of consultation with each group is assessed in proportion to the significance of the potential adverse effects of the proposed action or decision on the exercise of existing or asserted Aboriginal and treaty rights of that group. Adverse effects of past actions or decisions are also considered in the assessment of the scope of consultation required.

Lastly, this phase involves reaching out by letter as early as possible to those groups identified for consultation to determine their interest in the consultation process.

1.4.2 Phase 2: Community Consultation Process

Following the determination of Indigenous groups interest in the consultation process the second phase of the consultation process focuses on consultation activities with Indigenous groups including sharing information and hearing, discussing, and understanding Indigenous groups concerns and proposed measures to address concerns. The aim is to achieve common understanding by both sides of the information, issues, and concerns relevant to the exercise of existing or asserted Aboriginal and treaty rights, and how those concerns may reasonably be addressed and accommodated.

Where an Indigenous group has expressed interest in participating, the Manitoba government offers a process that includes the development of a mutually agreeable work plan and budget that the Manitoba government considers reasonable to achieve meaningful consultation. Reasonable changes to the plan may be made at the community's request.

Community sessions provide opportunities for the Manitoba government to share information with the community and to discuss community concerns and potential measures to address those concerns. All concerns, whether specific to the proposed decisions or not, are discussed and considered during the Manitoba government's internal analysis and evaluation of the information.

Record keeping is an important part of this phase. This includes recording and capturing concerns and information discussed, as well as producing a Record of Communication,

which summarizes the contents of all incoming and outgoing correspondence. Near the end of this phase (and often overlapping with Phase 3), the Manitoba government confirms the accuracy of its inventory of concerns and its responses discussed during the consultation process with each Indigenous group.

The Manitoba government treats information collected from specific groups or individuals throughout the consultation process as confidential and does not make the information available to other Indigenous groups or the public, unless consent is provided by the Indigenous group that provided the information.

1.4.3 Phase 3: Analysis, Recommendations & Decision Making

In phase three, information generated and discussed through the consultation process is reviewed, considered and the Manitoba government (or the Steering Committee, if one has been established) assesses how concerns may reasonably be addressed and accommodated. Further engagement and two-way dialogue with Indigenous groups occurs during this phase about the concerns expressed in phase two and how those concerns will be addressed. A final report on the results of the consultation process is prepared for provincial Crown decision makers, which includes an outline of the process undertaken, concerns identified and measures identified to address those concerns that were part of the two-way dialogue and proposed potential accommodation measures to address those concerns for consideration by the decision makers.

Where accommodation of Indigenous concerns is appropriate, it can take many forms, such as a change to a proposed project plan, conditions of licences or approvals, and other reasonable measures to address concerns.

After consideration of the final report, the provincial Crown makes their decision on the proposed action or decision that has been the subject of the consultation process.

1.4.4 Phase 4: External Communications

In phase four Crown-Indigenous consultation is concluded through communication with each Indigenous group that participated in the consultation process. The communication may be in the form of a detailed report or a short letter, depending on the contents and activities of each consultation process carried out with specific Indigenous groups. Regardless of the form, the external communication informs the Indigenous group about the Manitoba government's decision, explains how the Indigenous group's concerns were addressed, and will offer a meeting with the Indigenous group if they are interested, to explain the basis for the decision.

1.4.5 Engagement with Indigenous Groups

Using the phases above, MTI consulted and engaged with Indigenous groups that may be affected by the proposed Project, to obtain their views and understand and address their concerns regarding:

- The proposed Project;
- Project setting and baseline conditions;
- Spatial and temporal boundaries for the EA;
- The selection of VCs and the assessment of effects to the selected VCs;
- Effects of changes to the environment on Indigenous peoples (health and socio-economic conditions; physical and cultural heritage, including any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance; and current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes), pursuant to paragraph 5(1)(c) of CEEA 2012;
- Potential adverse effects of the proposed Project on the exercise of established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights; and,
- Accommodation measures, including those that can be implemented by MTI as the project proponent.

All potentially-affected Indigenous groups were notified about key steps in the EIS development process, and of opportunities to provide comments on key EA, project documents and/or information regarding their community. In addition, consultation and engagement activities were carried out during project pre-planning, preliminary and detailed engineering design, impact assessment and EIS development. Engagement activities will continue through construction, operation, and follow up monitoring for the Indigenous groups who are expected to be potentially most affected by the proposed Project.

2 INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

2.1 Summary of Recent Activities

Following MTI's submission of the previous version of the ICSE in May of 2022, many consultation and engagement activities have taken place to further develop trust and transparency about the proposed Project, and to gather information regarding potential adverse effects on Indigenous groups.

In-person meetings with Indigenous groups resumed in 2022 after pandemic restrictions were lifted. In the past year, MTI has increased the number of meetings with Indigenous groups to share information about the proposed Project, answer community questions, gather feedback, and ensure Indigenous groups receive timely and transparent information. Some highlights of these 2022/2023 meetings include:

- Three leadership meetings with nine potentially most affected Indigenous groups, attended by MTI's Minister and Deputy Minister;
- Seven additional leadership meetings with nine potentially most affected Indigenous groups, attended by MTI's Assistant Deputy Ministers;
- Several community open house meetings with potentially most affected Indigenous groups throughout the fall of 2022 and winter of 2022/2023;
- Several EAC development meetings;
- Quarterly Heritage Resource meetings with potentially most affected Indigenous groups;
- Regular Project Update meetings with potentially most affected Indigenous groups, starting in January 2023; and
- Technical meetings, as requested by Indigenous groups.

In addition to existing consultation and engagement work plans and funding agreements, MTI offered Indigenous groups several funding opportunities to support their participation in a meaningful consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project. These included:

- Up to \$40,000 per community to support their review of MTI's Draft Round 1 Information Request Responses;
- Up to \$15,000 per community to support their review of the Draft Environmental Management Program Plans (EMP plans);

- Up to \$5,000 per community to support their review of MTI's Heritage Resource Impact Assessment (HRIA) report;
- Up to \$20,000 per community to support their review of MTI's Final Round 1 Information Request Responses and revised EMP plans from June 2022; and
- Up to \$15,000 per community to support their review of MTI's preliminary and formal Round 2 Information Request Responses.

A total of 14 Indigenous groups provided feedback on MTI's Draft Round 1 Information Request Responses and MTI provided individualized responses to these groups by December of 2022.

To properly assess potential effects to the health and socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples, MTI provided approximately \$1.8 million in additional funding to support the following activities:

- SEWB studies in relation to the proposed Project completed for each of the following nine Indigenous groups: the Manitoba Métis Federation, Fisher River Cree Nation and Interlake Reserves Tribal Council, on behalf of Dauphin River First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nations, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Peguis First Nation and Pinaymootang First Nation;
- RIA studies completed by Interlake Reserves Tribal Council (IRTC) on behalf of Dauphin River First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nations, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Peguis First Nation and Pinaymootang First Nation; and
- Data gathering processes in the form of workshops, group interviews or surveys offered to all remaining Indigenous groups potentially affected by the proposed Project, but for whom a specific study was not conducted.

Considering the above funding offers, participation funding agreements, and other miscellaneous costs, MTI has committed over \$5 million to support meaningful consultation and engagement with Indigenous groups in relation to the proposed Project. This also included support and funding for Indigenous groups to independently review and comment on technical engineering and environmental reports, as well as costs related to large and small-scale studies, review of proposed Project documentation, community meetings, participation in field work data collection, environmental monitoring training and more.

MTI has announced an additional \$3.1 million investment to establish and support the EAC for the proposed Project, and another \$15 million for a fund to support Indigenous

economic development. More information about these two initiatives is included in Sections 3.7 and 3.8 of this report.

2.2 Overview of Consultation and Engagement Process

As described in Section 1, MTI's Indigenous consultation and engagement activities for the proposed Project aim to fulfill the requirements for both federal and provincial environmental approvals, as well as Manitoba's duty to consult and informing federal consultation. Both processes have separate but linked objectives and are being undertaken concurrently by MTI. The four phases of the consultation process being undertaken for the proposed Project are summarized below.

2.2.1 Phase One (complete):

In 2015, MTI conducted internal planning and began engaging potentially interested Indigenous groups before formalizing the EA process and initiating the formal Crown-Indigenous consultation process for the proposed Project.

During Phase one, Indigenous groups were invited to Project information meetings that provided clarification regarding the consultation process, the EA process, and additional details about the proposed Project. MTI also provided any other information the Indigenous groups required prior to confirming their interest and participation in the consultation process.

An Initial Assessment was conducted of potential effects on Aboriginal and treaty rights to determine which Indigenous groups would be potentially affected, the anticipated level of impacts, and the resulting scope and depth of Crown-Indigenous consultation that would be required. Engagement activities also included some Indigenous groups that did not fall within the scope of formal Crown-Indigenous consultation, but did warrant inclusion into the federal EA process for the proposed Project.

MTI recognizes that assistance may be required for an Indigenous group to be able to meaningfully participate in the consultation or engagement process. The Manitoba government established a Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund to assist Indigenous groups with the costs of participating in provincial consultation processes. MTI entered into six (6) Crown-Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund Agreements with eight (8) of the potentially most affected Indigenous groups. Funding has also been made available to Indigenous groups through various other mechanisms, including joint work plan development and on a reimbursement or expense claim basis.

2.2.2 Phase Two (substantially completed):

In this phase, MTI began implementing the formal Indigenous consultation and engagement recommendations from the Initial Assessment, and where it was reasonable based on the anticipated scope of consultation, consultation work plans and budgets were jointly developed with Indigenous groups.

As discussed in Section 2.5.3 below, MTI identified ten (10) Indigenous groups that have the potential to be most affected by the proposed Project. Four (4) of these have traditional land within the proposed Project Development Area (PDA), and are expected to be affected directly. The remaining six (6) Indigenous groups have primary reserves or individuals located in the direct vicinity of the proposed Project and and/or are closely linked to the communities through the IRTC.

MTI has made considerable efforts to present and discuss the proposed Project and EIS with all 39 Indigenous groups that may potentially be affected by the proposed Project. The EIS presentation and discussion with these groups included an overview of the potential adverse effects of the proposed Project and the potential significance of those effects. These discussions provided the opportunity for MTI to hear any concerns that groups had regarding the proposed Project and potential adverse effects on the exercise of their Aboriginal and treaty rights. MTI and its consultants have also been available to provide Indigenous groups with support to understand the technical material presented in the EIS, including how community concerns and input received to date have been incorporated into planning and design for the proposed Project.

A comprehensive record of communication for each Indigenous group is provided in Appendix 2: Records of Communications.

During this phase MTI reviewed and analyzed all information collected from the Indigenous consultation and engagement activities and developed responses relevant to the potential of the proposed Project to affect the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights. Summary of Concerns tables were completed for each Indigenous group and are discussed further in section 3 (Appendix 1 contains the Summary of Concerns for each Indigenous group).

2.2.3 Phase Three (In-progress):

In Phase Three, MTI together with the Manitoba consultation steering committee will review and analyze all information collected from the Indigenous consultation and engagement activities and the developed responses to date that are relevant to the

potential of the proposed Project to affect the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights. MTI, also with the guidance from the consultation steering committee, will engage in two-way dialogue with Indigenous groups with respect of the summary of concerns and proposed measures to address those concerns.

Additionally, during this phase:

- A follow-up “what we heard” or revised summary of concerns table with responses to concerns report will be developed with the Manitoba government’s specific responses to each Indigenous group’s concerns;
- An internal final consultation report for provincial decision makers will be prepared and submitted; and
- All consultation material will be archived in an indexed and retrievable format.

It should be noted that the scope of the proposed Project and the large number of Indigenous groups involved in the consultation has resulted in the overlap of phases for the consultation and engagement process. Though many Indigenous groups participated early on in the consultation process, there were a number of Indigenous groups that did not fully participate until much later, particularly with respect to the development and submission of SEWB and RIA reports.

2.2.4 Phase Four (to follow):

Phase Four will include communicating with each Indigenous group that participated in the consultation and engagement process to inform them of and review the Manitoba government’s decisions regarding the proposed Project and any associated licensing conditions. The Manitoba government will identify how each specific issue and concern provided by the Indigenous groups was addressed in the decision-making process. Where it was not reasonable to address a concern, the Manitoba government will provide reasons why. Follow-up meetings will be offered and held at the request of each Indigenous group.

A detailed timeline of all community consultation and engagement activities that occurred for the proposed Project between 2011 and May 2023 is provided in Appendix 3: Timeline Overview of Consultation and Engagement Activities.

2.3 Pre-Project Early Dialogue

The Indigenous engagement process for the proposed Project began several years before the federal and provincial EA processes were initiated in 2018. Following flood

events in 2011 and 2014, the Manitoba government commissioned several reviews, studies, and public and Indigenous engagement sessions regarding flooding in the Interlake Region. These included the Manitoba 2011 Flood Review Task Force (MFRTF 2013), the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review Committee (LM&LSMRRC 2013), and the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basins Flood Mitigation Study (KGS Group 2016). These studies served to: review the actions undertaken and events leading up to, during, and after the 2011 flood; review the management of water levels on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin; and identify and assess potential options to reduce future flood risk for communities. The studies identified flood vulnerabilities, opportunities to improve or construct new flood protection infrastructure throughout the province, and several potential flood protection projects. Based on this review, a recommendation was made that new flood protection infrastructure in the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin area be constructed.

The Manitoba 2011 Flood Review Task Force involved engineering and government expertise, as well as members from flood-affected communities, including Indigenous communities (MFRTF, 2013). The Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review Committee also involved participation from Indigenous groups (LM&LSMRRC, 2013). Meetings and site visits conducted for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin regulation review took place with the participation of Indigenous groups and other stakeholders, including: Pinaymootang First Nation, Dauphin River Commercial Fisheries Federation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Dauphin River First Nation, and Lake Manitoba First Nation. The studies conducted through the Manitoba 2011 Flood Review Task Force and the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin regulation review provided broad perspectives on the 2011 unprecedented flood event in Manitoba and offered a variety of recommendations on possible improvements that could reduce flood and high-water damages in the future.

The Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basins Flood Mitigation Study (KGS Group, 2016) process involved a steering committee and technical committees, as well as a Study Liaison Committee, which had a broader mandate than the engineering focused approach of the other steering and technical committees. Indigenous representation was included in the Study Liaison Committee, through the Southern Chiefs Organization, the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanaki, and the Manitoba Métis Federation.

As part of pre-project engagement, MTI worked with some communities that remained displaced from their homes following the 2011 flood event. Meetings to gather input on the alignments and location of the proposed channels were hosted in Winnipeg and surrounding areas. Comments gathered during the discussions and engagement

activities for the above reports were considered in the final alignment review and decision to proceed with the proposed Project. Comments received during pre-project engagement, and how this influenced proposed route alignment options, are provided below in Section 3.1 – Incorporating Feedback from Indigenous Groups in Project Design. For additional details on pre-project engagement with Indigenous groups and the public see the EIS Section 5.3.2.

2.4 Steering Committee

Following MTI's internal planning and early engagement with Indigenous groups the Manitoba government initiated the planning phase for the Indigenous consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project. In 2016 a consultation Steering Committee was established to provide guidance on the consultation process. The Steering Committee includes representatives from the provincial departments responsible for the proposed Crown decisions and those that could contribute to the overall management and implementation of the consultation and engagement process. Specifically, the committee includes representation from MTI, Environment and Climate, Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations and Natural Resources and Northern Development, with support from the Department of Justice. The Steering Committee provides guidance and assistance to support this consultation and engagement process and ensure it is carried out in accordance with the Manitoba government's Interim Policy and established consultation principles.

MTI was identified as the lead department for the consultation and engagement process and assigned to lead all community-based consultation and engagement discussions, develop community consultation work plans, implement the consultation process for each Indigenous group, and draft the results of the process. Since 2022, the Indigenous Consultation Branch of MTI has been the consultation lead, with support from the above departments.

2.5 Assessment and Scoping of Potentially Affected Communities

In 2016, in accordance with the Interim Policy, MTI initiated Phase one (1) of the Provincial Crown-Indigenous Consultation process by assessing the proposed Project's potential effects on Aboriginal and treaty rights, to determine the anticipated consultation required under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. The Interim Policy provides direction on identifying Indigenous groups for consultation and the extent and depth of consultation required, based on the proposed project description and components, potential environmental impacts, and understanding of traditional

resources and land use by Indigenous groups. Additional factors that were considered for the proposed Project include the following:

- Known concerns from potentially affected Indigenous groups;
- Previous environmental authorizations;
- Previous Crown-Indigenous consultations;
- Existing land use information;
- Knowledge and experience from the operation of the EOC in 2011 and 2014; and
- Existing agreements, assertions and/or claims.

Based on this assessment, the following 31 Indigenous groups were identified as being potentially affected by the proposed Project:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Aghaming Northern Affairs Community | 17. Loon Straits Northern Affairs Community |
| 2. Berens River First Nation | 18. Manigotagan Northern Affairs Community |
| 3. Berens River Northern Affairs Community | 19. Manitoba Métis Federation |
| 4. Black River First Nation | 20. Matheson Island Northern Affairs Community |
| 5. Bloodvein First Nation | 21. Misipawistik Cree Nation |
| 6. Brokenhead Ojibway Nation | 22. Norway House Cree Nation |
| 7. Dauphin River First Nation | 23. Norway House Northern Affairs Community |
| 8. Dauphin River Northern Affairs Community | 24. Ochi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation |
| 9. Ebb and Flow First Nation | 25. Peguis First Nation |
| 10. Fisher Bay Northern Affairs community | 26. Pinaymootang First Nation |
| 11. Fisher River Cree Nation | 27. Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community |
| 12. Hollow Water First Nation | 28. Poplar River First Nation |
| 13. Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation | 29. Princess Harbour Northern Affairs Community |
| 14. Lake Manitoba First Nation | 30. Sagkeeng First Nation |
| 15. Lake St. Martin First Nation | 31. Seymourville Northern Affairs Community |
| 16. Little Saskatchewan First Nation | |

In 2016, MTI made initial contact with these groups, by way of notification letters, to introduce the proposed Project and determine the level of community interest in participating in the consultation and engagement process. MTI offered participation opportunities for interested and affected parties and provided an outline of the anticipated regulatory and EA processes, including the Manitoba government's four-phased consultation process.

Following the federal government's issuance of initial EIS Guidelines on August 16, 2018 and related amendments on December 21, 2018 and June 27, 2019, the following additional Indigenous groups downstream on Lake Winnipeg and the Nelson River

system were identified for consultation and engagement by the federal government based on their interest and concerns around the proposed Project:

1. Fox Lake Cree Nation
2. Keeseekoowenin First Nation
3. Pimicikamak Okimawin
4. Sandy Bay First Nation
5. Skownan First Nation
6. Tataskweyak Cree Nation
7. Treaty 2 First Nations/Anishinaabe Agowidiwinan
8. York Factory First Nation

As discussions continued with Indigenous groups and other stakeholders and development of the proposed Project progressed, MTI reviewed and updated the scope and depth of consultation and engagement with various Indigenous groups. This was based on MTI's understanding of the proposed Project's potential effects on the environment and Aboriginal or treaty rights, and as current land use information and Indigenous group concerns were received.

Since the previous submission of IC SER to IAAC in May 2022, the following changes to the scoping and categorization of Indigenous groups were reviewed by the Steering Committee and then made based on a number of factors, including the scope of engagement on the proposed Project:

1. Elevate the following Indigenous groups to "Potentially Most Affected", previously included in "Potentially Less Affected" grouping:
 - Dauphin River Northern Affairs Community
 - Manitoba Metis Federation
2. Move the following community to "Potentially Least Affected", previously included in "Potentially Less Affected" grouping:
 - Fox Lake Cree Nation

The changes and assessments noted above were and will continue to be routinely reviewed and evaluated by the Steering Committee, in order to provide the necessary guidance on key matters related to the fulfillment of the provincial Crown's duty to consult.

2.5.1 Indigenous Groups Potentially Most Affected

MTI identified 10 Indigenous groups that may potentially be most affected by the proposed Project. This categorization includes Indigenous groups that are located within

the proposed PDA and Local Assessment Area (LAA), and Indigenous groups that are substantially concerned and engaged in discussions and are active in providing feedback to MTI regarding the proposed Project. A few factors led to identifying these communities as potentially most affected, including the following:

- Potential adverse effects on their Aboriginal and treaty rights;
- Extent of potential environmental effects and/or cumulative effects;
- Proximity of their reserve land or traditional territory to the proposed Project; and
- High interest and activity in voicing concerns about potential adverse effects to Aboriginal or treaty rights, and desire to be consulted.

Four (4) Indigenous groups have traditional lands within the PDA and are expected to be directly affected: Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Pinaymootang First Nation, and Dauphin River First Nation. Five (5) Indigenous groups are located in the direct vicinity of the proposed Project and/or are closely linked to the communities through the IRTC. The proposed Project would also be located within the Recognized Areas for Métis Natural Resource Harvesting. Altogether, the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups are:

1. Lake St. Martin First Nation
2. Little Saskatchewan First Nation
3. Pinaymootang First Nation
4. Dauphin River First Nation (facilitated by the IRTC)
5. Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation (facilitated by the IRTC)
6. Lake Manitoba First Nation (facilitated by the IRTC)
7. Dauphin River Northern Affairs Community
8. Fisher River Cree Nation
9. Peguis First Nation
10. Manitoba Métis Federation

MTI entered into six (6) Crown–Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund Agreements (CACPFAs) with eight (8) of the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups listed above (see Appendix 4: Signed Consultation Work Plans and Funding Agreements). MTI does not have a CACPFA with the Manitoba Métis Federation or Dauphin River Northern Affairs Community; however, all consultation and engagement activities with those groups reflect the same tasks and outcomes offered in the six (6) CACPFAs described below.

The consultation work plans and associated CACPFAs with potentially most affected Indigenous groups include MTI’s general consultation objectives, commitments, and funding support for:

- Community meetings;
- Community mapping;
- Traditional knowledge studies and/or Elder and resource user interviews;
- Hiring of a community coordinator;
- Reviewing EMP plans; and
- Developing a community consultation report.

The level of funding within these agreements is determined based on the extent of planned consultation activities. MTI and each respective Indigenous group jointly determined an appropriate level of funding to support required activities. Within the approved CACPFAs, MTI has supported eligible consultation costs related to the proposed Project that are consistent with the Interim Policy and accompanying guidelines, which outline how funding may be accessed for community support costs related to project consultation.

Throughout the course of consultation and engagement, MTI has been working closely with Indigenous groups on the implementation of CACPFAs, to ensure the mutually agreed upon objectives are achieved, and activities and expenditures are consistent with the approved work plan. The following table (Table 1) outlines key engagement activities undertaken with the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups since 2015 (see Appendix 5: Indigenous Group Summaries, for complete records of activities for each Indigenous group):

Table 1: Summary of Engagement Activities with the Potentially Most Affected (PMA) Indigenous Groups as of May 31, 2023

Indigenous Group	Engagement Activity
Lake St. Martin First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 51 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 meetings with leadership ○ 3 community meetings with members ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 4 quarterly heritage meeting ○ 5 Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) meetings ○ 30 workshop/presentations/technical

Indigenous Group	Engagement Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plan and funding agreement in place • Received Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU) report • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, Indigenous Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Report (ICSER), Project updates and other materials
<p>Little Saskatchewan First Nation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 24 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 meetings with leadership ○ 2 community meeting with members ○ 3 meetings with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 4 quarterly heritage meeting ○ 3 EAC meetings ○ 4 workshop/presentations/technical • Work plan and funding agreement in place • Received TLRU report • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials
<p>Pinaymootang First Nation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 17 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 meetings with leadership ○ 2 community meetings with members ○ 1 meeting with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 3 bi-weekly meeting with PMA communities ○ 3 quarterly heritage meetings • Received validation of secondary sources • Work plan and funding agreement in place • Received TLRU report • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials
<p>Dauphin River First Nation (facilitated by IRTC*)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 28 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 community meetings with members ○ 3 meetings with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership

Indigenous Group	Engagement Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 4 quarterly heritage meetings ○ 5 EAC meetings ○ 7 workshop/presentations ● Work plan and funding agreement in place ● Received TLRU report ● Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials
Dauphin River Community Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Held 10 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 meetings with leadership ○ 3 EAC meetings ● Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials
Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation (facilitated by IRTC*)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Held 26 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 community meetings with members ○ 2 meetings with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 4 quarterly heritage meetings ○ 5 EAC meetings ○ 6 workshop/presentations ● Work plan and funding agreement in place ● Received TLRU report ● Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials
Lake Manitoba First Nation (facilitated by IRTC*)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Held 26 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 community meetings with members ○ 2 meetings with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 4 quarterly heritage meetings ○ 5 EAC meetings ○ 6 workshop/presentations

Indigenous Group	Engagement Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plan and funding agreement in place • Received TLRU report • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSER, Project updates and other materials
Fisher River Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 35 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 community meetings with members ○ 1 meeting with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 1 quarterly heritage meetings ○ 5 EAC meetings ○ 11 workshop/presentations/technical • Received validation of secondary sources • Work plan and funding agreement in place • Received TLRU report • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSER, Project updates and other materials
Manitoba Métis Federation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 21 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 meeting with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 6 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 3 quarterly heritage meetings ○ 4 EAC meetings ○ 7 workshop/presentations/technical • Work plan and funding arrangement based on activity by activity in place • Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSER, Project updates and other materials
Peguis First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 55 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 community meetings with members ○ 1 meeting with MTI Minister and First Nation leadership ○ 7 bi-weekly meetings with PMA communities ○ 3 quarterly heritage meetings

Indigenous Group	Engagement Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6 EAC meetings ○ 33 workshop/presentations/technical ● Work plan and funding agreement in place ● Shared key correspondence: information packages, Project description, ICSEER, Project updates and other materials

With active participation from the 10 Indigenous groups above, MTI has been able to discuss key information and share project updates, with a collaborative focus on mutual understanding of concerns and proposed mitigation measures. For example, from February 2023 to July 15, 2023, MTI convened eight (8) project update meetings (virtual) with these 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups. This approach allowed for the same information to be shared and discussed with each Indigenous group simultaneously, for them to listen to each other’s concerns, and for them to collectively hear MTI’s responses.

2.5.2 Indigenous Groups Potentially Less Affected

The following seven (7) Indigenous groups that are potentially less adversely affected by the proposed Project have had the opportunity to jointly develop consultation work plans with eligible costs being reimbursed on a case-by-case basis. This approach was established following the findings of MTI’s assessment of potential Project impacts, traditional and current areas of use by Indigenous groups, and anticipated effects on the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights. Each group also provided their initial concerns regarding potential effects to Aboriginal and treaty rights.

1. Misipawistik Cree Nation
2. Hollow Water First Nation
3. Norway House Cree Nation
4. Sagkeeng First Nation
5. Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation
6. Tataskweyak First Nation
7. Pimicikamak Okimawin

MTI developed draft consultation work plans that were shared with these communities which included MTI’s general consultation objectives, as described in Section 1.4. Indigenous groups were offered meetings to discuss any adjustments or identify additional desired community consultation activities. Funding was available to support activities associated with their participation in the consultation and engagement

process. These costs included community meeting costs, Elder honorariums, catering, costs to support facility rentals for meeting arrangements, and costs for adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. MTI also provided these potentially less affected Indigenous groups with additional funding for their reviews of EMP plans and/or IAAC IRs, based on their known interest in these documents. See Appendix 6 for work plans offered or jointly developed with potentially less adversely affected Indigenous groups.

2.5.3 Indigenous Groups Potentially Least Affected

Indigenous groups potentially least affected by the proposed Project had the same opportunities to be involved and share their feedback as less affected Indigenous groups. However, MTI did not anticipate providing formal funding for reviewing EMP plans or federal IR reviews for this group. The potentially least affected Indigenous groups identified are:

1. Skownan First Nation
2. Ebb and Flow First Nation
3. O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation
4. Berens River First Nation
5. Poplar River First Nation
6. Black River First Nation
7. Bloodvein First Nation
8. Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
9. Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation
10. Fox Lake Cree Nation
11. York Factory First Nation
12. Norway House Northern Affairs Community
13. Aghaming Northern Affairs Community
14. Berens River Northern Affairs Community
15. Fisher Bay Northern Affairs Community
16. Loon Straits Northern Affairs Community
17. Manigotagan Northern Affairs Community
18. Matheson Island Northern Affairs Community
19. Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community
20. Princess Harbour Northern Affairs Community
21. Seymourville Northern Affairs Community

Based on MTI's understanding of Indigenous group concerns, MTI did not anticipate the process would necessitate developing formal funding agreements for these groups, and a reimbursement funding model was determined to be more appropriate and efficient. Generally, MTI provided funding in advance and supported activities on a case-by-case

basis. See Appendix 7 for work plans offered to potentially least adversely affected Indigenous groups.

2.5.4 Engagement Indigenous groups

MTI has also engaged with Indigenous groups even where no adverse effects to Aboriginal and treaty rights are anticipated based on the predicted scope of environmental effects. These Indigenous groups also received the same proposed Project information that has been made available to other Indigenous groups and the general public (e.g., EIS, Project description, Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans, IAAC Information Requests, and proposed Project website). For example, Treaty 2 Council of Chiefs of Anishinaabe Agowidiwinan is an Indigenous group with which MTI continues to share project information and updates.

2.6 Environmental Assessment Approach and Environmental Impact Statement Communications

The EIS is one of the key documents within the EA process. It includes all Indigenous feedback and information that was available at the time of its filing in March 2020. This includes traditional land and resource use baseline information that was identified through literature reviews, reports from Indigenous groups and communities engaged on the proposed Project, traditional knowledge and technical reports from previous projects, and information from open houses and meetings held for the proposed Project. This section outlines the process of collecting information from Indigenous communities and groups for the EIS.

The EIS Guidelines (May 2018) directed the development of the EIS that was submitted to the IAAC and Manitoba Environment and Climate in August 2019. In October 2019, IAAC completed their conformance review, with advice and input from other federal departments and Indigenous groups and communities. MTI addressed comments received from IAAC and re-submitted the EIS in March 2020. MTI is now in the Technical Review Phase of the federal EA process and is in the process of responding to Information Requests from IAAC, which include comments and concerns IAAC has received from Indigenous groups.

Information obtained through the Indigenous consultation and engagement process prior to the submission of the EIS is documented in Volume 1, Section 5.3 of the EIS and informed the assessment of effects of the proposed Project on the various biophysical VCs, where appropriate. This information was also an input into Volume 4, Section 10 of the EIS, which documents the assessment on VCs established to

examine potential effects on Indigenous peoples, including TLRU (Section 10.2), Indigenous Health and Socioeconomic Conditions (Section 10.3), and Aboriginal and treaty rights (Section 10.4).

While there have been no changes to the March 2020 EIS since its submission, there has been valuable input from Indigenous groups with respect to the information and analysis included in the EIS. In general, this information has been reflected in MTI's May 2022 responses to the IAAC's Round 1 Information Requests, and more recently in MTI's responses to IAAC's Round 2 Information Requests.

MTI has made considerable efforts to present and discuss the EIS with all potentially affected Indigenous groups. Meetings to discuss the EA approach and the EIS have been offered to all potentially affected Indigenous groups. The following meetings were included in the mutually developed work plans and held with potentially most affected communities to present, review, and discuss the EIS:

- Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation (in person) – February 2020,
- Peguis First Nation (in person at Peguis, Winnipeg and Selkirk) – August 2020
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation (virtual) – September 2020
- Lake Manitoba First Nation (virtual) – September 2020
- Dauphin River First Nation (virtual) – September 2020

The above presentations provided an overview of the potential adverse effects of the proposed Project on the environment and related VCs, traditional land and resource use, health and socio-economic conditions, the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights, and the potential significance of those effects from MTI's understanding.

On March 27, 2020, a printed version of the EIS, including a description of VCs, summary documents, and a digital copy (USB) of a narrated presentation describing the EA for the proposed Project, was sent to all 39 potentially affected Indigenous groups.

EIS discussions also included the opportunity for MTI to hear any concerns that Indigenous groups had regarding the proposed Project and potential adverse effects on the exercise of their Aboriginal and treaty rights. MTI and its consultants have also been available to provide Indigenous groups with individual meetings to explain and discuss the technical material presented in the EIS, including how community concerns and input received to date have been incorporated into planning and design for the proposed Project.

MTI continues to advance the proposed Project through the provincial and federal EA processes and to meaningfully involve Indigenous groups. Indigenous and public engagement began at the pre-planning stage, and will continue for the remainder of the proposed Project, including post-construction and commissioning. Relevant and applicable information received through the consultation and engagement process has been and continues to be considered by MTI and shared with its technical consultants, to inform the development of proposed Project design and planning, IAAC IR responses (summarized below in Section 3.4.1), and EMP plans (see Section 3.6).

2.6.1 Technical Advisory Group

In response to the concerns raised by Indigenous groups regarding the potential effects of the proposed Project and transparency of the environmental assessment process, IAAC formed a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to provide enhanced opportunities for input during the EA process. The TAG consists of over 70 people representing Indigenous groups, the Rural Municipality (RM) of Grahamdale, and Indigenous commercial fishers. The TAG is chaired and facilitated by IAAC and provides a forum for information sharing and discussion during the EA of the proposed Project. It is one of the ways IAAC obtains feedback during the EA process. The TAG is intended to complement the federal Crown's activities to fulfill its duty consult and accommodate.

During the federal TAG meetings and throughout the federal regulatory process, Indigenous groups have expressed their concerns and raised questions for follow-up by MTI. In addition to responding to comments and questions through the formal regulatory process (e.g., IAAC IRs), MTI has been requested to attend portions of TAG meetings. This has allowed MTI to respond to concerns and questions raised during TAG discussions or respond in writing to questions that could not be addressed at these meetings. These meetings have also provided an opportunity for MTI to present the results of the proposed Project's EA and clarify misunderstandings. Information that MTI received from the TAG has been factored into the EA, planning and design, and proposed mitigation measures as described in Section 3.4.2.

2.6.2 Confirming Initial Concerns and Suggestions

On September 28, 2020, recognizing that many years had passed since the start of initial discussions regarding the proposed Project, MTI sent correspondence to all potentially affected Indigenous groups, advising that MTI was preparing a preliminary summary of concerns for inclusion in the internal consultation report. MTI also distributed a draft summary of concerns for communities to review and verify its accuracy. This allowed MTI to identify any errors and omissions and to ensure that all concerns were described correctly. In cases where MTI did not receive any feedback, a

further opportunity was provided for communities to share information or concerns about any potential impacts of the proposed Project in writing.

MTI's list of initial concerns from Indigenous groups was prepared based on comments and concerns during meetings, ongoing dialogue and communications, other Crown-Indigenous consultation processes, and traditional knowledge and land use studies or reports previously received. This list represented MTI's understanding of the respective Indigenous communities' concerns at the time. An updated list of all concerns received will be shared with the 39 potentially affected Indigenous groups in the summer of 2023.

2.6.3 Secondary Source Information

Secondary source information was gathered through a review of publicly available literature containing information about the Indigenous groups engaged on the proposed Project, to deepen the understanding of TLRU and the nature and extent of the current use of lands and waters. MTI acknowledges that TLRU information is the intellectual property of Indigenous groups, and therefore reports or studies marked confidential, or those stipulating one-time use, are typically not included in such reviews; however, no confidential or one-time use studies were identified in the review of publicly available sources for the proposed Project. The use of secondary sources in the identification of Indigenous and community knowledge and concerns in the EIS submitted in March 2020 reflects the information available at that point in time. The following types of information sources were considered:

- Regulatory traditional knowledge studies conducted by Indigenous groups;
- TLRU regulatory assessments, supplemental filings, and hearing evidence for other developments;
- Government reports and databases;
- Historical and ethnographic literature;
- Relevant internet sources (such as Indigenous community websites); and
- Academic literature.

This review included information from projects located a considerable distance from the proposed Project, and for other types of developments, including pipelines and mines, which were reviewed to assist in understanding the nature of TLRU undertaken by potentially affected Indigenous groups. The secondary sources provided information regarding TLRU activities and practices, existing conditions for the availability of traditional resources, concerns about access to traditional resources or sites, and the types of current use sites or areas considered important, to complement Project-specific TLRU information obtained through the Indigenous engagement process for the

proposed Project. This material has been reviewed to assist in understanding the character of TLRU activities and practices undertaken by potentially affected Indigenous groups, as well as identifying potential issues and concerns that have been brought forward on other projects.

On March 23, 2021, MTI sent all Indigenous groups engaged on the proposed Project a list of existing secondary source information and requested that the list be reviewed, and that MTI be advised of any inaccuracies or concerns by April 23, 2021. MTI also requested that if any concerns were identified, communities explain the basis for the concerns so that the feedback could be incorporated into the EA process. More information on responses from Indigenous groups regarding the use of secondary source information is provided in Section 3.2.1.

2.6.4 Offers to Meet, Workshops and Presentations

MTI has offered and been available to meet with all 39 potentially affected Indigenous groups to present and discuss various topics, including the EIS, the EA process, potential effects of the proposed Project, and proposed mitigation measures, including the draft Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans (EMP plans).

Since 2016, MTI has met over 200 times with the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups as part of formal work plans, community and leadership meetings, and technical discussions with subject matter experts. Furthermore, recognizing significant interest from Indigenous groups in receiving and understanding the technical assessment for the proposed Project and/or other topics, on May 11, 2021, MTI invited Indigenous groups potentially most affected by the proposed Project to attend workshop-style meetings. Discussion topics were flexible, and MTI's environmental and engineering consultants were available to answer questions and address technical concerns during the meetings. Peguis First Nation accepted this meeting offer and participated in three (3) workshop-style community meetings.

Between May and June 2022, MTI was able to meet with eight (8) of the potentially most affected Indigenous communities with MTI's Assistant Deputy Ministers in attendance. MTI presented the operations video and reviewed the purpose of the proposed Project with community leadership.

In August and September 2022, the Ministers for MTI and Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations met with nine (9) of the potentially most affected Indigenous communities. In particular, the Minister for MTI met with all seven (7) IRTC member

communities on August 17, 2022. The Minister for MTI subsequently met with Fisher River Cree Nation Chief and Council, and the President of the MMF.

For more information on all activities and communications with Indigenous groups, see Appendix 2: Records of Communication; and Appendix 3: Timeline Overview of Consultation and Engagement Activities.

2.6.5 COVID-19 Implications and Dialogue by Distance

On March 27, 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, written correspondence was sent to all potentially affected Indigenous groups and organizations to advise that MTI was working closely with the IAAC to develop options for continued information sharing and dialogue with communities, in accordance with the Public Health Agency of Canada's guidelines for preventing and avoiding the spread of infection. MTI also advised of the immediate need to discontinue in-person meetings and non-essential travel due to COVID-19.

The March 27, 2020, correspondence included hard copy packages with printed versions of the EIS, VC summary documents, and a digital version of a narrated presentation describing the EA for the proposed Project. MTI remained available to discuss any ideas that could help navigate the circumstances of COVID-19 and facilitate continued communication and information sharing between MTI and Indigenous groups at that time.

From March to June 2020, MTI continued to follow up and have virtual discussions with Indigenous groups who were available and operating remotely, to discuss consultation and engagement work plans and funding agreements, where applicable. To continue engaging with Indigenous groups in a safe manner, MTI offered virtual meetings via platforms such as GoTo Meetings, Zoom, Microsoft Teams and conference calls, with hard copy information materials mailed in advance. MTI granted extensions to review the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans and submit deliverables, such as traditional knowledge reports.

On June 24, 2020, correspondence was sent to all 39 potentially affected Indigenous groups, advising that the Manitoba government had recently implemented Phase Three of the province's plan to safely restore services, and as more activities became permissible, MTI would resume efforts to consult and engage in person in relation to the proposed Project. The letter also stated that MTI developed dialogue-by-distance, a process to encourage meaningful conversations while respecting limitations on in-person gatherings and included an invitation for communities to learn more about the

options to support their participation in the process. A summary of MTI's dialogue-by-distance process is available in Appendix 8: Dialogue by Distance.

MTI also offered financial support to organize safe in-person meetings that could cover additional venue costs to hold multiple smaller meetings; protective equipment such as masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes; technical requirements for virtual meetings; and individually packaged meals.

The first in-person meetings to occur in 2020 were with Peguis First Nation on September 9 and 10 in Selkirk, and on September 11 in Winnipeg. All meetings were held in accordance with social distancing protocols and public health requirements. MTI coordinated several more in-person meetings and used virtual technology when appropriate. For example, in 2021, MTI held hybrid meetings (virtual and in-person) on September 21 with Lake Manitoba First Nation, on September 22 with Dauphin River First Nation, and September 23 with Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation. The next key in-person meetings began in May of 2022 and in-person meetings have carried on since.

2.6.6 Project Webpage

To support Indigenous consultation and engagement, as well as public and stakeholder engagement, MTI launched a Project webpage, which is available at:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/wms/lmblsmoutlets/index.html>. The webpage includes:

- **Newsletters** – newsletters and progress reports (published monthly since December 2022), as well as other resources related to environmental aspects of the proposed Project and technical environmental and engineering reports.
- **Information Sheets** – six (6) key documents about the proposed Project, available in English and translated into Ojibway and Cree languages.
- **Videos** – visual content regarding Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project operations, environmental monitoring and the proposed Project overview.
- **Project Overview** – content explaining the rationale, design, components, timeline, funding and proposed operation.
- **Consultation** – explaining Crown-Indigenous Consultation and proponent engagement processes, including story boards for the open house events that took place between 2017 and 2019.
- **Environmental** – information on the EA process and plans, provincial and federal environmental approvals, and the EIS.

- **Indigenous Economic Development Fund** – information on MTI’s approach to support economic development opportunities for Indigenous groups.
- **Construction Sequencing** – outline of preliminary contracting plans for the potential construction of both outlet channels, which has been revised twice with public and Indigenous input.
- **Resources** – a shortcut to newsletters, videos, open house information, as well as government news releases and current Project announcements.

2.6.7 Indigenous Group Input on Other Environmental Planning Documents

Field reports produced for the proposed Project contain information characterizing the current environment. They outline if/how the proposed Project may affect rare plants of interest to Indigenous groups and land managers (e.g., invasive weeds), rare wildlife, and wetlands.

MTI has posted environmental field reports and other source information to the proposed Project’s webpage.⁷ These documents remain available for review and consideration by interested Indigenous groups. MTI notified interested Indigenous groups of these documents’ availability after they were posted on the webpage. Site-specific information that is confidential in nature (e.g., exact locations of rare plants or wildlife) are not included in any detail in public documents.

2.6.8 Heritage Resources and Draft Heritage Resource Impact Assessment Report

On February 23, 2021, MTI notified Indigenous groups in the PDA of upcoming field work and the posting of a request for proposals. The posting was to find an archaeological service provider to develop a detailed mitigation/excavation plan, conduct excavation, and complete associated archaeological works at two (2) multicomponent archaeological sites within the PDA.

In response to feedback from Indigenous groups, MTI canceled the tender and notified Indigenous groups that the work would not be awarded, and further mitigation would not proceed until the proposed Project obtained necessary environmental approvals. MTI distributed a redacted draft of the Heritage Resource Impact Assessment (HRIA) report to Indigenous communities and requested feedback on any additional information about the archaeological sites, the proposed mitigation (excavation) or information regarding any other heritage resources within the proposed PDA. MTI expressed its commitment

⁷ MTI project website – Environmental Section:
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/wms/lmblsmoutlets/environmental/index.html>

to Indigenous involvement in the proposed Project and agreed to coordinate with communities at a later date, to arrange activities or ceremonies before any work in the proposed PDA proceeds.

On August 12, 2021, MTI hosted a virtual session regarding heritage resources and field investigations. MTI and its consultants presented information on the field investigations, the proposed mitigation measures, next steps and answered questions. The Manitoba government's Historic Resources Branch was also in attendance to discuss and answer questions related to Manitoba's Heritage Resources Act. The following Indigenous groups were in attendance during the virtual session:

- Lake St. Martin First Nation
- Lake Manitoba First Nation
- Dauphin River First Nation
- Pinaymootang First Nation
- Fisher River Cree Nation
- Peguis First Nation
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation
- Sagkeeng First Nation
- Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council

The next meeting on the heritage resources component was held on September 29, 2022. During this meeting, dialogue focused on the HRIA and sharing the un-redacted HRIA, un-provided maps, gaps in the HRIA and the HRPP, lack of Indigenous input, the 6% provincial standard for mitigation compared to other jurisdictions, the potential to find more significant sites based on the current finds, and monitoring. Attendees at this meeting included MTI, IAAC, and the following Indigenous groups:

- Peguis First Nation
- Lake St. Martin First Nation
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council
- Pinaymootang First Nation
- Manitoba Métis Federation
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation

MTI proposed to hold quarterly meetings with potentially most affected Indigenous groups to ensure a draft protocol would be developed by consensus with Indigenous groups. On November 14, 2022, MTI met with Lake Manitoba First Nation to discuss the

HRIA. MTI met with potentially most impacted Indigenous groups on January 24, 2023, and on April 27, 2023. MTI will be sharing a draft of a heritage resources protocol with Indigenous groups by July 25, 2023.

2.6.9 Review of the Draft Information Request Responses and Engineering Reports

In advance of a formal submission of responses to the IAAC's Round 1 Information Requests, MTI provided the draft Information Request responses to all potentially affected Indigenous groups. The intention was to provide an opportunity for Indigenous groups to identify issues early, facilitate discussion on substantive issues, and identify matters requiring continued dialogue and resolution. As of May 2023, written feedback and comments were received from the following Indigenous groups:

- Fisher River Cree Nation
- Hollow Water First Nation
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council
- Lake St. Martin First Nation
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation
- Manitoba Métis Federation
- Misipawistik Cree Nation
- Norway House Cree Nation
- Peguis First Nation
- Pimicikamak Okimawin
- Pinaymootang First Nation
- Sagkeeng First Nation
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation
- Tataskweyak Cree Nation

MTI initially offered \$15,000 to the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups to begin their review of these documents. However, the amount was viewed as insufficient and in May 2022, MTI approved an additional \$25,000, bringing the total to \$40,000 per community.

Comments received throughout the Indigenous consultation and engagement process to date have informed and influenced MTI's IR responses, proposed Project planning and design, and environmental management and monitoring plan development. To facilitate continued dialogue regarding Indigenous groups' concerns, engagement will continue, as needed, to discuss potential future IR and community-appropriate and effective ways to address the feedback that has been provided.

2.6.10 Traditional Land and Resource Use Studies

Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU) studies provide valued information that has been and will be considered in parallel with western science information during EA process. The TLRU received to date has been integrated into the EA process and used to inform MTI's ongoing planning activities for the proposed Project.

Traditional knowledge studies and community reports are the best sources of information on which to base an assessment of the proposed Project's potential effects on TLRU. However, it is MTI's view that where Indigenous groups have not provided information on TLRU in the proposed PDA, LAA, and Regional Assessment Area (RAA), this lack of information does not diminish the importance of the resources, access to TLRU areas and resources, or the potential for cultural and spiritual sites to occur in the vicinity of the proposed Project.

As a key component of funding agreements and work plans with Indigenous communities and groups potentially most affected by the proposed Project, MTI has supported community led TLRU studies, including site visits to view traditional areas of use. Following submission of the proposed Project's EIS, MTI received the following reports:

- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council Traditional Knowledge and Use Study (Olson et al. 2020a).
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation - Knowledge and Resource Use Study to (Olson et al. 2020b)
- Manitoba Métis Federation - Project-specific Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study (MMF 2021b).
- Lake St. Martin First Nation - Traditional Knowledge and Resource Use Study (LSMFN 2021)
- Fisher River Cree Nation - Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Report (FRCN 2021g)
- Peguis First Nation - Final Traditional Land and Resource Use Study and Occupancy Report (Peguis First Nation 2022b)
- Pinaymootang First Nation - Traditional Knowledge and Resource Use Study Specific to Manitoba Infrastructure's Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (Tam et al. 2022)

For each Indigenous group engaged on the proposed Project, MTI has summarized, in responses to IAAC's Information Requests (Table IAAC-122-1⁸), available information regarding the presence and distribution of traditional resources within the PDA, LAA and RAA, as well as: TLRU activities and practices described by Indigenous groups; access to TLRU areas and resources; use of trails and travel ways; and cultural and spiritual sites in relation to the proposed Project. Table IAAC-122-1 also includes relevant mitigation measures that have been developed to address concerns and issues raised by Indigenous groups related to potential Project effects on TLRU. More information on the results and outcomes from the eight (8) TLRU studies MTI has received is provided in Section 3.4.1.

2.6.11 Socio-Economic Well Being Studies and Rights Impact Assessments

MTI has supported SEWB studies by IRTC (on behalf of their seven (7) member communities – see list below), Manitoba Métis Federation, Fisher River Cree Nation, and York Factory First Nation. The socio-economic information received as of June 2023 has been integrated into the EA process, including responses to IAAC Round 2 IRs, and has been used to inform MTI's ongoing planning activities for the proposed Project. A summary of socio-economic information obtained from each Indigenous group engaged on the proposed Project is available in Table IAAC-R2-29-1, which was provided in response to the IAAC's Round 2 Information Request IAAC-R2-29. MTI received the following three (3) socio-economic reports:

- Manitoba Métis Federation - Métis Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study for the Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba Permanent Outlet Channels Project (MMF 2023)
- York Factory First Nation - Socioeconomic Impacts of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel Project on York Factory First Nation Report (YFFN 2023)
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council Technical Memorandum - Summary of Preliminary Findings from Interlake Reserves Tribal Council's Rights Impact Assessment Study and Socio-Economic and Well-Being Study specific to Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (Malone et al 2023), which involved participation from and considers impacts to the following IRTC member communities:
 - Dauphin River First Nation
 - Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation

⁸ See Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure response to IAAC public information request IAAC 122: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80148/144034E.pdf> and <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80148/144075E.pdf>

- Lake Manitoba First Nation
- Peguis First Nation
- Pinaymootang First Nation
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation
- Lake St. Martin First Nation

MTI received drafts of the SEWB and RIA studies from IRTC on June 1, 2023. Final versions had not been received by the time this report was closed.

2.7 Proposed Mitigation measures and Environmental Management Plans

A key objective of the consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project is to share information and gather feedback on the proposed Environmental Management Program (EMP) and the respective EMP plans. The EMP consists of 22 EMP plans that are designed to guide construction and operation of the proposed Project in an environmentally responsible manner. The intent of the EMP is to facilitate the timely and effective implementation of the environmental protection measures committed to in the proposed Project's EIS, and as required by the conditions of provincial and federal approvals for the proposed Project. The EMP will also demonstrate the commitment that proposed Project construction and operation activities will be performed to comply with the various federal and provincial environmental regulatory requirements referenced in the proposed Project's EIS. To ensure consistent messaging, each EMP plan begins with an overview of all the programs and plans associated with proposed Project development, as well as a description of the following components:

- How pertinent legislation and guidance documents support the structure and content of the EMP plans;
- The general organizational structure associated with construction and post-construction phases of the proposed Project;
- The Construction Environmental Management Program, Operational Environmental Management Program and the specific plans that support those programs;
- The plan-specific follow-up and monitoring program; and
- The reporting and review processes.

MTI began sharing the draft EMP plans with Indigenous groups and communities in November and December 2020. As the EMP plans are considered living documents, they can be adapted to include input from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. Updated EMP plans were filed as part of the June 2022 supplemental

response to the IAAC's Round 1 Information Requests, and updated plans were shared again with Indigenous groups for comment in fall 2022. Feedback received has been included in the subsequent refinement of mitigation strategies and the EMP, as appropriate (see Section 3.6).

MTI staff and consultants have offered presentations on the proposed EMP plans to Indigenous groups to explain their purpose, function, details regarding implementation, and how the plans have been updated based on feedback received. Presentations were designed to be flexible and cover the environmental management framework broadly, or focus on the discussion of specific plans, based on a community's preference (e.g., groundwater management, surface water management, and/or access management). The objectives of these presentations were to hear concerns and input from a variety of user groups, including Elders, fishers, trappers, and hunters. These presentations also provided the opportunity for MTI to hear concerns that communities had regarding the proposed Project and its potential adverse effects on the exercise of their Aboriginal and treaty rights, in relation to the proposed EMP plans. Information shared during these presentations was considered in the further refinement of mitigation strategies and environmental management and/or monitoring plans, to ensure that any potential impacts from the proposed Project are appropriately assessed and mitigated.

As part of EMP review process, MTI offered meetings to all 39 potentially affected Indigenous groups engaged on the proposed Project, to discuss the EMP and associated EMP plans. As a result of input received from Indigenous groups, meetings were held to discuss proposed mitigation, monitoring and offsetting measures. Additionally, meetings to discuss EMP plans were included in all work plans developed for Indigenous groups with funding agreements. Specifically, EMP review meetings were held with:

- Little Saskatchewan First Nation – October 7, 2020
- Pinaymootang First Nation – January 26, 2021
- Sagkeeng First Nation – March 2, 2021
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation – March 26, 2021
- Fisher River Cree Nation – April 28, 2021; May 4, 5, 6, 2021
- Peguis First Nation – May 12, 2021; May 21, 2021
- Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation – September 23, 2021

Recognizing the challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MTI adjusted the process to gather feedback on the draft EMP plans. MTI's initial approach was to include information packages, provide presentations and discuss the draft plans. With the need to limit in-person meetings, MTI and its consultants adapted to support Indigenous

groups' review of the plans. Hard copy packages were sent to all 39 potentially affected Indigenous communities and groups on November 16 and 30 and December 7, 2020, including printed and electronic copies of the 23 draft EMP plans. In addition, the draft EMP plans were posted online on the proposed Project's webpage.⁹ To assist with information sharing and to ensure an alternative way to provide feedback, virtual open houses were developed through the proposed Project's profile on the Manitoba public engagement portal - EngageMB.¹⁰

To solicit feedback and promote dialogue, individual questionnaires were also developed and included with the EMP plans, made available online, and integrated into the virtual open house platform. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in response to requests from Indigenous groups, MTI made additional funding available to communities to assist with the review of the 23 draft EMP plans. MTI offered \$15,000 to the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups to hire technical consultants to support their review of these documents. MTI extended the timeframe to review the draft plans multiple times, with final feedback requested by April 17, 2021. MTI communicated that it remained committed to reviewing and considering any information shared after this date, while the planning and regulatory processes for the proposed Project were still underway.

As of July 15, 2023, written responses on the draft EMP plans have been received from: Fisher River Cree Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, Interlake Reserves Tribal Council, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Manitoba Métis Federation, Loon Straights Northern Affairs Community, Norway House Cree Nation, Pimicikamak Okimawin, Pinaymootang First Nation, Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community, Sagkeeng First Nation, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation and Tataskweyak Cree Nation.

MTI has sought feedback from Indigenous groups on what level of involvement and participation they would desire in the follow-up and monitoring activities outlined in the EMP plans. MTI anticipates that the EAC will steward these activities (See Section 3.6 and IAAC-R2-30 for more detail on the proposed structure and function of this committee).

MTI has also supported Indigenous environmental monitors' participation in pre-construction field work for the proposed Project. This has involved the participation of

⁹ MTI Project website: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/wms/lmblsmoutlets/index.html>

¹⁰ Engage MB Project portal: <https://engagemb.ca/lake-manitoba-and-lake-st-martin-outlet-channel-project>

members from the following five (5) potentially most impacted Indigenous groups in field work activities in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023:

1. Peguis First Nation
2. Little Saskatchewan First Nation
3. Lake Manitoba First Nation
4. Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
5. Manitoba Métis Federation

Additionally, 18 Indigenous groups were offered funding for their draft EMP reviews, based on their known interest and likelihood of experiencing potential impacts from the proposed Project. These Indigenous groups are: Dauphin River Northern Affairs Community, Dauphin River First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Pinaymootang First Nation, Peguis First Nation, Fisher River Cree Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation, Misipawistik Cree Nation, Manitoba Métis Federation, Hollow Water First Nation, Norway House Cree Nation, Sagkeeng First Nation, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation, Tataskweyak First Nation, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation, and Pimicikamak Okimawin. Feedback regarding the draft EMP plans received to date, and input received during the continued EA process, has and will continue to inform improvement to the EMP plans.

The EMP plans are living documents that MTI will review and update on a regular basis, with continuous improvement being made so that the proposed Project is constructed, operated and maintained in an environmentally responsible manner. These plans are also available for review by federal and provincial governments and the general public. This feedback will be considered in further refinement of the EMP plans. MTI and their technical experts will be reviewing and updating these plans to finalize the proposed Project's design and prepare for construction, once necessary approvals are received. Conditions associated with provincial and federal approvals will be factored into the relevant EMP plans.

2.8 Development of Mitigation Measures

Project related mitigation measures and EMP plans have been developed, shared and revised based on feedback from Indigenous groups, as described above. In general, mitigation measures and associated initiatives developed for the proposed Project fall into the following three categories:

1. Environmental design mitigation measures;

2. Site-specific mitigation measures and management plans designed to target a specific effect or group of effects; and
3. Other supporting mitigation instruments, such as oversight committees or funding mechanisms designed to engage with Indigenous groups to continue to evolve mitigation measures as the proposed Project is refined (e.g., EAC, Channels Indigenous Economic Development Fund, etc.)

2.8.1 Environmental Design Mitigation Measures

Since the inception of the proposed Project, the development and design process has endeavoured to integrate design mitigation measures to reduce or avoid potential environmental effects. As such, various planning and design activities were undertaken to inform and define the various components and activities of the proposed Project. This initial work included identifying preferred route alignments for each outlet channel, preliminary and conceptual engineering studies and analysis, environmental baseline data collection, and environmental assessment. The planning and design process will continue with refinements being made based on input from the review of the EIS and subsequent filings, which will contribute to completion of the detailed design for the proposed Project prior to its construction. The specific design and exact locations of some infrastructure, such as bridges and water control structures, will continue to be optimized to further reduce environmental effects, where possible. For example, the proposed Project's design and operating parameters have evolved to address potential head loss and sediment discharge issues associated with commissioning and operation of the channels. Other examples of the iterative process of design in response to feedback is outlined in Section 3.2 below.

2.8.2 Site-specific Mitigation Measures and Management Plans

The EMP describes the environmental management processes that will be followed during construction and operation of the proposed Project. This includes verifying that all environmental commitments are executed, monitored and evaluated for effectiveness, and that information is reported back in a timely manner to the proposed Project's management team for adjustment, if required. As described above, feedback from Indigenous groups has been used to revise and adapt mitigation measures to site-specific conditions. For example, in response to concerns about the movement of moose and furbearers across the channels in unfrozen conditions, the size and location of granular material on the channel side slopes was altered to promote fewer barriers for these species to move.

The EMP is supported by monitoring and adaptive management protocols and a consolidated set of mitigation measures can be found in each respective EMP Plan.¹¹ The EMP plans will be finalized after the regulatory review process is complete and the necessary approvals and associated conditions are received.

2.8.3 Other Supporting Mitigation Instruments

MTI has supported many Indigenous focused activities and reviews. For example, since 2020, at the request of Indigenous groups and leadership, MTI has worked with several Indigenous communities and its members to participate in various fieldwork studies and data collection activities for the proposed Project. MTI will continue these efforts with Indigenous groups going forward. Further opportunities for Indigenous groups to participate in studies and other activities may be coordinated through the EAC, by MTI or the various contractors for the proposed Project.

MTI will continue to notify potentially affected Indigenous groups of key works and activities associated with the proposed Project. MTI will continue to share key information about the proposed Project's works and activities throughout its construction and commissioning phases. MTI may send information through the EAC, but will also send information directly to Indigenous groups, depending upon the circumstance or nature of the works or activity. Contact information for MTI will be shared with Indigenous groups, should they wish to discuss any issue.

Throughout the consultation and engagement process for this proposed Project, Indigenous groups have requested site visits to various locations of the proposed Project. MTI has arranged some site visits, but not to the full extent requested by Indigenous groups and thus MTI has committed to coordinating additional site visits for Indigenous groups. This will be in addition to other site-specific activities that MTI is coordinating with Indigenous groups (e.g., ceremonies and/or environmental monitoring activities).

MTI has also committed to host an Indigenous-led traditional ceremony with interested Indigenous leaders and/or community representatives to acknowledge a mutual respect for the land, Indigenous ancestors and acknowledgment of Indigenous interests and perspectives regarding the heritage resources in the proposed PDA. This will coincide with any works associated with, or the implementation of, the Heritage Resources Impact Assessment, but will be separate from any planned ground-breaking ceremony for the proposed Project.

¹¹ MTI Project website – EMP plans: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/wms/lmbismoutlets/environmental/index.html>

MTI is undertaking a Wetland Offsetting Program as another mitigation measure for the proposed Project. This Program includes offsetting for directly affected wetlands as well as peatlands (see IAAC-R2-13 and Wetland Offsetting Plan). If wetland monitoring reveals that there are Project-related effects on wetlands near the development area following the proposed Project construction, and these effects cannot be mitigated, MTI will be considering no-net-loss wetland offsetting. Manitoba Environment and Climate is the provincial regulator for purposes of The Water Rights Act, under which a provincial licence to control water or construct and operate water control works is required for the proposed Project. The Water Rights Act and its regulations also establish a licensing requirement for offsetting to offset loss and/or alteration of Class III wetlands, while Class IV and Class V wetlands are protected by provincial policy.

MTI is exempt from licensing under The Water Rights Act, but will voluntarily comply with the requirements to offset the loss or alteration of Class III, IV, and V wetlands that are affected by the proposed Project. The Wetland Offsetting Plan describes the process by which wetlands that will be affected by the proposed Project's construction and operation will qualify for mitigation, monitoring, and/or offsetting. The Wetland Offsetting Plan addresses the direct loss of wetlands in the proposed PDA and follows provincial wetland policy and The Water Rights Act. MTI has identified 239 hectares of Class III (seasonal), IV (semi-permanent) and V (permanent) marshes that will be affected by the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and Provincial Road 239 realignment and will be offset. Areas lost will be offset at a rate of 2:1.

It has not yet been determined which sites will be replaced, but MTI will engage with Indigenous groups regarding the Wetland Offsetting Plan, through the EAC and/or directly in collaboration with Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development.

Separate from developing further mitigation measures for the proposed Project in response to concerns from Indigenous groups, several key concerns and issues raised by Indigenous groups are not directly related to the proposed Project. These concerns are out of scope for the consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project and have been referred by MTI to the appropriate division and/or department within the Manitoba government to be considered and addressed. Some of these concerns relate to: the negotiations of Comprehensive Settlement Agreements; overland flooding in the Mantago River and Fisher River watershed basins for Lake Winnipeg; and the operation of the Fairford River Water Control Structure or the Portage Diversion.

One of the key features for mitigation measures proposed by MTI is the EAC. The EAC is intended to be Indigenous-led with limited participation by MTI, as the proponent of

the proposed Project. The development, role, and functions of the EAC are described in Section 2.8.4 of this report.

2.8.4 Environmental Advisory Committee

In response to concerns from Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale regarding involvement in environmental mitigation measures and monitoring, MTI established an EAC for the proposed Project. The EAC is intended to serve as a communication and advisory forum for information sharing between and among Indigenous groups, the RM of Grahamdale and MTI. Indigenous communities will therefore continue to have meaningful input into planning, plan implementation and follow up processes associated with the proposed Project. The work of the EAC will be carried out in three phases: the pre-construction phase, the construction phase and the commissioning phase.

Additionally, the EAC will be empowered to provide advice and/or recommendations to MTI on the ongoing refinements and implementation of the EMP plans.

The EAC will consist of two (2) members from MTI, up to two (2) members from the RM of Grahamdale, and up to two (2) members from each of the following potentially most affected local communities or groups:

1. Dauphin River First Nation
2. Lake St. Martin First Nation
3. Little Saskatchewan First Nation
4. Pinaymootang First Nation
5. Fisher River Cree Nation
6. Peguis First Nation
7. Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
8. Lake Manitoba First Nation
9. Manitoba Métis Federation
10. Dauphin River Community Council

MTI's two members will participate in the EAC meetings, discussions, information sharing, and activities; however, they will not participate in the EAC decision-making process, which will provide advice and recommendations to MTI.

Since the initial invitation to participate in development of the EAC in fall 2021, six (6) meetings have been held with Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale to discuss its scope, the role of participants, and its proposed Terms of Reference (TOR). In these meetings and through correspondence, MTI has received input from local communities and Indigenous groups with respect to how they would like the EAC to be organized,

what the EAC will do, and how it will be resourced. The TOR developed for the EAC reflects a balanced approach between what potential members would like, and what current federal and provincial legislation allows in terms of decision-making and/or enforcement authority over the proposed Project. For more information on how feedback has influenced the development of the TOR, see Section 3.7.1.

2.8.5 Economic Development Initiative

MTI is implementing the Indigenous Economic Development Fund (the Fund). The \$15 million Fund is designed to support Indigenous-led Indigenous economic development opportunities related to the proposed Project. The intent is for projects approved under the Fund to have a lasting positive impact for Indigenous groups potentially affected by the project beyond the construction of the proposed Project.

MTI is committed to incorporating feedback from Indigenous groups as we continue to establish the Fund. Feedback from communities will help decide who can access the Fund, how much funding to allocate to each proposal, and who should contribute to the evaluation process. In February 2023, MTI reached out by phone and e-mail/mail to the 39 Indigenous groups potentially affected by the proposed project to confirm or request their current contact for community input. In March 2023, MTI sent out a call for input via e-mail and letter (where indicated and/or e-mails were unavailable). In April 2023, MTI received feedback from communities indicating that they wanted more time to provide comments, or that their representatives had not received MTI's previous correspondence. MTI agreed to extend timelines for input until May 1, 2023, which resulted in some further feedback being provided by Indigenous groups. MTI is now in the process of analyzing and incorporating this community feedback into the development of the Fund and supporting documents, such as the Terms of Reference for the Fund's application review committee.

In addition to other comments, MTI heard from communities that they want the Fund to be fair and transparent, with clear guidelines. MTI is working to create a straightforward application process that supports proponents, where possible and appropriate. MTI intends to provide a public summary of feedback and Fund application guidelines during the summer of 2023. For more information on the Fund, see Section 3.7.

2.8.6 Fisheries Offsetting Measures

On June 22, 2021, MTI held a meeting to discuss proposed fisheries mitigation, monitoring, and offsetting measures, which was a result of input received from Indigenous groups and stakeholders. Attendees at the meeting included:

- Pinaymootang First Nation;
- IRTC; and
- DFO.

MTI intends to have further meetings with the 10 potentially most affected Indigenous groups in the summer and fall of 2023 to present potential fisheries offsetting measures related to Fisheries Act Authorization requirements as described in Section 1.3.1. Additionally, the EAC includes opportunities to review and discuss the Fish and Fish Habitat Offsetting Plan (as well as other EMP plans), including initial identification of compensation and offsetting project for implementation by MTI.

2.9 Construction Sequencing and Contracts

The Manitoba government is committed to community economic development as a key component of Manitoba's economic strategy. It intends to develop a provincial economy that is more inclusive, equitable and sustainable.

A presentation on construction sequencing and contracts was delivered at the first Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting on October 13, 2021, and a workshop on construction sequencing and contracts was held in January 2022 with:

- Lake St. Martin First Nation
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council
- Lake Manitoba First Nation
- Fisher River Cree Nation
- Peguis First Nation
- Skownan First Nation

MTI provided a construction and contracts update to all 39 Indigenous groups in the form of a newsletter in July 2022 and January 2023. A series of meetings occurred during the summer of 2022 and a detailed construction sequencing update presentation was provided to the 10 potentially most affect Indigenous groups on April 27, 2023.

MTI considers procurement practices as one of the means that can be used to contribute to Indigenous economic development.

Manitoba Procurement and Supply Chain branch introduced an Indigenous Procurement Initiative (IPI) to increase the participation of Indigenous peoples and

suppliers in providing goods and services to government. This initiative provides a number of benefits, including:

- Stimulation of Indigenous business development;
- Creation of new employment opportunities;
- Increased procurement from Indigenous business through sub-contracting and/or joint ventures with non-Indigenous firms when bidding on contracts;
- Increased competitiveness;
- Relationship building between Indigenous suppliers, non-Indigenous contractors and government buyers;
- Better understanding of the process by suppliers, increased knowledge of Indigenous supplier base by government buyers.

MTI is committed to supporting Indigenous economic development by increasing contracting opportunities for businesses owned by First Nation and Métis people by helping to grow Indigenous businesses via increased access to the government procurement process. MTI endeavors to increase the participation of Indigenous businesses and workforce during construction of the proposed Project, to assist with achieving the intended benefits of the IPI.

MTI uses established in-house practices, which include mandatory Indigenous Involvement clauses for construction projects. Involvement can include undertaking the work as a Contractor, Subcontractor or Joint Venture, and/or the provision of services, materials, fuel, labour, and equipment from the local community. Indigenous participation and involvement in contracts and procurement are typically 10%, but additional percentages may be considered for projects including both general and specific community involvement as a set-aside.

MTI is considering further modifications to increase the Indigenous inclusion within MTI's tendering process. The upcoming tender process for the proposed Project will include Indigenous procurement clauses.

MTI is currently reviewing options and requesting appropriate permissions for increasing Indigenous participation, in construction contracts, including Indigenous set-asides. If approved, certain contracts could be limited to competition among Indigenous businesses. Further discussions are needed to determine the scope of work and magnitude of these contracts, but MTI expects that this will serve as another avenue to increase economic opportunities in the region.

Manitoba's Procurement and Supply Chain Branch maintains an Indigenous Business Directory that serves as resource guide for all government. The Directory is a listing of businesses that have formally registered under the Indigenous Procurement Initiative. Each business is categorized according to the information on goods and services provided in the registration profile. The Directory is comprised of a wide variety of business sectors, including construction and consulting services. The Directory is updated on a regular basis as registrations by Indigenous business are received. In addition, MTI has reached out to Indigenous groups to request information regarding available resources in their communities. IRTC has indicated that they are developing a business directory for the communities they represent and will be sharing with MTI. MTI will request similar information from all 39 Indigenous groups potentially affected by the proposed Project. With inputs received, MTI endeavours to create and manage a listing of available Indigenous resources from the 39 Indigenous groups throughout the duration of construction, should the proposed Project obtain regulatory approvals to process. MTI will ensure potential bidders are made aware of available business directories and listings to encourage increased Indigenous involvement.

Furthermore, MTI has been collaborating with Manitoba Economic Development and Training, Indigenous Services Canada, and First Peoples Development Inc. (FPDI) to identify Project labour force requirements, procurement requirements and anticipated schedules which could assist in the development of training opportunities for Indigenous peoples to support potential employment as part of construction and environmental monitoring activities.

Provincial and federal funding is available to support this type of training and ongoing coordination with provincial, federal, and FPDI representatives will help to identify and develop applicable training for the Project. This is all to facilitate opportunities for Indigenous groups to have a trained and ready workforce to participate in the Project. Discussions with FPDI are ongoing and anticipated to continue as a means of facilitating training opportunities for Indigenous groups for technical positions, in addition to cleaning, cooking, or other services that would otherwise be possible. Additionally, FPDI is developing a web-based database to connect local workers with construction contractors. The database, once operational, will contain valuable information that will assist contractors in finding local workers based on their skill set and contractor requirements.

The result of this collaboration will directly or indirectly increase the IPI with the various Channels contracts.

MTI will keep potentially affected Indigenous groups apprised of any developments in the tendering process and will assist with and facilitate Indigenous participation and involvement in construction of the proposed Project.

2.10 Adaptive Management for Environmental Planning

An adaptive management process will be used to address unforeseen effects that occur during proposed Project construction and/or operation. The environmental planning process has been robust and comprehensive in analyzing and assessing possible effects of direct and indirect disturbances on VCs. Environmental monitoring and management measures will be inspected and modified to ensure compliance with environmental and regulatory requirements, including those set out in provincial and federal approvals for the proposed Project.

Monitoring results will be reviewed and used to verify key predicted EA conclusions and effectiveness of mitigation measures. Additionally, compliance monitoring will be conducted during construction to ensure the proposed Project is being built as intended. If unanticipated effects occur, or if mitigation measures are inadequate, adaptive management measures and subsequent monitoring will be applied. Monitoring results and application of adaptive management measures will inform follow-up reporting to regulators and any required revisions to EMP plans. Monitoring results and concerns will also be shared and discussed through the EAC (see Section 4.4.5). The EAC may also assist with coordinating Indigenous environmental or cultural monitors and communications during the construction period.

The effectiveness of key mitigation measures will be confirmed through the application of follow-up and monitoring programs, as identified in the various plans under the Environmental Management Program. These were submitted as part of the June 2022 supplemental responses to the IAAC's Round 1 Information Requests. These EMP plans continue to be refined in relation to ongoing engineering design updates and feedback from Indigenous groups (See Section 3.6). The general approach for development of the proposed Project's EMP and the specific EMP plans is to provide a proactive means of adaptively managing unanticipated adverse environmental effects from the proposed Project. If an unexpected adverse effect is observed, MTI will review existing management and mitigation measures, and where necessary, consider additional or alternative monitoring and mitigation.

MTI will continue to review feedback as it is received and will revise pertinent planning tools as required before construction and operation of the proposed Project. Feedback from Indigenous groups is highly valued as it provides site-specific feedback and

considerations that project engineers and scientists can use to design and implement a more environmentally responsible project.

2.11 Completing Crown-Indigenous Consultation

MTI will continue to consult and engage with Indigenous groups by implementing the four-phased consultation process, as per Manitoba's Interim Policy. Phase two of the consultation process is substantially completed and MTI continues efforts with Indigenous groups to fully complete phase two activities under the jointly developed work plans and funding agreements, or under consultation or engagement work plans, as the consultation process continues through phase three.

Much of Phase three of the provincial consultation process overlaps with phase two as MTI engages in meaningful two-way dialogue with Indigenous groups about proposed mitigation measures to address concerns raised by Indigenous groups. In addition, as phase three progresses, the Steering Committee takes an active role in the review and analysis of the consultation and engagement information. The Steering Committee will also review and consider the information available through the federal and provincial EA processes. To date, MTI has considered and is responding to over 6,000 concerns or comments communicated through the provincial Crown-Indigenous consultation process or through the federal and provincial EA processes.

It is anticipated that the review and analysis phase will be completed by the end of October 2023 or earlier as the two-way dialogue between MTI wraps up, which includes Indigenous groups receiving full responses to concerns raised in the consultation and engagement process.

Following which, the Steering Committee will finalize the final consultation report, which outlines the consultation and engagement process and the results, for the provincial Crown decision makers (identified in Section 1.3.2), including the Minister of Environment and Climate. The Crown decision makers will determine if they are satisfied that the duty to consult and, where appropriate, assure appropriate accommodation of Indigenous groups has been fulfilled prior to making a decision on the proposed Project.

After a decision is made, the Manitoba government will communicate the provincial Crown's decision and notify all Indigenous groups in writing on what the decision(s) are and outcomes of the consultation and engagement process, including responses to Indigenous groups' concerns and information about how they were mitigated and

accommodated. For a complete description of next steps in the provincial consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project, see Section 5: Next Steps.

3 RESULTS AND OUTCOMES FROM INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

This section describes how information received from Indigenous groups throughout the consultation and engagement process has been incorporated into the proposed Project, including: planning and design; the EA, EIS, and associated regulatory processes; and, the development of mitigation measures, monitoring plans, and proposed accommodations. This section also discusses how Indigenous TLRU information has been incorporated into the above, how inputs from consultation and engagement have informed the adaptive management approach, how discrepancies have been addressed, and next steps that are required to finalize and implement the EMP and related monitoring throughout construction and operation of the proposed Project.

This section is supported by two (2) key documents submitted to the IAAC to facilitate their review of the proposed Project include the following:

- A summary of TLRU information obtained from each Indigenous group engaged on the proposed Project, current to March 2022, is provided in Table IAAC-122-1 in the May 2022 response to Information Request IAAC-R1-122¹²; and
- A summary of socio-economic information obtained from each Indigenous group engaged on the proposed Project is provided in Table IAAC-R2-29-1, in the more recent response to Information Request IAAC-R2-29 submitted to IAAC concurrently with this ICSEER.

MTI has submitted further supporting information to the IAAC as part of the federal EA process, including EMP plans, IR responses, and technical engineering and environmental reports, including findings of field work conducted from 2019 to 2023. This section describes how participation and information received from Indigenous groups has influenced and been incorporated into these documents and the proposed Project as a whole.

3.1 Summary of What We Heard

During the Indigenous consultation and engagement process, MTI heard, discussed, and recorded several concerns expressed by Indigenous leadership, membership, and

¹² See Table IAAC-122-1 in IAAC public registry: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80148/144075E.pdf>

groups, along with proposed measures to mitigate some of their concerns. MTI also reviewed, considered, and analyzed submissions from Indigenous groups in the form of:

- Feedback regarding draft IR responses and technical engineering reports;
- Feedback regarding draft EMP plans;
- TLRU studies;
- Formal correspondence letters;
- Community meetings; and
- Community consultation reports from Indigenous groups.

Key community concerns have focused on aspects such as fisheries and aquatics; water quality, regulation, and water levels; Project design; economics; Aboriginal and treaty rights; wildlife and habitat; environmental monitoring; traditional harvesting; groundwater and surface water; wetlands; heritage and culture; as well as concerns related to the consultation process itself. Examples of concerns shared by communities include the following (for complete summaries of concerns for each Indigenous group, see Appendix 1: Summaries of Concerns):

- Declining fish populations, fish health and aquatic habitat;
- Declining water quality;
- Concentrations of sediments causing environmental impacts;
- Insufficient data submissions by the proponent during the regulatory process;
- Environmental impacts at the Narrows on Lake St. Martin;
- Water level fluctuations caused by the proposed Project;
- Insufficient mitigation measures;
- Shoreline erosion and shoreline debris causing environmental damage and hazardous navigation conditions;
- Declining wildlife and waterfowl health, habitat and populations;
- Lack of environmental monitoring by MTI;
- Lack of Indigenous involvement in the proposed Project's planning, construction and monitoring;
- Limitations to accessing resource harvesting areas, traditional use areas, and recreational areas;
- Declining vegetation at traditional sites and harvesting locations;
- Destruction of archeological materials in the construction phase of the proposed Project;
- The approach to Crown-Indigenous Consultations, for example, a lack of recognition of impacts to Aboriginal rights and consideration of recommendations provided by Indigenous groups;

- Overland flooding in the Interlake Region; and,
- A perception that water control of the proposed Project is intended for Manitoba Hydro's operations on Lake Winnipeg (power generation).

A summary of potential mitigation and accommodation measures proposed by Indigenous groups included the following:

- Compensation for past flood events and environmental impacts;
- Development of a fish hatchery;
- Redesign of the channels to represent a more natural waterway;
- Implementation of a comprehensive wetland offsetting program;
- Establishment of a wetland process as described in IAAC-R2-13;
- Co-management of the proposed Project operations;
- Co-management of environmental monitoring;
- Giving the EAC a decision-making role in managing the proposed Project's operations and monitoring;
- Implementation of a full recovery program of heritage resources in the proposed PDA;
- Ensuring full participation of Indigenous groups and members in the construction contracts for the proposed Project;
- Providing opportunities for employment and training to affected communities;
- Constructing a bridge over the Dauphin River at Dauphin River First Nation;
- Implementing a debris management program;
- Implementing fish net replacement programs; and
- Allowing for site visits and ceremonial events prior to construction.

Feedback received with respect to other documentation, such as environmental field reports, mitigation plan documents for red-headed woodpecker and eastern whip-poor-will, and planning documents associated with the proposed Project's design, were also considered in the evaluation of issues, concerns, and mitigation measures.

3.2 Incorporating Feedback from Indigenous Groups in Project Design

Feedback and comments provided during early engagement with Indigenous groups were used to establish the criteria upon which the proposed Project was designed. The final route alignment for the Project was chosen to focus on addressing key concerns heard regarding impacts to groundwater and drinking water. The current alignment also considered other concerns, such as potential effects on fish spawning and continued access to areas of cultural importance. Specific comments heard during early

engagement with Indigenous groups that influenced the route alignment include the following:

- A lack of support for option “C” because of the proximity to Pinaymootang First Nation (route alignment option “C” involved the proposed Lake Manitoba Outlet Channels alignment being located just south of Pinaymootang First Nation);
- A concern about impacting drinking water on Pinaymootang First Nation with option “C”;
- Option “C” and the Fairford River would effectively place Pinaymootang First Nation on an island;
- Impacts to Big Buffalo Lake and Buffalo Creek could be avoided with re-aligning around the area; and,
- The outlet at Lake Winnipeg should be south of Willow Point to avoid impacts to fish spawning grounds at Johnson Beach.

Updates on any notable design changes are included in the responses to the IAAC’s Round 2 IRs and in the updated Project Description.¹³ The responses to the IAAC’s Round 2 IRs were submitted concurrently with this ICSEER report, and relevant feedback from Indigenous groups on the Round 1 IR responses has been incorporated into the Round 2 IR responses, where applicable. Feedback and input obtained from Indigenous groups has resulted in the following specific modifications to the proposed Project:

- **Alignment Modifications:** The LSMOC is now aligned away from Johnson Beach and Willow Point on Lake Winnipeg to avoid culturally important areas and away from the EOC to reduce or avoid impacts to sensitive wetlands surrounding Buffalo Lake.
- **Reassessing Lake St. Martin Narrows (the Narrows):** The design of the LSMOC was modified to address concerns expressed by Indigenous groups surrounding the Narrows, and to consider Lake St. Martin as two separate basins instead of one, as originally assessed.
- **Channel Armouring:** In response to community feedback, MTI has made the commitment to mitigate potential erosion of the channels by fully armouring the LMOC and LSMOC base and side slopes. Also, for operations of each channel, incrementally increasing flows over multiple days to minimize sediment transport.

¹³ IAAC Public Registry Updated Project Description (May 2023): <https://registrydocumentsprd.blob.core.windows.net/commentsblob/project-80148/comment-59795/Lake%20Manitoba%20and%20Lake%20St%20Martin%20Outlet%20Channels%20-%20Project%20Description%20Update%20-%20May%202023.pdf>

- **Wildlife Movement:** In response to feedback from Peguis First Nation about ability of wildlife to cross the LMOC and the LSMOC, MTI has refined the channel design to facilitate animal movements by incorporating gentler side slopes (5:1) and using smaller diameter rock (<100 mm in diameter) for armouring and erosion protection, instead of rip rap (larger diameter rock). Rip rap and other large diameter rock is difficult for many animals, including moose, elk, and white-tailed deer to traverse. This modification will reduce wildlife injury and visual obstacles to facilitate wildlife entry and exit from the channel while still providing erosion protection.
- **Changes to Monitoring:** In response to concerns raised by several Indigenous groups, MTI added a targeted aquatic habitat study at selected locations near McBeth Point and Reindeer Island in Lake Winnipeg. Recommendations from Indigenous groups regarding sampling locations and parameters were also incorporated into the surface water quality monitoring plan. The Wetland Monitoring Plan (WetMP) was founded in large measure on concerns raised by Indigenous Groups, and the Wetland Offsetting Program, including both the WCP and peatland offsetting, also arose largely from concerns expressed by Indigenous groups. The Wildlife Monitoring Plan and Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan were also both expanded to assure that the EA verification parameters of most interest to Indigenous Groups were sampled. See Section 3.6 for more information about how the EMP plans were influenced by feedback from Indigenous groups.
- **Mitigation and Fisheries Offsetting:** In response to concerns raised by several Indigenous groups, MTI has added several activities to the proposed Project's design process. These include improvements to the riparian flow (base flow) for the LMOC, to address potential low dissolved oxygen levels and effects to fish in the channel, and design enhancements in the LSMOC drop structures, to minimize effects from downstream fish passage.
- Adding these activities was considered feasible, based on engineering, environmental, and regulatory requirements. Communities continue to share creative ideas about mitigation measures and offsetting.

As the proposed Project progresses, MTI will continue to update Indigenous groups on any changes. Feedback from ongoing Indigenous engagement will continue to help MTI to refine and adapt the design, improve proposed mitigation measures, and develop proposed monitoring activities, as required.

3.3 Incorporating Feedback from Indigenous Groups in the Environmental Impact Statement

The purpose of this section is to summarize feedback from Indigenous groups that was subsequently evaluated and considered within the EA and documented in the EIS. This section also explains how Indigenous information has been considered by MTI since submission of the EIS to the IAAC in March 2020. Feedback provided by Indigenous groups was factored into the assessment of VCs, including potential effects on:

- Land and resource use (e.g., navigation);
- Infrastructure and services (e.g., access road controls);
- Economy (e.g., commercial fishing and forestry);
- Health (e.g., drinking water supply effects);
- Heritage (e.g., the potential loss, damage, or disturbance of areas of cultural, historical, archaeological, paleontological, or architectural importance);
- Traditional land and resource use (e.g., hunting and trapping);
- Air quality (e.g., altered cultural experience due to light, dust, and noise effects and the presence of permanent structures);
- Geology and soils (e.g., erosion and sedimentation);
- Surface water (e.g., flow changes);
- Groundwater (e.g., contamination);
- Aquatics (e.g., methylmercury);
- Fish and fish habitat (e.g., fish migration patterns);
- Vegetation (e.g., wetlands); and
- Wildlife (e.g., mortality).

Indigenous groups submitted feedback from technical reviews of the EIS directly to the IAAC following the submission of the EIS in 2019, as part of the Agency's Conformance Review period. In its October 22, 2019, communication to MTI, the IAAC deemed the EIS to not conform to the EIS Guidelines that had been issued for the proposed Project. The IAAC included two (2) annexes related to this decision:

- Annex 1 provided a detailed list of conformity gaps based on the EIS Guidelines, but did not identify if communities had a role in this review; and
- Annex 2 was identified as advice for MTI to consider, which included specific commentary from Indigenous communities, relayed concerns about the state of consultation and engagement at the time of filing and provided recommendations for mitigation measures and requests for more involvement.

These general themes have continued to be discussed with Indigenous groups, and addressed through MTI's EMP, and other commitments like the EAC. In March 2020, MTI re-submitted the EIS, with modification made to address conformity requirements. The EIS was accepted by the IAAC and the technical review process began.

As described in Section 2, a total of 39 Indigenous groups have been engaged and consulted on the proposed Project. Several of these Indigenous groups have identified traditional use of resources, sites or areas, and cultural features within the proposed PDA and the LAA. The following Indigenous groups submitted Technical Reviews of the EIS:

- Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (Shared Value Solutions 2020);
- Dauphin River First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; IRTC 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d);
- Fisher River Cree Nation (Eng-Tech Consulting Ltd. 2020; FRCN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d, 2022e, 2022f);
- Hollow Water First Nation (HWFN n.d., 2020, 2021a, 2021b);
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council (IRTC) (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; IRTC 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d);
- Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; IRTC 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d);
- Lake Manitoba First Nation (Wagner 2020; IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; IRTC 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d);
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation (LSFN 2020, 2022);
- Lake St. Martin First Nation (LSMFN n.d., 2020a, 2020b, 2022);
- Misipawistik Cree Nation (MCN 2020, 2021);
- Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF 2020, 2021);
- Norway House Cree Nation (NHCN 2020, 2022; A.L. Ecologic 2021a, 2022);
- Peguis First Nation (Peguis First Nation 2020a, 2020b, 2022);
- Pimicikamak Okimawin (Pimicikamak Okimawin 2020; A.L. Ecologic 2021a, 2022);
- Pinaymootang First Nation (PFN n.d., 2020, 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d, 2022e; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019);
- Poplar River First Nation (PRFN 2019a, 2019b, 2020, 2022);
- Sagkeeng First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019; SAFN 2022a, 2022b; SFN 2020; SAFN & SBOFN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c);
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019; SAFN & SBOFN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c; SBOFN 2020, 2022); and
- Tataskweyak Cree Nation (TCN n.d.a, n.d.b, 2022).

Information in the above documents was reviewed and used to inform MTI's ongoing planning and EA related activities. Documents received during the EIS conformance period contributed to this review and MTI revised, updated, and re-issued the EIS to the IAAC in March 2020.

Where there was an absence of information shared directly by Indigenous groups with respect to the VCs being evaluated in the EIS, MTI relied on secondary source information as discussed below, and in Section 2.3.3.

3.3.1 Use of Secondary Source Information

MTI and its technical consultants considered secondary source information on topics or concerns that were known to be relevant to Indigenous people within and outside the Interlake Region. For example, a list of plant species of interest to Indigenous groups (e.g., berries, Seneca root) was compiled and evaluated to determine how they may be affected by clearing, construction, and operation of the proposed Project. Various sources of information, such as literature identifying plants that are of domestic and medicinal use by Indigenous groups in western Canada, were compared with baseline information, which identified the locations and abundance of these species along and near the proposed PDA. As much as possible, this information was verified with proposed Project-specific TLRU information that Indigenous groups in the region shared.

MTI received responses from the following Indigenous groups regarding use of secondary source information:

- Fisher River Cree Nation;
- Pinaymootang First Nation;
- Sagkeeng First Nation;
- Sandy Bay First Nation;
- Manitoba Métis Federation and
- Tataskweyak Cree Nation

Fisher River Cree Nation requested that certain communication between MTI and Fisher River Cree Nation remain confidential. Pinaymootang First Nation, Sagkeeng First Nation, and Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation informed MTI they do not consider the secondary sources to fully reflect their perspectives, knowledge, and values. Each has submitted separate Community Consultation Reports to MTI. The Manitoba Métis Federation asked MTI not to cite secondary sources in regulatory reporting for the proposed Project, and this request has been implemented. Tataskweyak Cree Nation

provided MTI with an additional list of secondary sources that have been reviewed and incorporated into MTI's planning and assessment process, where appropriate.

3.4 Indigenous Involvement in the Regulatory Process

Indigenous groups potentially affected by the proposed Project were consulted and engaged in advance of submission of the EIS. This process has continued through the review of Indigenous feedback on the various mitigation and monitoring plans that form the proposed Project's EMP, and the draft and final responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs submitted on May 31, 2022.

3.4.1 Round 1 of Technical and Public Information Requests

In advance of a formal submission of responses to the Round 1 IAAC IRs, MTI provided draft responses to the IAAC's technical and public IRs to Indigenous groups for their review. The intention was to provide an opportunity for early issue identification, facilitate discussion on substantive issues, and identify matters requiring continued dialogue and resolution. As of April 2022, written comments were received from the following Indigenous groups:

- Fisher River Cree Nation (FRCN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d, 2022e, 2022f);
- Hollow Water First Nation (HWFN 2021a, 2021b);
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; IRTC 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d);
- Lake St. Martin First Nation (LSMFN 2020a, 2020b, 2022);
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation (LSFN 2022);
- Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF 2021a);
- Misipawistik Cree Nation (MCN 2021);
- Norway House Cree Nation (NHCN 2022; A.L. Ecologic 2021a, 2022);
- Peguis First Nation (Peguis First Nation 2020b, 2022a);
- Pimicikamak Okimawin (A.L. Ecologic 2021a, 2022);
- Pinaymootang First Nation (PFN n.d., 2022a, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d, 2022e; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019);
- Sagkeeng First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019; SAFN 2022a, 2022b; SAFN & SBOFN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c);
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (IRTC, SAFN, & SBOFN 2022; PFN, SBOFN, & SFN 2019; SAFN & SBOFN 2022a, 2022b, 2022c; SBOFN 2022); and
- Tataskweyak Cree Nation (TCN 2022).

To facilitate continued dialogue about concerns expressed by Indigenous groups, meetings were held to discuss ways to address the input that has been provided (see Section 2.3.8 for a description of these meetings). This process has continued through the review of Indigenous feedback on draft responses and final responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs and the filing of the final responses on May 31, 2022. Where applicable, each IR response included a section explicitly summarizing the concerns and input from Indigenous groups, and efforts were made to address these concerns in addition to the question from the IAAC. MTI will remain available to discuss any subsequent IR responses or feedback received from Indigenous groups as the regulatory process continues.

3.4.2 Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

As discussed in Section 2.6.1, the federal Technical Advisory Group (TAG) consists of over 70 people representing Indigenous groups, the Rural Municipality (RM) of Grahamdale, and Indigenous commercial fishers. The TAG is chaired and facilitated by IAAC and provides a forum for information sharing and discussion during the EA of the proposed Project.

During federal TAG meetings and other engagement activities, Indigenous groups have expressed concerns, provided feedback, and raised questions for follow-up by MTI regarding the regulatory processes. For example, during one TAG meeting it was noted that new fish habitat created within the proposed Project channels will not be of the same quality as the fish habitat that will be lost. MTI clarified that the EA is not considering the fish habitat created in channels as an offset for habitat altered by the construction of the proposed Project. Additionally, another concern raised during a TAG meeting related to the use of jetties to trap sediment before flows enter the LMOC, and the potential for the use of jetties to impact north-to-south sand transportation in Lake Manitoba. MTI's consultants have examined historical air photos taken over the past 69 years and given that the use of jetties is not proposed for the LMOC, technical consultants have determined that shoreline erosion processes are not expected to change because of the LMOC. Clarification of this information was provided to TAG members.

A detailed summary of concerns shared through MTI's Indigenous consultation and engagement program for the proposed Project, including issues raised through the TAG process, is provided in Appendix 1: Summaries of Concerns.

Table 2 contains a list of some of the key issues raised during the TAG sessions, and MTI's responses.

Table 2: Key Issues from TAG Meetings and MTI's Response

Concern	Meeting Date	MTI's Response
More detail requested on the design for the inlet structures, including jetties, etc., and impacts to shoreline processes.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-120 provides more details on inlet design and IAAC-44 discusses shoreline sediment transportation models.
Concern about Lake St Martin being treated as one lake, and the need for the hydraulic model to be revised, with updated VC assessment.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-68 summarizes the updated analysis of the head loss issue using a two-basin model.
The need for a gauging station in the north basin of Lake St. Martin.	June 2 and 3, 2020	A gauging station has now been established in this area.
Require more information on mitigating ice impacts in the channels.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-31 provides more information on ice effects in the channels.
Require more information on groundwater/surface water interactions in the LSMOC.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-20, IAAC-24 and IAAC-72 provide more information on this issue.
Require more information on groundwater effects on the wetlands in the LSMOC area.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-73 provides more information on this issue.
Concerned about regional aquifer sustainability.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IRs IAAC-05 provides this information.
Need for trends analysis done on water quality data, including nutrients and influence of Portage Diversion.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-13 and IAAC-14 address this issue.
Effects to islands	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-47, IAAC-50, IAAC-56, IAAC-94 and IAAC-114 address this issue.
Request for models for sediment plumes from the channels.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-30 provides this information.
Request for details on the Surface Water Management Plan.	June 2 and 3, 2020	Updated versions of EMP plans, including the Surface Water Management Plan were provided as part of the May 31, 2022 responses to IAAC IRs.
Effects to Lake Sturgeon	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-82 and IAAC-85 provide this information.
Effects to Macbeth Point and Sturgeon Bay	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-36 provides this information. Also, May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-81 notes that the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan is being expanded to address potential effects at

Concern	Meeting Date	MTI's Response
		MacBeth Point, as identified by Peguis First Nation and Fisher River Cree Nation. Monitoring at MacBeth Point and potentially other locations, such as the southern end of Reindeer Island, will indicate whether unanticipated movement of organic materials and sediments along the lake bottom is occurring from Sturgeon Bay into Lake Winnipeg.
Effects of reduced flow to Birch Creek and fish spawning.	June 2 and 3, 2020	Numerous responses to IAAC IRs filed on May 31, 2022 address Birch Creek issues. IAAC-14 and IAAC-16 address water quality issues; IAAC-37, IAAC-38, IAAC-39 and IAAC-83 address effects to fish; and IAAC-70 and IAAC-72 address effects from regarding groundwater and wetlands.
Indigenous involvement in the environmental management program.	June 2 and 3, 2020	Most of the responses to IAAC IRs filed on May 31, 2022 include a section discussing this issue, including involvement in the EAC.
Concern about erosion control methods being considered for sandy portions of the channel.	June 2 and 3, 2020	Several responses to IAAC IRs filed on May 31, 2022 (e.g., IAAC-38) discuss the decision to armour both channels to address erosion concerns.
Require more details on channel effects to wildlife movement and predation.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-47 and IAAC-93 address this issue.
Effects to the Nelson River as a result of the entire flood control and hydroelectric system.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 response to IR IAAC-65 addresses this issue.
Details on health assessment that including social determinants of health.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-103 and IAAC-108 address this issue.
Details on effects to intangible cultural heritage.	June 2 and 3, 2020	May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-115, IAAC-116 and IAAC-117 address this issue.
Details on flow sensitivity analysis.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-07 provides this information.
Require more details on effects on the carbonate aquifer and groundwater sustainability.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-05 provides this information.
Need for an existing well inventory.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-01 provides this information.
Information on the effects of drought.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 responses to IRs IAAC-R2-01, IAAC-03 and IAAC-11 provide this information.

Concern	Meeting Date	MTI's Response
Require more details on groundwater effects to surface water.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-02 provides this information.
Influence of Portage Diversion on water quality.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-04 provides this information.
Require more information on effects to Lake Winnipeg and Split Lake.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-22 provides this information.
Concern about zebra mussels.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-27 provides this information.
Require more details/verification on head loss model.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-07 provides this information.
Require more details on sediment effects to fish habitat.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 responses to IRs IAAC-R2-10 and IAAC-R2-31 provide this information.
Require more details on effects to commercial fishery and compensation.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-31 provides this information.
Require more details on effects to wetlands and medicinal plants.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-15 provides this information.
Require more details on cattle runoff treatment.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-01 provides this information.
Require more details on the EAC.	August 30 and 31, 2022	May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-30 provides this information.

3.5 Incorporating Indigenous Traditional Land and Resource Use Information

The following section outlines how Indigenous TLRU information was incorporated into the EIS, and how TLRU information not available at the time of the EIS filing in March 2020 has been integrated into ongoing environmental planning and the associated regulatory process. MTI has made substantial efforts to integrate Indigenous knowledge into all aspects of its assessment, including both methodology (e.g., establishing spatial and temporal boundaries, defining significance criteria) and analysis (e.g., baseline characterization, effects prediction, development of mitigation measures). As discussed below, TLRU information has been obtained through Project specific TLRU studies, SEWB studies, community consultation reports, community meetings, technical reviews of the EIS by Indigenous groups submitted to the IAAC, Indigenous feedback on draft EMP plans, Indigenous feedback on draft and final responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs, and results of the Indigenous consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project.

3.5.1 Traditional Land and Resource Use Studies

Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU) studies and community reports are the best sources of information on which to base an assessment of Project effects on TLRU. MTI has supported completion of community led TLRU studies, including site visits to view traditional areas of use, as a key component of all work plans and funding agreements with the potentially most affected Indigenous groups. MTI received eight (8) Traditional Land and Resource Use Studies and three (3) Community Consultation Reports from the following Indigenous groups:

- Lake St. Martin Traditional Knowledge and Resource Use Study;
- Little Saskatchewan First Nation Knowledge and Resource Use Study for MTI's Lake Manitoba and Lake. St. Martin Outlet Channels Project;
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council October Phase 1 Traditional Land Use and Traditional Knowledge Report, which included participation and considered impacts on the following Indigenous groups:
 - Dauphin River First Nation
 - Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
 - Lake Manitoba First Nation
 - Peguis First Nation
 - Pinaymootang First Nation
 - Little Saskatchewan First Nation;
- Interlake Reserves Tribal Council Traditional Knowledge and Use Study Specific to MTI's Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake. St. Martin Outlet Channels Project, which included:
 - Dauphin River First Nation
 - Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
 - Lake Manitoba First Nation;
- Fisher River Cree Nation Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Report;
- Manitoba Métis Federation Métis Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study for the Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba Permanent Outlet Channels Project;
- Peguis First Nation Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Channel Project Report – Final Traditional Land and Resource Use Study Land Use and Occupancy Report; and
- Pinaymootang First Nation Traditional Knowledge and Resource Use Study Specific to Manitoba Infrastructure's Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.

Following submission of the proposed Project EIS, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (SBOFN 2021) and Pinaymootang First Nation (PFN 2021) have each provided consultation reports. In total, MTI has received the following three (3) consultation reports to date:

- Sagkeeng Anicinabe First Nation. Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project: Sagkeeng First Nation Consultation Report for the Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.
- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation. Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project: Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Consultation Report for the Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.
- Pinaymootang First Nation. Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project: Pinaymootang First Nation Consultation Report for the Proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.

The following list highlights the key TLRU issues and concerns raised by Indigenous groups. A comprehensive list of concerns related to TLRU is available in Table-122, in response to IR IAAC-R1-122, and Table-29, in response to IR IAAC-R2-29. The complete summary of concerns for each Indigenous group is provided in Appendix 1: Summaries of Concerns.

- Effects on traditionally harvested plants and animals and migration corridors through habitat loss, habitat fragmentation, sensory disturbance, and creation of linear features;
- Flooding from control structures and increases in water levels that may result in erosion of shorelines; inundation of reserve land (including farmland); and effects on culturally important sites, such as camps, ceremonial sites and unmarked graves;
- Effects on subsistence and commercial fishing from changes in water quality (sedimentation), debris, and contamination (in particular mercury);
- Effects on water, including groundwater and surface waters such as wetlands;
- Effects from the introduction of invasive species and pollutants;
- Health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., methylmercury and human health);
- Concern that the Narrows will be a hydraulic bottleneck that holds waters back into the south basin of Lake St. Martin;
- Effects on navigation and access to locations used for harvesting; and
- Economic opportunities and Project benefits.

A detailed description of TLRU information obtained from each Indigenous group engaged on the proposed Project, including MTI's responses, is available in Table IAAC-122-1, in response to IR IAAC-R1-122.

TLRU information received before the March 2020 EIS was filed was integrated into the EIS for the proposed Project and contributed to the assessment of VCs, as appropriate. Each VC assessment contains a section titled "Consideration of Indigenous Information and Traditional Knowledge" that summarizes relevant information shared by Indigenous groups and outlines how this was considered in each assessment. For instance, information about traditionally harvested resources provided in TLRU studies was used to identify species of cultural importance in the assessments for fish and fish habitat (Volume 3, Section 7.2.2), vegetation and wetlands (Volume 3, Section 8.2.2), and wildlife and wildlife habitat (Volume 3, Section 8.3.1). More generally, information provided in TLRU studies was used to confirm selection of VCs and spatial and temporal boundaries and contributed to the description of baseline conditions.

TLRU studies received after the submission of the EIS in March 2020 were reviewed against the results of the EIS to determine whether any new potential effects or effects pathways were identified that were not considered in the EIS. MTI also considered these TLRU studies to determine if any additional mitigation measures were warranted. As stated in Volume 4, Section 10.2.3, a conservative approach was adopted by MTI which assumed that where traditional resources used by Indigenous peoples are available and accessible within the RAA, or where Crown land is available to support traditional activities or practices within the RAA. Therefore, while the TLRU studies received after the submission of the EIS provided additional details regarding TLRU activities, sites, and resources in relation to the proposed Project, this largely served to confirm the results of the EIS and did not result in changes to VC assessment conclusions.

Additional TLRU information related to impacts from the proposed Project may continue to be provided by Indigenous groups through their involvement and participation as the proposed Project proceeds. This information will continue to be considered and integrated into proposed Project planning, regulatory reporting, and EMP implementation and associated monitoring programs, particularly through the Indigenous led EAC.

3.5.2 Socio-Economic Well-Being Studies and Rights Impact Assessments

This section provides an overview of the results of the socio-economic wellbeing (SEWB) studies and Rights Impact Assessments (RIAs) undertaken by potentially

affected Indigenous groups. The assessment of this information is based on the reports received from Manitoba Métis Federation (February 2023), Fisher River Cree Nation (June 2023), York Factory First Nation (April 2023), Pinaymootang First Nation (May 2021), Sagkeeng First Nation (May 2021) and Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (May 2021). Additionally, the IRTC has coordinated and completed a multi-community “Baseline Socio-Economic and Well-Being Study,” focusing on current and pre-2011 socio-economic and baseline conditions of seven (7) of its member communities (Dauphin River First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Peguis First Nation, Pinaymootang First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation and Lake St. Martin First Nation).

The submission from York Factory First Nation broadly captures their outlook and concerns that are common to all SEWB studies and RIAs, along two lines:

1. “Historically, settler’s development activities have disproportionately exposed First Nation communities to many livelihood inequities and climate change vulnerabilities and disasters [and] going by trends, developments causing flooding of FN communities in Manitoba is recurring story”; and
2. “While most non-First Nation communities are safe, hydroelectric dams and water control structure developments have displaced many FN communities located in vulnerable locations such as floodplains or near rapids in Manitoba”.

Throughout the reports, there is a strong call for monitoring and reporting protocols that would require MTI to provide results of monitoring and follow-up programs in a timely manner. Furthermore, all Indigenous groups want to participate through community-based monitors in all phases of the proposed Project, so that Indigenous perspectives and knowledge may be integrated, as appropriate, into Project planning and the regulatory process, along with “Western science.” Other pertinent results of the SEWB and RIA studies include the following:

- **Current and future availability of traditional foods:** all reports indicate that the proposed Project will adversely affect the availability of traditional foods, and this will continue for the foreseeable future.
- **Water quality:** water is seen as a lifeline and a decline in quality of water that is fit to drink is a strong indicator of environmental health. Regarding food and sustenance, the perspective is that there is corresponding decline in the quality and quantity of fishing, with the decline in water quality.
- **Mental and social well-being:** a correlation is seen with the implementation of the proposed Project and flooding, which leads to issues of mental health and

well-being (i.e., the uncertainty and worry about these conditions recurring). Indigenous groups point to the past displacement and prolonged evacuation of people as a major cause of issues of mental health and well-being.

- **Economic Conditions:** Indigenous groups have observed a decline in commercial fishing with changed flows of water and displacement of species. Indigenous groups expressed concern that they will not get their fair share of business and employment opportunities from the proposed Project. Additionally, concerns are expressed that because of constricted lead time to prepare, a community may not have the capacity or capability to compete for business contracts and/or procurements.
- **Use of Navigable Waters:** where the Indigenous group is geographically isolated, water becomes a primary mode of transportation and navigation. The regulated flow of water affects the navigation of boats for fishing and transportation, and further changes or restrictions are cause for concern.
- **Food security:** Indigenous groups have concerns about food security, and risks of impacts to food availability and prices with the proposed Project. The concern is that with the decline or scarcity of traditional foods, food security will become more acute.

The referenced studies received by MTI point to some common overarching recommendations. The specific implementation of these recommendations is dependent upon the characteristics and requirements of each Indigenous group, but in general, the proposed recommendations speak to strengthening consultation, monitoring, and consent. The main recommendations of Indigenous groups involved in the studies are as follows:

- MTI should negotiate a water management agreement with the affected Indigenous groups;
- MTI should fund and support a cumulative effects assessment co-led by MTI and Indigenous groups;
- MTI and the IAAC should fund and work with Indigenous groups to undertake a mental health assessment of the proposed Project, within the context of Manitoba Hydro flow management and related project impacts;
- As a condition of project approval, the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate should require the establishment of a monitoring committee that would include impacted First Nations to oversee and participate in the implementation and evaluation of EMP plans, and be focused on specific impacts from the proposed Project;

- The provincial Minister of Environment and Climate should require the establishment of Indigenous monitoring programs to support participation by the community and other Indigenous groups in “on-the ground” monitoring for the complete life cycle of the proposed Project;
- MTI should develop an Indigenous Monitoring Plan at least 90 days prior to construction;
- MTI should provide support for training and retention of up to two community-based monitors for the life of the proposed Project, and should support the procurement of equipment to engage in the monitoring of water quality, fish, health, wildlife, health, heritage and community-wellness;
- MTI should work to provide capacity for Indigenous groups to review all proposed changes to the proposed Project’s design and supplementary analysis;
- The IAAC and MTI should engage with Indigenous groups with respect to timelines and opportunities for collaboration because it concerns the assessment of potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights and the EA;
- MTI should incorporate first-hand community-based knowledge into the proposed Project, including that arising from the Traditional Land and Resource Use Studies submitted by Indigenous groups; and,
- MTI should work with Indigenous groups to develop an access management plan specific to the proposed PDA.

MTI’s responses to these and other concerns identified in the SEWB studies and RIA, are provided for each Indigenous group in Appendix 1: Summaries of Concerns and within Table IAAC-29 (IR IAAC-R2-29) submitted to IAAC concurrently with this ICSEER.

3.6 Incorporating Indigenous Feedback in the Environmental Management Program (EMP)

Some projects that have recently received provincial and federal environmental approvals have included conditions for the proponent to develop and implement EMP plans with some form of collaboration with and/or meaningful input from Indigenous groups. Following the initial development of the EMP plans for the proposed Project, two opportunities were provided (with funding support) for technical reviews to be carried out by Indigenous groups, so that they could provide plan-specific feedback for consideration, and where appropriate, incorporation into the EMP and ongoing detailed design work for the proposed Project (see Section 2.7 above).

Feedback was received from thirteen (13) Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale. The following Indigenous groups provided feedback: Fisher River Cree Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, the Interlake Reserves Tribal Council, Little

Saskatchewan First Nation, Loon Straights Northern Affairs Community, Norway House Cree Nation, Pimicikamak Okimawin, Pinaymootang First Nation, Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community, Sagkeeng First Nation, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation, the Manitoba Métis Federation and Tataskweyak Cree Nation. The following sections detail some of the key changes to EMP plans which resulted from feedback collected during Indigenous consultation and engagement.

3.6.1 Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (AEMP)

There were several changes made to the AEMP through the extensive review process that can be broken down into five (5) categories: the addition of new parameters and definitions, the inclusion of additional monitoring locations, changes to the proposed Project, changes to monitoring and study methods, and the addition of adaptive management methods.

The new water quality parameters to be sampled are cyanobacteria (blue green algae), microcystin (toxin), nitrogen, phosphorus, glyphosate, as well as other pesticides. Water quality will be sampled and analyzed with these additional parameters in mind, and results will be presented in a report after completion of each annual sampling program. In addition to new parameters, additional monitoring locations that have been or will be studied are Birch Bay, MacBeth Point, Sturgeon Bay, and Buffalo Creek. Monitoring at these additional sites will include monitoring of fish and water quality.

Two changes to the proposed Project have been addressed in the revised AEMP. First, both channels will now have baseflows to reduce the risk of winter oxygen depletion. Also, the diversion of groundwater to Birch Creek is no longer being proposed, with flow augmentation to the creek instead being provided by diverting water from the LMOC when it is not in operation and surface runoff to Birch Creek is lower. This is deemed a valuable offsetting and mitigation measure, as connectivity in Birch Creek is currently not maintained under natural conditions when the creek dries after spring runoff.

Changes to monitoring and study methods can further be categorized by timing changes and method changes. For timing, additional water quality samples will occur in the spring, at the time of channel operation, to assess differences between channel and river water quality entering and leaving Lake St. Martin. Further water quality sampling will also be conducted in late summer to assess blue green algae during its peak productivity. As well, baseflow water in both channels will be sampled in the winter to determine dissolved oxygen concentrations and mitigate the risk of depletion to critically low levels. The revised AEMP describes additional baseline data collected in 2018, 2020, and 2021, and details long-term sampling plans at both the Dauphin and Fairford

water quality stations. Sampling will be conducted four times a year at all AEMP sites for three sampling cycles prior to commissioning, as well as an additional survey of the fish community in Lake St. Martin. Two years of data have been collected, and a third will be collected prior to commissioning.

There are many additional monitoring methods set out in the revised AEMP, such as the monitoring of fish use of the Dauphin and Fairford rivers in the spring and fall, after baseline information collected in 2020 and 2021 indicated that fish were able to move up the rivers even under low flow conditions. In addition, additional larval studies will be conducted in Birch Bay regardless of effects to groundwater, as there are also potential effects on larvae due to channel operation. A survey will also be done of fish within the channels when they are not in operation and at the outlets, where fish could be attracted to spawn during operation. Further, the AEMP has been designed to gather information upstream and downstream of the local assessment area, so that the data from these sites can be compared to identify impacts attributed to the proposed Project and inform decisions on mitigation and adaptive management measures to be used. The downstream sites will include locations away from the influence of the proposed Project, to monitor how the receiving environment is being influenced by other activities that could influence its resilience to any residual Project effects. As well, data loggers will be used to monitor turbidity at the natural rivers and the inlets and outlets of the channels, to determine the difference in sediment transport via the channels, as opposed to the rivers. Details of the sample design will be determined after excavation of the inlets and outlets so habitat conditions within the excavated areas can be determined, and a comparable area of nearby undisturbed habitat can be identified. It is anticipated that approximately 10 randomly distributed samples will be collected within a polygon of similar substrate and depth range within and outside of the excavated areas.

Lastly, though the revised AEMP states that not all effects can be mitigated, detailed adaptive management measures are established to deal with a variety of possible outcomes. After commissioning and the first two operational periods, the results of monitoring completed to date will be used to develop long term monitoring plans. The appropriate adaptive management measures would depend on the effects observed and reflected in these monitoring reports.

3.6.2 Access Management Plan (AMP)

The revised AMP includes multiple changes from the original plan, many of which were included for the sake of clarity. This includes the addition of maps and other information for communities; the change, redefinition, or withdrawal of some terms used; and the removal of some restrictions and policies relating to access, to better accommodate

local Indigenous communities and their use of the land for traditional activities. As well, adaptive management strategies are identified and outlined throughout the AMP.

A map showing proposed haul roads to be used by contractors has been added to the current version of the plan, as well as information regarding land-based trails and winter travel restrictions for the construction and operational phases of the proposed Project. This includes information regarding the use of recreational vehicles, such as snowmobiles. The AMP also includes details regarding signage and ice safety, with commitments to monitor and maintain signage. Section 5.7 of the AMP includes discussion of decommissioning temporary access roads. As well, clarification on the AMP focus for the LMOC and LSMOC has been added, with the LMOC focus being on road and land access around and through the proposed Project site, while the LSMOC focus is on the natural environmental and access issues related to traditional resource use. Both areas require an AMP that deals with common important access-related issues, but each requires a focus on the unique issues for the type of surrounding terrain. Regarding terms and definitions, "Harvesting" has been defined in the AMP's Glossary of Terms, "LAA" has been removed from the document, and "Project Footprint" has been replaced with the "Project Development Area" (PDA), which is more consistent with the EIS and other documentation.

The AMP was revised to focus on access management and access restrictions, rather than restricting specific land use activity types. Thus, all mentions of no hunting, no shooting, and no fishing zones and policies have been removed. Access restrictions will be in place for the duration of the proposed Project and firearm restrictions will be implemented for safety purposes. Project workers will not be permitted to possess, transport, use or store firearms within the PDA. However, some exceptions may be made for Indigenous peoples who intend to carry out traditional activities if it does not pose a safety risk and if approved by MTI in advance. As well, use of the proposed PDA by individuals not directly associated with the proposed Project may be authorized for certain user groups under certain conditions if it does not present a safety risk. This includes Indigenous peoples who intend to carry out traditional practices. Access to the proposed PDA may be authorized during the construction or operation phases of the proposed Project but will largely depend on safety considerations.

Lastly, various monitoring and adaptive management strategies have been identified in the AMP. This will help to verify if proposed methods are meeting objectives, and to allow for the implementation of adaptive measures, if required. Additional information regarding reporting has been added to sections 7.0 and 11.0 Monitoring and Adaptive Management in the AMP. Although the AMP does not list all safety concerns, Section

3.0 describes how the AMP is meant to help manage safety for MTI employees, facilities, contractors and visitors.

3.6.3 Heritage Resources Protection Plan (HRPP)

For the HRPP, changes made to the revised plan consist of establishing areas of known heritage resources. The revised HRPP reflects the fact that a HRIA was completed for the proposed Project and the report has been provided to the Historic Resource Branch and Indigenous leadership upon request. No human remains were found and no impacts to Banyon St. Thomas Lutheran Cemetery are anticipated. While impacts to the cemetery are not expected, a trained inspector/monitor will be present during construction activities within 50 metres of the site to monitor for chance heritage resource finds and avoid impacts to the cemetery. Banyon St. Thomas Lutheran Cemetery is under regular maintenance by grounds keepers so any impacts to the cemetery from the proposed Project would be noticed and communicated to MTI.

Indigenous groups will continue to be engaged in further developing a draft protocol and MTI is commitment to Indigenous involvement in the heritage resources related mitigation measures and agreed to coordinate with Indigenous groups at a later date, to arrange activities or ceremonies before any work in the proposed PDA proceeds.

3.6.4 Wetland Offsetting Program

The Wetland Offsetting Program (WOP) includes the Wetland Compensation Plan (WCP, which describes offsetting for Class III, IV, or V wetlands) as well as a commitment to offset for peatlands directly affected by the Project (see IAAC-R2-13). No-net-loss wetland offsetting will also be applied where mitigation is not an option for other wetlands demonstrated through monitoring to be indirectly affected by the Project. Both the WOP and Wetland Monitoring Plan (WetMP) were developed largely on the basis of wetland-related concerns expressed by Indigenous groups, the RM of Grahamdale and Federal regulators.

The WCP and the WetMP have further been revised to include locational information for both monitoring and offsetting, as well as goals and time frames of the offsetting steps expressed by Indigenous groups. Wetland-relevant monitoring in the LAA will also occur in association with the Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP), Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP), and AEMP and help further direct mitigation options and/or the determination of offsetting needs and extent. A recommendation to include wetlands east of the LAA has been considered and informed by ongoing wetland mapping, which factored into the WetMP. Wetlands associated with Birch Creek and its watershed, as

well as the Buffalo Creek and Buffalo Lake Watershed, will be monitored, as outlined in the WetMP.

The concept of goals is addressed generically as "process" text added to Section 3.1 of the WCP. The definition for each area undergoing restoration or enhancement, including mapping of offsetting areas, will be more fully defined as the EAC works with Indigenous groups and the wetland specialist(s), the RM of Grahamdale and other stakeholders to select offsetting projects. Lastly, the suggestion that wetland offsetting locations should be within the project locality, not within other watersheds, has been added to Section 3.1 of the WCP, and will be considered during the process of selecting candidate sites.

3.6.5 Environmental Management Program Questionnaires

Twenty (20) separate questionnaires were developed (one for each EMP plan) by MTI to solicit Indigenous and public stakeholder feedback and suggestions on how best to mitigate effects during the construction and operation of the proposed Project. As of April 2023, written responses had been received from Fisher River Cree Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, the IRT (representing Lake Manitoba First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation, and Dauphin River First Nation), Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Loon Straights Northern Affairs Community, Norway House Cree Nation, Pimicikamak Okimawin, Pinaymootang First Nation, Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community, Sagkeeng First Nation, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation, the MMF, and Tataskweyak Cree Nation.

Responses to the questionnaires have been and will continue to be considered as part of the ongoing EMP development, the provincial and federal EA, and the proposed Project's planning. Feedback on the EMP plans continues to be received and discussed through technical, leadership and other meetings, such as for the EAC. This feedback has been provided to MTI's technical consultants, who have evaluated and incorporated it, where appropriate, into the EMP plans (see Section 3.6 for examples of how feedback has influenced development of the EMP plans). Any feedback that is considered but not incorporated for technical or process-related reasons, will be documented and MTI will follow-up through meetings and/or written communication, as required.

3.7 Indigenous Involvement in Monitoring Activities

MTI has undertaken several phases of investigative field work with Indigenous participation, to further understand the existing environmental conditions and support

the planning and design phases of the proposed Project. Indigenous environmental monitors have participated by observing and documenting pre-construction field work to support the EA and design processes for the proposed Project.

The EA and consultation and engagement process for the proposed Project have also captured feedback and concerns from Indigenous groups regarding ongoing environmental monitoring. Table 3 presents key feedback and specific monitoring requests that were provided by Indigenous groups.

Table 3: Summary of Indigenous Monitoring Requests

Indigenous Group	Monitoring Request
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Establishment of an Indigenous environmental and cultural monitoring advisory committee
Dauphin River First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Establishment of an Indigenous environmental and cultural monitoring advisory committee
Fisher River Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Establishment of an Indigenous environmental and cultural monitoring advisory committee • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Involvement in the selection and monitoring of spawning allocations • Participation in sturgeon monitoring • Participation in long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring
Hollow Water First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of aquatic monitoring activities • Development of a beach and erosion monitoring program • Implementation of groundwater monitoring • Use of Indigenous labour and job training in monitoring
Kinsonjeoshtegon First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities

Indigenous Group	Monitoring Request
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in heritage monitoring • Participation in long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring
Lake Manitoba First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs
Lake St. Martin First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Establishment of an Indigenous environmental and cultural monitoring advisory committee • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Participation in long-term groundwater monitoring • Involvement in the monitoring of spawning allocations • Development of beach and erosion monitoring program
Little Saskatchewan First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Development of a channel erosion monitoring program
Manitoba Métis Federation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in groundwater monitoring • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Participation in vegetation and wetland monitoring • Participation in fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities
Misipawistik Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities.
Norway House Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Participation in vegetation and wetland monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities

Indigenous Group	Monitoring Request
Peguis First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of soil monitoring • Participation in vegetation monitoring • Participation in heritage monitoring
Pimicikamak Okimawin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities
Pinaymootang First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in wildlife monitoring • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in vegetation and wetland monitoring • Participation in heritage monitoring • Participation in fish health and invasive species monitoring • Participation in long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring • Establishment of an Indigenous environmental and cultural monitoring advisory committee
Poplar River First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in heritage monitoring
Sagkeeng First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in heritage monitoring
Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in heritage monitoring
Tataskweyak Cree Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in aquatic monitoring activities • Participation in the development and implementation of the monitoring activities and other follow-up programs • Participation in long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring

Indigenous groups will have opportunities to participate in future monitoring activities throughout the construction and commissioning phases of the proposed Project, to ensure that the EA conclusions are accurate, identify any unanticipated effects, and determine if modifications to planned mitigation measures are required. MTI anticipates that this work will be coordinated by the EAC, as discussed below.

3.7.1 Environmental Advisory Committee

As explained in Section 2.5.1, MTI extended invitations to Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale to participate in a virtual session to discuss establishing an EAC for the proposed Project. Based on feedback received, MTI developed a preliminary list of items for discussion and convened an initial planning session on October 13, 2021, with the RM of Grahamdale and the following Indigenous groups: Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Fisher River Cree Nation, Peguis First Nation, the Interlake Reserves Tribal Council, and the Manitoba Métis Federation. Topics of discussion included the following:

- Structure, scope, and role of the EAC;
- Number of representatives per group;
- Environmental monitoring;
- Communications protocols;
- Wash station for biosecurity;
- Wetland offsetting projects;
- Contracting and tendering; and
- Changes/updates to the proposed Project's EMP plans.

Since filing responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs in May 2022, MTI has held five (5) additional meetings with Indigenous groups to define the structure and function for the EAC and to co-develop a TOR. MTI has also refined the objectives and purpose of the EAC based on feedback obtained through these meetings and correspondence. The following items describe responses to Indigenous group concerns that were incorporated into the draft TOR:

- After hearing concerns about the first version of the TOR, it was decided to “re-set” and create a new version based on feedback from communities. This was done to demonstrate MTI's desire to collaborate and be inclusive in the process.
- As requested by Indigenous groups, the EAC's TOR is modelled on the TOR for the Trans Mountain and Line 3 Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees, established by the federal government for those projects.¹⁴
- MTI's members will refrain from participating in the EAC consensus decision-making process, through which the other EAC members will be able to provide written advice or recommendations to MTI.

¹⁴ For more information see: <http://iamc-tmx.com/> and <https://iamc-line3.com/>

- The EAC will be led by a rotating chair and co-chair, selected from amongst participating groups. Agendas for future meetings will be set by the chair, co-chair and members.
- All groups participating in the EAC (including potentially most affected Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale) will retain the ability to engage with federal or provincial regulators about an impact or concern, and/or request an investigation.
- Participation in the EAC will be at each group's discretion, and the decision to participate, or not participate, will not be considered binding or final. The invited EAC groups will always be welcome to a seat at the table and will continue to be engaged at the same level regardless of participation in the EAC.
- The TOR have been crafted to allow for amendments so that the EAC can reflect changing circumstances and benefit from the learning and experiences associated with the proposed Project.

For further details regarding the EAC, see Section 2.5.1 and the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-30. MTI is establishing the EAC and will be offering funding opportunities for Indigenous groups to participate in follow-up and monitoring for the proposed Project. MTI seeks to support meaningful participation of Indigenous groups in construction compliance monitoring and environmental monitoring for the proposed Project. MTI anticipates that local Indigenous groups will be provided with an opportunity and resources to participate in construction compliance monitoring through the EAC. Contractors conducting environmental monitoring will submit a plan to involve Indigenous communities, peoples and/or businesses in service delivery. MTI has been providing notifications to Indigenous groups in advance of MTI or its consultants performing fieldwork activities associated with the EA and/or design of the proposed Project. Notifications have included information on anticipated date(s), as well as scope and purpose of field activities. MTI has also committed to providing opportunities to interested Indigenous groups to have environmental monitors attend and observe fieldwork activities. MTI is committed to providing funding for participation in fieldwork activities, on an invoice basis, based on established MTI rates. Preference for participation will be given to locally affected Indigenous groups.

3.8 Indigenous Group Involvement in the Indigenous Economic Development Fund

MTI is committed to incorporating feedback from Indigenous groups as efforts are made to establish the Indigenous Economic Development Fund (the Fund). MTI solicited feedback from Indigenous groups to help decide who can access the Fund, how much funding to allocate to each proposal, and who should contribute to the evaluation

process. In April 2023, MTI received feedback from Indigenous groups indicating that either they would like more time to provide comments, or that their representatives did not receive previous correspondence. MTI agreed to extend timelines for input until May 1, 2023, which resulted in further feedback from additional Indigenous groups. In addition to other comments, MTI has heard from Indigenous groups that they want the Fund to be fair and transparent, with clear guidelines. MTI is working to create a straightforward application process that supports proponents where possible and appropriate. MTI intends to provide a public summary of feedback and fund application guidelines over the summer of 2023.

MTI is now in the process of analyzing and incorporating this Indigenous feedback into the development of the Fund and supporting documents, such as the terms of reference for the application review committee.

3.9 Addressing Discrepancies of Views on Information

The EIS Guidelines require MTI to document where there are discrepancies in the views of MTI and Indigenous groups regarding the information used in the EIS and conclusions of the assessment and IR responses. MTI considered the following to identify discrepancies: project-specific Traditional Knowledge studies, socio-economic studies, community consultation reports, technical reviews of the EIS by Indigenous groups submitted to the IAAC, Indigenous feedback on EMP plans during specific meetings offered to Indigenous groups engaged on the proposed Project, Indigenous feedback on draft and final responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs, comments received through the virtual engagement portal, and ongoing meetings and correspondence.

MTI has prepared Appendix 9: Key Discrepancies raised by Indigenous Groups and MTI Response to assist with regulatory review and to consolidate MTI's response to these issues. Appendix 9 is intended to be read in association with Table IAAC-122-1 (May 2022 IR IAAC-R1-122) and Table IAAC-29 (IR IAAC-R2-29).

By incorporating relevant concerns and issues raised by Indigenous groups in the responses to technical and public IRs, MTI has sought to address specific concerns and issues in the context of:

- Project design;
- Assessment of potential effects;
- Mitigation and monitoring; and,
- Adaptive management, as described in the various EMP plans.

MTI will share these discrepancies throughout the provincial Crown-Indigenous consultation and engagement process. Following completion of phase three of that process, a finalized Summary of Concerns Report and letter will be prepared for each Indigenous group, which will include:

- List of concerns and discrepancies that the Manitoba government has heard, with the intent to clarify its understanding;
- Written responses to each Indigenous group's concerns and discrepancies, where possible; and
- Feedback about how the information provided by Indigenous groups was incorporated into the decision-making process for the proposed Project and how those concerns were addressed.

MTI considers the responses to the discrepancies raised by Indigenous groups to be meaningful and reasonable. MTI also acknowledges that Indigenous groups may continue to hold divergent views and conclusions. Efforts to reconcile disagreements have been made through ongoing:

- Engagement initiatives, including through the provision of information about the proposed Project;
- Feedback incorporated into changes to the proposed Project's planning; and
- Commitment to further explore an issue, concern, or recommendation in the context of the proposed EAC. Details can be found in Section 2 of this report and the May 31, 2023, response to IAAC-R2-30.¹⁵

¹⁵ See IAAC Public Registry: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/exploration?projDocs=80148#3902798859>

4 PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

4.1 Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of public and stakeholder engagement is to provide meaningful opportunities to generate dialogue and exchange information about the proposed Project and the EA with interested and potentially affected parties. This form of engagement is a requirement of any project proponent. MTI's approach to engagement with non-Indigenous groups achieves this primary goal through the following actions and activities:

- Early involvement of interested and affected parties;
- Ongoing engagement throughout all stages of the proposed Project;
- Using a variety of engagement approaches;
- Being flexible and responsive to comments and feedback;
- Using feedback in decision making; and
- Clearly communicating how feedback is used.

4.2 Environmental Assessment Regulatory Requirements and Objectives

As described in Section 1.2, MTI is seeking federal and provincial regulatory approvals for the proposed Project. A rigorous EA approach is required by both provincial and federal governments before granting environmental approvals under CEAA 2012 and The Environment Act (Manitoba). The EA process requires sufficient engagement for a comprehensive study such as this and subsequently, MTI designed its EA approach for the proposed Project to incorporate stakeholder involvement throughout the process to the extent feasible. The Engagement activities have been carried out during the pre-planning, EIS development, and ongoing engagement processes for the proposed Project.

4.3 Public Engagement Process

4.3.1 Early Dialogue and Initial Planning (2011 – 2019)

As outlined in Section 5.2.2 of the EIS, public and stakeholder engagement to address the flooding in the Interlake region began following the 2011 flood event. MTI hosted meetings and discussions with the RM of Grahamdale, other RMs, landowners, fishers,

hunters, trappers, cottage owners, recreational users, and the general public. The outcome of these discussions, identified by the 2011 Flood Review Task Force (MFRTF 2013), included the confirmation that new flood protection infrastructure was required. The need for permanent outlet channels was also recommended by the 2013 Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review Committee (LM&LSMRRRC 2013).

After 2011, correspondence and meetings with the public and stakeholders focused on finding a flood protection solution for the area. MTI used various methods to share information about the proposed Project and the EA regulatory process, and to gather meaningful feedback. These methods included using the website developed for the proposed Project, providing printed material, conducting public open houses, developing questionnaires, one-on-one meetings, table talks, site visits, and helicopter tours.

In 2016, the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basins Flood Mitigation Study (KGS 2016) recommended that two outlet channels be constructed, namely the LMOC and the LSMOC.

In addition to open houses held for the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basin Flood Mitigation Study, the Manitoba government held four rounds of open house events between 2017 and 2019 to discuss the proposed Project, in Moosehorn, Portage la Prairie, St. Laurent and Winnipeg. The Manitoba government also provided information and solicited public and stakeholder feedback through the website for the proposed Project, newspaper advertisements, letters, emails, questionnaires, one-on-one meetings and Manitoba government news releases.

4.3.2 Stakeholder Group Identification

Key stakeholders were initially identified as those directly affected by previous flooding, and an examination of maps identified other locations of potentially affected communities and jurisdictions. A list of stakeholders for the proposed Project was developed based on engagement response and attendance from the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basin Flood Mitigation Study and the Manitoba 2011 Flood Review Task Force. This list included individual landowners, RMs and towns, commercial and agricultural organizations, business owners and recreational organizations.

4.3.3 Environmental Assessment Engagement Opportunities (2019 – Present)

This section 4 provides a description of how information has been received from stakeholders since MTI's filing of the EIS in August 2019, how that information has been

incorporated into the EA process, and how ongoing additional information will be incorporated in the future.

4.4 Rural Municipality of Grahamdale

4.4.1 Existing Conditions

Due to the location of the proposed Project, MTI has been actively engaging in discussions with the RM of Grahamdale since the proposed Project's inception.

The proposed Project is primarily located in the RM of Grahamdale and the LMOC is located entirely within the RM of Grahamdale, intersecting an area that is predominantly private land used for agriculture production. The land and resource use in the RM of Grahamdale consists of economic activities, including farming, ranching and fishing. There are also industries such as Continental Lime Ltd. (Graymont Western), Lehigh Cement, quarrying and forestry.

Lands in the RM of Grahamdale are predominantly privately-owned. However, parcels of encumbered provincial Crown land (i.e., land with active permits and leases) are also located in the RM of Grahamdale. Crown land encumbrance types consist of agricultural leases (forage and hay), Ducks Unlimited Canada sites, permits/leases for residences, snowmobile shelters (SnoMan), access roads, cottages, boat launches and docks, waste disposal sites, a campground, a wayside park, a recreation site, an outcamp, a fish camp, and a recreational trail. Parcels of municipal-owned land also occur within the RM of Grahamdale. Based on 2011-2016 Census data, the population density in the RM has remained steady at 0.6 people per square kilometre.

There is an adequate supply of good quality groundwater in most parts of the RM of Grahamdale. Most of the water supply is taken from the carbonate aquifer. In general, groundwater wells in the area are used primarily for domestic and livestock purposes, but also include a municipal well and industrial wells.

4.4.2 Participation Fund Agreement

MTI is supporting and participating in discussions regarding the proposed Project under a signed Engagement Work Plan with the RM of Grahamdale. Funding for the Engagement Work Plan is consistent with eligible costs identified in the Interim policy.

On April 17, 2020, MTI signed a Participation Fund Agreement with the RM of Grahamdale to help offset costs and assist with addressing and discussing comments and concerns regarding potential effects of the proposed Project.

The Engagement Work Plan and funding has helped the RM of Grahamdale to meaningfully participate in the engagement process for the proposed Project. As part of the engagement process with the RM of Grahamdale, a work plan describing MTI's approach and proposed methods of outreach and engagement with the RM of Grahamdale was developed. This work plan included the following activities (full details of the engagement work plan are available in Appendix 10: RM of Grahamdale Engagement Work Plan.

- Information sharing, presenting the EIS, and discussion;
- Confirming community concerns and suggestions, verifying MTI's understanding of the RM of Grahamdale's concerns, and discussing MTI's responses;
- Environmental Management Plan workshops; and
- Additional planning activities – sharing information and getting community feedback.

The Participation Fund Agreement signed in 2020 has been fully expended. On April 24, 2023, MTI met with the RM of Grahamdale to discuss reimbursement of past expenditures and the parties discussed additional funding opportunities for future expenditures. These discussions are ongoing.

Additionally, MTI provided funding offers to the RM of Grahamdale for additional activities which had not been included as part of the original Participation Fund Agreement. This included reviews of MTI's submissions to the IAAC, including draft Round 1 IR responses in October 2021, final Round 1 IR responses in May 2022, updated EMP plans in June 2022, and Round 2 IR responses in May 2023. MTI has also provided a funding offer to the RM of Grahamdale for participation in the EAC.

4.4.3 Engagement Activities

Beginning in 2017, MTI staff started attending monthly RM of Grahamdale council meetings to provide updates about the proposed Project.

Since the proposed Project's planning began, four (4) open houses have been held in Moosehorn to provide information to local landowners and stakeholders in the RM of Grahamdale. Two (2) different surveys requesting information about potential socio-

economic impacts and water well use have also been conducted, in cooperation with the RM.

MTI and its environmental consultants met with the RM of Grahamdale multiple times during 2018 and 2019 to discuss socio-economic concerns, including a presentation on socio-economic considerations presented in the EIS.

Additionally, in 2019, a land acquisition town hall meeting was held with the RM of Grahamdale to present information about the land expropriation process to the RM of Grahamdale and local landowners.

Throughout these early discussions, the RM of Grahamdale conveyed a number of concerns related to the proposed Project (a comprehensive list of concerns provided by the RM of Grahamdale is available in Appendix 11: RM of Grahamdale Summary of Concerns). Additionally, in July 2023, MTI provided responses in writing to the RM of Grahamdale for written feedback received regarding draft responses to the IAAC's Round 1 IRs and EMP plans.

4.4.4 Summary of Concerns

Recognizing the length of time since discussions on the proposed Project first began, a summary of initial concerns heard to date from the RM of Grahamdale was shared on November 16, 2020. The list of initial concerns was gathered based on comments and concerns collected during meetings, ongoing dialogue and communications with the RM of Grahamdale until November 2020, and represented MTI's understanding of the RM's concerns. This list of initial concerns was shared with the RM of Grahamdale for review and comment, with a request to advise MTI of any errors, omissions or clarifications.

An updated list of concerns was shared with the RM of Grahamdale in September 2021, and feedback was received from the RM in October 2021. Key concerns raised by the RM of Grahamdale as of July 2023 are included in Appendix 11: RM of Grahamdale Summary of Concerns.

4.4.5 Environmental Impact Statement

In March 2020, a printed version of the EIS, printed summary documents and a digital copy of a narrated presentation (on USB) describing the EA for the proposed Project was sent to the RM of Grahamdale.

Meetings to discuss the EA approach were offered to the RM with information on the EIS, including a description and presentation of the information included in the EIS.

MTI and its consultants have been available to present on the EIS, subsequent IAAC public and technical IRs and responses, and how concerns and input received to date have been incorporated into planning and design of the proposed Project. MTI staff and consultants have also been available to provide assistance to help stakeholders understand the technical material presented in the EIS, including the RM of Grahamdale.

4.4.6 Environmental Management Plans

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to limit in-person meetings as a result of Public Health Orders, MTI and its consultants produced various tools to support review of the proposed EMP plans and allow for continuation of community engagement, as described below.

Hard copy packages were sent to the RM of Grahamdale on November 16 and 30 and December 7, 2020. Packages included printed and electronic copies of the 23 draft Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) developed by MTI. In addition, the draft plans were posted on the website for the proposed Project.

MTI developed virtual open houses to assist with information sharing and to provide an alternative way to provide feedback during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual open houses could be accessed through Manitoba's EngageMB website. Questionnaires were included with the EMPs, made available online, and were integrated into the virtual open house platform (see Appendix 12: Environmental Management Plan Questionnaires). As described in further detail below, meetings with the RM of Grahamdale continued through virtual settings to discuss the RM's comments and concerns related to the 2020 versions of the EMP plans. As a result of feedback received on the 2020 EMP plans, MTI made further edits to these documents to incorporate or address community commentary. Updated versions of the EMP plans were then submitted to IAAC in June 2022 and made available for review by the RM of Grahamdale. The 2022 versions of the EMP plans are also publicly available on the proposed Project's website.

4.4.7 Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan Questionnaires

Twenty questionnaires were developed by MTI to solicit feedback and suggestions on how best to mitigate effects during the construction and operations of the proposed Project (see Appendix 12: Environmental Management Plan Questionnaires). Additional questions were included to solicit feedback on the information submitted by Indigenous groups and stakeholders through the public IR process.

Printed and electronic copies of the questionnaires were sent by mail and email to the RM of Grahamdale in November and December 2020. The questionnaires were posted on the website for the proposed Project. Interactive versions of the questionnaire were integrated into the virtual open house platform, which was also shared on EngageMB. Responses from the questionnaires have been considered as part of the ongoing Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan development process. These responses will also be used to support the provincial and federal EA processes, and inform the Crown-Indigenous consultation and planning processes for the proposed Project.

4.4.8 Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan Meetings

MTI staff and consultants offered virtual meetings to present the draft Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans and explain their purpose and function. The objective was to share information and gather feedback on the proposed plans. Five (5) meetings were held with the RM of Grahamdale in spring 2021: meetings on April 15 and 14, 2021 to present and discuss feedback on the draft plans, and meetings on May 20, 28, and June 11, 2021 to discuss key topics identified by the RM of Grahamdale, and present additional information regarding ongoing engineering design and analysis. Topics discussed during these three meetings included:

- Groundwater;
- Local surface water management (outside drain and surface water quality);
- Sediment transport and channel commissioning;
- Potential aquatic effects; and
- System hydraulics (movement of water from Lake Manitoba to Lake Winnipeg).

Information shared throughout these discussions is included in the development of mitigation strategies and EMP plans, and has informed updates to the EMP plans.

The RM of Grahamdale's Engagement Work Plan incorporates review and discussions of the detailed EMP and associated EMP plans (e.g., AMP, fisheries offset plan, sediment management plan, etc.). Information shared throughout these discussions has been and will continue to be included in the subsequent updating and refinement of mitigation strategies and EMP plans, in order to ensure that any potential impacts from the proposed Project are appropriately assessed and accommodated.

4.4.9 Recurring Update Meetings

MTI started meeting with the RM of Grahamdale in 2017 to share and discuss information and updates on the proposed Project. Since that time, MTI continues to meet with RM of Grahamdale, and more recently has been meeting with the RM on a monthly basis to provide updates on engineering design work, and to discuss environmental concerns.

Many topics regarding the proposed Project have been discussed at these meetings, including Provincial Road 239 realignment (including horizontal and vertical alignment, drainage and traffic plans), municipal road realignments, tender contract clauses, construction sequencing plans, various issues regarding channel design, and land acquisition and regulatory process updates. MTI continues to work with the RM of Grahamdale to discuss concerns and opportunities to limit impacts to the area and municipal infrastructure during construction of the proposed Project. Meetings included staff from engineering, environment, and project coordination/communications areas of the proposed Project.

The RM of Grahamdale has participated in a total of six (6) meetings related to the EAC that is being established for the proposed Project.

A complete list of engagement activities and information shared with the RM of Grahamdale is provided in Appendix 13: RM of Grahamdale Summary.

4.5 Other Stakeholder Meetings

MTI has also met with other stakeholders, such as the Association of Lake Manitoba Stakeholders, the RM of St. Laurent, Manitoba Beef Producers, the RM of West Interlake, the RM of Coldwell, the West Interlake Watershed District, and the RM of Portage la Prairie.

In July 2021, MTI initiated meetings with the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association and the Winnipeg Construction Association to introduce the proposed construction sequencing plan for the work on the proposed Project. Feedback was requested on the proposed plan and additional meetings were held in September 2021.

MTI has been coordinating with other stakeholders, such as Manitoba Economic Development and Training, Indigenous Services Canada, and First Peoples Development Inc. (FPDI) to identify labour force requirements, procurement requirements and anticipated schedules for the proposed Project. These requirements

and schedules are intended to assist in the development of training opportunities to support potential employment, as part of construction and environmental monitoring activities for the proposed Project. Discussions with FPDI regarding training development programs for the proposed Project have been ongoing. A number of meetings occurred between 2019 and 2023 to provide updates and an overview of anticipated environmental and construction jobs, based on anticipated environmental monitoring and construction activities. MTI committed to include FPDI in future discussions about Indigenous training and development opportunities. Additionally, FPDI is developing a web-based database to connect local workers with construction contractors. The database, once operational, will contain valuable information that will assist contractors in finding local workers based on their skillset and contractor requirements.

4.6 Newsletters and Project Updates

A variety of communications have been developed by MTI to provide current updates and share information with the public, various stakeholders, and Indigenous groups who are potentially affected by the proposed Project. These documents have been posted to the website for the proposed Project and electronic copies have been sent by email to the RM of Grahamdale and other interested parties who requested information about the proposed Project.

Newsletters – Starting in December 2020, newsletters have been developed and posted online to provide current updates on the EA process, consultation, engineering design, and construction.

Progress Reports – The following progress reports have been posted to the website for the proposed Project:

- A July 2020 Progress Report included updates on the timeline for the proposed Project, EA process, Crown-Indigenous consultation and a summary of key issues.
- A fall 2021 Progress Report was also developed to provide a summary of recent Project progress and an update on the status on the EA process, project design, and Crown-Indigenous consultation. The fall 2021 Progress Report was also printed and distributed as an insert within two (2) local newspapers, the Grassroots News and Express Weekly News, on October 6 and 7, 2021.

Fact Sheets – The following fact sheets have been posted to the website for the proposed Project:¹⁶

- [Design Updates](#)
- [Project Alignment Options](#)
- [Project Components](#)
- [Project Purpose](#)
- [Simplified Design Updates](#)
- [Water Levels and Flows](#)
- [Operations Information Sheet](#)
- [Project Components Information Sheet](#)
- [The Narrows & Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel Design Update](#)
- [Land Expropriation Frequently Asked Questions](#)

News Releases – The following news releases were made by Manitoba in 2022:

- In August 17, 2022, the Manitoba government announced an investment of \$3.1 million to establish EAC for the proposed Project. The new EAC will provide advice and guidance during the planning, construction and operation of the proposed Project.
- In October 5, 2022, the Manitoba government announced an investment of \$15 million to support Indigenous Economic development opportunities related to the proposed Project. The new fund will be administered as a proposal-based funding program, open to 39 Indigenous groups (First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs communities, and Indigenous organizations) involved in the outlet channels project. The fund will be used to support economic development opportunities related to the outlet channels, and reconciliation in alignment with the principles outlined in the Path to Reconciliation Act.

4.7 Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement

MTI will continue to engage with the RM of Grahamdale and other stakeholders regarding the proposed Project. MTI will continue to share information and proposed Project updates and remains available to meet and discuss the proposed Project.

¹⁶ MTI Project Website – Resources: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/wms/lmblsmoutlets/resources/reports.html>

5 NEXT STEPS

Manitoba remains committed to ongoing engagement with Indigenous groups and local stakeholders throughout the planning, construction, operation, and follow up monitoring of the proposed Project. Feedback received throughout the consultation and engagement process will continue to be used by federal and provincial regulatory officials to inform provincial and federal review and approvals. As MTI continues through the Indigenous engagement process, additional opportunities for Indigenous groups to discuss and influence the proposed Project will include:

Ongoing Monthly Virtual Meetings with Potentially Most Affected Indigenous Groups and the RM of Grahamdale: Meetings with the potentially most affected Indigenous groups and the RM of Grahamdale will continue, to provide regular updates on project planning, Indigenous and stakeholder engagement, and regulatory processes.

IAAC Information Requests: MTI is offering funding support to Indigenous groups to review MTI's responses to the IAAC's Round 2 IRs. MTI will be available to discuss concerns that have been raised, MTI's responses, and how Indigenous groups' information has been incorporated into the IR and regulatory process.

Connecting with Communities and Relationship Building: Meeting with Indigenous groups and stakeholders following the submission of responses to IAAC IRs, to discuss community specific topics and issues that were included in the submission and explain the regulatory process going forward.

Site Visits and Harvesting Opportunities: MTI will accommodate site visit requests from Indigenous groups, supported by MTI technical staff, to facilitate understanding of the local impacts of the proposed Project and associated mitigation measures that will be implemented. MTI will also provide opportunities to harvest medicinal plants and country foods prior to construction or other disturbance to ground or vegetation.

Implementing Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC): MTI has committed to forming an EAC for the proposed Project. It is intended to serve as a communication and advisory forum to provide an avenue for the flow of information between and among Indigenous groups, the RM of Grahamdale and MTI, with a focus on providing opportunities for Indigenous rights holders and stakeholders to have meaningful input into Project planning, plan implementation, and follow up processes associated with the

proposed Project. It is anticipated that the work of the EAC will be carried out in three phases: the pre-construction phase, the construction phase and the operation phase. Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) were collaboratively developed with Indigenous communities and the RM of Grahamdale, and an updated version of the TOR was issued to participants in April 2023. Implementation of the EAC is anticipated to commence in fall 2023.

Sharing Complete Final Summary of Concerns: MTI continues to respond to concerns heard throughout the consultation and engagement process. Complete summaries of concerns specific to each Indigenous group will be shared for review and comment with the respective Indigenous group throughout the summer and fall of 2023. Where available, community consultation reports that were developed by Indigenous groups, as part of work plans with potentially most affected Indigenous groups, will be included in the comprehensive summaries of concerns. In addition, MTI's responses to concerns not directly related to the proposed Project (e.g., provincial hunting regulations or effects from Manitoba Hydro projects) will also be included in the final Summaries of Concerns sent to Indigenous groups (see Appendix 14: Non Project Issues). MTI has and will continue to offer meetings with all potentially affected Indigenous groups to review concerns and discuss Manitoba's responses.

Heritage Resource Planning Group: MTI will continue to offer meetings with Indigenous groups on a quarterly basis to discuss community concerns related to heritage resources. Through these meetings, Manitoba intends to develop a Heritage Resource Planning Group. There may also be an opportunity to form a sub-committee of the EAC. MTI and the proposed Heritage Resource Planning Group will work together to establish an agreed upon Heritage Resource protocol or process prior to construction, should the proposed Project proceed. MTI will also be developing a heritage training program for construction workers related to recognizing heritage resources and following protocols, with input from Indigenous communities, MTI's heritage resource consultant, and the Manitoba government's Historic Resources Branch.

Indigenous Economic Development Fund: A new \$15 million economic development fund was announced by Manitoba on October 5, 2022. The new fund will be administered as a proposal-based funding program, open to all 39 Indigenous communities involved in the proposed Project. The fund will be used to support economic development opportunities related to the proposed Project, and reconciliation in alignment with the principles outlined in The Path to Reconciliation Act (Manitoba). In early 2023, Indigenous groups were engaged in discussion about their perspectives, concerns and goals for the fund. These discussions are ongoing. Once the fund is

officially launched, an evaluation committee made up of representatives from several government departments will review proposals, with the potential to partner with other organizations (e.g., Indigenous communities) to provide input to the proposal, identify additional funding sources, and support proposal development and training.

Community Consultation Reports, SEWB Studies, and RIA Reports: MTI has commissioned community led Consultation reports, SEWB studies, and RIA studies, which have informed project planning, the assessment and mitigation of anticipated effects, and the Crown-Indigenous consultation process. MTI has received SEWB reports from the MMF (March 2023), IRTC (May 2023), and Fisher River Cree Nation (May 2023) and a draft RIA report from IRTC (June 2023). For all other potentially impacted Indigenous groups not undertaking the above studies (non-PMA groups), MTI offered the opportunity to undertake a focused data gathering process, including a workshop, group interview, or a survey, to better understand how they use traditional resources (fish, game, plants, etc.) and related socio-economic concerns. MTI is analyzing and incorporating this information and remains available to meet with communities to review and discuss the contents of these reports and how their information was used and addressed.

Construction Sequencing and Contracts: Information on construction sequencing was shared in Project newsletters in July 2021 and January 2022 and discussed with Indigenous groups during a workshop in January 2022. Updated construction sequencing and tendering information was discussed with potentially most affected communities during a regular biweekly meeting with this group on April 27, 2023. Based on the considerable interest in construction contracts associated with the proposed Project, a series of meetings and communications will continue to occur throughout the summer and fall of 2023, to keep Indigenous groups apprised of any developments in the tendering process, and to assist with and enable Indigenous participation. An information sheet on this topic is also available on the proposed Project's website. MTI will continue to work to provide additional procurement opportunities to communities, including set asides and additional options to increase the level of participation in construction contracts. MTI will work with Indigenous communities to identify capacities, develop business directories to identify available local resources, and develop a pre-qualification process. MTI also continues exploring various contracting options and coordinating with Manitoba Economic Development and Training, Indigenous Services Canada, and FPDI to identify Project labour force requirements, procurement requirements and anticipated schedules that could provide training and employment opportunities for Indigenous communities.

Post-Construction Activities: MTI expects to engage and consult with Indigenous groups and stakeholders on several post-construction activities such as the proposed decommissioning of the EOC, and monitoring of anticipated environmental effects and effectiveness of mitigation measures.

Post-Licensing Decision Follow-up: The Manitoba government will share the final provincial regulatory decisions and environmental approvals (with conditions) with Indigenous groups. MTI and the Manitoba government will accommodate any requests to meet to discuss these final decisions and conditions at the conclusion of the Crown-Indigenous consultation process.

6 CONCLUSIONS

Throughout the consultation and engagement process, MTI has experienced firsthand the value of employing an open and collaborative approach to engagement with Indigenous groups and rights holders, key stakeholders, and the general public. This approach has allowed for a respectful and meaningful dialogue around the subjects under discussion, and has provided a good starting point to ensure that foundations of trust and respect will drive the ongoing process of reconciliation, as outlined in The Path to Reconciliation Act (Manitoba), the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

The Indigenous consultation and engagement process, tailored specifically to the unique needs of each potentially affected Indigenous group and the anticipated effects of the proposed Project, has created an enhanced opportunity for open two-way dialogue and direct input on matters of importance to Indigenous groups (see Section 2 above). As described in Sections 2 and 3 above, it has challenged MTI to remain flexible and adaptive when responding to concerns and integrating feedback. MTI strove to meet the challenges by thoroughly reviewing, considering, and appropriately addressing the feedback and insights provided through the consultation and engagement process.

Prior to proceeding with regulatory decisions, both federal and provincial jurisdictions must consider all information collected through the Indigenous consultation and engagement process for the EIS statutory obligations, and the Section 35 Crown-Indigenous consultation requirements. As identified in Section 1, on August 26, 2022, MTI was granted an 18 month extension to the CEAA 2012 time limit for providing information required for the proposed Project's EA. MTI anticipates fulfilling these requirements by the February 2024 deadline.

To proceed with the proposed Project, MTI requires the following:

1. Federal approval under CEAA 2012;
2. Federal approvals under the Fisheries Act and Navigation Protection Act;
3. A provincial Class 3 Licence under The Environmental Act (Manitoba); and
4. Provincial permits required for construction.

Once regulatory decisions are made, and to fulfill the provincial Crown's duty to consult and accommodate, the Manitoba government will be reporting back to the Indigenous groups indicating what the provincial decision was, any licensing conditions, and how their concerns were mitigated and accommodated. Indigenous groups will be able to request that the Manitoba government present this information in person to the respective community. The Manitoba government will consider these requests with respect and the intention to build meaningful and lasting relationships with Indigenous groups.

While that will bring an end to the consultation process it will not be the end of the engagement process with Indigenous groups on the proposed Project. Ongoing engagement with Indigenous groups will include participation on the EAC, coordinating Indigenous procurement and contracting, collaboration around protection of heritage resources, and involvement in monitoring of predicted effects and effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures and accommodation measures.

The dedication and participation of Indigenous groups throughout the consultation and engagement process has been valuable for understanding potential environmental effects, improving the proposed Project, and broader reconciliation. Indigenous feedback has brought to bear the importance and significance of the "lived experience" (i.e., the basis for Traditional Knowledge) which can complement a western scientific outlook and approach. As described in Section 3 above, key examples of how feedback from Indigenous groups has influenced the proposed Project and proposed mitigation measures includes the following:

- Realigning the channels to avoid regional effects on groundwater;
- Armouring of both channels to minimize erosion;
- Incorporating base flow in channels to minimize effects to fish; and
- For each channel, incrementally increasing flows over multiple days to minimize sediment transport.

Increasingly, the need to better integrate environmental considerations and Indigenous perspectives and knowledge within infrastructure planning and project design is becoming critical as MTI and the Manitoba government seek to address issues arising from climate change. MTI looks forward to further opportunities to build and strengthen relationships with Indigenous peoples, and to working with them in the future to protect and enhance the quality of life for all Manitobans.

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Preconstruction Environmental Field Work – Wildlife (CONS15843). Winnipeg,
MB.

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Resource Impact Assessment (Permit A49-20). Winnipeg, MB

APPENDIX 1 – SUMMARY OF CONCERNS

Summary of Concerns

**THE CONTENT OF THIS APPENDIX (PAGES 124 – 672) IS CONFIDENTIAL
AND IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE CANADIAN IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGISTRY.**

APPENDIX 2 – RECORDS OF COMMUNICATION

Records of Communication

**THE CONTENT OF THIS APPENDIX (PAGES 674 – 1501) IS CONFIDENTIAL
AND IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE CANADIAN IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGISTRY.**

APPENDIX 3 – TIMELINE OVERVIEW OF CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Timeline Overview of Consultation and Engagement Activities

Timeline Overview of Consultation and Engagement Activities

Date	Activity
2011	Post-flood discussions
June, 2013	Open house events
September/December, 2014	Open house events
July 22, 2016	Initial notification – Crown-Indigenous consultation process for the Project
2016 onwards	Ongoing follow up with Indigenous groups to gauge interest in participating in the Project, development and implementation of work plans and funding agreements (where applicable), continued information sharing and discussions on the Project, Project updates and the environmental assessment processes.
November, 2019 – December, 2020	Six (6) Crown Aboriginal Consultation Participation Fund Agreements were signed representing eight (8) Indigenous groups.
March 9, 2020	Correspondence sent to all Indigenous groups advising that the EIS was posted on provincial and federal registries.
March 27, 2020	Correspondence sent to all Indigenous groups providing a printed version of the EIS, printed valued components summary documents, and digital copy of a narrated presentation that describes the environmental assessment for the Project. This correspondence advised of the immediate need to discontinue in-person meetings and non-essential travel due to the COVID-19.
March, 2020 – June, 2020	Ongoing follow-up and discussion with Indigenous groups (those operating or operating with adjustments/remotely) on consultation/engagement work plans and funding agreements, where applicable.
June 24, 2020	Correspondence sent to all Indigenous groups advising that MTI recently implemented phase three (3) of the province’s plan to safely restore services in Manitoba and as more activities begin to resume, MTI will resume efforts to consult and engage on the Project. The letter states that MTI has identified a suite of options to

Date	Activity
	<p>encourage meaningful conversations while respecting limitations on face-to-face gatherings. An invitation was provided to learn more about the options to support the community's participation in the process.</p> <p>For communities where funding agreements were not expected and where work planning discussions were not ongoing, a proposed consultation or engagement work plan was attached to the letters with the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirming initial concerns and suggestions. 2. Share and discuss the environmental assessment process and EIS 3. Sharing information about the proposed Project and its potential effects 4. Share and discuss the proposed Mitigations and Environmental Management Plans 5. Analysis, reporting and decision 6. Reporting the decision to the Community
<p>June – September, 2020 (these discussions continued longer with some communities)</p>	<p>Ongoing follow-up and discussion with communities on the proposed work plans, consultation/engagement planning and offers to schedule a meeting for MTI to present the EIS.</p>
<p>July 28, 2020</p>	<p>Letters were sent to 13 Indigenous groups requesting that any information, comments or concerns about any potential impacts of the Project be submitted in writing by August 31, 2020. Responses were received from Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation, the Manitoba Métis Federation, and York Factory First Nation. Their feedback led to subsequent work planning, community meetings, and ongoing dialogue.</p>
<p>September/October, 2020</p>	<p>Correspondence sent to all Indigenous groups including a table with each community's initial concerns and comments that have been communicated to MTI to date. Request for communities to review the table and inform the department of any errors, omissions or clarifications. In cases where MTI had not heard any comments or concerns to date, the opportunity was also provided for the communities to share information or concerns about any potential impacts of the Project in writing.</p>

Date	Activity
November 16, 2020	Cover letter and hard copy package providing the first of three batches of draft environmental management and monitoring plans. Hard and digital copies of the draft plans provided. The letter requested comments by December 16, 2020. Virtual open houses were also available online including questionnaires to facilitate community feedback on the draft plans. Virtual meeting dates were proposed for communities assessed to be potentially most affected by the Project.
November 30, 2020	Cover letter and hard copy package providing the second of three batches of draft environmental management and monitoring plans. Hard and digital copies of the draft plans provided. The letter requested comments by December 30, 2020. Virtual open houses were also available online including questionnaires to facilitate community feedback on the plans. Virtual meeting dates were proposed for January, 2021 for communities assessed to be potentially most affected by the Project to discuss the second and third batch of plans.
December 1, 2020	Letter to communities with outstanding traditional knowledge and land use study reports advising that the submission date in their funding agreements have since passed, and requesting that draft reports be submitted by December 18, 2020 if final reports are not available so that MTI can begin considering the information in the Crown-Indigenous consultation and environmental assessment processes.
December 7, 2020	Cover letter and hard copy package providing the final batch of draft environmental management and monitoring plans. Hard and digital copies of the draft plans provided. The letter requests comments by January 15, 2021. Virtual open houses were also available online including questionnaires to facilitate community feedback on the plans. Virtual meeting dates proposed for January, 2021 for communities assessed to be potentially most affected by the Project to discuss the second and third batch of plans.
December 21, 2020	Letters sent to 16 Indigenous groups in response to specific Indigenous community requests regarding additional funding available to assist with community

Date	Activity
	review of the 23 draft environmental management and monitoring plans.
February, 2021	Outreach regarding the heritage sites, proposed heritage field work, request for communities to advise of any pre field work activities/ceremonies and commitment for Indigenous monitors to participate in the fieldwork.
March, 2021	Traditional knowledge and land use reports requested by April, 2021.
March, 2021	Correspondence sent to all Indigenous groups with a list of community specific secondary sources, requesting to be advised of any inaccuracies or concerns with their use by April, 2021.
May, 2021	Offer extended to hold a workshop-style meeting to discuss any concerns to assist in the understanding of the Project's environmental impacts and proposed mitigations.
June 22, 2021	EOC and Fisheries Offsetting Measures meeting with federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in attendance.
July, 2021	Update provided regarding the heritage sites, cancellation of the proposed heritage field work, distribution of the Heritage Resource Impact Assessment Report and invitation to participate in a virtual session on the heritage sites on August 12, 2021.
August 12, 2021	Virtual session held on the heritage sites.
September 2021	Correspondence regarding Round 1 draft IR offer for up to \$25K later increased to \$40K. Cover letter and link providing access to MTI draft IR.
September-October, 2021	Distribution of draft Information Request responses and engineering reports.
September 24, 2021	Invitation extended to Indigenous groups and the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale to participate in a virtual meeting to establish the Environmental Advisory Committee for the Project.

Date	Activity
October 13, 2021	First Meeting to establish an Environmental Advisory Committee for the Project.
January 19, 2022	Construction Sequencing and Contracts Workshop to review opportunities for Indigenous groups to participate in upcoming construction projects.
May 10, 2022	EAC Meeting #2. Shared first draft of TOR.
May-June 2022	PMA Community leadership have been invited to meet with MTI decision makers. Meetings have been set up beginning in May 2022. Project overview and operations video shared.
July 12, 2022	Correspondence regarding Round 1 Final IR offer for up to \$20K.
July-August 2022	PMA Technical meeting with communities to review MTI's round 1 submission and value component.
August 17, 2022	Announce Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC). MTI announced EAC on August 17, 2022
August 2022	Multiple meetings with PMA Community with MTI Minister.
September 28, 2022	EAC Meeting #3. Review of Indigenous feedback on first draft of TOR
September 29, 2022	Heritage Resource Meeting #2. MTI presented the next steps in developing a heritage resources protocol for this Project.
.October 2022	Announcement of Indigenous Economic Development Fund. The Manitoba government is developing a new \$15-million fund to support Indigenous economic development opportunities related to the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project, Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Doyle Pivniuk announced.
November-December 2022	MTI provided written confirmation of acceptance of proposal received regarding Socio Economic and Well Being Studies and Rights Impact Assessments for seven IRTC communities, MMF and Fisher River Cree Nation.
December 12, 2022	Correspondence from MTI requesting clarification from PMA communities regarding re-vegetation management plan.
December 23, 2022	Survey sent to 29 communities. MTI offered the opportunity to undertake a focused data gathering process, such as a

Date	Activity
	workshop, a group interview or a survey, that provides the information required to respond to IAA-R2-29.
January 24, 2023	Heritage meeting #3 MTI presented the consensus based approach and current feedback received to-date regarding the development of a heritage resources protocol.
February 17, 2023	Correspondence from MTI requesting additional comments to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure, in order to be considered for the Round 2 package, is March 31, 2023. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will endeavour to address the comments we received when we prepare the Round 2 package, where possible. Any information received after this date may not be considered in this next federal EIS filing.
February 17, 2023	Meeting #1. First virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend. The meeting is to provide regular monthly updates to potentially most affected communities.
October-March 2023	Multiple meetings with Community members of PMA Communities. The purpose of the meetings was to share information about the proposed Project and its potential effects, and to listen to and hear Indigenous knowledge in order to better understand, avoid, and/or minimize effects on Indigenous and Treaty Rights. This also provided opportunities for input on Project planning and design, including feedback on environmental management and monitoring plans associated with the construction and operation of the proposed Project.
March 17, 2023	Meeting #2. Second virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend. The meeting is to provide regular monthly updates to potentially most affected communities
March 31, 2023	Meeting #3. Third virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend. The meeting is to provide regular monthly updates and Environmental Assessment (EA) updates to potentially most affected communities.
April 13, 2023	Meeting #4. Fourth virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend. Meeting with communities is to give update on MTI regulatory process, sediment commissioning model and discuss Indigenous Economic Development Fund.
April 27, 2023	Meeting #5. Fifth virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend. Meeting with communities is give regular update. MTI to provide update on community involvement in monitoring and Construction Sequence Update.
April 27, 2023	Heritage Meeting #4

Date	Activity
May 11, 2023	Meeting #6. Sixth virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend.
May 25, 2023	Meeting #7. Seventh virtual meeting with PMA Communities invited to attend.

APPENDIX 4 – SIGNED CONSULTATION WORK PLANS AND FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Signed Consultation Work Plans and Funding Agreements

THE CONTENT OF THIS APPENDIX (PAGES 1511 – 1659) IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE CANADIAN IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGISTRY.

APPENDIX 5 – INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SUMMARIES

Indigenous Community Summaries

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APPENDIX 6 – JOINTLY DEVELOPED CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT WORK PLANS

Jointly Developed Consultation and Engagement Work Plans

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APPENDIX 7 – OFFERED CONSULTATION WORK PLANS AND FUNDING AGREEMENTS

Offered Consultation Work Plans and Funding Agreements

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APPENDIX 8 – DIALOGUE BY DISTANCE

Dialogue by Distance

**THIS APPENDIX REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS VERSION
SUBMITTED TO IAAC ON MAY 31, 2022**

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project

Dialogue by Distance

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we being asked to participate in Dialogue by Distance?

The Crown has a legal duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples about any action or decision that might adversely affect the exercise of an Aboriginal or treaty right, before making the decision or taking the action. Manitoba has a duty to consult and ensure Indigenous communities are informed of government decisions and processes and seek to understand the perspectives of Indigenous communities and respond to concerns raised. There is a reciprocal responsibility on Indigenous communities participating in the consultation process to bring relevant information forward, along with their concerns regarding potential adverse effects on the exercise of their Aboriginal or treaty rights.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting public health and travel restrictions have prompted a re-think on how we might modify how we collectively undertake consultation in Manitoba. The goal is to ensure meaningful participation and two-way dialogue continues while maintaining social distancing and safe conditions within communities by avoiding large in-person meetings. To address this, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure proposes to collaborate with Indigenous communities participating in the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel consultations to develop appropriate approaches for continuing the Crown-Indigenous consultation process while keeping everyone involved safe.

How can we participate?

The Manitoba facilitators assigned to your community will lead you through the Dialogue by Distance brainstorming process, asking questions that help identify the best alternatives for your community. These alternatives will enable continued consultation dialogue on the project and bring relevant information forward in a clear and timely manner prior to Manitoba making a decision.

What options are available to meet by distance?

There are a variety of ways communication by distance can occur by adapting regular business process or moving to online platforms. Some of the options include:

- Video meetings, online live events
- Preloaded presentations, guides and maps
- Podcasts
- Use images and video to provide feedback
- Small stakeholder meetings <10 people with video/audio feed
- Engage Manitoba tools with access limited to community members

Your community will identify the options best suited for you through the Dialogue by Distance brainstorming session. Alternate dialogue methods will be chosen by you based on experience, accessibility, connectivity and the scope of the dialogue. There are opportunities to collaborate with other communities using these methods.

What resources are available to us?

Manitoba will provide facilitators to guide you through the brainstorming process. Consultation facilitation team members will continue to work with your community as you implement the alternate dialogue methods, just as they would support in-person meetings. Resource materials such as tip sheets and guides will be available. If your community has an existing funding agreement in place, adjustments may be considered. If your community does not have a funding agreement in place, funding may be available for delivery of alternative methods.

How does this impact our current consultation work plan?

Dialogue by Distance makes it possible for you to identify ways to continue with the work plan activities. Adjustments to activities, timelines and budget may be required.

What is the role of Manitoba's consultation team?

The team will work with you to determine the approach that works best for your community, connect with you with the technical expertise required and collect and record your concerns and feedback.

What is expected of our community?

It is hoped that the community will have a willingness to try something new, adapt their work plan and provide input into how consultation discussions with your community can continue to take place at a distance.

How will our input be collected and reported?

Your input will be collected and reported similarly to regular consultations though the method will be electronic instead of in-person. Reporting and confidentiality requirements stay the same as for in-person meetings.

Is this a permanent change to Manitoba's consultation process?

This is a temporary accommodation to the consultation process in order to continue with project discussions in light of the pandemic and is not a permanent replacement to Manitoba's current consultation process or policy. The goal of the process is to advance mutually beneficial conversations between Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure and identified Indigenous communities related to the outlet channels.

APPENDIX 9 – KEY DISCREPANCIES

Key Discrepancies

Key Discrepancies Raised through the Indigenous Consultation and Engagement Program

Through the Indigenous consultation and engagement process, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has identified several key themes or issues where Indigenous groups presented different views or conclusions regarding information used in the Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or response to Information Requests (IRs). To assist with the regulatory review and to consolidate Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's response to these issues, the discrepancies have been summarized in Table 1-1: *Key Discrepancies raised by Indigenous Groups and Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure Response*. The intent of this Table is to document the key issues or concerns expressed by Indigenous groups in conjunction with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's response to each issue. Table 1-1 is intended to be read in association with Table IAAC-122-1 from the response to IRs IAAC-122, which was filed on May 31, 2022, and Table IAAC-R2-29-1 from the response to IR IAAC-R2-29, which was filed on May 31, 2023.

By including relevant concerns and issues raised by Indigenous groups into the responses to the IAAC IRs, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has sought to address specific concerns and issues in the context of:

- Project design
- Assessment of potential effects
- Mitigation and monitoring
- Adaptive management.

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure considers the responses to the concerns and issues raised by Indigenous groups to be meaningful and reasonable. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure also acknowledges that Indigenous groups may continue to hold divergent views and conclusions. Efforts to reconcile disagreements have been made through ongoing:

- engagement initiatives, including through the provision of Project information
- feedback incorporated into the changes to Project planning
- commitment to further explore an issue, concern, or recommendation in the context of the proposed Environmental Advisory Committee. Details can be found in ICSEER Section 2 and the May 31, 2023, response to IAAC-R2-30.

Based on an analysis of the feedback received by Indigenous groups, the following key topics were identified, for which responses have been developed in Table 1-1:

- Extent of Assessment Area
- Downstream Impacts and Monitoring
- Effects to Lake Sturgeon
- Use of Focal Species in Assessment
- Effects to Islands
- Effects to Unidentified Archaeological Sites and Unmarked Burials
- Effects to Intangible Heritage

- Separation of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel/ Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel (LMOC/LSMOC) Project, the Access Road Project, and the Emergency Outlet Channel
- Consideration of Socio-Economic Baseline and Impacts
- Effects from Use of Riprap
- Lack of Baseline Water Quality Data

Table - Key Discrepancies raised by Indigenous Groups and Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure Response

Issue	Indigenous Groups	Manitoba's Response
Extent of Assessment Area		
<p>Engaged Indigenous groups request that the Regional Assessment Area (RAA) be extended to include the full Lake Winnipeg North Basin, Limestone Bay, the Nelson River, the Portage Diversion, and areas at and downstream to the outlet of Lake Winnipeg.</p>	<p>Fisher River Cree Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Norway House Cree Nation Peguis First Nation Tataskweyak Cree Nation</p>	<p>As described in the May 31, 2022, responses to IRs IAAC-65 and IAAC-69, and Volume 2, Section 6.4.1.4 of the Project EIS, the RAA for surface water was selected to capture potential direct and/or indirect effects of changes in surface water flows or surface water quality related to the construction and operation of the Project. It matches the RAA defined for Fish and Fish habitat in Volume 3, Section 7.2.1.5, which was selected because it includes the spatial area used by i) fish species important to commercial, recreational, and Indigenous fisheries in the area, ii) known Aquatic Species at Risk (ASAR), and iii) aquatic invasive species (AIS) with the greatest potential to increase or decrease their distribution because of the Project. The RAA is used to provide a regional context for potential direct and indirect effects on fish and fish habitat from the Project and other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects relevant to the aquatic environment.</p> <p>The local assessment area (LAA) for the assessment of effects on surface water, fish and fish habitat includes the Project development area (PDA) (areas where the Project is built) and the lakes, embayments, drainages, rivers and streams where measurable changes in water levels, stream flows, groundwater/surface water interactions, sediment distribution and composition, and water quality due to the Project are expected to occur. The RAA for the assessment of effects on fish and fish habitat includes the PDA and LAA and extends to include the entirety of Lake Manitoba and the entirety of the north basin of Lake Winnipeg. It also includes the mouth of the Mantagao River, a tributary of Sturgeon Bay near the LSMOC outlet. This RAA was selected because it includes the spatial area used by fish populations important to commercial, recreational, or Aboriginal fisheries in the area and by known ASAR and AIS with the greatest potential to increase or decrease their distribution due to the Project. Effects from the Project will be monitored and managed, so they do not measurably extend beyond the LAA. The Surface Water Management Plan is designed to monitor and address potential water quality effects extending from the construction area, in the vicinity of the PDA. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan is designed to monitor and compare water quality and fish both upstream and downstream of the PDA, including in the RAA, to confirm that effects are not extending beyond the LAA. The plans include adaptive management measures to address issues that may arise.</p> <p>As described in Volume 3, Section 7.2.1.5 of the Project EIS, the RAA includes Limestone Bay, but the south basin of Lake Winnipeg has not been included in the RAA because it is separated from the north basin by The Narrows and is relatively distinct from the north basin in terms of water quality, depth, climate, and biological characteristics. Ofukany et al. (2014) studied the fish community structure in Lake Winnipeg and concluded that the north and south basins represented very different communities. Because the fish</p>

	<p>stocks within the basins are relatively discrete, they are managed separately by Manitoba Natural Resources and Northern Development's Fish and Wildlife Branch (formerly MARD MCC, and prior to that MSD).</p> <p>As described in Volume 3, Section 7.2.1.5 of the Project EIS, the RAA does not extend upstream to include the Portage Diversion, or the Assiniboine River as Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to operate the Portage Diversion and other flood protection infrastructure throughout the Province of Manitoba in accordance with the applicable existing operation guidelines with or without the Project.</p> <p>As outlined in Appendix 3D of the Project EIS, separate operating guidelines have been developed for the Project. An updated version was provided as part of the June 2022 supplemental information response to IAAC IRs.</p> <p>As described in Volume 3, Section 7.2.1.5 of the Project EIS, the RAA does not extend downstream into Playgreen Lake, and the Nelson River based on an analysis carried out by Manitoba Hydro on the differences in water levels on Lake Winnipeg and waterways downstream of Lake Winnipeg in relation to the changes in flows due to the Project. This analysis concluded that any potential changes in water levels in Playgreen Lake and the Nelson River are not expected to be discernible in the context of existing water level variations. Details of the analysis are provided in Volume 2, Section 6, Appendix 6I of the Project EIS, which is a copy of Manitoba Hydro (2019). Further information on linkages and effects is provided in the response to the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-69, and the May 31, 2023, response to IAAC-R2-22.</p> <p>There do not appear to be any measurable changes to surface water hydrology in the Nelson River and there are no anticipated effects to fish populations in the north basin of Lake Winnipeg. For those reasons, Playgreen Lake, and the Nelson River waterbodies located downstream of Lake Winnipeg were not included in the RAA for fish and fish habitat. It is understood that Manitoba Hydro will continue to manage water levels in the Nelson River in accordance with the LWR operating criteria.</p> <p>Finally, redefining the RAA to encompass the traditional territories or other boundaries identified by Indigenous groups would serve to greatly increase the size of the RAAs used in the EIS and could mask the severity of predicted effects. As indicated, the RAA is used as a comparison area (e.g., how many fish affected out of a bigger total). Therefore, increasing the size of the RAA could result in underestimating the overall impact of Project effects. The key issue is identifying a pathway of effect (within the LAA) and comparing this to an appropriately sized RAA to help describe the magnitude. As indicated, effects are being monitored and managed, so they do not extend beyond the LAA. The current size of the RAA is therefore considered appropriate in this regard.</p>
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Source:
 LSMFN 2020
 Luttermann and A.L. Ecologic 2021
 Peguis First Nation 2022a
 TCN 2022
 FRCN 2022a

Downstream Impacts and Monitoring		
<p>Engaged Indigenous groups disagree with the lack of planned downstream monitoring and mitigation measures as there is concern about potential Project impacts, including increased nutrients, sedimentation, water level to downstream waterbodies and rivers, in particular the Nelson River, and socio-economic and health implications on Indigenous Nations located downstream of the Project.</p>	<p>Norway House Cree Nation Pimicikamak Cree Nation Peguis First Nation Tataskweyak Cree Nation York Factory First Nation Manitoba Metis Federation Dauphin River First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation</p>	<p>As discussed in the May 2022 responses to IR IAAC-65 and IAAC-69, the LAA for the assessment of effects on surface water, fish and fish habitat includes the PDA (areas where the Project is built) and the lakes, embayments, drainages, rivers and streams where measurable changes in water levels, stream flows, groundwater/surface water interactions, sediment distribution and composition, and water quality due to the Project are expected to occur. Effects from the Project will be monitored and managed, so measurable effects above current variability do not extend beyond the LAA. The Surface Water Management Plan is designed to monitor and address potential water quality effects extending from the construction area, in the vicinity of the PDA. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan is designed to monitor and compare water quality and fish both upstream and downstream of the PDA, including in the RAA, to confirm that effects are not extending beyond the LAA. The plans include adaptive management measures to address issues that may arise.</p> <p>As described in Volume 3, Section 7.2.1.5 of the Project EIS, the RAA does not extend downstream into Playgreen Lake, and the Nelson River based on an analysis carried out by Manitoba Hydro on the differences in water levels on Lake Winnipeg and waterways downstream of Lake Winnipeg in relation to the changes in flows due to the Project. This analysis concluded that any potential changes in water levels in Playgreen Lake and the Nelson River are not expected to be discernible in the context of existing water level variations. Details of the analysis are provided in Volume 2, Section 6, Appendix 6 of the Project EIS, which is a copy of Manitoba Hydro (2019). Further information on linkages and effects is provided in the response to the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-69, and the May 31, 2023, response to IAAC-R2-22.</p> <p>The assessment of water quality effects, including nutrients, is discussed in Volume 2, Section 6.4.5 of the Project EIS. As stated in the updated surface water quality analysis presented in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-14, and the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-01, the Project is moving water and suspended constituents through Lake St. Martin more efficiently, increasing both nutrient and sediment loads during flood years. However, this accelerated conveyance of water is not expected to affect nutrient concentrations in the lakes and rivers in the surface water LAA beyond the range of existing natural variability. The assessment concluded that Project operation during future floods is not expected to result in measurable increases of nutrient loads in Lake St. Martin and Lake Winnipeg post-Project versus pre-Project. There is a risk of nutrients and contaminants being generated locally, as the proposed LMOC alignment is located in an area that has both crop production and cattle operations. However, as stated in the updated surface water quality analysis presented in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-14, and the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-01, with planned mitigation through the use of wetland treatment areas, it is anticipated that the management of runoff from cattle operations will be improved or remain the same once the LMOC is constructed and operated, compared to the baseline conditions.</p>

		<p>The assessment of potential effects from regional or local sediment and debris transport is discussed in Volume 2, Section 6.4.7.5 of the EIS for the Project. While a temporary increase in sediment and debris transport may occur during Project commissioning, when the channel control structure gates are initially opened, the overall amount of sediment and debris in the Lake Manitoba–Lake St. Martin– Lake Winnipeg system is not expected to be altered. Within the downstream areas of the LAA, sediments could be distributed differently, but these areas are shallow and well-mixed with wind and wave action, and sediment concentrations are being managed through gradual gate opening, as described in the Sediment Monitoring Plan (SMP). As a result, changes to sediment and debris transport are anticipated to be negligible to low. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan includes sediment and debris monitoring. Additional information can be found in the May 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-30 and IAAC-76, and more recently in the May 31, 2023 responses to IAAC-R2-08 and IAAC-R2-31.</p> <p>As discussed in IAAC-R2-01, downstream impacts on socio-economic conditions or health of Indigenous groups engaged on the Project are not expected to occur due to upstream runoff of cattle operations. Community wells will be monitored for piezometric pressure and aquifer water quality. The locations of community monitoring wells during and post-construction will be informed by the locations of domestic and livestock wells and is described in the Groundwater Management Plan. Additionally, as described IAAC-R2-04, filed May 31, 2023, the residual effects of Project operation on surface water quality are not anticipated to pose a threat to the long-term persistence and viability of traditionally harvested fish or wildlife species in the RAA and are not expected to result in or have any measurable adverse effects to vegetation communities in the LAA. Effects on surface water quality are therefore not predicted to have effects on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes from changes in surface water quality. The Project is therefore not expected, from the effects, to affect the availability of traditional resources such as plants, animals and fish, access to areas of traditional use and traditional resources, or cultural and spiritual sites and areas.</p> <p>As noted in IAAC-R2-03, filed May 31, 2023, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to involve Indigenous groups in additional monitoring within the Project area.</p> <p>This will be achieved by the implementation activities of the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), on a consensus-based approach with participating communities. There will be further opportunities to advance Indigenous content in the Environmental Management Program (EMP) plans. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to involve Indigenous groups in additional monitoring within the Project area. This will be achieved by the implementation activities of the EAC, on a consensus-based approach with participating communities. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is currently working with communities to establish terms of reference for the EAC and anticipates this committee would have a role in finalizing the EMP plans prior to construction, as well as act as an avenue to share information and discuss</p>
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		<p>Project-related concerns, and to recommend plan modifications if required. As stated in the Terms of Reference for the EAC distributed to local communities on April 24, 2023, participation in the EAC is at the discretion of the Indigenous group. Participation in the EAC does not signify acceptance or approval of the Project by an Indigenous group and an Indigenous group may withdraw from the EAC at any time by advising the Secretariat in writing. See response to May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-30.</p>
<p>Source: NHCN 2022 Luttermann and A.L. Ecologic 2021 Peguis First Nation 2022a TCN 2022 Oni 2023 Manitoba Infrastructure Indigenous Engagement Program</p>		

Effects to Lake Sturgeon		
<p>Many of the engaged Indigenous groups disagree with the EIS for a perceived lack of consideration for Indigenous knowledge regarding sturgeon habitat and spawning in the region, particularly in Sturgeon Bay. The EIS mentions that sturgeon is present but rare; however, there is no mention of sturgeon in the offsetting EMP. Sturgeon are a culturally important species and engaged groups feel that sturgeon require a more comprehensive assessment of Project impacts on spawning habitat, life cycle, and migration.</p>	<p>Fisher River Cree Nation Hollow Water First Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Misipawistik Cree Nation Norway House Cree Nation</p>	<p>As described in response to the May 2022 IRs IAAC-85, the assessment documented in the Project EIS (Volume 3, Section 7.2.2.2) included information on Lake Sturgeon (<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>) from the scientific community and information provided through the engagement program. Based on the information available to inform the preparation of the Project EIS, Lake Sturgeon were not known to historically occur in from Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, or the Dauphin River (i.e., there was no information suggesting they were present). Before the turn of the last century, large numbers of Lake Sturgeon were likely found in Sturgeon Bay; however, by the early 1900s, overharvesting by commercial fisheries had led to the demise of Lake Sturgeon throughout Lake Winnipeg.</p> <p>Lake Sturgeon populations within Lake Winnipeg remain extremely low and are thought to be concentrated at the mouths of rivers such as the Winnipeg River on the east side of the lake. Lake Sturgeon from the Winnipeg River are known to make forays out into Lake Winnipeg to forage and then return to the river during winter and spring. Sturgeon Bay does provide benthic and pelagic foraging habitat (i.e., on the bottom and in the water column) and is likely only periodically used by Lake Sturgeon.</p> <p>As stated in Volume 4, Section 10.2.1.2 of the EIS for the Project, Indigenous knowledge was obtained through the Indigenous consultation and engagement program for the Project, including comments and concerns shared by Indigenous groups, Project-specific traditional knowledge (TK) studies and consultation reports, and publicly available literature containing relevant TK information for Indigenous groups engaged on the Project. Indigenous groups were given the opportunity to review and validate relevant sources prior to inclusion in the EIS. Indigenous knowledge provided to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure after the submission of the EIS in March 2020 has been reviewed and included in responses to IAAC Information Requests where appropriate. Additional information about Indigenous traditional use of Lake Sturgeon, as well as proposed mitigation and monitoring programs can be found in Table IAAC-122-1 (see Attachment 4 – Table IAAC-122-1) in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-122.</p> <p>Potential Project pathways of effect to Lake Sturgeon are primarily from changes to surface water quality or sedimentation. In addition, as discussed in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-84, deposited sediments have the potential to alter primary and secondary productivity and suitability of spawning habitats. Measures are in place to monitor and manage these potential effects.</p> <p>Updated results presented in the May 2023 responses to IAAC IRs do not change the conclusion of the Project EIS, Volume 2 Chapter 6, which states that after mitigation, there will be no adverse effects predicted to overall surface water quality in the region and the composition and volume of water being transported from Lake Manitoba to Sturgeon Bay is not</p>

	<p>expected to be substantially altered by the Project construction or operation. As well, the residual effects of Project operation on surface water quality are not anticipated to pose a threat to the long-term persistence and viability of traditionally harvested fish in Sturgeon Bay.</p> <p>Although adverse effects to Lake Sturgeon as a result of the Project were not identified in the Project EIS, potential effects were considered to the overall fish community. The risk of sediment-related effects was reduced through the decision to use armouring in the channels. As discussed in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-08, results from updated LSMOC sediment modelling indicates that impacts on fish in Sturgeon Bay due to spikes in total suspended solid and sediment are not predicted. Given that long term distribution of sediments in Sturgeon Bay are not expected to change in relation to the Project, no negative effects to substrates or benthic foraging habitat are expected to occur in Sturgeon Bay. Suspended sediments introduced to the bay from the LSMOC are not expected to reach persistent concentrations that will affect primary productivity or have direct effects on fish. Sediments are expected to be sorted by existing processes and will be deposited in depositional offshore areas. Therefore, no negative effects to pelagic (offshore, open water) foraging habitat are expected to occur in Sturgeon Bay.</p> <p>As the Project is designed to reduce flooding events, it will serve to reduce the regional effects of sedimentation during these periods. In addition, during construction, in-water construction activities will be carried out within cofferdams and/or silt curtains. To prevent soil erosion and discharge of sediment-bearing water runoff from the channels, erosion and sediment control measures are being designed, installed, and will be maintained until construction is completed and vegetation has been established on disturbed areas.</p> <p>Furthermore, as described in responses to the May 2022 IR IAAC-30 and IAAC-38, design changes now include the armouring of both channels, which is expected to effectively manage erosion and sedimentation issues during operations. Given that Lake Sturgeon have never been documented in the Dauphin River or Lake St. Martin, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure considers that the potential for the Project to affect Lake Sturgeon populations is minimal.</p>
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Source:
 LSMFN 2020
 Luttermann and A.L. Ecologic. 2021
 Peguis First Nation 2022a
 TCN 2022
 FRCN 2022a

Use of Focal Species in Assessment		
<p>Many of the engaged Indigenous groups disagree with the use of focal species or focal groups of species for the habitat assessment approach. Indigenous groups state that the approach taken fails to assess culturally important species, such as moose, muskrat, and beaver, which are not species at risk mammals. Project impacts to all culturally significant species is a concern and many groups have expressed that the selection of Value Components (VCs) for wildlife did not consider Indigenous input.</p>	<p>Fisher River Cree Nation Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Norway House Cree Nation Pimicikamak Okimawin Pinaymootang First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation</p>	<p>As described in response to the May 31, 2022, IRs IAAC-87 as well as the May 31, 2023 response to IAAC-R2-21, while the assessment identifies wildlife as a singular VC, most species, including those identified as culturally important to Indigenous groups, are included in the assessment, either as focal species, within a focal species group (e.g., furbearers, migratory birds), or captured by other species that share similar habitat types. The wildlife assessment used a habitat-based approach, which focuses on identifying the quantity and composition of land cover types (i.e., habitats) affected by the Project relative to the availability of those habitats in the LAA and RAA. Changes in habitat are also related to focal species / groups that comprise the Wildlife VC. This approach is considered conservative as it assumes that wildlife species are present if the habitat is available, which is not always the case (e.g., some animals may not be present in a habitat recently affected by fire until the habitat returns to its pre-fire state following the vegetation successional process that requires several years). In addition, this approach has been used in other recent EIS submissions in Manitoba (e.g., Manitoba Hydro 2015) and in Canada (e.g., GGM GP Inc. 2017) because it is impractical and redundant to assess all wildlife species. The wildlife assessment was conducted in conformity with the requirements of the CEAA 2012 as guided by the CEAA 2015 guidelines and the IAAC Guidelines for the Project, following reliable and well-established methodology.</p> <p>While a determination of significance applies to the Wildlife VC as a whole, most wildlife species were assessed using both a focal species/group approach and/or a habitat-based approach for species dependent on specific land cover types where direct or indirect effects are predicted.</p> <p>Wildlife is a broad group of animals, consisting of birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and invertebrates. As stated above, it is not practical or of substantial benefit to the assessment to assess all wildlife species known to inhabit the region; therefore, the discussion of potential Project effects on wildlife focuses on a selection of species or groups identified as important to the public, Indigenous groups, and regulators, as described below.</p> <p>Selection of focal species and groups considered Project-specific regulatory and public stakeholder inputs, and concerns from potentially affected Indigenous groups. Most wildlife species identified as culturally important to Indigenous groups, including species identified through recent engagement activities, are included in the assessment - either as focal species, within a focal species group (e.g., furbearers, migratory birds), or captured by other species who share similar habitat types (Volume 3, Section 8.3 of the Project EIS; Table IAAC-87-2 see footnote). Additional information about culturally important wildlife identified by each Indigenous group engaged in the Project can be found in Table IAAC-122-1 (see Attachment 4 - Table IAAC-122-1) in response to the May 2022 IR IAAC-122.</p> <p>The criteria used to select focal species for assessment included species range and distribution, importance to</p>

		<p>Indigenous groups, conservation status (i.e., species at risk), regulatory considerations (i.e., species with critical habitat), and/or ecological and/or socioeconomic importance. Focal species were used to highlight potential effects to representative species or species most likely to be affected by the Project. Species not considered as focal species were still considered in the assessment, where appropriate, using a habitat-based approach. Species such as caribou (various spp.) and mule deer (<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>) were not included in the scope of the assessment as they are not expected to occur in the wildlife RAA.</p> <p>Culturally important wildlife species identified in Table IAAC-87-1, filed as part of the May 2023 response to IR-IAAC-87, use many different types of habitats. Wildlife habitat (e.g., shrubland, grassland, wetland, forest) affected by the Project was incorporated as a measurable parameter for the Wildlife VC to account for potential changes to wildlife including species of cultural importance (Project EIS Volume 3, Section 8.3.1.3).</p> <p>Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure began engaging with interested and affected parties following the flood of 2011; from these meetings, the need for permanent infrastructure to mitigate the effects of the potential for future floods was established. Regular conversations with Indigenous groups have occurred since 2015 when the planning process for the Project was initiated.</p> <p>Questions, comments, and concerns were raised, discussed, and documented in these meetings and eventually sorted by VC in a table that was reviewed to understand areas of focus. These concerns and comments are summarized in Volume 3, Section 5, Table 5.4 of the Project EIS submission and provided in greater detail by community in Volume 1, Appendix 5A, Table 5A.5 to Table 5A.23 of the Project EIS.</p> <p>Volume 3, Section 8.3.1.2 of the Project EIS summarizes input on wildlife from several Indigenous groups, through engagement and provided by Indigenous groups through Project-specific Traditional Knowledge studies (FRCN 2018, MMF 2018, Golder 2018). The IRTC (Olson et al. 2020a) provided input that helped to verify important species listed in the Project EIS, and Little Saskatchewan First Nation (Olson et al. 2020b) reported harvesting numerous species of importance (Table IAAC-87-1). Norway House Cree Nation commented that the selection of wildlife species in Table 87-1 appears to be based on limited engagement (NHCN 2022). Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation and Sagkeeng First Nation suggested the assessment should be focused on species of greatest cultural importance so that Indigenous Nations have adequate information to understand potential effects of the Project on their rights and interests (SBOFN & SAFN 2022).</p> <p>Since the filing of the May 31, 2022, Information Requests, Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU) reports have been received by Peguis First Nation, Manitoba Metis Federation, Pinaymootang First Nation, which have aided in confirming the list of species. Socio-Economic reports have been received by Manitoba Metis Federation, York Factory First Nation, and the IRTC representing Dauphin River First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Lake St. Martin First</p>
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Source:

LSMFN 2020

NHCN 2022

Luttermann and A.L. Ecologic 2021

FRCN 2022a

PFN 2022a

IRTC 2022a

FRCN 2022b

Effects to Islands		
<p>Islands have been noted as culturally important to many engaged Indigenous groups. Water level changes due to the Project are considered a large threat to islands in Lake Winnipeg, which are home to culturally important species and cultural heritage. The main concerns are increased access to islands by predators, increased erosion of islands due to flooding, and impacts to cultural heritage.</p>	<p>Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinojeoshtegon First Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Peguis First Nation Pinaymootang First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation</p>	<p>As described in the May 31, 2022, responses to IRs IAAC-56 and IAAC-102, during Project operation to manage floods, the lakes, and adjacent wetlands, including Lake Winnipeg, will continue to experience changes in water levels and fluctuations (and inundation); however, the peaks and flooding extent will be reduced for some areas (see also Volume 2, Table 6E-2 of the Project EIS).</p> <p>Furthermore, more recent studies after Project EIS filing (KGS Group 2021) have determined that there will likely be negligible changes in wave action and no measurable changes to erosion induced by waves and sediment transport. Volume 3, Section 8.3.6.2 of the Project EIS discusses potential Project effects on island habitats due to predicted changes in water levels within the LAA.</p> <p>Table IAAC-94-1, filed as part of the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-94, summarizes updated monthly average water levels calculated for Lake Winnipeg using the period of record (1977 to present) with and without the Project. Fluctuations are typically 3-6 cm, representing a small proportion of long-term normal variability (typically 50-60 cm within a given year) of elevations on the lake. As an example, the wind-affected water level on Playgreen Lake can increase or decrease by 30 cm within a 24-hour period.</p> <p>The assessment of potential effects to surface water is discussed in Volume 2, Section 6.4.8 of the Project EIS. A detailed updated assessment of changes to water levels in Lake Winnipeg and downstream waterbodies is provided in the May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-22, indicating that the Project operations are anticipated to have a negligible incremental effect on Lake Winnipeg and downstream waterbodies, with a maximum Project-caused increase of 5 cm (less than 2 inches), which would not be discernable within current variability due to wind, waves, etc.</p> <p>Given the information above, it was determined that there would be no measurable pathway of effect to culturally important species or cultural heritage site on islands in Lake Winnipeg beyond existing processes.</p>
<p>Source: LSMFN 2021 SAFN & SBOFN 2022 Peguis First Nation 2016 Peguis First Nation 2022a IRTC 2022a PFN 2022a</p>		

Effects to Unidentified Archaeological Sites and Unmarked Burials

Engaged Indigenous groups have expressed concern about the archaeological potential of the Project area and the potential impacts or loss to undiscovered archaeological and historic sites. Increased water levels, erosion, channel breach and other Project impacts are seen as having the potential to cause damage or the loss of archaeological sites, historic sites, and archaeological artifacts as well as unmarked and shoreline burials. These impacts will adversely impact use, spiritual, and cultural value of the Project area. The lack of research in the area as well as Indigenous engagement in the archaeological work and mitigation completed for the Project are concerns for Indigenous groups. Multiple engaged Indigenous groups have expressed issues with the mitigations, effects assessments, and follow-up programs for burials in the project area. Impacts to these burials impact cultural continuity, connection to ancestors, and are considered cultural and spiritual sites.

Black River First Nation
 Bloodvein First Nation
 Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation
 Fisher River Cree Nation
 Hollow Water First Nation
 Dauphin First Nation
 Lake Manitoba First Nation
 Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
 Lake St. Martin First Nation
 Little Saskatchewan First Nation
 Peguis First Nation
 Poplar River First Nation
 Pinaymootang First Nation
 Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation
 Sagkeeng First Nation

As described in Volume 4, Section 9.6.2.2 of the Project EIS, heritage resources in the RAA have been affected by past activities, especially conversion to agriculture and residential lands as well as resource extraction and infrastructure and utilities rights-of-way (ROWs) covering a large portion of the RAA around the LMOC. By contrast, the portion of the RAA around the LSMOC has no agricultural lands and limited residential conversion, resource extraction, and infrastructure. Past and existing activities that may have affected heritage resources within the PDA include agricultural cultivation and infrastructure development. The Fairford Trail, for instance, has been overlain by a gravel road (PR 237) that ends in Watchorn Provincial Park on the east side of Watchorn Creek. The Heritage Resources Impact Assessment (HRIA) identified previously unrecorded heritage resources affected by past and existing disturbance by cultivation. After construction of the Project, Project-related activities will not interact with heritage resources in the PDA as effects on them will have been mitigated in advance of Project construction.

The regional context for physical and cultural heritage was researched by Petch (2017a and 2017b) and included relevant background information such as the natural setting, the archaeological record, the historical record, and available traditional and local knowledge for the Interlake Region. WSP (2020a) also provides a regional context for physical and cultural heritage in the HRIA report. The regional context was also informed through information shared by Indigenous groups engaged on the Project, which has been incorporated into the TLRU assessment (see Volume 4, Section 10.2.4.6 of the Project EIS). The significance of these heritage resources is considered in the context of regional history and culture, engagement with Indigenous groups and interested stakeholders, and informed by traditional land use studies. Three of the precontact heritage resources contain intact components that are considered regionally significant due to their potential to advance knowledge about people living in the area millennia ago.

As described in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-34, Indigenous groups have shared heritage related information with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation through TK reports, written responses, incommunity meetings, and through ongoing quarterly working sessions scheduled specifically to plan heritage-related work and monitoring. Indigenous input was given to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure during the environmental assessment process (FRCN 2018, MMF 2018, Golder Associates 2018). Indigenous groups have communicated a desire for archaeologists and Elders to be on call throughout the construction phase in the event that suspected heritage resources are identified during Project construction.

As stated in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-115, the HRIA was conducted under a permit from and in accordance with the standards and practices of the Historic Resources Branch (HRB) of Manitoba Sport, Culture, and Heritage. The accepted approach

		<p>to archaeological field surveys is to concentrate on where intact archaeological sites are likely to be found (undisturbed land; dry/level lands; near known archaeological sites, etc.). The HRIA was conducted within the PDA in areas determined through predictive modeling to have archaeological potential. Fieldwork was conducted in July, August, September, and October 2020. Methods included visual assessment, pedestrian survey, and systematic and judgmental shovel test programs. Indigenous environmental monitors from IRTC were present during this field work. The HRIA identified ten heritage resources in the PDA through visual examination and test excavations of segments that were judged by the HRB of Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage and the Project archaeologist to be of potential to contain heritage resources. The HRIA recommended pre-construction mitigatory measures for three of these and construction monitoring for the remaining seven resource (WSP 2020a). The HRIA does not apply the concept of LAA or RAA as there are no physical disturbances to the ground, and therefore, to heritage resources, beyond the PDA. The HRIA involved desktop screening of the PDAs to determine areas of high potential for heritage resources to select segments of the PDAs for field investigations. The choice of segments to be surveyed by the archaeologists is influenced by information arising from engagement with and traditional land use studies from potentially affected Indigenous groups. As described in Volume 5, Section 11.1.2 of the Project EIS, as heritage resources are either mitigated or avoided, there is no pathway for cumulative effects and, therefore, no CEA was considered warranted.</p> <p>Acceptance by the Province of Manitoba of the HRIA represents the conclusion of the assessment process. Within the PDA, heritage resources will be removed by construction activities. For the purpose of the EIS and not for the HRIA (which is limited to the PDA), the LAA is a 1 km buffer on the center line of the PDA. The LAA was included to allow assessment of indirect effects on the St. Thomas Lutheran Cemetery, and any other currently unknown cemeteries or burial that may be within the LAA. One (1) km is assumed to be the limit for sensory disturbances such as construction noise and dust. Operation of the Project is not anticipated to create sensory disturbances and it is not anticipated that people visiting these sites will be impacted by sensory disturbances. Additionally, notices will be sent prior to any noisy construction activities occurring in the vicinity, should they occur.</p> <p>A conservative approach was taken in the evaluation of potential environmental effects on heritage resources (Volume 4, Section 9.6.7 of the Project EIS). Prediction confidence was high because of the low number of previously recorded heritage resources within the PDA and LAA, because past development and cultivation within the PDA and LAA have disturbed a major portion of the landscape, and because the results of the desktop assessment (Petch 2017a and 2017b) indicated the Project had a low potential to encounter heritage resources due to agricultural and infrastructure development in the LMOC PDA, and the predominately low, wet landscape of the LSMOC PDA.</p>
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		<p>preconstruction HRIA. Construction monitoring and the application of the HRPP will also facilitate recording and mitigation of heritage resources not identified during the preconstruction HRIA.</p> <p>Several Indigenous groups have raised concerns regarding heritage sites that are located beyond the PDA on federal reserve lands and islands. To address Indigenous groups' heritage concerns unrelated to the Project, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation has initiated discussions with Manitoba Historic Resource Branch, IAAC and Indigenous Services Canada. Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation has committed to explore options on how it can support those government departments work with individual Indigenous groups to address the heritage concerns they have raised.</p> <p>Appendix 3F, Section 2.11.1 of the Project EIS discusses provisions to manage heritage resources, including delineating known sites in the Special Provisions and/or construction drawings, inspections prior to the start of construction, and immediately stopping work where archaeological or historic artifacts are encountered. Volume 4, Section 9.6.4 of the Project EIS also discusses mitigation measures for heritage resources, as outlined in the HRPP. In addition to mitigation measures described in the Project EIS, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has developed an EMP, summarized in Volume 1, Section 3.7 of the Project EIS and in the May 31, 2022, response to IRs IAAC-15. The EMP encompasses several mitigation methods and measures to reduce or avoid potential effects to heritage and cultural resources. The most relevant plan to this issue is the HRPP. Through ongoing engagement, Indigenous groups have reviewed and provided comments on the HRPP. Additional information can be found in the May 31, 2022, responses to IRs IAAC-114, IAAC-115, IAAC-116, IAAC-117, IAAC-118, IAAC-119, IAAC-130, IAAC-122 (an overall summary), and more recently in the May 31, 2023 responses to IRs IAAC-R2-29, IAAC-R230, and IAAC-R2-34. Section 5.2 of the HRPP describes specific measures required for any heritage sites located within the PDA and any adjacent site that may be affected by Project construction or operation to protect heritage resources during chance heritage findings.</p> <p>If finds made during monitoring are determined to be protected under The Heritage Resources Act, a detailed assessment will be undertaken by a qualified archaeologist or palaeontologist with the participation of Indigenous monitors. If requested by Indigenous groups, a desktop assessment can be completed and/or a site visit conducted, to document and assess the traditional importance of the find. If a find of cultural importance is made, but one not protected within the authority of the Heritage Resources Act, discussion regarding the cultural find (desktop assessment) and next steps will occur amongst the proponent, the Contractor, the Project Consultant, and Indigenous groups within seven (7) days of determination of the type of find. As noted in Volume 4, Section 10.2.4.6 of the Project EIS, in response to the recommendation from Indigenous groups, a ceremony will be held prior to commencement of construction under direction of local Indigenous groups to mitigate the</p>
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		<p>intangible aspects of a heritage resource, such as its cultural or spiritual value.</p> <p>Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to involve Indigenous groups in additional monitoring within the Project area. This will be achieved by the implementation activities of the EAC, on a consensus-based approach with participating communities. There will be further opportunities to advance Indigenous content in the EMP plans, including the HRPP. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is currently working with communities to establish terms of reference for the EAC and anticipates this committee would have a role in finalizing the EMP plans prior to construction, as well as act as an avenue to share information and discuss Project-related concerns, and to recommend plan modifications if required. As stated in the Terms of Reference for the EAC distributed to local communities on April 24, 2023, participation in the EAC is at the discretion of the Indigenous group. Participation in the EAC does not signify acceptance or approval of the Project by an Indigenous group and an Indigenous group may withdraw from the EAC at any time by advising the Secretariat in writing. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to engage Indigenous groups not participating in the EAC on heritage plans and protocols. See response to May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-30.</p>
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Source:
Peguis First Nation 2022a
PFN 2022a
IRTC 2022a
IRTC 2022b
LSMFN 2020
Olson 2020
SAFN 2022a
SAFN 2022b
SAFN & SBOFN 2022
PRFN 2019
Manitoba Infrastructure Indigenous Engagement Program

Effects to Intangible Heritage		
<p>Multiple engaged Indigenous groups have raised concerns regarding Project focus on tangible heritage in impact assessments and Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's</p>	<p>Hollow Water First Nation Pinaymootang First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Little Saskatchewan First Nation</p>	<p>The regional context for physical and cultural heritage was researched by Petch (2017a and 2017b) and included relevant background information such as the natural setting, the archaeological record, the historical record, guidelines and the IAAC EIS Guidelines which has confirmed that environmental effects and cumulative effects are assessed in any changes to the environment which impacts the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Indigenous peoples. This includes consideration of locations of importance, including camps, trails, ceremonial/sacred sites, graves/burial sites, cultural landscapes, and habitation sites. As well, the assessment, as guided by the CEAA 2012, involved engagement with potentially affected Indigenous groups throughout the environmental assessment and in the development of the HRPP.</p> <p>As discussed in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-34, in addressing the requirements for tangible cultural heritage under The Heritage Resources Act, the HRPP describes additional procedures as follows: "Cultural Use Areas are those areas that exhibit evidence of past cultural activities. They may not be considered archaeological but are often still considered a heritage resource. Common evidence for Cultural Use Areas includes culturally modified trees and brightly coloured cloth hung in trees" Other examples of intangible cultural heritage include ceremonial sites, sacred locations shared through oral histories, tradition and legends as identified through engagement with Indigenous groups.</p> <p>The assessment of potential effects to the cultural value or the importance associated with current use is discussed in Volume 4, Section 10.2.4.7 of the Project EIS. Cultural values are subjective and conditional, and potential effects on cultural values can include changes to cultural transmission, language retention, governance systems, sense of place, patterns of cultural behaviour, and the sensorial experience of traditional land users Changes to the environment resulting from the Project that have the potential to affect cultural values include those that may interfere with cultural transmission through the experience of traditional practices. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure anticipates that potential effects of the Project on cultural values may be effectively addressed through ongoing engagement, including through participation of local Indigenous groups in the EAC. Additional information can be found in the May 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-114, IAAC-115, IAAC-116, IAAC-117, IAAC-118, IAAC-119, IAAC-130, IAAC-122 (an overall summary), and more recently in the responses to IAAC-R2-29, IAAC-R2-30, and IAAC-R2-34, filed May 31, 2023.</p> <p>Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to involve Indigenous groups in additional monitoring within the Project area. This will be achieved by the implementation activities of the EAC, on a consensus-based approach with participating communities. There will be further opportunities to advance Indigenous content in the EMP plans, including the HRPP. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is currently working with communities to establish Terms of Reference for</p>

		<p>the EAC and anticipates this committee would have a role in finalizing the EMP plans prior to construction, as well as act as an avenue to share information and discuss Project-related concerns, and to recommend plan modifications if required. As stated in the Terms of Reference for the EAC distributed to local communities on April 24, 2023, participation in the EAC is at the discretion of the Indigenous group. Participation in the EAC does not signify acceptance or approval of the Project by an Indigenous group and an Indigenous group may withdraw from the EAC at any time by advising the Secretariat in writing. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to engage Indigenous groups not participating in the EAC on heritage plans and protocols. Additional information can be found in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-30.</p>
<p>Source: HWFN 2022 LSFN 2022 PFN 2022c SAFN 2022d SBOFN 2022b</p>		

Separation of LMOC/LSMOC Project, the Access Road Project, and the Emergency Outlet Channel

<p>Indigenous groups have stated that separating the Access Road Project, the LMOC/LSMOC, and to a lesser extent, the Emergency Outlet Channel has caused inconsistent consultation and therefore inconsistent understanding of Indigenous information and potential Project impacts. Separating the Projects is seen as detrimental to the quality of consultation as engaged groups have to switch between Projects, requiring more resources and time, rather than having a cohesive, meaningful process of consultation of the three related projects.</p>	<p>Peguis First Nation Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Manitoba Metis Federation Black River First Nation Norway House Cree Nation Little Saskatchewan First Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Hollow Water First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation</p>	<p>As stated in Volume 1, Section 1.1, the 2011 flood event led to the construction of the Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel (EOC). The EOC was operated immediately following its construction in 2011/2012 and again in 2014. As its name suggests, the channel was conducted under emergency conditions and was exempt from the regulatory conditions typical for this type of project. After the 2011 and 2014 flood events, the Government of Manitoba commissioned several reviews, studies, and public engagement sessions on the issue of flooding in the region. These included the 2011 Flood Review Task Force, the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review, and the Assiniboine River and Lake Manitoba Basins Flood Mitigation Study (KGS 2016, 2017, 2018). The output of this process, which included engagement and input from affected Indigenous groups and key stakeholders, identified future flooding vulnerabilities, prioritized opportunities to improve or construct new flood protection infrastructure throughout the province and identified several potential flood protection projects.</p> <p>As discussed in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-130, and the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-25, a portion of the downstream reach (3) of the EOC (near Lake Winnipeg) will be repurposed for the LSMOC portion of the Project. However, decommissioning and reclamation of the remaining portions of the EOC is a separate future physical activity and is not part of the Project. The EOC has remained in place to serve as a flood control measure, if required, until the Project is operational. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure expects that, given their close proximity, follow-up program objectives for the EOC decommissioning and the post-construction reclamation of the LSMOC could be coordinated and will continue to engage with Indigenous groups regarding desired end land use outcomes and reclamation options.</p> <p>The Lake St. Martin Access Road was constructed to support maintenance and operation of the existing EOC, so that it remains functional until the Project is constructed. It was built using existing road ROWs to avoid the development of new access routes into an area with limited access. The upgrade construction does not trigger a federal review and received provincial approval under The Environment Act, which required an assessment and development of mitigation and monitoring measures. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's recent work on the access road upgraded the existing road built in 2011 and extended construction contracts to interested Indigenous groups.</p>
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Source :
 Manitoba Infrastructure Indigenous Engagement Program
 LSMFN 2020b
 HWFN 2020

Consideration of Socio-Economic Baseline and Impacts		
<p>Multiple engaged Indigenous groups have expressed concern regarding the lack of baseline for determining the potential socio-economic and health impacts of the Project. Indigenous groups have noted the need for more accurate, social determinants of health and the use of a healthy baseline that takes into consideration the existing health, cultural, social, and economic wellbeing of impacted Indigenous groups to determine potential impact. The lack of specific EMP plans for monitoring and mitigating Project effects on the health and socioeconomic conditions of impacted Indigenous groups was also expressed as a concern.</p>	<p>Peguis First Nation Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Manitoba Metis Federation Black River First Nation Norway House Cree Nation Little Saskatchewan First Nation Lake St. Martin First Nation Hollow Water First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation</p>	<p>Volume 4, Section 10.2.2 of the Project EIS, offers a community overview for each Indigenous group engaged on the Project providing details, where available, about location of reserves or communities, population, governance, community infrastructure and services, Indigenous businesses, and access to health care. Volume 4, Section 10.3.3 of the Project EIS, provides an assessment of potential effects on Indigenous health and socio-economic conditions for Indigenous groups engaged on the Project. Table 10.3-11 summarizes issues and concerns relevant to Indigenous health and socio-economic conditions identified through the Indigenous engagement process for the Project. This information was obtained through Project-specific traditional knowledge studies and Indigenous engagement programs associated with the Project and the Emergency Outlet Channel, technical reviews and other submissions from Indigenous groups to the Agency, as well as a review of publicly available literature containing relevant information for Indigenous groups engaged on the Project. Since the filing of the May 31, 2022, Information Requests, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has provided support for socio-economic reports by the IRTC, Manitoba Metis Federation, Fisher River Cree Nation, and York Factory First Nation. As of April 2023, final reports have been received from Manitoba Metis Federation and York Factory First Nation and an Interim report from the IRTC, representing Dauphin River First Nation, Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation, Lake Manitoba First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Peguis First Nation, and Pinaymootang First Nation. These reports have been reviewed and are summarized in the May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-29, in Table IAACR2-29-1. In addition, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure shared a Socio-Economic Conditions Survey in December 2022 to obtain further socio-economic and health conditions information from all engaged Indigenous groups. The survey deadline was the end of January 2023. To-date, Pine Dock Northern Affairs Community has responded to the survey. As discussed in the May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-29, in order to provide a consolidated description and analysis of how changes to the environment could affect the health and socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has summarized available information regarding health and socioeconomic conditions for each Indigenous group engaged on the Project, including, as requested by the Agency, current and future availability of country foods, use of drinking water or recreational and cultural uses of water, mental and social well-being, economic conditions, use of navigable waters, and food security in Table IAAC-R2-29-1. As indicated, the May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-29 and Table IAAC-R2-29-1 provides additional information on the assessment of effects to Indigenous health and socio-economic conditions. While there are no specific EMP plans to monitor and mitigate Project effects on the health and socio-economic</p>

		<p>conditions, this is achieved through two mechanisms. The first is through monitoring and managing the various pathways of effect that contribute to health and socioeconomic conditions. These pathways include water quality, vegetation, wildlife and fishing. EMP plans such as the Surface Water Management Plan, Sediment Management Plan, Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, Revegetation Management Plan, Wetland Monitoring Plan, and Wildlife Monitoring Plan are examples of the various formal commitments Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation has made to manage the various pathways of effects to health and socio-economic conditions. The second mechanism to monitor these effects is through engagement. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is committed to ongoing engagement to share results on Project monitoring and discuss any issues of concern. A formal Complaint Resolution Process has been established as a venue outside of engagement to gather input. Another is the establishment of the EAC. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to involve Indigenous groups in additional monitoring within the Project area. This will be achieved by the implementation activities of the EAC, on a consensus-based approach with participating communities. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure is currently working with communities to establish terms of reference for the EAC and anticipates this committee would have a role in finalizing the EMP plans prior to construction, as well as act as an avenue to share information and discuss Project-related concerns, and to recommend plan modifications if required. As stated in the Terms of Reference for the EAC distributed to local communities on April 24, 2023, participation in the EAC is at the discretion of the Indigenous group. Participation in the EAC does not signify acceptance or approval of the Project by an Indigenous group and an Indigenous group may withdraw from the EAC at any time by advising the Secretariat in writing. See response to May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-30.</p>
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Source:
 Manitoba Infrastructure Indigenous Engagement Program
 LSMFN 2020b
 HWFN 2020

Effects from Use of Riprap		
<p>Multiple Indigenous groups have concerns about the use of riprap to armour the channel. One of the major concerns is the use of riprap on the soft till of the channels causing erosion and groundwater pressure changes which can lead to instability and the potential future failure of the riprap as well as sediment plumes. The other major concern is the ability for wildlife to traverse the riprap and disagrees with the evidence that includes dissimilar linear disturbances as examples.</p>	<p>Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Misipawistik Cree Nation Pinaymootang First Nation Peguis First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Tataskweyak Cree Nation</p>	<p>As described in the May 31, 2022, response to IRs IAAC-38 and IAAC-93, the LMOC and LSMOC were initially designed as being excavated with a bare soil (till or clay) base, with revegetation on the upper side slopes to control erosion. The use of riprap was only targeted for specific sections (e.g., bridges, water control structure) that would be at greater risk of erosion. However, based on analysis summarized in the May 31, 2022, responses to IRs IAAC-30 and IAAC-44, the updated channel design includes armouring of the base and lower side slopes of the channels to mitigate erosion risks from the softening of till that could occur over time. The armouring will be crushed limestone rock, which will be overlain on geotextile that will isolate the channel from the underlying till substrates.</p> <p>While the armouring will effectively minimize risks of the channels generating sediments in downstream areas during operation, sediments can be generated from dust on the armoured areas during the commissioning phase. As discussed in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-08, further analysis and modelling has been carried out on the potential sediment in the water and settling out in downstream areas. It was confirmed that the water control structure gates could be operated to manage the suspended sediments within water quality guidelines and as discussed in the May 31, 2023 response to IR IAAC-R2-10, the Project is not expected to result in an increase in the deposition of fine sediments in the downstream areas during operation for flood mitigation; therefore, no additional impacts to fish habitat due to sediment deposition after commissioning are anticipated.</p> <p>As described in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-14 and the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-09, the residual effects of Project operation on surface water quality are not anticipated to pose a threat to the longterm persistence and viability of traditionally harvested fish or wildlife species in the regional assessment area and is not expected to result in or have any measurable adverse effects to vegetation communities in the LAA. Therefore, effects resulting from changes to surface water quality from sediments to the health and socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples are not expected. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure acknowledges that Indigenous peoples may choose not to use water in Lake St. Martin or Sturgeon Bay for recreational or cultural purposes for a variety of aesthetic, personal, cultural, or spiritual reasons.</p> <p>As discussed in the May 2022 IRs IAAC-30 and updated in the May 31, 2023 response to IAAC-R2-09, the armouring will be placed on geotextile to isolate the channel waters from the till substrate. Potential concerns that groundwater pressures or up-gradients from the till might cause the geotextiles under the armouring to lift if they get clogged with sediment, but in general, this will not be a problem as up-gradient water flow out of the till will be very slow and will not result in enough pressure to lift the geotextile and armour.</p>

		<p>Upgradient flow will only be a concern where a more formal connection between the groundwater and channel is created through construction. In these locations, the design includes the installation of a formal filter drain in the channel to manage the flow so that sediments are not introduced into the channel waters.</p> <p>In the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-93, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure acknowledges that although the channels present a potential barrier to wildlife movement, a number of measures to mitigate such effects were being proposed. The advancement of channel design has resulted in gentler side slopes (5:1) to facilitate wildlife movement into and out of the water. During periods of non-operation, animal movement is expected to be limited in areas where riprap or large boulder-sized rock is applied (e.g., high erosion risk sites such as bridge crossings, drop structures) due to the uneven terrain (Austin and Garland 2001; Ruediger 2007; GOA 2011; IAAC_R2-21). However, most wildlife is expected to cross the channels in areas where rock armouring is applied when necessary because rock armouring will consist of crushed limestone, ranging in sizes that 25 mm to 100 mm (1 to 4 inches) in diameter, which is not anticipated to impede wildlife movement. The mixed rock sizes will allow for smaller sizes to interlock with larger sizes, providing a relatively smooth surface that protects against erosion of the channel, reduces surface irregularities, and risk of injury and/or visual obstacles to promote safe wildlife crossing. Current channel design includes rock armouring along the lower side slopes, near the water interface, and along the channel base (i.e., under water). During non-operation (expected approximately 7 out of 10 years) only approximately 30 cm (1 foot) of rock armouring will be exposed along the otherwise vegetated side slopes of LSMOC and 30-90 cm (1-3 feet) along the vegetated slopes of LMOC.</p> <p>As described in the May 31, 2023, response to IR IAAC-R2-17, it is anticipated that harvested and important species will avoid large boulder riprap and instead seek areas will channel armouring when entering or exiting the wetted channel. Wildlife is anticipated to be able to swim across the LMOC and LSMOC during non-operational periods in the armoured areas. It is only anticipated to impede wildlife movement during operation, high flow periods as described in Volume 3, Section 8.3.6.3 and 8.3.6.4 of the Project EIS.</p>
<p>Source: Peguis First Nation 2022a SAFN & SBOFN 2022 PFN 2022a TCN 2022 MCN 2022 IRTC 2022a Manitoba Infrastructure Indigenous Engagement Program</p>		

Lack of Baseline Water Quality Data		
<p>Engaged Indigenous groups disagree with the water quality assessment completed for the Project. Multiple groups have indicated that the baseline water quality data has major gaps and is not representative of the natural condition since the baseline only contains data after the operation of the Fairford Control and Portage Diversion Structure. Indigenous groups disagree with this decision as current baseline conditions have been caused by the excessive use of flood infrastructure in previous years, including the 2011 and 2014 floods. There is also disagreement in how the baseline water quality data is organized, including its separation of only four seasons with few samples and not separating flood and non- flood water samples</p>	<p>Dauphin First Nation Lake Manitoba First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Peguis First Nation Sagkeeng First Nation Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation Tataskweyak Cree Nation</p>	<p>Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation recognizes the importance of having a good baseline data set to adequately carry out an assessment of Project effects, and this includes data on water quality. The responsibility of the Project is not to measurably alter conditions beyond the variability and trends that currently exist, but also not to manage conditions that occurred in the past.</p> <p>The surface water assessment was conducted using data available from the sources that are provided in the Project EIS in Volume 2, Section 6.5.1, and provided in the May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-13. These sources included flow records and lake level records obtained from federal databases, and surface water quality data collected in the Project area by the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure.</p> <p>Appendix 6D in the Project EIS provides a general description of the existing conditions for surface water hydrology and surface water quality for the watercourses and waterbodies that may be affected in the RAA, including information on hydraulic and sediment transport studies and ice processes. Volume 2, Table 6.49 in the Project EIS provides an overview of existing conditions for surface water quality in the RAA waterways. Surface water quality data provided by Manitoba Sustainable Development (MSD, now MECP) to Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure have been incorporated in the summary. In addition, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure has installed a permanent water level gauge (05LM803) in the north basin of Lake St. Martin at Big Rock Camp in 2020.</p> <p>Data for this gauge is available from Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure upon request.</p> <p>The May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-13, provides the raw datasets used for the establishment of baseline water quality and describes the reanalysis of this data to include seasonal statistics, in response to the concerns expressed by Indigenous groups regarding the water quality baseline. The May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-14 presents an updated water quality assessment based on the updated baseline. Additional water quality assessments completed for the May 31, 2023, Round 2 IRs, including IAAC-R2-01, IAAC-R204, IAAC-R2-07, IAAC-R2-08, IAAC-R2-09 integrate the updated water quality baseline presented in the May 31, 2022, responses to IRs IAAC-13 and IAAC-14.</p> <p>Baseline surface water quality data covering a period from 1973 to 2010 in the Surface Water local assessment area (LAA, Volume 2, Section 6.4.1.4 in the Project EIS) and in Lake Manitoba are summarized in Appendix IAAC11A. Pre-2011 baseline data were collected by the Province at various locations and at various times (MSD 2018).</p> <p>The May 31, 2022, response to IR IAAC-13 provides baseline surface water quality data from 1973 to the end of 2021 for the LAA and Lake Manitoba. Sites in the south basin of Lake Manitoba and at Lake Manitoba Narrows were included in the surface water data compilation outside of the Surface Water LAA in response to concerns raised regarding the effects of Portage Diversion on Lake Manitoba water quality. Baseline surface water quality data are summarized by season, and</p>

		additionally summarized in two categories: flood- affected and non-flood- affected in the May 31, 2022 responses to IRs IAAC-13 and IAAC-14. This additional data categorization was done as a result of engagement feedback from Indigenous groups engaged on the Project.
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Source:
TCN 2022
PFN 2022b
Peguis First Nation 2022
IRTC 2022a

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APPENDIX 10 – RM OF GRAHAMDALE ENGAGEMENT WORK PLAN

RM of Grahamdale Engagement Work Plan

**THIS APPENDIX REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS VERSION
SUBMITTED TO IAAC ON MAY 31, 2022**

**PARTICIPATION FUND AGREEMENT
for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project**

This Agreement dated March 20, 2020.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
as represented by The Minister of Infrastructure,

("Manitoba")

- and -

as represented by the RM of Grahamdale

(the "Municipality").

WHEREAS:

- A. Manitoba is engaging in an engagement process with the Municipality with respect to Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the "Consultation");
- B. Manitoba and the Municipality are entering into this Agreement to provide Consultation support funds (the "Funds") to the Municipality to enable the Municipality to meaningfully participate in the Consultation; and
- C. The Municipality agrees to comply with the terms and conditions set out below and in attached Schedules "A" and "B" and "C" which the parties agree forms part of this Agreement.

Manitoba and the Municipality agree as follows:

SECTION 1.00 - TERM AND PURPOSE

- 1.01 This Agreement shall be effective once signed by the parties, and shall cover the period from March 20, 2020 until March 2021 unless terminated under section 4.00.
- 1.02 The purpose of this Agreement is to provide funding to enable the Municipality to meaningfully participate in the Consultation.

SECTION 2.00 - CONSULTATION SUPPORT FUNDS

- 2.01 Manitoba has agreed to provide Funds in an amount not to exceed \$ 83,950 Dollars to the Municipality.
- 2.02 The Funds are payable to the Municipality in accordance with Schedule "A" and "B" and "C" attached to this Agreement.
- 2.03 The Municipality shall use all Funds provided by Manitoba solely for the purposes of the Consultation in accordance with Schedule "A" attached to this Agreement.
- 2.04 Nothing in this Agreement creates any undertaking, commitment or obligation on the part of Manitoba respecting future or ongoing funding for the purpose of the Consultation, and Manitoba shall not be responsible for any deficit incurred by the Municipality.
- 2.05 The Municipality agrees that the Funds, or any part of them, shall not be deemed nor considered to have been earned in the hands of the Municipality until they are expended by the Municipality in accordance with Schedule "A". Until that time, the Funds shall be deemed to be held by the Municipality in trust for Manitoba and the Funds may not be claimed or attached by third parties, whether by security agreement or otherwise.

SECTION 3.00 — REPORTING AND ACCOUNTING FOR USE OF FUNDS

- 3.01 The Municipality shall, on request, provide to Manitoba the necessary documentation as may be required by Manitoba to ensure that the Funds are being used solely for the purposes of the Consultation and in accordance with Schedule "A" and "C" attached to this Agreement.
- 3.02 The Municipality Agrees to account for the use of the Funds in accordance with Schedule "B" attached to this Agreement.

SECTION 4.00 - TERMINATION AND REPAYMENT

- 4.01 Manitoba may terminate this Agreement by giving (10) days written notice to the Municipality if in Manitoba's opinion the Municipality is not using the Funds solely for the purposes of the Consultation and in accordance with Schedule "A" and "C" attached to this Agreement.
- 4.02 Upon notice of termination of this Agreement being given, the Municipality shall return to Manitoba any Funds unexpended or uncommitted as of the date of termination.

- 4.03 Manitoba's agreement to provide funding for the Consultation will be withdrawn effective the termination date and Manitoba will have no further obligation to provide Funds.

SECTION 5.00 - NOTICES

- 5.01 All notices shall be in writing and shall be delivered, or sent by prepaid registered mail or facsimile transmission, or electronic transmission to the other party at the address or facsimile number or email address set out in this Agreement, or to such other address or facsimile number or email address as otherwise provided to the other party in writing in accordance with this provision.

If to Manitoba:

Manitoba Infrastructure
215 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P3

Attention: Christine Baljko
Email: Christine.Baljko@gov.mb.ca

If to the Municipality:

Attention: Shelly Schwitek
Chief Administrative Officer
R.M of Grahamdale
P.O. Box 160, 23 Government Rd, Moosehorn, MB
R0C 2E0
Tel (204) 768-2858
Fax (204) 768-3374

SECTION 6.00 -GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 6.01 The Municipality shall not assign or transfer this Agreement or any of the rights or obligations under this Agreement.
- 6.02 This Agreement, including Schedules "A" and "B" contains the entire agreement between the parties. Except as otherwise stated herein, there are no undertakings, representations or promises, express or implied, other than as contained in this Agreement.
- 6.03 This Agreement shall be interpreted, performed and enforced in accordance with the laws of Manitoba, and of Canada as applicable therein.
- 6.04 Those provisions of this Agreement containing obligations that by their very nature are intended to survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

The authorized representatives of the Parties have signed this Agreement on the dates noted below:

FOR: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT
OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

<Original signed by>

Witness

<Original signed by>

Date:

17/4/2020

<Original signed by>

Witness

R.M. of Grahamdale ^{FOR:}
<Signature removed>

[Reeve]

<Original signed by>

<Original signed by>

Witness

[Chief Administrative Officer]

Schedule "A"

This is Schedule "A" to the Consultation Participation Fund Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Manitoba and R.M. Grahamdale dated March 20, 2020.

The approved Municipality support costs budget is to be attached as part of Schedule A.

A payment schedule based on agreed-to milestones and deliverables is to be inserted after the budget (i.e., amounts and dates of payments).

CONSULTATION BUDGET - RM of Grahamdale			
Activity	Task / Item	Rate	Cost
1. Presenting the EIS	Presenting the EIS, confirm meeting minutes	Meeting Hall, refreshments travel and expenses	\$1,600.00
2. Confirming Concerns	Confirming Municipality concerns, review Manitoba responses, meeting with MI	Meeting Hall, meeting expenses	\$1,600.00
3. Environmental Management Planning-Workshops	Workshops - 7 travel and expenses	\$3,000/workshop	\$21,000.00
			\$5,000.00
	Survey Review		\$3,000.00
4. Meetings	Meetings with Manitoba Infrastructure (10 Meetings)	Winnipeg - 8 attendees (transportation, accommodations)	\$30,000.00
4. Integrate Municipal Feedback	Open House	Venue, organization, advertising	\$5,000.00
5. Municipality Outreach	Web Site Update	Project Sharing	\$5,000.00
	Project Mail out		\$2,000.00
	Administration	15%	\$11,130.00
		Total	\$85,330.00

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Objective (from work plans)	Description of Work - Deliverable	Date	Payment (\$)
1, 2,3,4,5	Signing of Funding Agreement	April 1, 2020	\$42,665.00
	Presenting EIS, Confirming Concerns, Workshops, Meetings with Manitoba Infrastructure, Web Site Update, Admin		
3	Complete workshops, meetings with MI, Open House, Web Site Update, Mail Out, Admin	June, 2020	\$42,665.00
			\$85,330.00

Schedule "B"

This is Schedule "B" to the Consultation Participation Fund Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Manitoba and R.M. Grahamdale dated March 20, 2020.

Principles - Accounting for Costs

The Municipality will account for Funds provided under the Consultation Participation Fund Agreement based on the following understandings:

- (a) on a monthly basis, the Municipality will submit to Manitoba an accounting in agreed reporting format of monies expended in the immediately preceding month, with supporting documentation, including a summary of the outcomes or achievements of value to the Municipality that were accomplished as a result of the costs incurred by the Municipality;
- (b) The Municipality will detail the expenses for individual members for all meetings. Charges for services and incidental expenses will be claimed at agreed upon rates with necessary supporting information being supplied;
- (c) The Municipality will include with each accounting:
 - (i) invoices for the work of professional advisors which the Municipality has directed to be undertaken and which has been completed to the Municipality's satisfaction; and
 - (ii) receipts for the travel expenses. Meals will be reimbursed at agreed rates. If ground transportation is used, the purpose of the expenditure, destinations, distance traveled and rate per kilometre;
- (d) travel time billed by professional advisors will not be reimbursed by Manitoba;
- (e) all accountings submitted to Manitoba must be approved by a representative of the Municipality with authority for such purpose. Financial reports submitted to Manitoba will be accepted and used by Manitoba as the confidential business information of the Municipality and, except as may be required by law, will not be released without the Municipality's consent.

Schedule "C"

This is Schedule "C" to the Consultation Participation Fund Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Manitoba and R.M. Grahamdale dated March 20, 2020.

LAKE MANITOBA AND LAKE ST. MARTIN OUTLET CHANNELS

R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE – ENGAGEMENT WORK PLAN

Developed by Manitoba Infrastructure and the RM of Grahamdale

OVERVIEW

The following document describes MI approach and proposed methods of outreach and engagement with the RM of Grahamdale throughout the planning process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project. A more in-depth description of the methods follows.

SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Table 1 Engagement Activities

Activity	Description
Presentation	Environmental Impact Statement
Document	Community Concerns and Manitoba Responses
Workshops	Environmental Management Plans
Open House	Community Open House
Information Mail-out	EIS Summary Chapters, Project Updates
Surveys/Questionnaires	Groundwater local user/location
Website Update	R.M. Website Updates

DESCRIPTION OF ENGAGEMENT

Activity #1 – Information sharing, Presenting the Environmental Impact Statement, and discussion:

PURPOSE:

Share information and outcomes regarding the Environmental Impact Statement, and provide opportunities to share information and document concerns and possible mitigation opportunities.

Manitoba will:

- Provide a description and presentation of the environmental impact statement, including environmental assessment process and proposed mitigations.
- Provide its assessment of the significance of those potential adverse effects from Manitoba's perspective.
- Provide information on the environmental license requirements for the proposed project, including federal and provincial environmental review processes.

- Provide a Project Engagement Coordinator who will facilitate the logistics of this work plan (find locations, set schedules, plan meetings...).

RM of Grahamdale will:

- Identify and involve appropriate participants for all the meetings.
- Make known its concerns about the projects potential effects and suggest mitigations.
- Identify contact person to assist MI with organization and planning logistics
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

PROCESS:

Meeting (April/June)

Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) and its consultant will present the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including:

- the need for the project
- the locations, timing and descriptions of the work,
- potential effects, proposed mitigation measures and assessment outcomes,
- document community concerns and how these are being addressed.
- highlight and focus on the socio-economic assessment areas of the environmental assessment

Organized by: Project Consultation Coordinator and the Community Coordinator.

Participants: R.M. of Grahamdale Council – Outlet Channel Committee

Location: Moosehorn

Outcome: Manitoba will share meeting notes and a chart reflecting community's concerns so far

Activity #2 - Confirming concerns and suggestions, provide written understanding of the R.M. of Grahamdale's Concerns and Manitoba's Responses.

Purpose: to ensure that Manitoba Infrastructure accurately understands concerns communicated to Manitoba and provide R.M. Grahamdale an opportunity to hear Manitoba's responses to those concerns.

Manitoba will:

- Collate and review the information provided by the R.M. of Grahamdale to date, in order to understand information and concerns,
- Prepare a list of all concerns and suggestions communicated to Manitoba to date

R.M. of Grahamdale will:

- Within 30 days of receipt of the Manitoba report, confirm accuracy or correct any inaccuracies in Manitoba's understanding of their concerns and suggestions.
- If this date is not achievable than the Municipality will notify Manitoba Infrastructure at the earliest available time and a new mutually agreeable date will be defined.

Process & Outcome:

Manitoba Infrastructure will provide an initial list of concerns by April 31st, 2020. Within 30 days of receipt of the Manitoba's above written communication, the R.M. of Grahamdale will (a) correct any inaccuracies in Manitoba's understanding of their concerns or suggestions (b) identify which community's concerns and which Manitoba's responses might require further discussion (c) provide their perspective on Manitoba's responses to their concerns.

Manitoba Infrastructure will provide update information to fulfill its requirement to respond to concerns shared through engagement activities as project planning information becomes available.

A final list of concerns and responses will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale after engagement activities have concluded. Within 15 days of receipt of the Manitoba's above written communication, the R.M. of Grahamdale will (a) correct any inaccuracies in Manitoba's understanding of their concerns or suggestions (b) identify which community's concerns and which Manitoba's responses might require further discussion (c) provide their perspective on Manitoba's responses to their concerns.

Activity #3 Workshops: Environmental Management Plans: R.M. of Grahamdale provides input into development and planning

The following are management plans identified for development in the Environmental Impact Statement, the purpose of these plans are to address site-specific issues and provide mitigation and direction for the project. The following Environmental Management Plans have been identified as candidate plans to be discussed at a series of workshops.

- Surface Water Management Plan
- Ground Water Management Plan
- Access Management Plan
- Sediment Management Plan
- Biosecurity Management Plan
- Hazardous Materials Management Plan and Waste Management Plan
- Revegetation Plan

1. Draft Surface Water Management Plan (March 2020 – April 2020)

Purpose:

Provide opportunities for input into surface water management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

Process:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and surface water management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - Provide information on preliminary design objectives relative to surface water management.

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - o Provide input on surface water management objectives.
 - o Provide suggestions relevant to surface water management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (April).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

Outcome:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Surface Water Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

2. Groundwater Management Plan (March 2020– May 2020)

Purpose:

Provide opportunities for input into groundwater management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - o Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and groundwater management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - o Provide information on preliminary design objectives relative to groundwater management.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - o Provide input on groundwater management objectives.
 - o Provide suggestions relevant to groundwater management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (April-June).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Groundwater Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

3. Access Management Plan (April 2020– June 2020)

PURPOSE:

Provide opportunities for input into access management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - o Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and access management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - o Provide information on final design objectives relative to access management.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - o Provide input on access management objectives.
 - o Provide suggestions relevant to access management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (May).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Access Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

4. **Sediment Management Plan (April 2020– June 2020)**

PURPOSE:

Provide opportunities for input into sediment management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - o Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and sediment management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - o Provide information on objectives relative to sediment management.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - o Provide input on sediment management objectives.
 - o Provide suggestions relevant to sediment management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (April-June).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Sediment Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

5. **Biosecurity Management Plan (April 2020– June 2020)**

PURPOSE:

Provide opportunities for input into biosecurity management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - o Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and biosecurity management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - o Provide information on objectives relative to biosecurity management.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - o Provide input on biosecurity management objectives.
 - o Provide suggestions relevant to biosecurity management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (June)
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the biosecurity Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

6. **Hazardous Materials Management Plan and Waste Management Plan (April 2020– June 2020)**

PURPOSE:

Provide opportunities for input into hazardous materials and waste management objectives and mitigation measures for areas affected by the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - o Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and hazardous materials management commitments presented in the EIS.
 - o Provide information on objectives relative to hazardous materials management.

- Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and waste management commitments presented in the EIS.
- Provide information on objectives relative to waste management.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - Provide input on hazardous materials management objectives.
 - Provide suggestions relevant to hazardous materials management for the Project.
 - Provide input on waste management objectives.
 - Provide suggestions relevant to waste management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (June).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Hazardous and Waste Materials Management Plan.
- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

7. Revegetation Plan (April 2020– June 2020)

PURPOSE:

Provide opportunities for input into revegetation objectives for areas disturbed as a result of the Project.

PROCESS:

- **Manitoba will:**
 - Provide information regarding potential effects, outcomes and revegetation commitments presented in the EIS.
 - Provide information on preliminary design objectives relative to revegetation.
- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will:**
 - Provide input on the revegetation objectives.
 - Provide suggestions relevant to revegetation and revegetation management for the Project.
- A meeting to discuss the plan, suggestions and concerns will be held by (June).
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda

OUTCOME:

- **The R.M. of Grahamdale will** have formally provided input to the Revegetation Plan.

- **Manitoba will** consider and/or incorporate suggestions made by the R.M. in the development of the plan. Minutes for the meeting and a copy of the final plan will be provided to the R.M. of Grahamdale once complete.

ACTIVITY #4 – ADDITIONAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES: SHARE INFORMATION AND GET COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

PURPOSE: to provide Manitoba Infrastructure an opportunity to share project information with the R.M. Grahamdale and request community and regional specific information from the R.M. of Grahamdale in order to ensure community concerns are incorporated into project planning.

Manitoba will:

- Provide information in order to facilitate planning activities;
- Collate and review the information provided by the R.M. of Grahamdale, in order to understand information and concerns,

R.M. of Grahamdale will:

- Participate in the activities described below and/or assist with the facilitation of activities within the R.M of Grahamdale;
- Provide input and assist in the development of the meeting agenda
- Within 30 days of receipt of the Manitoba report, confirm accuracy or correct any inaccuracies in Manitoba’s understanding of their concerns and suggestions.
- If this date is not achievable than the Municipality will notify Manitoba Infrastructure at the earliest available time and a new mutually agreeable date will be defined.

PROCESS:

1) **Ground water and Surface Water Questionnaire (January – June 2020)** –Manitoba Infrastructure and/or its consultants will be developing a groundwater and surface water questionnaire intended for residents of the R.M of Grahamdale. This information will assist with ground water and surface water analysis and management plan development. Assistance from the R.M of Grahamdale may include:

- Draft questionnaire – review and recommendations
- Final questionnaire – use of RM services to support the questionnaire, such as posting the questionnaire to the RM website, RM Facebook group post(s), keeping blank hard copies at the RM office for landowner pickup, keeping filled hard copies at the RM office for MI or consultant pickup.

A follow-up presentation and summary of findings will be provided to the RM and interested residents when preliminary engineering is complete, which is presently anticipate to be late spring 2020. The information produced from this questionnaire will contribute to the groundwater and surface water environmental management plans (see Activity #3)

2) **Road Design Discussions (April 2020 to June 2020)**

Township Line Road (southernmost bridge) and Iverson Road (water control structure and northernmost bridge) are RM roads and as such the RM is the road authority. Accordingly and as part of ongoing design efforts, bridge crossing details and geometric road designs tying in the existing roads into bridge approaches will have to be submitted to the RM for review. Assistance from the RM may include:

- Determination of what constitutes a reasonable bridge width for farm equipment.
- Review of submitted draft bridge drawings (assume 3rd submission is final).
- Revise of submitted geometric design drawings (assume 3rd revision is final).

ACTIVITY #4 – COMMUNITY FEEDBACK: SHARE INFORMATION FROM WORKSHOPS AND GET COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

PURPOSE: Provide an opportunity to share information with R.M. of Grahamdale citizens and get community feedback.

Process:

i) An open house community meeting will be arranged to provide an opportunity to share updated project information related to environmental management planning.

ii) Project Mail-outs

iii) Website updates

APPENDIX 11 – RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GRAHAMDALE SUMMARY OF CONCERNS

Rural Municipality of Grahamdale Summary of Concerns

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
June 25, 2015	Letter to Minister Nevaakshonoff - Shelly Schwitek CAO RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns with test drilling taking place around Bayton Road
May 9, 2017	Letter to Minister Pederson - Reeve Clifford Halaburda RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed route location - Municipal feedback for the selection of Route "D" • Absence or lack of technical project information • Information consistency
July 6, 2017	Letter to Minister Pederson - Reeve Clifford Halaburda RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routing • Expropriation • Mitigation/compensation plans for disruption/alteration of municipal infrastructure • Municipal compensation/funding for dealing with project review • Environmental • Project schedule and timelines • Socio-economic analysis • Independent review of findings
October 3, 2017	Letter to Minister Schuler - Reeve Clifford Halaburda RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic impact assessment • Access to legal/technical resources
November 9, 2017	Letter to Minister Schuler - Reeve Clifford Halaburda RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic impact assessment. • Opportunity for local contractors to participate in the tendering process. • RM costs associated with managing project concerns.
December 14, 2017	Meeting with MI and the RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about land taxes and compensation.
March 8, 2018	Letter to Minister Schuler from the RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for an RM and Manitoba engagement plan and financial resources to address project concerns.
March 8, 2018	Letter to Minister Schuler from the RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel tax for the fuel consumed on the project to an RM of Grahamdale infrastructure program.
March 15, 2018	Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crown land exchange with the Manitoba Government (Steep Rock).
March 15, 2018	Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haul road agreements for LSMOC. • Separate haul road agreements for Dewald and Birch Lake.
May 14, 2018	Letter to Minister Schuler from the RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to consider adjusting aggregate mining and hauling rates to 2018 rates. • Consideration of PTH 6 re-alignment. • Request for increased monitoring of project contractors to ensure requirements followed.
June 15, 2018	Key Person Interview with MI and the RM of Grahamdale Reeve and Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic • Farming, commercial fishing, graymount, service industry. • Tourism- gas, restaurants, steeprock, season, support services for cottages. • There has been a decline related to evacuation of First Nation. • Bank in Ashern closed. • Store in Gypsumville closed. • Community Hall – lower usage • Comprehensive funding available for cottage owners, limited funding for others. • School population has remained relatively static. • Lake St. Martin and Dauphin River Schools have been built, number of students may be redirected from gypsumville. • Increase traffic resulting in different service demands- from pre-2011 scenario. • First Nation evacuation – state of uncertainty on decision making • Land Use, Resource Use and Development • Enough protection to change land use policy for shoreline lands, resource depletion, impacts to quarry, depressurization process, water quality for surface water • Resource use- boating, fishing on channel (enforcement issues) • Municipal road system – bisect road, snowmobile trail – for recreational users • East side road, municipal road used as haul road during construction • Time, energy, and cost to develop agreement for road use

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
June 15, 2018	Key Person Interview with MI and the RM of Grahamdale Reeve and Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase tax, cascading land value, negative effect- land value artificially increased, high value land is depressed, where low value land is artificially increased due to sudden increase in demand. • After construction could be increase in demand for land • No other RM will be affected, socio- economic demographic • 3yrs tax loss – provincial compensation • 5 years for First Nations – expropriation • Infrastructure and Services • Upgrade infrastructure – depending on assistance provided • Woodale line would be used during PR239 construction • Lagoon temporary capacity vs long term capacity • Operating cost for lagoon sewage, garbage • Personal, Family Life and Community • Community cohesion/identity • De-stabilizing municipal affairs • Provincial policy- land use along Lake Manitoba shoreline (development in flood plain) • Steeprock, Watchorn, boating, during access, migration, hunting, outfitter, fishing guides, • Hard on farmers that will be expropriated and are dependent on the future (decision making)
July 27, 2018	Letter to Mark Allard, Coenraad Fourie, Derek Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic counts on Ira Pontius Road • RM concerned that PR 239 relocation will create increase traffic volumes on the road
July 27, 2018	Letter to Mark Allard Project Director - CAO Shelly Schwitek RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential dust pollution, and request for application of dust control in the Spearhill area and PR 237 due to Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel Access Road construction
July 27, 2018	Letter to Mark Allard Project Director - CAO Shelly Schwitek RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential increased traffic on municipal roads during the construction of PR 239 re-alignment • Potential increased maintenance costs for Ira Pontius Road resulting from future increases in traffic • Placement of traffic counter at Pontius Road to gauge current and potential increase in traffic once construction of PR 239 Road realignment begins
July 11, 2019	Letter to Deputy Minister Al-Zabet - Reeve Clifford Halaburda RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RM of Grahamdale and Manitoba Government engagement agreement • Provincial funding for project management and legal assistance to address Outlet Channels Project issues • Loss of tax revenue from the expropriation of 6760 acres for the channel right of way and the 7200 acres of land that was converted to First Nation Reserve status • Short-term and long-term environmental and socio-economic impacts • Potential of assigning a portion of the fuel tax for the fuel consumed on the project to an RM of Grahamdale infrastructure program
August 21, 2019	Meeting with Real Estate Services Division and MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of contact/responses from Real Estate Services Branch to affected landowners
January 24, 2019	Monthly Update Meeting – MI and RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land expropriation communication and land purchase timelines
January 20, 2020	Technical Review Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEMP under-development “to be reviewed by regulators” must also be made publicly available for review, ensuring public & stakeholder concerns around fisheries impacts are appropriately addressed
July 10, 2020	IAAC Information Request – Public Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about impacts to recreational use in Watchorn Provincial Park, which could lead to health and socio-economic effects
July 10, 2020	IAAC Information Request – Public Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of local aggregate resources consumed by the Project, and potential socio-economic effect as a result of the depletion of these resources
October 16, 2020	Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expropriation of land for Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel – date of possession • Lack of contact/responses from Real Estate Services Branch to affected landowners • Quality information of Lake Manitoba water - poor conduct during water sampling • De-pressurized wells / wetlands drained • Potential for noxious and invasive weeds being brought into Municipality • MI and RM engagement plan - start meeting process
January 29, 2021	Letter from Craig Howse - RM of Grahamdale to James Bezan - MP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned that the RM will face more negative impacts than positive from the Outlet Channels Project. • Need to ensure more engagement so that their environmental and socio-economic well-being is not worse off.

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
<p style="text-align: center;">April 14, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EMP Workshop Day 1 with MI and RM of Grahamdale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They require a liaison between MI and the RM to ensure that the RM is notified if any environmental issues or concerns arise on the Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For instance, in case of a spill, the RM will be immediately notified and involved in resolving the issue. • Concerned that they won't be informed of what is happening during construction. • Concerns regarding outside boundaries of the project like traffic, public access etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RM will see an increase in use of infrastructure outside boundaries of the project. • Concerns around weed and pesticide impacts must be accounted for. • Concerned that based on previous experience, offsetting works associated with the emergency channel has not been completed in the past 10 years since it was constructed. • Concerned they may face problems when they are looking for material themselves and possibly face extra charges to obtain from non-local areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This issue does not seem to be addresses in the EMPs. • If quantity of material to be used in this project is known? • RM was told the monitoring and inspecting is only within the footprint of the channel and not outside of that. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major concern for the council. • Concerned that groundwater will be lost from the system due to construction activities and ongoing passive depressurization after construction is complete
<p style="text-align: center;">April 15, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EMP Workshop Day 2 with MI and RM of Grahamdale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are concerns around activities related to manure management and testing that are happening right now before construction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two farms that field testing has happened on. • Concerned with Birch Creek and Buffalo creek. • Loss of wetland in the upper Assiniboine Basin is a primary driver in worsening flood impact and severity, and construction of these channels will result in further loss of wetlands. • Ice fishers are concerned as they may find water come through their augur hole and freezes them. Must be cognizant of not having too high flow or rapid release of flow to impact their activity. • There are drains where culverts freeze and restrict movement and they have to remove the ice to let the water flow.
<p style="text-align: center;">May 20, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about beavers plugging up an upstream creek environment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stated that if DFO allows you to stock fish as an offsetting plan but the fact that beaver removal is not allowed. Generally feel like you can't improve on nature.
<p style="text-align: center;">May 20, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned with not just substrate that will move but could widen the narrows in high water events. What is the potential erosion rate in very high flood events?
<p style="text-align: center;">May 27, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Letter from Craig Howse - RM of Grahamdale to Minister Schuler - MI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern for the affected landowners as they are not given the same attention by MI as the RM is. • Concerned with their lack of compensation.
<p style="text-align: center;">May 28, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting with MI and RM of Grahamdale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned that there is a backwater effect and there is pooling next to the dikes.
<p style="text-align: center;">September 1, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Letter from Craig Howse - RM of Grahamdale to Minister Schuler - MI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of new road route for the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Plan • To keep away heart road traffic and less road for the RM to maintain
<p style="text-align: center;">October 13, 2021</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Email from Jason Bittner – RM of Grahamdale to Chelsea Silva - MI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To potentially include 3 members on the committee, to ensure any items related to negative impacts on the environment is missed. • Have two community members and one consultant to sit on the committee. • Surface water management, Ground Water Mitigation plans, sediment transfer on the LMOC, inlet and outlet, winter operation of the control structures, stability of banks along the LMOC channel, fish impacts. • Community impacts in regards to noise, pollution, expropriation, landfill and lagoon usages by the construction camps. • To be provided with a construction schedule, as there is a potential for an impact to the RM with 8-10 camps operating at once. A possible regulator onsite to monitor impacts to the RM • Fuel spills for instance • How much aggregate resources will be taken out of the RM if the channel will be armored? Will there be enough aggregate resources left? • To gravel the roads for instance • To be made aware of any employment or entrepreneur opportunities for the residents within the community

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
October 27, 2021	Letter from Craig Howse – RM of Grahamdale to Stephanie Woltman - MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact to surface water, ground water and domestic well water, loss of wetlands, depressurization of the aquifer, loss of wetlands and impact to the natural east/west flow of water • Impact to local fisheries • Depletion of local aggregate resources • Erosion and sedimentation • Winter operation of the channel • Stability of the berms and armoring of the berms • Sediment transport at Watchorn Bay • The concerns listed from the IAAC Information Request – Public Feedback –we feel that many more concerns were raised than what is listed • Financial support to farmers for Manure Management Plans and Water Treatment Plans • Socio-economic impacts to the Municipality including: loss of tax revenue, road severance, haul road impacts, rural depopulation, impact on emergency services during construction • Impacts to the Municipality relating to construction camps: waste disposal sites, lagoons, the need for by-law enforcement, etc.
December 16, 2021	Letter from Reeve Craig Howse to Manitoba Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale provided comment and feedback on MI's Draft Information Request Responses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many comments and concern were expressed in this submission to MI, however, these are reflective of and consistent with concerns that the RM of Grahamdale had expressed in prior communications (as represented in the items above).
April 4, 2022	Recurring Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birch Creek Rewatering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale expressed interest in the proposed rewatering of Birch Creek, but identified that their preference was to see rewatering introduced further upstream. • The RM of Grahamdale expressed that rewatering further upstream would provide more benefit to the system and would allow for higher water temperatures which is favourable for spring fish spawning.
April 28, 2022	Recurring Monthly Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside drain design and capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale expressed concern over the design and maintenance of the proposed Outside Drain which is to be located on the west side of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and which would intercept existing municipal drainage. • The RM of Grahamdale is concerned that the Outside Drain has not been design to sufficient capacity, or that it would require spring maintenance (snow removal) to accommodate spring flows such as those experienced in the spring of 2022. • Channel armoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale was seeking confirmation as to whether both Channels are to be armoring. • Channel bank erosion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale expressed concern over potential bank erosion within the channels and whether the channels would succumb to erosion like the Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel.
May 10, 2022	Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale expressed concern over the proposed duration of monitoring for the Project.
May 26, 2022	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Road Realignment Design: Road 46W – Landowner concerns with backwater effects on private land due to freeze up of proposed thru grade culvert.
June 23, 2022	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High water levels and outside drain capacity to handle surface water from the west side of the channel • Lawn care at expropriated houses • Construction option for Municipal Rd 46W • LMOH Haul Roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RM concerns with assessment of Wooddale Line, requesting that MTI re-inspect, update findings. • RM requesting that Bankert Rd be added to Haul Road network as it is expected to see increased traffic during channel construction. • Road restrictions • Dust control measures • Additional signage • Maintenance • Term of Agreement

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
July 28, 2022	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property acquisition timelines for municipal roads. • LMOC Haul Roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RM asking if PTH 6 southbound traffic will start taking Wooddale line road to access steep Rock area , which will increase RM maintenance activities
November 3, 2022	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater Concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depressurization and dewatering requirements. • Loss of Wetlands • Groundwater interactions when channel is introduced • Pumping after construction • Reverse drain as option to protect surface water • Request for 3D Modelling
November 29, 2022	Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM expressed concerns related to the authority and purpose of the EAC. • Focus of the EAC should be on priority items such as obtaining sufficient baseline data (e.g. well inventory and 3D modeling of groundwater).
December 8, 2022	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RM of Grahamdale expressed concern over landowners settlement agreements not being resolved. • Continued concerns about the impact on groundwater for the proposed Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term effects • Requesting further discussion on GW/SW Interactions, including: • Reverse filter/drains and the risk of seepage posed by Channel excavation. • Surface Water intrusion into GW aquifer through Channel components due to future events (eg. drought, consumption, dewatering efforts, etc.) • RM concerns with test well casing on PTH 6 Service Road near Birch Creek, potential for interference with maintenance operation (snow clearing).
December 8, 2022	Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure with the RM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater impacts • Access roads to First Nation communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Saskatchewan First Nation does not have access. • Economic Impacts to Municipality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of tax revenue due to expropriation • Question about Indigenous economic development fund • RM funding agreement exhausted • Environmental Impact to Municipality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquifer depressurization • Maintenance of collector drains along proposed channels • Wetland losses • Re-watering of Birch Creek
December 15, 2022	Letter from Reeve Craig Howse to Manitoba Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial access road for Little Saskatchewan • Impact of high volumes of traffic from the neighboring First Nations communities on non-residential Municipal roads.
December 19, 2022	Letter from Reeve Craig Howse to Manitoba Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about the delay in establishing the Environmental Advisory Committee and completing its Terms of Reference.
January 19, 2023	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RM requesting landowner leases for 2023 similar to offers provided in 2021 and 2022. • Concerns related to Surface Water impacts and Environmental follow-up items in response to RM Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside drain design capacity and associated backwater effects on private property at high lake levels. • Surface Water management east of LMOC. Separate meeting suggested by MTI regarding movement of Surface Water. • Risks of winter operation of the LMOC and Outside Drain, such as ice jams and late drainage of agricultural lands. • Drain maintenance, based on current level of maintenance in the RM. • Concerns related to baseline wildlife monitoring completed to date by MTI. • Sediment transfer impacts in Watchorn Bay, through LMOC. • Water Rights Act Interpretation and impact to wetlands east of LMOC. • Snowmobiletrails and how to get across the channel. • Concerns related to fish and fish habitat • Request for funding commitments for future expenditures

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project Summary of RM of Grahamdale Concerns

Date of Sourced Concern	Source of Concern	Concern
February 23, 2023	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LMOC Haul Roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Works concerns regarding Preliminary Inspection Report related to increased traffic on Wooddale Line Road north of PR 239 result of realignment. • LMOC Clearing Contract concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvage of large trees (8" in diameter or larger) for local use • Request for buffer around St. Thomas cemetery • Implications for landowners if the project is not approved • Prioritization of storage sites for manure removals • RM raised potential issues with snowmobiles crossing longer bridges with bare pavement as well as groomer crossing.
March 23, 2023	MTI - RM of Grahamdale Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of Drain between Reed Lake and Clear Lake • Separate meetings requested with SnoMan re: trail re-routing; EIWD re: project info and impacts; and RM re: Surface Water impacts and designs.

APPENDIX 12 – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN QUESTIONNAIRES

Environmental Management Plan Questionnaires

**THIS APPENDIX REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS VERSION
SUBMITTED TO IAAC ON MAY 31, 2022**

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Access Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project), and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Access Management Plan and Questionnaire

The Access Management Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The AMP will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Access Management Plan. It is recommended that the plan be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Access Management Plan is to outline access control measures that will be used during construction and operation phases as they relate to protection of natural resources, public and worker safety and site security. The objectives of the AMP are to:

- Provide safe, coordinated access to the Project areas during construction and operation.
- Provide safe passage for the general public through the project area at identified crossing locations.
- Support sustainable use through the protection of the area's natural resources.
- Allow Project staff and contractors to construct, operate and maintain the Project year-round.
- Provide security for Project personnel and property.

A. Introduction

1. To ensure public safety, certain areas around the Project will have travel restrictions during construction and operation. Authorized Project personnel and visitors may be able to access the Project area by making arrangements with Manitoba Infrastructure. Do you have any concerns with this safety measure?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain how these safety measures will affect your use or access to land in the area:

2. Signs will be installed to indicate areas where public access is restricted or prohibited, where hunting and firearms are not allowed, or where local and Indigenous communities need to be informed about possible safety issues. Do you feel that use of signage will be adequate and appropriate to communicate restrictions?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If no, please explain:

3. During construction of the Project, restrictions will be placed on firearms (e.g., rifles, handguns, shotguns, bows) to facilitate worker safety and a “no shooting” buffer zone will be established in construction zones. Do you have any concerns about firearms restrictions and the use of a buffer zone around the project site?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain:

4. What is a suitable “no shooting” buffer zone that will have the least effect on how you use the area for hunting?
- a. 2 km
 - b. 2.5 km
 - c. 3 km
 - d. 4 km
 - e. 5 km
5. Recreational fishing restrictions for the members of the public that includes Outlet Channel bridges, water control structures and the channels are currently being considered. Do you have any concerns about these proposed fishing restriction?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- If yes, please explain:

6. Recreational use, including fishing, hunting, snowmobiling and boating of any component of the outlet channel infrastructure will be prohibited through the life of the Project. Warning signs indicating no authorized personnel will be installed at key locations. Do you have any concerns with these proposed restrictions?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

Please explain:

7. The Access Management Plan (Sections 6.5 and 10.5) discusses Project impacts to navigation near the inlets and outlets and potential mitigations, including safety measures such as warning signage, buoys, and safety booms to notify water users of areas with increased water velocities and possible ice-related risks. Do you feel the measures described are adequate to address safety concerns?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

If no, please explain:

B. Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

8. To mitigate the impact on the municipal road network and increased road traffic, a number of potential locations for construction contractor's camps and lay down areas have been identified (see attached map). Do you have any concerns about any of the proposed areas? Please feel free to share information on the map provided
- Yes
 - No

If yes, please explain:

9. Will the location of contractor's camps and laydown areas proposed in the attached map have a negative impact on your use of land in the area? Please feel free to share information on the map provided.
- Yes
 - No

If yes, please explain:

10. During construction of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, some municipal and provincial road detours will be required. Do you have any concerns with the proposed detours outlined in the Access Management Plan?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please explain:

11. The current PR 239 will remain open until the construction of the realignments of PR 239 and PTH 6 through Grahamdale as well as the new bridge crossing have all been completed. Traffic will then be switched over to the new alignment of PR 239 on Carne Ridge Road. Do you have any concerns about closing down the current alignment of PR 239?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please explain how this will impact your use and access to land in the area:

C. Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

12. While the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will not be accessible to members of the public during construction, some exceptions will be made for Indigenous peoples who intend to carry out traditional practices to the extent that such access is safe. If applicable, do you have any information that you would like to share regarding your use of this area for traditional or rights based activities? Please feel free to use the map provided.

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please identify what areas will require continued access and explain how you would like to be informed of these exceptions:

13. As project construction may impact access routes, such as snowmobile trails which are intersected by the Project, alternative means of crossing the channel will have to be developed. If applicable, do you have any information that you would like to share regarding the trails in the area or their use for traditional or rights based activities? Please feel free to use the map provided.
- a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain:

D. Conclusion

14. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Access Management Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

15. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Access Management Plan that you feel will have a positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

- a. Positive
- b. Negative

Please explain:

16. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

- a. Email
- b. Mail
- c. Website
- d. All of the above

17. Was the information in the Access Management Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification: If yes, please explain:

18. Do you have any general comments or questions?

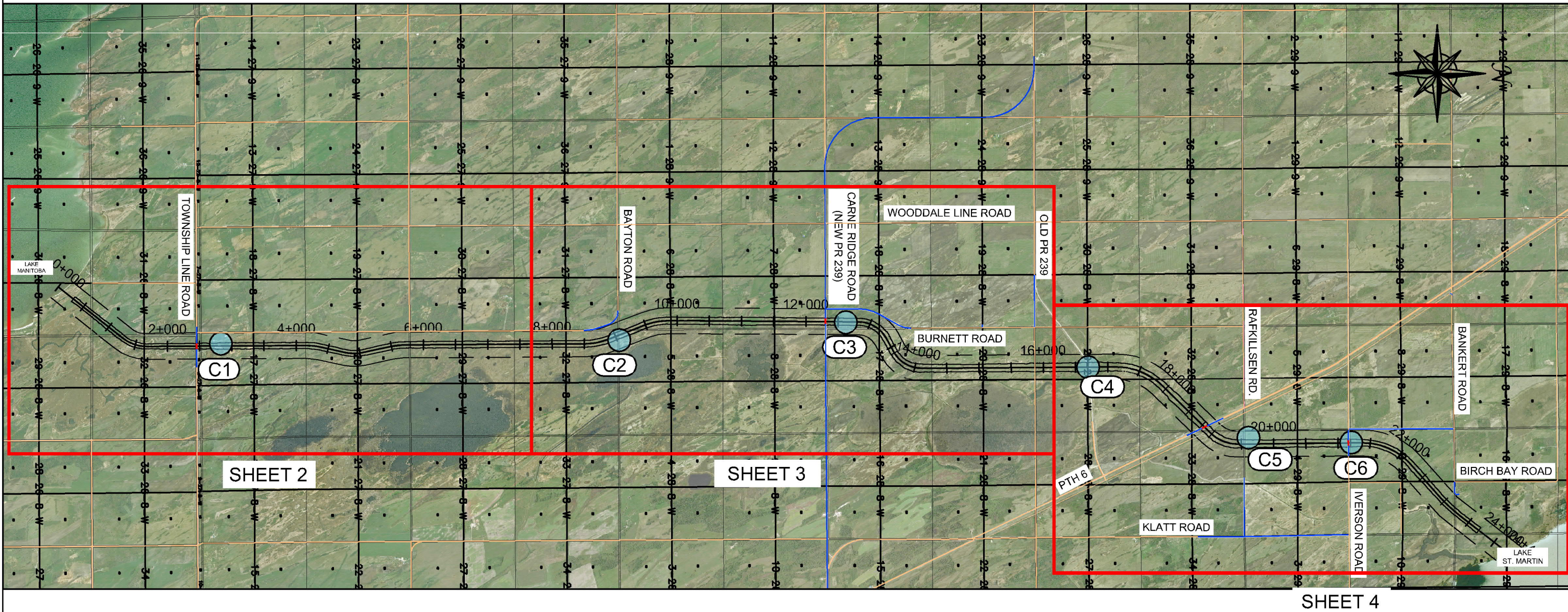
a. Yes

b. No

Please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the maps provided below.



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FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY



REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
KEY PLAN
(SHEET 1 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

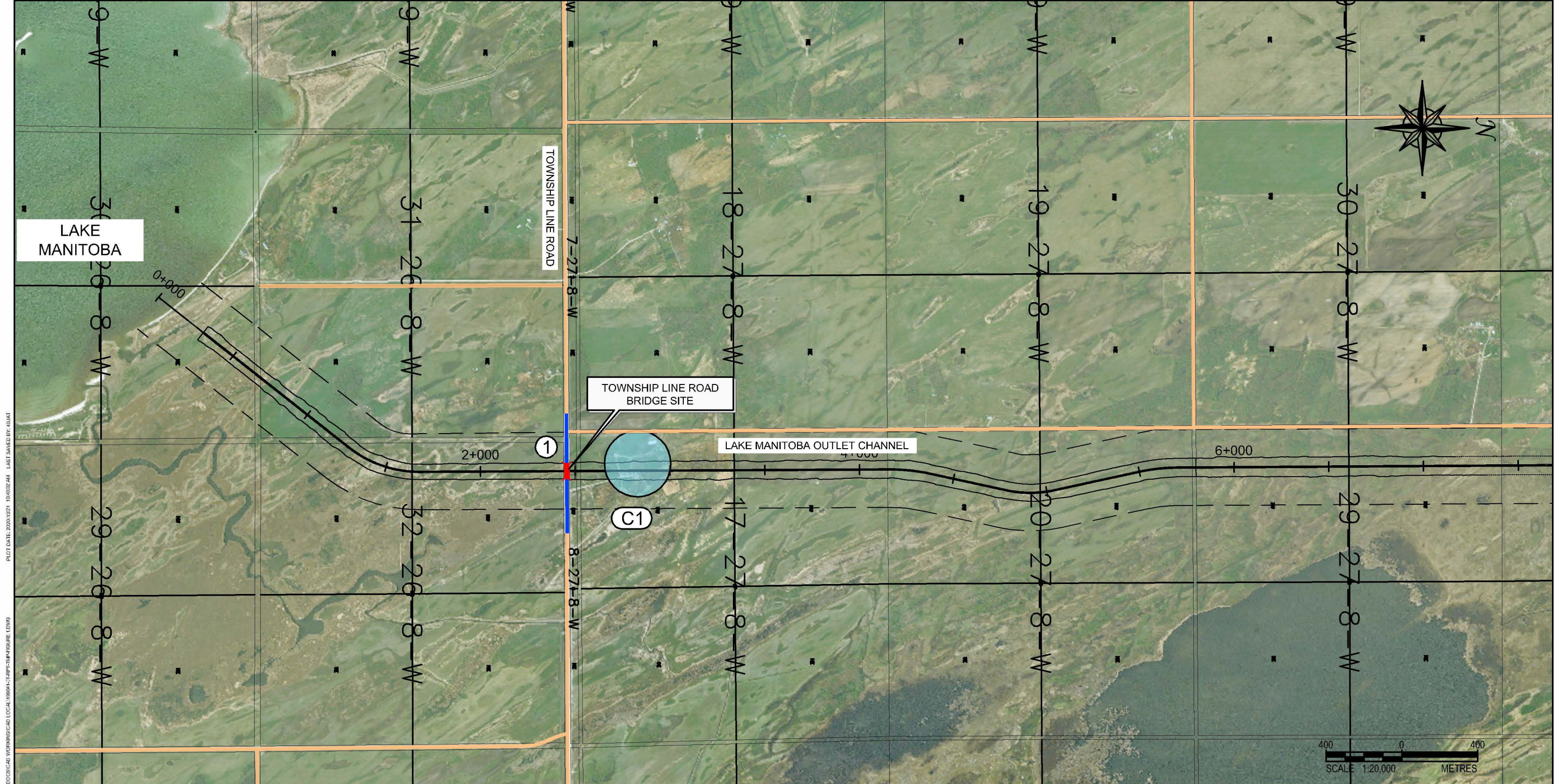
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DETAILS BY: _____
 CHECKED: _____

RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES

DATE: _____
 SCALE: _____

SHEET No. 1 OF 4
 SITE No. 0000-00



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LEGEND:

	CONCEPTUAL ROAD CHANGES
	EXISTING ROAD
	NEW BRIDGE SITE
	ROADWAY CLOSURE
	LOCATION NO.
	POSSIBLE CAMP LOCATION
	CAMP NO.

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 FOR DISCUSSION
 PURPOSES ONLY

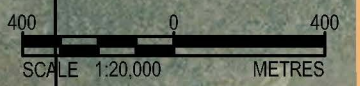
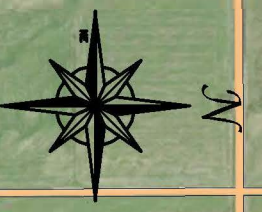
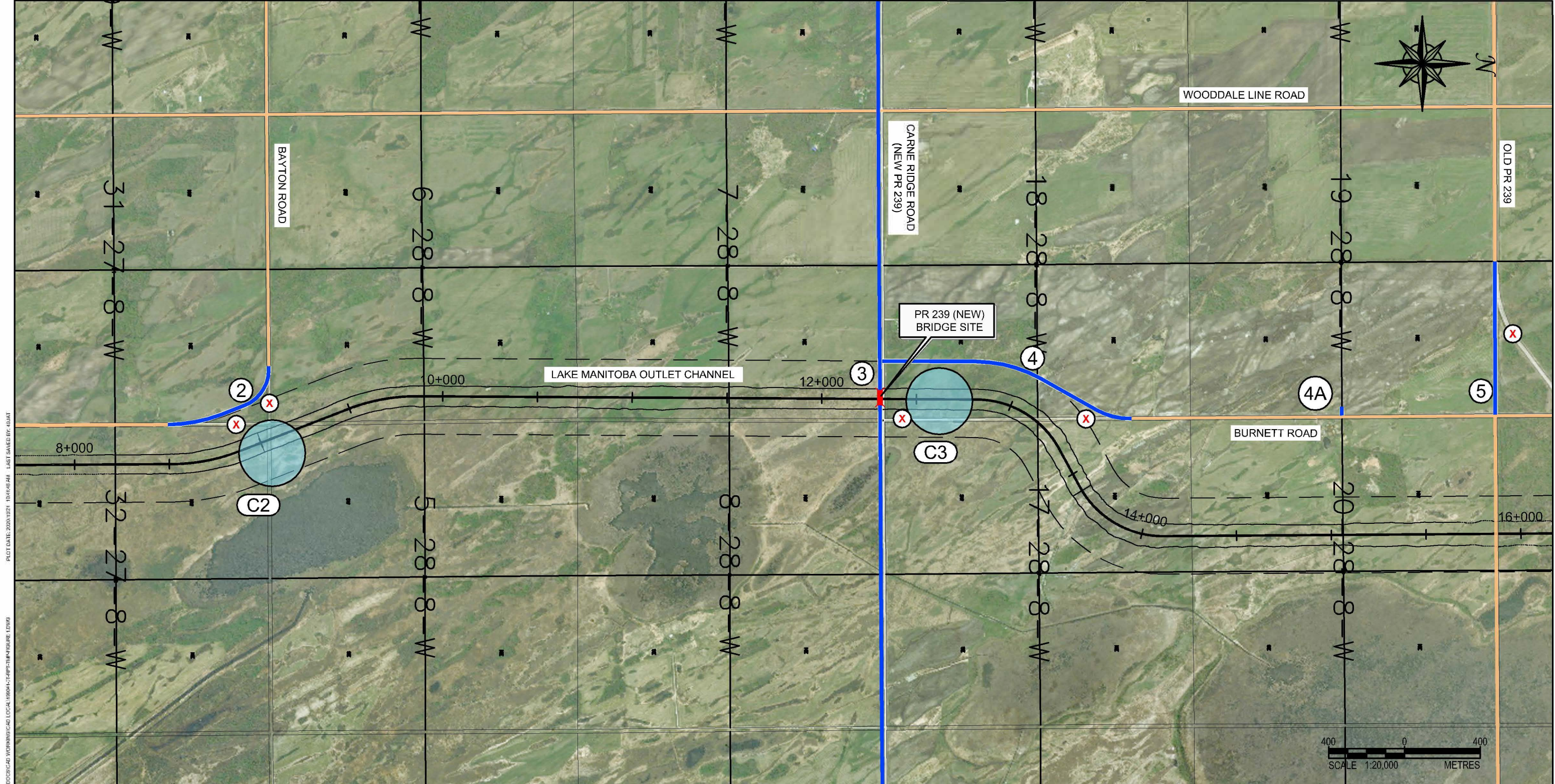


REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
 (SHEET 2 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

 Infrastructure Water Management and Structures	RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES
	DATE: _____ SCALE: _____ SHEET No. <u>2</u> OF <u>4</u> SITE No. <u>0000-00</u>
DESIGN BY: <u>JAT</u> CHECKED: <u>CF</u>	DETAILS BY: _____ CHECKED: _____

PUBLIC VERSION



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LEGEND:

	CONCEPTUAL ROAD CHANGES
	EXISTING ROAD
	NEW BRIDGE SITE
	ROADWAY CLOSURE
	LOCATION NO.
	POSSIBLE CAMP LOCATION
	CAMP NO.

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 FOR DISCUSSION
 PURPOSES ONLY

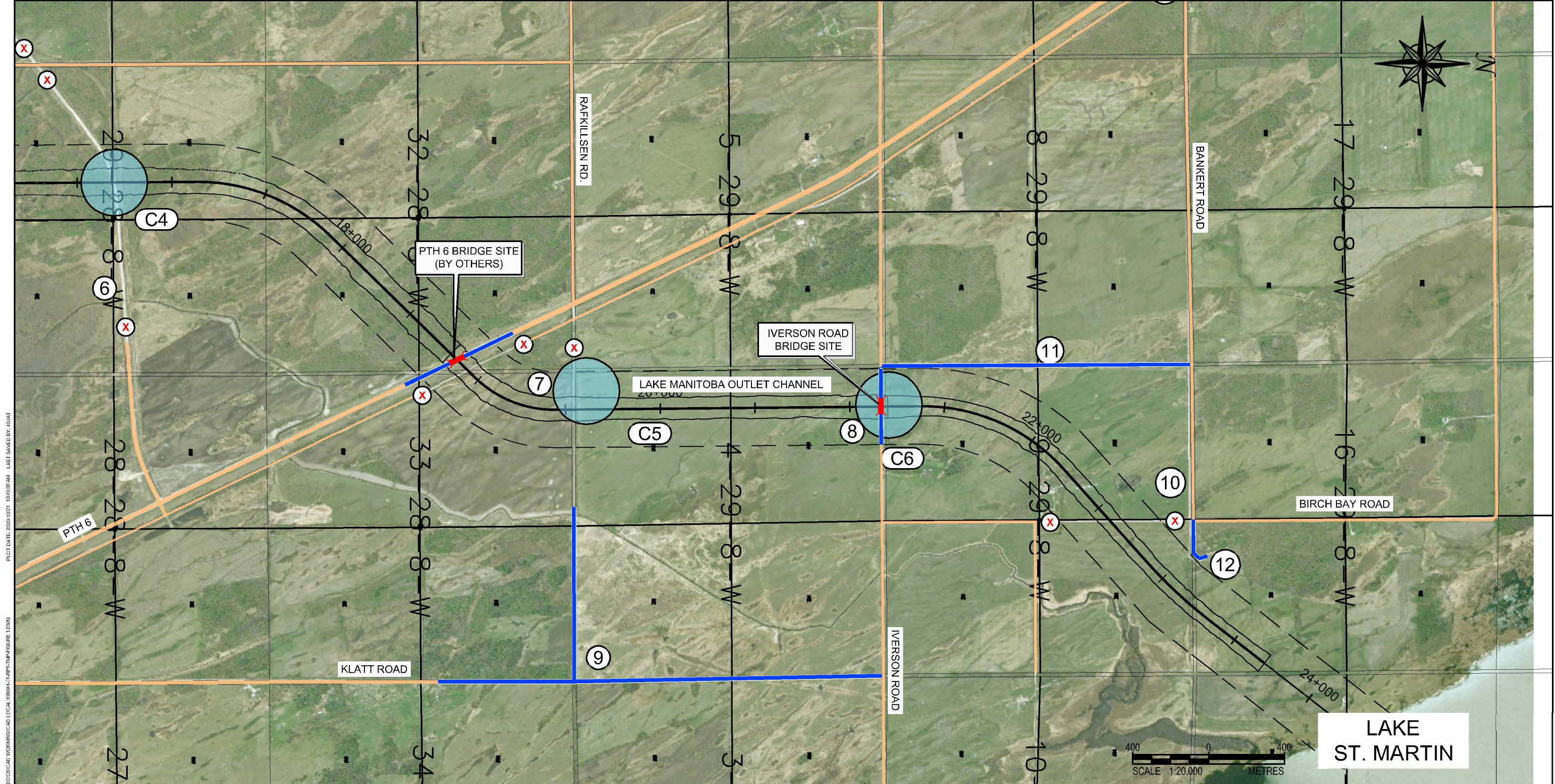


REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
 (SHEET 3 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

 Infrastructure Water Management and Structures	RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES
	DATE: _____ SCALE: _____ SHEET No. <u>3</u> OF <u>4</u> SITE No. <u>0000-00</u>
DESIGN BY: <u>JAT</u> CHECKED: <u>CF</u>	DETAILS BY: _____ CHECKED: _____

PUBLIC VERSION



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LEGEND:

- CONCEPTUAL ROAD CHANGES
- EXISTING ROAD
- NEW BRIDGE SITE
- ROADWAY CLOSURE
- LOCATION NO.
- POSSIBLE CAMP LOCATION
- CAMP NO.

DRAFT
 FOR DISCUSSION
 PURPOSES ONLY

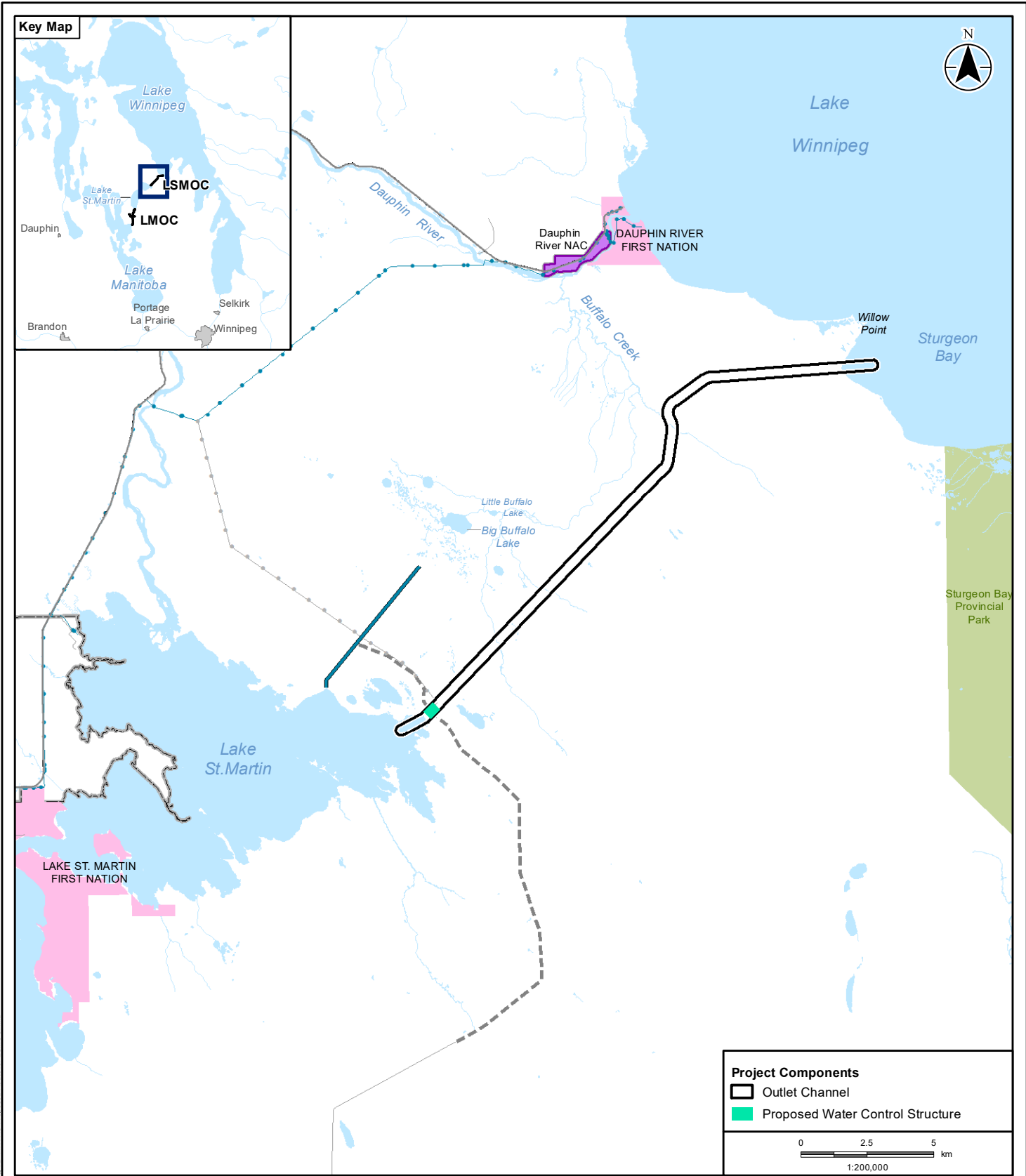
DILLON
CONSULTING

CONSULTANT PROJECT NO.
19-9041

REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
 (SHEET 4 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

 Infrastructure Water Management and Structures	RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES
	DESIGN BY: _____ JAT CHECKED: _____ CF
DETAILS BY: _____ CHECKED: _____	DATE: _____ SCALE: _____ SHEET No. <u>4</u> OF <u>4</u> SITE No. <u>0000-00</u>



Project Components

- Outlet Channel
- Proposed Water Control Structure

0 2.5 5 km
1:200,000

- Legend**
- Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel (Reach 1)
 - Existing Distribution Line
 - Rural Municipality
 - Lake St. Martin Access Road
 - Planned Distribution Line
 - Northern Affairs Community (NAC)
 - Provincial Highway (PTH/PR)
 - First Nation
 - Municipal Road
 - Provincial Park

Notes

- Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 14N
- Data Sources: Governments of Manitoba and Canada, Manitoba Infrastructure
- Last Update: 8/21/2019 1:43:44 PM

Manitoba

MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE
Lake Manitoba & Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project
Environmental Impact Statement

Proposed Route for the LSMOC

Figure 3A-1

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LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Aquatic Effects

Monitoring Program Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan and Questionnaire

The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Aquatics Effects Monitoring Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan is to document changes to water and fish, determine if predictions are correct, and identify if additional mitigation measures are needed for the Project. The objectives of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan are to:

- Verify predicted effects through monitoring of the aquatic environment (i.e., water, fish, fish habitat)
- Determine the effectiveness of mitigation measures
- Assess the need for additional mitigation measures if initial measures are not adequate
- Determine the effectiveness of any additional/adaptive mitigation measure(s)
- Confirm compliance with regulatory requirements

Please note that the frequency of water quality monitoring outlined in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan has been determined based on monitoring recommendations typically authorized by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

A. Introduction

1. What water bodies do you currently use in the Project area? Select all that apply:

- a. Lake Manitoba
- b. Lake St. Martin
- c. Lake Winnipeg
- d. Dauphin River
- e. Fairford River
- f. Other: _____

What activities do you undertake in these areas? Please list:

2. Aquatic monitoring studies will include several parameters to assess surface water quality at various study locations. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for water quality:

Water Temperature	Dissolved Oxygen	Hardness	Chlorophyll
pH	Total Suspended Solids	Total nitrogen	<i>E. coli</i>
Conductivity	TDS	Total phosphorus	Fuel
Mercury			

Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included?

Please explain:

B. Mitigations

Construction of any project will result in some disturbance to land and potential effects to the environment. These effects may be temporary in nature or permanent due to the presence of the project. Mitigation measures are means to prevent, reduce, or control these adverse environmental effects that occur from the project.

- Please review the following Project effects and proposed mitigations outlined below in Table 2. Identify in part (a) and (b) if you agree with the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures or advise if additional mitigation activities should be considered:

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Water Quality			
Change in sediment concentrations	During construction, implementation of control measures is expected to minimize the amount of sediment that will be mobilized. The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		
Effects to Fish Habitat			
Change in habitat due to construction of Outlet Channels and concurrent re-alignment, isolation or dewatering of drains and headwater streams	The Outlet channels will provide approximately 172 ha of fish habitat. The LMOC will be 24.1 km long with a wetted width of 30-60 m and depths of 4-8 m. The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will be 23 km long and 44 m wide with drop structures and pools at higher gradient sections and a till substrate. During non-operational periods the channels will provide year-round habitat for forage fish and juveniles of large-bodied fish. During operation for flood control, higher velocities at the outlets may be suitable for spawning by walleye and possibly other species.		
Change in habitat due to the deposition of sediment	During construction, implementation of control measures is expected to minimize the amount of sediment that will be mobilized. The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		

Table 2: Summary of Mitigations

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Change in flow patterns in rivers and streams	<p>The inlets and outlets will be designed to support fish use that may occur, in particular if fish area attracted to spawn at the outlets during channel operation.</p> <p>Flow reduction at channel closure will be conducted such that fish are cued to leave the channels as flows are reduced at the end of operation periods.</p>		
Change in Fish Passage			
Change in flow patterns in rivers and streams	Operation of the channels will be conducted to maintain suitable flow conditions in the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers.		
Effects to fish passage due to installation/replacement of culverts	Water crossings will be constructed to allow fish passage and not affect fish movements including use of clear span bridges and embedding and appropriate sizing of culverts.		
Change in fish movements between Lake Manitoba/Lake St. Martin/Lake Winnipeg due to creation of channels	<p>Base flows in the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will also provide a corridor for downstream movement, but the volume of flow is much less than during flood operation. The design of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel will not allow passage past the water control structure during periods of non-operation and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will prevent upstream fish movement at the outlet.</p> <p>Fish will be able to return from Lake Winnipeg to Lake St. Martin via the Dauphin River and from Lake St. Martin to Lake Manitoba via the Fairford Fishway (large-bodied species only).</p> <p>Implementation of ramping rates when changing the flows in the channels to provide fish with cues that velocities are changing and enable fish to respond accordingly.</p>		

Table 2: Summary of Mitigations

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Change in attraction flows to Fairford and Dauphin rivers	<p>Changing flows in a specific manner to provide fish with cues the flows are decreasing so that they move out.</p> <p>Maintain adequate flows in the Fairford Fishway to maintain upstream fish passage in spring.</p> <p>Design the outlet of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel to prevent fish from moving into the channel from Sturgeon Bay.</p>		
<i>Change in Fish Health and Mortality</i>			
Accidental release of deleterious substances	Standard environmental protection measures will be implemented.		
Introduction of sediment	The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		
Stranding of fish and fish eggs	<p>Fish will be able to leave the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel because it will be connected directly to Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, upstream and downstream of the control structure, respectively.</p> <p>The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel is being designed to allow fish to move downstream out of the channel during base flows; fish will not be able to enter from Sturgeon Bay. Design channels to contain pools that will provide over-wintering fish habitat.</p>		
Increased fish mortality due to increased angling pressure	This increase will be managed via provincial fisheries regulations.		

4. The Aquatics Effects Monitoring Plan (Sections 4 to 7) describes the effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat and proposed mitigations. Based on the information provided, please indicate if you have concerns about your ability to continue with the following activities:

Subsistence fishing

Recreational fishing

Commercial fishing

All of the above

Please explain what concerns you have and indicate how you see the Project affecting your use of the area:

5. Based on the potential Project effects and proposed mitigations, do you see the Project affecting health and socio-economic activities (e.g., economy and culture) along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:
6. Based on the potential Project effects and proposed mitigations, do you see the Project affecting traditional use activities along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:
7. The Project is not expected to substantially alter chemical concentrations in surface water or fish, and therefore is not anticipated to impact the human health risks currently associated with the consumption of fish harvested from the area. Given this information, do you see the Project affecting health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:

C. Study Information

8. The following monitoring studies have been developed based on potential Project effects on the aquatic environment. Proposed scheduling and the location of Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan monitoring studies is outlined in a summary table below (Section 8).

Monitoring Study	Construction	Non Operation	Operation	Post Operation	Area	How well do you think the plans will work at understanding the potential impacts of the Project? Are additional monitoring locations required?
1. Surface Water ¹ Quality Monitoring		x	x	x	Lake Manitoba, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, Lake Winnipeg, Birch Creek	
2. Dissolved Oxygen ¹ Monitoring		x			LMOC, LSMOC, Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek	
3. TSS Monitoring ¹		x	x	x	Lake Manitoba, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, Dauphin River, LMOC, LSMOC	
4. Aquatic Habitat Monitoring				x	LMOC, LSMOC, inlets and outlets	
5. Fish Community Monitoring (Lake St. Martin)	x			x	Lake St. Martin and Sturgeon Bay	
5. Fish Community Monitoring (Sturgeon Bay) ¹	x	x	x	x		
6. Downstream Fish Movements			x		LMOC and LSMOC	

Monitoring Study	Construction	Non Operation	Operation	Post Operation	Area	How well do you think the plans will work at understanding the potential impacts of the Project? Are additional monitoring locations required?
7. Larval Fish Movements	x		x		Fairford River, Dauphin River, LMOC and LSMOC inlets/outlets	
8. Fish Stranding at the LSMOC				x	LSMOC	
9. Fish Mortality in the LMOC ²		x			LMOC	
10. Lake Whitefish Egg Incubation ³	x	x			Lake St. Martin	
11. Fish Utilization of the LMOC and LSMOC			x		LMOC and the LSMOC	
12. Lake Whitefish Spawning in Lake St. Martin and Dauphin and Fairford River	x		x	x	Dauphin River, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, LMOC and LSMOC inlets/outlets	
13. Fish Use of Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek	x	x			Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek systems	
14. Mercury in Fish Flesh	x	x		x	Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin and Lake Winnipeg	

¹Water quality studies conducted during construction phase are described in Surface Water Management Plan.

9. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (Section 6.1) describes the effects of the Project on fish movement. In addition to the proposed monitoring studies, commercial harvest records for Lake St. Martin, Lake Manitoba, and Sturgeon Bay will be used to understand potential changes to fish communities from the Project. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

10. The Outlet Channels will not change natural connectivity between the lakes; however they will provide additional outflow capacity. As such, these systems share similar water quality characteristics and the overall water quality is not expected to change. As outlined above, water quality monitoring will occur at key points along the outlet channels and in existing waterways. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain what concerns you have and indicate how you see the Project may affect your use of the area:

11. Please identify if you have seen Lake Sturgeon in the following water bodies:

- Lake Winnipeg
- Lake St. Martin
- Lake Manitoba

Please feel free to use the attached maps by drawing the letters “LS” and include the date and time.

Thank you for sharing this information. If possible, Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Fisheries Branch would like to gather additional details on this important species. Please identify if you consent to being contacted:

Yes

No

12. Please describe the importance of Lake Sturgeon to subsistence, commercial, or recreational fishing:

13. Walleye are an important component of commercial, recreation, and aboriginal fisheries in Lake Winnipeg, Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba. Have you noticed any changes to walleye populations since 2011?

Increased

Decreased

No change

Please explain any changes that you've experienced and what water body these changes occur in:

14. Investigations will be carried out to determine the extent to which, if any, the reduction in flow would reduce the presence of fish in major channels of the Birch Creek drainage. How do you feel a potential reduction in flow will change the Birch Creek area? Please explain:

15. What species of fish have you observed in Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek since operation of the Emergency Outlet Channel in 2011 and 2014?

Buffalo Creek

Species	Season(s)	Year

Birch Creek

Species	Season(s)	Year

16. What species and at what times of year do you observe fish in the Fairford River between Lake St. Martin and the Fairford water control structure?

Species	Season(s)	Year

17. As described in Section 7.2.2 of the EIS, little is known about fish species in Pineimuta Lake. What species and at what times of year do you observe fish in Pineimuta Lake?

Species	Season(s)	Year

18. As methylmercury concentrations are not expected to measurably change with the Project, no potential adverse effects on the health of Indigenous peoples are predicted. However, monitoring in fish will occur through the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (Section 7.3) to confirm these predictions. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

19. Mercury monitoring will occur in Walleye, Northern Pike, and Lake Whitefish. Do you feel the selected species are robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify other fish species and explain the importance of these species for traditional purposes, if applicable:

20. To reduce the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species, the Project requires compliance with provincial aquatic invasive species legislation and programs and will require machinery to be cleaned and decontaminated. At this time, project-specific monitoring programs are not anticipated, existing provincial monitoring programs coordinated through Wildlife and Fisheries Branch, AIS Department. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project on aquatic invasive species introduction?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Please identify any potential effects that may occur to Indigenous socioeconomic conditions, culture, and the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes if the introduction and/or spread of aquatic invasive species from the Project were to occur:

D. Conclusion

21. A summary report for the above Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan studies is anticipated to be prepared for each study on a yearly basis to document the methods and results. Manitoba Infrastructure is planning to share this information with community leadership and posted online. Do you feel this is sufficient?

How else would you like to receive this information?

Email

Mail

Newsletter

Website

All of the above

22. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to see communities involved in follow-up and monitoring for water quality and fisheries activities?

23. Was the information in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

24. Do you have any general comments or questions on the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan?

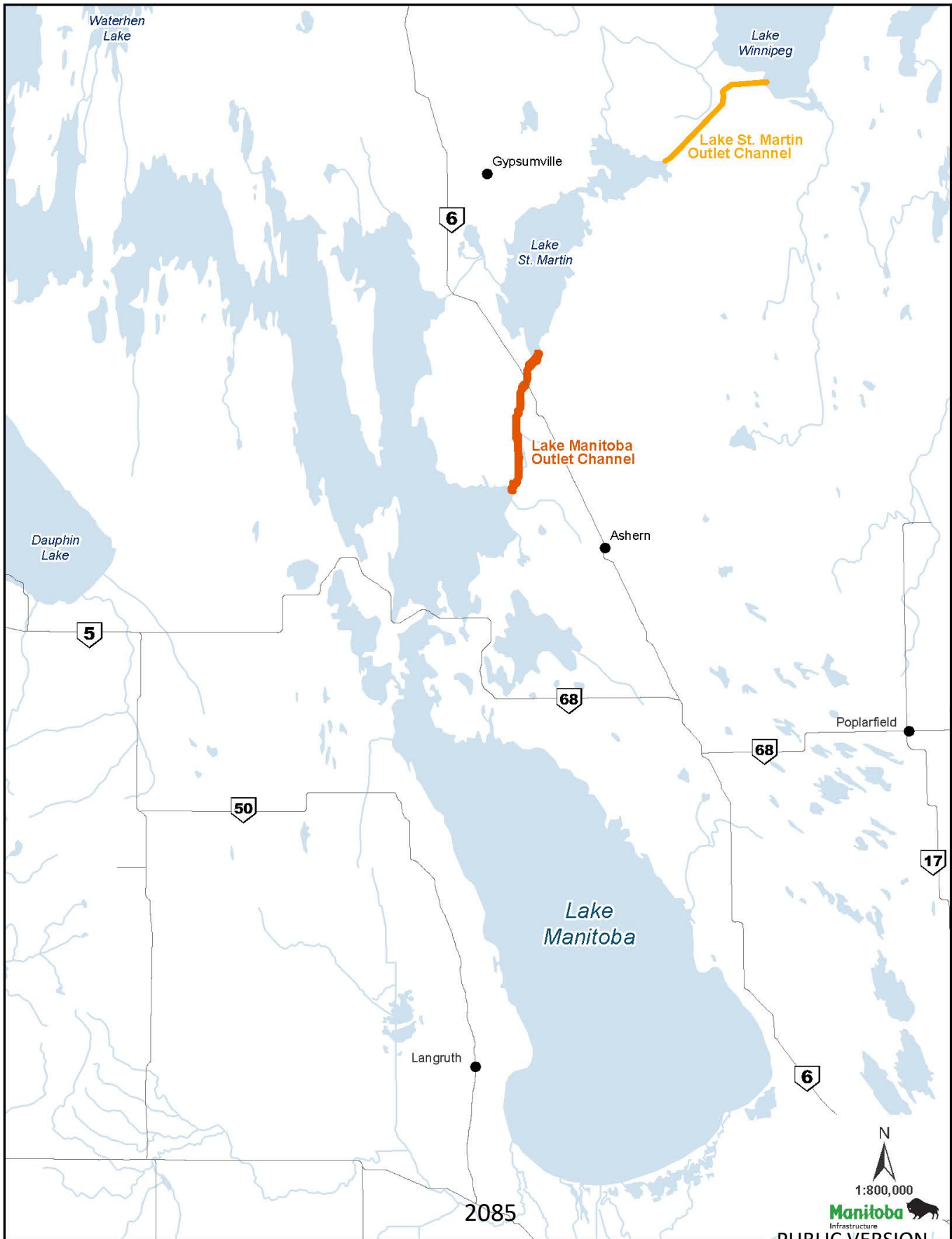
Yes

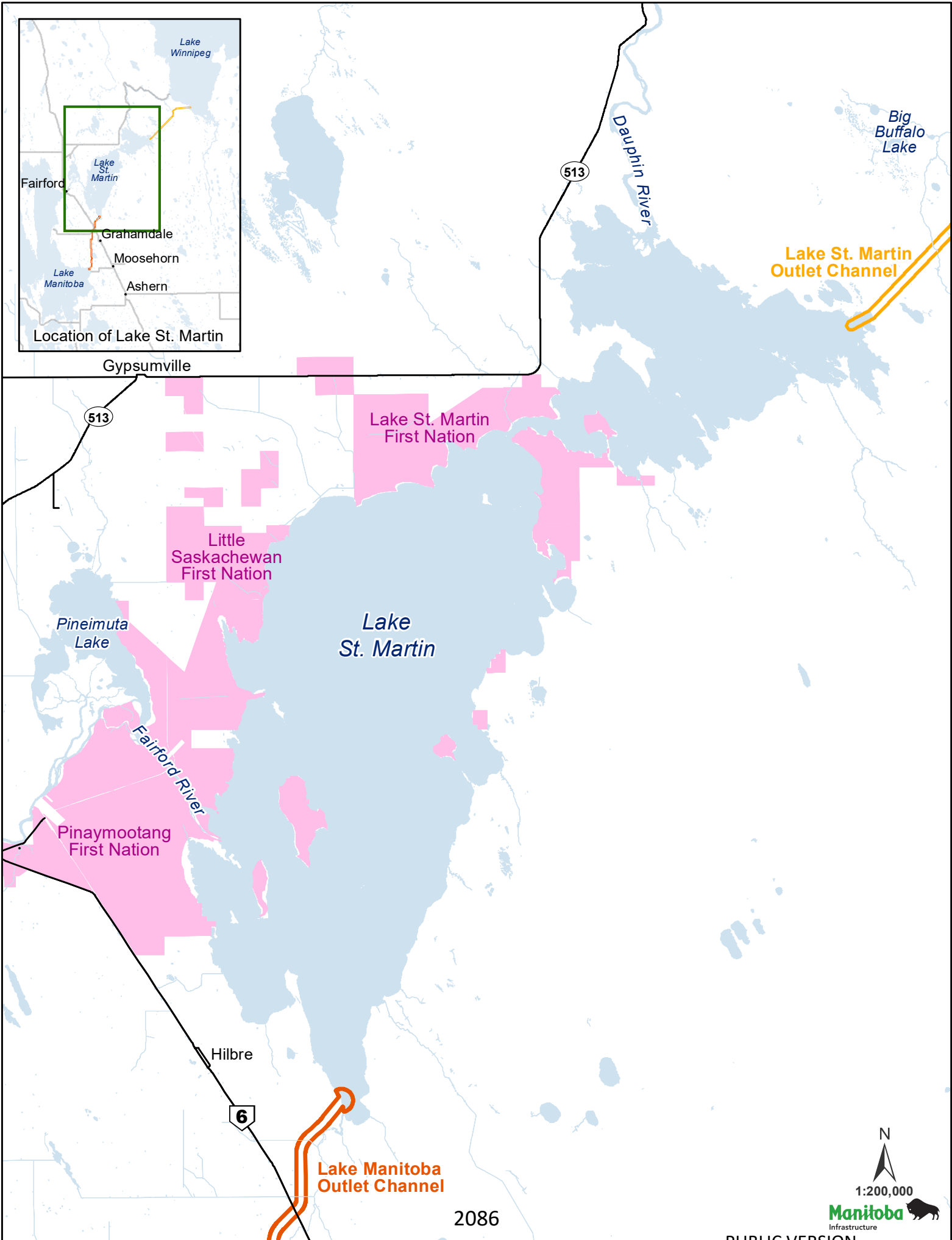
No

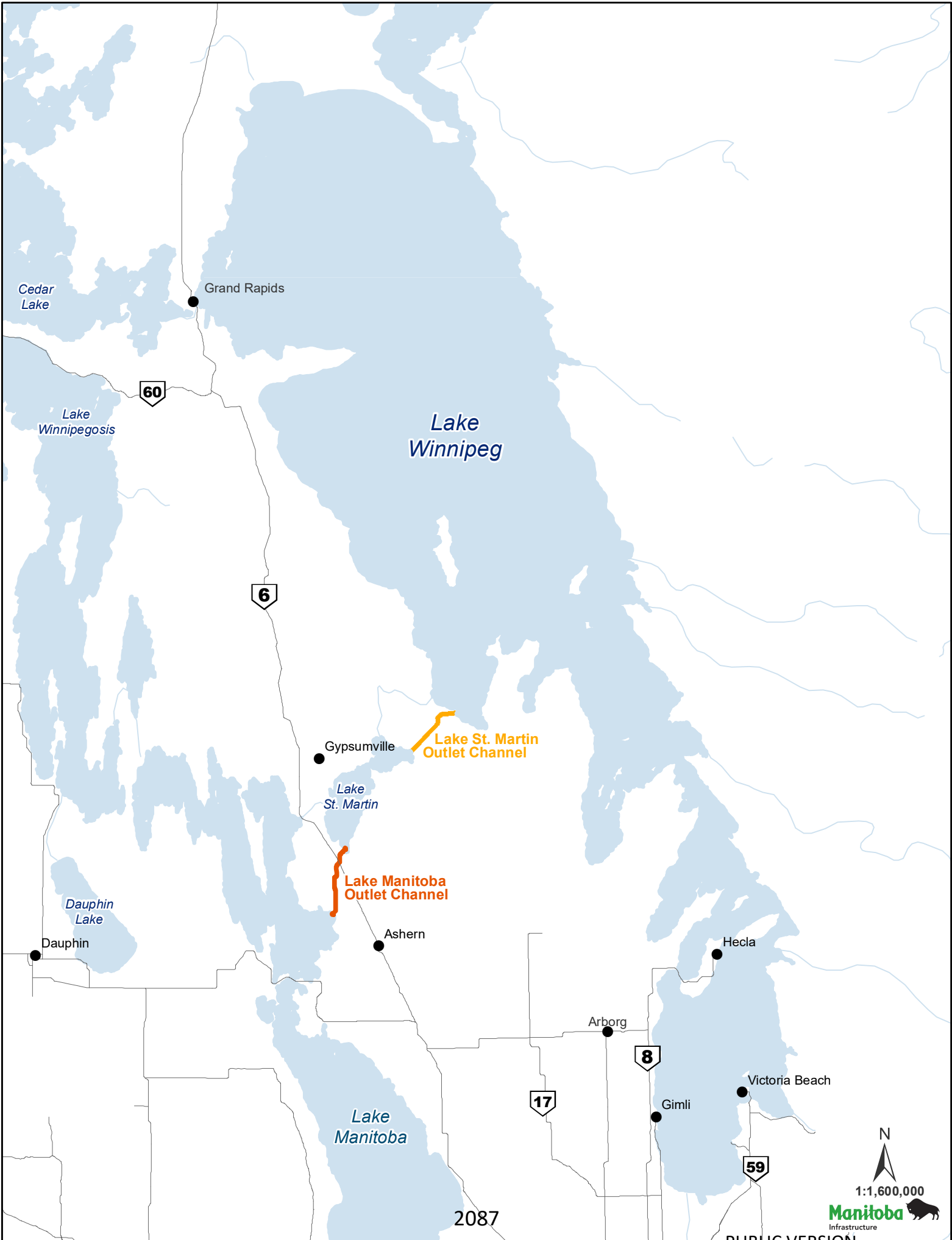
If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or
adding sticky notes to the maps below.







2087



PUBLIC VERSION

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Aquatic Offset Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Aquatic Offset Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to fulfill the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)'s objective of no net loss of productive fish habitat and is required to offset the unavoidable losses of habitat that are predicted to occur from the construction and operation of the Project. This plan provides an estimate of the amount and quality of habitat that will require offsetting, and proposed offsetting measures. The plan also provides an approach to addressing any death of fish that may occur. The specific objectives of the Plan are to:

- Provide an initial estimate of the habitat altered, disrupted, or destroyed as a result of the Project
- Provide a preliminary description of potential offsetting projects

Introduction

1. The Plan (Section 2.2) describes the four general types of offsetting. Which type of offset measure would you prefer to see implemented? Select all that apply:

Habitat restoration and enhancement (e.g., placement of material to improve spawning)

Habitat creation (e.g., development of new streams/lakes/wetlands)

Chemical or biological manipulations (e.g., fish stocking)

Complementary measures (e.g., data collection or scientific research)

Please explain:

A. Fish Death

2. Based on current mitigation measures, the death of fish due to stranding is not predicted to occur. Monitoring activities in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan will confirm these predictions. In the unanticipated event that impacts occur, the death of fish will be offset through stocking. The stocking program would be based on DFO requirements outlined in the Plan (Appendix 3). Do you have any concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

B. Habitat Alterations

3. The Plan (Section 4) outlines the fish habitat that will be altered by construction and operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. Do you have any concerns with the information presented?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Please indicate how your use of these areas will be affected:

C. Options for Offsetting

The Plan (Section 5) presents potential offset projects if residual effects from the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project were to occur, including:

- Birch Bay spawning substrate
 - Sturgeon Bay offshore reef
 - Mercer Creek spawning substrate
 - Watershed improvements
4. Of the offsetting projects provided, which project would you prefer to see implemented? Please explain:
5. Of the offsetting projects provided, are there any projects that you do not want to see implemented? Please explain your concerns:
6. Is there something different that you think would be a good offsetting project? Please explain your project idea:

D. Conclusion

7. The Plan (Section 5) outlined a number of potential offset projects if residual effects from the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project were to occur. Do you feel any of the proposed projects would have an impact on your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the project and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

8. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

9. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

10. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Biosecurity Management Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Biosecurity Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Invasive agricultural pests (i.e., noxious weeds, pathogens, and insects) can pose a significant risk to agricultural land and are costly to control and remove. Project activities have the potential to transfer soil, manure, and plant debris to agricultural areas outside of the Project Development Area (PDA). For the purposes of the Plan, the PDA includes the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and the PR 239 realignment components of the Project. This Plan includes:

- Background information including a summary of agricultural land use in the Project area, regulatory context and industry guidelines and related Project management plans.
- Summary of biosecurity risk issues, risk mechanisms related to construction and operation activities, and risk levels to guide biosecurity management efforts.
- Required actions by Manitoba Infrastructure and Project contactors to protect agricultural biosecurity.
- Identification of specific biosecurity risk areas within and adjacent to the PDA and controlled access points where workers will enter and exit the PDA.
- Implementation plan to guide Manitoba Infrastructure in implementation of the biosecurity management plan for Project construction and operation.

Introduction

1. How do you currently use land in the Project area? Please select all that apply:

Cropland

Grazing land

Livestock operations

None of the above

Other: _____

2. What is your greatest agricultural biosecurity concern?

Noxious weeds

Soil-borne pathogens

Agricultural disease transmission

Other: _____

3. Do you feel the Plan accurately reflects the agricultural land use occurring along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and PR 239 realignment?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

4. The Plan (Section 3.1 and 3.2) outlines measures that will be implemented to prevent, minimize or control risks to cropland and livestock biosecurity during Project construction and operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to address biosecurity risks from the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional biosecurity management measures that should be implemented during:

Construction

Operation

5. The Plan (Section 3.2 and Figure 2-1) identifies biosecurity risk zones, which are areas of agricultural production that are potentially at risk from Project activities. Do you have any biosecurity concerns for the areas identified on Figure 2-1?

Yes

No

If yes:

- a. Are you concerned about a specific location? If so, please identify on Figure 1:
- b. Are you primarily concerned about livestock and manure impacted soils, or croplands and grazing lands? Please explain:

- c. Is there any other information you'd like to share about your concerns?

The Plan (Section 3.2 and Figure 2-1) identifies processes to identify potential access points along the project area. These locations are also identified on Figure 2-1 and may be updated with further development of the Access Management Plan. Do you have any concerns with the areas identified on Figure 2-1?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

6. The Plan (Section 3.2.2 and Table 2) outlines management activities, such as equipment cleaning, based on the level of risk in transferring soil, manure or plant debris from the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel/PR 239 to outside agricultural areas. Is the criteria outlined robust enough to address biosecurity risks from the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Conclusion

7. Are there any specific biosecurity concerns, known to be an issue in the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and PR 239 area of the Project, that you feel have not been addressed in the Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please list issues that should be addressed, and please provide information on specific locations if possible:

8. The Plan outlined methods to mitigate or avoid biosecurity environmental effects during construction and operation of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities as a result of these measures?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the impact and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

9. Given the mitigations outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

10. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

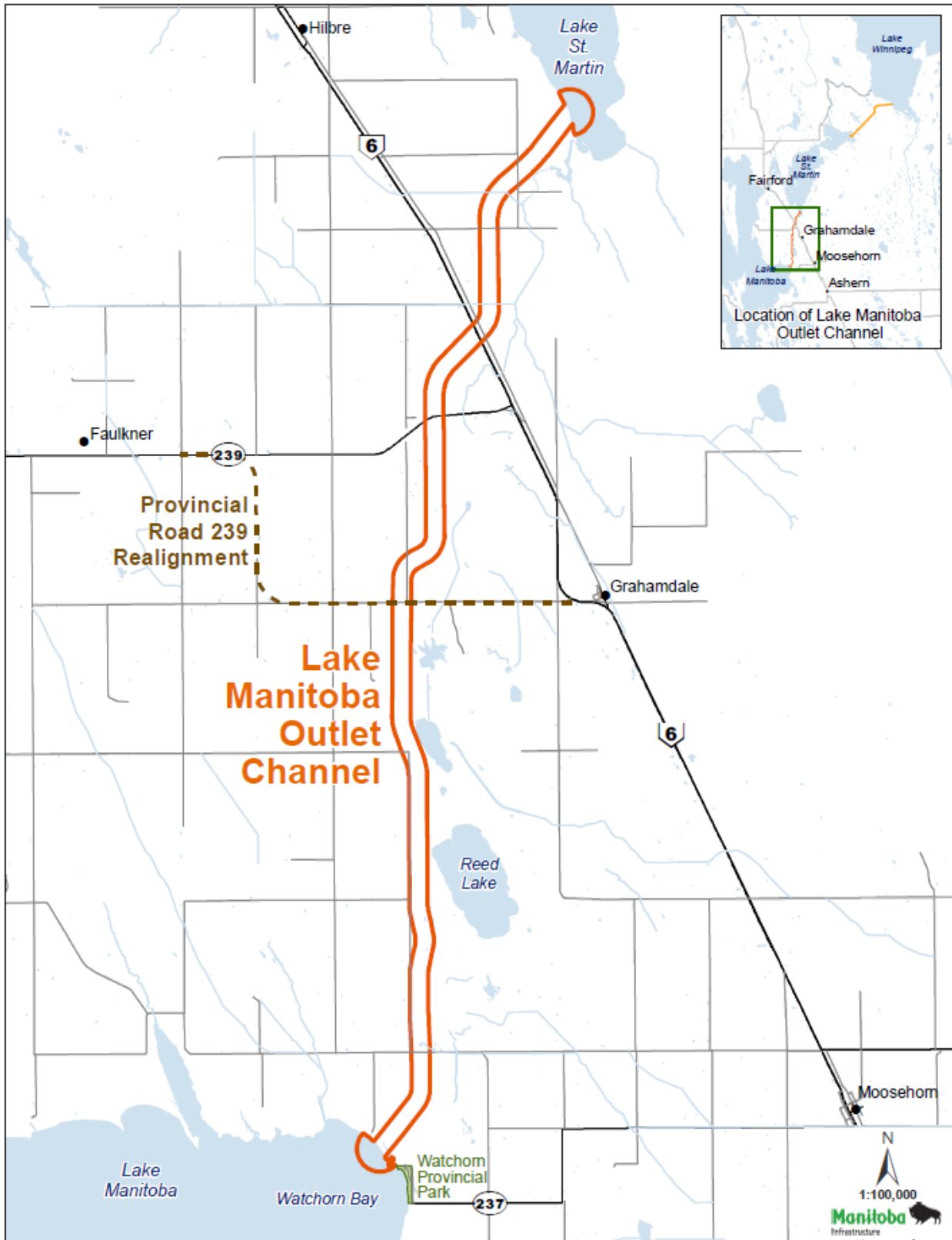
No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channels Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Construction and Operation Environmental Management Program and Project Environmental Requirements

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Construction Environment Management Program, Operation Environment Management Program, and Project Environmental Requirements and Questionnaire

The **Construction Environmental Management Program**, **Operation Environmental Management Program**, and **Project Environmental Requirements** presented during consultation and engagement are considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The programs will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the programs. It is recommended that the documents be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Construction Environmental Management Program is to outline the environmental management processes and measures that will be implemented to minimize environmental effects during construction of the project. The Operation Environmental Management Program outlines processes and measures that will be implemented during operation and maintenance of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.

The Project Environmental Requirements are environmentally focused requirements and commitments for construction contracts that are fundamental to Manitoba Infrastructure's

regulatory compliance. Project Environmental Requirements contain site-specific or point-source requirements for dealing with issues (i.e. access, sediment management, quarries, etc.).

A. Introduction

1. The Construction Environmental Management Program is supported by several specific environmental management plans outlined below¹. These plans detail Project effects in that area (water, terrestrial, etc.) as well as proposed mitigations and monitoring efforts:

Environmental Protection Plan	Project Environmental Requirements	Access Management Plan	Quarry Management Plan
Sediment Management Plan	Surface Water Management Plan	Groundwater Management Plan	Revegetation Management Plan
Biosecurity Management Plan	Dust Control Plan	Waste Management Plan	Hazardous Materials Management Plan
Emergency Response Plan	Heritage Resource Protection Plan	Wetland Compensation Plan	Decommissioning Plan

Which potential adverse environmental effects are you most concerned about from Project construction?

2. The Operation Environmental Management Program is supported by several specific environmental management plans outlined below². These plans detail Project effects in that area (water, terrestrial, etc.) as well as proposed mitigations and monitoring efforts:

Project Environmental Requirements	Access Management Plans	Quarry Management Plan	Debris Management Plan
Sediment Management Plan	Surface Water Management Plan	Groundwater Management Plan	Revegetation Management Plan
Biosecurity Management Plan	Dust Control Plan	Waste Management Plan	Hazardous Materials Management Plan

¹ The Construction Environmental Management Program contains information on waste management, hazardous materials management, and emergency response.

² The Operation Environmental Management Program contains information on waste management, hazardous materials management, emergency response, and debris management.

Emergency Response Plan	Ice Management Plan	Heritage Resources Protection Plan (HRPP)	Decommissioning Plan
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Which potential adverse environmental effects are you most concerned about from Project operation?

- The Project Environmental Requirements (PER) are specific to work and activities conducted under the authority of any and all licences, permits, authorizations or approvals obtained for the project. Does the overview clearly outline the purpose of the PERs?

Yes

No

B. Construction Environmental Management Program

- The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.9) outlines mitigations to minimize potential Project effects on recreational land use and tourism, including aligning channel to avoid traversing lodges, campgrounds, resorts and cottages and also restricting clearing and excavation to the limits of construction and staging areas. Do you feel this is robust enough to manage effects to recreation and tourism during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

- The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.11 and 5.12) outlines a number of mitigations to manage effects and potential accidents from hazardous materials and waste. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

6. The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.13) outlines a number of mitigations to prevent and respond to wildfires. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

7. Throughout construction of the channels, the Construction Inspector will monitor environmental management measures. Topic specific monitoring will also be implemented as outlined in the other Environmental Management Plans for the Project. Do you feel this approach is robust enough to detect non-compliance with the plans and measure the effectiveness of the environmental management measures applied?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Operation Environmental Management Program

8. The Operation Environmental Management Program (see Section 4.6) outlines mitigations to manage the movement of large debris through the channels during flood events, including manually removing debris from the channel slope and safety booms. Do you feel these mitigations are robust enough to manage these effects during operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain and identify any effects this could have to health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area:

9. The Operation Environmental Management Program (see Section 4.9) highlights limited recreational land use along the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels, except at the inlet and outlet locations. Do you feel there will be conflict, disturbance, or access restrictions to recreational land in these areas during operation of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain and identify any effects this could have to health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area:

D. Project Environmental Requirements

10. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments that will be undertaken for the development, maintenance, and decommissioning of designated areas (see Section 2.1). These areas include: camps, quarries, borrow, equipment maintenance, fuel and other material storage. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

11. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments that will be undertaken during clearing, grubbing, and brush disposal activities (see Section 2.2). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

12. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments for work undertaken within or near water, including methods to mitigate or avoid soil movement into water (see Sections 2.3 and 2.4). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

13. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods for fish and mussel salvage during construction of the Project (see Sections 2.3 and 2.4). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

14. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods to mitigate and suppress dust during construction of the Project (see Section 2.6). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

15. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods to mitigate impacts to wildlife during construction of the Project, including the prevention of invasive species introduction (see Section 2.9). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

16. The Project Environmental Requirements describe mitigations to manage the effects of quarry and borrow development during Project construction (see Section 2.9). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

Do you feel that any of these activities, such as quarry or borrow development work, will have an impact to socio-economic conditions in the area?

E. Conclusion

17. The Construction Environmental Management Program (Section 5), Operation Environmental Management Program (Section 4), and Project Environmental Requirements (Section 2) outlined methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during construction and operation of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

18. Given the mitigations outlined the programs, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please identify the component and explain:

19. How would you like to receive information about the Construction Environmental Management Program, Operation Environmental Management Program, Project Environmental Requirements, and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

20. Was the information in the Construction Environmental Management Program, Operation Environmental Management Program, and Project Environmental Requirements presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

21. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Complaints Resolution Process

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Process and Questionnaire

The Complaints Resolution Process (the Process) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Process will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Process. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Manitoba Infrastructure has developed a process to manage Project-related complaints, should they occur. The Process, outlines the methods to receive and document complaints, manage records, and process tracking, as well as the process for complaint notification, investigation, and resolution. The Process will be in place during the construction and operation phases of the Project.

Complaint Resolution Process

1. What potential Project-related issue are you most concerned about? Please select all that apply:

Groundwater Quality and Quantity

Noise and Vibration

Air Quality (e.g., Dust, Odour, Emissions)

Weeds

Other _____

Please explain why this issue concerns you most, and what Project activities it may relate to:

2. Figure 1 below illustrates the complaints resolution process which includes initiation of the complaint, records tracking, investigation and resolution. Do you feel this is robust enough to ensure a successful resolution to a complaint?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

Figure 1: Complaint Response Protocol Diagram



3. Which method of communication would you prefer to use if you had to lodge a Project-related complaint?

Email

Project website

Phone

Mail

No preference

4. How would you like to receive information on the status and/or resolution of a complaint?

Email

Mail

Phone

No preference

Conclusion

5. Was the information in the Complaints Resolution Process presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

6. Do you feel that the Complaint Resolution Process represents another means of identifying unanticipated effects and provide a means to consider adaptive management opportunities (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

7. Do you feel that the Complaint Resolution Process offers another way to provide additional feedback to Manitoba Infrastructure, in addition to consultation process, should Project activities influence or interfere with your traditional land and resource use?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Decommissioning Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Decommissioning Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline the processes and environmental requirements for the removal and closure of temporary designated areas, temporary access roads and quarry areas required during construction of the Project. Decommissioning of the channels and ancillary structures required for on-going operation is not a requirement at this date.

A. Decommissioning Activities

1. The Decommissioning Management Plan (Section 3.1) outlines measures that will be taken to decommission and reclaim **designated areas, temporary facilities and work areas** that will not be needed for future maintenance activities. Do you think feel these measures are robust enough to minimize environmental impacts?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

2. The Decommissioning Management Plan (Section 3.2) outlines measures that will be used to decommission and reclaim **temporary construction roads** within the right-of-way for the Project that are not required for the operation and maintenance phases. Do you think feel these measures are robust enough to minimize environmental impacts?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

B. Conclusion

3. Is there anything related to decommissioning that you would like to share with us?

Please explain:

4. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

5. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel this will have positive or negative impacts on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

6. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

7. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Dust Control Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Dust Control Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The Plan describes the dust suppressant products to use and the methods of their application on Provincial Road (PR) 239, other access roads used and material stockpiles to minimize and mitigate effects from increased dust levels.

Introduction

1. The Plan (Section 1.4) identifies that dust conditions will be monitored on PR 239, access roads, and all areas where construction and operation activities will take place. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor for excessive dust conditions?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Dust Control Measures

2. The Plan (Section 3.0) identifies that only water or approved dust suppressants, such as calcium/magnesium chloride, which is commonly used on other provincial gravel roads, will be used for dust control. Do you have concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain your concerns:

3. The Plan (Section 5.1) outlines application methods for dust suppressants. Do you have concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain your concerns:

Conclusion

4. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

5. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

6. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

7. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Eastern Whip-poor-will Habitat Mitigation Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Eastern Whip-poor-will Habitat Mitigation Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The goal of this Plan is to describe habitat mitigation and monitoring opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will that will be implemented within the outlet channel Right-of-Ways (ROWs).

Specific objectives are to:

- Apply revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will, while adhering to requirements for the safe operation and maintenance of the Project.
- Monitor the occurrence of eastern whip-poor-will along the outlet channel ROWs to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

A. Introduction

1. Do you feel that past flood mitigation activities have impacted species at risk such as eastern whip-poor-will or others?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain which species at risk you feel have been impacted, and how:

2. The Plan (Section 1.3) identifies that the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel and distribution line overlaps with an eastern whip-poor-will critical habitat square near the northern part of Lake St. Martin as shown on Figure 1. Based on modelling of habitat attributes, this area is not considered critical habitat for eastern whip-poor-will. Are you aware of any areas that are suitable eastern whip-poor-will habitat?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify these locations on Figure 1.

B. Project Mitigations

3. The Plan (Section 3) describes revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will. Do you feel these mitigations are robust enough to enhance forest edge habitat for eastern whip-poor-will along the outlet channel right of ways, where adjacent forest exists?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Monitoring

4. An eastern whip-poor-will survey (Section 4.1) will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of mitigation measures by examining if eastern whip-poor-will occupy habitats in, or adjacent to the Habitat Mitigation Areas (HMAs). Surveys will be completed daily over a 14-day period during their breeding season and will occur during the first year of construction and will be repeated in years 2, 4, and 6 post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure and apply adaptive management (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

5. The Plan (Section 4) describes monitoring activities that will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the Plan, including habitat monitoring along the Project as outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan. Do you feel this monitoring is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure and apply adaptive management (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

D. Conclusion

6. Do you feel that potential effects to eastern whip-poor-will habitat resulting from the Project may impact your ability to practice tradition use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please explain:

7. Would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of eastern whip-poor-will and their habitat? If yes, please explain how:

8. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

9. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

10. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
 Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
 sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

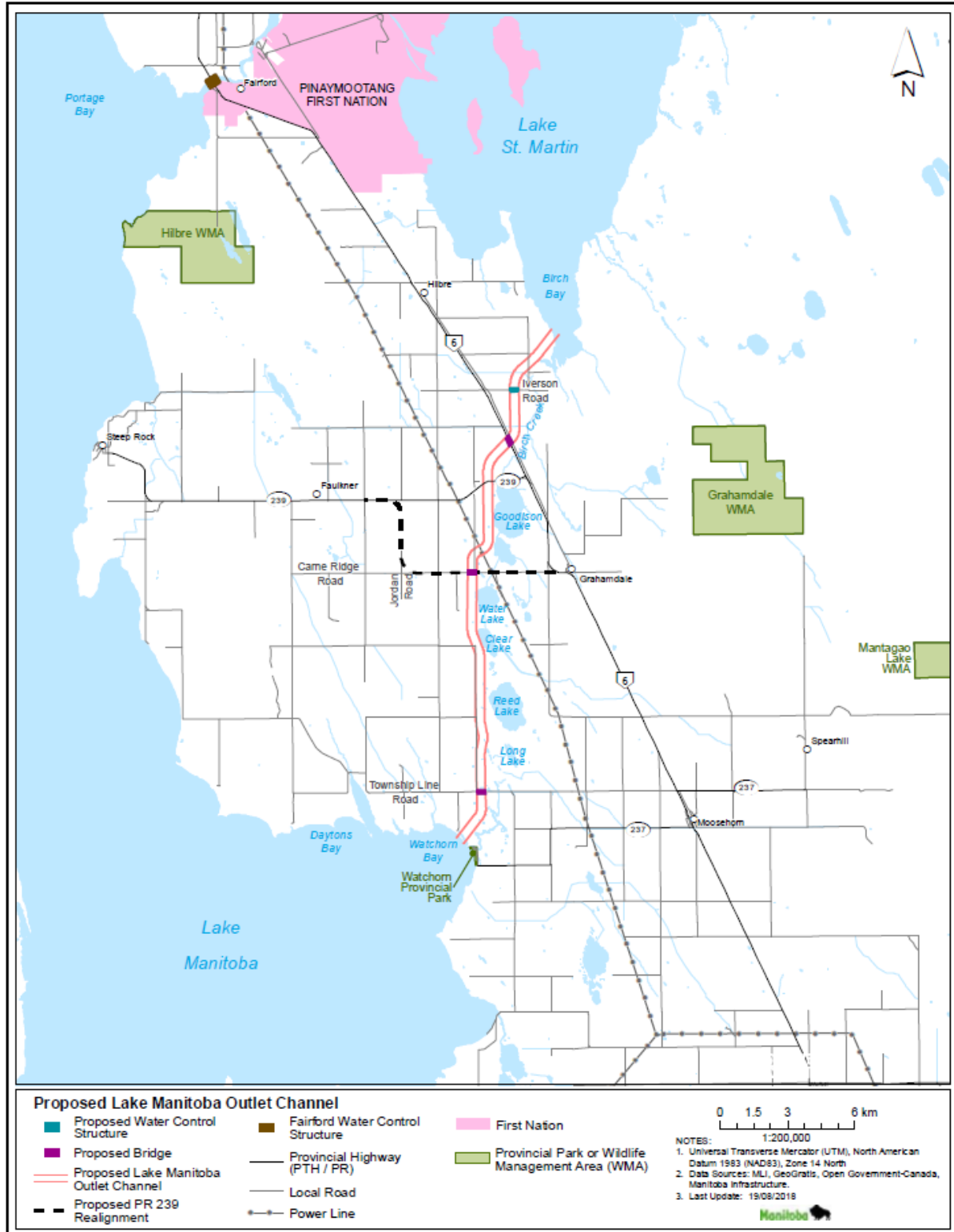
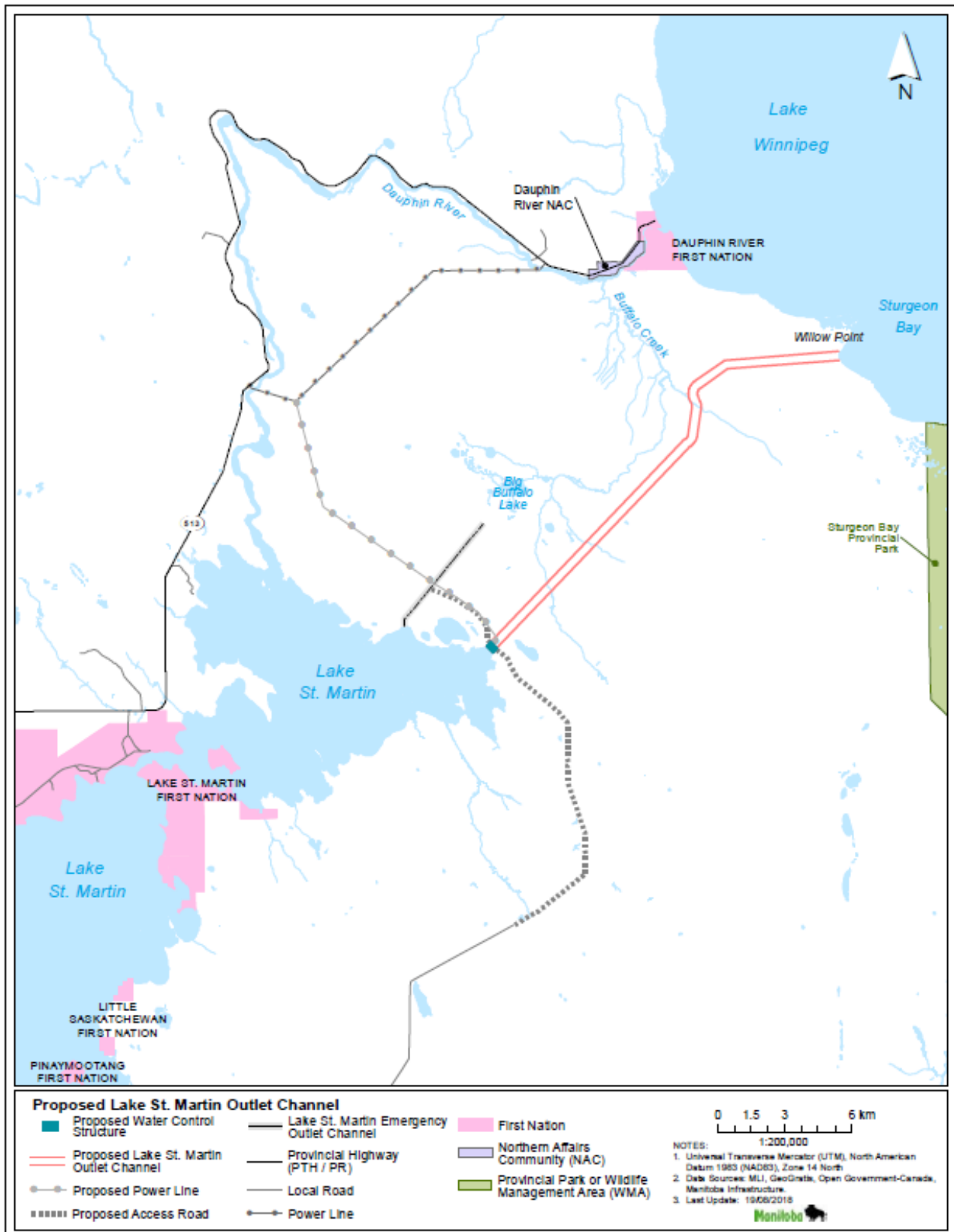


Figure 2 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Environmental Protection Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Environmental Protection Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement are considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The programs will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the programs. It is recommended that the documents be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The Plan has been developed to support the Project's compliance with regulatory requirements and conditions of approval. The Plan provides a consolidated list of the environmental protection measures that will be implemented during the planning and site preparation and construction phases of the Project.

A. Environmental Protection Measures

1. As stated in Section 1.1 of the Plan, the EPP mapbook is meant to supplement general environmental protection measures and is intended to provide further direction to contractors and field staff in Project planning and construction. Draft maps have been provided and once completed, the mapbook will identify known Environmentally Sensitive Sites and provide direction for mitigation. Do you feel that the material included in this Plan, as well as the site specific measures (as shown in the sample maps in Appendix 1) will provide field personnel with sufficient information to mitigate site-specific environmental effects and other project-related concerns?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

2. The Plan (Table 3 in Section 3.1) lists environmental protection measures related to project planning. Do you feel these measures will be robust enough in mitigating potential Project effects?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

3. The Plan (Table 4 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel construction?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

4. The Plan (Table 5 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel construction?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

5. The Plan (Table 6 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the realignment of PR 239. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to PR 239 realignment?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

B. Conclusion

6. Are there any additional environmental protection measures that you would like to see incorporated into the Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify what environmental protection measures you would like to see added and explain why:

7. The Plan outlines methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during project planning, site preparation and construction of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities as a result of one or more mitigation measure indicated in this plan?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the specific mitigation measure(s) and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected as a result:

8. Given the measures outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of these measures will have a positive impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)? Please identify the measure and explain:

9. Given the measures outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of these measures will have a negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)? Please identify the measure and explain:

10. How would you like to receive further information on the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Groundwater Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Summary of Plan

The Groundwater Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe measures to take to avoid or minimize adverse effects on groundwater from construction and operation of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project).

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Present an understanding of the hydrogeological conditions in the Project areas
- Present groundwater depressurization plans for construction and operation scenarios
- Identify potential impacts on groundwater supply wells and required mitigation measures
- Describe the planned monitoring to confirm effectiveness of mitigation measures

Please note, the frequency of water quality monitoring outlined in the Plan, and Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, has been determined based on environmental and engineering consultant advice and is subject to change based on monitoring results and feedback received through consultation, engagement, and regulatory activities..

Part 1 – Introduction

1. The Groundwater Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes methods that may be used to avoid or minimize effects on groundwater quality and quantity from the Project. What concerns do you have regarding groundwater effects from the Project? Select all that apply:
 - a. Impacts to wells and drinking water
 - b. Impacts to wetlands
 - c. Interactions with surface water
 - d. Other _____

Please explain:

2. Do you know of any groundwater discharge areas¹ in the Project area? These may be noticed by areas of poor ice condition or visible springs:

Yes

No

If yes, please explain identify on the map below (Figure 1) where these areas are located:

¹ A groundwater discharge area is an area where groundwater moves out of the aquifer to the surface through springs or seeps

Part 2 – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

3. If you obtain drinking water or livestock water from wells, are all those wells flowing or pumped? Are they installed into bedrock (limestone/carbonate aquifer)? Please provide details of well construction/depth, location, pumped or natural flow in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Respondents Well Information

Well Construction/Depth	Location	Pumped or Natural Flow

4. Does the quality or quantity of your well water change seasonally or in relation to weather conditions?

Yes

No

Please explain:

5. The Plan (Sections 7 and 14) discusses Project impacts on groundwater supply wells and potential mitigation measures. These mitigation measures are also outlined in Table 2 below and will be implemented on a case-by-case basis with affected well users.

Table 2: Mitigations for Domestic and Livestock Wells

Type of Well	Mitigation	
	Short Term	Long Term
Domestic wells	Water tanks/alternate water supply	Lower existing pump intake if feasible
		Supply new pumps
		Drill new wells or extend existing well
Artesian livestock wells	Transfer water from construction dewatering/depressurization wells to dugouts	Lower existing pump intake if feasible
		Supply new pumps
		Drill new wells or extend existing well

Do you feel these mitigations will be effective? Please explain:

Are there any additional mitigations that you would like included? Please explain:

6. The operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel will not alter the groundwater flow direction towards the lakes but some groundwater will be captured through depressurization wells and drains and transported to the lakes through the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. Do you have any concerns with this approach to managing groundwater discharge?

Yes

No

If yes, please share your concerns:

7. Several parameters to assess groundwater quality for the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel are outlined in Table 5 of the Plan. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for surface and drinking water quality: Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included? Please explain:

8. During **construction** of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, continuous monitoring of **groundwater levels** will occur and monitoring of **groundwater quality** will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall as described in the Plan. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

9. During **operation** of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, continuous monitoring of **groundwater levels** will occur and monitoring of **groundwater quality** will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall during the first two years post-construction as described in the Plan. This duration may be extended if needed. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Part 3 – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

10. The Plan (Sections 7.1 and 14.1) outlines potential Project effects, including the risk of exposing the aquifer during excavation of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel and causing groundwater discharge into the channel. To mitigate this risk, groundwater will be pumped (depressurization) to lower the local groundwater level in the aquifer. Do you think this is robust enough to manage these construction impacts?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

11. Lowering the local groundwater level will have an effect to areas within 1 km of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. The closest wells to the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel are 5-6 km away. Given this information, do you have concerns with drinking water supplies near the LSMOC?

Yes

No

If yes, please share your concerns:

12. Several parameters to assess groundwater quality for the LSMOC are outlined in Table 10 of the Plan. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for surface water and drinking water quality: Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included? Please explain:

13. During **construction** of the LSMOC, continuous monitoring of groundwater levels will occur and monitoring of groundwater quality will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall as described in the Plan. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

14. During **operation** of the LSMOC, continuous monitoring of groundwater levels will occur and monitoring of groundwater quality will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall during the first two years post-construction as described in the Plan. This duration may be extended if needed. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Conclusion

15. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

16. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

17. Groundwater monitoring reports will be developed on an annual basis. Manitoba Infrastructure is planning to share this information with community leadership. Do you feel this is sufficient?

Yes

No

If no, how frequent should these reports be prepared? _____

18. How else would you like to receive this information?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

19. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in follow-up and groundwater monitoring?

20. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

21. Do you have any general comments or questions?

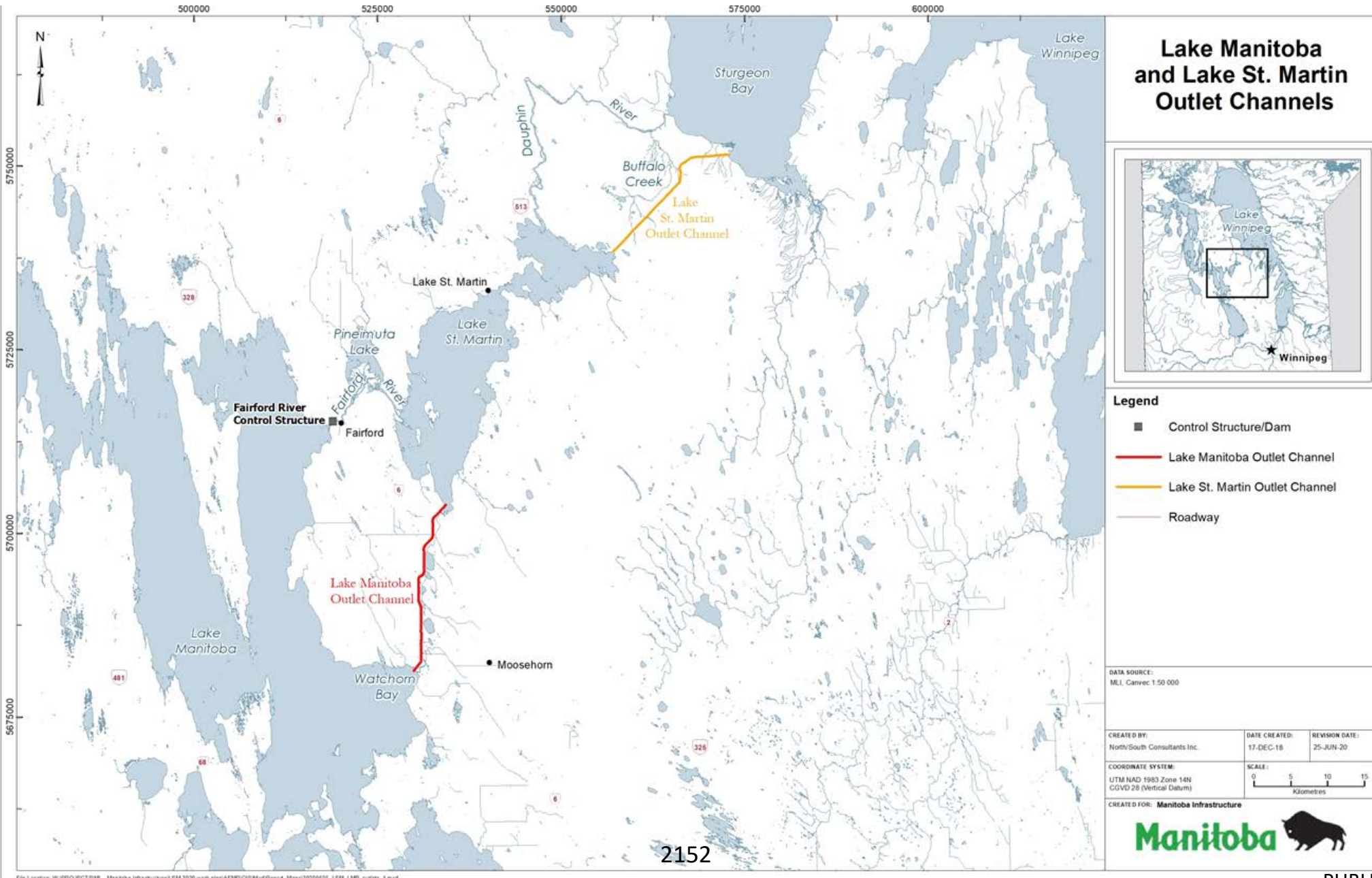
Yes

No

Please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the map below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
 Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the map provided below.



Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels



- Legend**
- Control Structure/Dam
 - Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel
 - Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel
 - Roadway

DATA SOURCE:
 MLI, Canvec 1:50 000

CREATED BY: North/South Consultants Inc.	DATE CREATED: 17-DEC-18	REVISION DATE: 25-JUN-20
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COORDINATE SYSTEM: UTM NAD 1983 Zone 14N (CGVD 28 Vertical Datum)	SCALE: 0 5 10 15 Kilometres
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CREATED FOR: Manitoba Infrastructure



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Heritage Resources Protection Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Heritage Resource Protection Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Heritage resources are protected under Manitoba's Heritage Resources Act (1986) and are managed by the Heritage Resources Branch (HRB) under the Ministry of Sport, Culture, and Heritage. The Plan has been developed to provide for this protection. The objective of the Plan is to provide for two facets of heritage protection:

1. The protection of previously known heritage resources.
2. The protection of heritage resources and human remains should they be unearthed or discovered during the construction and operating phases of the Project.

The Plan is being developed based on the findings of a Heritage Resource Impact Assessment conducted prior to the start of construction.

A. Introduction

1. Workers for the Project will receive basic heritage resources training prior to construction to aid them in their ability to recognize heritage resources that may be uncovered during construction and report these findings to appropriate Project personnel. Is this process robust enough to ensure that chance findings of heritage resources are documented and protected?

Yes

No

If no, please explain your concerns:

2. a) Are you aware of specific areas in the Project area that contain heritage resources, such as burial grounds, artifacts (e.g., tools, pottery or other historic objects), hearths (old fire pit), stone configurations, etc.?

Yes

No

If yes, please make note of the type of heritage resources and their location on Figures 1, 2, and 3.

- b) Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) recognizes that concerns have been raised about the impact to islands in Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, and Lake Winnipeg. Are you aware of any specific heritage resources in these areas that you feel may be impacted by the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the location of these resources on Figures 1, 2, and 3 and how you feel the Project may affect these in a way that the natural environment (e.g., water level fluctuations and erosion) does not.

3. MI recognizes that the Fairford Trail, a historical feature in the area, is still actively used by Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the area. Please explain how you use the Fairford Trail:

4. MI recognizes that the Narrows of Lake St. Martin are considered a site of importance to Indigenous peoples. If applicable, please explain how you use the Narrows of Lake St. Martin:

B. Heritage Resources Protective Measures

5. Known heritage resources related to the Project include: heritage sensitive areas, known heritage resources in the Project Development Area, and culturally important areas. The Plan (Section 5) outlines measures for how these heritage resources will be managed during the Project. Are the measures outlined robust enough to ensure the protection of heritage resources?

Yes

No

If no, please indicate additional processes for consideration:

6. The Plan (Section 5.2 and 5.3) outlines procedures that will be followed if a “Chance Find” heritage resource is encountered. Are the procedures outlined robust enough to protect these heritage resources?

Yes

No

If no, please explain and identify other procedures that should be considered:

7. What types of “Chance Finds” of heritage resources do you feel your community should be contacted about if encountered?

8. The Plan (Section 5.3.1) identifies measures that will be followed to protect heritage resources during Project construction activities, including those found in recognized or newly discovered cemeteries or burial grounds. Are the measures outlined robust enough to ensure the protection of heritage resources in these areas?

Yes

No

If no, please indicated additional processes for consideration:

9. Manitoba Infrastructure has also considered periodic post-construction monitoring of the Bayton St. Thomas Lutheran Cemetery to ensure no alteration to headstones based on the groundwater regime has occurred (Section 9.6.8 of the EIS). Do you feel these monitoring measures should be implemented?

Yes

No

Please explain:

C. Conclusion

10. Are the procedures identified in the Plan sufficient to protect heritage resources used for your community's traditional activities from potential Project-related effects?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any concerns regarding Project-related effects to heritage resources and the practice of traditional activities:

11. How would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of the heritage resources activities, including the identification of heritage sites? Please identify:

12. Would your community be interested in conducting ceremonies or spiritual activities for known or unknown heritage resources?

Yes

No

Are there any specific heritage resource types or locations for which you or your community feels a ceremony or spiritual activity is required? If so, please identify:

13. If “Chance Find” heritage resources are unearthed or discovered during the construction and operating phases of the Project, how would you like to participate or contribute your cultural, traditional, or heritage knowledge to the protection or removal of these heritage resources? Please explain:

14. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website notification

All of the above

15. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

16. Do you have any general comments or questions about the Plan, heritage resources or relevant traditional activities?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Area

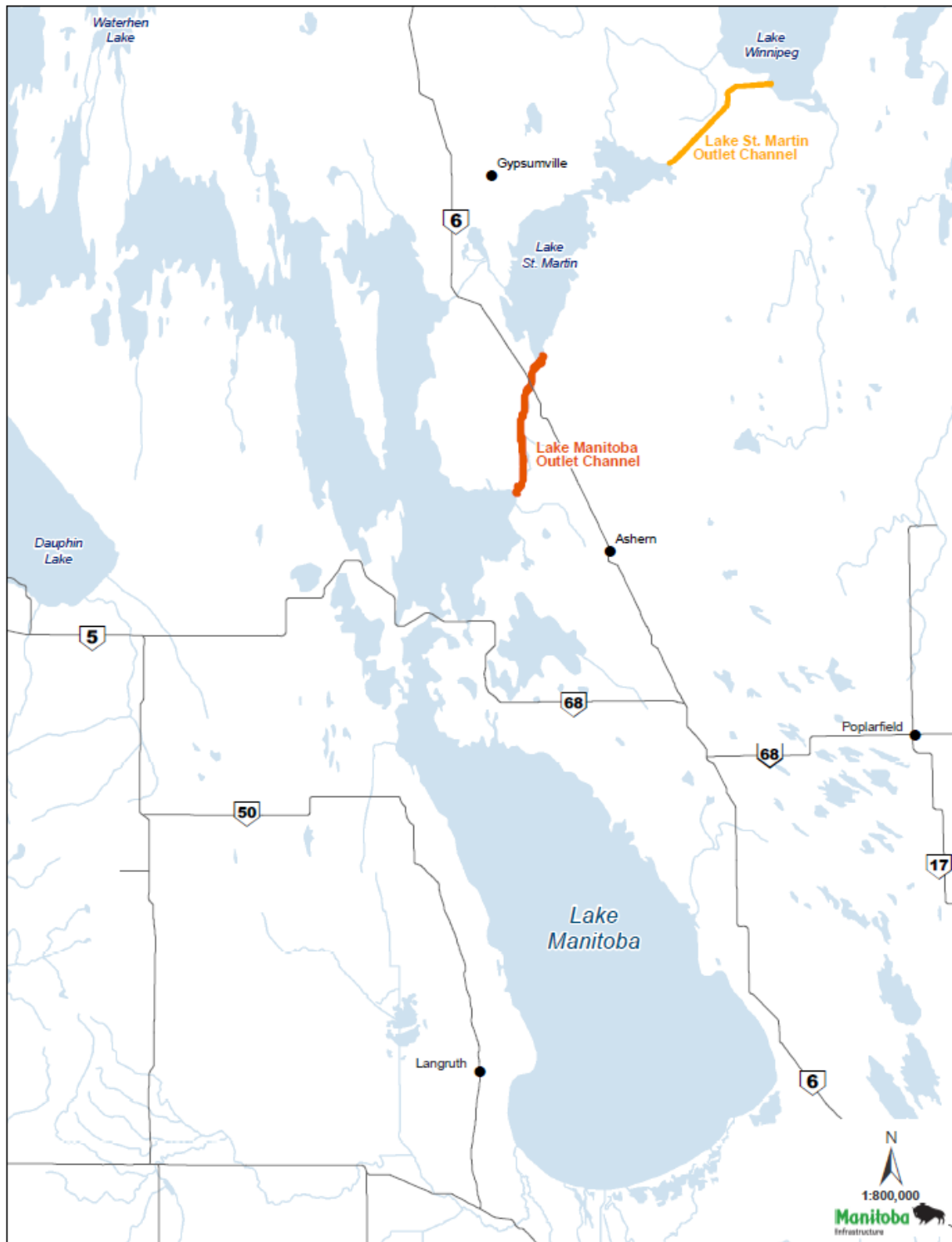


Figure 2 – Map of Lake St. Martin Area

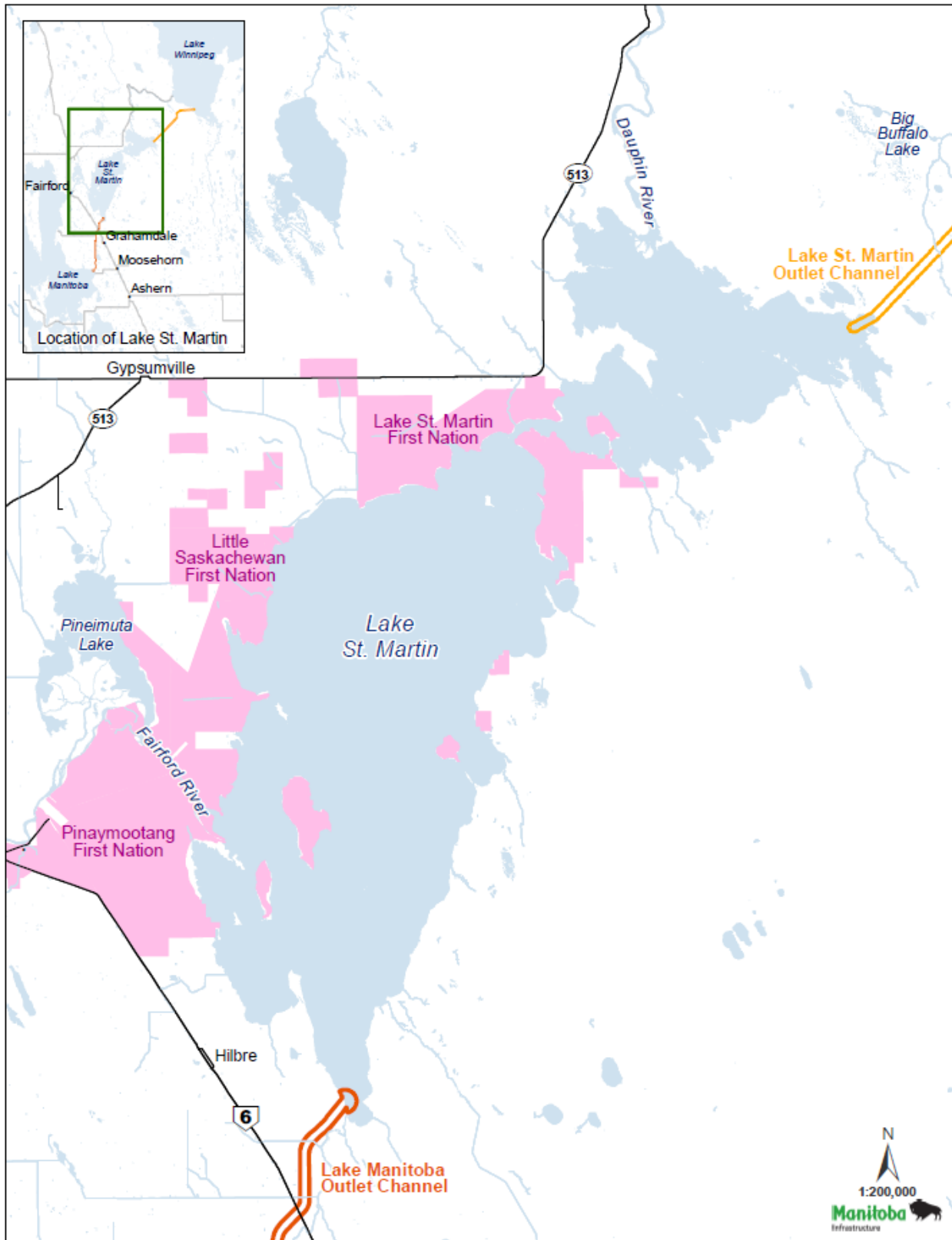
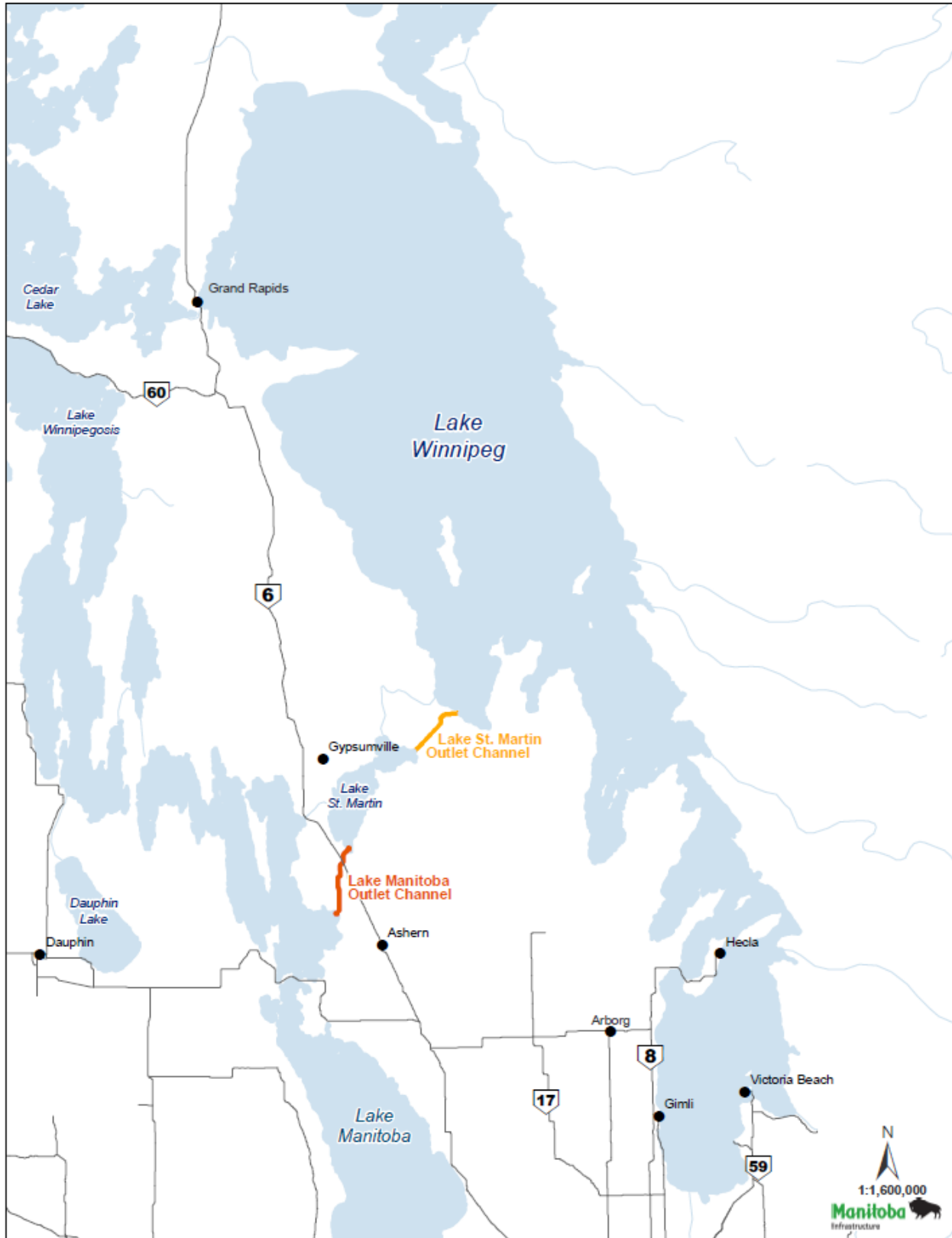


Figure 3 – Map of Lake Winnipeg Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Ice Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Ice Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The objective of the Ice Management Plan is manage hazards related to ice during operation of the outlet channels to ensure public and worker safety and minimize environmental impacts.

A. Introduction

1. Do you rely on winter (frozen) conditions to access lands in the vicinity of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify for what purpose:

2. Do you ice fish in the vicinity of the planned Project inlets and outlets?

Yes

No

B. Ice Management

3. The Project may operate through the winter in years with extreme flooding, causing thin ice in the lakes near the inlets and outlets. Figure 1 identifies locations of potential thin ice during operation of the Project. Please identify if these locations overlap with areas utilized for traditional purposes:

4. The Plan (Section 2.2) discusses ice management measures for winter operation of the Project, such as heated gates and considering ice processes within the channel before operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to effects of winter operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

5. The Plan (Section 2.2) discusses that signage indicating potential areas of thin ice will be displayed at inlet and outlet areas in accordance with Transport Canada requirements. Are there any additional locations (see Figure 2) where you feel that thin ice signage is needed?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify on Figure 2 the other locations where signage is needed:

6. The Plan (Section 3) discusses that operation of the Project will alter the flow regimes of the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers during high winter flow years, but is not anticipated to have significant changes to low flow years. Will these changes affect how you use the Fairford or Dauphin Rivers?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain how this will impact how you use the area:

Fairford River:

Dauphin River:

7. Although operation of the Project is not anticipated to have any negative impacts on ice processes in the area, monitoring of ice conditions will still occur. The Plan (Sections 3.2 and 4.0) outlines that monitoring will occur at key locations identified by communities, such as at the mouth of the Dauphin River where the community constructs an ice road each winter. Are there any locations where you feel ice monitoring is required?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the locations on Figure 3.

8. The Plan (Section 4.0) outlines potential mitigation measures that may be undertaken if adverse ice conditions develop, including operational reductions to reduce flows or equipment deployment to clear ice jams. Do you feel this is robust enough to reduce the risk of ice jams occurring during project operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Conclusion

9. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

10. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

**We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.**

Figure 1: Locations of Potential Thin Lake Ice

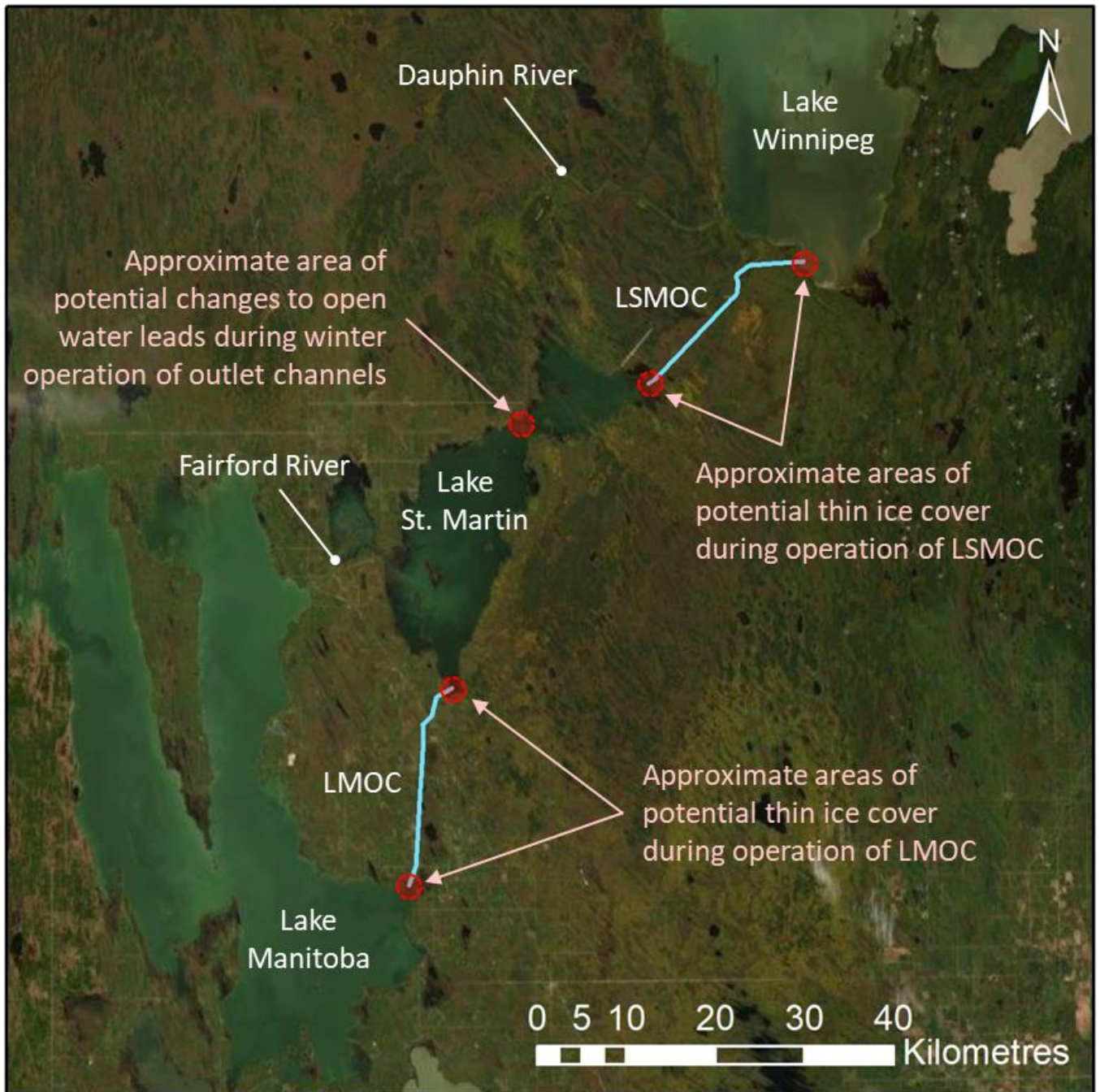


Figure 2: Locations of Potential Thin Lake Ice – Areas for Additional Signage

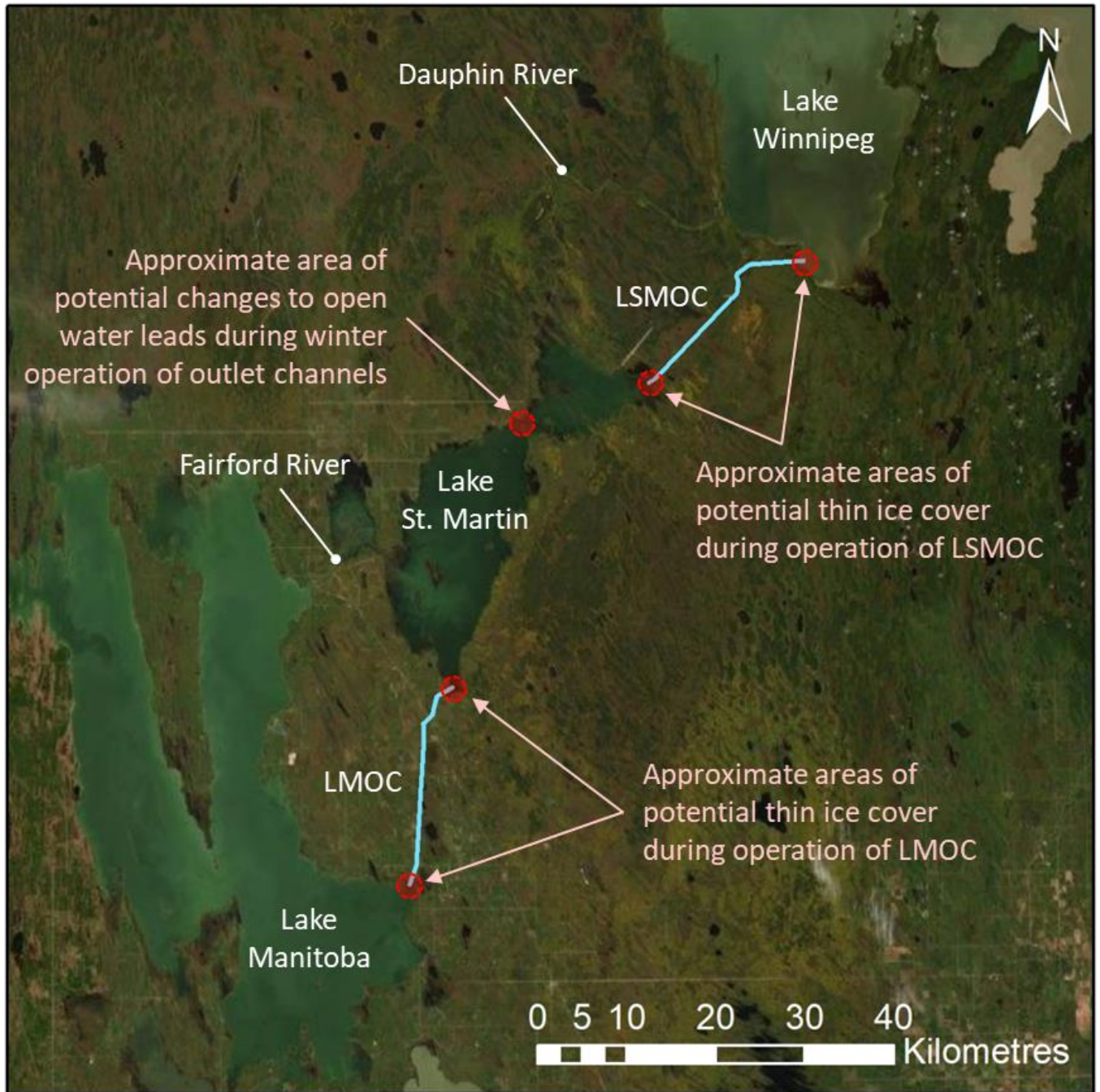
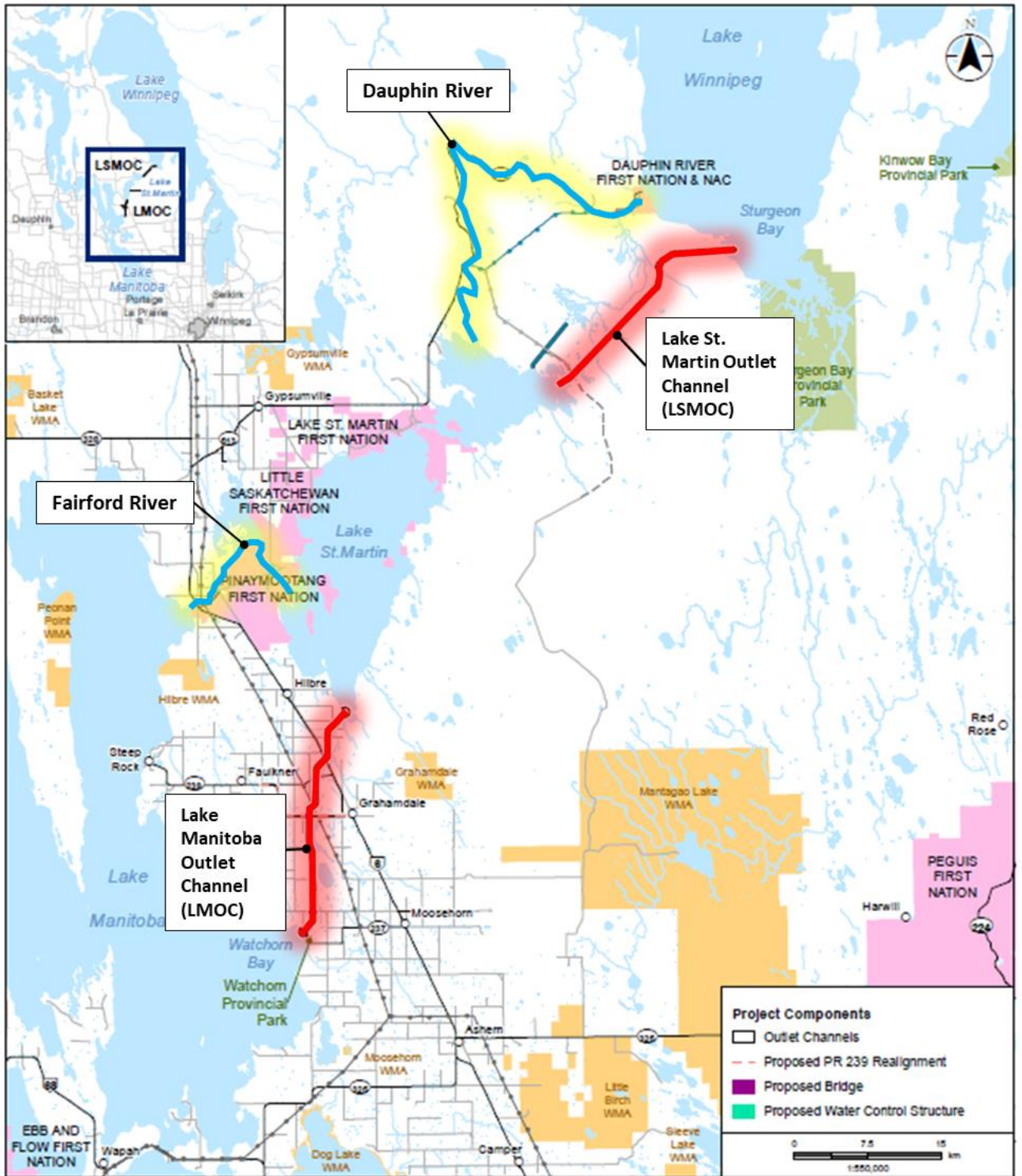


Figure 3: Map of Project Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Quarry Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Quarry Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline criteria for site selection and development of quarries with the objective to avoid (to the extent possible), and mitigate potential adverse environmental effects associated with quarry development and aggregate production activities.

Introduction and Communications

1. The Plan (Appendix A) provides a map with locations of potential quarries. This figure will be updated as required as design and construction progresses and new information becomes available. Will the location of potential quarries proposed have a negative impact on your use of land in the area? Please feel free to share information on the map provided in Figure 1.

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

2. Ongoing communications are outlined in Section 2 of the Plan. Do you feel that the communications planned are sufficient for informing people of quarry management activities for the Outlet Channels project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional communication activities that should be included:

3. Advanced notifications will be given to affected parties prior to blasting events. If affected, how would you like to receive notification about blasting events or other quarry-related communications?

Email

Mail

Website notification

All of the above

Please explain how much time you think is sufficient to give prior notice of blasting events:

Construction

4. The Plan (Section 3.1) outlines criteria that must be followed when quarry and borrow pit sites are identified and developed, such as maintaining a minimum of 100 metres from a water course or water body and not developing sites that contain acid generating rock. Requirements outlined in the Project Environmental Requirements must also be followed. Do you have any concerns with how quarry sites will be identified, assessed and selected?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain and identify any additional criteria that should be included in the selection of a quarry site:

5. The Plan (Section 3.1) outlines the types of environmentally sensitive sites that should be avoided when quarries are selected. Are you aware of any sensitive sites that should be avoided during quarry development work?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the sensitive sites on the Figures 2 and 3 and describe its importance or sensitive nature.

6. The Plan (Section 3.2) discusses how the Quarry Development Plan will address site surface water and groundwater conditions. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to protect site surface water and/or groundwater?

Yes

No

If yes, please share those concerns you have regarding surface water and groundwater conditions related to quarry activities:

7. The Plan (Section 3.3) describes mitigations to manage the effects of quarry operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during quarry operations?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: Do you have any safety concerns with the operation of quarries or borrow pits for the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, what additional safety features would you like to see in place for this project:

8. The Plan (Section 3.5) describes processes that will be followed to decommission quarries that are exhausted of material or are no longer required. Do you feel the measures outlined are robust enough to remediate impacts from quarries?

Yes

No

If no, what additional measures should be added to the quarry decommissioning plan:

Conclusion

9. The Plan outlined methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during quarry activities of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

10. Given the mitigations outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

11. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

12. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

13. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Potential Quarry Locations

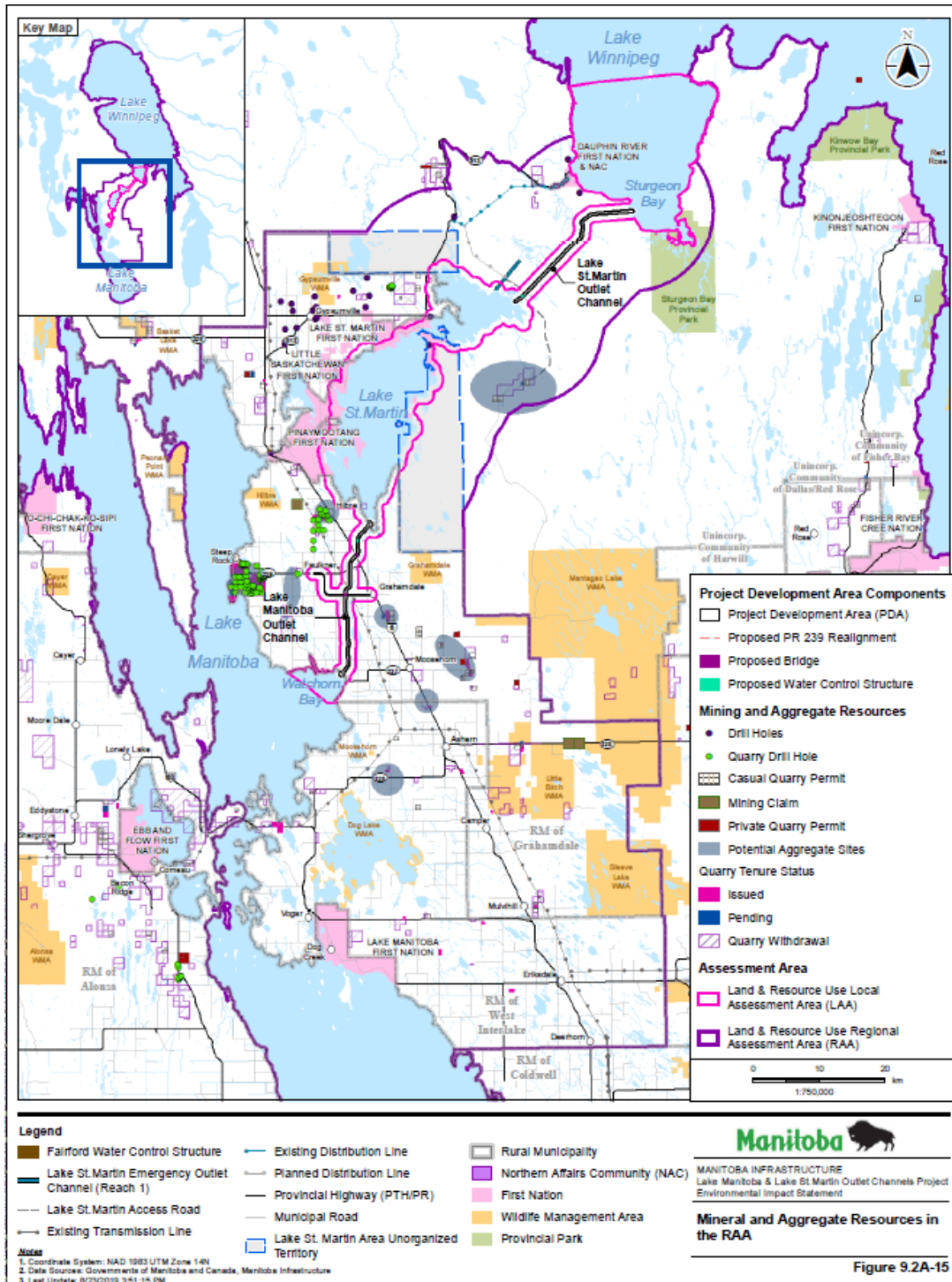
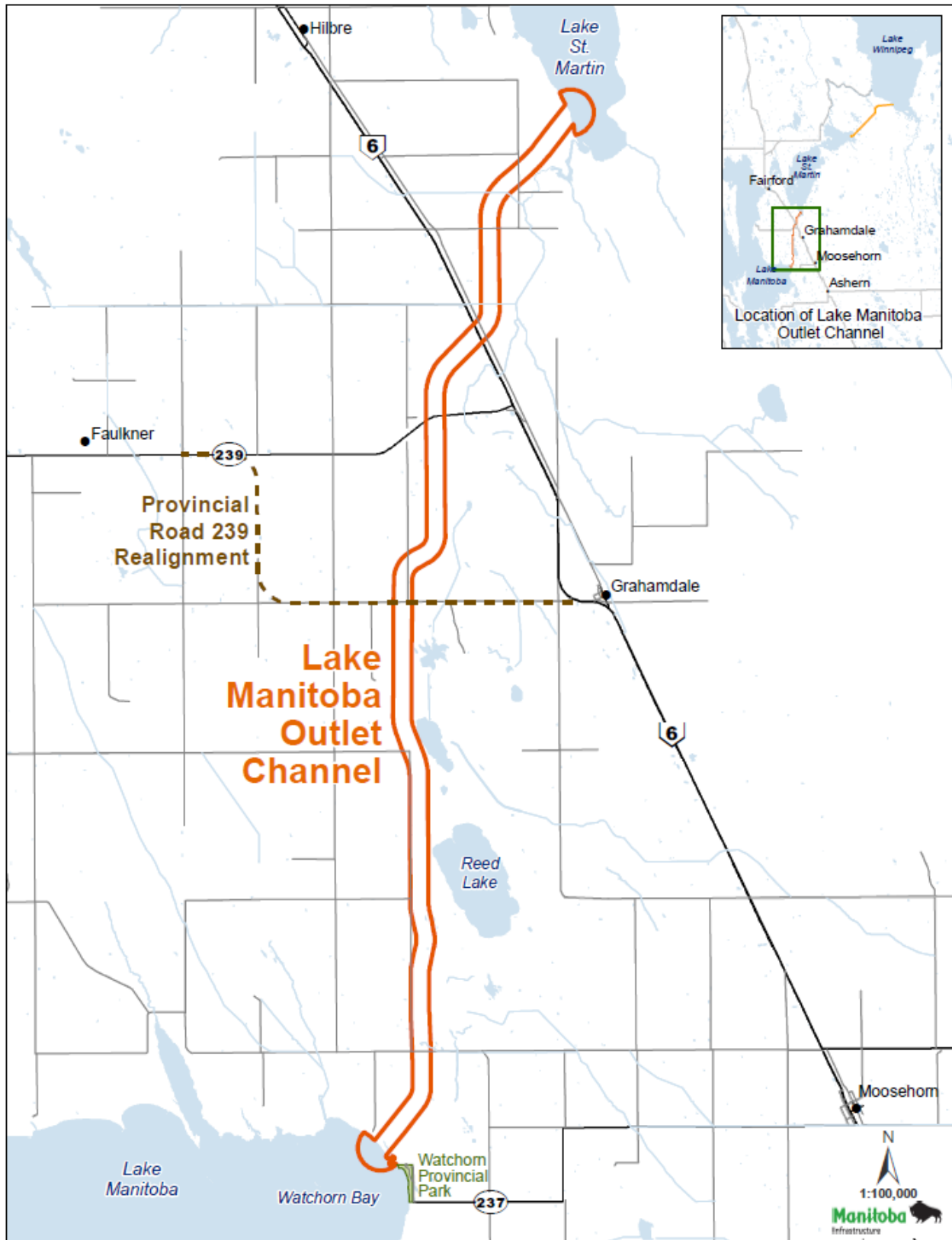


Figure 2 – Project Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Red-headed Woodpecker Habitat Mitigation Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Red-headed Woodpecker Habitat Mitigation Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe how habitat mitigation and monitoring activities will be implemented along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right-of-Way (ROW). The goal of this Plan is to enhance breeding habitat opportunities for red-headed woodpecker along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel ROW. This will be achieved by employing the mitigation measures, best management practices, and adaptive management techniques outlined in this Plan during the construction and operation phases of the Project. Specific objectives are to:

- Describe revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for red-headed woodpecker, while adhering to requirements for the safe operation and maintenance of the Project.
- Describe Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel ROW habitat mitigation, including erecting salvaged snags and/or decadent trees and artificial nest structures.
- Describe how revegetation prescriptions and nest structure occupancy by red-headed woodpecker will be monitored to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

A. Introduction

1. Do you feel that past flood protection projects or activities have impacted species at risk such as red-headed woodpecker or others?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain which species at risk you feel have been impacted, and how:

2. The Plan (Section 1.3) identifies that the Project overlaps a red-headed woodpecker critical habitat square. Field surveys conducted in 2020 within this area of overlap did not reveal the presence of red-headed woodpecker. Are you aware of any areas that are suitable red-headed woodpecker habitat?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify these locations on Figure 1.

B. Project Mitigation

3. The Plan (Section 3) outlines mitigation measures that will reduce potential effects to the red-headed woodpecker and their habitats. Do you feel that these measures will be effective in mitigating potential Project-related effects?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

4. The Plan (Section 3.2.2) outlines that red-headed woodpecker habitat will be enhanced by salvaging snags and decadent trees and installing artificial nest structures. Do you feel that these measures will be effective in creating nesting habitat for red-headed woodpecker?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

5. Measures to reduce the likelihood of salvaged decadent trees falling over include adherence to best management practices (e.g., attaching decadent trees to treated wooden posts) and nest structure monitoring. Do you think this is robust enough to reduce the likelihood of salvaged snags and decadent trees falling over?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other measures you feel should be considered:

C. Monitoring

6. A red-headed woodpecker nest survey (Section 4.1) will be undertaken to understand if red-headed woodpeckers occupy salvaged decadent trees and artificial nesting structures placed within or adjacent to the Habitat Migration Areas (HMA). Surveys will be completed on two separate occasions, between June 1 to 30, during the first year of construction and will be repeated each year until year 6 of post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

7. The nest structure survey (Section 4.2) will be used to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation measures by monitoring the structural integrity of salvaged decadent trees and artificial nest boxes. The nest structure survey will be completed once per year prior to the breeding season (April 1). Surveys will be undertaken during the first year post-construction and will be repeated each year until year 6 of post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

8. Results from the monitoring programs will also inform whether adaptive measures are needed, such as replacing salvaged trees or adding new artificial nesting structures. In addition, a root cause analysis of why a measure failed to meet the intended objective will be conducted. Do you feel that these measures and their ability to inform the need for adaptive measures will help Manitoba Infrastructure understand and mitigate potential Project effects and prevent future failures?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other monitoring or adaptive measures you feel should be considered:

D. Conclusion

9. Do you feel that potential effects to red-headed woodpecker habitat resulting from the Project may impact your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please explain:

10. Would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of red headed woodpeckers and their habitat? If yes, please explain how:

11. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

12. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

13. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

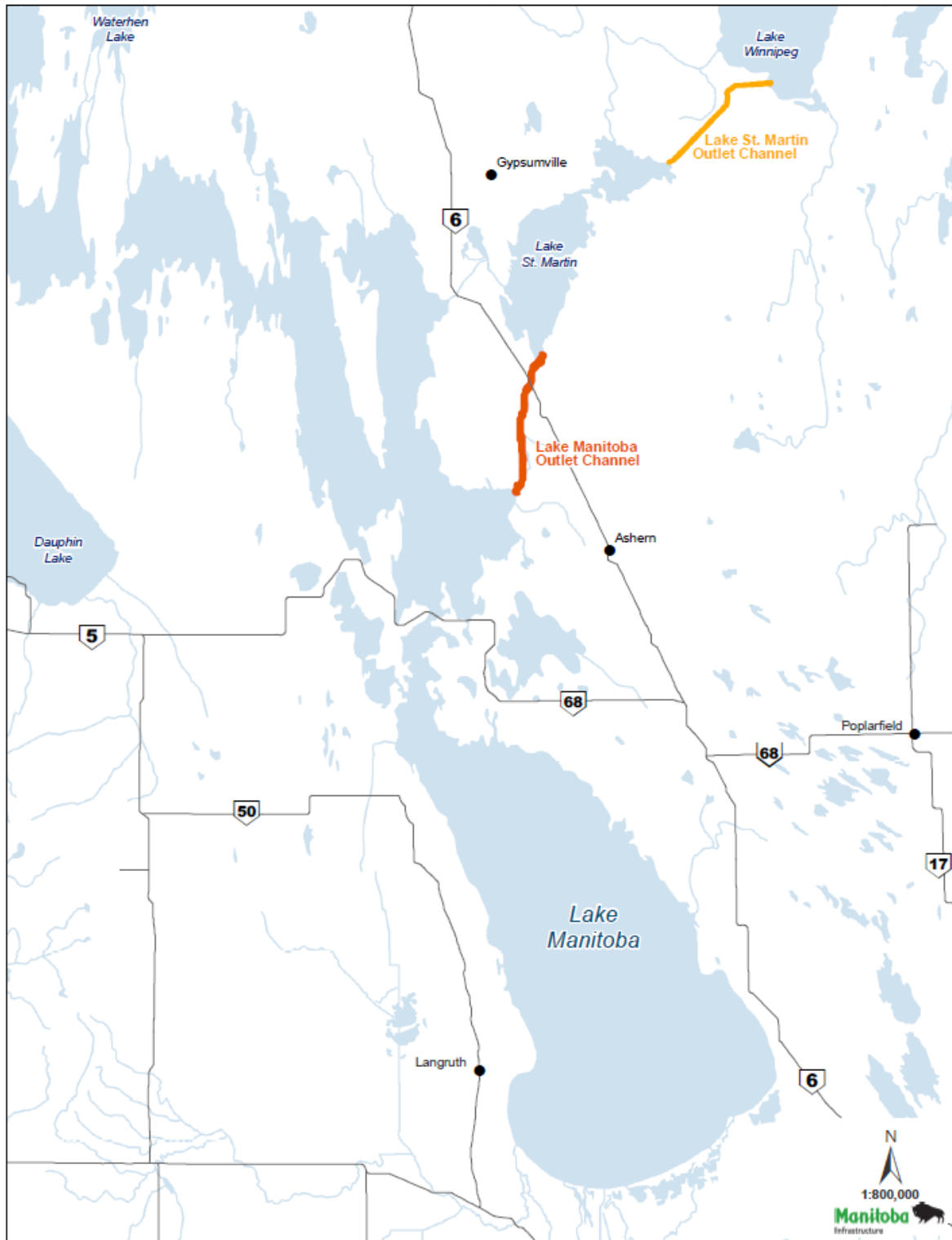
No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Revegetation Management Plan

Questionnaire

GENERAL INFORMATION (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

Yes

No

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In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan

The Revegetation Management Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to document changes to water and fish, determine if predictions are correct, and identify if additional mitigation measures are needed for the Project. The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Establish self-sustaining permanent plant cover
- Provide erosion and sediment control
- Control the spread of invasive plant species along the channel and into adjacent environments

Part 1 – Introduction

1. The Revegetation Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes methods that may be used to establish plant cover, provide erosion control, and control the spread of invasive plant species. Please indicate if you have concerns about Project activities and their effect on the following types of habitat:

Croplands

Pastures

Wetlands

Parkland forests

Please explain what concerns you have:

2. The Revegetation Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes establishing a vegetation cover to mitigate erosion and provide sediment control. These mitigations will also support measures outlined in the Sediment Management Plan. Do you feel this is robust enough to address erosion of the side slopes of the Project channels?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

3. Monitoring for planting success, erosion control, and effects on plant communities will be conducted twice a year during the construction of the Project. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of Project construction?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

4. Monitoring for loss of cover from channel operations, vegetation establishment, and effects on plant communities will be conducted for three to five years post-construction. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of Project operation?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Part Two – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

5. What are your expectations for use of the land along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel once constructed?

Please explain:

6. The Revegetation Management Plan (Section 6.3.1) identifies several sensitive soil sites¹ as well as four sites that have been affected by manure within the Right of Way. Are you aware of any additional sensitive soil sites along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right of Way?

Yes

No

¹ Sensitive soil sites are sandy soils that are subject to erosion.

If yes, please identify the location of the sites on Figure 1:

7. Persistent weed species have already established either in or near the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right of Way where soil salvage and revegetation will occur. As a result, weed treatment will be required during pre-construction prior to soil salvage, and as part of maintenance once revegetation is complete. Do you feel this is robust enough to prevent the spread of weeds and non-native invasive plants?

Yes

No

If no, please describe your concerns and list any potential impacts to agricultural activities in the area:

Part Three – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

8. What are your expectations for use of the land along the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel once constructed?

Please explain:

9. The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel area is largely free of weeds; however, Canada thistle and dandelions were found in two areas during the site investigations in June 2019. Are you aware of any other weeds or non-native plants in the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel area?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the species and its location:

10. Where problematic weedy species are absent from landscapes prior to construction, the best approach is to take steps to ensure that weeds are not imported onto the site with machinery and equipment and to undertake proper revegetation measures on prepared sites as soon as possible. Do you feel this is robust enough to prevent the spread of weeds and non-native invasive plants?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional measures you'd like included and why:

Conclusion

11. Do you think the Project will affect plant species at risk, medicinal plants, or other plant species of cultural importance?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

12. Are there any sensitive sites or plant species at risk that should be considered during revegetation work?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the species and its location

13. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

14. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan that you feel this will have positive or negative impacts on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

15. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in follow-up and monitoring for revegetation? Please explain:

16. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

17. Do you have any general comments or questions?

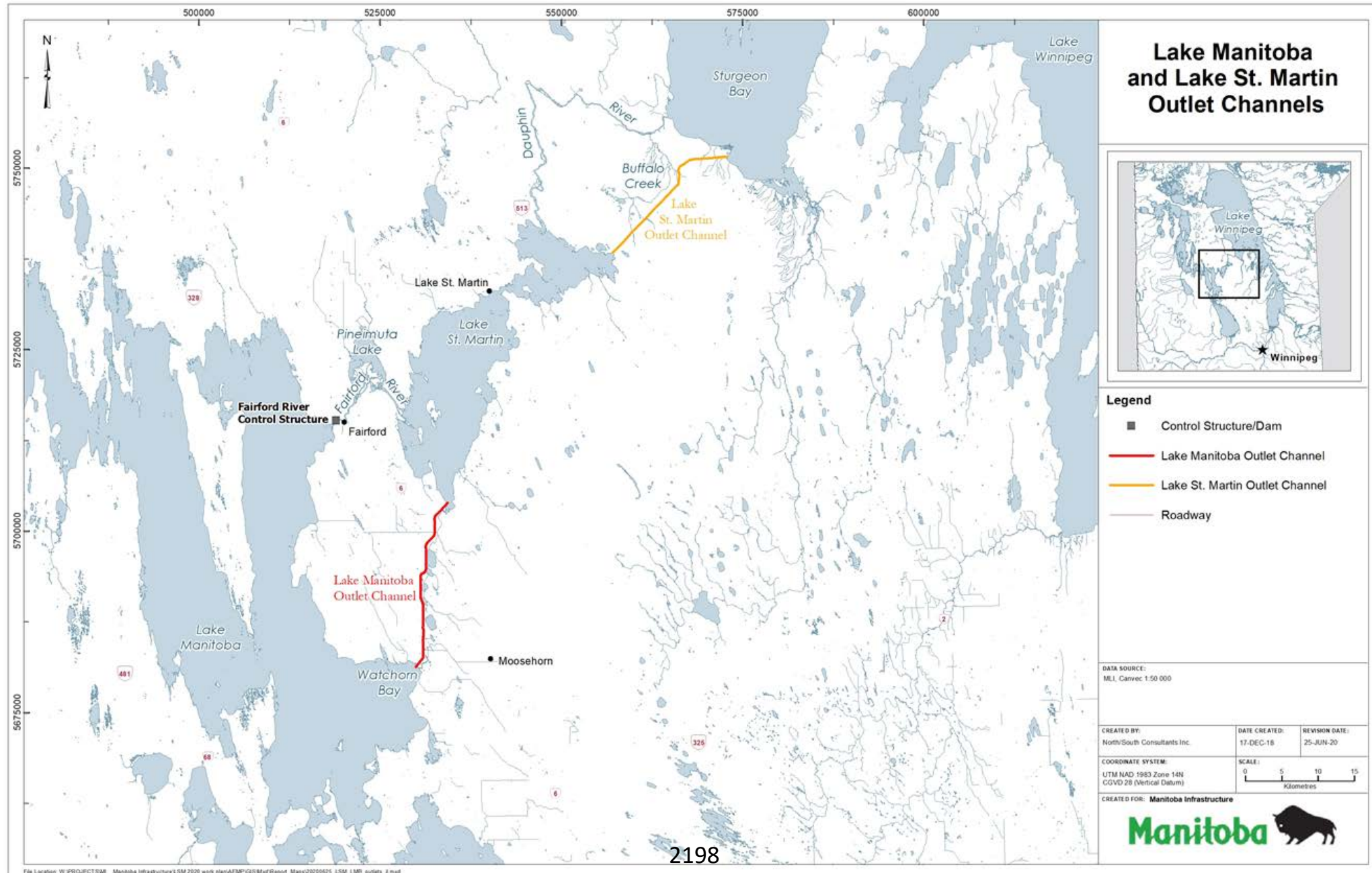
Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the map below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
 Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the map provided below.



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Sediment Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Sediment Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline measures to minimize or mitigate impacts of in-stream sediment from construction activities in or near water, shoreline erosion and commissioning of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project).

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Minimize the potential for erosion and sedimentation.
- Manage potential drainage issues (e.g., run-off).
- Minimize the effects of sediment to the receiving waterbody.
- Develop emergency response practices.

Part 1 - Introduction

1. The Plan (Sections 6 and 14) outlines project design, planning and temporary measures that will be used to control erosion and sediment movement during **construction** of the Project and other project components. For example, a double turbidity curtain (two separate turbidity curtains) will be used when excavating the inlets and outlets. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to minimize erosion and sediment transport during the **construction** phase?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Please identify any additional measures you feel should be applied:

2. Permanent vegetation cover (as described in the Revegetation Management Plan) will be the primary method to control erosion and sediment during **operation** of the Project. Critical areas such as the channel inlet and outlet, water control structures, and bridges will have additional methods of permanent erosion protection as outlined in (Section **Error! Reference source not found.** and 15.2). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to minimize erosion and sediment transport during **operation** of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Please identify any additional measures you feel should be applied:

Surface water quality monitoring (as described in Sections 8 and 16 of the Plan; the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan; and Surface Water Management Plan) will be undertaken throughout the construction and operation of the Project to assess the effectiveness of proposed erosion and sedimentation control measures. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

3. It is possible that short-term increases in suspended sediments over background levels may occur during commissioning and initial operation of the channels and work to develop a response protocol that links to the adaptive management strategies for each channel. Could sedimentation affect your current use of water bodies in the area?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe how:

If applicable, please describe how this could affect traditional activities in the area:

4. The Emergency Outlet Channel used the natural Buffalo Creek drainage to pass flood flows. This caused debris and sediment to enter the water and Manitoba Infrastructure received complaints from commercial fishers about sediment build-up on fishing nets. With the project, all of the vegetation and organic material will be removed within the footprint of the channels being constructed. Do you feel mitigations, such as channel design, identified in the Plan will be effective at minimizing potential effects related to sediment build-up on fishing nets?

Yes

No

If no, please describe other mitigations that could be applied:

5. Do you feel mitigations, such as channel design, identified in the Plan will be effective at minimizing potential effects related to sedimentation of substrates that could affect fish targeted by the fishery?

Yes

No

If no, please describe other mitigations that could be applied:

Part 2 – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

6. Are you aware of any vulnerable areas on or near your property that are at risk of erosion or slope failure due to construction or operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the location of the sites on Figure 1:

7. The erosion and sediment control measures are designed to mitigate the potential environmental effects during construction and operation activities for the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. In your opinion, for which waterbody is sediment transport or increased sediment as a result of the project a concern?

Lake Manitoba

Birch Creek

Lake St. Martin

None of the above

All of the above

Please explain why you think sediment transport is a concern for these waterbodies:

Please identify any additional waterbodies that you're concerned about:

8. The Plan (Section 7.1) discusses permanent erosion and sediment control methods that will be utilized at the banks and shorelines near the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel inlet and outlet. Do you have concerns that sediment transport may affect the shoreline of Watchorn Provincial Park and its recreation use?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Part 3 – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

9. The temporary erosion and sediment control measures are designed to mitigate the potential environmental effects during construction activities for the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. In your opinion, for which waterbody is increased sediment or sediment transport as a result of the project a concern?

Lake St. Martin

Buffalo Creek

Dauphin River

Lake Winnipeg

None of the above

All of the above

Please explain why you think sediment transport is a concern for these waterbodies:

Please identify any additional waterbodies that you're concerned about:

10. As shown in Figure 2, during the construction of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel, overland drainage from the east side will be collected in a permanent outside drainage ditch and routed towards Buffalo Creek and Sturgeon Bay, settling ponds are planned to intercept the outside drainage to reduce the potential for sediment release downstream into Buffalo Creek and Sturgeon Bay. Do you have concerns about sediment transport into Buffalo Creek and/or Sturgeon Bay during construction?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

11. Do you have any concerns with the potential locations for settling ponds as shown in Figure 2?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify which locations you're concerned with on the map.

Conclusion

12. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

13. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

14. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

15. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

16. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1: Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

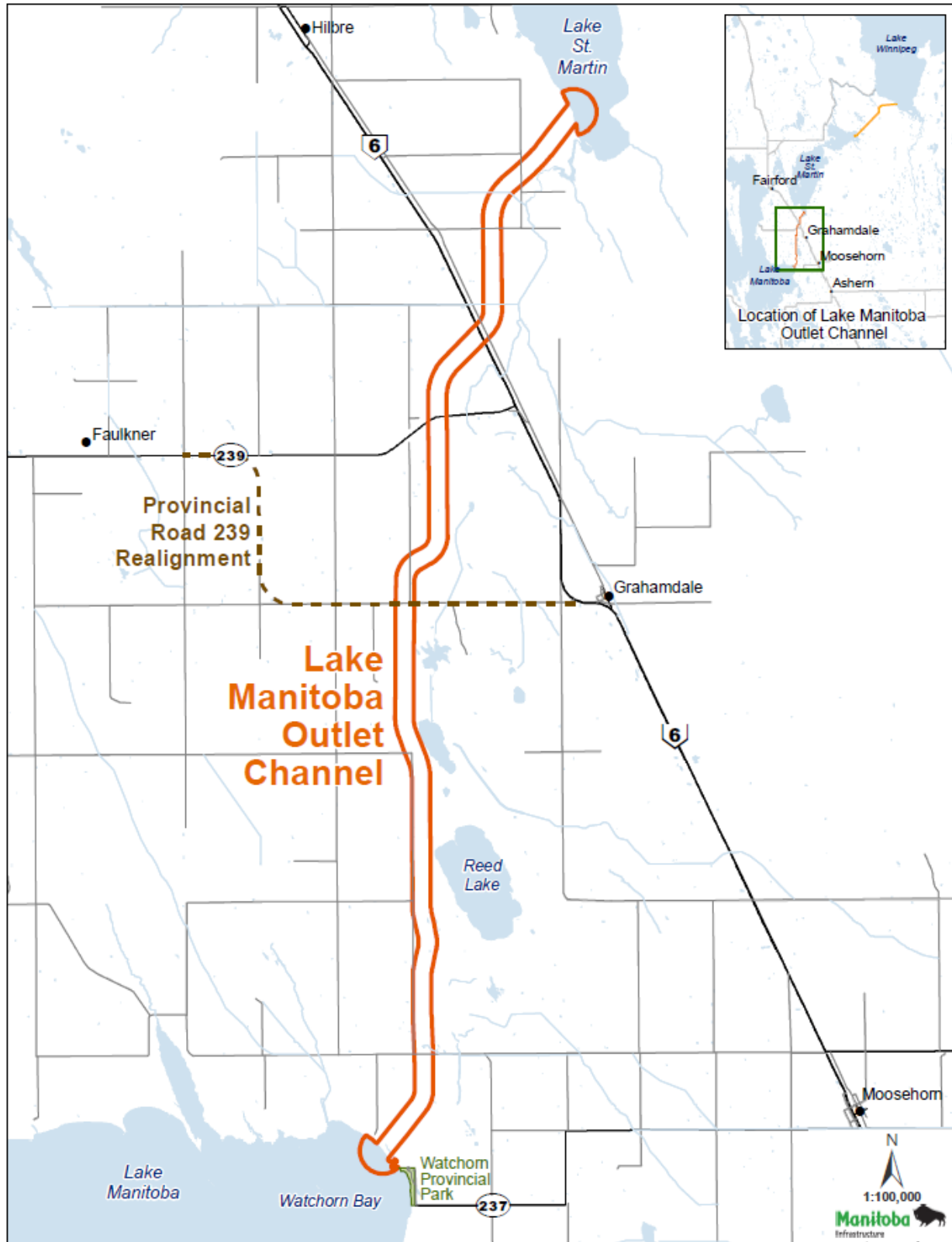
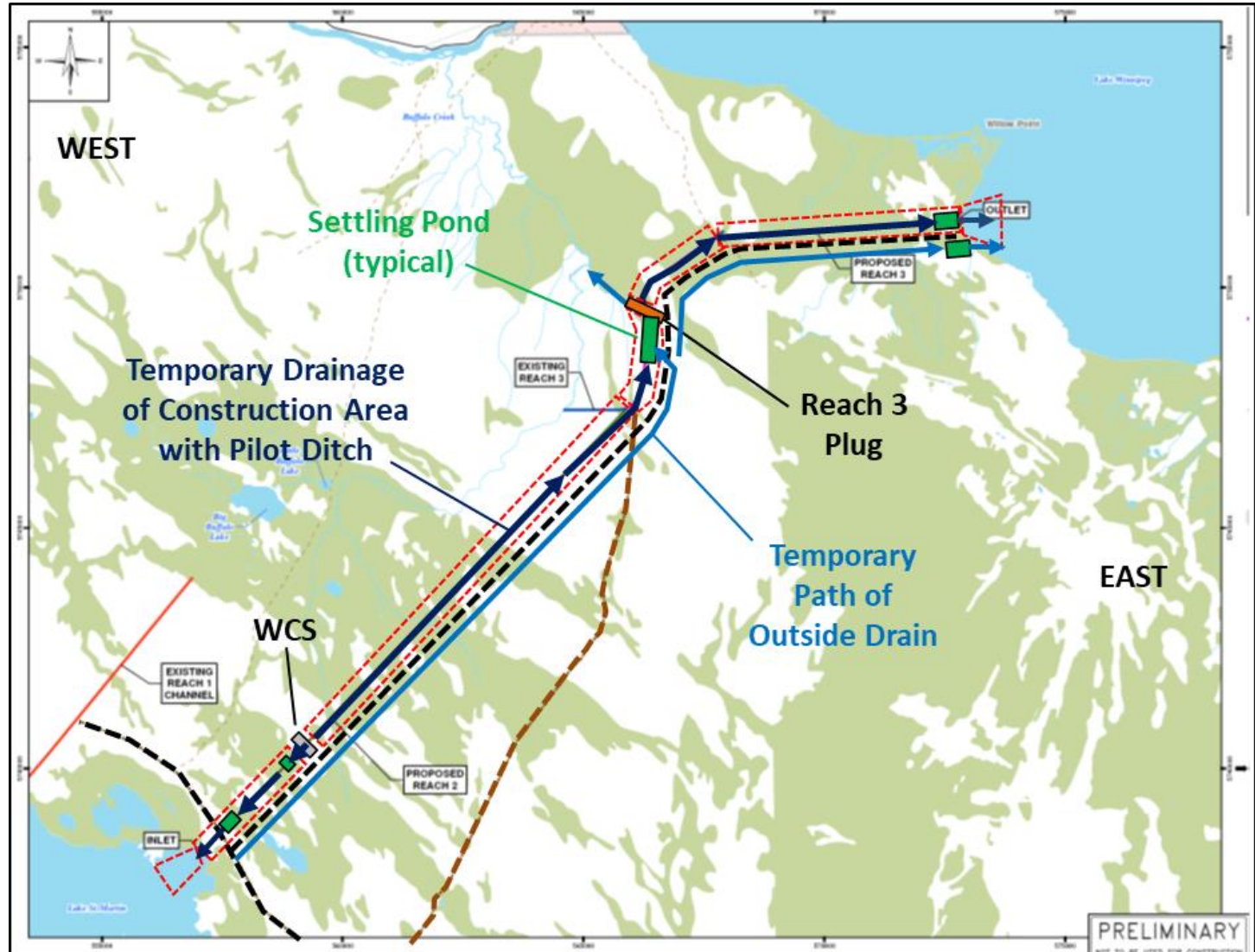


Figure 2: Temporary Drainage Plan with Preliminary Settling Pond Locations



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Access Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project), and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Access Management Plan and Questionnaire

The Access Management Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The AMP will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Access Management Plan. It is recommended that the plan be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Access Management Plan is to outline access control measures that will be used during construction and operation phases as they relate to protection of natural resources, public and worker safety and site security. The objectives of the AMP are to:

- Provide safe, coordinated access to the Project areas during construction and operation.
- Provide safe passage for the general public through the project area at identified crossing locations.
- Support sustainable use through the protection of the area's natural resources.
- Allow Project staff and contractors to construct, operate and maintain the Project year-round.
- Provide security for Project personnel and property.

A. Introduction

1. To ensure public safety, certain areas around the Project will have travel restrictions during construction and operation. Authorized Project personnel and visitors may be able to access the Project area by making arrangements with Manitoba Infrastructure. Do you have any concerns with this safety measure?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain how these safety measures will affect your use or access to land in the area:

2. Signs will be installed to indicate areas where public access is restricted or prohibited, where hunting and firearms are not allowed, or where local and Indigenous communities need to be informed about possible safety issues. Do you feel that use of signage will be adequate and appropriate to communicate restrictions?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If no, please explain:

3. During construction of the Project, restrictions will be placed on firearms (e.g., rifles, handguns, shotguns, bows) to facilitate worker safety and a “no shooting” buffer zone will be established in construction zones. Do you have any concerns about firearms restrictions and the use of a buffer zone around the project site?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain:

4. What is a suitable “no shooting” buffer zone that will have the least effect on how you use the area for hunting?
- a. 2 km
 - b. 2.5 km
 - c. 3 km
 - d. 4 km
 - e. 5 km
5. Recreational fishing restrictions for the members of the public that includes Outlet Channel bridges, water control structures and the channels are currently being considered. Do you have any concerns about these proposed fishing restriction?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- If yes, please explain:

6. Recreational use, including fishing, hunting, snowmobiling and boating of any component of the outlet channel infrastructure will be prohibited through the life of the Project. Warning signs indicating no authorized personnel will be installed at key locations. Do you have any concerns with these proposed restrictions?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- Please explain:

7. The Access Management Plan (Sections 6.5 and 10.5) discusses Project impacts to navigation near the inlets and outlets and potential mitigations, including safety measures such as warning signage, buoys, and safety booms to notify water users of areas with increased water velocities and possible ice-related risks. Do you feel the measures described are adequate to address safety concerns?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

If no, please explain:

B. Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

8. To mitigate the impact on the municipal road network and increased road traffic, a number of potential locations for construction contractor's camps and lay down areas have been identified (see attached map). Do you have any concerns about any of the proposed areas? Please feel free to share information on the map provided
- Yes
 - No

If yes, please explain:

9. Will the location of contractor's camps and laydown areas proposed in the attached map have a negative impact on your use of land in the area? Please feel free to share information on the map provided.
- Yes
 - No

If yes, please explain:

10. During construction of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, some municipal and provincial road detours will be required. Do you have any concerns with the proposed detours outlined in the Access Management Plan?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please explain:

11. The current PR 239 will remain open until the construction of the realignments of PR 239 and PTH 6 through Grahamdale as well as the new bridge crossing have all been completed. Traffic will then be switched over to the new alignment of PR 239 on Carne Ridge Road. Do you have any concerns about closing down the current alignment of PR 239?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please explain how this will impact your use and access to land in the area:

C. Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

12. While the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will not be accessible to members of the public during construction, some exceptions will be made for Indigenous peoples who intend to carry out traditional practices to the extent that such access is safe. If applicable, do you have any information that you would like to share regarding your use of this area for traditional or rights based activities? Please feel free to use the map provided.

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, please identify what areas will require continued access and explain how you would like to be informed of these exceptions:

13. As project construction may impact access routes, such as snowmobile trails which are intersected by the Project, alternative means of crossing the channel will have to be developed. If applicable, do you have any information that you would like to share regarding the trails in the area or their use for traditional or rights based activities? Please feel free to use the map provided.
- a. Yes
 - b. No

If yes, please explain:

D. Conclusion

14. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Access Management Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

15. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Access Management Plan that you feel will have a positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

- a. Positive
- b. Negative

Please explain:

16. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

- a. Email
- b. Mail
- c. Website
- d. All of the above

17. Was the information in the Access Management Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification: If yes, please explain:

18. Do you have any general comments or questions?

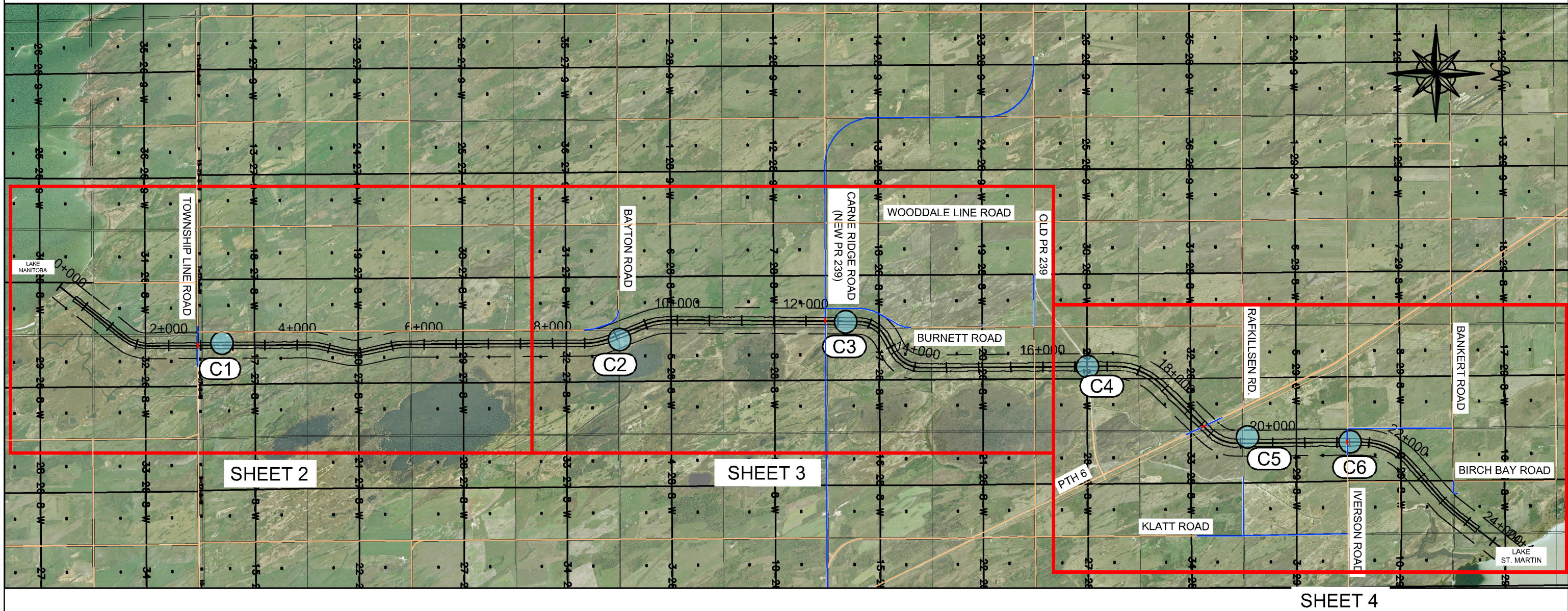
a. Yes

b. No

Please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the maps provided below.



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DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY



REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
KEY PLAN
(SHEET 1 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

Manitoba
Infrastructure
Water Management and Structures

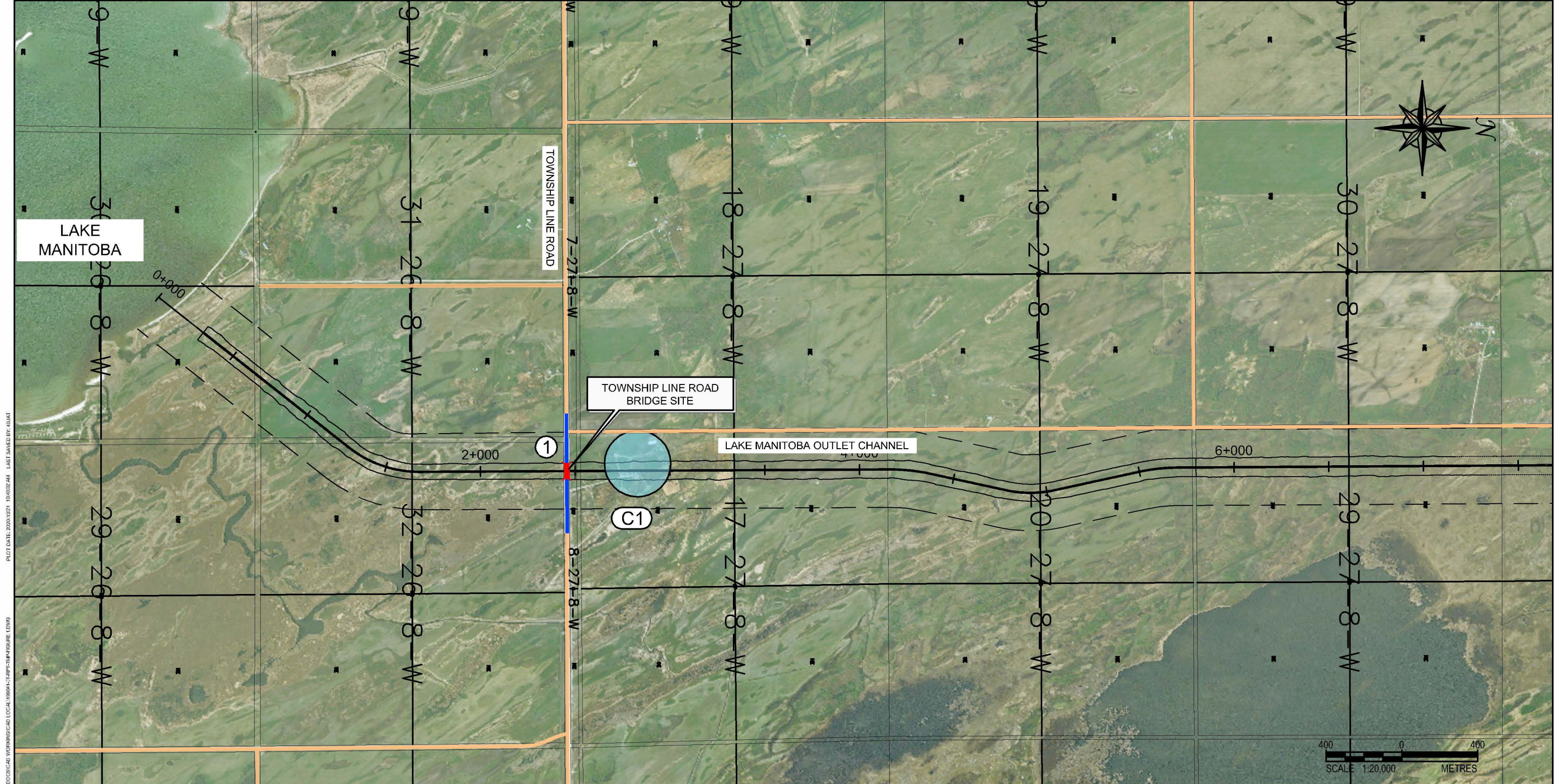
RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY:
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES

DESIGN BY: JAT
CHECKED: CF

DETAILS BY: _____
CHECKED: _____

DATE: _____
SCALE: _____

SHEET No. 1 OF 4
SITE No. 0000-00



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 PLOT DATE: 2024/10/21 10:02:41 AM LAST SAVED BY: JANT

LEGEND:

	CONCEPTUAL ROAD CHANGES
	EXISTING ROAD
	NEW BRIDGE SITE
	ROADWAY CLOSURE
	LOCATION NO.
	POSSIBLE CAMP LOCATION
	CAMP NO.

DRAFT
 FOR DISCUSSION
 PURPOSES ONLY

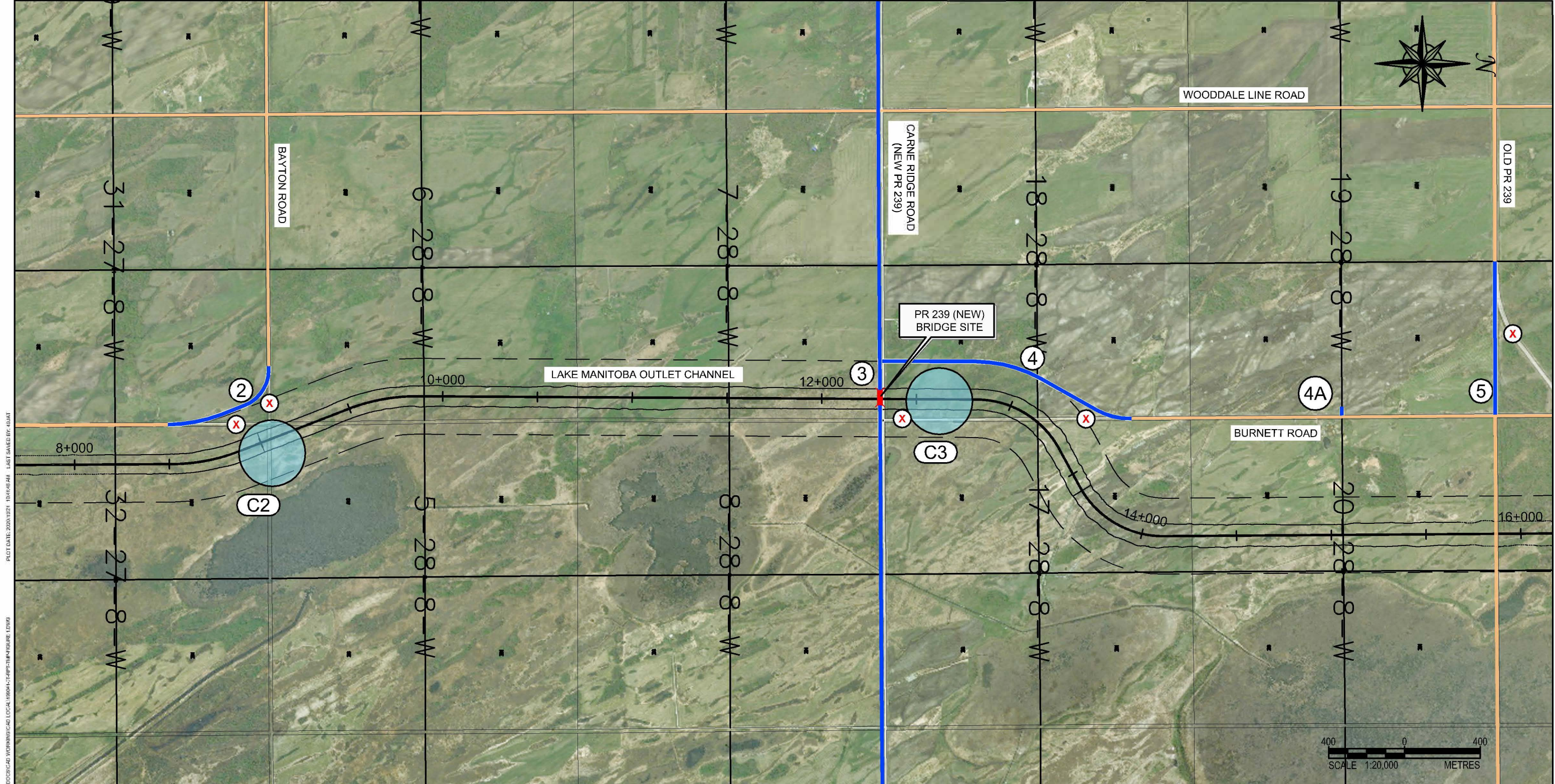


REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
 (SHEET 2 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

 Infrastructure Water Management and Structures	RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES
	DATE: _____ SCALE: _____ SHEET No. <u>2</u> OF <u>4</u> SITE No. <u>0000-00</u>
DESIGN BY: <u>JAT</u> CHECKED: <u>CF</u>	DETAILS BY: _____ CHECKED: _____

PUBLIC VERSION



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LEGEND:

	CONCEPTUAL ROAD CHANGES
	EXISTING ROAD
	NEW BRIDGE SITE
	ROADWAY CLOSURE
	LOCATION NO.
	POSSIBLE CAMP LOCATION
	CAMP NO.

DRAFT
 FOR DISCUSSION
 PURPOSES ONLY

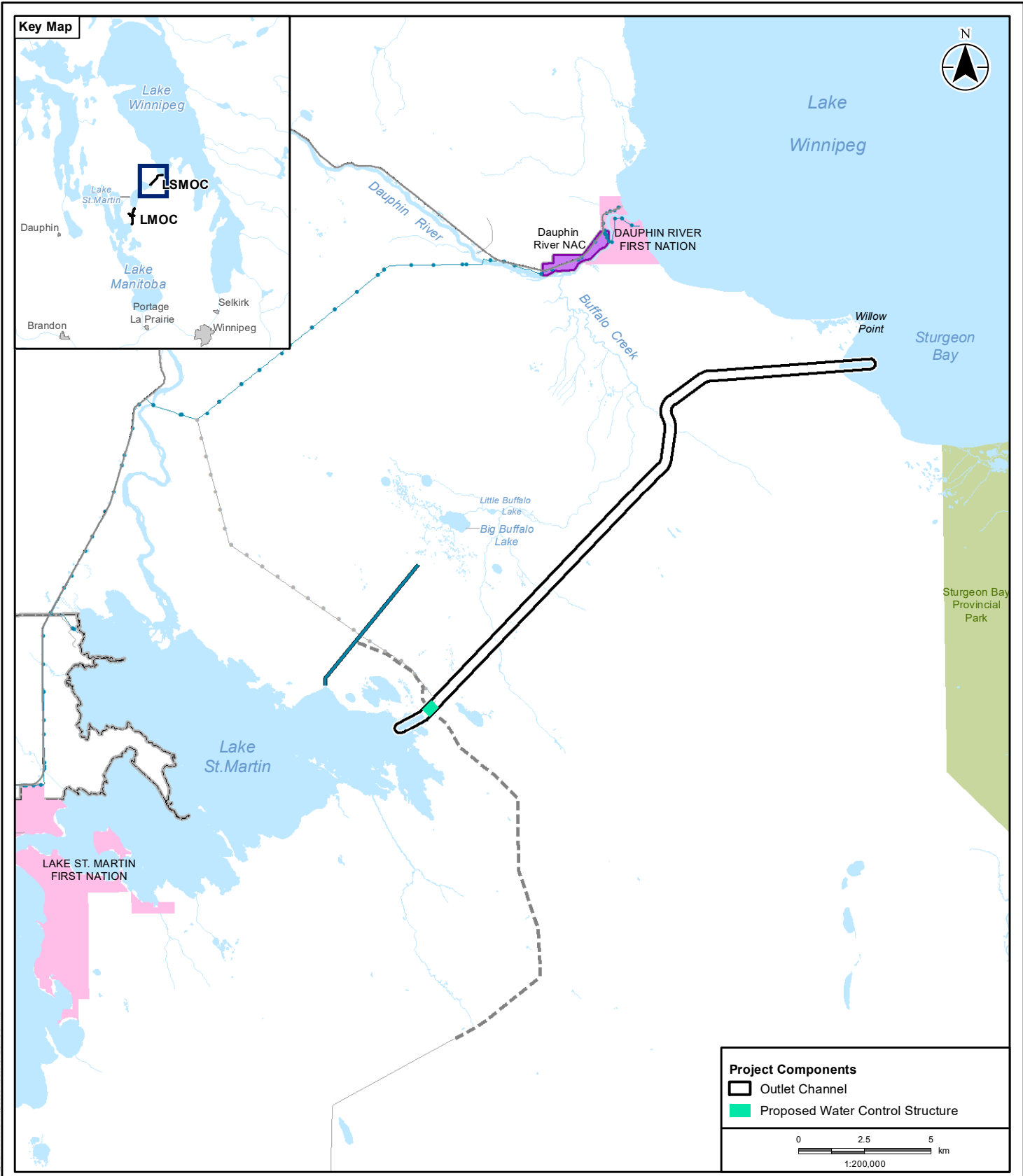


REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION

FIGURE 2A-1
CONCEPTUAL ROAD NETWORK CHANGES
 (SHEET 3 OF 4)
LAKE MANITOBA OUTLET CHANNEL
R.M. OF GRAHAMDALE

 Infrastructure Water Management and Structures	RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY: _____ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES
	DATE: _____ SCALE: _____ SHEET No. <u>3</u> OF <u>4</u> SITE No. <u>0000-00</u>
DESIGN BY: <u>JAT</u> CHECKED: <u>CF</u>	DETAILS BY: _____ CHECKED: _____

PUBLIC VERSION



Project Components

- Outlet Channel
- Proposed Water Control Structure

0 2.5 5 km
1:200,000

- Legend**
- Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel (Reach 1)
 - Lake St. Martin Access Road
 - Existing Distribution Line
 - Planned Distribution Line
 - Provincial Highway (PTH/PR)
 - Municipal Road
 - Rural Municipality
 - Northern Affairs Community (NAC)
 - First Nation
 - Provincial Park

Notes

- Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 14N
- Data Sources: Governments of Manitoba and Canada, Manitoba Infrastructure
- Last Update: 8/21/2019 1:43:44 PM

Manitoba 

MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE
Lake Manitoba & Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project
Environmental Impact Statement

Proposed Route for the LSMOC

Figure 3A-1

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LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Aquatic Effects

Monitoring Program Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan and Questionnaire

The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Aquatics Effects Monitoring Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan is to document changes to water and fish, determine if predictions are correct, and identify if additional mitigation measures are needed for the Project. The objectives of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan are to:

- Verify predicted effects through monitoring of the aquatic environment (i.e., water, fish, fish habitat)
- Determine the effectiveness of mitigation measures
- Assess the need for additional mitigation measures if initial measures are not adequate
- Determine the effectiveness of any additional/adaptive mitigation measure(s)
- Confirm compliance with regulatory requirements

Please note that the frequency of water quality monitoring outlined in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan has been determined based on monitoring recommendations typically authorized by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

A. Introduction

1. What water bodies do you currently use in the Project area? Select all that apply:

- a. Lake Manitoba
- b. Lake St. Martin
- c. Lake Winnipeg
- d. Dauphin River
- e. Fairford River
- f. Other: _____

What activities do you undertake in these areas? Please list:

2. Aquatic monitoring studies will include several parameters to assess surface water quality at various study locations. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for water quality:

Water Temperature	Dissolved Oxygen	Hardness	Chlorophyll
pH	Total Suspended Solids	Total nitrogen	<i>E. coli</i>
Conductivity	TDS	Total phosphorus	Fuel
Mercury			

Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included?

Please explain:

B. Mitigations

Construction of any project will result in some disturbance to land and potential effects to the environment. These effects may be temporary in nature or permanent due to the presence of the project. Mitigation measures are means to prevent, reduce, or control these adverse environmental effects that occur from the project.

- Please review the following Project effects and proposed mitigations outlined below in Table 2. Identify in part (a) and (b) if you agree with the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures or advise if additional mitigation activities should be considered:

Table 2: Summary of Mitigations

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Water Quality			
Change in sediment concentrations	During construction, implementation of control measures is expected to minimize the amount of sediment that will be mobilized. The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		
Effects to Fish Habitat			
Change in habitat due to construction of Outlet Channels and concurrent re-alignment, isolation or dewatering of drains and headwater streams	The Outlet channels will provide approximately 172 ha of fish habitat. The LMOC will be 24.1 km long with a wetted width of 30-60 m and depths of 4-8 m. The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will be 23 km long and 44 m wide with drop structures and pools at higher gradient sections and a till substrate. During non-operational periods the channels will provide year-round habitat for forage fish and juveniles of large-bodied fish. During operation for flood control, higher velocities at the outlets may be suitable for spawning by walleye and possibly other species.		
Change in habitat due to the deposition of sediment	During construction, implementation of control measures is expected to minimize the amount of sediment that will be mobilized. The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		

Table 2: Summary of Mitigations

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Change in flow patterns in rivers and streams	<p>The inlets and outlets will be designed to support fish use that may occur, in particular if fish area attracted to spawn at the outlets during channel operation.</p> <p>Flow reduction at channel closure will be conducted such that fish are cued to leave the channels as flows are reduced at the end of operation periods.</p>		
Change in Fish Passage			
Change in flow patterns in rivers and streams	Operation of the channels will be conducted to maintain suitable flow conditions in the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers.		
Effects to fish passage due to installation/replacement of culverts	Water crossings will be constructed to allow fish passage and not affect fish movements including use of clear span bridges and embedding and appropriate sizing of culverts.		
Change in fish movements between Lake Manitoba/Lake St. Martin/Lake Winnipeg due to creation of channels	<p>Base flows in the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will also provide a corridor for downstream movement, but the volume of flow is much less than during flood operation. The design of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel will not allow passage past the water control structure during periods of non-operation and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will prevent upstream fish movement at the outlet.</p> <p>Fish will be able to return from Lake Winnipeg to Lake St. Martin via the Dauphin River and from Lake St. Martin to Lake Manitoba via the Fairford Fishway (large-bodied species only).</p> <p>Implementation of ramping rates when changing the flows in the channels to provide fish with cues that velocities are changing and enable fish to respond accordingly.</p>		

Table 2: Summary of Mitigations

Project Effect	Mitigation	a) Do you feel this mitigation will be effective?	b) Are there any additional mitigations that you would like considered?
Change in attraction flows to Fairford and Dauphin rivers	<p>Changing flows in a specific manner to provide fish with cues the flows are decreasing so that they move out.</p> <p>Maintain adequate flows in the Fairford Fishway to maintain upstream fish passage in spring.</p> <p>Design the outlet of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel to prevent fish from moving into the channel from Sturgeon Bay.</p>		
Change in Fish Health and Mortality			
Accidental release of deleterious substances	Standard environmental protection measures will be implemented.		
Introduction of sediment	The channels are also being designed to minimize erosion.		
Stranding of fish and fish eggs	<p>Fish will be able to leave the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel because it will be connected directly to Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, upstream and downstream of the control structure, respectively.</p> <p>The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel is being designed to allow fish to move downstream out of the channel during base flows; fish will not be able to enter from Sturgeon Bay. Design channels to contain pools that will provide over-wintering fish habitat.</p>		
Increased fish mortality due to increased angling pressure	This increase will be managed via provincial fisheries regulations.		

4. The Aquatics Effects Monitoring Plan (Sections 4 to 7) describes the effects of the Project on fish and fish habitat and proposed mitigations. Based on the information provided, please indicate if you have concerns about your ability to continue with the following activities:

Subsistence fishing

Recreational fishing

Commercial fishing

All of the above

Please explain what concerns you have and indicate how you see the Project affecting your use of the area:

5. Based on the potential Project effects and proposed mitigations, do you see the Project affecting health and socio-economic activities (e.g., economy and culture) along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:
6. Based on the potential Project effects and proposed mitigations, do you see the Project affecting traditional use activities along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:
7. The Project is not expected to substantially alter chemical concentrations in surface water or fish, and therefore is not anticipated to impact the human health risks currently associated with the consumption of fish harvested from the area. Given this information, do you see the Project affecting health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) along lakes, rivers, creeks, and shorelines in the area? Please explain:

C. Study Information

8. The following monitoring studies have been developed based on potential Project effects on the aquatic environment. Proposed scheduling and the location of Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan monitoring studies is outlined in a summary table below (Section 8).

Monitoring Study	Construction	Non Operation	Operation	Post Operation	Area	How well do you think the plans will work at understanding the potential impacts of the Project? Are additional monitoring locations required?
1. Surface Water ¹ Quality Monitoring		x	x	x	Lake Manitoba, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, Lake Winnipeg, Birch Creek	
2. Dissolved Oxygen ¹ Monitoring		x			LMOC, LSMOC, Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek	
3. TSS Monitoring ¹		x	x	x	Lake Manitoba, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, Dauphin River, LMOC, LSMOC	
4. Aquatic Habitat Monitoring				x	LMOC, LSMOC, inlets and outlets	
5. Fish Community Monitoring (Lake St. Martin)	x			x	Lake St. Martin and Sturgeon Bay	
5. Fish Community Monitoring (Sturgeon Bay) ¹	x	x	x	x		
6. Downstream Fish Movements			x		LMOC and LSMOC	

Monitoring Study	Construction	Non Operation	Operation	Post Operation	Area	How well do you think the plans will work at understanding the potential impacts of the Project? Are additional monitoring locations required?
7. Larval Fish Movements	x		x		Fairford River, Dauphin River, LMOC and LSMOC inlets/outlets	
8. Fish Stranding at the LSMOC				x	LSMOC	
9. Fish Mortality in the LMOC ²		x			LMOC	
10. Lake Whitefish Egg Incubation ³	x	x			Lake St. Martin	
11. Fish Utilization of the LMOC and LSMOC			x		LMOC and the LSMOC	
12. Lake Whitefish Spawning in Lake St. Martin and Dauphin and Fairford River	x		x	x	Dauphin River, Fairford River, Lake St. Martin, LMOC and LSMOC inlets/outlets	
13. Fish Use of Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek	x	x			Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek systems	
14. Mercury in Fish Flesh	x	x		x	Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin and Lake Winnipeg	

¹Water quality studies conducted during construction phase are described in Surface Water Management Plan.

9. The Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (Section 6.1) describes the effects of the Project on fish movement. In addition to the proposed monitoring studies, commercial harvest records for Lake St. Martin, Lake Manitoba, and Sturgeon Bay will be used to understand potential changes to fish communities from the Project. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

10. The Outlet Channels will not change natural connectivity between the lakes; however they will provide additional outflow capacity. As such, these systems share similar water quality characteristics and the overall water quality is not expected to change. As outlined above, water quality monitoring will occur at key points along the outlet channels and in existing waterways. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain what concerns you have and indicate how you see the Project may affect your use of the area:

11. Please identify if you have seen Lake Sturgeon in the following water bodies:

- Lake Winnipeg
- Lake St. Martin
- Lake Manitoba

Please feel free to use the attached maps by drawing the letters “LS” and include the date and time.

Thank you for sharing this information. If possible, Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Fisheries Branch would like to gather additional details on this important species. Please identify if you consent to being contacted:

Yes

No

12. Please describe the importance of Lake Sturgeon to subsistence, commercial, or recreational fishing:

13. Walleye are an important component of commercial, recreation, and aboriginal fisheries in Lake Winnipeg, Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba. Have you noticed any changes to walleye populations since 2011?

Increased

Decreased

No change

Please explain any changes that you've experienced and what water body these changes occur in:

14. Investigations will be carried out to determine the extent to which, if any, the reduction in flow would reduce the presence of fish in major channels of the Birch Creek drainage. How do you feel a potential reduction in flow will change the Birch Creek area? Please explain:

15. What species of fish have you observed in Birch Creek and Buffalo Creek since operation of the Emergency Outlet Channel in 2011 and 2014?

Buffalo Creek

Species	Season(s)	Year

Birch Creek

Species	Season(s)	Year

16. What species and at what times of year do you observe fish in the Fairford River between Lake St. Martin and the Fairford water control structure?

Species	Season(s)	Year

17. As described in Section 7.2.2 of the EIS, little is known about fish species in Pineimuta Lake. What species and at what times of year do you observe fish in Pineimuta Lake?

Species	Season(s)	Year

18. As methylmercury concentrations are not expected to measurably change with the Project, no potential adverse effects on the health of Indigenous peoples are predicted. However, monitoring in fish will occur through the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (Section 7.3) to confirm these predictions. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

19. Mercury monitoring will occur in Walleye, Northern Pike, and Lake Whitefish. Do you feel the selected species are robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify other fish species and explain the importance of these species for traditional purposes, if applicable:

20. To reduce the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species, the Project requires compliance with provincial aquatic invasive species legislation and programs and will require machinery to be cleaned and decontaminated. At this time, project-specific monitoring programs are not anticipated, existing provincial monitoring programs coordinated through Wildlife and Fisheries Branch, AIS Department. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effects of the Project on aquatic invasive species introduction?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Please identify any potential effects that may occur to Indigenous socioeconomic conditions, culture, and the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes if the introduction and/or spread of aquatic invasive species from the Project were to occur:

D. Conclusion

21. A summary report for the above Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan studies is anticipated to be prepared for each study on a yearly basis to document the methods and results. Manitoba Infrastructure is planning to share this information with community leadership and posted online. Do you feel this is sufficient?

How else would you like to receive this information?

Email

Mail

Newsletter

Website

All of the above

22. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to see communities involved in follow-up and monitoring for water quality and fisheries activities?

23. Was the information in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

24. Do you have any general comments or questions on the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan?

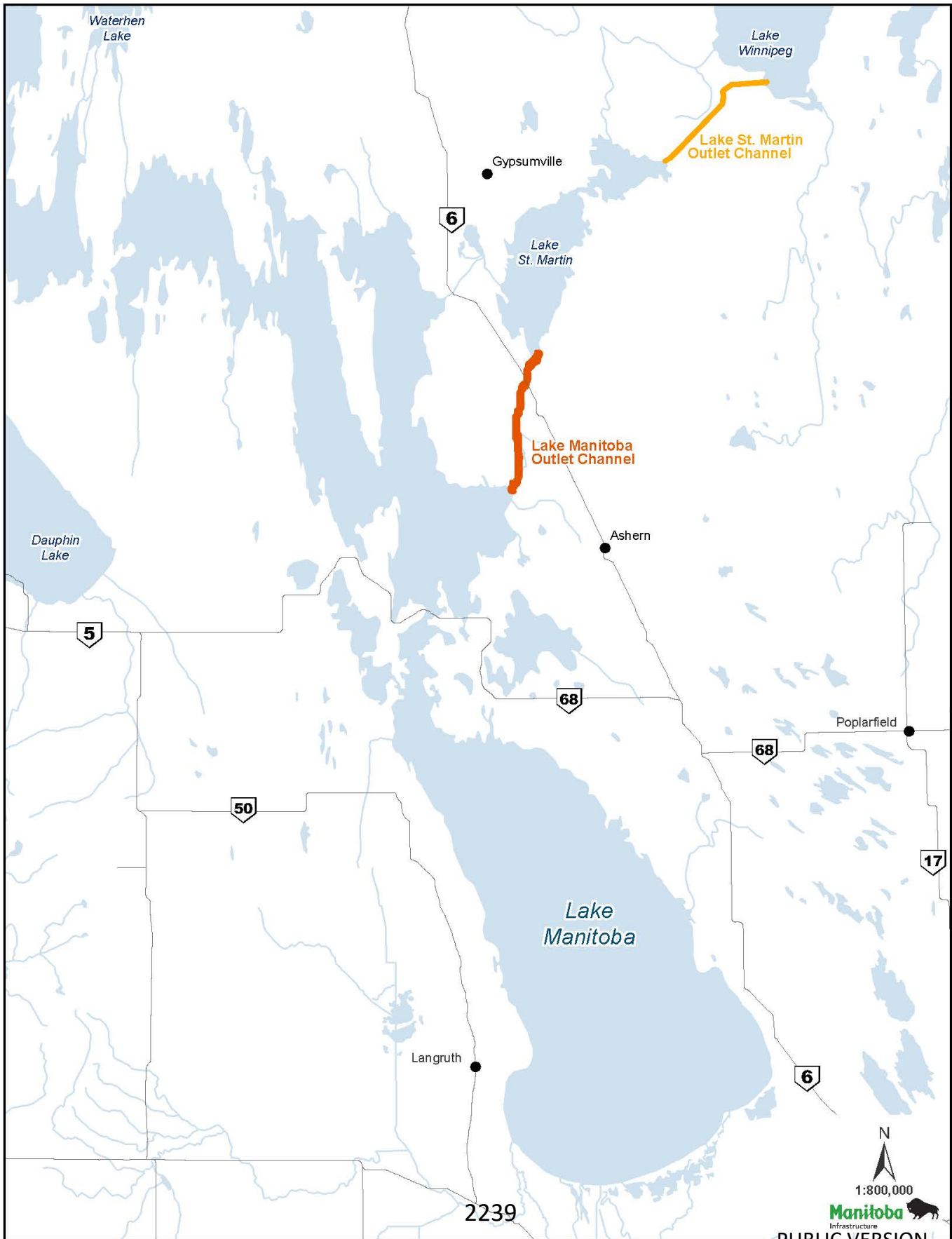
Yes

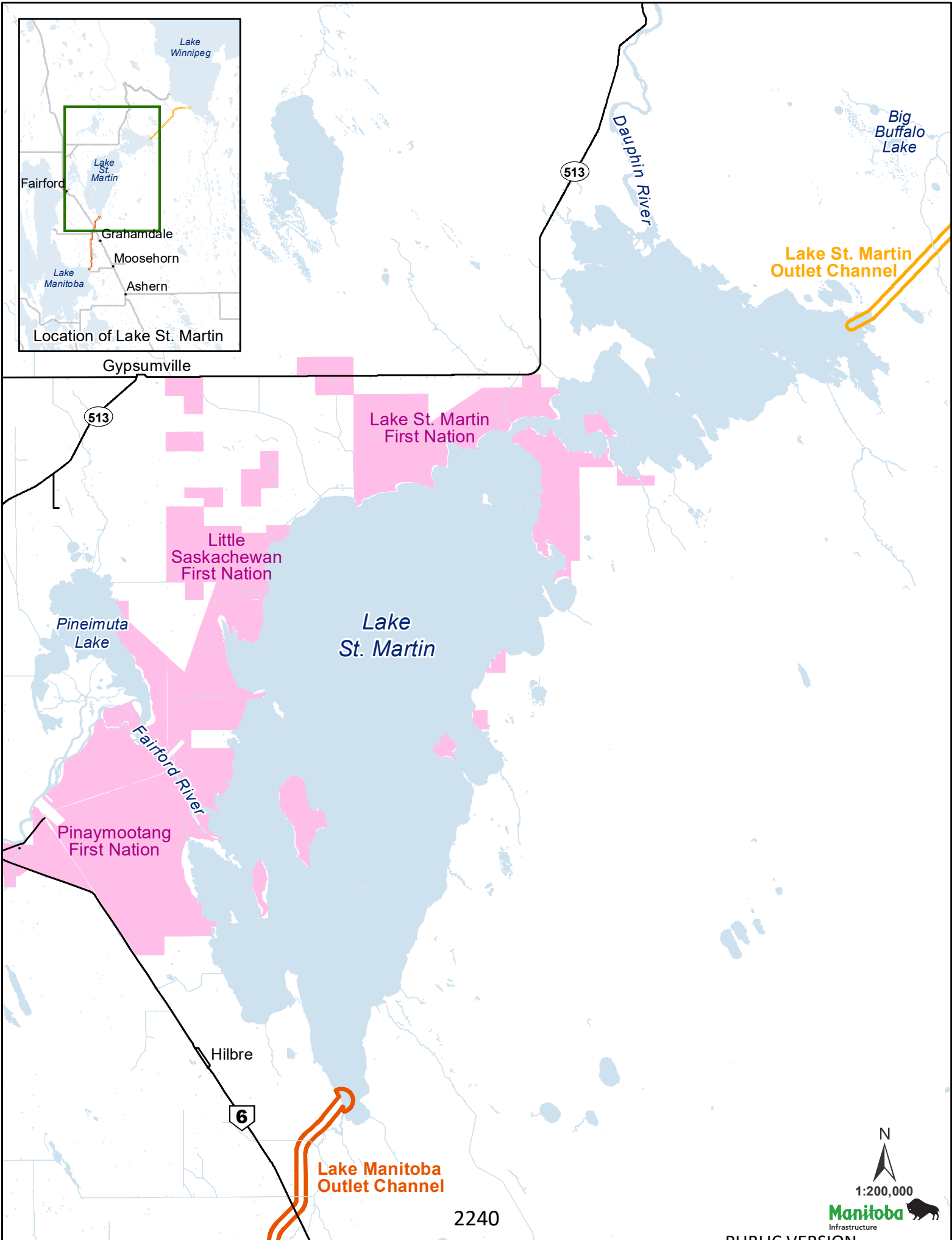
No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or
adding sticky notes to the maps below.





513

513

6

Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

Lake St. Martin First Nation

Little Saskatchewan First Nation

Pineimuta Lake

Lake St. Martin

Pinaymootang First Nation

Fairford River

Hilbre

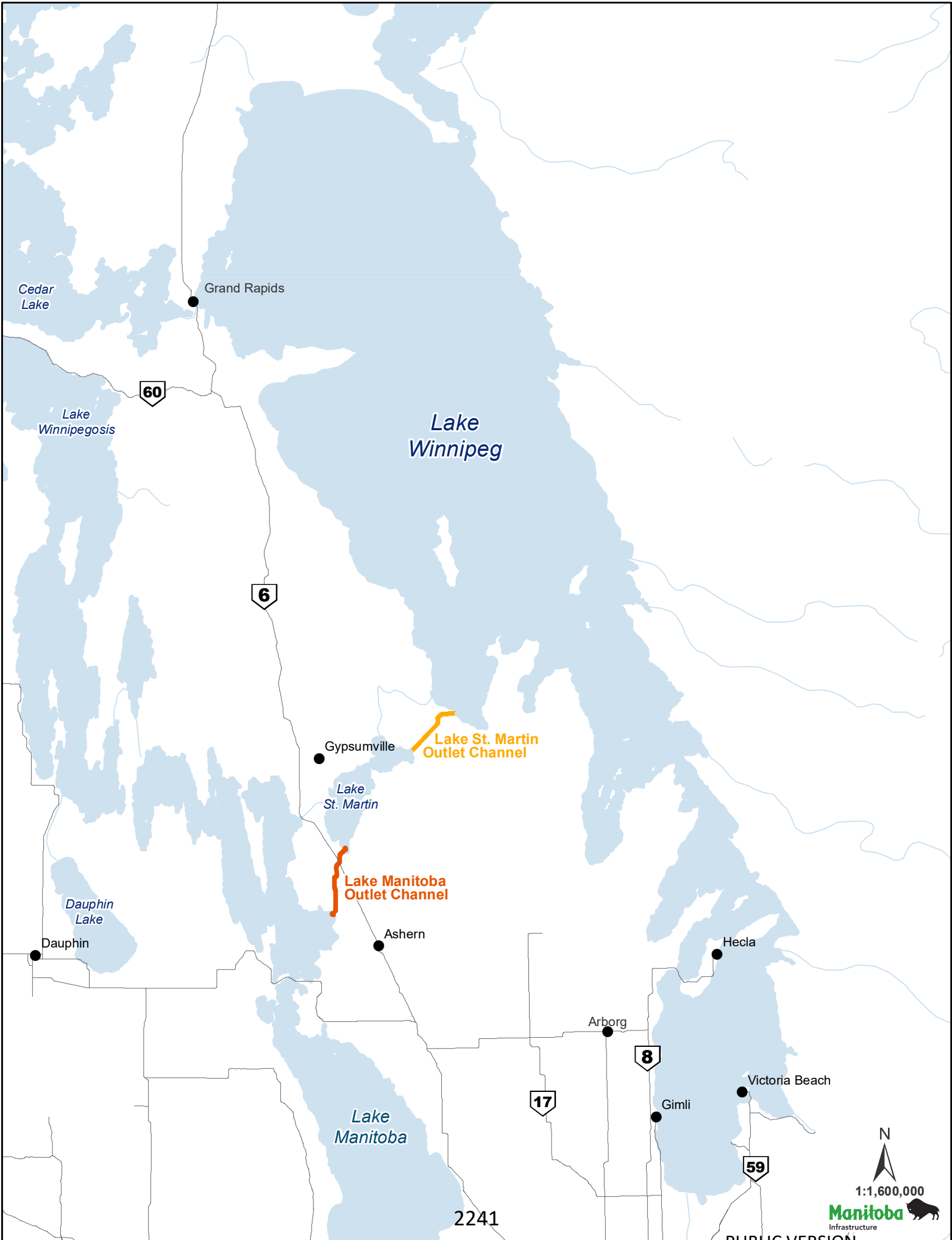
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Manitoba Infrastructure

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PUBLIC VERSION



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Aquatic Offset Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Aquatic Offset Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to fulfill the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)'s objective of no net loss of productive fish habitat and is required to offset the unavoidable losses of habitat that are predicted to occur from the construction and operation of the Project. This plan provides an estimate of the amount and quality of habitat that will require offsetting, and proposed offsetting measures. The plan also provides an approach to addressing any death of fish that may occur. The specific objectives of the Plan are to:

- Provide an initial estimate of the habitat altered, disrupted, or destroyed as a result of the Project
- Provide a preliminary description of potential offsetting projects

Introduction

1. The Plan (Section 2.2) describes the four general types of offsetting. Which type of offset measure would you prefer to see implemented? Select all that apply:

Habitat restoration and enhancement (e.g., placement of material to improve spawning)

Habitat creation (e.g., development of new streams/lakes/wetlands)

Chemical or biological manipulations (e.g., fish stocking)

Complementary measures (e.g., data collection or scientific research)

Please explain:

A. Fish Death

2. Based on current mitigation measures, the death of fish due to stranding is not predicted to occur. Monitoring activities in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan will confirm these predictions. In the unanticipated event that impacts occur, the death of fish will be offset through stocking. The stocking program would be based on DFO requirements outlined in the Plan (Appendix 3). Do you have any concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

B. Habitat Alterations

3. The Plan (Section 4) outlines the fish habitat that will be altered by construction and operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. Do you have any concerns with the information presented?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Please indicate how your use of these areas will be affected:

C. Options for Offsetting

The Plan (Section 5) presents potential offset projects if residual effects from the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project were to occur, including:

- Birch Bay spawning substrate
 - Sturgeon Bay offshore reef
 - Mercer Creek spawning substrate
 - Watershed improvements
4. Of the offsetting projects provided, which project would you prefer to see implemented? Please explain:
5. Of the offsetting projects provided, are there any projects that you do not want to see implemented? Please explain your concerns:
6. Is there something different that you think would be a good offsetting project? Please explain your project idea:

D. Conclusion

7. The Plan (Section 5) outlined a number of potential offset projects if residual effects from the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project were to occur. Do you feel any of the proposed projects would have an impact on your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the project and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

8. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

9. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

10. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Biosecurity Management Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Biosecurity Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Invasive agricultural pests (i.e., noxious weeds, pathogens, and insects) can pose a significant risk to agricultural land and are costly to control and remove. Project activities have the potential to transfer soil, manure, and plant debris to agricultural areas outside of the Project Development Area (PDA). For the purposes of the Plan, the PDA includes the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and the PR 239 realignment components of the Project. This Plan includes:

- Background information including a summary of agricultural land use in the Project area, regulatory context and industry guidelines and related Project management plans.
- Summary of biosecurity risk issues, risk mechanisms related to construction and operation activities, and risk levels to guide biosecurity management efforts.
- Required actions by Manitoba Infrastructure and Project contactors to protect agricultural biosecurity.
- Identification of specific biosecurity risk areas within and adjacent to the PDA and controlled access points where workers will enter and exit the PDA.
- Implementation plan to guide Manitoba Infrastructure in implementation of the biosecurity management plan for Project construction and operation.

Introduction

1. How do you currently use land in the Project area? Please select all that apply:

Cropland

Grazing land

Livestock operations

None of the above

Other: _____

2. What is your greatest agricultural biosecurity concern?

Noxious weeds

Soil-borne pathogens

Agricultural disease transmission

Other: _____

3. Do you feel the Plan accurately reflects the agricultural land use occurring along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and PR 239 realignment?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

4. The Plan (Section 3.1 and 3.2) outlines measures that will be implemented to prevent, minimize or control risks to cropland and livestock biosecurity during Project construction and operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to address biosecurity risks from the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional biosecurity management measures that should be implemented during:

Construction

Operation

5. The Plan (Section 3.2 and Figure 2-1) identifies biosecurity risk zones, which are areas of agricultural production that are potentially at risk from Project activities. Do you have any biosecurity concerns for the areas identified on Figure 2-1?

Yes

No

If yes:

- a. Are you concerned about a specific location? If so, please identify on Figure 1:
- b. Are you primarily concerned about livestock and manure impacted soils, or croplands and grazing lands? Please explain:

- c. Is there any other information you'd like to share about your concerns?

The Plan (Section 3.2 and Figure 2-1) identifies processes to identify potential access points along the project area. These locations are also identified on Figure 2-1 and may be updated with further development of the Access Management Plan. Do you have any concerns with the areas identified on Figure 2-1?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

6. The Plan (Section 3.2.2 and Table 2) outlines management activities, such as equipment cleaning, based on the level of risk in transferring soil, manure or plant debris from the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel/PR 239 to outside agricultural areas. Is the criteria outlined robust enough to address biosecurity risks from the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Conclusion

7. Are there any specific biosecurity concerns, known to be an issue in the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and PR 239 area of the Project, that you feel have not been addressed in the Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please list issues that should be addressed, and please provide information on specific locations if possible:

8. The Plan outlined methods to mitigate or avoid biosecurity environmental effects during construction and operation of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities as a result of these measures?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the impact and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

9. Given the mitigations outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

10. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channels Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Construction and Operation Environmental Management Program and Project Environmental Requirements

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Construction Environment Management Program, Operation Environment Management Program, and Project Environmental Requirements and Questionnaire

The **Construction Environmental Management Program**, **Operation Environmental Management Program**, and **Project Environmental Requirements** presented during consultation and engagement are considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The programs will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the programs. It is recommended that the documents be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Construction Environmental Management Program is to outline the environmental management processes and measures that will be implemented to minimize environmental effects during construction of the project. The Operation Environmental Management Program outlines processes and measures that will be implemented during operation and maintenance of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project.

The Project Environmental Requirements are environmentally focused requirements and commitments for construction contracts that are fundamental to Manitoba Infrastructure's

regulatory compliance. Project Environmental Requirements contain site-specific or point-source requirements for dealing with issues (i.e. access, sediment management, quarries, etc.).

A. Introduction

1. The Construction Environmental Management Program is supported by several specific environmental management plans outlined below¹. These plans detail Project effects in that area (water, terrestrial, etc.) as well as proposed mitigations and monitoring efforts:

Environmental Protection Plan	Project Environmental Requirements	Access Management Plan	Quarry Management Plan
Sediment Management Plan	Surface Water Management Plan	Groundwater Management Plan	Revegetation Management Plan
Biosecurity Management Plan	Dust Control Plan	Waste Management Plan	Hazardous Materials Management Plan
Emergency Response Plan	Heritage Resource Protection Plan	Wetland Compensation Plan	Decommissioning Plan

Which potential adverse environmental effects are you most concerned about from Project construction?

2. The Operation Environmental Management Program is supported by several specific environmental management plans outlined below². These plans detail Project effects in that area (water, terrestrial, etc.) as well as proposed mitigations and monitoring efforts:

Project Environmental Requirements	Access Management Plans	Quarry Management Plan	Debris Management Plan
Sediment Management Plan	Surface Water Management Plan	Groundwater Management Plan	Revegetation Management Plan
Biosecurity Management Plan	Dust Control Plan	Waste Management Plan	Hazardous Materials Management Plan

¹ The Construction Environmental Management Program contains information on waste management, hazardous materials management, and emergency response.

² The Operation Environmental Management Program contains information on waste management, hazardous materials management, emergency response, and debris management.

Emergency Response Plan	Ice Management Plan	Heritage Resources Protection Plan (HRPP)	Decommissioning Plan
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Which potential adverse environmental effects are you most concerned about from Project operation?

- The Project Environmental Requirements (PER) are specific to work and activities conducted under the authority of any and all licences, permits, authorizations or approvals obtained for the project. Does the overview clearly outline the purpose of the PERs?

Yes

No

B. Construction Environmental Management Program

- The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.9) outlines mitigations to minimize potential Project effects on recreational land use and tourism, including aligning channel to avoid traversing lodges, campgrounds, resorts and cottages and also restricting clearing and excavation to the limits of construction and staging areas. Do you feel this is robust enough to manage effects to recreation and tourism during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

- The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.11 and 5.12) outlines a number of mitigations to manage effects and potential accidents from hazardous materials and waste. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

6. The Construction Environmental Management Program (see Section 5.13) outlines a number of mitigations to prevent and respond to wildfires. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

7. Throughout construction of the channels, the Construction Inspector will monitor environmental management measures. Topic specific monitoring will also be implemented as outlined in the other Environmental Management Plans for the Project. Do you feel this approach is robust enough to detect non-compliance with the plans and measure the effectiveness of the environmental management measures applied?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Operation Environmental Management Program

8. The Operation Environmental Management Program (see Section 4.6) outlines mitigations to manage the movement of large debris through the channels during flood events, including manually removing debris from the channel slope and safety booms. Do you feel these mitigations are robust enough to manage these effects during operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain and identify any effects this could have to health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area:

9. The Operation Environmental Management Program (see Section 4.9) highlights limited recreational land use along the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels, except at the inlet and outlet locations. Do you feel there will be conflict, disturbance, or access restrictions to recreational land in these areas during operation of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain and identify any effects this could have to health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area:

D. Project Environmental Requirements

10. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments that will be undertaken for the development, maintenance, and decommissioning of designated areas (see Section 2.1). These areas include: camps, quarries, borrow, equipment maintenance, fuel and other material storage. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

11. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments that will be undertaken during clearing, grubbing, and brush disposal activities (see Section 2.2). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

12. The Project Environmental Requirements describe construction requirements and commitments for work undertaken within or near water, including methods to mitigate or avoid soil movement into water (see Sections 2.3 and 2.4). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

13. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods for fish and mussel salvage during construction of the Project (see Sections 2.3 and 2.4). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

14. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods to mitigate and suppress dust during construction of the Project (see Section 2.6). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

15. The Project Environmental Requirements describe methods to mitigate impacts to wildlife during construction of the Project, including the prevention of invasive species introduction (see Section 2.9). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

16. The Project Environmental Requirements describe mitigations to manage the effects of quarry and borrow development during Project construction (see Section 2.9). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during construction?

Yes

No

Do you feel that any of these activities, such as quarry or borrow development work, will have an impact to socio-economic conditions in the area?

E. Conclusion

17. The Construction Environmental Management Program (Section 5), Operation Environmental Management Program (Section 4), and Project Environmental Requirements (Section 2) outlined methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during construction and operation of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

18. Given the mitigations outlined the programs, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please identify the component and explain:

19. How would you like to receive information about the Construction Environmental Management Program, Operation Environmental Management Program, Project Environmental Requirements, and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

20. Was the information in the Construction Environmental Management Program, Operation Environmental Management Program, and Project Environmental Requirements presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

21. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Complaints Resolution Process

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Process and Questionnaire

The Complaints Resolution Process (the Process) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Process will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Process. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Manitoba Infrastructure has developed a process to manage Project-related complaints, should they occur. The Process, outlines the methods to receive and document complaints, manage records, and process tracking, as well as the process for complaint notification, investigation, and resolution. The Process will be in place during the construction and operation phases of the Project.

Complaint Resolution Process

1. What potential Project-related issue are you most concerned about? Please select all that apply:

Groundwater Quality and Quantity

Noise and Vibration

Air Quality (e.g., Dust, Odour, Emissions)

Weeds

Other _____

Please explain why this issue concerns you most, and what Project activities it may relate to:

2. Figure 1 below illustrates the complaints resolution process which includes initiation of the complaint, records tracking, investigation and resolution. Do you feel this is robust enough to ensure a successful resolution to a complaint?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

Figure 1: Complaint Response Protocol Diagram



3. Which method of communication would you prefer to use if you had to lodge a Project-related complaint?

Email

Project website

Phone

Mail

No preference

4. How would you like to receive information on the status and/or resolution of a complaint?

Email

Mail

Phone

No preference

Conclusion

5. Was the information in the Complaints Resolution Process presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

6. Do you feel that the Complaint Resolution Process represents another means of identifying unanticipated effects and provide a means to consider adaptive management opportunities (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

7. Do you feel that the Complaint Resolution Process offers another way to provide additional feedback to Manitoba Infrastructure, in addition to consultation process, should Project activities influence or interfere with your traditional land and resource use?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Decommissioning Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Decommissioning Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline the processes and environmental requirements for the removal and closure of temporary designated areas, temporary access roads and quarry areas required during construction of the Project. Decommissioning of the channels and ancillary structures required for on-going operation is not a requirement at this date.

A. Decommissioning Activities

1. The Decommissioning Management Plan (Section 3.1) outlines measures that will be taken to decommission and reclaim **designated areas, temporary facilities and work areas** that will not be needed for future maintenance activities. Do you think feel these measures are robust enough to minimize environmental impacts?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

2. The Decommissioning Management Plan (Section 3.2) outlines measures that will be used to decommission and reclaim **temporary construction roads** within the right-of-way for the Project that are not required for the operation and maintenance phases. Do you think feel these measures are robust enough to minimize environmental impacts?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

B. Conclusion

3. Is there anything related to decommissioning that you would like to share with us?

Please explain:

4. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

5. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel this will have positive or negative impacts on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

6. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

7. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Dust Control Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Dust Control Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The Plan describes the dust suppressant products to use and the methods of their application on Provincial Road (PR) 239, other access roads used and material stockpiles to minimize and mitigate effects from increased dust levels.

Introduction

1. The Plan (Section 1.4) identifies that dust conditions will be monitored on PR 239, access roads, and all areas where construction and operation activities will take place. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor for excessive dust conditions?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Dust Control Measures

2. The Plan (Section 3.0) identifies that only water or approved dust suppressants, such as calcium/magnesium chloride, which is commonly used on other provincial gravel roads, will be used for dust control. Do you have concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain your concerns:

3. The Plan (Section 5.1) outlines application methods for dust suppressants. Do you have concerns with this approach?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain your concerns:

Conclusion

4. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

5. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

6. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

7. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

8. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Eastern Whip-poor-will Habitat Mitigation Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Eastern Whip-poor-will Habitat Mitigation Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The goal of this Plan is to describe habitat mitigation and monitoring opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will that will be implemented within the outlet channel Right-of-Ways (ROWs).

Specific objectives are to:

- Apply revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will, while adhering to requirements for the safe operation and maintenance of the Project.
- Monitor the occurrence of eastern whip-poor-will along the outlet channel ROWs to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

A. Introduction

1. Do you feel that past flood mitigation activities have impacted species at risk such as eastern whip-poor-will or others?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain which species at risk you feel have been impacted, and how:

2. The Plan (Section 1.3) identifies that the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel and distribution line overlaps with an eastern whip-poor-will critical habitat square near the northern part of Lake St. Martin as shown on Figure 1. Based on modelling of habitat attributes, this area is not considered critical habitat for eastern whip-poor-will. Are you aware of any areas that are suitable eastern whip-poor-will habitat?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify these locations on Figure 1.

B. Project Mitigations

3. The Plan (Section 3) describes revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for eastern whip-poor-will. Do you feel these mitigations are robust enough to enhance forest edge habitat for eastern whip-poor-will along the outlet channel right of ways, where adjacent forest exists?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Monitoring

4. An eastern whip-poor-will survey (Section 4.1) will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of mitigation measures by examining if eastern whip-poor-will occupy habitats in, or adjacent to the Habitat Mitigation Areas (HMAs). Surveys will be completed daily over a 14-day period during their breeding season and will occur during the first year of construction and will be repeated in years 2, 4, and 6 post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure and apply adaptive management (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

5. The Plan (Section 4) describes monitoring activities that will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the Plan, including habitat monitoring along the Project as outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan. Do you feel this monitoring is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure and apply adaptive management (if required)?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

D. Conclusion

6. Do you feel that potential effects to eastern whip-poor-will habitat resulting from the Project may impact your ability to practice tradition use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please explain:

7. Would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of eastern whip-poor-will and their habitat? If yes, please explain how:

8. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

9. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

10. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
 Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
 sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

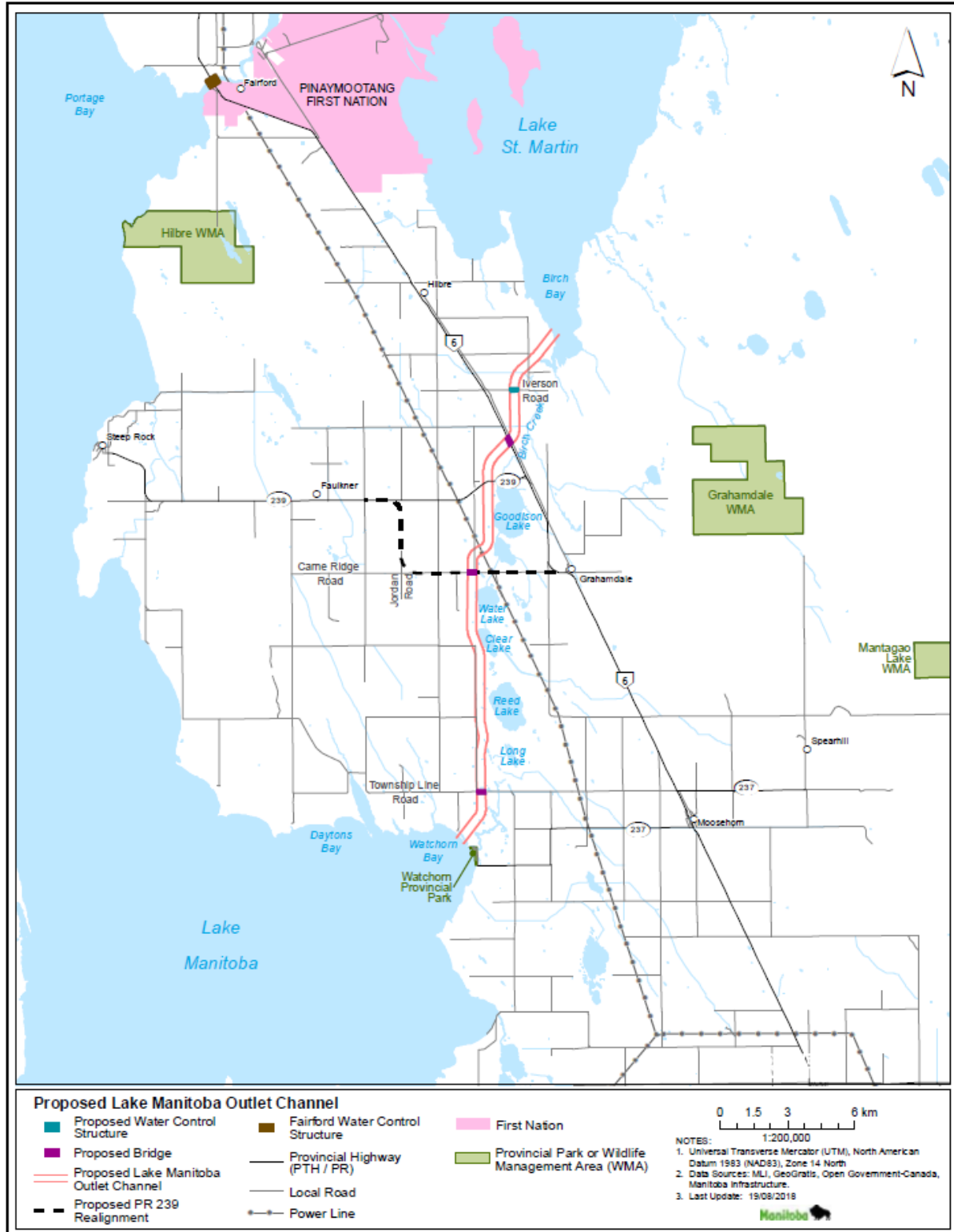
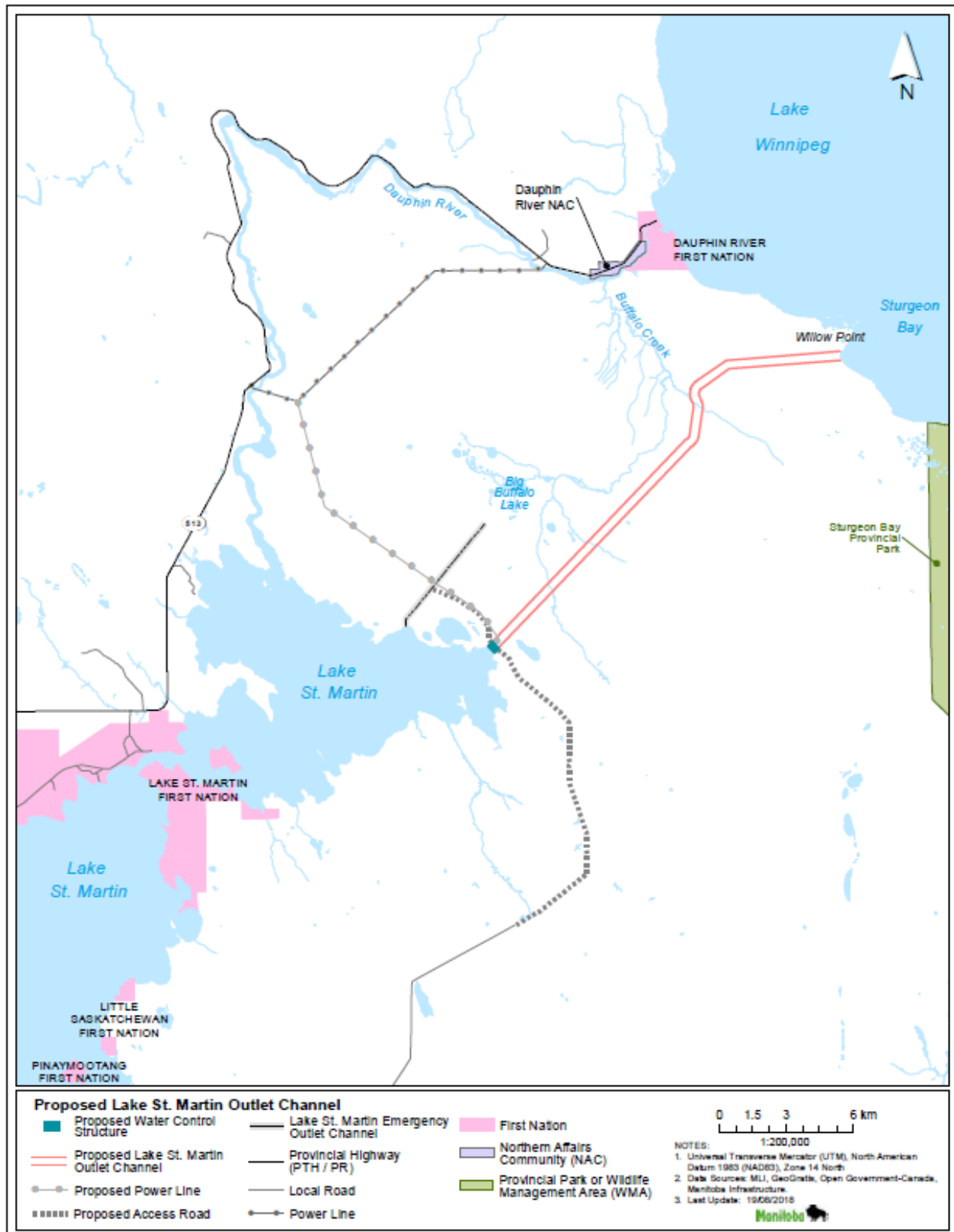


Figure 2 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Environmental Protection Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Environmental Protection Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement are considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The programs will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the programs. It is recommended that the documents be read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The Plan has been developed to support the Project's compliance with regulatory requirements and conditions of approval. The Plan provides a consolidated list of the environmental protection measures that will be implemented during the planning and site preparation and construction phases of the Project.

A. Environmental Protection Measures

1. As stated in Section 1.1 of the Plan, the EPP mapbook is meant to supplement general environmental protection measures and is intended to provide further direction to contractors and field staff in Project planning and construction. Draft maps have been provided and once completed, the mapbook will identify known Environmentally Sensitive Sites and provide direction for mitigation. Do you feel that the material included in this Plan, as well as the site specific measures (as shown in the sample maps in Appendix 1) will provide field personnel with sufficient information to mitigate site-specific environmental effects and other project-related concerns?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

2. The Plan (Table 3 in Section 3.1) lists environmental protection measures related to project planning. Do you feel these measures will be robust enough in mitigating potential Project effects?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

3. The Plan (Table 4 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel construction?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

4. The Plan (Table 5 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel construction?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

5. The Plan (Table 6 in Section 3.2) lists environmental protection measures related to site preparation and construction of the realignment of PR 239. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to mitigate potential effects to the environment related to PR 239 realignment?

Yes

No

If no, or if you feel additional measures are required, please explain:

B. Conclusion

6. Are there any additional environmental protection measures that you would like to see incorporated into the Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify what environmental protection measures you would like to see added and explain why:

7. The Plan outlines methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during project planning, site preparation and construction of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities as a result of one or more mitigation measure indicated in this plan?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the specific mitigation measure(s) and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected as a result:

8. Given the measures outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of these measures will have a positive impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)? Please identify the measure and explain:

9. Given the measures outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of these measures will have a negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)? Please identify the measure and explain:

10. How would you like to receive further information on the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Groundwater Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Summary of Plan

The Groundwater Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe measures to take to avoid or minimize adverse effects on groundwater from construction and operation of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project).

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Present an understanding of the hydrogeological conditions in the Project areas
- Present groundwater depressurization plans for construction and operation scenarios
- Identify potential impacts on groundwater supply wells and required mitigation measures
- Describe the planned monitoring to confirm effectiveness of mitigation measures

Please note, the frequency of water quality monitoring outlined in the Plan, and Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, has been determined based on environmental and engineering consultant advice and is subject to change based on monitoring results and feedback received through consultation, engagement, and regulatory activities..

Part 1 – Introduction

1. The Groundwater Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes methods that may be used to avoid or minimize effects on groundwater quality and quantity from the Project. What concerns do you have regarding groundwater effects from the Project? Select all that apply:
 - a. Impacts to wells and drinking water
 - b. Impacts to wetlands
 - c. Interactions with surface water
 - d. Other _____

Please explain:

2. Do you know of any groundwater discharge areas¹ in the Project area? These may be noticed by areas of poor ice condition or visible springs:

Yes

No

If yes, please explain identify on the map below (Figure 1) where these areas are located:

¹ A groundwater discharge area is an area where groundwater moves out of the aquifer to the surface through springs or seeps

Part 2 – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

3. If you obtain drinking water or livestock water from wells, are all those wells flowing or pumped? Are they installed into bedrock (limestone/carbonate aquifer)? Please provide details of well construction/depth, location, pumped or natural flow in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Respondents Well Information

Well Construction/Depth	Location	Pumped or Natural Flow

4. Does the quality or quantity of your well water change seasonally or in relation to weather conditions?

Yes

No

Please explain:

5. The Plan (Sections 7 and 14) discusses Project impacts on groundwater supply wells and potential mitigation measures. These mitigation measures are also outlined in Table 2 below and will be implemented on a case-by-case basis with affected well users.

Table 2: Mitigations for Domestic and Livestock Wells

Type of Well	Mitigation	
	Short Term	Long Term
Domestic wells	Water tanks/alternate water supply	Lower existing pump intake if feasible
		Supply new pumps
		Drill new wells or extend existing well
Artesian livestock wells	Transfer water from construction dewatering/depressurization wells to dugouts	Lower existing pump intake if feasible
		Supply new pumps
		Drill new wells or extend existing well

Do you feel these mitigations will be effective? Please explain:

Are there any additional mitigations that you would like included? Please explain:

6. The operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel will not alter the groundwater flow direction towards the lakes but some groundwater will be captured through depressurization wells and drains and transported to the lakes through the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. Do you have any concerns with this approach to managing groundwater discharge?

Yes

No

If yes, please share your concerns:

7. Several parameters to assess groundwater quality for the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel are outlined in Table 5 of the Plan. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for surface and drinking water quality: Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included? Please explain:

8. During **construction** of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, continuous monitoring of **groundwater levels** will occur and monitoring of **groundwater quality** will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall as described in the Plan. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

9. During **operation** of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, continuous monitoring of **groundwater levels** will occur and monitoring of **groundwater quality** will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall during the first two years post-construction as described in the Plan. This duration may be extended if needed. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Part 3 – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

10. The Plan (Sections 7.1 and 14.1) outlines potential Project effects, including the risk of exposing the aquifer during excavation of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel and causing groundwater discharge into the channel. To mitigate this risk, groundwater will be pumped (depressurization) to lower the local groundwater level in the aquifer. Do you think this is robust enough to manage these construction impacts?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

11. Lowering the local groundwater level will have an effect to areas within 1 km of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. The closest wells to the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel are 5-6 km away. Given this information, do you have concerns with drinking water supplies near the LSMOC?

Yes

No

If yes, please share your concerns:

12. Several parameters to assess groundwater quality for the LSMOC are outlined in Table 10 of the Plan. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) and Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines provide guidance for what parameters should be monitored for surface water and drinking water quality: Are there any additional parameters that you would like to see included? Please explain:

13. During **construction** of the LSMOC, continuous monitoring of groundwater levels will occur and monitoring of groundwater quality will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall as described in the Plan. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

14. During **operation** of the LSMOC, continuous monitoring of groundwater levels will occur and monitoring of groundwater quality will occur annually in the spring, summer, and fall during the first two years post-construction as described in the Plan. This duration may be extended if needed. Do you think this is robust enough to understand the potential impacts of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Conclusion

15. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

16. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g., economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

17. Groundwater monitoring reports will be developed on an annual basis. Manitoba Infrastructure is planning to share this information with community leadership. Do you feel this is sufficient?

Yes

No

If no, how frequent should these reports be prepared? _____

18. How else would you like to receive this information?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

19. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in follow-up and groundwater monitoring?

20. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

21. Do you have any general comments or questions?

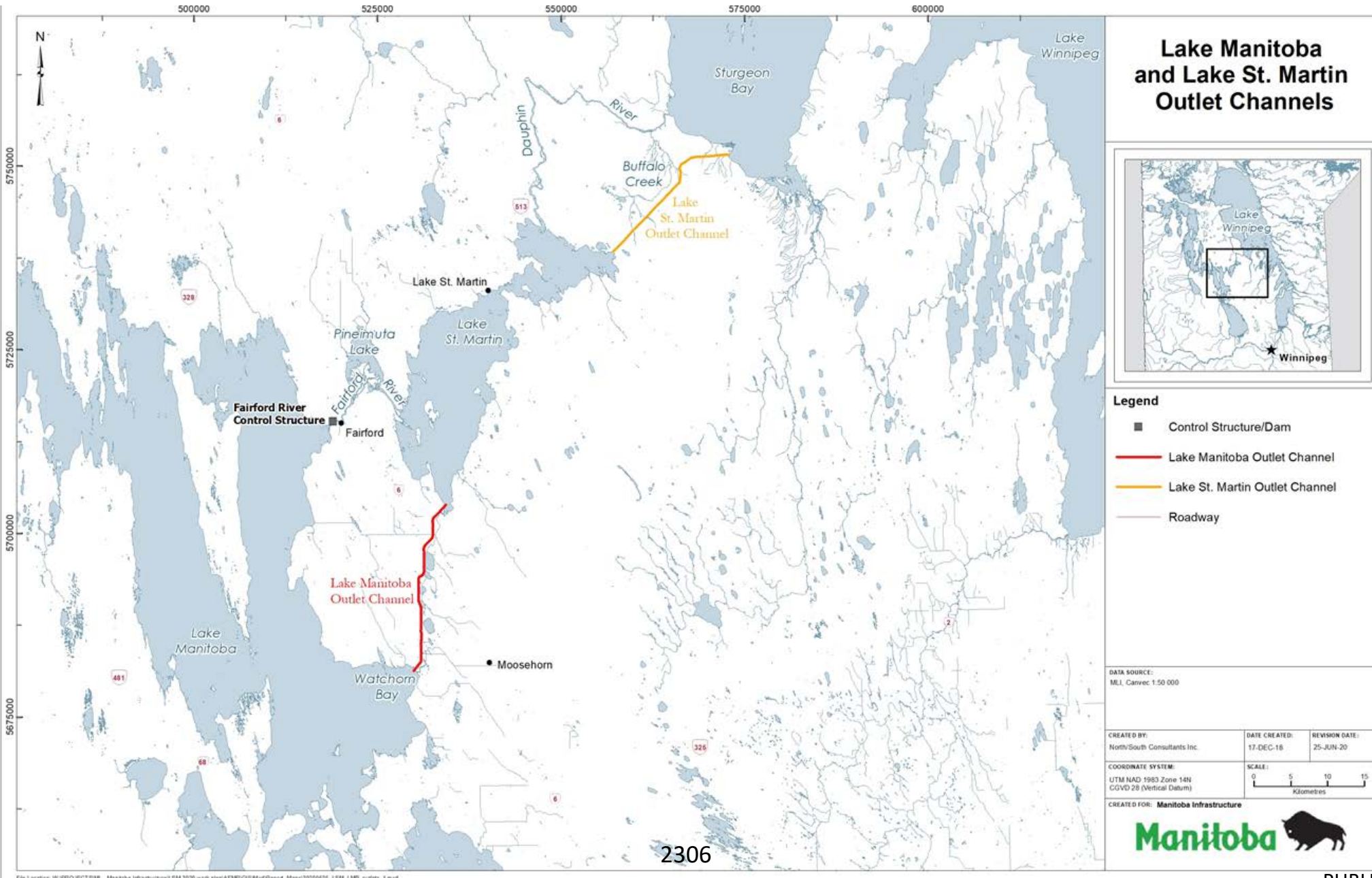
Yes

No

Please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the map below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
 Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the map provided below.



Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels



- Legend**
- Control Structure/Dam
 - Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel
 - Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel
 - Roadway

DATA SOURCE:
MLI, Canvec 1:50 000

CREATED BY: North/South Consultants Inc.	DATE CREATED: 17-DEC-18	REVISION DATE: 25-JUN-20
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COORDINATE SYSTEM: UTM NAD 1983 Zone 14N (CGVD 28 Vertical Datum)	SCALE: 0 5 10 15 Kilometres
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CREATED FOR: Manitoba Infrastructure



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Heritage Resources Protection Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Heritage Resource Protection Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

Heritage resources are protected under Manitoba's Heritage Resources Act (1986) and are managed by the Heritage Resources Branch (HRB) under the Ministry of Sport, Culture, and Heritage. The Plan has been developed to provide for this protection. The objective of the Plan is to provide for two facets of heritage protection:

1. The protection of previously known heritage resources.
2. The protection of heritage resources and human remains should they be unearthed or discovered during the construction and operating phases of the Project.

The Plan is being developed based on the findings of a Heritage Resource Impact Assessment conducted prior to the start of construction.

A. Introduction

1. Workers for the Project will receive basic heritage resources training prior to construction to aid them in their ability to recognize heritage resources that may be uncovered during construction and report these findings to appropriate Project personnel. Is this process robust enough to ensure that chance findings of heritage resources are documented and protected?

Yes

No

If no, please explain your concerns:

2. a) Are you aware of specific areas in the Project area that contain heritage resources, such as burial grounds, artifacts (e.g., tools, pottery or other historic objects), hearths (old fire pit), stone configurations, etc.?

Yes

No

If yes, please make note of the type of heritage resources and their location on Figures 1, 2, and 3.

- b) Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) recognizes that concerns have been raised about the impact to islands in Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, and Lake Winnipeg. Are you aware of any specific heritage resources in these areas that you feel may be impacted by the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the location of these resources on Figures 1, 2, and 3 and how you feel the Project may affect these in a way that the natural environment (e.g., water level fluctuations and erosion) does not.

3. MI recognizes that the Fairford Trail, a historical feature in the area, is still actively used by Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the area. Please explain how you use the Fairford Trail:

4. MI recognizes that the Narrows of Lake St. Martin are considered a site of importance to Indigenous peoples. If applicable, please explain how you use the Narrows of Lake St. Martin:

B. Heritage Resources Protective Measures

5. Known heritage resources related to the Project include: heritage sensitive areas, known heritage resources in the Project Development Area, and culturally important areas. The Plan (Section 5) outlines measures for how these heritage resources will be managed during the Project. Are the measures outlined robust enough to ensure the protection of heritage resources?

Yes

No

If no, please indicate additional processes for consideration:

6. The Plan (Section 5.2 and 5.3) outlines procedures that will be followed if a “Chance Find” heritage resource is encountered. Are the procedures outlined robust enough to protect these heritage resources?

Yes

No

If no, please explain and identify other procedures that should be considered:

7. What types of “Chance Finds” of heritage resources do you feel your community should be contacted about if encountered?

8. The Plan (Section 5.3.1) identifies measures that will be followed to protect heritage resources during Project construction activities, including those found in recognized or newly discovered cemeteries or burial grounds. Are the measures outlined robust enough to ensure the protection of heritage resources in these areas?

Yes

No

If no, please indicated additional processes for consideration:

9. Manitoba Infrastructure has also considered periodic post-construction monitoring of the Bayton St. Thomas Lutheran Cemetery to ensure no alteration to headstones based on the groundwater regime has occurred (Section 9.6.8 of the EIS). Do you feel these monitoring measures should be implemented?

Yes

No

Please explain:

C. Conclusion

10. Are the procedures identified in the Plan sufficient to protect heritage resources used for your community's traditional activities from potential Project-related effects?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any concerns regarding Project-related effects to heritage resources and the practice of traditional activities:

11. How would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of the heritage resources activities, including the identification of heritage sites? Please identify:

12. Would your community be interested in conducting ceremonies or spiritual activities for known or unknown heritage resources?

Yes

No

Are there any specific heritage resource types or locations for which you or your community feels a ceremony or spiritual activity is required? If so, please identify:

13. If “Chance Find” heritage resources are unearthed or discovered during the construction and operating phases of the Project, how would you like to participate or contribute your cultural, traditional, or heritage knowledge to the protection or removal of these heritage resources? Please explain:

14. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website notification

All of the above

15. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

16. Do you have any general comments or questions about the Plan, heritage resources or relevant traditional activities?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Area

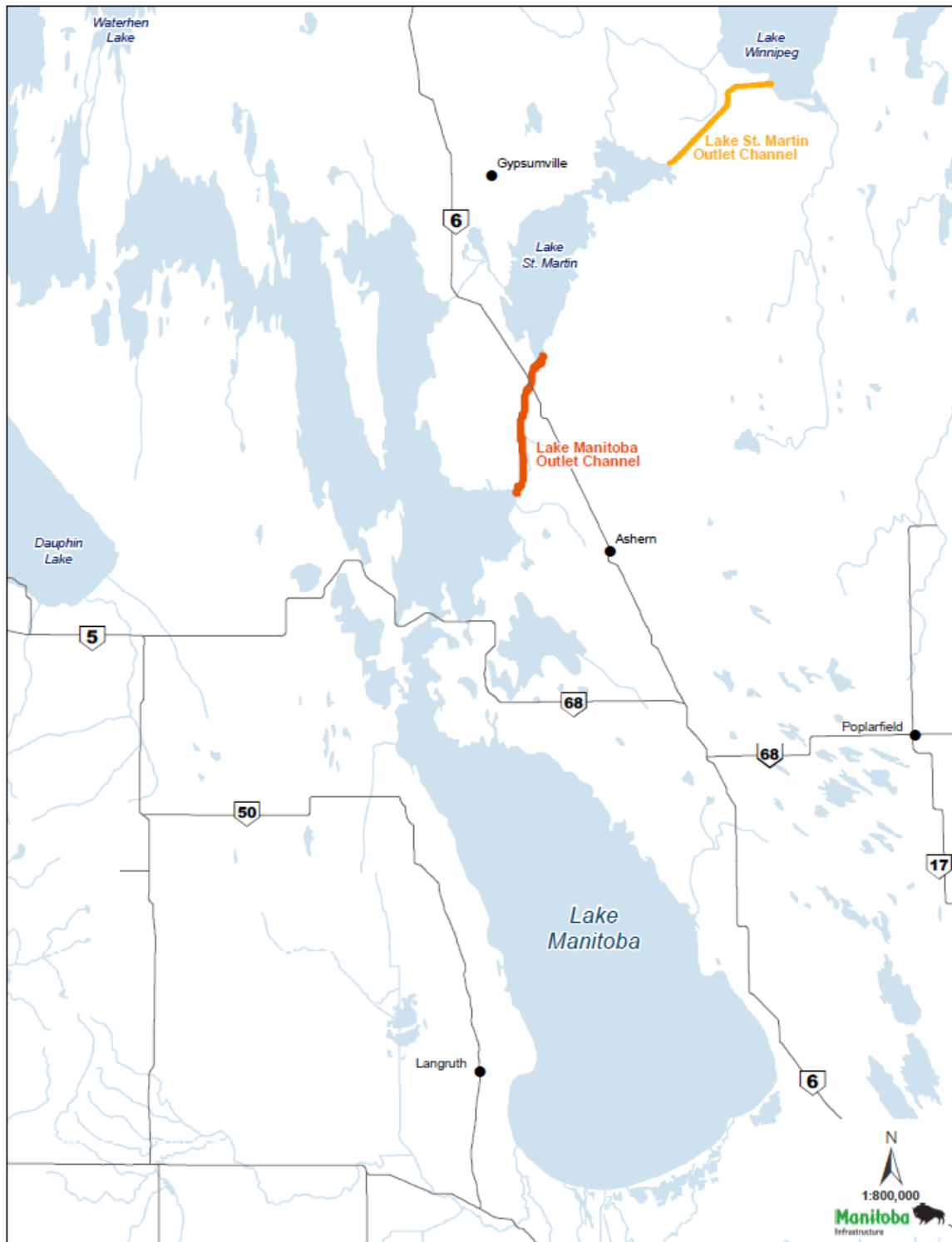


Figure 2 – Map of Lake St. Martin Area

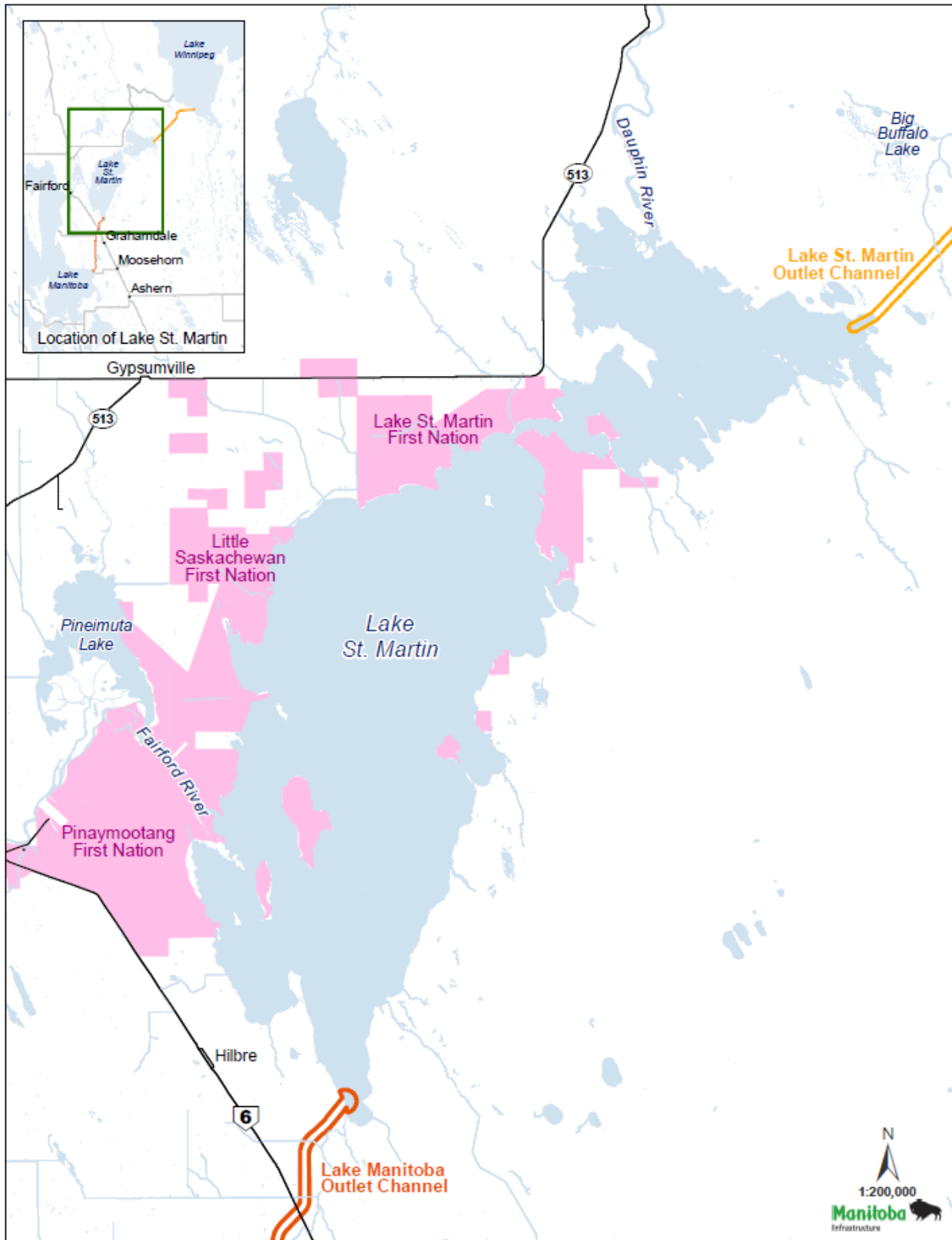
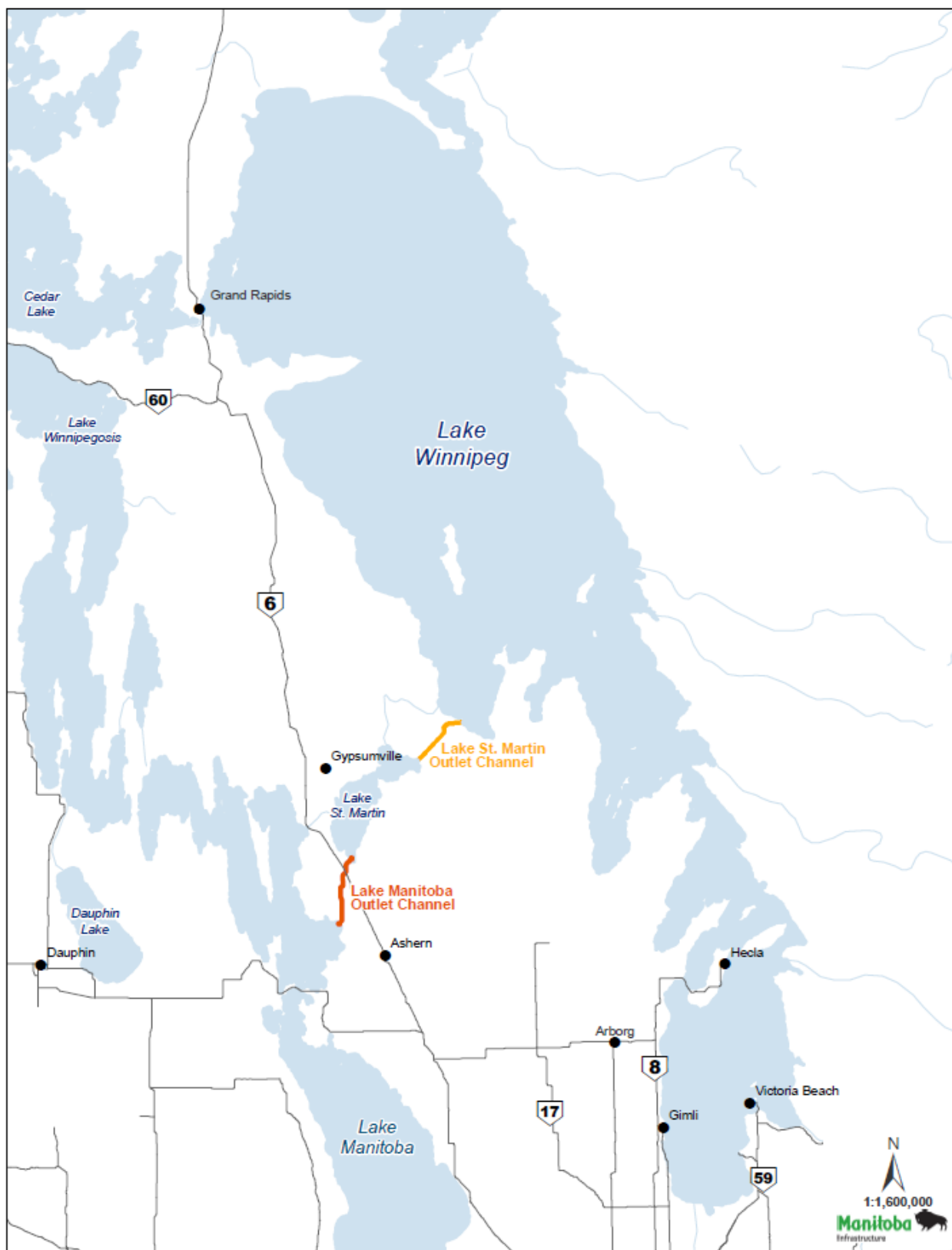


Figure 3 – Map of Lake Winnipeg Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Ice Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Ice Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The objective of the Ice Management Plan is manage hazards related to ice during operation of the outlet channels to ensure public and worker safety and minimize environmental impacts.

A. Introduction

1. Do you rely on winter (frozen) conditions to access lands in the vicinity of the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify for what purpose:

2. Do you ice fish in the vicinity of the planned Project inlets and outlets?

Yes

No

B. Ice Management

3. The Project may operate through the winter in years with extreme flooding, causing thin ice in the lakes near the inlets and outlets. Figure 1 identifies locations of potential thin ice during operation of the Project. Please identify if these locations overlap with areas utilized for traditional purposes:

4. The Plan (Section 2.2) discusses ice management measures for winter operation of the Project, such as heated gates and considering ice processes within the channel before operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to effects of winter operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

5. The Plan (Section 2.2) discusses that signage indicating potential areas of thin ice will be displayed at inlet and outlet areas in accordance with Transport Canada requirements. Are there any additional locations (see Figure 2) where you feel that thin ice signage is needed?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify on Figure 2 the other locations where signage is needed:

6. The Plan (Section 3) discusses that operation of the Project will alter the flow regimes of the Fairford and Dauphin Rivers during high winter flow years, but is not anticipated to have significant changes to low flow years. Will these changes affect how you use the Fairford or Dauphin Rivers?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain how this will impact how you use the area:

Fairford River:

Dauphin River:

7. Although operation of the Project is not anticipated to have any negative impacts on ice processes in the area, monitoring of ice conditions will still occur. The Plan (Sections 3.2 and 4.0) outlines that monitoring will occur at key locations identified by communities, such as at the mouth of the Dauphin River where the community constructs an ice road each winter. Are there any locations where you feel ice monitoring is required?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the locations on Figure 3.

8. The Plan (Section 4.0) outlines potential mitigation measures that may be undertaken if adverse ice conditions develop, including operational reductions to reduce flows or equipment deployment to clear ice jams. Do you feel this is robust enough to reduce the risk of ice jams occurring during project operation?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

C. Conclusion

9. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

10. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

11. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

12. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

**We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.**

Figure 1: Locations of Potential Thin Lake Ice

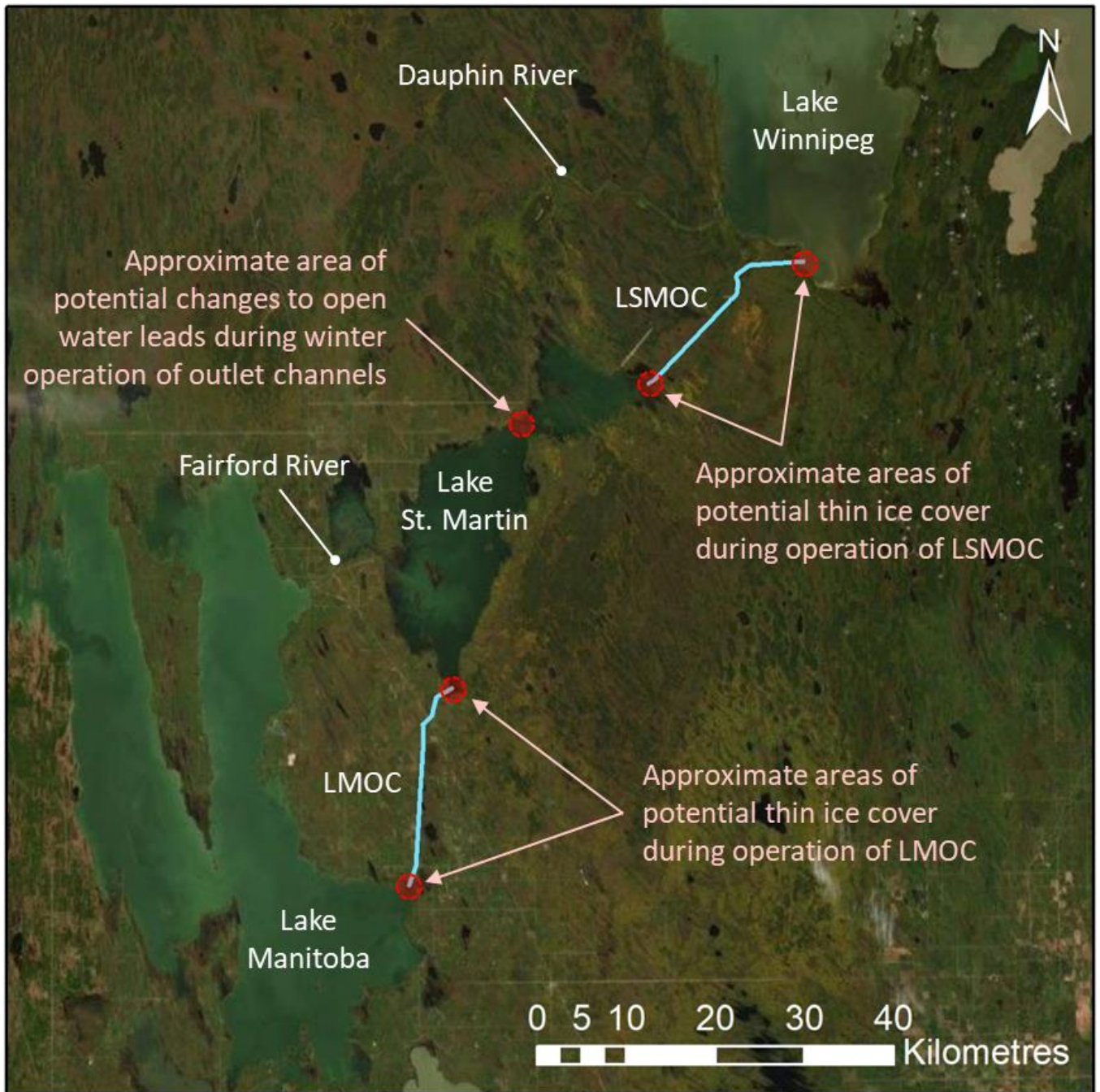


Figure 2: Locations of Potential Thin Lake Ice – Areas for Additional Signage

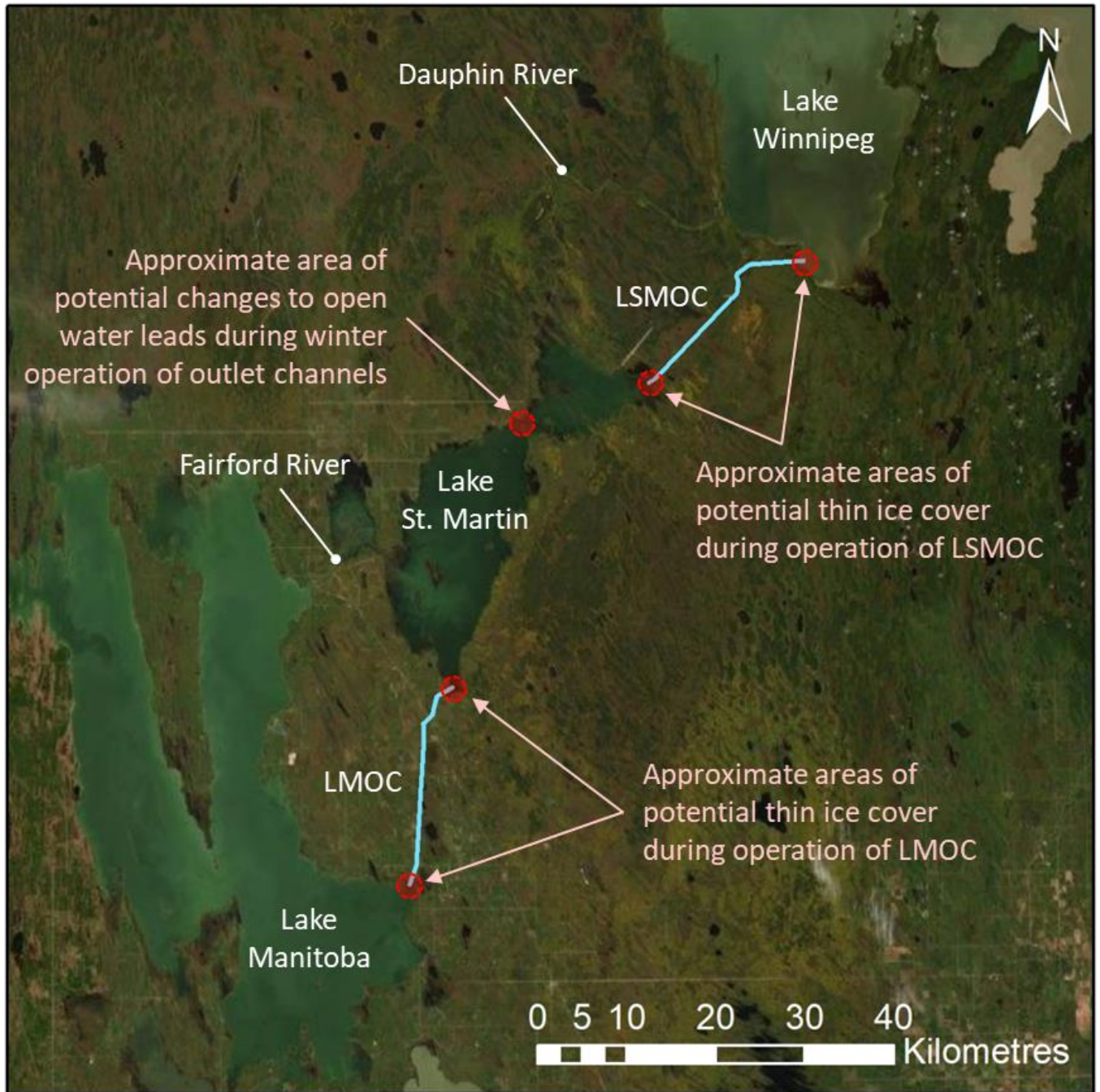
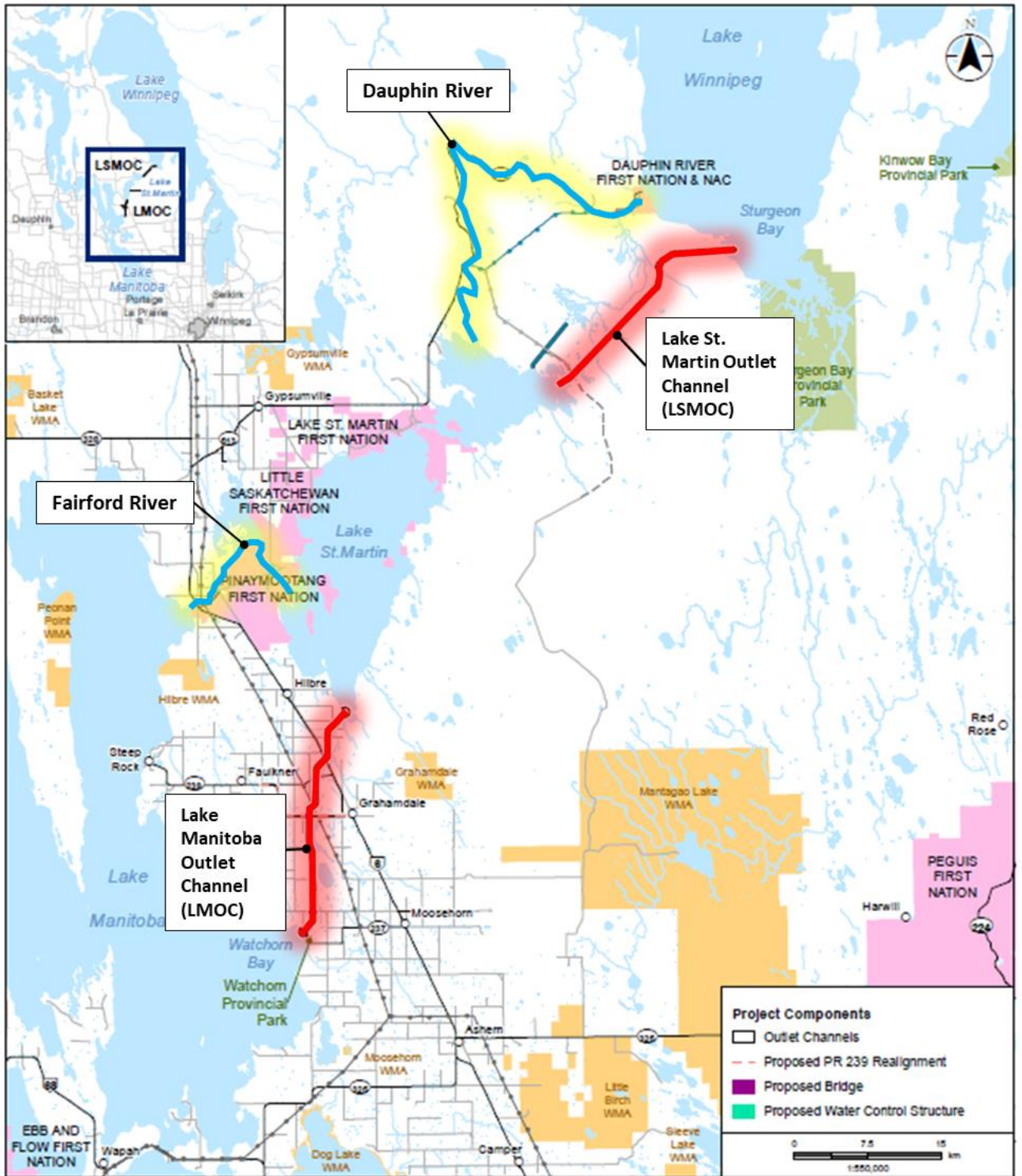


Figure 3: Map of Project Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Quarry Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and inform project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Quarry Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline criteria for site selection and development of quarries with the objective to avoid (to the extent possible), and mitigate potential adverse environmental effects associated with quarry development and aggregate production activities.

Introduction and Communications

1. The Plan (Appendix A) provides a map with locations of potential quarries. This figure will be updated as required as design and construction progresses and new information becomes available. Will the location of potential quarries proposed have a negative impact on your use of land in the area? Please feel free to share information on the map provided in Figure 1.

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

2. Ongoing communications are outlined in Section 2 of the Plan. Do you feel that the communications planned are sufficient for informing people of quarry management activities for the Outlet Channels project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional communication activities that should be included:

3. Advanced notifications will be given to affected parties prior to blasting events. If affected, how would you like to receive notification about blasting events or other quarry-related communications?

Email

Mail

Website notification

All of the above

Please explain how much time you think is sufficient to give prior notice of blasting events:

Construction

4. The Plan (Section 3.1) outlines criteria that must be followed when quarry and borrow pit sites are identified and developed, such as maintaining a minimum of 100 metres from a water course or water body and not developing sites that contain acid generating rock. Requirements outlined in the Project Environmental Requirements must also be followed. Do you have any concerns with how quarry sites will be identified, assessed and selected?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain and identify any additional criteria that should be included in the selection of a quarry site:

5. The Plan (Section 3.1) outlines the types of environmentally sensitive sites that should be avoided when quarries are selected. Are you aware of any sensitive sites that should be avoided during quarry development work?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the sensitive sites on the Figures 2 and 3 and describe its importance or sensitive nature.

6. The Plan (Section 3.2) discusses how the Quarry Development Plan will address site surface water and groundwater conditions. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to protect site surface water and/or groundwater?

Yes

No

If yes, please share those concerns you have regarding surface water and groundwater conditions related to quarry activities:

7. The Plan (Section 3.3) describes mitigations to manage the effects of quarry operation. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to manage these effects during quarry operations?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: Do you have any safety concerns with the operation of quarries or borrow pits for the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, what additional safety features would you like to see in place for this project:

8. The Plan (Section 3.5) describes processes that will be followed to decommission quarries that are exhausted of material or are no longer required. Do you feel the measures outlined are robust enough to remediate impacts from quarries?

Yes

No

If no, what additional measures should be added to the quarry decommissioning plan:

Conclusion

9. The Plan outlined methods to mitigate or avoid environmental effects during quarry activities of the Project. Do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

10. Given the mitigations outlined in the Plan, do you feel that any of the project activities or effects will have a positive or negative impact on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture)?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

11. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

12. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that is understandable?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

13. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Potential Quarry Locations

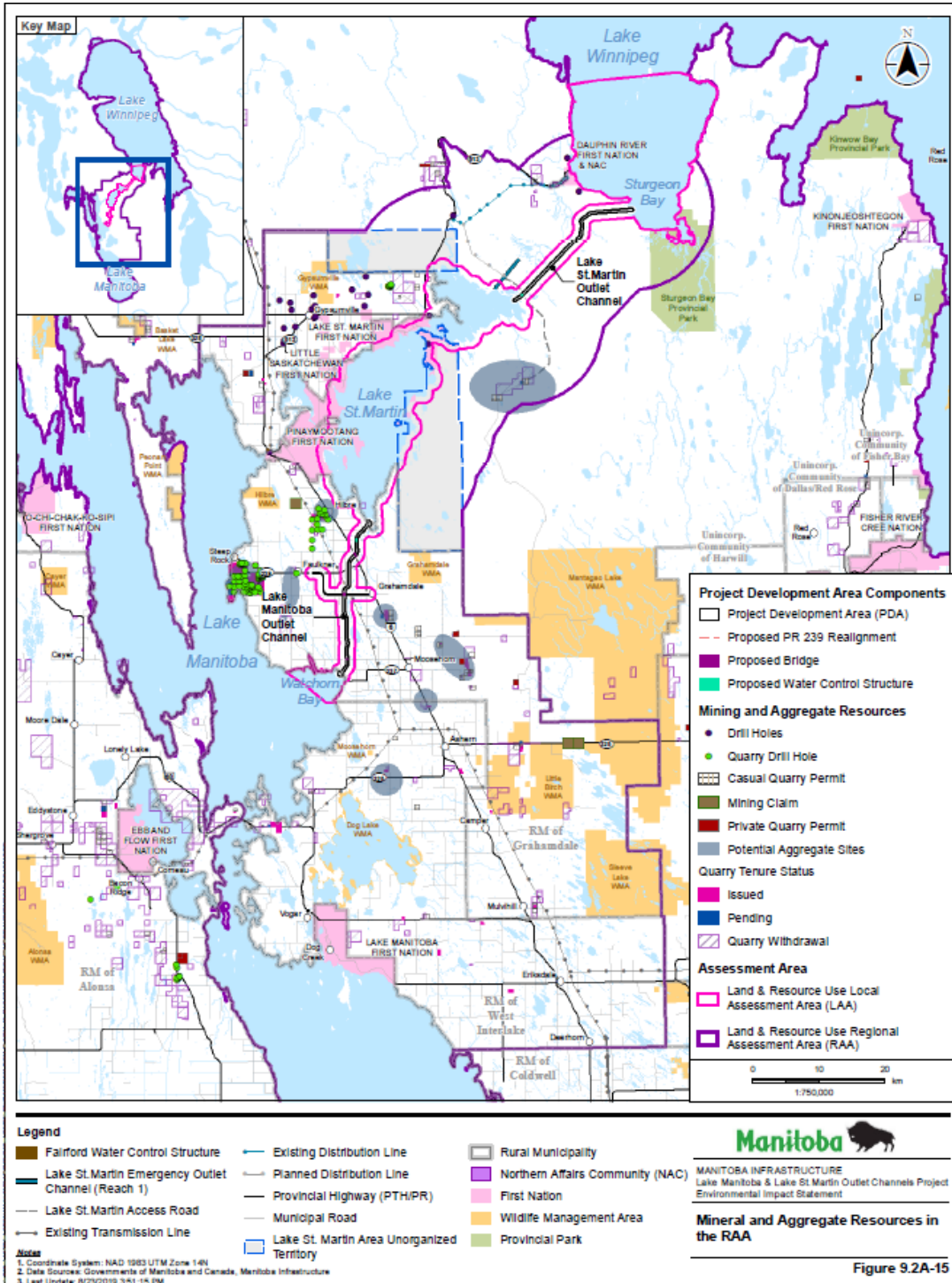
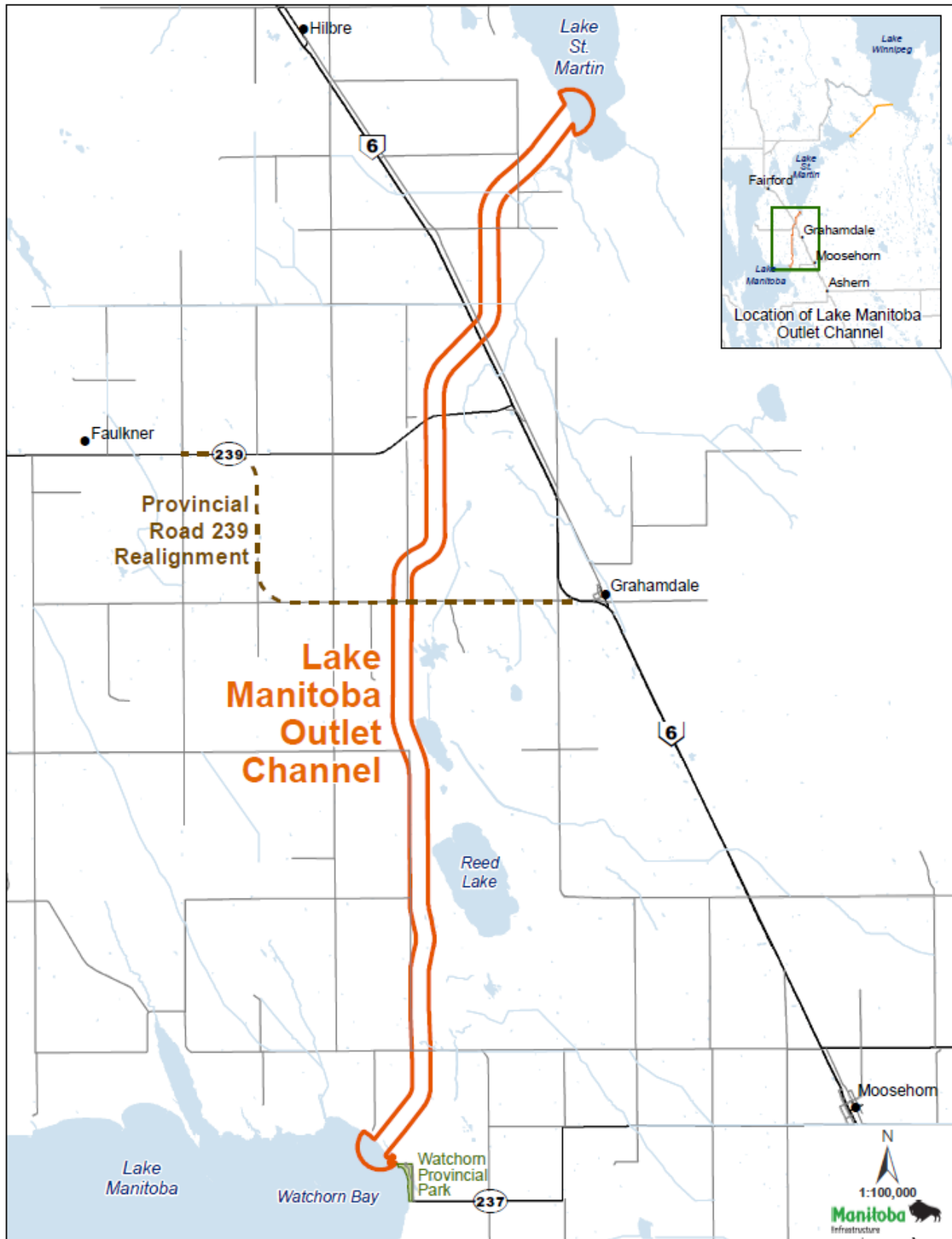


Figure 2 – Project Area



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Red-headed Woodpecker Habitat Mitigation Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Red-headed Woodpecker Habitat Mitigation Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe how habitat mitigation and monitoring activities will be implemented along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right-of-Way (ROW). The goal of this Plan is to enhance breeding habitat opportunities for red-headed woodpecker along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel ROW. This will be achieved by employing the mitigation measures, best management practices, and adaptive management techniques outlined in this Plan during the construction and operation phases of the Project. Specific objectives are to:

- Describe revegetation prescriptions (i.e., shrub plantings) and vegetation management practices that provide habitat opportunities for red-headed woodpecker, while adhering to requirements for the safe operation and maintenance of the Project.
- Describe Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel ROW habitat mitigation, including erecting salvaged snags and/or decadent trees and artificial nest structures.
- Describe how revegetation prescriptions and nest structure occupancy by red-headed woodpecker will be monitored to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

A. Introduction

1. Do you feel that past flood protection projects or activities have impacted species at risk such as red-headed woodpecker or others?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain which species at risk you feel have been impacted, and how:

2. The Plan (Section 1.3) identifies that the Project overlaps a red-headed woodpecker critical habitat square. Field surveys conducted in 2020 within this area of overlap did not reveal the presence of red-headed woodpecker. Are you aware of any areas that are suitable red-headed woodpecker habitat?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify these locations on Figure 1.

B. Project Mitigation

3. The Plan (Section 3) outlines mitigation measures that will reduce potential effects to the red-headed woodpecker and their habitats. Do you feel that these measures will be effective in mitigating potential Project-related effects?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

4. The Plan (Section 3.2.2) outlines that red-headed woodpecker habitat will be enhanced by salvaging snags and decadent trees and installing artificial nest structures. Do you feel that these measures will be effective in creating nesting habitat for red-headed woodpecker?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

5. Measures to reduce the likelihood of salvaged decadent trees falling over include adherence to best management practices (e.g., attaching decadent trees to treated wooden posts) and nest structure monitoring. Do you think this is robust enough to reduce the likelihood of salvaged snags and decadent trees falling over?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other measures you feel should be considered:

C. Monitoring

6. A red-headed woodpecker nest survey (Section 4.1) will be undertaken to understand if red-headed woodpeckers occupy salvaged decadent trees and artificial nesting structures placed within or adjacent to the Habitat Migration Areas (HMA). Surveys will be completed on two separate occasions, between June 1 to 30, during the first year of construction and will be repeated each year until year 6 of post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

7. The nest structure survey (Section 4.2) will be used to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation measures by monitoring the structural integrity of salvaged decadent trees and artificial nest boxes. The nest structure survey will be completed once per year prior to the breeding season (April 1). Surveys will be undertaken during the first year post-construction and will be repeated each year until year 6 of post-construction. Based on the information provided, do you feel this is robust enough to monitor or understand the effectiveness of this mitigation measure?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach or list any concerns you may have:

8. Results from the monitoring programs will also inform whether adaptive measures are needed, such as replacing salvaged trees or adding new artificial nesting structures. In addition, a root cause analysis of why a measure failed to meet the intended objective will be conducted. Do you feel that these measures and their ability to inform the need for adaptive measures will help Manitoba Infrastructure understand and mitigate potential Project effects and prevent future failures?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other monitoring or adaptive measures you feel should be considered:

D. Conclusion

9. Do you feel that potential effects to red-headed woodpecker habitat resulting from the Project may impact your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please explain:

10. Would you like to be involved with follow-up and monitoring of red headed woodpeckers and their habitat? If yes, please explain how:

11. How would you like to receive further information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

12. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

13. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

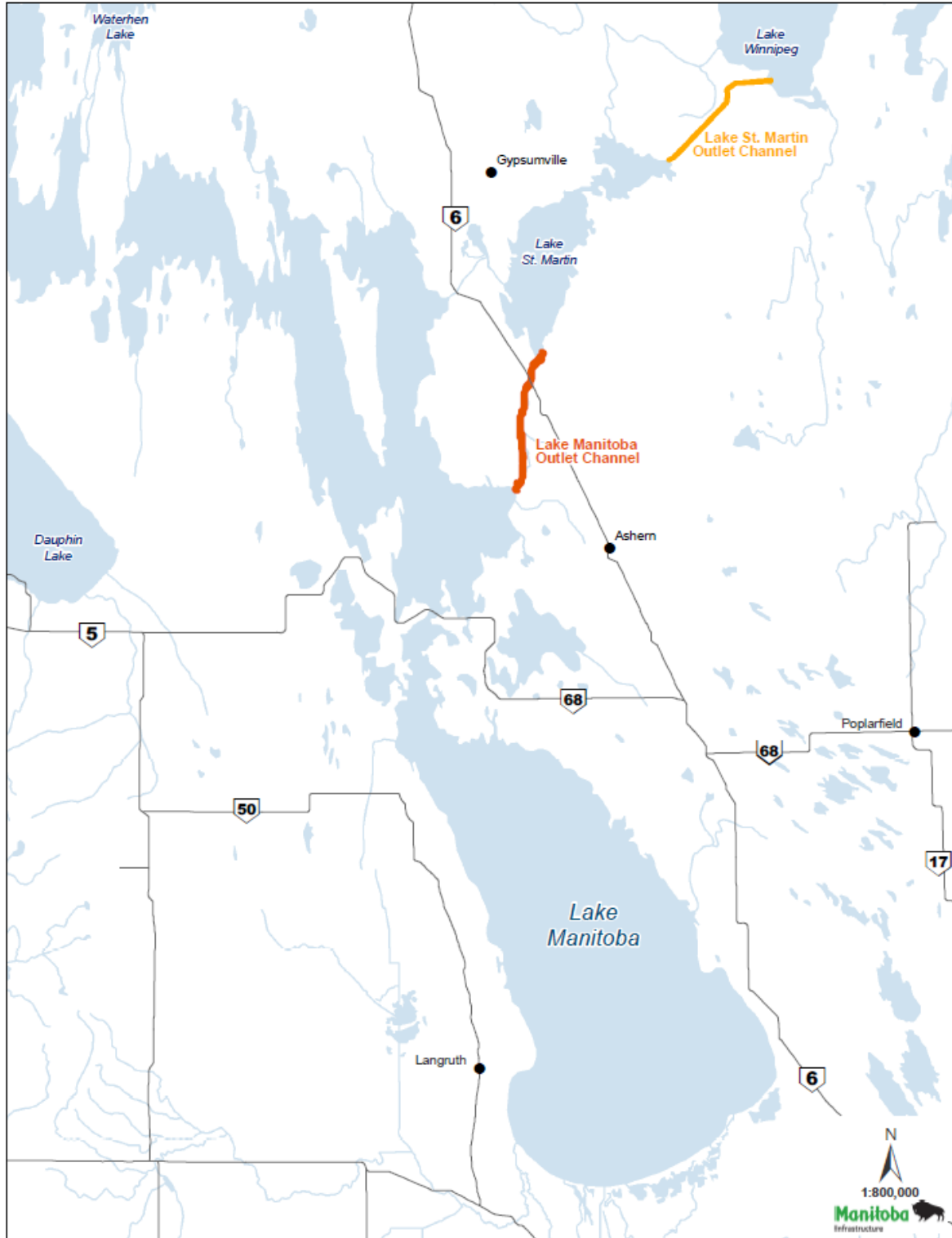
No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1 – Map of Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Revegetation Management Plan

Questionnaire

GENERAL INFORMATION (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

Yes

No

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In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan

The Revegetation Management Plan presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to document changes to water and fish, determine if predictions are correct, and identify if additional mitigation measures are needed for the Project. The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Establish self-sustaining permanent plant cover
- Provide erosion and sediment control
- Control the spread of invasive plant species along the channel and into adjacent environments

Part 1 – Introduction

1. The Revegetation Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes methods that may be used to establish plant cover, provide erosion control, and control the spread of invasive plant species. Please indicate if you have concerns about Project activities and their effect on the following types of habitat:

Croplands

Pastures

Wetlands

Parkland forests

Please explain what concerns you have:

2. The Revegetation Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) describes establishing a vegetation cover to mitigate erosion and provide sediment control. These mitigations will also support measures outlined in the Sediment Management Plan. Do you feel this is robust enough to address erosion of the side slopes of the Project channels?

Yes

No

If no, explain what concerns you have with this approach:

3. Monitoring for planting success, erosion control, and effects on plant communities will be conducted twice a year during the construction of the Project. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of Project construction?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

4. Monitoring for loss of cover from channel operations, vegetation establishment, and effects on plant communities will be conducted for three to five years post-construction. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of Project operation?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

Part Two – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

5. What are your expectations for use of the land along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel once constructed?

Please explain:

6. The Revegetation Management Plan (Section 6.3.1) identifies several sensitive soil sites¹ as well as four sites that have been affected by manure within the Right of Way. Are you aware of any additional sensitive soil sites along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right of Way?

Yes

No

¹ Sensitive soil sites are sandy soils that are subject to erosion.

If yes, please identify the location of the sites on Figure 1:

7. Persistent weed species have already established either in or near the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Right of Way where soil salvage and revegetation will occur. As a result, weed treatment will be required during pre-construction prior to soil salvage, and as part of maintenance once revegetation is complete. Do you feel this is robust enough to prevent the spread of weeds and non-native invasive plants?

Yes

No

If no, please describe your concerns and list any potential impacts to agricultural activities in the area:

Part Three – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

8. What are your expectations for use of the land along the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel once constructed?

Please explain:

9. The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel area is largely free of weeds; however, Canada thistle and dandelions were found in two areas during the site investigations in June 2019. Are you aware of any other weeds or non-native plants in the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel area?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the species and its location:

10. Where problematic weedy species are absent from landscapes prior to construction, the best approach is to take steps to ensure that weeds are not imported onto the site with machinery and equipment and to undertake proper revegetation measures on prepared sites as soon as possible. Do you feel this is robust enough to prevent the spread of weeds and non-native invasive plants?

Yes

No

If no, please identify any additional measures you'd like included and why:

Conclusion

11. Do you think the Project will affect plant species at risk, medicinal plants, or other plant species of cultural importance?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

12. Are there any sensitive sites or plant species at risk that should be considered during revegetation work?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the species and its location

13. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

14. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Revegetation Management Plan that you feel this will have positive or negative impacts on health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

15. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in follow-up and monitoring for revegetation? Please explain:

16. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

17. Do you have any general comments or questions?

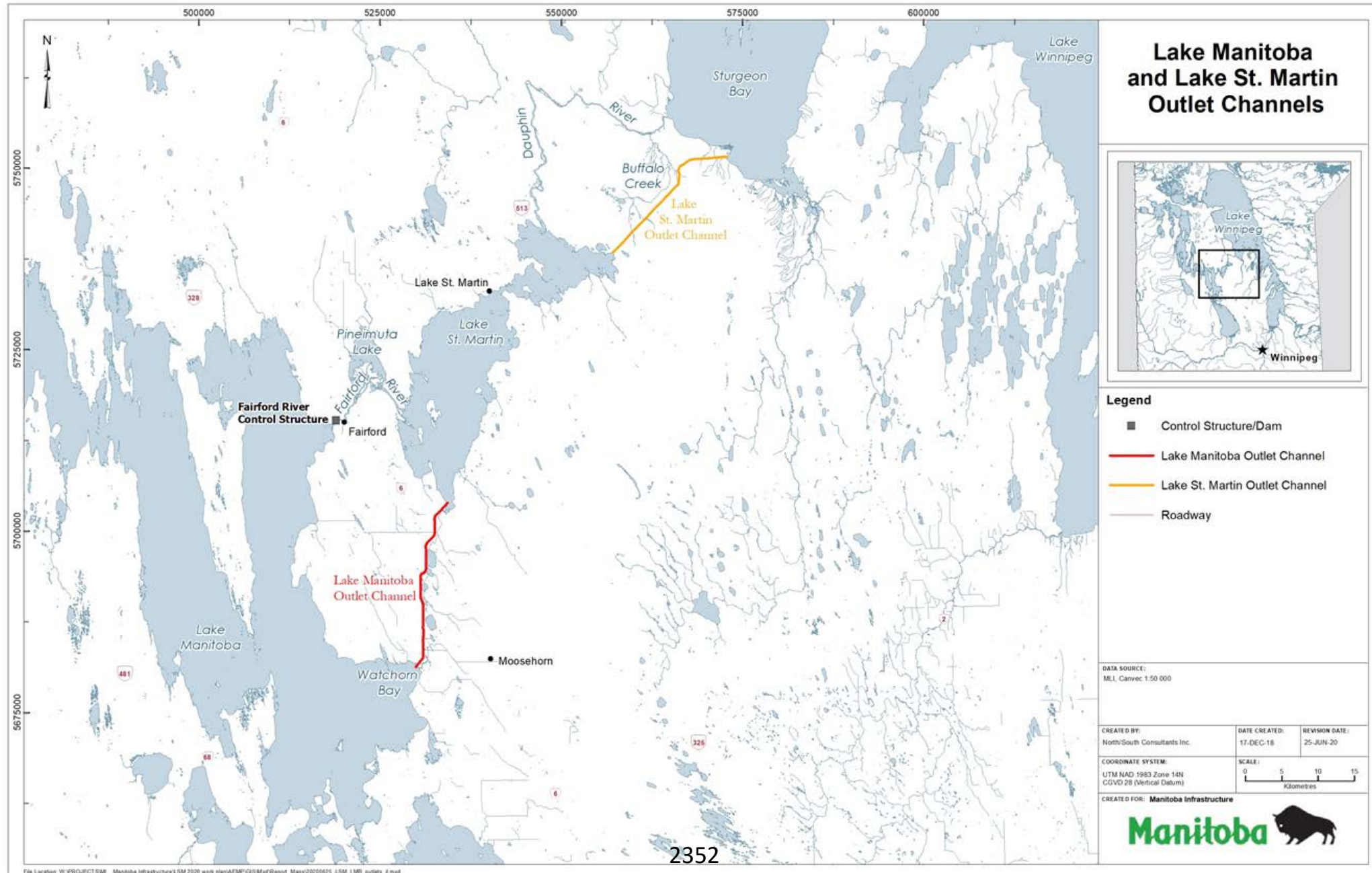
Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the map below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding sticky notes to the map provided below.



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Sediment Management Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Sediment Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline measures to minimize or mitigate impacts of in-stream sediment from construction activities in or near water, shoreline erosion and commissioning of the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project (the Project).

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Minimize the potential for erosion and sedimentation.
- Manage potential drainage issues (e.g., run-off).
- Minimize the effects of sediment to the receiving waterbody.
- Develop emergency response practices.

Part 1 - Introduction

1. The Plan (Sections 6 and 14) outlines project design, planning and temporary measures that will be used to control erosion and sediment movement during **construction** of the Project and other project components. For example, a double turbidity curtain (two separate turbidity curtains) will be used when excavating the inlets and outlets. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to minimize erosion and sediment transport during the **construction** phase?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Please identify any additional measures you feel should be applied:

2. Permanent vegetation cover (as described in the Revegetation Management Plan) will be the primary method to control erosion and sediment during **operation** of the Project. Critical areas such as the channel inlet and outlet, water control structures, and bridges will have additional methods of permanent erosion protection as outlined in (Section **Error! Reference source not found.** and 15.2). Do you feel these measures are robust enough to minimize erosion and sediment transport during **operation** of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Please identify any additional measures you feel should be applied:

Surface water quality monitoring (as described in Sections 8 and 16 of the Plan; the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan; and Surface Water Management Plan) will be undertaken throughout the construction and operation of the Project to assess the effectiveness of proposed erosion and sedimentation control measures. Do you feel this is robust enough to monitor effects of the Project?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how you would change this approach:

3. It is possible that short-term increases in suspended sediments over background levels may occur during commissioning and initial operation of the channels and work to develop a response protocol that links to the adaptive management strategies for each channel. Could sedimentation affect your current use of water bodies in the area?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe how:

If applicable, please describe how this could affect traditional activities in the area:

4. The Emergency Outlet Channel used the natural Buffalo Creek drainage to pass flood flows. This caused debris and sediment to enter the water and Manitoba Infrastructure received complaints from commercial fishers about sediment build-up on fishing nets. With the project, all of the vegetation and organic material will be removed within the footprint of the channels being constructed. Do you feel mitigations, such as channel design, identified in the Plan will be effective at minimizing potential effects related to sediment build-up on fishing nets?

Yes

No

If no, please describe other mitigations that could be applied:

5. Do you feel mitigations, such as channel design, identified in the Plan will be effective at minimizing potential effects related to sedimentation of substrates that could affect fish targeted by the fishery?

Yes

No

If no, please describe other mitigations that could be applied:

Part 2 – Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

6. Are you aware of any vulnerable areas on or near your property that are at risk of erosion or slope failure due to construction or operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the location of the sites on Figure 1:

7. The erosion and sediment control measures are designed to mitigate the potential environmental effects during construction and operation activities for the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel. In your opinion, for which waterbody is sediment transport or increased sediment as a result of the project a concern?

Lake Manitoba

Birch Creek

Lake St. Martin

None of the above

All of the above

Please explain why you think sediment transport is a concern for these waterbodies:

Please identify any additional waterbodies that you're concerned about:

8. The Plan (Section 7.1) discusses permanent erosion and sediment control methods that will be utilized at the banks and shorelines near the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel inlet and outlet. Do you have concerns that sediment transport may affect the shoreline of Watchorn Provincial Park and its recreation use?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Part 3 – Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

9. The temporary erosion and sediment control measures are designed to mitigate the potential environmental effects during construction activities for the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel. In your opinion, for which waterbody is increased sediment or sediment transport as a result of the project a concern?

Lake St. Martin

Buffalo Creek

Dauphin River

Lake Winnipeg

None of the above

All of the above

Please explain why you think sediment transport is a concern for these waterbodies:

Please identify any additional waterbodies that you're concerned about:

10. As shown in Figure 2, during the construction of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel, overland drainage from the east side will be collected in a permanent outside drainage ditch and routed towards Buffalo Creek and Sturgeon Bay, settling ponds are planned to intercept the outside drainage to reduce the potential for sediment release downstream into Buffalo Creek and Sturgeon Bay. Do you have concerns about sediment transport into Buffalo Creek and/or Sturgeon Bay during construction?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

11. Do you have any concerns with the potential locations for settling ponds as shown in Figure 2?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify which locations you're concerned with on the map.

Conclusion

12. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel affect your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities (including fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering/plant harvesting) is affected:

13. Are there any Project activities or effects outlined in the Plan that you feel will have positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please explain:

14. How would you like to receive information about the Outlet Channels project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

15. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

16. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the map with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1: Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

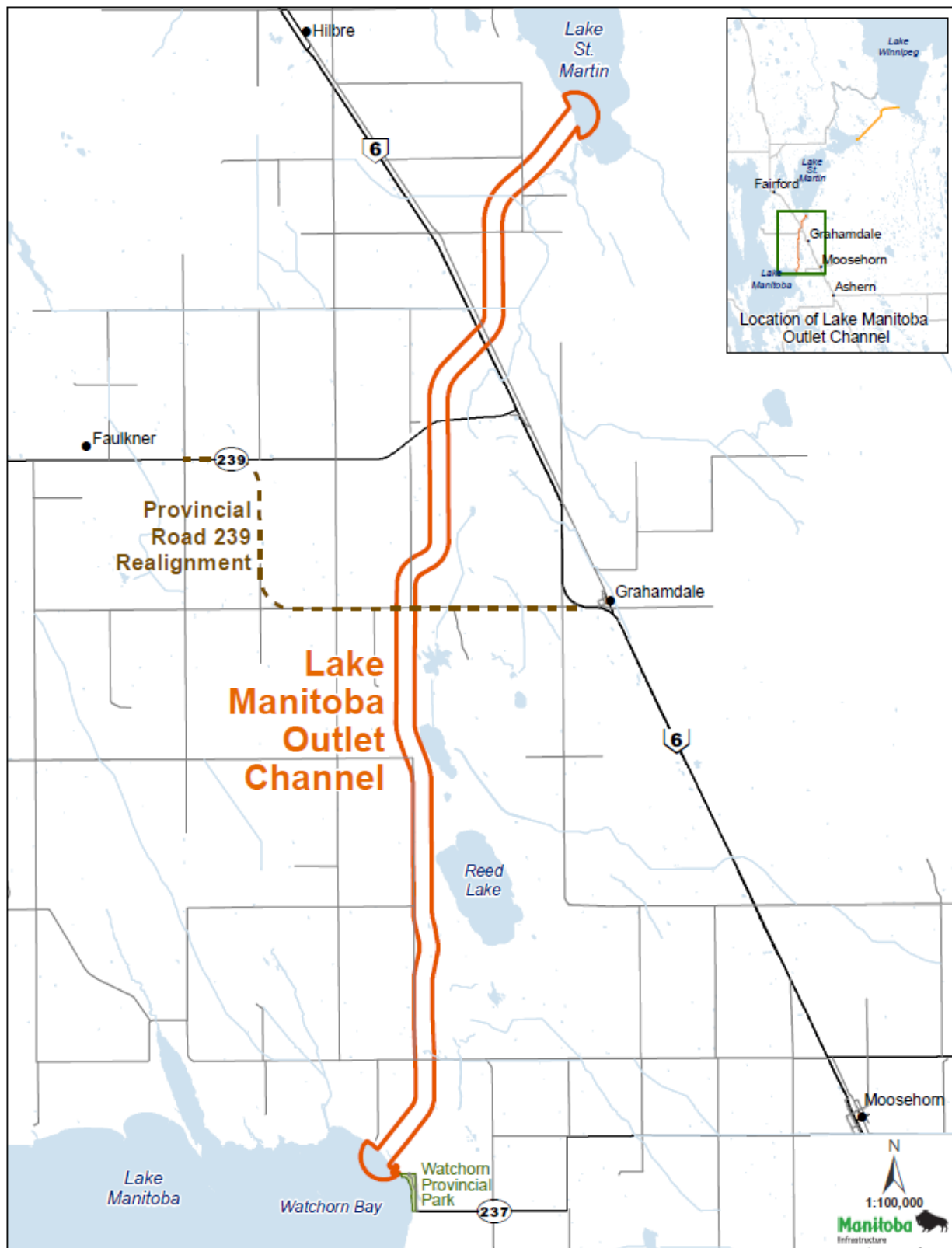
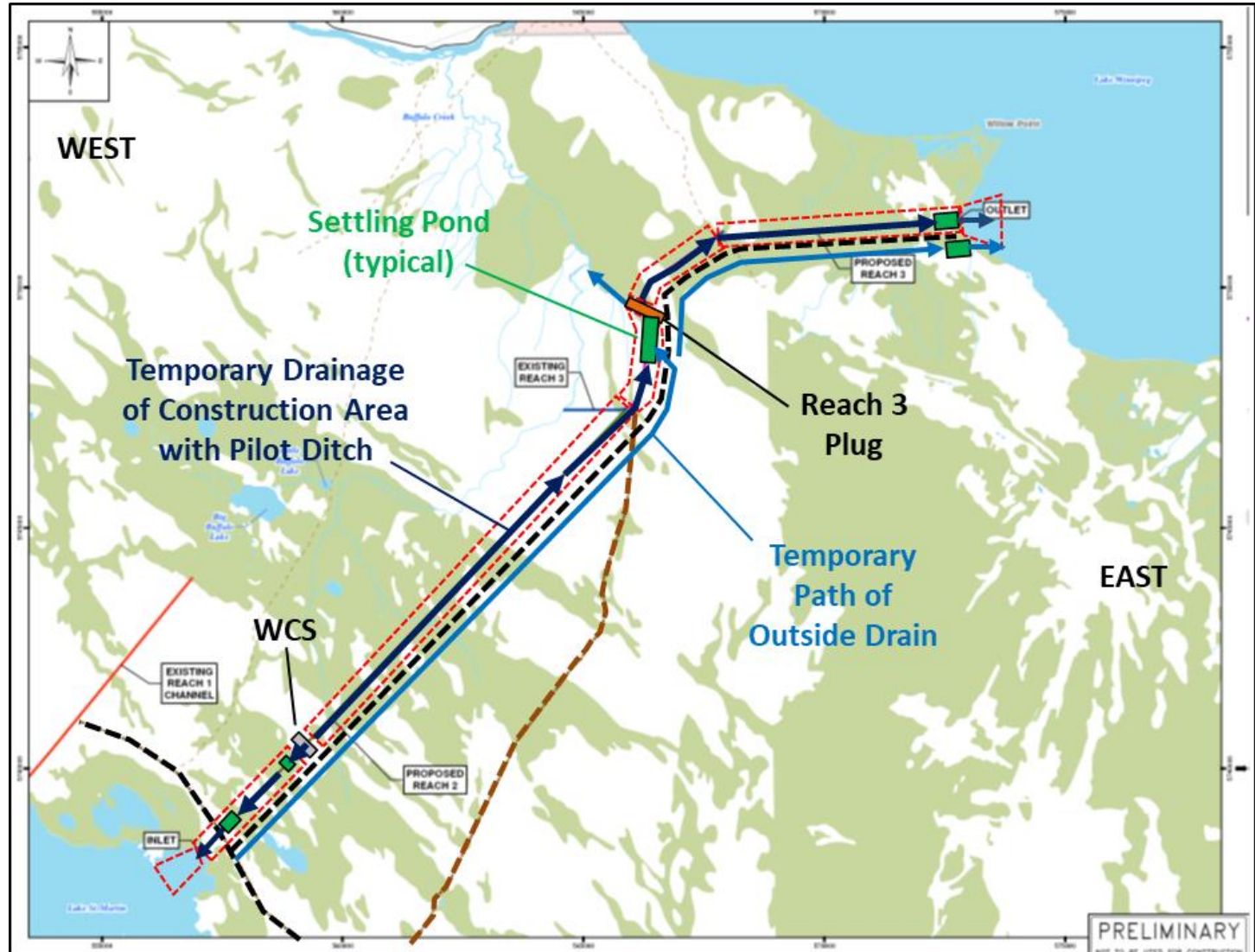


Figure 2: Temporary Drainage Plan with Preliminary Settling Pond Locations



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Surface Water Management Plan Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name*

Community*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email*

*Required

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Métis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Surface Water Management Plan and Questionnaire

The Surface Water Management Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and other stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole, so that sections or parts are not read out of context.

The purpose of the Plan is to outline measures to be used to mitigate or avoid impacts to surface water during construction and operation of the Project. The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Control local surface water during and after construction of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel (the Project).
- Reduce potential for erosion during and after construction the Project and the transportation and deposition of sediments and pollutants beyond the project limits.
- Develop design details and identify Best Management Practices for control of water based on the current design status.
- Monitor surface water quality in the vicinity of the Project to verify that the measures implemented meet expectations and identify additional contingency measures in the event of emergency conditions or undesirable circumstances.

A. Introduction

1. Aside from Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, have you noticed any change in the quality (e.g., odour, appearance, and flow) of surface water (e.g., rivers, springs, and lakes) in the project area over the last 5 years?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify when (year, season, after a flood/drought event), and where:

Please describe the nature of the changes:

2. The Surface Water Management Plan (Sections 7.17 and 14.1.5) and Sediment Management Plan (Sections 6 and 7) outline a number of mitigations to prevent the transport and deposition of sediments during construction and operation of the Project. Given review of this information, do feel this is robust enough to address these sediment movement into lakes, rivers, or streams from the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain your concerns:

3. Excavation of the inlet and outlets will require a fish salvage program. Would you like to receive information on the fish salvage results?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify how you would like to receive this information:

Email

Mail

Website notification

All of the above

B. Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

4. The Surface Water Management Plan (Section 6) provides baseline surface water quality information for the following water bodies along the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel: Lake Manitoba, Lake St. Martin, Watchorn Creek, Reed Lake, Clear Lake, Clark's Drain, Birch Creek, Woodale Drain, Water Lake, Birch Creek and Goodison Lake. Please identify any additional waterbodies that you feel require monitoring and circle them on Figure 1:
5. Do you use any surface water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, and springs) for drinking water near the Project?
 - Yes
 - No
6. Surface water from the west side of the watershed will be conveyed into the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel through an outside drain. Do you have concerns with this interception of surface water?
 - Yes
 - No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

7. Due to the interception of surface water by the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel, the drainage area of Birch Creek will be reduced by 27%. The effects to fish communities will be monitored through the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, and water levels in the small lakes and wetlands along Birch Creek may be monitored at select locations, which will be determined during the detailed design phase. Please identify any waterbodies that you feel should be considered or included and circle them on Figure 2:

C. Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel

8. The Surface Water Management Plan provides information on baseline surface water quality monitoring completed for the following water bodies along the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel: Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel, Big Buffalo Lake, Buffalo Creek, and inlet/outlet areas. Please identify any additional waterbodies that you feel require monitoring and circle them on Figure 3:

9. The depth of water in the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will range from 1.6 to 3.4 metres, and deeper pools will be constructed to meet summer and winter fish needs and to maintain appropriate water quality conditions. Do you have concerns about water quality within the LSMOC?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

10. Surface water from the east side of the watershed will be conveyed into the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel through an outside drain. Do you have concerns with this interception of surface water?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

11. Construction of the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will also reduce the catchment area of Buffalo Creek basin. Quantification of these impacts will be undertaken at detailed design. Do you feel this will have an impact to your use of the area?

Yes

No

If yes, please detail any concerns you may have:

12. What activities do you undertake in the Buffalo Creek basin? Please select any that may apply:

Hunting

Fishing

Trapping

Tourism/guiding

Other _____

13. The Surface Water Management Plan (Sections 7 and 14) and Sediment Management Plan (Sections 6 and 7) describes mitigations to reduce erosion, and the transportation and deposition of sediment from the Project. The Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will include several drop structures that will slow the speed of water moving through the channel to reduce erosion. Given this information, do you feel this is robust enough to address erosion of the LSMOC?

Yes

No

If no, please detail any concerns you may have:

D. Conclusion

14. The Surface Water Management Plan (Sections 7.1 and 14.1) outlined methods to mitigate or avoid impacts to surface water during and after construction of the Project. Given this information, do you feel there will be an impact in your ability to practice traditional use activities?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the component and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

15. Given the Project effects and mitigations outlined the Surface Water Management Plan, do you feel this will have a positive or negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Positive

Negative

Please identify the component and explain:

16. Annual surface water monitoring reports will be prepared throughout the construction phase and for the duration of monitoring conducted during the operation phase. Manitoba Infrastructure is planning to share this information with community leadership. Do you feel this is sufficient?

Yes

No

If no, please identify how frequent these reports should be prepared:

How else would you like to receive this information?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

17. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in follow-up and monitoring for water quality and fisheries activities?

18. How would you like to receive information about the Surface Water Management Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

19. Was the information in the Surface Water Management Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

20. Do you have any general comments or questions?

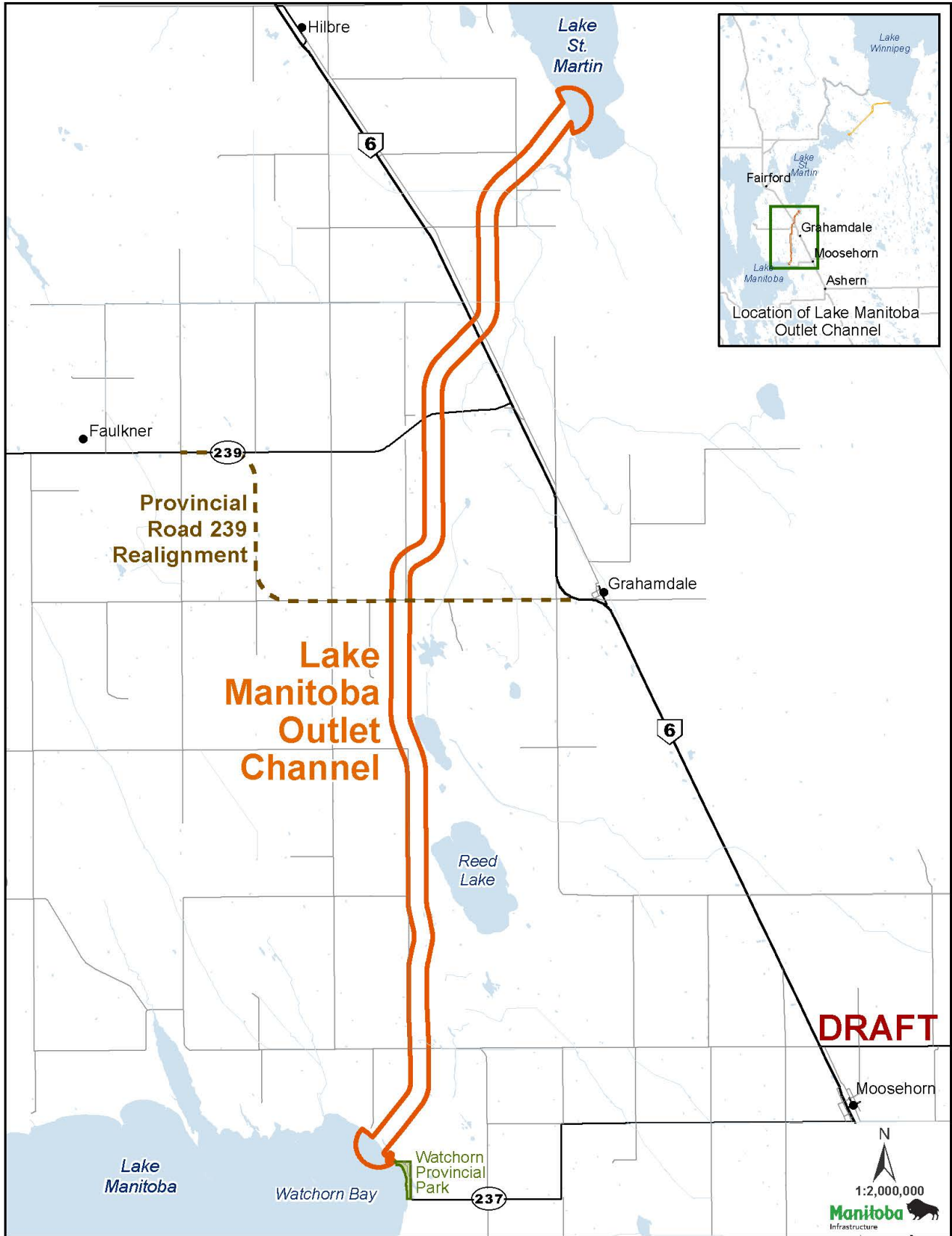
Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

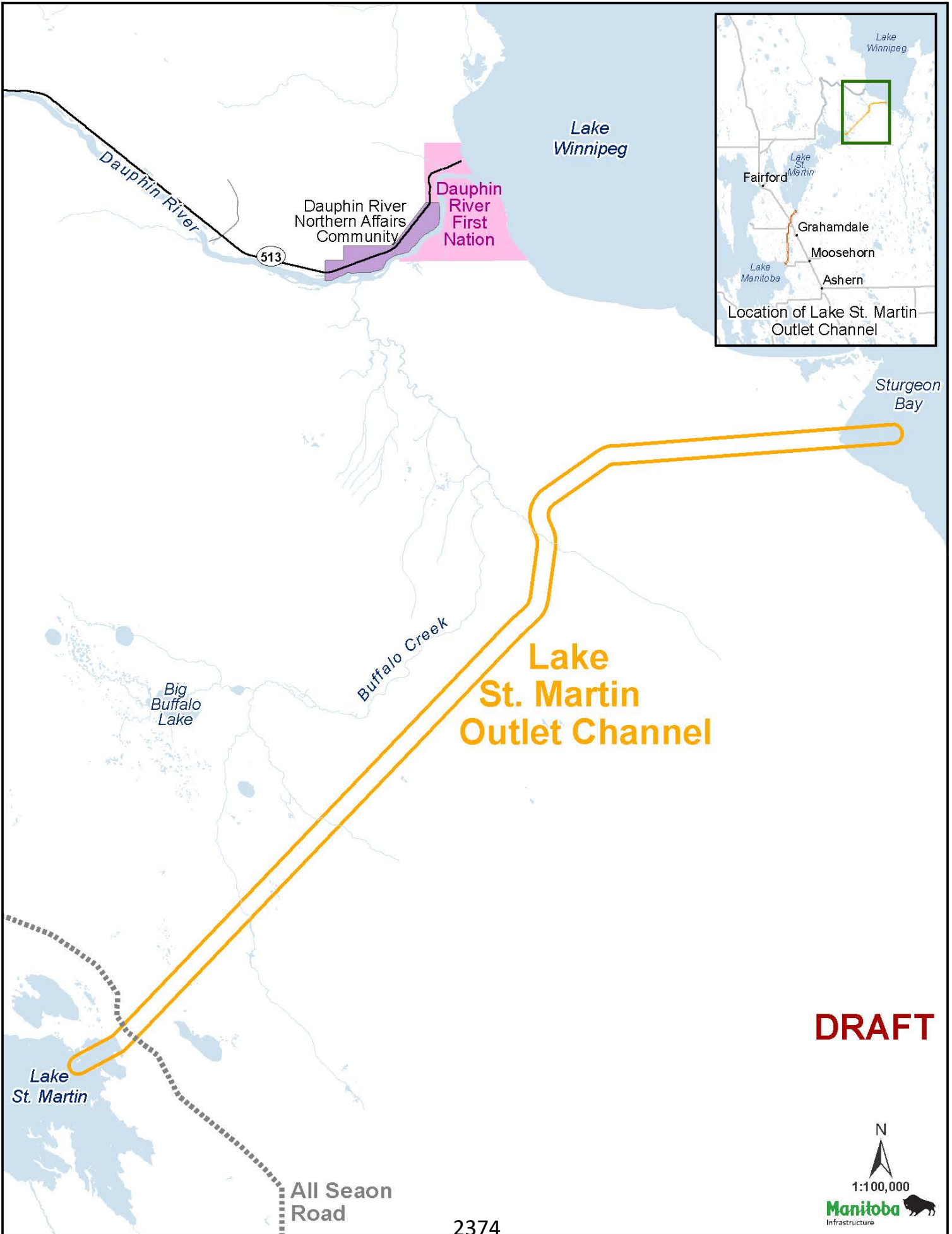
Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to complete the maps below before submitting your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or
adding sticky notes to the maps below.



2373

PUBLIC VERSION



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Wetland Compensation Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of the Plan and Questionnaire

The Wetland Compensation Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final design details are determined, and environmental approval conditions are available. This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the report is read as a whole so that sections or parts should not be read out of context.

The Plan describes the process by which wetlands that will be affected through construction and operation of the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel (LMOC) Project will qualify for mitigation, monitoring and/or compensation of the wetland.

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Outline the key findings of the wetland mapping and field investigations (WSP 2020) as they pertain to the determination of those wetlands that meet the criteria for compensation.
- Describe key steps for planning and development of restoration and enhancement wetland compensation projects.
- Describe follow-up and monitoring for wetland compensation projects and other wetland areas.

If no, please explain:

Wetland Compensation

5. Manitoba Infrastructure is exploring options to develop enhancement and/or restoration projects. This involves identifying suitable wetland habitat outside the Project Development Area. Is there an area or project that you think would be suitable for wetland enhancement, restoration and/or protection?

Please explain your project idea and identify the location, on the Figures 1 & 2, if possible:

Thank you for sharing your ideas. Manitoba Infrastructure may require additional information on this project idea, please identify if you consent to being contacted:

Yes

No

6. Manitoba Infrastructure is currently exploring options to protect, restore or enhance provincial Crown land in local and regional areas. Do you have concerns with this type of approach to mitigate the effects of wetland habitats that are potentially affected by the Project?

Yes

No

Please explain:

7. Manitoba Infrastructure is currently examining other projects in Manitoba that may have value for wetland enhancement or protection. Do you have concerns with this approach to mitigate the effects of wetland habitats that are potentially affected by the Project?

Yes

No

Please explain:

8. Please indicate how you feel Indigenous communities and groups and other public stakeholders should be included in the development and selection of wetland compensation projects.

Please explain:

Follow-up and Monitoring

9. The Plan (Section 4) identifies monitoring activities for water quality, sediment quality, aquatic habitat and groundwater that will occur with respect to wetlands potentially affected by the Project – as identified in relevant Project EMPs (e.g., Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, Surface Water Management Plan, Groundwater Management Plan, and Wildlife Monitoring Plan). What wetland qualities are important to you that you would like to see monitored?

10. Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project. Would you like to be involved in follow-up and monitoring activities with respect to wetlands in the Project area? If yes, please explain what aspect(s) of monitoring you are most interested in:

Conclusion

11. Are you concerned that further loss or alteration of wetlands due to the Project will affect your ability to practice traditional use activities (such as gathering medicinal plants and other plant species of cultural importance)?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If yes, please identify the changes and explain how your ability to practice traditional use activities is affected:

12. Are you concerned that the loss or alteration of wetlands due to the Project will have a negative impact on the health and socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area?

Yes

No

Please explain:

13. How would you like to receive information about the Plan and the Project?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

14. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

15. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain:

Thank you for your feedback. Please remember to include the maps with your questionnaire.

We want to hear from you.
Share your thoughts by highlighting or adding
sticky notes to the maps provided below.

Figure 1: Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel Area

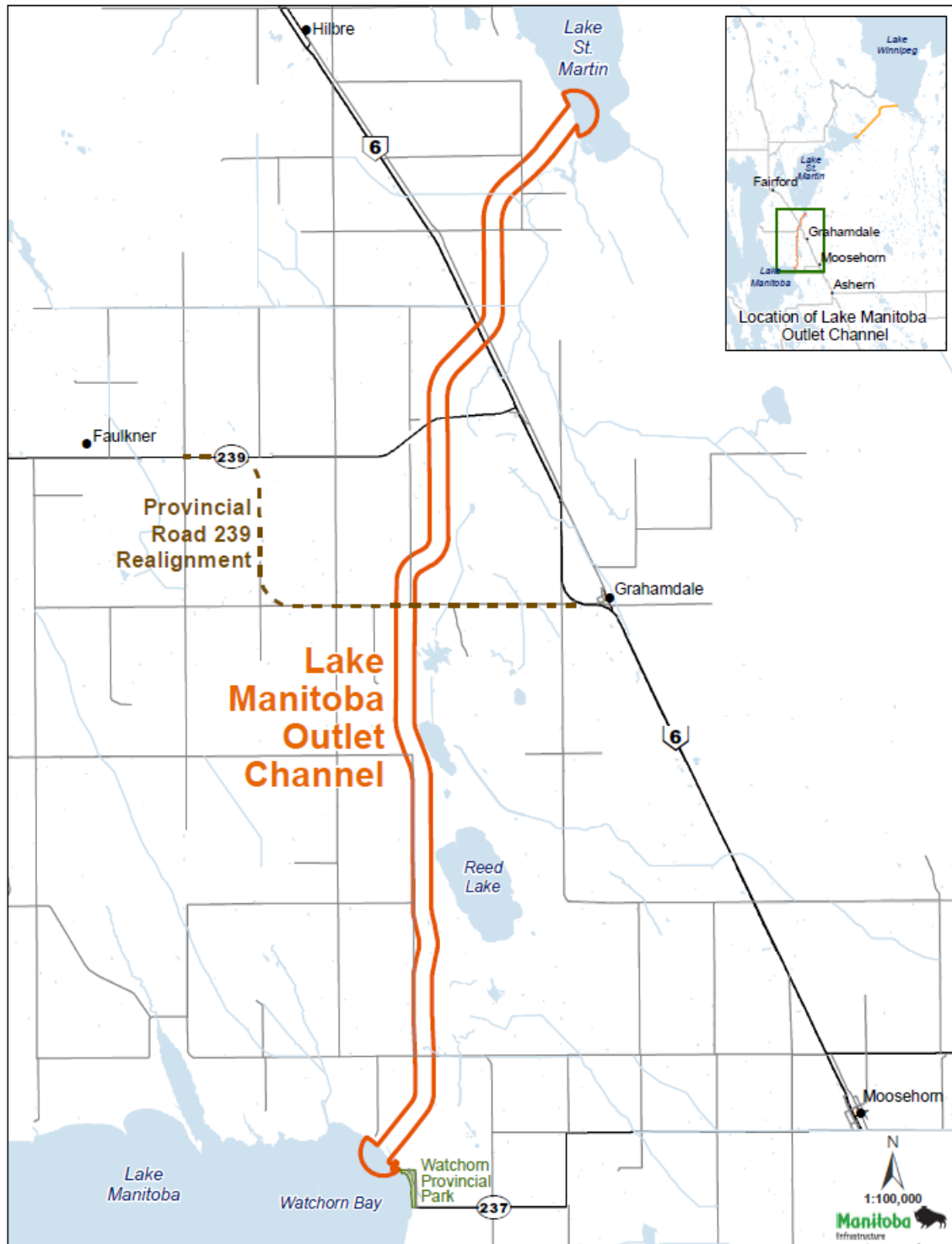
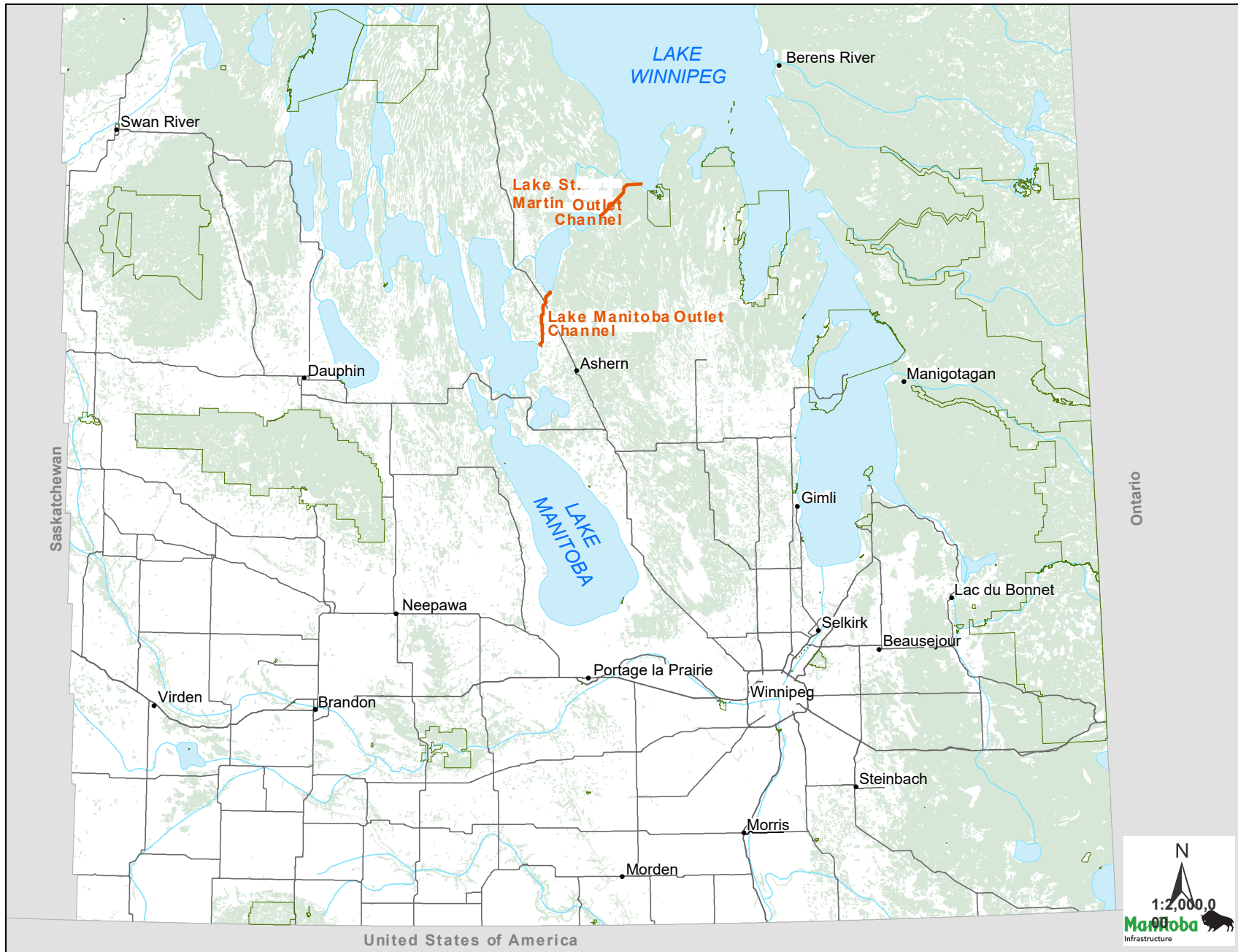


Figure 2: Map of Southern Manitoba



LAKE MANITOBA LAKE ST. MARTIN

OUTLET CHANNELS PROJECT

Wildlife Monitoring Plan

Questionnaire

General Information (Please provide your contact information)

Name

Community

Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email

Do you wish to self-identify as an Indigenous Person in Canada, such as First Nations, Metis or Inuit?

Yes

No

Manitoba welcomes responses from all to this questionnaire, including Indigenous individuals. Manitoba remains committed to meaningful and respectful Crown-Indigenous Consultation with Indigenous groups.

In addition to your responses, your personal information is being collected to be able to contact you for follow up if needed. Your responses will be collected and used to help support the provincial and federal environmental assessment process for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St Martin Outlet Channels Project, and will inform the Crown-Indigenous Consultation process and project planning. Responses and information collected through this questionnaire will be protected by Manitoba Infrastructure but may be shared with other provincial and federal regulatory bodies to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Overview of Plan and Questionnaire

The Wildlife Monitoring Plan (the Plan) presented during consultation and engagement is considered draft and will not be finalized until input is obtained from potentially-affected Indigenous groups and stakeholders. The Plan will be finalized once applicable feedback has been received, final monitoring details are determined, and environmental regulatory approval conditions are available.

This questionnaire is intended to be completed after reviewing the Plan. It is recommended that the document is read as a whole, to ensure all sections are read in context with one another.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe monitoring activities to verify key environmental assessment predictions, to reduce potential adverse effects on wildlife and their habitat, and to confirm compliance with regulatory requirements concerning potential effects to wildlife and habitat. This Plan will be implemented as part of the Environmental Management Program that prescribes measures and practices to avoid and reduce adverse environmental effects on wildlife (e.g., clearing outside of the primary nesting period for migratory birds, use of buffers for wildlife and sensitive wildlife habitat, etc.). The WMP provides details on how predicted changes to habitat, mortality risk, and movement will be verified and how the effectiveness of mitigation strategies will be evaluated.

In summary, this Plan describes:

- regulatory requirements
- potential Project effects on wildlife
- Project-specific wildlife mitigation
- monitoring and adaptive management
- schedule and reporting protocols

Potential Project Effects on Wildlife

3. The Plan (Section 5 and 6) describe potential **changes to wildlife habitat** from the Project and mitigation measures to reduce these effects. Do you feel that these measures will be effective in mitigating potential Project-related effects to wildlife habitat?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

4. Do you feel that potential effects to wildlife resulting from Project related **changes to wildlife habitat** may impact you or your community's traditional use activities, health or socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area? If so, please explain:

5. The Plan (Section 5 and 6) describe potential changes to **wildlife mortality** risk from the Project and mitigation measures to reduce these effects. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to address these effects?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

6. Do you feel that potential effects to wildlife resulting from Project related changes to **wildlife mortality** risk may impact you or your community's traditional use activities, health or socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area? If so, please explain:

7. The Plan (Section 5) describes potential changes to **wildlife movement** from the Project and mitigation measures (Section 6) to reduce these effects. Do you feel these measures are robust enough to address these effects?

Yes

No

If no, please explain why and please identify other mitigation measures you think should be considered:

8. Do you feel that potential effects to wildlife resulting from Project related changes to **wildlife movement** may impact you or your community's traditional use activities, health or socio-economic conditions (e.g. economy and culture) in the area? If so, please explain:

9. The Plan (Section 7) describes specific monitoring criteria used to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures designed to reduce **changes to wildlife habitat** from the Project. Based on the species and wetland types present within the local assessment area, the most likely species to be affected by altered wetland function were identified as being:

- Yellow rail
- Lest bittern
- Northern leopard frog

Do you agree that monitoring for the presence of these species will provide an adequate understanding of Project effects to wetlands?

Yes

No

If no, please identify other species or species groups that you feel should be monitored to understand Project effects to wetlands and please explain why:

10. The Plan (Section 7) describes specific monitoring criteria used to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures designed to reduce **wildlife mortality** risk resulting from: 1) Project-related vehicular traffic during the construction of the Project; and 2) increased access by humans and predators. Results from these programs will also inform whether adaptive measures are needed, such as identifying high-risk zones, implementing speed restrictions, or altering mitigation at access points.

Are there any particular wildlife species that you feel may be uniquely susceptible to mortality effects from the Project?

Yes

No

If yes, please identify the species and please explain why you feel it is more susceptible to these effects:

Do you feel that these measures and their ability to inform the need for adaptive measures will help MI understand and mitigate potential Project effects to wildlife mortality?

Yes

No

If not, please explain why and please identify other monitoring or adaptive measures you feel should be considered:

11. The outlet channels have the potential to alter **wildlife movement**, particularly during construction and when the channels are operating during a flood event. The Plan (Section 7) describes specific monitoring criteria used to 1) assess mammal movement across the outlet channels; and 2) determine if mitigation measures (i.e., channel design, cover plantings, and low use of riprap) are facilitating wildlife movement.

What species do you think could be most impacted by the Project, as a barrier to movement and why? Please explain:

Do you feel that the proposed monitoring approach will help MI understand and mitigate potential Project effects to wildlife movement?

Yes

No

If not, please explain why and please identify other monitoring, mitigation or adaptive measures you feel should be considered:

12. The Plan (Section 9) describes the proposed schedule for conducting wildlife monitoring activities.

Do you believe the proposed monitoring schedule will allow for an understanding of potential effects to wildlife and habitat and the application of adaptive management if required?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

13. The Plan (Section 10) describes annual reporting for wildlife monitoring. Do you want to be informed of ongoing monitoring?

Yes

No

If yes, how would you like to be informed of ongoing progress?

Email

Mail

Website

All of the above

Conclusion

14. As Manitoba Infrastructure is working with a number of Indigenous groups and communities on the Project, how would you like to be involved in wildlife monitoring activities?

15. Was the information in the Plan presented in a manner that was easy to understand?

Yes

No

If no, please identify what information requires further clarification:

16. Do you have any general comments or questions?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Thank you for your feedback.

APPENDIX 13 – RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GRAHAMDALE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Rural Municipality of Grahamdale Engagement Summary

Rural Municipality of Grahamdale

Funding: Participation Fund Agreement, Draft Round 1 Information Request review, Final Round 1 Information Request review, Round 2 Information Request review and participation in the Environmental Advisory Committee

The following section highlights the activities and communications that have been undertaken to date with the RM of Grahamdale.

Outline of Engagement Dates and Information Shared:

- In November 2020, MI communicated with the RM of Grahamdale that the department would like to confirm dates for future meetings as outlined in the engagement plan to address questions and concerns surrounding technical issues previously raised by the RM of Grahamdale.
- Five meetings were scheduled with the RM of Grahamdale in Spring 2021; two meetings occurred on April 15 and 14, 2021 to present and discuss feedback on the draft plans, and three meetings occurred on May 20, 28, and June 11, 2021 to discuss key topics identified by the RM of Grahamdale, and present additional information regarding ongoing engineering design and analysis. Topics included; groundwater, local surface water management (outside drain and surface water quality), sediment transport and channel commissioning, potential aquatic effects, and system hydraulics (movement of water from Lake Manitoba to Lake Winnipeg).

Key Concerns and Interests Regarding the LMLSMOC Heard to Date:

- Potential loss of agricultural land and tax revenue for the RM
- Potential impact to RM infrastructure due to construction such as roads and waste facilities
- Mitigation/compensation plans for disruption/alteration of municipal infrastructure and general economic impacts to the municipality
- Potential increased demand on emergency services and cellular services
- Community impacts in regards to increased traffic volumes on municipal roads, noise, pollution, impact on emergency services during construction
- Potential increased demand on RM council time and compensation/funding available for project planning and to respond to community issues related to the project
- Potential future issues related to drainage and access
- Environmental and socio-economic impacts as a result of the proposed project
- Impacts to surface water, groundwater and domestic well water, loss of wetlands, depressurization of the aquifer, loss of wetlands and impact to natural east/west flow of water
- Impact to local fisheries
- Depletion of local resources by the project
- Land expropriation required for the project and settlement agreements with landowners
- Purpose and authority of the Environmental Advisory Committee and the time available for collection of baseline data prior to project construction.
- Erosion and sedimentation

Next Steps:

- Engagement with the RM of Grahamdale and other communications including ongoing letters, emails, and phone calls have and will continue to share information on the proposed project and allow opportunities for the RM of Grahamdale to express comments on the potential effects to their municipality.
- MTI also continues to notify the RM of Grahamdale of upcoming fieldwork and provides an opportunity for comments or questions.
- MTI will also provide responses to the written feedback received from the RM of Grahamdale as part of the engagement process.

RM of Grahamdale Information

The Project is primarily located in the RM of Grahamdale and the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel is located entirely within the RM of Grahamdale, intersecting an area that is predominantly private land used for agriculture production. The land and resource use in RM of Grahamdale consists of economic activities including farming, ranching and fishing. There are also industries such as Continental Lime Ltd. (Graymont Western), Lehigh Cement, quarrying and forestry.

Lands in the RM of Grahamdale are predominantly privately-owned. However, parcels of encumbered Crown land (i.e., land with active permits and leases) are also located in the RM of Grahamdale. Crown land encumbrance types consist of agricultural leases (forage and hay), Ducks Unlimited Canada sites, permits/leases for residences, snowmobile shelters (SnoMan), access roads, cottages, boat launches and docks, waste disposal sites, a campground, a wayside park, a recreation site, an outcamp, a fish camp, and a recreational trail. Parcels of municipal-owned land also occur within the RM of Grahamdale. Based on 2011 – 2016 Census data, the population density in the RM has remained steady at 0.6 people per km².

There is an adequate supply of good quality groundwater in most parts of the RM of Grahamdale. Most of the water supply is taken from the carbonate aquifer. In general, groundwater wells in the area are used primarily for domestic and livestock purposes, but also include a municipal well and industrial wells.

Engagement Activities

Beginning in 2017, MTI staff started attending monthly RM of Grahamdale council meetings to provide Project update information.

Since project planning began, four open houses have been held in Moosehorn to provide information to local landowners and stakeholders in the RM of Grahamdale. Two different surveys requesting information about potential socio-economic impacts and water well use have also been conducted in cooperation with the RM.

MTI with its environmental consultants met with the RM of Grahamdale multiple times during 2018 and 2019 to discuss socio-economic concerns, including a presentation on socio-economic considerations presented in the EIS.

Additionally, in 2019 a land acquisition townhall meeting was held with the RM of Grahamdale to present information on the land expropriation process to the RM of Grahamdale and local landowners.

Throughout these early discussions, the RM of Grahamdale conveyed a number of concerns related to the Project:

- potential loss of agricultural land and tax base for the RM
- potential loss of families and decrease in critical school numbers that may ultimately result in school closure
- potential impact to RM infrastructure due to construction such as roads and waste facilities
- potential increased demand on emergency services and cellular services
- potential increased demand on RM council time and resource for project planning and to respond to community issues related to the project
- potential future issues related to drainage and access
- costs of participating in project planning

MTI staff and consultants offered virtual meetings to present the draft environmental management and monitoring plans and explain their purpose and function. The objective was to share information and gather feedback on the proposed plans. Five meetings were scheduled with the RM of Grahamdale in Spring 2021; two meetings occurred on April 15 and 14, 2021 to present and discuss feedback on the draft plans, and three meetings occurred on May 20, 28, and June 11, 2021 to discuss key topics identified by the RM of Grahamdale, and present additional information regarding ongoing engineering design and analysis. Topics included:

- Groundwater
- Local surface water management (outside drain and surface water quality)
- Sediment transport and channel commissioning
- Potential aquatic effects
- System hydraulics (movement of water from Lake Manitoba to Lake Winnipeg)

MTI provided the RM of Grahamdale with draft responses for Round 1 information requests received from IAAC in October 2021 and offered up to \$40,000 in funding to assist with the RM review. The RM has reviewed this information and provided comments.

MTI submitted final Round 1 information request responses to IAAC in May 2022 and also submitted Environmental management plan in June 2022. MTI offered up to \$ 20,000 in funding to assist with these IRs and EMPs reviews. T

MTI received Round 2 information request from IAAC in August 2022 and submitted responses in May 2023 and MTI offered up to \$15,000 in funding to assists in the review.

APPENDIX 14 – NON-PROJECT ISSUES

Non-Project Issues

**THE CONTENT OF THIS APPENDIX (PAGES 2398 – 2412) IS CONFIDENTIAL
AND IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE CANADIAN IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGISTRY.**